

# Making Spaces Empowering Voices

REPORT BY MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT ATTY. MAISARA DANDAMUN-LATIPH

2019
ANNUAL REPORT



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#### **Commitment to Progress**

When we took our oath, we commit to the progress of the Bangsamoro by making an effective transition of government from the past to the new form of government under the BOL.

Our task in the BTA is build a new government. It is a government that will be used as a vehicle for progress.

The effective transition is not only about creating a structure. But it is most importantly introducing a culture of good governance.

When I say good governance, I am referring to transparency and accountability. This has to be in consonance with the strict obedience to the rule of law. Respect for rule of law is essential because it is the only mechanism in which protection of the people can be ensured against malgovernance and abuse of power.

The parliamentary form of government is not designed to breed tyranny. It is a deliberative body where ideas converge for the benefits of the Bangsamoro. It is a body intended to



BOL Turn-over in Malacanang with 2017 BTC Members, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, Senate President Vicente Sotto III, Former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and Finance Secretary Dominguez.

produce policies that genuinely serve the interests of the Bangsamoro.

This is the reason why I gathered the voices of women, children, youth, orphan and other vulnerable sectors of the society for

legislation by the Parliament and action by the Bangsamoro Government.

Our 2019 Annual Report is the collection of all these different voices from the ground.

### **OUR VISION AND PRIORITY LEGISLATION**

### **VISION**

An office where its team members share common core values in building a just and humane Bangsamoro Society with faith in the Almighty, loyalty, and integrity. Dedicated, creative, competent and active in rendering excellent service. Whereby no people are left behind in addressing poverty, inequality, and ignorance towards Bangsamoro 2022."

#### **PRIORITY LEGISLATIONS**

Education

Women and Vulnerable populations (such as PWDs, IDPs, widows and orphans of conflicts/wars)

Lake Lanao protection and rehabilitation

Marawi City rehabilitation

Sharia laws and Islamic banking

Youth development (including entrepreneurship and alternate livelihood)

Bangsamoro Communities Outside BARMM

### A working parliament

Since we took over from ARMM on 01 March 2019, we have prepared a report on our legislative work, particularly the bills and resolutions we have filed and supported, and the consultation and activities with communities, civil society organisations, members of the academe and local governments. From the consultations with the Bangsamoro Communities Outside of BARMM (BCO-BARMM), women in Lanao del Sur, residents and organisations concerned with Lake Lanao (we refer to as Ranao) and the Internally Displaced People from the Marawi siege in 2017, we derived some recommendations, some of which we are already implementing to fast-track legislation work.

We also prepared this report to inform everyone, the public and the officials of the regional and the national governments, that we are doing our best to make things work, that we are moving swiftly as I hope that we, the Bangsamoro, shall not take for granted this precious opportunity to rebuild not just a government but also ourselves in the process.

As we know, BARMM is already implementing a step wherein the BTA serves for the Interim Period until the elections in 2022. The Interim Period is critical to passing into law seven (7) priority legislations: Administrative Code, Internal Revenue Code, Indigenous People's Affairs Code, Civil Service Code, Electoral Code, Local Government Code, and Education Code. However, as the transition also carries with it structural changes that could further disrupt social services on the ground, our learnings from the field consultations bring us to the conclusion that the BTA, through its Ministries working with local governments, should ensure the full continuation of delivery of basic social, health and education services especially for poor people in the remote or isolated areas.

We have learned a lot from our focus sectors for the past months. Women from poor communities, especially the widows, shoulder the bulk of responsibility in ensuring the survival of the family. Performing multiple roles in the home and as the main carers of the children, the survival and development of women will mean the development of the children and the family. The survival of the family determines the wellbeing of the community. Children, especially the orphans, created by armed conflicts, calamities and neglect by both government and society, live in the shadows, uncertain of their future and vulnerable to the enticement of extremist ideology that leads them to commit extremist violence. The Internally Displaced People from the Marawi Siege suffer continuing trauma from the sudden unfortunate twist of fate and the prolonged uncertainty of when they can finally go back to where their homes used to stand and live life anew. To immediately address the sad plight of the BCO-BARMM, we filed BTA Bill No. 15, which creates a special office that caters to the various needs of the communities and facilitate their good relations with local governments that are hosting them. Last ,but certainly not the least, we fast-tracked the drafting and filing of BTA Bill No. 32, which creates the Ranao Development Authority to ensure the conservation, protection and development of the Ranao, which is the centre of identity and survival of most of the Maranao people and is the source of the water that generates electricity for Mindanao.

In the course of our consultations and activities for our constituency, we saw more needs and critical issues than what we can handle for this year. Yet, we are not giving up. We will continue to hear, learn from and dialogue with the communities and partner organisations so we can continue to create and work for the best legislation that the hardworking and dedicated people of the Bangsamoro deserve.

# **LEGISLATION**

## **Committee Membership**

RULES

FINANCE, BUDGET & MGMT

SOCIAL SERVICES
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TOURISM

BASIC EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION







# **TOTAL LEGISLATION DOCUMENTS**

As per end of November 2019, the Office of MP Maisara D. Latiph has submitted the following documents:

Document Type	Plenary Session (March - November)
LAWS CO-AUTHORED	2
BTA BILLS	
a. Authored	2
b. Co-Authored	3
RESOLUTION	
c. Sponsored	7
d. Co-Sponsored	8
TOTAL	22





#### **Laws Co-Authored**

- Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 1 "An Act Adopting the Official Flag of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region In Muslim Mindanao."
- Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 2. "An Act Adopting the Official Emblem for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao."

#### **Bill Authored**

#### BTA Bill No. 15

"An Act Creating the Office of the Bangsamoro Communities Outside the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, Defining its Powers, Functions, and Responsibilities and Appropriating Funds Therefor and For Other Purposes"

#### • BTA Bill No. 32

An Act Creating the Ranao Development Authority, Prescribing its Powers and Functions and Appropriating Funds Therefor

#### **Bills Co-Authored:**

#### • BTA Bill No. 5

"An Act Creating the Office of the Bangsamoro Director-General for Madaris Education in the Ministry of Education and to Strengthen and Institutionalise Madaris Education and Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes"

- Bill No. 10 "An Act Creating the Office for Settler Communities, implementing for this purpose Article IX, Section 15, R.A. 11054 on Basic Rights for Settler Communities."
- Bill No. 10 "An Act Creating the Bangsamoro Social Action Commission" (BASAC) in BARMM, Defining its Composition, Powers and Functions and for Other Purposes

#### **Resolutions Sponsored**

- Resolution No. 21 "Commending the Senate and House of Representatives for the Passage of House Bill No. 8281 entitled 'An Act Providing for the Regulation and Organization of Islamic Banks', Adopted in toto by Senate, and Urging President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to Sign House Bill No. 8281 into law"
- Proposed Resolution No. 22 "For the BTA to Include the Creation of Lake Lanao Development Authority among the Priority

Legislations in the Transition Plan for the BTA to Enact a Legislation Creating the said Agency for the Protection, Development, and Promotion of Lake Lango and its Watersheds"

- Proposed Resolution No. 23 "Calling for the BTA to Strengthen the Secretary General's Office by Adopting a Responsive Organisational Structure and Instituting a Merit-Based Recruitment, Promotion, and Hiring of its Officials and Personnel"
- Proposed Resolution No. 24 "Calling for the Creation of an Oversight Committee on Marawi Siege Rehabilitation"
- Proposed Resolution No. 26 "Calling for Creation by the BTA of the Office of Bangsamoro Pilgrimage Authority, Providing for its Organisational Structure and Staffing Requirements as Priority Legislation in the Transition Plan"
- Proposed Resolution No. 60 "Requesting all Interim Ministries of the BTA to Provide Data, Budget Allocation, Status of Children under their Service Constituency, as well as Current, Proposed, and Potential Policies and Programs to Preserve, Protect, and Promote the Rights of Children in the BARMM in Aid of Legislation"

Proposed Resolution No. 25 "Calling for the Creation of the Sub-Regional Office for Northern Mindanao Region Headed by the Deputy Chief Minister from Ranao"

### **Resolutions Co-Sponsored**

- Proposed Resolution No. 36 "A
  Resolution Integrating Republic Act
  No. 11054, otherwise known as
  Organic law for the Bangsamoro
  Autonomous Region in Muslim
  Mindanao in the Curriculum of Public,
  Private, and Madaris Higher Education
  Institutions, as well as Public, Private,
  and Madaris Senior High and Junior
  High School in the BARMM Territories"
- Proposed Resolution No. 41
   "Constituting a Special Committee to Look into the Status of the Marawi Recovery, Reconstruction, and Rehabilitation Efforts
- Proposed Resolution No. 47
   "Creating a Special Committee to Look into the Status of the Marawi Recovery, Reconstruction, and Rehabilitation Efforts"

Proposed Resolution No. 86

"Resolution Amending Rule VIII of Resolution No. 6 Otherwise Known as the Parliamentary Rules, Procedures, and Practices of the BTA of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Redefining the Quorum Requirement for Committee Meetings and Hearings"

- Proposed Resolution No. 93 "A
   Resolution Respectfully Requesting the
   Chief Minister to Make Representation
   to the Bureau of Corrections through
   the Department of Justice and Other
   Concerned Agencies to Transfer
   Women Muslim Inmates to a Similar
   Facility in the BARMM"
- Resolution Calling for the Urgent
  Establishment and Maintenance of an
  Official Website for the BTA to be
  Maintained by its own ICT Unit as an
  Instrument to Inform the Public of the
  Recent Developments in Parliament
  and to Provide an Official Online
  Source of Information Consistent with
  the Full Disclosure Policy of the
  National Government, Transparency,
  and Good Governance"



- Proposed Resolution No. 113 "A
  Resolution Respectfully Requesting the
  Interim Chief Minister to Activate the
  Intergovernmental Relations
  Mechanism, for it to Discuss and
  Explore with the Representatives of His
  Excellency Rodrigo R. Duterte the
  Possible Utilization of Some Military
  Land Reservations Located within the
  Bangsamoro Territory for Purposes of
  Socio-Economic, Charitable, or for
  Other Useful Purposes"
- Resolution No. 148

"Giving Full Support to the
Bangsamoro Children's Declaration in
Commemoration of the 30th
Anniversary of the Adoption of the
United Nations Convention on the
Rights of the Child

# **Consultations**

From March to October 2019, we conducted consultations, interviews and ground research on the issues of BCO-BARMM, Women, Internally Displaced People from the Marawi Siege, and development of Ranao (Lake Lanao).

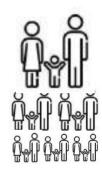
In essence, our most critical recommendations are, as follows:



Creation of a Special Office focused on the welfare and identity-needs of Bangsamoroidentifying communities outside of BARMM



A structure that leads Moro and Muslim women in determining their own needs and defining their own rights, providing equitable spaces to be informed and participate in all decisions that affect them and their families



Return of the displaced families to their residence and property in the Most Affected Areas from the Marawi Siege and providing Psycho-social and economic recovery support for them



Creation of an entity (Ranao
Development Authority) to
conserve, protect and develop
Lake Lanao and its watersheds
and environs to serve the interest
of the communities around it
and the economic development
of the Bangsamoro

# **BCO-BARMM**

#### Introduction

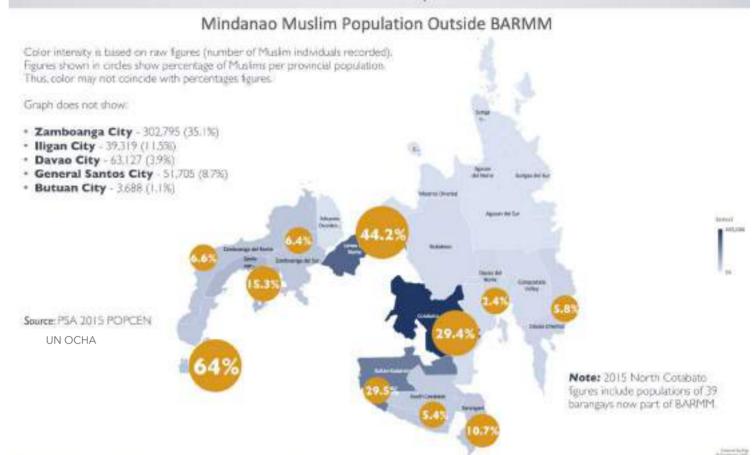
Outside of BARMM, there is currently no comprehensive official data on the spread and density of Bangsamoro-identifying communities1 in the Philippines.2 Current statistics only refer to Muslim Filipinos who, for the purpose of this report, will be used interchangeably with Bangsamoro communities, without prejudice to the [other] possible Bangsamoro-identifying peoples such as the indigenous, also referred to as Lumad, communities, and the non-Bangsamoro-identifying Muslims as well.

In 2017, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) basing on the 2015 population census estimated that there were 5,646,010 Muslim Filipinos in Mindanao, comprising 23.39 percent of the total population of Mindanao. From this percentage, 14.30 percent or around 3.4 million were living in the previous ARMM jurisdiction, which are all now within the BARMM. Other regions with considerable estimated number of Muslim Filipinos were:

Zamboanga Peninsula, Region 9	603,289
Northern Mindanao, Region 10	378,019
Davao Region, Region 11	167,897
SOCKSARGEN Region 12	1,032,824
Total	2,182,029

At the national level, in 2012, the National

# MINDANAO MAP, % MUSLIMS



Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) estimated that Muslim Filipinos comprise 10.7 or nearly 11 percent of the country's total population. The PSA estimate for the country's total population in 2012 was at 96,510,000, which will reflect 11 percent Muslim Filipinos at 10,616,100. For 2019, the PSA estimate for total population is at 108,274.300 (medium assumption), turning in an 11 percent of **11,910,173** Muslim Filipinos.

Given that the original inhabitants of the islands were either Muslims or Non-Muslims, these figures could be more. With the current estimate of four (4) million Muslim population in BARMM, it is possible to conclude that around seven (7) million Filipino Muslims are currently living outside the region.

<sup>1.</sup> As per Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), Bangsamoro refers to those "who, at the advent of the Spanish colonisation were considered natives or original inhabitants a Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago and adjacent islands—whether mixed or of full blood, shall have the right to identify themselves, their spouses and descendants as Bangsamoro.

<sup>2.</sup> Previous to the Spanish invasion of the archipelago now known as the Philippines, the islands have already been inhabited by Muslims and Non-Muslims. First establishing the Sultanates in Maguindanao and Sulu, Islam already peacefully spread up to Luzon in the 14th century. Muslims in the Philippines were also mostly the natives, predating the first known Filipinos who were actually Spanish and Chinese mestizos.





Rizal, Palawan is a community with around 55,000 residents. Around 40 percent of the population are Moros who are also natives of the municipality. Led by Papa Otol, the municipal mayor, this first class municipality is seeking support to establish a Madrasah that can accommodate students in the municipality and nearby areas. (September 14, 2019)

### **Summary of Issues**

The series of consultations with the BCOs in July, August and September 2019 turned in a mix of IDPs, local residents, local officials, representatives from the NMCF, PNP and AFP, Muslim Religious Leaders, representatives from civil society organizations, some members of the business sector, Muslim community leaders and Moro youth. These are the summary of their concerns:

### **IDENTITY**

The need to belong and connect to the Bangsamoro identity flows all throughout the discussions. More hopeful now with the much celebrated establishment of the Bangsamoro regional government, BCOs who joined the consultations express identification and a hope for more connection with the Bangsamoro government.

# FAITH-GUIDED EDUCATION

Related to Bangsamoro identity, support for education in the Madaris is the top priority for the Moro youth leaders located outside of BARMM.

### **VOICE**

There is a need to provide safe spaces for the BCOs to express their voices to their host local governments and to BARMM and be heard.

### **SURVIVAL**

There is a need to extend assistance for the basic survival and development needs such shelter, food, cash assistance and education for some BCOs.

#### **CAPACITY**

Critical to supporting the

BCOs is providing special opportunities to capacitate and find ways for communities and families to lift themselves out of exclusion and poverty.

#### **RELIGIOUS PRACTICE**

Promoting awareness, sensitivity and recognition of Islamic practices without prejudice to other faiths or religions, and providing/ building conducive environments for the religious practice of faith lay at the core of the BCOs' concerns.

#### **DATA**

There is a need to cull data that are specific to the concerns of the BCOs. The lack of data is reflective of their marginalised status in some non-BARMM communities.

### **Recommendations**

To address the problems voiced out in the consultations, the recommendations are:

#### **Data Generation**

Generate research-based knowledge on the BCOs, their locations, ethnicities and situations, particularly their most urgent and critical concerns pertaining to shelter, security and safety and basic survival and faith-specific needs.

#### **Information Drive**

Work on changing social attitudes and perceptions of non-Bangsamoro peoples towards the BCOs as well as the Muslim Filipino in general.

#### **PRC for BARMM**

Create a Professional Regulations
Commission (PRC) for BARMM that
will also give accreditation to BCO
professionals working in recognized
Islamic and cultural institutions and
provide a socialized review program
for unlicensed professionals.

### **Special Office**

Set up an Office of the BCO-BARMM to lead the efforts to work with local governments in addressing the survival and development needs of the BCOs (see figure on the right), work on the recommendations and accomplish other mandates such as becoming BARMM's ambassador of goodwill to non-BARMM territories hosting the BCOs.

