

PROMOTING THE TRANSITION FROM CONFLICT TO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

PILOT PROJECT IN THE PHILIPPINES

Progress Report Number Four
01 April through 30 June 2002

Community and Family Services International

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Front Cover Artwork: Peace Posters made by internally displaced children during one of the Peace Festivals organized by CFSI in cooperation with other local NGOs.

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INTRODUCTION

Community and Family Services International (CFSI) — a Philippines-based social development organization – received funds from the Post Conflict Fund of the World Bank for a pilot project amongst internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Mindanao entitled “Promoting the Transition from Conflict to Peace and Development at the Community Level”.

This project, which began in January 2001, has two general objectives:

1. Make a difference in the lives of Filipinos displaced by armed conflict by working with the affected communities to develop enabling conditions that encourage safe return or settlement, facilitate the process of transition and stabilization, and provide a foundation for peace building and sustainable development.
2. Contribute to the existing knowledge base by developing and testing models that will inform approaches to the transition from conflict to peace.

The coverage of this project includes 6,759 families (33,550 persons) in the municipalities of Pagalungan and Pagagawan in the province of Maguindanao and Carmen, Kabacan, and Pikit in the province of North Cotabato. Maguindanao is part of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). In October 2001, 3,140 of these families (15,708 persons) were living in thirty (30) evacuation centers covered by CFSI. The remainder had earlier returned to their communities of origin or settled in new locations.

This report summarizes project progress from 01 April through 30 June 2002.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Security

Security-related incidents continued to have an impact on the project during the second quarter of 2002. A series of bombings and explosions occurred in the urban centers of General Santos City and Cotabato City resulting in damage to property, serious injuries and fatalities. The most fatal incident happened in one of the subdivisions in Cotabato City during a fiesta celebration wherein

seven people were killed on the spot and scores were injured, some seriously. Because of the resulting injuries and deaths from these violent incidents, uncertainty, anxiety and fear gripped the people once more.

Furthermore, the military training exercises against terrorism by American and Filipino forces in Zamboanga and Basilan—dubbed as Balikatan 02-1 (“shoulder-to-shoulder”)—led provincial officials in North Cotabato to call for the deployment of American forces in Central Mindanao. This proposal elicited strong negative reactions from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), Muslim communities, and many others, causing more tension and mistrust.

In addition, several hold-up incidents also occurred on public utility buses causing fear amongst travelers. Even the humanitarian aid organizations based in Cotabato City were not spared as some of their international NGO staff received kidnapping threats.

In contrast, war-affected communities outside the urban centers and not directly affected by the aforementioned incidents were generally peaceful which allowed CFSI and the vast majority of former IDPs to undertake a significant number of activities smoothly and successfully. This relatively peaceful security atmosphere in the communities of origin (COOs) also allowed the former IDPs to actively participate and, on several occasions, speak out for their respective communities in various fora before government officials and representatives of international development organizations.

Evacuation Centers

The number of IDPs who remained at the evacuation centers that had a count of 1,033 families (5,165 persons) as of 31 March 2002 further decreased to 567 families (2,764 persons) as of 30 June 2002. From fourteen (14) evacuation centers that unofficially continued to shelter IDP families at the beginning of the reporting period, only ten (10) evacuation centers remained with IDPs by the end of the period. Many IDPs in the evacuation centers in Carmen and Pagalungan were finally able to go home as the security situation in their communities of origin significantly improved. The availability of shelter and livelihood assistance at the communities of origin further encouraged their return. However, no movements were recorded among the IDP families that continued to remain in the evacuation centers in Pagagawan municipality.

A summary of IDPs still remaining in specific evacuation centers—all of which have been officially declared closed by the government—is provided in **Appendix A**.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Much was achieved in the IDPs’ communities of origin during the period as CFSI pursued with greater intensity the various interventions previously undertaken at the evacuation centers. Even much more was achieved by the IDPs themselves as they slowly, but with strong determination, sought to rebuild their lives upon their return to their communities of origin. Specific achievements by programme components follow.

