

MARAWI OPERATIONS UPDATE No.1

As of 29 May 2017



ICRC



Situational background

Fighting within Marawi City is still ongoing, and there are still a number of civilians trapped within the city.

Total population of Marawi City is approximately 200,000. Thousands of people have fled the fighting in Marawi City seeking safety in neighboring areas such as Saguiaran, Balo-i and Iligan City. Many families are staying with relatives, while others went to evacuation centers or sought shelters in schools.

Humanitarian needs and issues of concerns

On trapped residents:

Those left behind in Marawi City face very limited access to food and water. As fighting continues, people continue to feel fear and insecurity.

The most vulnerable of the people who try to leave Marawi City often do not have their own transportation or have no means to pay/organize transport out of the city.

On displaced families:

Limited access to food and water as fighting escalates remain to be the most urgent humanitarian needs of the evacuees.

With the influx of evacuees, some evacuation centers experience water and sanitation issues (i.e. lack of access to toilets and clean water) due to limited facilities to cater everyone's needs. In Balo-i evacuation center, for example, only 2 toilets are available for almost 1,000 individuals.

On protection of civilians:

We are extremely concerned about the impact of the ongoing hostilities in Marawi City on the civilians. Our priority is to address the humanitarian needs of the people affected by the situation. We are coordinating closely with the local authorities and the Philippine Red Cross.

We are also seriously concerned about reports of civilians who were killed or deliberately targeted, and those who are being held against their will. Civilians are not part of the fighting, and they should be protected.

ICRC actions to date



In Iligan, the ICRC has prepositioned medical supplies to reinforce the capacity of rural health units in addressing the basic health needs of displaced people. They include basic medicines, antibiotics, dressing materials; as well as injectable medication and intravenous fluids that can support 30,000 people in three months.



Two of the health kits were already given to the following rural health units (RHU): Balo-i RHU and Saguiaran RHU



Delivery of 1,000 water jugs to provide the displaced families who are staying at the provincial capitol with drinking water.



In partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, we set up a water bladder and mobile water treatment unit at Saguiaran evacuation center in Lanao del Sur to provide clean water to around 2,000 families or 10,000 individuals displaced by the fighting in Marawi City.



Assisted the safe evacuation of around 500 individuals formerly trapped in Marawi City (transferred to Saguiaran evacuation center)



We have distributed food packs and essential household items to 350 families at Saguiaran evacuation center.

Contents of food pack (for 1 family of 5, good for 15 days):

25kg rice, 2L cooking oil, 1L soy sauce, 1kg sugar, 1/2kg salt, and 12 big cans of sardines

Essential household items: *ladle, knife, cooking pot, frying pan, 6 plates, 6 spoons and forks, 2 towels, 2 blankets, 2 mosquito nets, 1 sleeping mat and hygiene kit*



Provided body bags to support the retrieval of 8 bodies found near the entrance of Marawi City



We continue to urge those involved in the fighting to ensure the protection of civilians and respect civilian properties, especially those dedicated to medical functions, in fulfillment of their obligations to respect the international humanitarian law (IHL).

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian organization that protects and assists victims of armed conflict. It has an international mandate to promote knowledge of and respect for IHL.

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