#### **Program for former combatants**

Ensure a program for reintegration of former combatants, both women and men in BCOs. The program should provide suitable livelihood opportunities and options.



- A Voice in Government
- Strong Sense of Identity
- Basic Needs/Subsistence
- ♠ Dignified Dwelling
- ₱ Decent Livelihood
- C Freedom to Practice Religion
- S Dignified Muslim Burial Grounds
- Support for Asaatidz & Community Leaders
- On Culture-sensitive Health Services
- O Culture-sensitive
  Disaster Response
- Access to Quality Formal & Islamic Education
- ♦ Gender Responsive Services
- Legal Assistance

If approved into law., Bill 15 creates the Office of the BCO-BARMM that addresses these needs.

### **Consultation highlights**

#### Pantar and Tagoloan IDPs in Lanao del Norte

Social services that bring basic survival needs are few and far in between. Especially for the IDPs, being a non-voter and the lack of legal identification documents, deters most of them from accessing the host LGU's basic social services and assistance to indigents. They are not part of the budget and therefore have no approved allocation in the LGUs for shelter, food, water, cash, health, education, loan and other forms of assistance usually extended to regular constituents.

**Unemployment** among the adults and youth, including lack of skills to be employable, is also a top concern. While some young people have been able to finish tertiary education, there are those who lack financial capacity to be able to take board or licensure exams.

Providing **education** for children and youth has become more difficult as families who lack income to support even the most basic school materials and the students' transportation to and from school. There is a call among young people to be schooled in the **Madrasah** yet the Uztadj and Uztadja in the Madrasah are not regularly compensated, as they depend solely on the number of students and school fees generated. The Madrasah is an important concern for BCOs as part of the identity of the Bangsamoro Muslims is education intertwined with religious teachings. A related concern, traditional leaders need support through through subsidy and provision for salary.

**Widows and orphans** require immediate aid for survival needs such as food and livelihood/ employment as well as assistance to their children pursuing education in regular schools and/or Madrasah. Related to this, **former MILF women and men** also need livelihood and employment assistance, including through skills training and start-up grants.

#### Proposed solutions

- Scholarship grants for indigent children and out-of-school youth;
- Skills training for adults and youth of employable age paired with job placement program;
- Assistance to provide graduates the chance to take their reviews and licensure examinations for free;
- Assistance to the Madrasah by providing providing plantilla positions;
- Assistance to Madrasah workers' licensure examination, which also helps regulate the operation of the Madrasah;
- Creation of a localised Professional Regulation Commission to better cater to the specific needs of BARMM's professional sectors, including those currently located outside;
- Extending assistance to war widows through direct food aid and employment and/or livelihood assistance;
- Creation of a committee that screens applicants for assistance; and,

 Building awareness among secular schools on Muslim and Bangsamoro cultures.

#### Manila, Muntinlupa and Quezon Cities

Access to Halal food is major concern for the BCOs. Living within predominantly non-Muslim cities limits their food choices in the markets, prompting many to compromise their religious practice. Related to this is access to places of worship as there are very few Mosques built in these cities. Support for the maintenance of Mosques and subsidy for religious leaders area also needed. Muslim cemeteries are even fewer, forcing families to spend even the few money they have on transporting their dead back to their provinces or to the cemeteries either in Montalban, Rizal or Taguig City.

While Muslim residents have been given Philhealth membership by local officials, **Muslim health workers** are what they also need. In contrast to the Non-Muslims, Muslim doctors will know how to handle Muslim patients better in accordance with religious practice.



MP Maisara went to the Manila Muslim vendors' area herself to know more about their plight.

During **calamities**, relief agencies and the aid they bring will be more acceptable to the Muslim communities if they are sensitised to both Moro cultural norms and Muslim religious practice. Some have suggested making the second floor of Mosques as evacuation centres during floods or typhoons.

Most of them are traders yet there is no known support specifically for the formation of Muslim traders' cooperatives or even training in **business and financial skills.** If BARMM can support them in this, there are more chances for them to find legal and permanent profitable areas to sell their products.

#### Requested support:

- Establish Halal market, food processing and business;
- Build more Mosques;
- · Allocation of lots for Muslim cemeteries;
- Subsidise Mosques and religious leaders;
- Facilitate the hiring and posting of Muslim doctors and other health workers for BCOs;
- Promote culture-and-faith-sensitive disaster risk reduction and relief for the BCOs; and,
- Provide opportunities for Muslim traders and small businesses to be trained in skills that can improve business and help them form/improve their organisations/associations.

#### **Iligan City**

For the Moro youth in the city, the **Madrasah** is one of the most important support that BARMM

can extend. The repair of current Madrasahs and establishment of additional structures are needed in Iligan.

The Madrasah is for the Bangsamoro youth, as one young Moro expressed: "It is in Madrasah that we learn more about our faith and 'life after death'. In [English] schools, they only teach you about life here on Earth. We learn what's right or wrong in Madrasah, as well as our religion which is Islam. When you know what is prohibited, you will choose to do peaceful things. For instance, stealing is prohibited or 'haram', including eating something stolen. Earning through illegal drugs is haram."

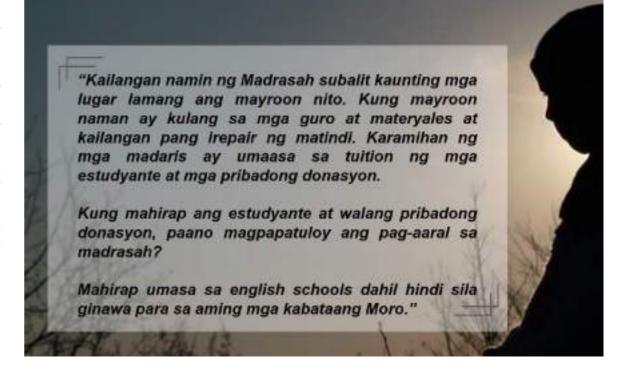
Children lose interest in schooling when enrolled late. Others transfer to other schools that teach only English. Those who are really poor might

not go to school at all because English schools are usually too far from them.

The Moro youth feel that they are seldom consulted on programs they think are appropriate for them. They feel that even if their needs are not prioritised, they should at least be given the chance to prove themselves. As one explained, "We know that all of us are humans, each with their own weaknesses and needs. A majority of us have not been able to prioritise Madrasah because only a few places have them." In Lanao del Norte, Kulambugan and Bacolod have their own Madrasah. To

sustain the schools, the student pays every month to cover the workers' salary and maintain the school. If the parents cannot afford the contribution, their children cannot study.

The Moro youth in Iligan are calling on the government to affirm their identity as Bangsamoro. One student says "they do no trust us because they see Moros as terrorist." The Madrasah promotes children to "live decently and good actions towards others. Even backbiting is not allowed as you should be honest and learn to 'forgive and forget.' Another youth added, "For women, you can be beautiful and wear make-up, as long as you do it for yourself and not to seduce. Even the men, you should not do things just to impress others. You do it for yourself. In the Madrasah, we learn that, the way of Islam."







Zamboanga City's permanent Muslim residents call for fair treatment and non-discrimination in employment opportunities. For a long time, Christians are preferred over Muslim job applicants. Who will speak for them? The two photos above show the plight of the Bangsamoro-identifying Samal people in Sta. Cruz island in Zamboanga City. This community lament the lack of access to all the education, health and social services provided by the city government. (October 12, 2019)

#### **Zamboanga City**

The city is home to around 303 thousand Muslims, which includes the original inhabitants and the diaspora communities such as those who fled from armed conflict and natural disasters.

Marginalisation and discrimination spell the lives of the Muslims here. The consultation with some of the BCOBARMM residents reveal that Muslims suffer discrimination in hiring

compared to their Roman Catholic counterparts. In communities of the 'bakwit' livelihood opportunities are scarce, health is deteriorating, and providing quality education for the young has become more difficult for parents.

In the urban poor areas of Sta. Barbara and Sta. Catalina, Moro people who fled from the fighting in conflict-afflicted municipalities in Sulu face unemployment and hunger. In Sta. Cruz island, the Bangsamoro-identifying communities have endured decades of child

malnutrition, unsafe child deliveries, lack of and expensive drinking water, and costly child education.

For them, government attention to their needs and non-discrimination in employment opportunities are top concerns.

# WOMEN

#### Introduction

The new BARMM offers a new beginning for the Moro women. Having been immersed in poverty and poorly performing quality of life indicators for the past decades, the promises of inclusive growth, rights-based governance, increasing peace, cultural sensitivity and visibility and participation in deciding on matters that affect them and their family are valued by these women.

The consultation activity and interviews we held are founded on the premise that empowered Moro women will make a strong and cohesive BARMM.

The key issues raised by the women pertain to political participation, particularly awareness and influence on decisions on the allocation of government resources, stopping corruption among

public officials and in government offices, protection from gender-based violence and women's empowerment through capacity-building on their rights.

These consultation and interviews are only the first few of the initiatives to make the Bangsamoro parliament genuinely inclusive for women. As we progress with these initiatives and respond to their recommendations, we will be seeing more of how Moro women are claiming their rightful place and defining their own rights and participation in building the foundations of a peaceful and prosperous BARMM.

Moro women would like to claim their rightful place and define their own rights



C. Bello/UNICEF/MOH-BARMM/2018/Bonggao, Tawi-Tawi

# A glimpse at the situation of women in BARMM

The consultation and interviews we conducted were built on the premise that the ranks of empowered Moro women make a strong foundation for a progressive and vibrant Bangsamoro society.

Women comprise around 2.25 million or 51 percent of the 4,247,100 estimated total population for 2019 in BARMM. 1

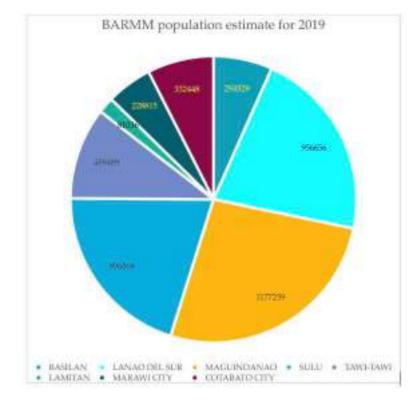
Among the females, around 1.12 million are estimated to be of reproductive age women ages 15 to 49 years old. With a fertility rate of 4.2 percent in 2013 and 3.1 in 2017, the highest among the regions in the Philippines, the region's women will give birth to around 3.47 to 4.7 million children in the next few years.

In recent years, ARMM consistently was registered among the poorest region in the country, with Lanao del Sur as the most impoverished among all the country's provinces. The PSA data on poverty incidence for ARMM for 2015 was

pegged at 61.6 and for 2018 at 63 percent. For Lanao del sur, the estimate was at 77.2 for 2015 and 73.7 for 2018.

Using the poverty incidence of 63 percent in 2018 and the population estimate for women in the same year, poverty exists among the 2.03 million women for 2018. In Lanao del Sur, the poverty estimate is more than 350 thousand poor out of the 475,250 women.

Poverty among women can also be seen in the region's health indicators that are often the lowest performing compared to other regions in the country. Among women giving birth, the National Demographic Health Survey for 2017 shows the region's expectant mothers giving birth mostly in the home.4 When asked why, many of them say they cannot afford to spend traveling to the health facility to give birth, especially those whose homes are geographically isolated by lack of roads, mountains or sea. In some cases, ongoing armed conflicts keep families within their homes, unable to cross between the fighting groups.



Ante-natal or prenatal visits are also lowest in the region. Consequently, deaths among children under five (5) years of age are also the highest with 55 per 1,000 live births. These indicators should already ring the alarm to aid poor women and their children to ensure women give birth safely and babies do not die before they reach the age of five.

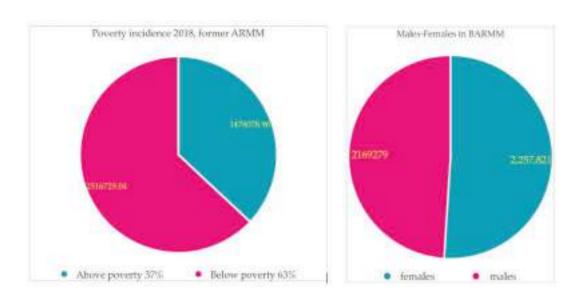
<sup>1</sup> Based on Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) per Department Memorandum 2017-0073 population projection estimate for the former ARMM territories plus Cotabato City, This excludes just for this report the 63 villages in North Cotabato that voted for inclusion into BARMM.

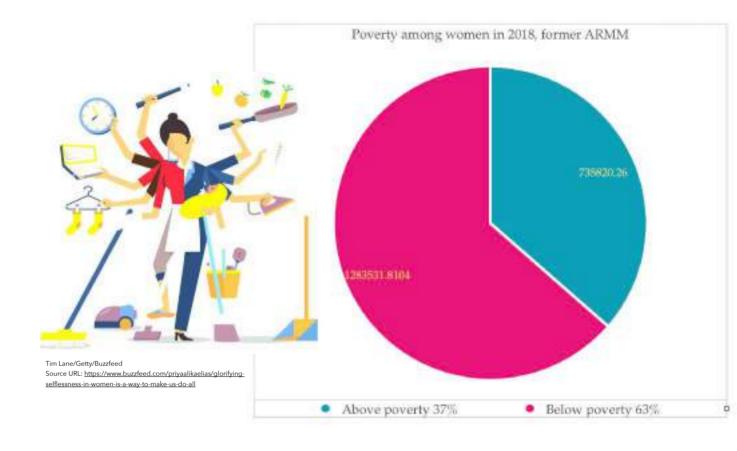
<sup>2</sup> Based on 50 percent computation

<sup>3</sup> The national average is 3.0 for 2013 and 2.7 for 2017 as per National Demographic Health Surveys (NDHS)

<sup>4</sup> Past 3 years, most recent birth

<sup>5</sup> This runs contrary to the 2017 Field Health Service Information System (FHSIS) data which only puts 7.83 U5 mortality per 1,000 live births compared to the national's 11.47. Under-reporting of infant, under-five and maternal deaths is expected when babies are delivered at home and not at the health facility. Basic immunization and birth registration is also low in such instance.

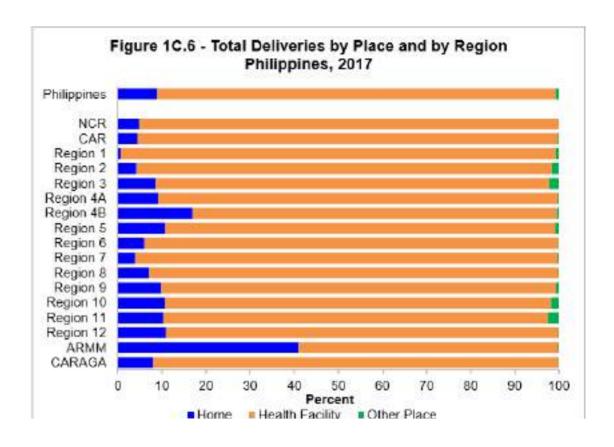


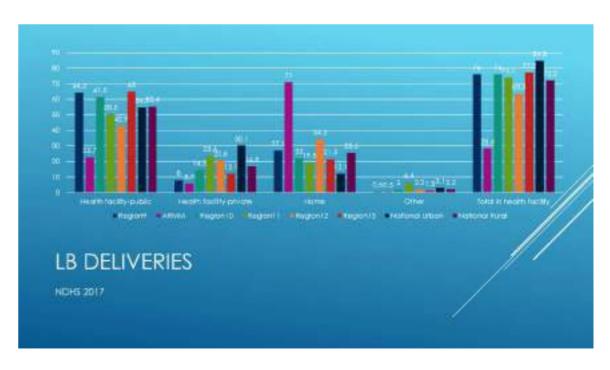


The charts above show government survey's poverty estimate in the former ARMM, with more than 63 percent or 2.5 million living below the poverty line. Consequently, majority of the women are estimated to live in poverty who, compared to most of the men, perform multiple roles at home— attending to duties toward the husband, childbearing and childrearing, house chores, livelihood or paid work, and even free services to the extended family and community.

The NDHS data is consistent with government health data for the year 2017, which puts at 41.85 percent the deliveries at home in the former region for that year alone.

Home births pose various health risks for the mother and newborn. Critical lifesaving vaccinations, safe and clean child birth to prevent maternal and neonatal tetanus, newborn screening and birth registration are often not present, particularly when the birth is not delivered by a skilled birth attendant (midwife, nurse or doctor).