“Saguna na mapiya den su ginawa nami, makapamantiali kami sa paydo, nakulangan kami sa gilek, masla su mga natawan nami sa pangitaban endu kawagib nami-a mga bakwit. Ya maytu na kailangan mamagayun langon-u mga taw, Muslim, Kristiyano endu Lumad para sa kalilintad nu Mindanao.”

“Right now, we feel good because we now have a small source of livelihood which we can tend to in peace, our fears have diminished, and we now understand a lot about the law and our rights as displaced people. And we believe that we need to have reconciliation between Muslims, Christians, and Lumads, for peace in Mindanao.”

*a CFSI trained Peacemaker
Pagalungan, Maguindanao*

Community Organizing

Go and See Visits

CFSI continued to facilitate “Go and See Visits” to communities of origin by IDPs who were still in evacuation centers. These “Go and See Visits” provided IDPs with first-hand information about their sites of origin that consequently allowed them to make informed decisions for their journey home.

Safe Return Kanduli

Newly returned IDPs continued to be encouraged and assisted in holding their “Safe Return Kanduli” (a cultural ritual and religious ceremony of thanksgiving). These Safe Return Kandulis were participated in by representatives of the Catholic Church, different government line agencies, and the LGUs which at the same time gave the IDPs opportunities to bring their concerns to the attention of the government. Safe Return celebrations of the IDPs in two (2) communities were likewise featured in the local media to inform the people of Mindanao about the situation of the IDPs upon their return to their communities of origin.

Community-based Organizations

During the reporting period, much effort was spent preparing the various communities of former IDPs in forming and strengthening organizations at the community level. A total of 42 community-based organizations and 382 sectoral committees were formed in the 45 sitios in 13 communities of origin. The fourteenth—Barangay Kibenez—continued to have security problems that prevented the CFSI team from undertaking any activity with the former IDPs.

These community organizations were formed and strengthened to assist the former IDPs in preparing their sitio and community development plans leading to the preparation of the consolidated barangay development plans. These plans were also used for the preparation of their project proposals for start-up livelihood assistance. A list of these organizations is found in **Appendix B**.

Minimum Basic Needs Survey

Effective community organizing paved the way for a comprehensive Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) survey which was conducted in the month of June 2002. In close coordination with formal, informal, and traditional leaders, the MBN survey was introduced, explained, and expounded. As a result, it gained acceptance and support from the communities and its leaders.



Liaison efforts with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in ARMM and Region 12 as well as with other local government units (LGUs) were intensified to coordinate the effort and enlist their support. Some of the LGUs, in fact, provided material and financial support to help underwrite the effort.

The MBN survey covered forty-five (45) sitios and involved 3,753 families estimated to represent 18,765 family members. The number and location of participating families is shown in **Appendix B**. The survey covered both those who had fled but have since returned from the evacuation centers and those who did not stay in the evacuation centers or never left their communities of origin during the armed conflict between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MILF in 2000.

While priority minimum basic needs differed among respondent families in the 45 sitios, five of the most common basic needs that are still unmet have been identified by the former IDPs. At the top of the list is the need for “Family income above subsistence threshold level” identified by 66.11% of the respondents. The other four (4) most common unmet needs in rank order are 2) “Housing durable for 5 years”; 3) “Family access to sanitary toilet”; 4) “Family access to potable water”; and 5) “Couples practicing family planning.” A summary is shown in **Appendix C** while a complete report has been prepared separately. The results were also presented to LGU officials and participating IDP communities for their information and feedback.

The results of the MBN survey served as the baseline for the Sitio Development Plan (SDP) that in turn identified various sectoral needs. The Sitio Development Plans will then serve as a basis for the comprehensive Barangay Development Plans (BDP), or at the very least, the Barangay Development Plans for Conflict- Affected Communities (BDP-CAC).

To some extent, the planning process honed the former IDPs’ skills in articulating their needs and voicing out their concerns to local and municipal governments. The process also served as their initial exposure to/and preparation for active involvement in any development agenda, initiatives and programmes that may come their way in the immediate future. These are seen as beneficial in the former IDPs’ advocacy for long-term development. Examples of Sitio Development Plans are available at CFSI Headquarters.



