WHO Response to the Marawi Conflict
January to October 2018

Background
Since the armed conflict between the government military forces and non-state militants in Marawi ended in October 2017, over 230,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) or 46,000 families have returned to their homes. However, 73,000 IDPs (15,000 families) in Marawi City and other municipalities in Lanao del Sur continue to be displaced in evacuation centers and relatives’ homes. The evacuation centers still have poor environmental conditions, unhygienic practices and overcrowding, worsened by the continuing low immunization coverage and the risk of communicable diseases.

With funding support from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the World Health Organization (WHO) is working closely with the Integrated Provincial Office (IPHO) of Lanao del Sur and City Health Office (CHO) of Marawi, as well as coordinating with the Department of Health (DOH), to ensure access to essential health services for the IDPs and host population and strengthen disease surveillance and outbreak control.

WHO Humanitarian Response

Coordination and Leadership
Under the CERF project in 2018, WHO joins other UN agencies in converging efforts for the health and nutrition outreach programme in Marawi City and the municipalities of Bubong, Ditsaan Ramain, Marantao, Piagapo and Saguiaran in Lanao del Sur. WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP and their partners are jointly implement the health and nutrition outreach programme in the affected communities, including on monitoring and evaluation.

WHO has four staff in its Iligan hub to provide support on disease surveillance, information management, administration and coordination. The Organization also continues to co-lead the Health Cluster with the IPHO.

Health Services and Logistics
WHO is supporting the IPHO and CHO in providing mobile health services to the IDPs and host population. The mobile health teams are composed of local health workers from Lanao del Sur and Marawi, while WHO extends logistics assistance such as transportation, meals, and medicines as well as mental health and psychosocial support expertise. WHO has also provided minor repairs and piped-in water system to six health facilities.

Disease Surveillance and Capacity Building
WHO is helping strengthen the disease surveillance and outbreak control capacity of local health workers from the target sites. Trainings have been completed on the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response; specimen collection, packaging, transport and rapid diagnostic resting for cholera; public health emergency management and cluster approach orientation. Other trainings that are in the pipeline are on mental health and psychosocial support and disaster risk reduction management planning for health.

Support in Numbers
- **223 barangays** reached with mobile health services
- **14,666 patients** given health services through the mobile health clinics
- **6 health facilities** provided with minor repairs and water supply
- **247 health workers** trained on disease surveillance, public health emergency management, specimen collection and the cluster approach