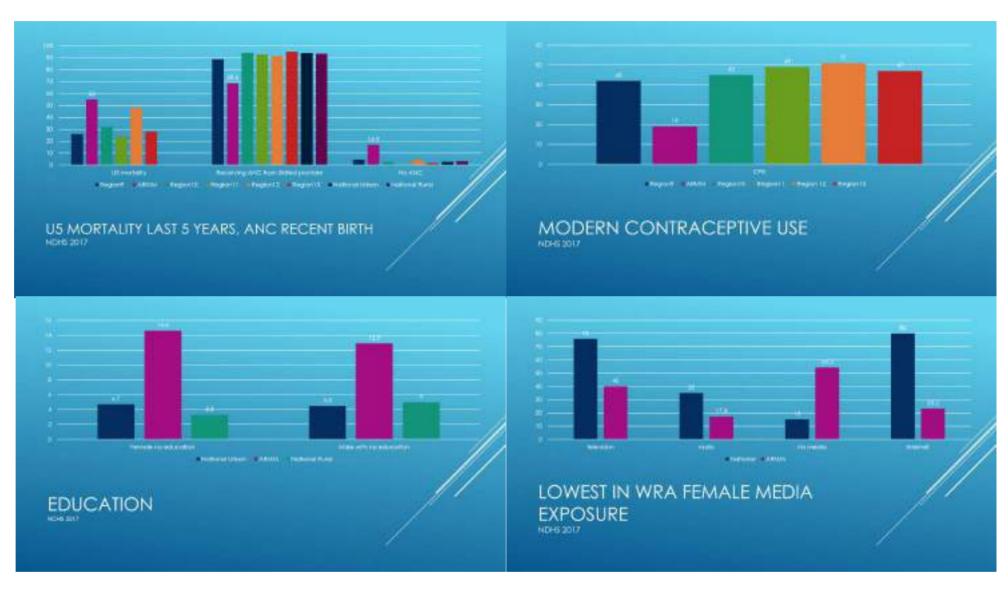
<sup>6</sup> Field Health Services Information System (FHSIS) gathers information from the ground health workers and is published yearly by the Department of Health

The NDHS 2017 shows the former ARMM with the highest incidence of underfive (U5) mortality for every 1,000 live births, mostly occurring among women who have not had education and belong to the poorest.

The chart also shows the regions of Mindanao, with the former ARMM having the lowest percentage of women following the required visits to the health centers/medical services provider prior to giving birth. Consequently, the region also has the highest number of expectant mothers having no prenatal check-ups.

Many women in the Bangsamoro also do not have access to modern contraceptives, limiting their capacity to plan their

pregnancy so they can better cope with hardships their families undergo. This is true especially when natural disasters strike or armed conflicts force them to leave their agricultural lands and livestock behind. In rural areas of the Bangsamoro, women marry as young as 13 to 14 years old and bear up to 10 to 14 children. However, as more parents become concerned with their children's education, the number of women marrying or getting pregnant at a young age will hopefully decrease. It is hoped that this downward trend in early marriage and pregnancy continues.



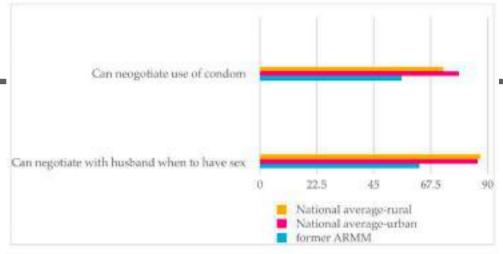
In terms of education, almost 15 percent of females in the former ARMM have had no formal education at all. Males without formal education are at 13 percent. This is consistent with another survey on education,7 where ARMM has 14.4 percent of 6 to 24 year-olds who are not in school. This is the highest percentage of females and males with no education compared to other regions in the country. Consequently, women in former ARMM also had the lowest media exposure, with almost 55 percent having no access to any form of media at all.

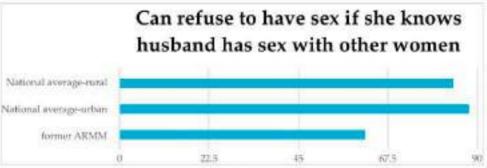
#### WOMEN

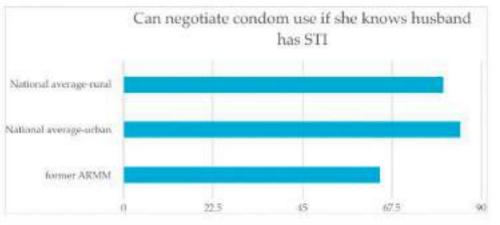
Where there is conflict, women are left at home to ensure the family's survival. In our field work, we saw the "war wives" in Talipao, Sulu province and "war widows" in Butig, Lanao del Sur tell of extreme hardships in attending to all the needs of the family. Feeling alone and helpless, the widows cry silent tears, some of them emaciated, pleading for government support.

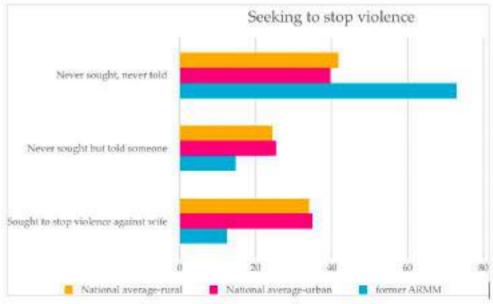
Among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), some women end up solo parents and solo carers for the young, the sick and the elderly. With scarce food and no income, the burden has become too much for them to bear.

Indicators from NDHS 2017 that are related to women's protection and empowerment reveals the situation of women within the home. The charts show low capability of women to decide on their sexual health such negotiating with husband on when to have sex, protection during sex and reporting partner/spouse violence. In contrast, the region's women tend to agree, more than women in other regions, that violence against women can be justified in some circumstances. Related to this, fewer women in the region have the capacity to negotiate sex and protected sex with the husband.









4

#### Women matter to us

Every day, women perform multiple roles and multi-task, attending to the needs of the husband, nursing the infant, attending to the children and preparing them for school, attending to extra work or alternative sources of livelihood, finding food and/or looking for loans when the husband has no work or debilitated. Among the poorest some women confess they are the last to eat during meal time and the first to eat the leftovers. These same women sustain the community by caring for their sick relatives and the children whose parents leave for work overseas. Women are the invisible hands that prepare the husbands for work. They prepare the food and clothes. They create homes and communities that are conducive to raising a family, producing citizens that develop that nation. For the community, these same women can also be the support system for relatives who pursue the violent extremism for either just or criminal causes.

The public consultations are built on the premise that women-- as main 'carers' of the family, co-pillars in the community and equally capable public leaders-- are one of the foundations of a strong and progressive Bangsamoro. Without focus on the quality of life women, any society is doomed

Following the establishment of the BTA, public consultations on women's concerns were held to make the parliament - its legislative and programmatic mandates and initiatives - more inclusive and successful in bridging the transition from the old entity of ARMM into the new BARMM.



C. Bello/UNICEF/MOH-BARMM/2018/Lanao del Sur

# Women

In August and September 2019, our team conducted consultation and several interviews with women in Marawi City and Lanao del Sur province. The consultation was held at the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM) in Mindanao State University-Marawi campus. It was attended by women from communities in Marawi and Lanao del Sur, IDP sites, non-government organizations and some local officials. Interviews with women from IDP sites and communities affected by conflict were also conducted within September and October 2019.

**Problems** 

From the consultation and interviews, most women lament the need for income and livelihood opportunities and access to social services. Most are not aware of any information on how and where to avail of livelihood opportunities, if any. Municipal and barangay officials need to be more transparent in selecting beneficiaries and how services and goods are distributed. Start-up capital especially for women and men who lost their businesses during the Marawi siege is a related need raised in the consultation.

Maranao women, in particular, have the skills and experience to reengage in livelihood initiatives or small businesses.

For unemployed women, particularly those who finished high school/college or lost their jobs because of the siege, having paid jobs is the most urgent concern. Especially for Marawi, the husbands—if they have not left home—will need the support of working women to feed the family. Some women have become solo parents and caregivers for the entire family after their husbands left them, either for other women or because of too much stress from displacement or both.

Women from indigent families, especially if their families were affected by the Marawi siege, call for education assistance and subsidy for their children. Scholarship assistance and transportation and food subsidy will encourage their children to pursue school. Islamic education to instill moral values among children is necessary to strengthen the community and religious support systems.

Women want [to] ...
learn more about
their rights and
define how they will
be empowered and
live their rights as
Moro and Muslim.

Some IDP families, although eligible, have not been made 4Ps beneficiaries. For these women, exclusion from the list of 4Ps beneficiaries consequently, automatically, excludes them from most assistance, including cash donations that have been coming from national and local governments, international and local non-government organisations and corporate and private donors.

Also among IDPs, incidences of domestic violence and sexual assault have been known but no victim-survivors chose not to reveal or file complaints against their offenders. Amicable settlement through marriage has been the norm to protect women from shame and avoid rido. The choice to amicably settle

and/or marry the victim-survivor to the offender maintains some peace but women also admit this will not prevent and might even encourage other men to continue with their wrongdoings.

As the primary duty bearers of the family, women in the Bangsamoro focus more on duties in the home. However, becoming more aware that political decisions have powerful effects on them and their families, women who participated in the consultations want more than information and demand that their voices be heard by the Bangsamoro government, learn more about their rights and define how they will be empowered and live their rights as Moro and Muslim.

#### **Recommendations**

#### Meaningful and informed participation

Bangsamoro women are calling for capacity-building on rights and political awareness and participation. They want their voices heard and included in decision-making through meaningful participation as equals in government and community affairs.

#### **Create jobs immediately**

College graduate and passers of licensure examinations for teachers and even nurses should be tapped to become part of bringing back social services and for social rehabilitation initiatives. Both skilled and unskilled workers should be hired for infrastructure. Prioritise the hiring of locals.

#### **Provide scholarships and subsidies**

Women are calling for scholarship grants and education subsidies especially for families affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts. Children from poor families currently have few opportunities to finish elementary, high school and college such that enrolment decreases as the level of education goes up. Alternative Learning System (ALS) followed through with job placement should reach eligible students in low income and indigent families.

#### **Program for IDPs**

IDP women see the need for a mechanism, possibly an office, to solely, efficiently and quickly address, every time, the problem of displacements brought about by natural disasters and armed conflicts. Integrating this concern with the Disaster

Risk Reduction (DRR) program may not suffice as displacements have been frequently occurring and require medium to long-term solutions that DRR cannot cover.

#### Implement moral governance

Corruption and biased implementation of government programs make governance weak or fragile, which, in turns, aggravates poverty and conflicts in communities. Women are demanding honest and fair public service from all levels of government and every office in BARMM. The BTA should install a fully functioning monitoring mechanism for barangay, city/municipal and provincial officials and offices. Among government social workers, some suggested increasing their salaries so they will not be tempted to corrupt the funds and goods intended for beneficiaries.

#### **Moral recovery**

Values programs for Islamic education for children and youth through the Madrasah, parenting workshops and marriage counselling are needed especially to heal broken families or make families with solo parents resilient and bounce back from psychological and emotional stress. Values can also address the problem of gender-based violence and encourage families to prioritise the education of children before they are set for marriage and family. If more families see this as valuable, there are less chances for the future generations to be trapped in poverty.

#### Reorganise Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM)

Women openly argued for the re-organisation of TFBM to make it more inclusive, open, transparent and efficient in leading the rehabilitation of Marawi. In this case, the BTA is called on to investigate problems and complaints, and facilitate dialogue between the people of Marawi and TFBM. The city government of Marawi should be part of this process and be held to account as necessary.

#### Continuing relief and assistance

Women whose families are still in evacuation, temporary settlement and home-based sites emphasise the need for government to continue food, water, sanitation, livelihood and education assistance. Livelihood package that comes with marketing assistance should be a priority for IDPs and recovering families who have gone back to their homes. For 4Ps beneficiaries, subsistence allowance for college students is seen as an immediate need.

# Strengthen the Regional Commission on Bangsamoro Women (RCBW)

Related to all the above, women call strongly for the strengthening of the office focused on women's concerns by expanding its capacities further as a ministry so it can implement programs independently for the strengthening of the ranks of Bangsamoro women -- building women's capacities for participation, raising consciousness and identity,

# INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE (IDP)



Photo courtesy of Johara Mamacotao

#### Introduction

More than two (2) years of waiting after the declaration of Marawi's liberation in October 2017, the IDPs on the one hand and the government through Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM) on the other are at a standstill.

The displaced families who have not been able to return to where their homes used to stand in the Most Affected Area (MAA) are scattered but have one unified call: LET US GO HOMF.

For government, however, things are not that simple. The bombs still have to be cleared, some demolitions will still be done, the master list of original residents and qualified land claimants of the MAA have to be finalized, and the rebuilding of the MAA will take time. On the big board of the TFBM, the master plan on display focuses on building infrastructure.

The dilemma of Marawi IDPs is uncertainty. They will have to wait in the

temporary settlements, the traders and small business owners of the MAA will have to find other means to thrive. Impatience is increasingly turning into resentment, which, in turn, could fuel outrage. Questions need answers: When will they be able to go back? Will they ever be able to go back and rebuild? Will they be compensated for the damages the siege has brought on them? Aside from rebuilding infrastructures, what, really, is government's plan for the IDPs? Or is there any plan for them at all?

With this situation, one of the things that the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) can immediately do is to facilitate genuine consultation and dialogue between the national government and IDPs, concluding with a signed and sealed legally binding document with clear commitments, deliverables and timelines that are mutually beneficial and agreed to by both parties.

This report narrates only some of the details of the plight of IDPs but, more importantly, puts forward their recommendations on how government can address their call.

BARMM, much like the rest of the country, is vulnerable to natural disasters. 1 Surrounded by bodies of water and located along the Pacific Rim of Fire, the country has already been hit by disasters of all kind. The climate crisis made what used to be typhoon-free areas in Mindanao such as Lanao del Sur more vulnerable to damages from strong winds and flooding. Natural disasters displace hundreds and sometimes thousands of families, and wreak havoc on agricultural lands and livelihood of the Bangsamoro. In December 2017, Typhoon Vinta caused widespread flooding and displacements in Lanao del Sur, including Marawi City. When families return to their homes, reworking the fields takes time especially when local government capacity to bring aid and services is weak or non-existent.

Gun fights and sporadic violence caused mainly by *rido* or clan feuds and armed bandit groups such as the Abu Sayaf, Maute and ISIS-inspired units also displace populations. The lack of government preparedness and policy responding to conflict-induced displacements makes the lives of displaced families seem hopeless. When non-government relief efforts stop, families are left to fend for themselves, making life unbearable, pushing some young women and men to enter into illegal and illicit trade and activities.

The focus of this report are the Internally Displaced (IDPs) from the Marawi Siege that erupted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2017 and lasted up to October the same year. The exchange of gun fires on the first day eventually escalated into a full-blown war, with heavy artillery and aerial bombings destroying the infrastructures where the ISIS-inspired elements were hiding. The siege destroyed 24 out Marawi's 96 barangays, covering 250 hectares of land, known before as "ground zero," and now referred to as Most Affected Areas (MAA).

In May 2017, around 360,0002
residents of the city and
nearby areas fled and left most
of their valuables and property
behind. Those with steady
sources of income and/or
savings coped better than
those who eke out daily living.
Two years since the end of the
Marawi siege. More than
66,0003 persons are still
staying in transitory sites and
host families.4

As of October 2019, the government Kathanor (census) data base listed 15,677 MAA families that have not gone back to where their houses and businesses used to stand. From this figure, 2,446 families are staying in evacuation centers.

The focus of this report are the Internally Displaced (IDPs) from the Marawi Siege that erupted on the 23rd of May 2017 and lasted up to October the same year. The exchange of gun fires on the first day eventually escalated into a full-blown war, with heavy artillery and aerial bombings destroying the infrastructures where the ISIS-inspired elements were hiding. The siege destroyed 24 out Marawi's 96 barangays, covering 250 hectares of land, known before as "ground zero," and now referred to as Most Affected Areas (MAA).5



A resident of Tent City in Sarimanok, one of the 191 families still awaiting relocation, without 4Ps she laments her situation as mother of 6 children

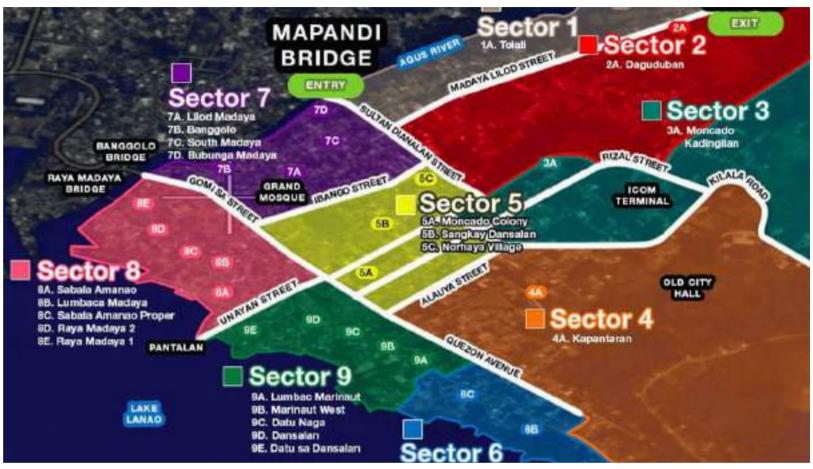
- 1 The Philippines has a high vulnerability to natural hazards which are attributed to the nation's geographic position in Southeast Asia. Natural disasters such as typhoons, earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and fires affect the country.- Philippines Disaster Management Reference Handbook, Relief Web, URL: <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/philippines-disaster-management-reference-handbook-march-2018">https://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/philippines-disaster-management-reference-handbook-march-2018</a>
- <sup>2</sup> OCHA Philippines Humanitarian Board (2019). Humanitarian Bulletin, August 2017. [online] Available at: <a href="http://ochaimphil.github.io/Humanitarian-Bulletin/HumBulletinAug2017.html">http://ochaimphil.github.io/Humanitarian-Bulletin/HumBulletinAug2017.html</a> (Accessed 19 July 2019).
- <sup>3</sup> United Nations Office of Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) data for June 2019. This figure runs contrary to Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) data for June 2019 which indicates 1,456 IDPs in the region also for June 2019.
- <sup>4</sup> "Multi-Sectoral Joint Needs Assessment Report: Marawi Conflict-Evacuation Centers and Temporary Shelters," Mindanao Humanitarian Team, 10-12 June 2019, Iligan City.
- <sup>5</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as stated in the article "For ground zero IDPs in Marawi, there is no going back," by Luz Rimban, ABS-CBN News, 16 October 2019, published at: <a href="https://news.abs-cbn.com/spotlight/10/16/19/for-ground-zero-idps-in-marawi-theres-no-going-back">https://news.abs-cbn.com/spotlight/10/16/19/for-ground-zero-idps-in-marawi-theres-no-going-back</a>

Consultations were conducted through community visits and house-to-house interviews in Marawi's transitory and tent sites from August to October 2019. Data were also culled from the reports of various international organisations that delivered humanitarian assistance to Marawi's IDPs.