Donor Funding and Stakeholders Consultations

When youth members of the newly returned IDP communities expressed their need for simple sports equipment in order to spend their time productively, CFSI assisted them by tapping the UN Multi-Donor Programme which readily provided the necessary funding.

During the ARMM Social Fund for Peace and Development (ASFPD) Stakeholders Consultation (organized by the World Bank and the ARMM government), five (5) former IDP representatives from Pagalungan were able to voice out their comments on the proposed implementing guidelines of the ASFPD. The experience exposed these former IDPs to the process and informed them of the rigorous requirements that must be met to access funding from international multi-lateral agencies. Consequently, it engendered a deeper understanding of their own role in their own community.



“Kami po ay nagpapasalamat, na kahit kami po sa ganitong katayuan, hinangad pa rin ng Nakatataas na marinig ang boses namin. . . at inaasahan namin na sana ay merong isa o dalawang o konti man lang sa aming pananalita na maaring makatulong sa paghahanap ng solusyon dito sa problema sa Mindanao. . .”

“We are thankful that even with our present status, the Almighty allowed that our voices be heard. . . we are hopeful that one or two or some of our words will be helpful in finding the solution to problems in Mindanao. . .”

*a Traditional Leader
Pikt, North Cotabato*

Recognition and Achievement Day

All the activities which transpired since the beginning of 2002 were capped in June 2002 with an “*Araw ng Pagpapakilala at Pagpapahalaga*” (Recognition and Achievement Day) held separately in Carmen and Cotabato City. During this special occasion, various People’s Organizations in the IDP communities, volunteer Sumpats, Peacemakers and Psychosocial Caregivers that CFSI had trained were presented and introduced to the government agencies and LGUs and acknowledged for their voluntary services and accomplishments.

Community Information

Radio Program

During the reporting period, CFSI launched a weekly radio program entitled “*Ang Tinig ng IDPs*” or “Voice of the IDPs” which features stories about the plight of the IDPs in the evacuation centers

and in their communities of return. The radio program aims to bring to the consciousness of the general public the issues and concerns of IDPs as well as their dreams and aspirations. The one-hour program is aired every Saturday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. over a local Cotabato City radio station and has elicited positive feedback from the IDPs. The radio network coverage extends to the entire Central Mindanao and adjacent parts of northern, southern and western Mindanao.

The program tackles IDP issues on health, peace, food security, and others. For example, the program featured the “*Pagkain ng Masa*” (“Food of the People”) food security assistance program of the Department of Agriculture, Philippine Rice Research Institute (PHILRICE), and the University of Southern Mindanao. The program also features CFSI’s psychosocial services and other programme interventions for the IDP communities.

Pulungan Centers

During the reporting period, two (2) additional Pulungan Centers in the bigger and more accessible barangays were constructed. In the smaller, more remote barangays—where CFSI efforts are now expanding—twelve (12) Pulungan Centers were constructed. These efforts were carried out with funding assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). To date, a total of 41 Pulungan Centers have been constructed. . The complete list and locations and the number of families that are served are provided in **Appendix D**.



The Pulungan Centers continued to provide the former IDPs with a place to meet, exchange news and developments, and discuss important issues affecting them and their future. The Pulungan Centers likewise provided the former IDPs with a venue for re-establishing personal and community relationships and social bonds that bring back normalcy, stability and hope after a long period of displacement, deprivation and uncertainty.

Other Assistance

Transportation assistance, encouragement and moral support were extended by CFSI to female IDPs from three (3) municipalities who participated in the launching of the Women Displacement Watch convened by the Ecumenical Commission for Displaced Families and Communities (ECFDC).

The launching was also participated in by women from 18 other conflict-affected areas in Maguindanao, and representatives of government agencies as well as various local and international NGOs.

CFSI also provided assistance to the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Mindanao (OPAMIN) and the MILF-GOP Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) which collaborated with TV network ABS-CBN to produce a documentary film depicting the story of former IDPs who have returned to their community of origin in Sitio Tabulon, Barangay General Luna in Carmen, North Cotabato.

