

# ACTED IN THE PHILIPPINES

Monthly Newsletter



## Damaged houses and property

Most houses are heavily damaged, and some barangays will need to be fully rebuilt. This sparks tensions in the community, exacerbating the already tense situation and influence of armed groups. Moreover, tropical storm Vinta caused additional damages in the area, and was especially detrimental to displaced people, already impacted by the conflict in Marawi.

## De-schooling

Children are severely affected by the conflict and displacements, many of them being out of school, with no real opportunity to resume their schooling in the immediate future given the damages caused to schools and infrastructure. Providing children with opportunities such as vocational training and learning spaces is crucial, given their vulnerability to recruitment campaigns organized by extremist groups.

## Loss of livelihood

Based on ACTED's last assessment, 81% of the displaced have not had any income since the start of the conflict in May 2017. Marawi's barangays rely mostly on trade, agriculture and fishing as their primary source of income. However, as a result of the conflict, 70% of herds were either killed or stolen, or sold at a very low price. Most farmers were unable to save their last harvest and could not prepare the new one. Similarly, most fishermen have lost their gear and boats, and find themselves unable to restart their activity. As for small business owners, most of their stock has been lost or looted.

## Marawi: the needs remain great as families start to return home

Since the end of October 2017, the inhabitants of Marawi, displaced since the beginning of the crisis five months earlier, are gradually returning to their homes in *barangays* declared safe enough for return. To date, less than 50% of the population has been able to return home. **Most families are not expected to go back home before mid-end 2018**, until the residential areas are cleared of unexploded ordnances (UXOs), and the official documentation to prove legitimate residence in the area is obtained.

To date, 47 *barangays* have been declared safe. **The 24 *barangays* of Marawi City's 'ground zero' are still uninhabitable due to the extent of the damages caused by the conflict.** The needs are huge, both for displaced and returned families, who found their homes and *barangays* damaged.

Following a **multi-sectoral needs assessment** in Marawi, ACTED could identify the priorities of returned families, in order to design a tailored and efficient humanitarian response to support the governmental response.

## A way forward

Local authorities and displaced people are calling for **cash assistance** to returned households, in order for them to start re-establishing a stable source of income.

## 2018 ACHIEVEMENTS



### SHELTER

Emergency shelter repair kits and awareness raising sessions on Build Back Safer techniques for 100 vulnerable households affected by tropical storm Vinta (Tembin)



### WASH

Vinta - Immediate WASH assistance (hygiene kits) for 631 vulnerable households and key information on best hygiene practices for 4,485 of most vulnerable households' members affected by Vinta

Urduja - Hygiene and water kits for 14,209 people in Eastern Samar and hygiene promotion activities for 4,869 beneficiaries affected by tropical storm Urduja (Kai-Tak)

Faecal Sludge Management, Guiuan - 11,835 households were orientated on toilet maintenance and other sanitation issues

142 Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Sanitary Inspectors, Barangay Nutrition Scholars and Municipal Sanitary Inspectors trained on sanitation community mobilization,

### NFI NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

NFI kits for 610 vulnerable households affected by Vinta

## Rehabilitation of WASH infrastructures in schools following storm Urduja

Storm Urduja caused severe damages to infrastructures in Eastern Samar, notably limiting the population's access to hygiene and safe water.

Following an assessment of the most urgent needs, ACTED focused on 8 schools in the municipalities of Salcedo and Mercedes, to **ensure access to safe WASH infrastructures to more than 2,000 students.**

In the framework of this intervention, **ACTED's teams will carry out small works in the targeted schools**, such as rehabilitating broken latrines (for boys and girls), repairing non-functional hand washing facilities and damaged water points.

Moreover, 3 communal water sources in Salcedo and 1 in Mercedes will also be rehabilitated in order to **ensure access to safe water to about 3,400 people.**

Materials have been received and construction started at the beginning of April. These rehabilitations are accompanied by **hygiene promotion sessions**, aimed at spreading knowledge on good hygiene practices.



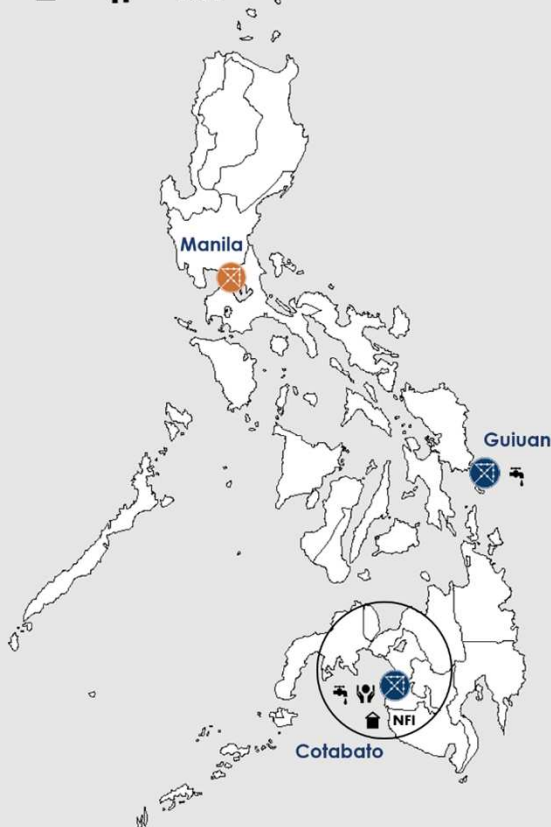
## Update on ACTED's faecal sludge management project in Guiuan

The **3 cubic litres vacuum truck** arrived at ACTED's office in Guiuan in the first week of April. Similarly to the tricycle, this truck will be used by ACTED's partner, the **social business** in charge of the septage treatment facility, to empty latrines at household level and transport the sludge to the facility.

The **facility's buildings** (drying beds, ponds and vermicompost building) are currently **under construction**, and should be ready in the coming weeks. The smooth running of the facility will mark the end of the first phase of this project, which is planned to be **expanded to municipalities surrounding Guiuan** for phases 2 and 3.

Indeed, the whole system was designed specifically to be easy to set up and replicate, in order to ensure the **sustainability of the project**. The social business, once fully operational, could provide sanitation services to at least **4,200 households** in the targeted municipalities.

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