Various government and non-government humanitarian actors have already summarised the needs of the Marawi IDPs. Their summaries and the highlights from consultations we compiled are provided in the succeeding notes on food and livelihood, WaSH (water, sanitation and hygiene), education, health, legal documentation, gender-based violence and male youth concerns. 7

#### Issues

Food and source of livelihood are the most expressed needs of most IDPs regardless if they still live in tents or have relocated to unit built by the NHA. Lack of food render children, pregnant and lactating mothers vulnerable to malnutrition. The absence of livelihood assistance and job opportunities lend fathers and young males to physical and psychological stress as they search for income wherever fate bring them and in whatever way they can. Women who are left to care and find food for the entire family—children, elderly and sometimes a sick



husband-are pushed to the limits of survival.

**Shelter** concerns are immediate as families still living in tents endure the hot days and cold nights. When it rains, they survive the wet and muddy floors and slippery walkways. Most of the 191 families in Sarimanok's 'tent city' have been living in this condition for almost two years. The thin and tattered tarpaulin tents allow cold air to seep in. Those in transitory sites feel better but still find leaking roofs, walls and pipes

Map from Task Force Bangon Marawi- Kambisita flyer shows the Most Affected Areas where residents have not been able to go back to their homes.

to repair. Women and girls lack privacy as living facilities have no separate room for them. Some of the transitory units allotted for the tent families, as of writing, are illegally occupied. This problem is still being addressed by the city government.

<sup>6</sup> These organizations include the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, OXFAM and CARE.

<sup>7</sup> The ARMM-HEART, Mindanao Humanitarian Team, Forgotten Crisis Consortium and other initiatives were among the first responders to the Marawi IDPs. As most of the families have returned to their residences in Marawi, these actors slowly pulled away from providing direct assistance.

There is no available data on **gender-based violence** as families seem to choose to keep to themselves to avoid *rido* and save women from shame. Although there are known cases, there is either protective silence or non-recognition of this concern. Although national law prohibits amicable settlement, marrying the victim-survivor to the perpetrator have been known but families are not speaking out. In this case, human rights and national law conflicts with prevailing custom.

Families rely on **water** supplied by international non-government organizations. The 191 tent families have two torn down toilet cubicles to use. Open defecation is widely practiced also to save on water use and avoid filling up the toilet tanks.

**Education** becomes difficult more children who lack budget for costly transportation to school. Difficult daily living lacking sufficient food, water and light especially for children still living in tents results in loss of interest in school education. Culture-sensitive and values-focused education that could be provided through the Madrasah are nowhere in sight. IDP children also endure bullying for being newcomers, lacking focus because of psychological and economic stress of displacement, late registration, among others. Seeing their parents in difficult circumstances, some children totally leave schoold to help in the family chores and livelihood activities.

**Young males**, falling through the cracks of humanitarian and development initiatives are falling through the cracks. In tent and transitory sites, they have become less visible. There is no telling if they have already been recruited by ISIS-inspired elements or entered illicit activities.

**Health services** to transitory and tent sites need to be more frequent and well-equipped. Occasional medical missions are limited with both the supply of doctors and medicines. Mental Health and Psychological Support Services (MHPSS) is urgently needed but remain unaddressed.

In all sites, **camp coordination** needs to be more coordinated through training of coordinators, clarification of their functions and consolidation of their efforts such as camp and shelter maintenance, receiving questions and relaying to proper authorities, sharing feedback and addressing grievances.

**Legal documents** and proof of their property in the MAA are critically needed. As ownership used be based on undocumented verbal genealogy, claiming back land property remain uncertain. There is no clear direction on the part of government on when families from the MAA can go back to their lots to rebuild their houses.

Over and above the concerns cited above, the strategic needs of IDPs pertain to when the MAA families can finally go back to where their houses used to be and rebuilt their lives from there, regardless if they have land titles or tax declarations or not. This need lies at the core of the Marawi IDPs' advocacy. Those whose residences and land property have been declared to be within the military camp will need consultation and/or compensation with clear timelines. Unless these are addressed by government, the effort to rebuild Marawi will likely sink, as it will always be met by resistance and remain vulnerable also to extremist violence.

Alongside the IDPs' core concern is the need for critical intervention of the BTA to investigate alleged irregularities such the issuance of Disaster Assistance and Family Access Card (DAFAC) even to non-IDPs. There is also a need to revisit the TFBM master plan to make it more inclusive and comprehensive, discarding "band aid solutions" of building/rebuilding infrastructures in favor of rebuilding from the ground up to create a world-class city conducive to people-driven economic progress.

From consultations, the specific needs pertain to:

- 1. Getting the commitment of the local government and Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM) on when families can go back to rebuild their houses;
- 2. Knowing how and when the remaining 191 tent families can relocate to the sturdier transitory sites (as of writing, some families have began transferring);
- 3. Knowing how the Compensation Bill can help Marawi residents affected by the siege;
- 4. Clarifying what compensation and assistance can be given to families whose land property were affected by the road widening; and,
- 5. Ironing out irregularities and loopholes that make government processes prone to abuse and corruption.

#### **Recommendations**

In consideration of the survival, protection and strategic (land property and housing) concerns of the IDPs, the following entries are recommendations gathered from the consultations.

- 1. Set up a mechanism for Ranaw Centralized Information Office to hear the complaints and questions by Bangsamoro residents who have no direct access to the BTA. This includes complaints on corruption and falsification of documents that prejudice the original owners in MAA. In line with this, increase the range of support for IDPs to secure legal documents pertinent to their access to their land in MAA and government services.
- 2. **Investigation and facilitation** by the BTA should be initiated to clarify accountabilities and liabilities for the Marawi Siege. Following investigation, secure government national, regional, local, TFBM-clarification on the fate of the MAA IDPs through formally agreed and sealed legally binding commitment.
- 3. As the **TFBM master plan** is focused on infrastructure, push for a **people-centered** version of the plan. Seek compensation and extend psycho-social support for the most affected Marawi residents by including examining and advocating for the

compensation bills filed in the Philippine congress. Install **BTA close monitoring of TFBM** implementation of the Marawi Rehabilitation Plan to ensure clear timelines, financial transparency and accountability.

- 4. Linked to Marawi's recovery is the clarification on the coverage of the military camp. Caloocan East is pleading for exclusion.
- 5. Work for a **medium-term plan** to provide appropriate, adequate and continuing **assistance** for food, water, shelter, lighting, gender-sensitive WaSH, legal services and education subsidy and livelihood assistance for the most marginalized IDPs living with host families, in tents and in transitory sites;
- 6. Ensure **4Ps** membership of all eligible IDPs living in tents, host families and transitory sites.
- 7. Immediately invest in creation of **job opportunities** that are accessible to IDPs and, if far from their current dwellings, provided with transport and living subsidies for the first few months;
- Invest in the needs analysis (inventory), market-mapping and demand-based skills training for young and adult male IDPs;
- Subsidise education for children and youth;



- Provide free medical services and hospitalisation for the victim-survivors of the Marawi Seige.
- 11. Implement peace and development programs focused on the **male youth IDPs**, including prevention of violent extremism.
- 12. Strengthen and implement programs that promote the **protection of women and girls from all forms of violence**, including activating the Violence Against Women and Children **(VAWC) desks** in barangays.
- 13. Extend immediate financial and technical assistance to small business owners from the MAA, such as the setting up of Halal food establishments. The recovery of businesses would also mean jobs created for the indigent IDP families.
- 14. Implement a **civil service recognition scheme** between TESDA and Civil Service Commission where TESDA-trained IDPs can acquire professional level certification in view of experience and other qualifications.

### **MERANAW**

Before the sun rises from the east, a Masjid by the "Ranao," a Maranao word for "lake," echoes with the first morning prayer. Solemnly, another prayer echoes. The other Masjids follow to create soft waves of choruses, until the Ranao is fully immersed in the holy symphony of the Abdulrahman Nasser, the first morning prayer.

As the sun rises, the Ranao, the Masjids and the homes around it are revealed. As if a film in soft pastel colors, human life around Ranao moves. A fisher prepares his net for the morning catch. Children sneak out and play with the waves. A mother and her infant bathe under the gentle morning sun, which is made more glorious with its rays amplified by the water ripples of Ranao. A new father and an elderly woman wash the day's laundry, sitting on the rocks by the lakeside. A teenager with a white 'galon' swims swiftly far to the deep part to fetch drinking water for the family.

As the sun reaches the mid-morning, the sacred mountain, called by the locals as the Sleeping Beauty, fully reveals her grandeur,



completing the picture of an idyllic life by the lake.

Everyday is a celebration of life in the Ranao and its people. Even the schools of fish, butterflies and birds seem to celebrate the morning as they kiss the surface waters from below and from above.

In this part of the Bangsamoro region, the Ranao, more known as the Lake Lanao in Lanao del Sur, the lake, people and all nature are one. For the Meranaw or Maranao, which literally translates to "People of the Lake," the Ranao and life within and around it is the essence of their identity as a unique people in the Bangsamoro.

For the Meranaw or Maranao, which literally translates to "People of the lake," the Ranao and life within and around it is the essence of their identity as a unique people in the Bangsamoro.

# RANAO

Estimated to be around 10 million years old, Lake Lanao is one of the seventeen (17) oldest lakes in the planet and second largest lake in the country. Elevated 701.65 meters above sea level, with an expanse of 357 square kilometers, mean depth of 60 meters and deepest parts at 112 meters, it once housed eighteen (18) endemic species of freshwater fish species. To date, only two of these species abound. From its four major tributaries, the Taraka, Gata, Masta and Bacayawan Rivers, the Agus River is the lone outlet flowing down to the bay of Iligan, Misamis Oriental. It is the largest freshwater lake in the country but is second to Laguna Lake in Luzon in size.

Around Ranao are 18 municipalities and one (1) city that derive some of their food and water for drinking, domestic, irrigation and other agricultural uses from the lake. The lake is a fisheries resource, transport route and a recreational area. The introduced Nile tilapia or white goby, freshwater shrimps, and other aquaculture specifies contribute to subsistence and livelihood fishing.

#### Mindanao's Hydropower

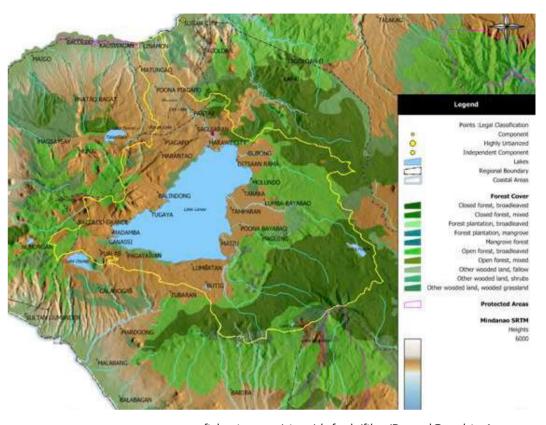
Ranao is the source of the water that runs into the lone outlet of Agus river. The generated 727 megawatts electricity lights up the homes and businesses of 70 percent of Mindanao, 1 (Although this number may not be accurate anymore, according to NPC in our latest Technical Working Group meeting) which computes to benefitting around 15 to 17 million population.2

Since 1953, the National Power Corporation has undertaken the development of six (6) out of seven (7) cascading hydroelectric power plants (Agus 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7) along the Agus River.

In 1991, the installation of Agus-1 HEP, designed to control the rate of water flow for ideal functioning of the power plants, destroyed the natural balance of life in the lake and around it, altering the self-sustaining natural fresh water ecosystem. The human-controlled down flow of water cut the delicate ecological cycle that has been sustaining the existence of life forms in and around the lake. This situation has been combined with deforestation. siltation, land reclamation, increased domestic, agricultural and business wastes up to now. The worsening surrounding

situation also compounded by the lack of various vital ecological information of the lake. Based on the recent Technical Working Group hosted by the Office, there is no clear information on the water balance of Lake Lanao since there is no instrument to measure it. This fact has shown that the current lake management based on missing vital information; without such information, the Lake's resources management and development will not be sustainable because there is no data on the limitation of the lake usage.

Several provisions under Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) have laid out the management of natural resoures within BARMM including the management of inland waters. Section 8, Article XIII of BOL provides that "Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bangsamoro Government shall have the power, authority, and right to explore, develop, and utilize the natural resources, including surface and subsurface



securefisheries.org/sites/default/files/PastedGraphic-1.png

rights, inland waters, coastal waters, and renewable and non-renewable resources in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region."

The above article shall also be read in conjunction with Section 22, Article XIII of BOL which further stated that, "The Bangsamoro Government shall have exclusive powers over inland waters, including lakes, marshes, rivers and tributaries within its territorial jurisdiction, except those that provide energy to power generating plants. The Parliament shall enact laws on the regulation, conservation, management and protection of these resources, and may classify inland waters in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. It shall create a Bangsamoro Authority and offies for specific inland bodies of water that shall exercise management and regulatory powers over these bodies of water.

<sup>1</sup> Guerero, R. "Saving Lake Lanao," AGRIMAG, published July 13, 2018, retrieved on 31 October 2019 at URL: https://www.agriculture.com.ph/2018/06/13/saving-lake-lanao

<sup>2</sup> Based on Philippine Statistics Authority 2018 population estimate for Mindanao

#### **First Consultation**

The first consultation on Lake Lanao was organized on the issue of saving, rehabilitating and developing Ranao (Lake Lanao) was conducted in July 2019, Marawi City. It was well attended by various stakeholders, among others CSO Leader Pipalawan Naga of Save Lake Lanao Movement (SALLAM), Jeff Saro Adiong Board Member of Lanao del Sur, Prof. Danilo Mero of Mindanao State University (MSU) College of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Mr. Alikhan Abuat of Marawi City and representatives from Ministry of Interior and Local Government, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture and Aquatic Resources. National Power Corporation (NAPOCOR), as well as from Women, Youth, Fisherfolk and other environmental groups.

There was a lot of concerns raised during the consultation and learning experience about Ranao. From the current status of the lake, down to legislations that can be had for its rehabilitation. What was striking was the lack of Solid

Waste Management implementation in the Province of Lanao.

According a local official representing the Ministry of Interior and Local Government, there is a need to identify a Sanitary Landfill for the Province. In the absence of a viable landfill, Lake Lanao becomes a huge dumping ground. This is a sad reality for Maranaos. That the lake is dying because of our neglect in solid waste management.

The first consultation opened our eyes once more to the urgency of saving Ranao for us and our children. One of the main suggestion came up was to create a body that has the power to protect, manage and develop the Lake in a sustainable manner.

#### **Technical Working Group**

Following the public consultation, to have more information on the mechanism to set up a development authority - office of MP Maisara has conducted meeting with Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA). LLDA is the first and

until now the only lake authority throughout the Philippines.

After the initial meeting, supported by BARMM Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy, the office of MP Latiph finally hosted Technical Working Group in Marawi City, 7 November 2019. Several resource persons were invited to give technical feedback for the Ranao Development Authority Bill. Among these people, are Pipalawan Naga from Sallam, Prof. Danilo Mero of MSU Forestry Department, Alinor Gamon from PENRIO office, as well as Adelina Santos-Borja and Atty. Zenaida Lapuz from LLDA.

Ms Borja from LLDA is coincidentally also the Vice Chairperson, Scientific Committee of International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (ILEC) and has worked for 43 years with the LLDA. As a result, the RDA Bill was enriched with many technical feedback and experiences of lake management.





#### Issues

#### Decreasing water quality and health risks

A lot of consultation participants recall the pristine waters of the lake many years ago. From the shore and into the deep parts, clear water is everywhere. The sun's rays cut from the surface into the deep and water is safe to drink only a few meters from the shore. As population increased along with domestic, business and agricultural wastes, water turned green in some parts and brownish in others. Siltation brought about by deforestation and typhoons added to the water instability problems caused by the Agus 1 HEP. Academics in our consultation pointed out the contamination of fecal matter up to 25 meters from the shore.