Assistance was likewise extended to a free-lance photojournalist who, through the lenses of the camera, sought to unveil the human faces and emotions of conflict and displacement and capture the stories and experiences of the IDP communities. These pictorials will be shared later with the IDP communities, the general public, and policy makers as part of ongoing and planned advocacy efforts.

Psychosocial Services

To help the former IDPs understand and learn to deal with situations of stress and trauma, psychosocial education sessions were conducted, specially for groups of women.



During Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), women who were former IDPs expressed feelings of being belittled by potential creditors in the community who are hesitant in lending them money.

In Pagalungan, the women participants expressed the urgent need for start-up capital for income generation as well as opportunities for both formal and non-formal education. In order to augment their family income, they related that many of them sought employment as domestic helpers, both locally and overseas.

Similar FGDs were conducted with the youth who were mainly concerned about their education. They expressed that they are unable to continue their education due to economic difficulties. Some had lost their fathers during the war consequently developing a general feeling of mistrust. Some youth groups expressed the desire to learn Arabic and English so that they can read the Koran and have a better chance to pursue higher education. Other needs articulated included scholarship grants, vocational training, livelihood opportunities, sports facilities, psychosocial education, and awareness of preventive measures against illegal use of drugs.

Focus Group Discussions with the elderly and disabled revealed their need for basic health services. They expressed their need to be recognized as senior citizens with all its benefits and privileges.

They also mentioned their need for eyeglasses. One elderly man remarked that for a long time now they had been “groping in the dark” but with such interventions, they were again able to see the light. Another remarked that while before, they were like plants that refused to grow, now with such assistance they are starting to grow new branches and leaves. They expressed other needs such as shelter, farm implements, medicines, and vitamins.

Educating the IDP communities on the psychosocial consequence of armed conflict promoted a deeper understanding of their own reactions to traumatic events. Participants to the psychosocial education sessions claimed that after the sessions they felt more at ease and were able to laugh about some of the difficulties experienced during displacement. Psychosocial inputs were provided during various activities such as the Safe Return Kandulis and other community gatherings.

The psychosocial issues confronting the IDP population at the evacuation centers and their communities of origin/return varied. These included fear of being caught in crossfires and a general tendency to blame armed groups for the destruction of homes, crops, mosques, schools, other community structures, as well as personal belongings including livelihood implements and animals.

On the psychosocial issues of displaced children, it was observed that during the early period at the evacuation centers the parents reported that children exhibited fear at the sight of uniformed men. They also noticed that their children tended to cling more than usual and were often irritable. Children also showed incessant crying and sleeping difficulties that were attributed to the deplorable conditions and the limited space for play activities in the evacuation centers.

The recurring adversities brought about by the volatile peace and order situation had both positive and negative consequences. On one hand, the displaced communities learned to cope with the events, utilizing whatever resources were available to help them move on with their lives amid the difficulties. Strong family ties, subservience to the desires of the elders and traditional leaders, and the simple but admirable acts of extending help to neighbors in desperate need, even if such acts would mean sacrificing one’s personal convenience, were just some of the culturally acceptable coping skills manifested by those affected by the armed conflict. Added to this was the community’s faith and strong belief in God or Allah.

On the other hand, the series of displacements made some communities feel helpless and lose their faith in their capability to take control of situations. Instead, they became victims to manipulations from unscrupulous individuals and groups. Aggressions were therefore easily displaced; the culture of violence was internalized; and an atmosphere of mistrust resided in their hearts and minds.

Peace Education and Reconciliation

CFSI developed and used a Peace Education and Reconciliation approach as its entry point to IDP communities in the evacuation centers at the start of the project in 2001.

CFSI facilitated the formation of community-based Peace Committees in which “Peacemakers” were immediately identified and selected from their communities by the IDPs themselves. Peace

consultations were also held for the different groups of Peacemakers where they discussed, consulted, and made specific plans on peace and peace-related issues. The Peacemakers also assisted CFSI in the “Go and See Visits” and “Visioning Workshops.” By 30 June 2002, there were 258 Peacemakers in the CFSI-assisted communities of origin.

“Malaki ang pinagbago sa amin. . . noon, takot kami sa Muslim kahit na mga babae, natataranta kami kaagad tuwing makakakita kami ng Muslim. . . pero dahan-dahang nagbago ang aming pananaw tungkol sa Muslim. Nakakabisita na kami sa mga Muslim communities na noon ay kinataakutan namin. . .”

“There is a big change in us. . . before, we were very afraid of Muslims, even women Muslims, we panicked every time we saw Muslims. But slowly, our view towards Muslims changed. We are now able to visit Muslim communities that we once feared. . .”

*a Christian IDP
Carmen, North Cotabato*

In order to better understand armed conflict in Mindanao, the CFSI Peace Education Officer together with the Peacemakers drew a “conflict map” (**Appendix E**) identifying historical precedents as well as current and potential conflict situations. The conflict map describes the nature, scope, intensity, and escalation of conflicts that existed and those that continue to exist in the project areas.

As a parallel activity, the Peace Education and Reconciliation programme assisted the community organizers in conducting courtesy visits to local government officials, particularly barangay and municipal officials, and other stakeholders in the communities of origin. These meetings were aimed at getting security clearances and support for returning IDP families. These meetings were particularly crucial in terms of security considerations as it provided vital information for the safe return of IDPs.

During the month of June 2002, a total of ninety-two (92) participants from the five (5) municipalities served by CFSI convened on three (3) separate occasions at the University of Southern Mindanao in Kabacan. They participated in a “Basic Peace Education for Peacemakers” training. The train-

“. . . malaki ang aking pasasalamat dahil sa mga tulong na naibigay ay nagbago ang aking buhay. Natuto ako ng mga bagay-bagay tungkol sa kapayapaan. . . ngayon, humaba ang aking pasensya sa aking mga anak at mga kapitbahay. . .”

“. . . I am very thankful for all the assistance because it really changed my life. I learned a lot about peace and now, I became more patient with my children and my neighbors. . .”

*a Manobo Peacemaker
Carmen, North Cotabato*

ing was conducted with the assistance of one of CFSI's partners in Mindanao, Kadtuntaya Foundation, Inc. (KFI). The training sought to enhance the theoretical knowledge and capability of the Peacemakers towards peace building. It included concepts of peace and conflict and a deeper analysis of the causes of conflict in Mindanao. It also sought to build skills in communication, conflict resolution, and dialogue. In addition, the Peacemakers were encouraged to formulate an action plan for implementation in their respective communities.

As a follow up activity, a total of thirty-eight (38) Peacemakers from Carmen participated in a "Peace Zone Exposure" in the adjacent province of Sultan Kudarat—an area declared as a Peace Zone in 1998 where conflict was caused by two feuding families belonging to different ethnic groups. The Peacemakers were welcomed by the local people's organization which was formed to facilitate and maintain the peace zone in the barangay.

Livelihood

During the reporting period, Livelihood Assistance Upon Return (LAUR) was given to 191 families representing approximately 955 persons in Carmen and Pikit and forming a total of 147 livelihood groups. The beneficiaries completed a LAUR Leaders' Training before the release of their livelihood assistance. During the reporting period, three (3) Leaders' Training were concluded.

For the LAUR, from 01 November 2001 through 30 June 2002, Php1,476,987.80 had been released to 2,131 families (benefiting approximately 10,655 former IDPs). The average assistance per family was Php693.10. In addition to the project inputs, the beneficiaries gave a total value of Php1,012,635.00 as counterpart contribution in the form of labor, land, and other inputs. The total cost of the livelihood projects amounted to Php2,489,622.80 with 59.33% coming from LAUR and 40.67% from the counterpart contributions of beneficiaries.



The LAUR assistance has so far generated total group savings amounting to P150,886 or an average 6% of the total cost. A total of 121 of the 147 groups (or 82.31%) have so far generated savings, while the remaining 26 groups are either still new projects or have yet to report their savings. Furthermore, 24 of the 121 groups have so far opened their group savings account at Land Bank Kabacan. .