Despite the changing color of water and continuing open defecation on the lake's shores and shallows, families continue to drink from the lake. The thin water pipes that run from the deeper parts of the lake 20 meters away the shore and into the homes supply the water for drinking, cooking and household chores. Water purification by boiling is not known to be a practice in these homes.

A consequence of increasingly poor water quality are risks to the health communities that derive water and food from the lake. Fecal matter contamination beyond allowable range brings in disease and socio-economic costs that the Bangsamoro government will eventually have to shoulder. Concern for health risks is urgent as Lanao del Sur province had thefirst known resurgent case of Polio this year, which prompted the Department of Health to declare a Polio emergency in the entire country.

#### **Fewer Fisheries Catch**

The 2017 Marawi siege that fired artillery and dropped bombs onto 24 out of the 96 barangays of Marawi City a a sudden decrease in fish catch, some fishers say. The 1,000 stick bundles<sup>3</sup> they used to catch have gone down to 300 to 400 sticks two years later.

Participants to the consultation partly also blame the introduced Nile tilapia or white goby4 for the lost of the endemic fish species of the lake. A study two decades ago also pointed to an introduced fish specie, the eleotrid, or Giurus margaritacea, which at that time already composed 31.6% of the catch. The eleotrid5 is known to the Maranaos as "katulong," which voraciously feeds on the eggs, larvae and young of the native species that live along the shallow areas of the lake.

#### Shrinking water, increased flooding

Residents point to the shrinking water level over the years, measuring around two (2) meters according to the estimate of residents. During heavy downpour, such as when Typhoon Vinta ravaged Lanao del Sur and parts of Northern Mindanao in December 2017, villages near the Ranao and rivers suffer from floods.6 Typhoon Vinta floods destroyed? aqua-cultures and 152 million worth of crops, 3.8 million worth of drowned livestock, 5 million worth of farm machineries and 10 million worth of infrastructure, displacing 191 families especially from the towns of Ramain, Taraka, Kapai, Poona Bayabao, Maguing and Balabagan.



Since time immemorial, the dwellers by the shore have been fetching their water for drinking from the lake.

#### **Complications of conflict**

Residents confirm the findings of a recent study8 that looked into how armed conflict has affected life beside the lake. The lake has been a transport route for trade and people. It has also been known as an illegal drug trade route and back passage of non-state armed groups. During the Marawi siege, "it became a crucial extension of the main combat effort at Marawi." Its strategic importance prompted the "government to employ a Joint Task Group (JTG), dubbed JTG Lawa, featuring composite army, naval, coast guard, and maritime police personnel to patrol the lake." The JTG protected the fishermen and prevented terrorists from escaping through the lake. However, "as fishing and mobility around the lake were restricted," income from fishing decreased. To date, as the threat of terrorism continues, parts of the lake are still guarded and some from Marawi side still restrict fishing in some areas.

3 Local fishers measure fish catch not in kilograms but in the number of bamboo sticks filled up. Each stick has two to six fish depending on the size of the fish.

4 In the 1970s, the Philippine government introduced various kinds of nonnative aquatic species into lakes and rivers of the archipelago, including Lake Lanao.

5 Guerero, R. "Saving the last cyprinid in Lake Lanao," Agriculture Monthly, July 2018 issue, URL: https://www.agriculture.com.ph/2019/06/01/saving-the-last-cyprinid-in-lake-lanao/

 $6~\text{''}Flash floods~hit~7~Lanao~del~Sur~Towns,''~\frac{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-sur-towns}{https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/01/17/1663138/flash-floods-hit-7-lanao-del-su$ 

7 Unson, J. "Agri damage, livestock losses from 'Vinta' hit P152.4 million in Mindanao," Philippine Star Online, published on 05 January 2018 at URL: <a href="https://www.philstar.com/nation/2018/01/05/1774898/agri-damage-livestock-losses-vinta-hit-p1524-million-mindanao">https://www.philstar.com/nation/2018/01/05/1774898/agri-damage-livestock-losses-vinta-hit-p1524-million-mindanao</a>

8 Hall, R.A. "Fish and Bullets: Engagements between the Philippine Military and Lake Lanao fishing communities during the 2017 Marawi siege," published by Secure Fisheries published on 12 June 2019 at URL: https://securefisheries.org/news/fish-bullets-philippine-military-lake-lanao

#### **Recommendations**

Following the consultations, we came up with some recommendations to ensure the conservation and protection of the lake and livelihoods and safety of communities whose survival and development are connected to the lake

Recommendations

- 1. **Build and increase lake knowledge** through consultations and discussions and comprehensively gather all relevant studies on the Ranao to inform legislation. Consolidate and harmonize all the base, administrative, watershed, agriculture and all other maps to present a full picture of the lake and its resources in a consolidated map that can be presented for all public consultations. All knowledge should be presented in digests easily understood by communities and made available to the public.
- 2. Implement right away a science-based research on the inventory of the Ranao and tributary lakes and rivers, behaviour of the Ranao and the effects of HEPs, scope and conditions of the watersheds, and lake behaviour and stratification, and behaviours of surrounding communities. Science-based computation of the carrying capacity of the lake is needed to identify development potentials and set parameters or limits. There is a need to determine how much water can be drawn out by the HEP without compromising the survival of the lake and the needs of those living by the lake.
- 3. **Build an extensive lake**constituency through awareness
  campaigns that fuel public demand for a
  law sustainably developing the lake for

the benefit communities around it, the Bangsamoro region, as well as for the benefit of the rest of Mindanao. There is also a growing concerns from several of the Ranao activists who view the need of regeneration, consequently younger generation who cares for the Lake and livelihood issues are needed now more than ever

- 4. **Strengthen the ranks of lakeshore and tributary communities** as co-owners and frontline protectors of the lake and as co-makers of the authority through equitable representation in the proposed lake entity.
- 5. Hold consultative-negotiation meetings with the National Power Corporation (NPC) and electric companies on the HEPs to determine the draining capacity limits and accountabilities, computing the water as input cost, just compensation and shares in environmental fees for remittance to the regional and local governments, watershed and lakeshore communities, and watershed protection project partnerships especially for Agus 1 and 2.
- 6. **Propose legislation** creating an entity that, among others: (see attached draft)
- -Leads the protection and conservation of the lake capacity and water quality, investigating the environmental impacts of deforestation and power plant drawdown of water, determining the lake water inflow and outflow capacity (HEP drainage) and effects of domestic use. 9
- -Monitors, predicts and rings the alarm on environment and climate change concerns that affect the fish, biodiversity, agricultural production, public health and safety;

- -Directs the utilisation of the lake for sustainable profitability within the standards of protective use of lake resources;
- -Promotes, formulates and identify legislation and policy needs pertaining to sustainable use of resources, including going after illegal logging, poaching, polluters and developing alternative sources of power and establishing zero waste management systems;
- -Implements conservation efforts that includes protecting the lake from waste water discharge, bans the dumping of all forms of waste. Involve watershed communities and their local governments in lake conservation efforts that also directly benefit them;
- -ls run by competent and best people hat fit strict qualifications and high standards;
- -Implements and grants community development programs/projects/activities to local governments on sustainable and environment-friendly livelihoods;
- -Implements a public feedback and complaints mechanism to effectively address social, economic, cultural and safety concerns of lakeshore and watershed communities; and
- -Navigate the comprehensive mandate under BOL aand various other national legislations in an effective manner.

#### **Action Taken**

From several meetings with LLDA and other group, public consultation and the Technical Working Group discussion, the office has refined the Draft Bill. The office of MP Latiph has finally filed the Ranao Development Authority Bill No. 32 on 29 November 2019.

# Getting out of the poverty trap

According to Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) since 2012-2018 poverty incidence per population is the highest in our region, to solve this I believe that our newly installed government in BARMM must focus on two things: its delivery of basic services and creating sustainable and rapid economic growth.

BARMM must have strong and efficient service delivery teams (education, health and social services) and great economic managers (trade and industry, finance, investments, economic planners). BTA too has a role it must be able to prioritize laws that can drive economic growth as well as effective delivery of social goods and services.

We also need to learn from other regions and provinces on how they were able cut their poverty incidence. As I read what drives poverty and economic growth, I found these April 2019 Business Mirror report:

#### Lower rates elsewhere:

Data from the PSA also showed that 10 provinces saw huge cuts in poverty incidence in the first half of 2018. Siquijor topped the list, with the rate falling by 39.71 percentage points to 10 percent, followed by Ifugao, falling by 28.38 percentage points to 15.5 percent; Northern Samar, 23.78 percentage points to 30 percent; and Apayao, 23.56 percentage points to 23.2 percent.

Other areas where poverty incidence declined are Sorsogon, down by 22.22 percentage points to 24.5 percent; Bukidnon, 22.08 percentage points to 32.1 percent; Lanao del Norte, 18.53 percentage points to 23.6 percent; Catanduanes, 17.93 percentage points to 19.4 percent; Mt. Province, 17.35 percentage points to 24.4 percent; and North Cotabato, 16.75 percentage points to 25.6 percent.

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These cuts caused overall poverty incidence to improve to 21 percent in the first half of last year, from 27.6 percent in 2015. The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) attributed this to the rise in incomes, particularly among the poorest Filipinos.

"We note that the top contributor to the strong income growth for the poorest 30 percent of households was an increase in wage and salary incomes. A far second and third were domestic cash receipts/support [including from the government] and entrepreneurial activities," according to NEDA Officer in Charge Adoracion M. Navarro.

"These indicate that the pace [average of 6.5 percent GDP growth in 2012-2018], the quality and consistency of economic growth over the past seven years continue to benefit the poor. In particular, the growing contribution of industry, particularly construction and manufacturing, to output and employment, are creating more incomeearning opportunities that are accessible to the poor," she added.

While inflation accelerated to 8.1 percent between 2015 and 2018–from 7.8 percent in 2012 to 2015, Navarro said average income grew 21.2 percent from 15.3 percent.

Navarro added that the income of the bottom 30 percent of households increased to 29.2 percent in the 2015-2018 period, from only 20.6 percent in the 2012-2015 period. This, Navarro said, implied that the real incomes of the poor went up.

"This could be partly an effect of rising inequality resulting from growth driven by Industry 4.0. Those likely to benefit from Industry 4.0-led growth are semi- and skilled workers. The locational differences may be due to the concentration of families in areas that do not have the capacity/skills for the modern world," Philippine Institute of Development Studies (PIDS) Vice President Marife Ballesteros told the BusinessMirror.

We have to study how we can improve our economy in the BARMM. We need better economic planning and management.

BARMM must focus on increasing economic growth now if we want to get out of poverty trap.

MP Maisara

"If we want to get out of the poverty trap... BARMM must have strong and efficient service delivery teams (education, health and social services) and great economic managers (trade and industry, finance, investments, economic planners).

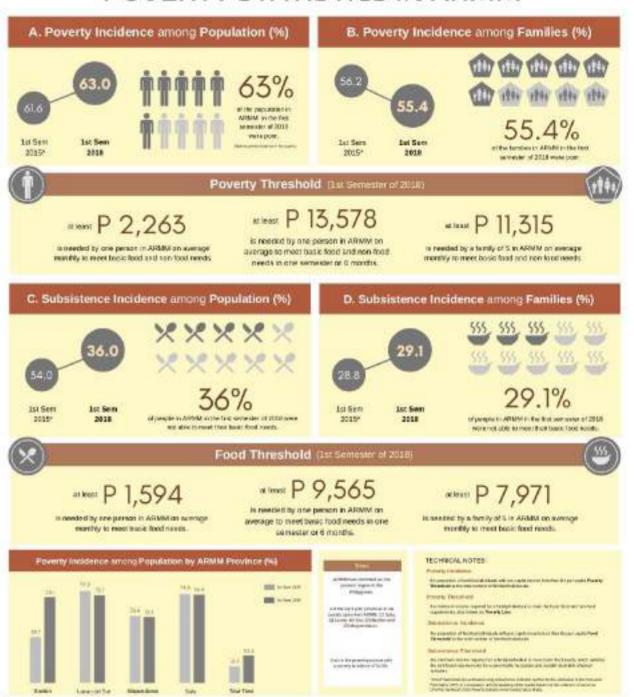
BTA, too, has a role it must be able to prioritize the enactment of laws that shall drive economic growth as well as effective delivery of social goods and services. "

### First Semester Poverty Incidence among Population by Province: ARMM, 2015 and 2018

AREA	Poverty Incidence		Coefficient of Variation	
	2015*	2018	2015*	2018
ARMM	61.6	63.0	5.2	2.1
Basilan	38.7	72.1	9.1	3.0
Lanao del Sur	77.2	73.7	4.0	2.7
Maguindanao	56.6	55.1	7.3	6.1
Sulu	74.8	74.3	7.3	2.7
Tawi-Tawi b/	13.9	23.4	33.2	8.0



### POVERTY STATISTICS IN ARMM



# My views on the 2020 BARMM Budget

I have always identified myself with the Bangsamoro cause and will always do until the end of my life. As a lawyer, I want this government to lay the foundation that will be very strong. It is like planting a seed that will withstand storm. When enacting a budget, the question should be on how it harmonises with the priority legislations as mentioned in the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL). The drafters of BOL tasked us with priority legislations: Administrative Code, Internal Revenue Code, Indigenous People's Affairs Code, Civil Service Code, Electoral Code, Local Government Code, and Education Code.

Why did the BOL set these as a priority? As an example, the Administrative

Code is the DNA of the entire bureaucracy. If you do not have that DNA, how can we budget something that we do not know? That is the fundamental question that I, as a lawyer, am confronted with. I am not an ordinary lawyer because I am a lawyer who for 15 years represented the Republic of the Philippines with a mandate of upholding the majesty of the law, so that the rule of law will be the last bastion to protect ordinary citizens who wield no political or economic influence. I am afraid that if we do not plant that seed today, we will have problems that will be inherited by our children in the future. We should fast-track the enactment of the Administrative Code to coincide with or predate the passing of the budget so that we will

have the legal mandate to disburse the budget. If there will be questions in the future and I will be asked,"You have have been a Senior State Solicitor why didn't you elucidate or enlighten your fellow parliament members about the statutory constructions contained in the BOL, much more when you were even one of the drafters?" What will I say? Until the priority codes are enacted, Muslim Mindanao Authority Act 25, otherwise known as the ARMM Local Government Code, and subsisting laws, shall apply in the Bangsamoro. We know that we had problems with the past entity and so will have to move onto an improved version of ourselves.

In addition, looking at the substantive provisions of the total budget for 2020, out of 65 Billion there is only two (2%) percent for economic growth and development. This says a lot about our priority. We will also be measured by the national government by how we address poverty alleviation. We should look at the economic aspect of the budget. How much is given to those ministries that will implement the economic mandate of the BOL? We need to give attention to the budget of the economic ministries. Let us strengthen them. For example, the subcommittee report that reflects additional amounts for the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism (MTIT) and the Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS) was not reflected in the Committee Report Number 8 of the mother committee, the Committee on Finance, Budget and

Management, to the plenary. MTIT combines not only trade and investment but also tourism, economic zones, cooperative development and social enterprise. MPOS is important so we can also help secure the safety of people on the ground and utilise the experience and dedication of former combatants, and give them jobs as well—so they can send their children to school. According to a study,2 there were 1,663 ridos in the whole of BARMM, resulting in 5,000 killings from rido. We do not know the exact figures now—as to how much it has gone down or increased.

My hope is that as we end our first year and push ahead with the next, we can begin to shed off divisions of majority and minority and be truly united as our people have been united

by identification as Bangsamoro. We prioritise structural strengthening by passing all priority codes that we actually need to implement the budget. The disagreements we went through in legislating the budget for 2020 is only a reflection of our own need to strengthen our way of governance. We should legislate, plan and implement based on data and evidence, work with real numbers to sharpen our targets and achieve them. Do our best for our people and show the country's tax payers that the Bangsamoro is worthy of their support.

ordinary citizens who wield no political or economic influence. I am afraid that if we do not plant that seed today, we will have problems

....."so that the rule of law will

be the last bastion to protect

today, we will have problems that will be inherited by our children in the future."

# **Towards Higher Socio-Economic Development**

### **Policy Strategy for Bangsamoro**

The policy and strategy to achieve rapid growth for the BARMM should align with the principles of Sustainable Development under the United Nations Framework with the following seven priorities and outcomes: 1.) Poverty Alleviation and Urbanization; 2.) Health, Water, and Sanitation; 3.) Education and Employability; 4.) Capacity-Building, Skill Upgrading, Entrepreneurship, and Job Creation; 5.) Nutrition and Food Security; 6.) Gender Equality and Youth Development; and 7.) Climate Change, Disaster Resilience, and Clean and Steady Energy Supply. Subscribing to the UN Sustainable Development Framework ensure the protection of the fragile environment and ecosystem of the BARMM while pursuing higher economic growth



UN Sustainable Development Goals 17 Goals to transform our world

and development. Moreover, programs and projects aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Framework tend to have strong national and international support as well as funding priority. However, achieving higher economic growth and development need to be

contextualized given the cultural, religious, and heritage of the people of Bangsamoro. (Socio-Economic Research commissioned by MP Maisara from MSU-IPDM Marawi City, October 2019)

# The following core values may be adopted in designing a Socio-Economic Agenda for Bangsamoro

**Empower people for development -** The most effective means of enhancing human development is to empower the people to make their own collective decisions on what needs to be done. This means not merely promoting participation in public meetings to discuss priorities and plans, but also transferring resources to accredited groups and delegating authority to decide how to use these resources.