In addition, a Start-Up Capital Assistance (SUCA) Leadership training session was conducted during the reporting period. At the "Tents Evacuation Center" in Pagagawan, a group of 30 women IDPs became the second group of beneficiaries for the SUCA. The total amount of Php14,970 was released or an average of Php500 per beneficiary. Projects included vegetable and rice trading as well as selling of fish and poultry products.

As of 30 June 2002, a total amount of Php30,260 for SUCA was released to 87 IDP women. The women beneficiaries from Sitio Gantong achieved a group savings of P2,870, equivalent to 18% of the original assistance received eight (8) months after release of their SUCA. The group opened a group savings account and deposited their savings in the bank.

To supplement the LAUR and SUCA, the IDP beneficiaries were linked to University of Southern Mindanao's (USM) *Pagkain Para sa Masa (PPSM)* food security program. The PPSM assisted a total of 363 IDP families. The beneficiaries attended a one-day training on backyard gardening and basic agricultural technologies and returned home to their communities with planting materials and seeds for their food requirements. Of these trainees, 25 were SUCA beneficiaries from Sitio Gantong, Barangay Inug-ug, Pagalungan who specifically requested for the training since they already could visit their farms during the day but had not yet returned due to lack of shelters.

Livelihood assistance in the form of "Incentives for Community Service (IFCS)" was also extended to seventy (70) Sumpats in recognition of the volunteer services they provide to IDP communities. The amount of livelihood assistance was Php1,500 per Sumpat for a total assistance of P105,000.

Research

The Research Teams from Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) and Notre Dame University (NDU) pursued intensive field research activities during the reporting period. The results of the research study will address the second general objective of the project.

Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were the research tools used by both universities in the field. Entitled "Transition Interventions with Internally Displaced Persons: From Conflict Toward Peace and Development in Southern Philippines", the research study focused on understanding the experiences, problems, needs and priorities of the displaced from their own perspectives. The study sought to generate baseline data on priority needs and problems vis-à-vis community-based development strategies as perceived by the IDPs themselves. The formidable barriers faced by IDP communities as they return were identified as food, livelihood, housing, water and sanitation, education and health services, and infrastructures such as mosques.

The significant findings of this study will be brought to the attention of policy makers in government, local and international donor/funding institutions, the people of Mindanao, and the general public in the Philippines and abroad. The Mindanao Network for Disaster Response (MNDR) shall take the lead in "popularizing" the results of the research study for Mindanao through the use of the print media and radio. CFSI hopes to publish the research study in the very near future with the hope that the IDPs will benefit most from the study's publication.

Advocacy and Networking

CFSI intensified its advocacy and networking efforts to call attention and give urgency to the plight of the IDP communities in Central Mindanao, particularly those in areas covered by CFSI. CFSI sought every opportunity to provide the IDPs with varied and meaningful fora to articulate their

problems, needs, and opportunities before various audiences including decision makers at the highest levels. The voice of the IDPs were continuously promoted through print and audiovisual media; press briefings and interviews; newsletters and public information materials; situation reports for international humanitarian websites; and participation in consultations with various stakeholders and international development institutions.

One of CFSI's partners in Mindanao—the Mindanao Network for Disaster Response (MNDR)—likewise reinforced these advocacy efforts by consistently informing the general public in Mindanao about the situation, issues, and needs facing the IDP communities. Further, CFSI promptly responded to the invitations of various national, regional and Mindanao-based cause-oriented organizations and advocacy groups to advance the agenda of the IDPs and to ensure that their voices were heard.

Networks and linkages were likewise forged with local and international NGOs providing assistance and working among the various IDP communities in Central Mindanao. As Convenor of the Philippine Network for Internally Displaced Communities (PNIDC), CFSI played both a leadership and facilitating role in getting the local, regional, and national government as well as the international aid community to respond to the needs of the IDPs. CFSI will also play a lead role in the planned visioning workshop for the PNIDC as a preparatory activity for its legal incorporation. The workshop is planned with the support of the Mindanao Coalition of Development NGOs (MINCODE).

Extensive advocacy has also been conducted with the World Bank for the inclusion of selected IDP communities for the pilot program of the ARMM Social Fund for Peace and Development (ASFPD) starting in July 2002. CFSI provided inputs and lobbied for its IDP communities to be invited to participate in the stakeholders consultations held in Cotabato City and Metro Manila for the ASFPD.

CFSI's program for the out of school children and youth of Barangay Inug-ug entitled "ARMS ARE FOR HUGGING: Promoting Education for Peace and Development in Conflict-Affected Mindanao" was approved by the Children and Youth Foundation (CYFP) for implementation in 2002. Efforts are underway to mobilize counterpart resources required by the project. Endorsements from Local Government Units (LGUs) starting from the barangay and municipal levels all the way to regional government of ARMM and the national offices of the Department of Education are being secured.

LESSONS LEARNED

In responding to the needs of the IDPs, the following lessons were learned during the reporting period:

1. Communities displaced by war or armed conflict respond positively to sincere efforts to assist them for rehabilitation and development. Culturally accepted grieving practices are among the coping strategies and should be reinforced and supported. Also, immediate

establishment of mechanisms for IDPs to gain a sense of control over their lives could strengthen their desire for self-determination.

2. Confidence-building measures for peace include promoting joint cultural and development activities in the community. Concrete material assistance given for common or sectoral use which benefits the entire community (e.g. Pulungan Centers and sports materials and equipment) lead to more active participation from the community.
3. The formation of community-based organizations and sectoral groups that are linked in partnership to appropriate and concerned government agencies and other private sector institutions such as NGOs and civil society serve as a sustaining element for peace and development in conflict-affected areas.
4. The presence and participation of IDPs in stakeholders consultations and the discussion of issues affecting their communities help them understand more clearly their role as representatives and spokespersons for their communities and serve to build their confidence and self-esteem.
5. Assistance programmes for IDPs in their communities of origin must ensure transparency, open communication, and opportunities for full participation and must be made available to all stakeholders in the community.
6. Conflict in the community remains a natural occurrence but can be properly managed so as not to escalate and produce destructive consequences. Facilitating group processes for dialogue and conflict resolution should be done as soon as the source of conflict has been identified. The role of the formal, informal and traditional leaders and the use of traditional community mediation processes in the resolution of community conflicts must be recognized.
7. The inclusion of formal financial processes such as a savings component in a livelihood project can help IDPs become more aware of their accountability for their development and more committed towards becoming self-reliant.

CHALLENGES

1. The security of staff members remains an important factor in CFSI programme planning and implementation. Security threats will continue to exert a lot of stress on the staff that could affect their ability to assist IDP communities.
2. CFSI recognizes the natural tendency of adjacent communities to exchange information and compare each other's level of development. CFSI's plans to reach out to all communities of origin located in the interior and more remote areas of the five (5) municipalities will be a challenge in terms of security and accessibility because of their

distance and lack of basic structures for essential services. The MBN survey shall be conducted likewise in these areas to determine the former IDPs unmet priority needs.

3. CFSI interventions must aim to assist and prepare communities to develop their capacity to access the community development assistance and peace initiatives that shall be offered beginning 2003 under the World Bank-assisted ASFPD and the KALAH project.
4. Together with the IDPs, CFSI looks forward to the forging of a more durable and longer lasting final Peace Agreement between the GRP and the MILF. The improvement of the peace and order situation particularly in Central Mindanao hopefully will improve the socio-economic situation for former IDPs.

PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

The priorities for the next period will be the expansion of CFSI services to the remaining fourteen (14) barangays of origin/return. Major priorities will include the following:

1. Sitio Development Plan

The MBN Survey, which shall lead to Sitio Development Plans (SDP) that in turn shall inform the preparation of the Barangay Development Plans (BDP), shall be undertaken by CFSI in the sitios of return in the remaining 14 barangays. These community-focused development plans will hopefully enable the IDP communities who have returned to link with, and access, assistance from the local government and other international development funding initiatives such as the ASFPD, the KALAH project as well as other peace and development projects to be initiated by UN agencies.