**Ensure inclusive benefits for everyone** - It is of vital importance that no one is left behind in the socio-economic development of the Bangsamoro. The Regional Government shall constantly evaluate and monitor the needs of various social and tribal groups within the Bangsamoro to ensure everyone reaps the benefits of higher economic growth and nobody is neglected.

Moral Governance, Instilling Patriotism, Citizenship, and Care for the Bangsamoro - Perhaps one of the challenges in nation building is how to create the moral ascendancy and authority to galvanize the people for a cause to socio-economic development. Most often than not lack of patriotism, citizenship, camaraderie, sense of belonging, and care for society have resulted to the Common Good being neglected and abused for personal interest. The "Tragedy of the Commons" happens in most of the public properties, common resources, and the environment where some residents would take as much as they want without regards to the future generations resulting to degradation, depletion, and unsustainable practices. In calculating, therefore, a sense of belonging, patriotism, citizenship, and care for our society and our resources will ensure that they are managed and protected. In fact, Islam encourages the care for the society, the environment, and the patrimony.

(Socio-Economic Research commissioned by MP Maisara from MSU-IPDM Marawi City, Oct 2019)

### **Core Values for Bangsamoro (continued)**

Improving the quality of public services and make better use of public resources - Many communities within the Bangsamoro has access to social services, however, its quality needs further improvements to ensure that basic services reach the people both in a timely and efficient manner. Moreover, the use of public resources needs to be maximized to guarantee that there are no leakages in the system and that the correct public service is provided to the right people. Donor Institutions, Civic Society Organization, NGOs, and International Relief Groups can provide the muchneeded help especially in filling-up the gap, where the government cannot accomplish.

#### **Infrastructure Development and Economic Openness**

- The need to increase the infrastructure of the Bangsamoro is of vital importance not only in reducing travel time among commuters but also in ensuring product delivery and movement of resources are improved. This is a necessary ingredient for the success of economic openness of the Bangsamoro to attract

investors. Thus, redundancy in road network is highly desirable to ensure that there are no bottlenecks and there are other roads to travel to in times of emergencies. By opening-up various road access to the mainland Mindanao provinces we can ensure that the local economy can benefit from increased trade and inflows of investment from various parts of Mindanao. In the island provinces, improvement of port facilities and docks is vital to ensure the flow of goods and people. Moreover, it will also allow various localities to develop as they connect with larger market and expand their consumer base.

**Environmental Program and Disaster Mitigation -** One of the biggest assets of the Bangsamoro is the untapped natural resources. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that exploitation of these natural resources shall also ensure the preservation of the environment.

(Socio-Economic Research commissioned by MP Maisara from MSU-IPDM Marawi City, Oct 2019)

# **Economic Policies and Programs for Bangsamoro**

### **Courses of Policies and Programs for Bangsamoro**

For decades the Bangsamoro Region has been in the shadow of conflict and uncertainty. This has caused a lot of foregone investment opportunities, avenue for economic growth, infrastructure development for the region that consequently result to poor development outcomes.

Fortunately, with the advent of the BARMM and the priority of the Duterte Administration in jumpstarting the economy and development of the Bangsamoro Region it is highly anticipated that the future hold potential for rapid expansion in infrastructure development, economic growth, and social upliftment. The following are suggested economic policies and programs to be implemented in the Bangsamoro:

Comprehensive Mapping and Database of the Bangsamoro - We cannot improve what we cannot count or monitor. Currently, the BARMM has no comprehensive database nor consistent and reliable data. It is therefore, strongly recommended that the Bangsamoro Government start implementing a Community Based

Monitoring System (CBMS) in the entire region. The CBMS for the National Government is currently managed by the Philippines Institute of Developmental Studies (PIDS) and the De La Salle University. In the BARMM, it is ideal that Bangsamoro Government partners with the Mindanao State University System (MSUS) and the PIDS in rolling-out the projects. It may take a couple of years to map the entire Bangsamoro, however, the investment in CBMS will ensure programs and projects and other socioeconomic intervention of the BARMM will target the most deserving and needy locality.

Basically, the CBMS maps the household data from barangay level all the way to provincial and even regional to the national database using satellite images (GIS). Having the CBMS will provide the Bangsamoro Government means of targeting the needs and crafting intervention program that will suit the needs of the locality. The implementation of the CBMS mapping requires years to undertake but the payoff will be more than offset the cost in terms of efficient delivery of public services, understanding the needs of the community, and targeting the poorest of the poor, among others.

# Tax Reforms, One-Stop Shop and Ease of Doing Business

Tax Reforms in the Bangsamoro, Consolidation and Streamlining - The BOL empowered the Bangsamoro Parliament to establish the Bangsamoro Tax Office, which replace the Bureau of Internal Revenue and tasked to assess and collect taxes in the Bangsamoro. This is a golden opportunity for the Bangsamoro to create a more efficient and holistic way of collecting government revenues. The Bangsamoro Tax Office should be given substantial power to generate revenues for the Bangsamoro Government. All tax payments, individual income tax, corporate income tax, fees, charges, real property tax, and all other form of defrayment to government must be centralized in the Bangsamoro Tax Office. This should include fees and charges (e.g. city business permit and barangay permit) paid and collected by local government units including provincial, city, municipal, and barangay charges.

Excluding are fees and service charges collected by government agencies like registration fees by Land Transportation Office or service charges by the National Statistics Office for issuance of certificates. The taxing powers of local government units in the Bangsamoro are rarely exercised because there are political repercussions. In addition, family relations or close ties with incumbent local executives gives license to businesses and individual not to pay local taxes. Employees from the local government units tasked for revenue generation are also reluctant and even afraid to collect local taxes. Only when collections of local taxes are insulated from politics and personal influences and performed by professional collectors can there be substantial improvement in revenue generation in the Bangsamoro. This can be done by ensuring that Tax offices in the LGUs are independent of the Local Executives. (Image from World Bank)





Ease of Doing Business and Efficient
Government Service Delivery Act of 2019

### **One-Stop Shop**

In the Bangsamoro, local executives are seen as giver of money it would be very difficult for them to do the opposite, namely, as collector of taxes. Local government units in the region may be persuaded to relinquish and delegate their local taxing power to a special institution. For them it is a winwin solution. First, local tax collection will increase when political expediency is no longer a consideration. Meaning local executives can no longer protect their families, relatives, friends and clients from non-payment of local taxes since it is no longer in their power to do so. Second, improved local tax collection will serve the interest of local executives since better financial position means bigger internal revenue allotment. In other words, if local executives can deny they are the reason for intensified local tax collection and take the credit for higher revenue at the same time they will be willing to delegate their local taxing power.

In connection with the consolidation of revenue collection, it is necessary that all business licensing in the Bangsamoro is streamlined to bare minimum. Meaning there is a need to have a one-stop agency where any entrepreneurs, businessmen, investors, and individual who want to establish business or invest in the Bangsamoro can visit and be issued a permit to operate business.

#### **Business Licensing**

Such one-stop agency will be the conduit for all other agencies like the Department of Trade and Industry, Board of Investment, local government units, and many other agencies in the Bangsamoro that need to issue a piece of paper before a business can operate. Once a business establishment secures a permit to start operation from the one-stop agency it no required to have mayor's permit, barangay permit, and other bureaucratic red tape that discourages business and investment.

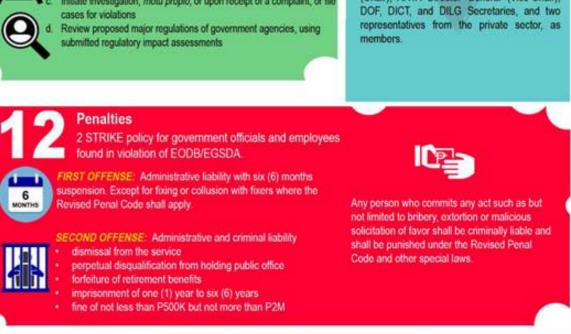
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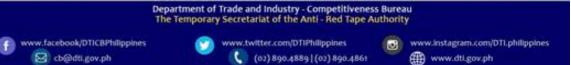


a. Implement and oversee national policy on anti-red tape and ease of doing business and implement reforms to improve competitiveness

cb@dti.gov.ph

The Ease of Doing Business/Anti Red Tape Advisory Council shall be a 7-person policy and b. Monitor compliance of agencies and issue notices to erring and advisory body, composed of DTI Secretary non-complying government employees and officials (Chair), ARTA Director General (Vice-Chair), Initiate investigation, motu propio, or upon receipt of a complaint, or file members.





# Fiscal Incentives for private businesses, investors and entrepreneurs, Public Infrastructure investment

In so far as the regional economy is concerned, the Bangsamoro Government faces a dilemma. It can increase revenue collections through stringent applications of tax laws at the expense of stunting the economy. Or it can forego revenue collection or at least lower the tax rate and stimulate the economy. However, the Bangsamoro cannot achieve both given the existing economic realities in the ground. In terms of infrastructures, support facilities (e.g. stable supply of electricity and high-speed internet connection) and complimentary industries there is nothing much the Bangsamoro can offer. Perhaps only in through fiscal incentives such as lower taxes, tax breaks, and other government support can private businesses, investors, entrepreneurs, and the like can thrive in the Bangsamoro. Put simply, the Bangsamoro Government cannot expect to have a vibrant and achieve rapid economic growth and at the same time increase its tax collection.

Other reforms include tax holiday across the board for the next three to five years, depending on the capital outlay or investment, for any company currently operating and plan to operate in the Bangsamoro. The idea is to stimulate economic growth and commercial activities in the region. That the Bangsamoro is not only open to business but also provide all the fiscal incentives that business needs. As discussed in Section 2, the Bangsamoro has little to offer for business. Lack of infrastructure and support industries made private companies reluctant to relocate in the region. The Bangsamoro Government has to offer something that will offset their reluctance and entice them to establish business in the region.

The passage of the 2nd Part of the TRAIN Law, which made uniform corporate taxation within the country whether you are in an economic zone or not, made Economic Zone no longer as competitive and attractive before. Thus, the Bangsamoro Government needs to find another suitable incentive to attract investors into the region. One such incentives is to provide infrastructure development and public utilities to companies investing in the Bangsamoro. For example, providing farm-to-market road and other public amenities to areas where investment is to be made.

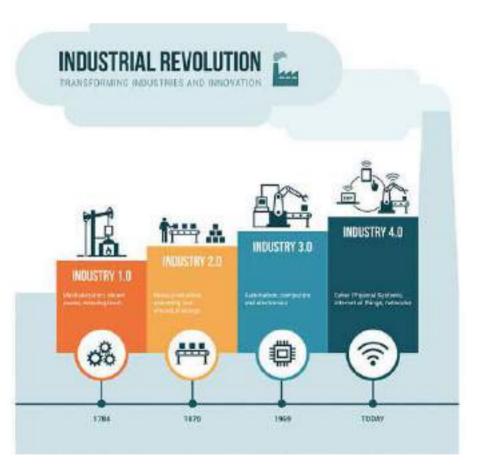
### **Open Trade Policy**

Open Trade Policy - Opening up of trade is perhaps the most important policy that the Bangsamoro can adopt that will have immediate and significant impact on the regional economy. Under Section 25 of Article XIII the Bangsamoro Government has the power to regulate traditional barter trade and countertrade with ASEAN countries provided that goods or items traded with ASEAN countries shall not be sold elsewhere in the country without payment of appropriate customs or import duties. This implies that the Bangsamoro has the ability to open up its economy to ASEAN countries.

The Bangsamoro is a net importer of many products ranging from rice, durable goods, and petroleum products from within the country and abroad - notably food stuff like rice and sugar as well as petroleum products. For the interest of the majority and for economic efficiency it is highly recommended that the Bangsamoro Government allows the free importation of key commodities like rice, sugar, and petroleum. Currently, the National Government heavily regulates the importation of these products and charge higher tariff even in the midst of the ASEAN Economic Community that took effect in 2015 For example, the tariff on rice will be maintained at 35 percent and its import will still be regulated by the Central Government. This protectionist policy is the main reason why the price of rice in the

country remains expensive. It should be noted that the policy to protect rice is a political decision and not based on economics or for the sake of efficiency.

(Image from Business Mirror)



# Effects of open trade policy on the well-being of the Bangsamoro

One way to appreciate why open trade on rice will be good for the majority is by way of example. Currently, the average price of rice is around 40 to 50 pesos per kilo depending on the quality. In the event, that free import of rice is implemented the price will decrease by around 10 to 15 pesos a kilo. The difference between what consumers is paying now and what they will be paying had there been a free import of rice (i.e. around 30 to 35 pesos a kilo) can be consider as the price of protectionism that every single individual that consume rice has to pay.

Of course, there are cost to be incurred in the open import of rice such as many rice farmers will no longer be able to compete. However, it does not mean they can no longer earn a living. They can shift to other agricultural products where they have competitive advantage. The Bangsamoro Government can create safety nets to help our farmers excel and compete in an open economy. For example, in Bukidnon many farmers are shifting to planting molasses because it yields higher returns and most of the produce are sent for

export. Other goods like sugar, flour, and wheat will not gravely affect farmers in the Bangsamoro since these are not being produced in the region.

Open trade policy will have profound and instantaneous impact on the Bangsamoro economy as cheaper goods like rice and sugar will be available to the people. It will have the same effect as increasing the income of the people without the Bangsamoro Government spending any money. In addition, lower prices of petroleum products like gasoline and diesel, considered an engine of the economy where almost all goods and services are pegged, will increase economic and commercial activities in the Bangsamoro. For example, in the island provinces of the Bangsamoro where smuggling of basic commodities and petroleum products is an open secret the prices of some commodities there such as gasoline are much cheaper than in mainland Mindanao.

Perhaps the biggest effect of an open trade policy for select goods is a boost in the morale of the Bangsamoro and the appreciation of the people that indeed the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro is working for the best of the people.

# Restoring Lost Economic Capacity

Restoring Lost Economic Capacity -The decades of conflicts in the Bangsamoro as well as the atmosphere of insecurity have caused substantial damage to the economic capacity of the Bangsamoro. It is highly anticipated that the additional funding through the Block Grant and Development Fund if properly utilized will result to higher economic growth for the Bangsamoro. Restoring lost economic capacity also entails that support structure for commerce are in place wherein entrepreneurs can prosper and easily access technical help and financing for their ventures. This also requires a holistic approach to financing that will give opportunities to accredited businesses to expand and invest.

### INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

Sendai Target C: Reducing the direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product by 2030

OCTOBER 13, 2018

#### DISASTER INSURANCE POOLING AS AN INTEGRATED DISASTER RISK FINANCING (DRF) SOLUTION FOR CITIES







City governments are the first responders in the aftermath of a disaster Cities face significant costs during the relief and early recovery phases Uncertainties in budget processes and substantial decreases in tax revenue post disaster can delay the restoration of essential services and critical infrastructure

#### INCREASE ADAPTIVE FINANCIAL CAPACITY, REDUCE UNCERTAINTY FOR CITIES 🖟

#### Reduce unpredictability of available funding

Insurance pools enable a more cost effective and efficient mechanism to reduce the financial volatility cities face in the aftermath of a disaster.

#### Respond to post-disaster funding gap

Current DRF arrangements do not guarantee rapid funding for cities to meet their substantial needs after a disaster. Insurance pooling that makes use of parametric triggers can provide rapid funding to support recovery costs after a major disaster event.

#### Make cities resilient

Pooling risk and resources allows cities to reduce the cost of managing disaster risks and rehabilitating infrastructure. Cities reduce the possibility of requiring financial support from the national government.

#### Integrate DRF investments

Cities have existing disaster risk financing instruments in place. Participating in an insurance pool complements existing DRFI instruments allowing for financial resilience.

Source: EMI Earthquakes and Megacities Initiatives

Build, Build, Build President Duterte Infrastructure Spending Program for job generation

### Removal of institutional barriers to growth

Removal of Institutional Barriers to Growth - Unfortunately, the commerce in the Bangsamoro is fettered by many barriers such as informality in the private sector. This has caused business not being able to access various programs, financing scheme, and assistance. There is really a need to create a conducive environment where business and commerce can thrive - a level playing fields where everyone can share the benefits of economic development. In addition, there has been no comprehensive survey of the existing business in the region as well as an assessment of the comparative and competitive advantage that the region can offer to the country and the rest of the world. Thus, a review of the existing barriers to growth and what can be done to remove it is one of the priorities of the Bangsamoro Government.

### **Massive Infrastructure Development**

Massive Infrastructure Development - The "Build, Build, Build" mantra of the Duterte Administration needs to be capitalized on and the region must have its own fair share of the projects, funding, and infrastructure development from the National Government. Thus, constant lobbying and negotiations with the National Government is needed to assure the region of its fair and equitable share of the "Build, Build, Build" thrust of the Duterte Administration. Ideally, the Bangsamoro Government needs to ride on the "Build, Build, Build" Agenda of the Duterte Administration major projects and infrastructure development in the Bangsamoro are included in the National Development Plan to receive priority funding.

# **Robust Support and Investment in Agriculture and Fisheries**

The potential for growth and expansion of the agricultural and the fisheries sector of the region is huge. Many idle lands remain untapped and underutilized. The aquatic resources of Bangsamoro if proper harness can supply the region of its fisheries needs and also has huge potentials for export. Partnership, transfer of technology, and financial support to agriculture and fisheries sectors are necessary in order to upgrade the current capacity and increase productivity. Moreover, increasing the value chain within the sectors will assure farmers and fishermen will have a larger share of the earnings from their labour.

# **Establishment of Agro-Industrial Complex and Commercial Center**

The Bangsamoro has always been a main supplier of raw materials in various areas in the country where the raw materials are processed and given added value. With the establishment of an Agro-Industrial Complex under the framework of Special Economic Zone it will ensure that the value-added to the raw produce of the Bangsamoro will accrue to its people, thereby increasing income and creating a multiplier effect for the Bangsamoro and ultimately reducing poverty.

Establishment of urban and commercial center is necessary as the Bangsamoro has a high purchasing power and substantial remittances from local and international senders. Sadly, the income generated within the Bangsamoro are leaking out to neighbouring urban areas such as Zamboanga, Davao, Gen. Sanatos, Iligan and Cagayan de Oro cities. This leakage in the regional economy is causing lower growth and diminished economic activities since the funds does not create multiplier effects and circulate within the regional economy. Put simply, our local businesses do not grow because the money we generate does not circulate within the Bangsamoro economy.

Once urban and commercial centers are established it will assure that the wealth generated in the Bangsamoro are circulated within. Such will not only create rapid growth but will also reduce poverty and increase employment in the region. Moreover, with the destruction of Marawi City, the need to have a new urban and commercial center that will newly designed with modern infrastructure, comparable to Putra Jaya in Malaysia, will attract Moro businesses to invest in the region. It will also appeal to big business in the country as well as international corporation to consider establishing businesses or branches in the Bangsamoro if they can find an urban and commercial areas with modern infrastructure and facilities. This is quite very feasible considering that few years ago the Bonifacio Global City is just a firing range for the AFP and due to development, it is now become a thriving urban area with modern buildings and facilities.

#### **Public-Donor-Private Investment Partnership**

The Primary task of the government is to provide public services and create a conducive environment for business to thrive. However, it is not enough in the case of the Bangsamoro due to perceive insecurity, conflict, and lack of steady power in the areas. The private sector is afraid to invest in the Bangsamoro for fear of losing their investment. On the other hand, Donor Institutions like the US Aid, Australian Aid, UNDP, European Community and others are pouring billions in the development of the Bangsamoro. Through the years these donations and aid have not make substantial contribution in the socio-economic progress of the Bangsamoro. There are so many leakages and misplaced priority. If the Donor Institutions can secure the risks of the Private Sector to invest in the Bangsamoro this will entice them to invest. And institutional arrangement between the Public Sector and the Private Companies, while the Donor Institutions serve as guarantor or partner to the investment this may attract many private companies to invest in the Bangsamoro and consequently expedite the economic development of the region.

#### **Promotion and Adoption of Technology and Innovation**

The need to adopt and implement technology in various sectors of the economy is of vital importance. Establishing a physical internet cable link to the region will substantial increase connections and open the Bangsamoro to Ecommerce as well as provide its residents access to the various opportunities available in the Internet. For example, an Arabic Speaking Business Process Outsourcing can be established in the region where many residents are fluent speakers of Arabic. In addition, innovation and technology transfer to the agricultural and fisheries sectors are essentials to increase their income and productivity. Also, in Disaster Risk Management new ways of managing environmental risks can be adopted to suit the needs of the Bangsamoro.

# **Human Development and Promotion of Virtues and the Common Good**

The foundation of any developed nations around in the world is a developed and well-disciplined citizenry that are contributing to the nation building, caring for the society and the Common Good. A genuine developed society is where most of the citizens are working together in their own ways to make the community a better place. Well-designed city, tall buildings, luxurious city spaces, and resplendent urban areas are simply the fruit of human development. Without virtues, care for the Common Good, and human development it is highly unlikely that any society can developed.

BARMM-BTA Social Enterprise Policy Technical Working Group

# **Social Enteprise in BARMM**

#### **Social Enterprise as a Poverty Alleviation Tool**

We would like to introduce our Bangsamoro Social Enterprise Policy Technical Working Group as part of CSO SEED Philippines Project, cofunded by the European Union in the Philippines.

The TWG Chairs are: Maisara Dandamun-Latiph (Chair), Member of Parliament (MP), Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA); and Abuamri Taddik (Co-chair), Minister, Ministry of Trade, Investments and Tourism (MTIT). The core members are: Raissa Jajurie, Minister, Ministry of Social Services; Ross Alonto, Chief of Technical Services, MTIT; Mohammad Yacob (not in photo), Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform; Eddie Alih, MP, BTA; and Suharto Ambolodto, MP, BTA.

The purpose of the TWG is to come up with policy or enabling law that shall strengthen, promote and establish social enterprise as a tool for private sector participation in poverty alleviation in the BARMM.

As part of learning process the TWG members participated in the Social Enterprise World Forum 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia sponsored by British Council and co-funded by European Union.

# Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF)

The SEWF is the leading forum for international exchange and collaboration in social entrepreneurship and social investment. This year's SEWF2019 invited more than 62 countries and BARMM Delegates to learn and network and share good practice, ideas and create partnerships to promote sustainable economic growth for human development. It was my first time to go to African Continent. I was excited to visit the home of Lucy and Nobel Laureate for Peace President Abey Ahmed.

Highlights and take-aways of our #SEWF2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

I learned more on policies for promoting the growth and success of SE in Bangsamoro. Our Bangsamoro Social Enterprise Delegation consisted of five (5) Members of Parliament and Minister of Trade and Industry. Namely: MP Maisara Dandamun-Latiph co-chair, MP Raissa Jajurie, MP Mohd Yacob, MP Eddie Alih, MP Suharto Mastura Ambolodto, Minister Abuamri Taddik and Ross Alonto. Together we listened to the ways in which Social Enterprise can help us achieve the well-being of individual and collective members of our society. We also learned the different ways in which each country implement, strengthen and fund their SE and how they were able to convince their

government supporting SE. Best of all w e learned that SE must take care of the quality of t h e i r products and services for them to thrive and compete with traditional businesses. We need to raise our awareness of SE in



Bangsamoro.

We must also support their development. Our Bangsamoro government must be able to use SE as a way of tackling complex social, economic and environmental problems. I believe that SE has the biggest potential of providing sustainable income and jobs to our people without compromising our environment. I hope we can all help develop ethical, responsible, sustainable social enterprises in the BARMM.

I express utmost gratitude to the British Council and European Union for providing us this much needed opportunity to open our eyes, hearts and minds to Social Enterprise. And, thank you very much Angel Flores for not only showing us the path towards SE in Addis Ababa and BARMM but also for making sure that we are safe and healthy in Ethiopia.

#### **MP Maisara**

# Strengthening the Shari'ah Legal System

In November 2019, we partnered with the Office of BARMM Attorney General Sha Elija Dumama-Alba and other strategic partners towards the integration of Shari'ah Bar in the Philippines.

On November 05, 2019, a Consultation with Shari'ah Counselors Outside BARMM was held in the University of the Philippines - Diliman in partnership with the UP Institute of Islamic Studies. MP Maisara opened with a discussion on Republic Act (RA) 11054 or the Organic Law of the Bangsamoro Authonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, otherwise known as the "BOL", with special emphasis on the Legal System under the said law. MP Maisara hoped "to shed light on the basic provisions of the RA 11054 and wish that Shari'ah counselors will be able to integrate Presidential Decree (PD) 1083 or the Code of Muslim Personal Laws." She also discussed the plural systems of administration of justice that has four components: Shari'ah Law, traditional or tribal justice system, regular courts, and alternative dispute resolution system (ADR). MP Maisara D. Latiph stressed that Shari'ah is the foundation of autonomy in the Bangsamoro.

Attorney General Sha Elijah Dumama followed through with a discussion on some key issues to be addressed concerning Shari'ah practice in the Philippines. Some key issues identified were: Issues concerning provisions on the qualification of judges in PD 1083 and RA 11054; 2) The need for additional Shari'ah courts to serve Bangsamoro and other Muslim constituencies outside the BARMM; 3) The need to fill up positions for Shari'ah Judges in Shariah District Courts and Shariah Circuit Courts; 4) Setting up Shari'ah Public Attorney's Offices (SPAO) and Shari'ah Free Legal Services Centers in strategic areas; and, 5) Notarial Commission for Shari'ah Practitioners, and possible amendments to PD 1083 which can be made through Article X Section 4 or "Powers of the Parliament to Enact Laws Pertaining to Shari'ah", such as but not limited to a) creation of offices specializing on Shari'ah concerns, b) utilization of Shari'ah eligibility, and c) Shari'ah short courses in foreign countries.

As a result of the action points agreed upon during this gathering, the Office of the BARMM Attorney General organized a Writeshop on the Integration of Shari'ah Bar on November 7-11, 2019 at Jehan Hall, Al Nor Convention Center, Cotabato City. The event was funded jointly by the Office of the Attorney General and the Asia Foundation (TAF), with participants coming from the following organizations: (a) the Philippine Shari'ah Lawyers, Inc.; (b) Bangsamoro Shari'ah Lawyers League of the Philippines, Inc.; (c)

Integrated Shari'ah Bar of the Philippines, Inc.; (d) delegates from Zamboanga, Basilan, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi; and, (e) delegates from Areas Outside of BARMM Territory, including no less than the Dean of the University of the Philippines Institute of Islamic Studies (UP-IIS), Prof. Macrina A. Morados, who is herself a special member of the Special Shari'ah Bar.

The event started with a short lecture from former Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) - Cotabato Chapter President Atty. Gapor Quituar who introduced the IBP Rules and By-Laws to the participants. The second lecture was by Atty. Imelda Deinla from the Australia National University (ANU). Atty. Deinla works on comparative studies of rule of law and democracy in Southeast Asia and Philippines, as well as on legal hybridity, peacebuilding and women, civil society and democratic transition in post-conflict with a focus on Mindanao, Philippines. Atty. Dienla spoke lengthily about some of the challenges to establishing a strong Shari'ah practice in the Philippines, including the presence of several "competitors" on the ground, foremost among these being the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms led by traditional leaders recognized by the grassroots communities in



BARMM, and other ADR mechanisms at the local government unit (LGU) level. She recommended creating ways to provide pathways for the inclusion of these local experts into the Shari'ah Integration process in order to create a truly consultative Shari'ah legal profession, which not only shares its resources and expertise to local stakeholders but also learns from local and indigenous knowledge on dispute resolution.

This event resulted in the creation of a draft Integrated Shari'ah Bar of the Philippines (ISBP) By-Laws and the formation of the following Core Technical Working Groups (TWGs): (a) Committee on Form and Style; (b) Committee on Research; (c) Committee on Consultation and Dialogue; and, (d) Convention Planning Committee. The Office of MP Maisara is part of the Committee on Form and Style, which met in Cagayan de Oro on November 30-December 3, 2019 to create a final draft of the ISBP By-Laws. This important document will then be submitted to the Supreme Court together with other documents produced by the research committee in order to give solid data that will explain and clarify to the Highest Magistrate the urgent need to create an Integrated Shariah Bar of the Philippines (ISBP).

## **ACTIVITIES FOR THE CONSTITUENCY**

#### **Boost Your Business Workshop**

The Office of MP Maisara Dandamun Latiph jump started the partnership with Bayan Academy by conducting joint workshop with Facebook titled "Boost Your Business Workshop" part of the National Digital Marketing Campaign 2019 back in 8 October 2019. The event was conducted in IPDM, MSU building in Marawi City.

The event has gathered participants from different micro, small and medium enterprises in Lanao del Sur. The event was a success as indicated by the amount of participants and their active participation throughout the day, despite originally intended for 70 participants, it was attended by around 100 persons.

The workshop also aims to introduce the use of Facebook and Instagram in promoting online business/digital Marketing. The trainers also taught the participants on visualizing images/videos as well as the content rules in order to



Around 100 persons engaged in small businesses attended the Boost Your Business (BYB) through Facebook training

gain audiences and capture their attention. Furthermore, Mr. Philip S. Felipe, the Executive Director of Bayan Academy who directly trained the Marawi participants said that, "As a good entrepreneur, you need to have good thing in mind and think like you are a customer, not an entrepreneur."

This event is also the first Facebook training in the BARMM territory aimed for MSMEs and Social Enterprise (SE) to boost their business.

# Consultative meeting with private schools affected by the Marawi siege

A consultation with 23 private schools in the Most Affected Area (MAA) and other schools also affected from the Marawi Siege was conducted by the Office of MP Maisara on September 27, 2019. Almost 40 private school owners and officials participated to voice out their lack of capacity to bounce back from the effects of the siege. The unified call for support was in reconstructing their schools damage by the heavy artillery and BARMM subsidy in the 2020 **Budget for Marawi students so** that they can go back to school either private or public of their choice.

Participants were concerned that being considered as NOT a priority



for being private in nature, has detrimental effects on the quality of education of Marawi's youth. "We are requesting TFBM to allow us to go back to our schools in MAA so we can start rebuilding," Dayalin Tingaraan, one private school official, said. "We are hoping the government can give us financial support to rebuild our schools so we can get our students back to

studying with us," she further explained.

"Make us feel part of this country and the Bangsamoro society, although we are private institutions, our contribution very much benefits the public because we are preparing capable leaders of the future," Mr. Camar Umpa, another school official said.

# **Social Enterprise Conference: People, Planet, Profit, Peace**

On November 3 and 4 in Marawi City, the Social Enterprise Conference 2019 (SECon2019) was held in Mindanao State University (MSU) Campus in Marawi City. SECon2019 was attended by 131 social enterprise (SE) practitioners representing 42 local businesses, civil society organisations and government agencies in the city and surrounding communities in c Lanao del Sur province. With financial and technical support from the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) through the Office of Member of Parliament Atty. Maisara Dandamun-Latiph, the entrepreneurs gathered together to learn business development techniques and deepen their understanding on the role of SEs in promoting peace, protecting the planet, improving the quality of lives of marginalized sectors and ensuring profit and sustainability.

Anuar T. Mustapha, Enterprise Development Officer from non-government organization ECOWeb, enlightened the participants on government's support for social enterprises as a way to help people improve their lives and achieve peace. "The Philippine government is supportive of enterprises. If your SE is small, you do not have to pay taxes." In BARMM, the BTA is supporting the strengthening and creation of more SEs through training, direct assistance and various forms of support.

Professor Wendel Lontua from the MSU College of Fisheries said protecting the planet is not a simple advocacy. One way to make SEs work for the planet is to minimize the use of plasticbased products. There are millions of plastics ending up in the sea and these become the



(Fifth from left) Mindanao State University (MSU) Vice-Chancellor Dr. Cesar dela Serna, MP Maisara Dandamun-Latiph and Provincial Vice-Governor Mohammad Mujam Rakiin Adiong Khalid pose for the camera with conference panel speakers and participants.

micro-plastics eaten by the fish that people eventually eat, he said.

One of the highlights of the first day was the talk by Prof. Abdulmojeb A. Pangompig, CPA, from the College of Business Administration and Accountancy of MSU. He says there are four Ps to observe when doing business— Product, Place, Promotion and Pricing. The last one, Pricing, can be done in various ways, namely, Penetration Pricing, Optional pricing, Premium Pricing, Competition Pricing, Value Pricing, Bundle Pricing, Skimming Pricing, Psychological Pricing and Cost-plus Pricing. For Muslim believers, the best to use is Cost-plus Pricing, which counts in the actual costs of materials or ingredients plus the rentals, bills, labor and other expenses to determine the right selling

price. According to him, pricing from the Islamic perspective is giving value to the client, making every aspect halal, and guarding against greediness. "We should not be the cause of suffering of others," he admonished the participants.

#### What's your SE pitch?

One afternoon was dedicated to SE ideas. "A social enterprise is business with a social mission. Helping people can be done alongside responsible profit," says Mr. Annas C. Deriposun, Chairperson of the Marawi Tourism Social Enterprise, Inc. (MTSE), the co-organizer of the SECon2019.

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR THE CONSTITUENCY**

Responding to this, the SECon participants came up with their SE ideas and actions plans to begin transforming their business ideas into a social enterprise.

Vibrant SE communities will boost economic development" that is felt by ordinary people, especially those in need, Mr. Annas explains.

Some of the action plans shared by the participants included 1) utilizing the resources of Lake Lanao such as the water lilies for handicrafts and its waves to generate electricity, 2) halal restaurants and coffeeshops that provide jobs for the unemployed locals, 3) home gardening for sufficient and nutritious food, 4) learning centre for Arabic language, 5) "palapa" processing linked to farmers, 6) affordable lighting for poor households and 7) sustainable halal agricultural production in remote areas where fertile lands are plentiful.

#### MSU full support

MSU, providing the venue free to the conference, was represented by System President Habib M. Macaayong. President Macaayong, assuring the participants of the university's continuing support for SE-focused activities, emphasized the importance of "partnership." "Through collaborative enterprises," he said, "we can venture what we never gone before."

Prof. Richard Celeste, Chief of the MSU-Entrepreneurship Training and Promotion

Office, said the Islamic City of Marawi is the economic center of Lanao del Sur province because of its strategic location and the diversity of entrepreneurs and people's purchasing power. The city is also known for its rich cultural heritage and its people, the Meranao, are among the best producers of local products such as the malong (indigenous multi-purpose blanket), langkit (indigenous weaving), and local cuisine. Prof. Celeste encouraged everyone to discover their own products for their SEs.



#### **MP Maisara**

Admonishing participants on the second day of the event, this was MP Maisara's speech to the participants:

"Parliament focuses on making legislation relevant to its constituents. Among the provisions in the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) is providing financial assistance and creating and supporting social enterprises (SE). I was one of those who included this when we were drafting the BOL. My familiarity with SEs began many years ago when I established a kiddie learning centre in Quiapo. The centre, a social enterprise, is still there up to now.

Social enterprises should promote clean environment for the planet, benefit the people and use profit to remedy social problems. To do this, we provide spaces for the young people so they will be able to participate. Speaking with our Provincial Vice-Governor Mohammad Mujam Rakiin Adiong Khalid and MSU Vice-Chancellor Dr. Cesar dela Serna a while ago, I proposed the possibility of establishing an Idea Hub. Apple and Microsoft already approached me and want to come up with a coding program for BARMM. Can we have a coding centre in Lanao del Sur? In Ethiopia, where I attended an international SE conference, they have the best coders. This helps SEs thrive and prosper.

#### ACTIVITIES FOR THE CONSTITUENCY



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"Social enterprises should promote clean environment for the planet, benefit the people and use profit to remedy social problems." -MP Maisara

Why are we investing in the SEs? We saw that the you are ready. We will provide capacity-building, technical training and allocation for grants. Globally, governments are looking at SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT with the bottom line of PEOPLE, PLANET and PROFIT. For BARMM, we add PEACE. We should also do this here, now.

There are so many SE ideas. In some places, SEs provide the ambulance. There are HIV communities in Ethiopia given jobs by SEs. They do beadwork. In America, ex-convicts were trained to become chefs in the kitchen. They now

serve 200,000 school meals. This is the same in UK and other countries.

SEs are here to serve a social purpose. As Muslims, we want to serve, keep true to our social mission. We want to intensify our

search for the best Maranao social entrepreneurs. Why the best? With the peace and many problems we face, yet talented and creative constituents, we have to find people who have the heart to serve our communities. We will help you technically and assist you to expand your reach. What we only ask is focus and commitment, the ability to sustain amid challenges."

#### **Creating SE communities**

The idea of the SECon started with a conversation with MP Maisara, says Mr. Annas.

"The goal is to first capacitate the social entrepreneurs in Lanao del Sur and the move toward creating communities of SEs in the province (and perhaps other parts of BARMM).

To enhance and strengthen the operations of social enterprises, MP Maisara and her team are researching and planning to come up with legislation to be filed in parliament within the year or early next year. Legislation will motivate and encourage the creative people to invest in SEs to help create jobs, bring profit-oriented endeavours closer to addressing the needs of vulnerable communities and contribute to the people-centered development of the Bangsamoro.

SECon2019 is a two-day event co-organized by the MTSE and MP Maisara's office with support from the MSU, Balay Mindanaw and the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur.



From top left: some of the featured SE products are The Maranao Collectibles' Maranao fashion dolls; Sarimanok "antowiras" indigenous beadwork; and, indigenous weaving "Langkit."

### **Emerging Young Leaders**

One of our advocacies is to empower the youth and strengthen their competencies as leaders in their chosen fields. We believe that they are the hope of the Bangsamoro. The internship program for the youth entitled "Emerging Young Leaders (EYL) of 2019" provides an avenue where the Bangsamoro youth will have the chance to experience how the new government works and know his/her place in peace leadership.

The EYL is a five-day internship program open to all high school, college or vocational school students who have completed 50% of their prescribed curriculum, or its equivalent, and between the ages of 18 to 30 years old. From 45 applicants, four (4) made it to the list. The EYL fellows were Johary C. Bohare, 22 years old, from Bayang Lanao del Sur; Almira M. Ali, 22, from Marantao Lanao del Sur; Yasrin P. Hadji Rauf, 22, from Butig Lanao del Sur; and, Jamal R. Pandapatan, 18, from Marawi City.

For a week, the fellows learned the parliamentary processes, programs, mission, visions and goals of the various ministries and their offices. In particular, they visited the Ministry of Social Services (MSS); Ministry of Basic, and the Higher and Technical Education (BHTE); Regional Human Rights Commission (RHRC); Office Bangsamoro Youth Affairs (OBYA); Bangsamoro Museum; and, the Governors' Office of Maguindanao.

EYL also included Personal Development, Leadership, Political Structure of Bangsamoro, Bangsamoro Organic Law, Bangsamoro History, Bangsamoro Conflict and the Peace Process.

A highlight of the five-day event were the learning sessions with Atty. Algamar Latiph who covered the Bangsamoro History from precolonial times.

"We should always invest in the future generation of leaders so we can correct the mistakes of the past."
-MP Maisara



### **Care for Orphans**

On 24 November 2019, the "Care for Orphans" activity gathered sixty (60) orphans (Darul Aitam) who were displaced by armed conflict and calamity from Lanao del Sur. They are presently housed in Balo-i, Lanao del Norte.

Guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the proposed Magna Carta on Children's Rights in BARMM, which promotes the protection, survival and development and participation of our children, we reached out to the orphans with good hygiene (e.g. hand washing), self-protection awareness and play therapy.





We reach out to the orphans who have become the 'least of the least,' and to know better how the Bangsamoro government should help them and give them the chance to live and develop themselves to the fullest.

The activity was also intended to understand better the plight of orphans who seemed to have been forgotten by society.

Through games and creative, non-invasive interactions, we somehow captured some of the problems, critical needs and recommendations from the orphans themselves as well as their carers.

At the end of the day, the orphans received hygiene kits, grocery items and pairs of slippers.

#### **Mindanao Peace Week**

From 28 November to 4 December, we joined the celebration of Mindanao Week of Peace with a theme, "Environmental Care and Resilience to Climate Change: Action for Peace. The event was led by the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM) and held at

Peace Plaza of Mindanao State University (MSU) Campus in Marawi City.

Our team set up advocacy photo booths for professor, staff and students to understand better and become part of the priority issues that we are pushing for in BARMM– children, women, youth, IDPs and the environment.

We also held games promoting information on the Bangsamoro Organic Law, the parliamentary system of BARMM and the goals of this new government. From the games, we realised that that even teachers and professors need understanding of the new BARMM system.









# **Institutional Partners**

























#### **Bayan Academy, Manila**

September 2019, the Office of MP Maisara Dandamun Latiph, a member of Bangsamoro Transition Authority, has concluded a partnership with Bayan Academy for Social Entrepreneurship and Human Resource Development (Bayan Academy) with the signing of Memorandum of Agreement. This partnership is also one of the ways to accomplish the development of SEs in the BARMM region to achieve social justice, social equity, and economic efficiency as mandated under Article XIII, Sec. 27 of the Bangsamoro Organic Law.

Bayan Academy - established since 2008 - is known as a social development organisation offering entrepreneurship, management, and education training programs and services, as well as livelihood and skills training courses for development institutions, cooperatives, banks, educational institutions, and micro and small enterprises. Bayan Academy previously was a part of the ABS-CBN Bayan Foundation's network. Under the MOA, the partnership will be valid until 31 May 2022, bringing various activities as a possibility for collaboration, especially for the development of social enterprise (SE) within BARMM.

To kick-off the partnership, MP Maisara has successfully hosted the event "Boost Your Business Workshop, National Digital Marketing Campaign 2019" in collaboration with Bayan Academy and Facebook in Marawi City, 8 October 2019. This event is the first Facebook training aim for MSMEs and SE to boost their business by utilising various social media.

Recently, MP Maisara has met and discussed with Dr. Eduardo A. Morato, Jr. the Chairman of Bayan Academy and Philip S. Felipe, the Executive Director of Bayan Academy to further the collaboration between the organisations specifically in the context of BARMM, the role of education and enterprise for poverty alleviation in a post-conflict setting. Some of the future collaborations were also discussed, for example, the forming of a technical working group between fellow members of BTA who champions SE to formulate action plans and policies to promote SEs within BARMM and development of Idea Center as a hub for education and enterprise. Bayan Academy can also share a lot of their knowledge and experience from the many years of training and mentoring various organisations to transform into social enterprise for the BARMM communities.

Our office hopes this partnership will be one of many to come to amplify the impact of Bangsamoro Government for the sake of the people.



#### Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and Keough School of Global Affairs, Indiana, United States

#### **Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies**

is one of the institute under Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame in Indiana, United States. Kroc Institute is one of the world's leading centers for the study of the causes of violent conflict and strategies for sustainable peace. It mainly uses interdisciplinary research on a wide range of topics related to peace and justice. The program under Keough School is on master level on global affairs with focus on international peace studies. The program attracts students from around the world who are committed to lifelong careers in public policy, political change and management of organisations in peace and justice as well as conflict transformation.

Kroc Institute and Keough School has concluded placement agreement with the Office of MP Maisara Dandamun Latiph since April 2019. Under the placement agreement, the office of MP Maisara will host one peace studies student as intern throughout the Fall Semester 2019. The placement was hoped to be beneficial for student and Office of MP Maisara with the intern will act as research support staff or any other role delegated while also observing the conduct of transitioning government for her research proposal. On the other hand, the field placement will fullfil the student's mandatory requirement for completing the degree with Kroc Institute and Keough School. The main cost of placement is shouldered by the Kroc Institute.

#### Law Intern, Keough School, Notre Dame University, Indiana, USA

Novita Liangga Kumala, is an Indonesian licensed lawyer and environmental activists. Her particular interests include the conduct of government to solve and transform conflict as well as the linkages between conflict and environment (environmental peacebuilding). She is a second year Master of Global Affairs student. She arrived in the Philippine since July 2019 and started her internship as legal researcher immediately. As legal researcher, her main responsibility is to assist the various research for the drafting of policy documents such as bills and resolutions. Her main research also revolves around the protection and rehabilitation of Lake Lanao in Lanao del Sur, BARMM after the Marawi siege and seeking for early linkages between environment and post-conflict peacebuilding activities.



# Laguna Lake Development Authority, Manila

One of the priority legislation of MP Maisara the protection and rehabilitation of Lake Lanao in Lanao del Sur, BARMM. The most effective and comprehensive way to achieve this is through the establishment of the Ranao Development Authority, an entity which will have comprehensive power and functions over the water body as well as the surrounding area comprising of the water catchment and shoreland.

MP Maisara decided to partners with Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA). The LLDA is the only lake authority within the Philippines and has been around for 50 years. We have set up several meetings to learn about comprehensive lake management and sought feedback on the Draft Ranao Development Authority Bill, which our office has drafted.

With the help and assistance from LLDA's top managements acting as resource speakers.—Adelina Santos-Borja (Department Manager III of Resource Management and Development Department) and Atty. Zenaida Lapuz (Officer in Charge, Legal Division) came to Marawi to colead the Technical Working Group meeting.

For the coming year, we hope to nurture this partnership through follow up sessions and learning exchanges involving concerned Ministries and local governments within BARMM.

# **Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao**



Last July 2019, the we started a partnership with the office of the Institute of Peace and Development in Mindanao

(IPDM), managed by Dir. Akraman A. Latiph. One of the advocacies of IPDM to have a peaceful and harmonious environment for BARMM. Ultimate peace comes when we collaboratively work with the people having the same advocacy and goals that will spread kindness to everyone.

IPDM is an institute in the MSU system that focuses on peace advocacy, and conflict studies, policy research, sustainable development and public services. They envision a progressive Mindanao where people live with social justice and harmony in diversity towards peace and sustainable development. IPDM commits to attain just and sustainable peace and development through collaborative efforts in the promotion of the culture of peace, peace education, peace research and peace action that link the MSU system with multi-sectoral stakeholders in Mindanao and the global community.

#### **Marawi Tourism Social Enterprise**

Marawi Tourism Social enterprise is a lever for sustainable development and a poverty reduction instrument. Its mission is to inculcate the skills among the youth and a sustainable livelihood income while preserving the environment and the culture. They are composed of passionate young Maranao, Maguindanaoan and Christians working together to promote peace through entrepreneurship with a social mission.





#### The Moropreneur Inc (TMI)

Since its founding in 2016, TMI has been the leading NGO in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, championing Social Enterprise as a pathway for sustainable peace and development. In 2018, it partnered with the British Council and European Union in generating awareness about SE in Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, General Santos, Sultan Kudarat Province and Cotabato City. Today, it has helped established 32 registered women-led cooperatives and 60 youth-led projects focusing on sustainable development goals.

Anchored on its mission to empower the Bangsamoro, IP and settlers in Mindanao through collaboration and co-creation of innovative solutions, TMI has implemented initiatives that focuses on capacity building, skills development, poverty alleviation, environmental protection, women, children and youth development, and peacebuilding.

For its works, TMI has been recognized at the national and local levels and received awards such as SDG Prosperity Champion, Halal Advocate (DA), Social Enterprise of the Year (SK Award in Gensan), among others.

TMI, though its executive director has also provided consultancy works at the international arena in various fields.

### SUMMARY OF PAST ACTIVITIES

#### **Program Activities**

## 1) Strategic Planning Session: Moving Towards a Smooth Transition Period

August 14 to 18, 2019 Lohas Hotel Laguindingan, Misamis Occidental

#### 2) Boot Camp On Social Enterprises

September 24 – 26, 2019 Sarabi Restaurant and Café MSU- Marawi City

#### 3) Digital Marketing for MSMES

October 08, 2019
Institute for Peace and Development in
Mindanao
MSU- Marawi City

#### 4) Emerging Young Leaders 2019

October 14 to 18, 2019 Bangsamoro Complex Cotabato City

#### 5) Care for Orphan Program

November 23, 2019

Darul Aitam, Baloi Lanao Norte

6) Senior High School On the Job Training with EAST BAYABAO INTEGRATED NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (EBINHS) OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BUBONG LANAO DEL SUR

OCTOBER 23- NOVEMBER 3, 2109

MSU SATELLITE OFFICE MARAWI CITY

#### 7) Social Enterprises Conference 2019

November 03 to 04, 2019 CHARM Pavilion MSU – Marawi City

#### **Consultations Conducted**

## People Consultation on Lake Lanao Rehabilitation Consultation

July 27, 2019 Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao MSU- Marawi City

### 2) Eid Celebration 2019 and People's Consultation

August 14, 2019 Mapandi Memorial College Marawi City

#### Women Voices in BARMM: A Multi-sectoral Participation

August 14, 2019 Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao MSU- Marawi City

#### 4) Voices of Bangsamoro Communities Outside BARMM: Engaging the People in Legislation for the Province of Lanao del Norte

August 19, 2019 Municipality of Pantar and Tagoloan Lanao del Norte

#### 5) Conversation with Internally Displaced Peson from Most Affected Area

October 07, 2019 Tent City, Brgy. Sagosongan Marawi City

#### 6) Technical Working Group on the Establishment of Ranao Development Authority

November 07, 2019 Bandar a Ingud Room MSU Library Marawi City

# 7) Private Sector School Consultations: VOICES OF THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY THE MARAWI SIEGE

September 27, 2019, Dansalan College Foundation, Inc Iligan City

#### **Funded Activities**

#### Marawi Tourism Social Enterprises "Mranaw Youth Fest 2019"

July 29, 2019 Limadatu Elementary School Brgy. Banga-Pantar, Marantao Lanao del Sur

#### 2) Boklod "Consultation and Dialogue with Stakeholders and IDPs of Marawi City"

July 22, 2019 Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao MSU- Marawi City

# 3) Consultations with Shariah Outside BARMM with Attorney General's Office and UP Institute for Islamic Studies

November 5, 2019

Rm 303, ISSI Bldg, UP Diliman QC

# 4) Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TARUC) and Mindanao State University-Marawi Senior High School (MSU MSHS)

November 23-28, 2019

Kualalumpur, Malaysia

#### 5) Ompongan o mga Bae sa Ranao (OBAERA) "Training on Self Understanding (UTS)"

August 26 – 27, 2019 Madrasa Langi Talub, Masiu Lanao del Sur

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **Sectoral Advocacy Programs**



#### Women Empowerment and Livelihood Initiative for Peace (WELivePeace)

Community Workshop
December 6, 2019
Butig, Lanao del Sur province



#### Trash Mo, BINta Mo

A Community Workshop on the 4Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover)

December 7 -8, 2019 Butig, Lanao del Sur province



### **SPED Parenting Program**

December 5, 2019 Marawi City



#### **Training for Youth Community Leaders**

"Young people as the foundation of our nation and future."

December 5, 2019

Tugaya, Lanao del Sur

### **Family Day for MARAWI IDPs**

Balo-i, Lanao del Norte Date to be confirmed