2. Livelihood Assistance

Livelihood assistance shall continue to be extended to the IDP communities of origin that have been served since 2001 and to the remaining sitios and barangays that will be served starting 2002. Group formation activities shall be intensified for these communities.

3. Research

The results of the research study conducted by NDU and MSU-IIT on the IDP communities shall be published and circulated both locally and overseas. Steps shall be taken to ensure that the research findings inform CFSI's interventions with the IDP communities in the coming year and serve as an authoritative reference on IDPs in post-conflict situations.

4. Advocacy and Networking

CFSI will help ensure that the voices of the IDPs will continue to be heard, their rights respected and protected, and their urgent needs addressed. CFSI will seek opportunities for IDPs to participate in various development discussions and stakeholders consultations to link with the government and the private sector.

5. Capacity Building for NGO Forum

CFSI will continue in its role as Convenor in Cotabato City for the NGOs working with IDPs in Central Mindanao. CFSI shall strongly support the NGOs' plans to legally incorporate the Philippine Network for Internally Displaced Communities. Furthermore, CFSI shall support the capability building needs of local NGOs working with IDPs in Mindanao.

6. Education for Out-of-School Children and Youth

With partial funding support from the Children and Youth Foundation (CYFP) and the mobilization of additional resources from the local government units and contributions from the business and the private sector, CFSI will undertake a complementary "ARMS ARE FOR HUGGING" education project for out of school children and youth. The full support and endorsements from the barangay council officials of Inug-ug and the local municipal officials of the municipalities of Pagagawan and Pagalungan, Regional officials of ARMM as well as officials of Pagalungan Elementary School shall be formally secured.

Contact Points

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APPENDIX A

Number of IDPs in Evacuation Centers as of 30 June 2002

No.	Evacuation Center	Barangay	Municipality	Families	Persons
1	Liliongan Market Site	Liliongan	Carmen	27	135
2	Malmar Dam Site	Kibenez	Carmen	254	1,270
3	Sitio Lanitap	General Luna	Carmen	14	70
Sub-total			CARMEN	295	1,475
4	Bulit Tents	Bulit	Pagagawan	7	35
5	Tents	Bulit	Pagagawan	18	90
6	Madrasa Bulit	Bulit	Pagagawan	5	25
Sub-total			PAGAGAWAN	30	150
7	Central Elem School	Poblacion	Pagalungan	66	330
8	Emergency Hosp Bldg.	Poblacion	Pagalungan	22	110
9	Malagakit Primary Sch	Galakit	Pagalungan	10	50
10	Old Market	Poblacion	Pagalungan	144	649
Sub-total			PAGALUNGAN	242	1,139
Total for N. Cotabato				295	1,475
Total for Maguindanao				272	1,289
OVER-ALL TOTAL				567	2,764

APPENDIX B
COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AT
FOURTEEN PRIORITY COMMUNITIES OF ORIGIN*
As of 30 June 2002

Location	Sitio	Name of Organization	# of Fam.	# of Committees	Date Formed
A. CARMEN					
1. Barangay Gen. Luna	1. Tabulon	1. Tabulon Community Association for Development (TCAD)	54	10	Jan 2002
2. Barangay Malapag	2. Quarry	2. Farmers Association of Quarry (FAQ)	26	8	Jan 2002
	3. Campo	3. Sitio Campo Farmers Association (SFA)	37	11	Jan 2002
	4. Bunawan	4. Sition Bunawan Farmers Association (BFA)	18	8	Mar 2002
	5. Danao	5. Masinabuton Association of Danao (MASID)	10	8	Sep 2001
	6. Matingao	6. Matingao Organization for Peace (MOD)	35	11	Dec 2001
3. Barangay Liliongan	7. Hinauran	7. Hinauran Organization for Peace (HOPE)	30	10	Dec 2001
	8. Lower Malugasa	8. Lower Malugasa for Peace and Development (LMAPP)	70	11	Mar 2002
	9. Upper Malugasa	9. Malugasa Association for Peace and Development (MAPD)	58	11	Feb 2002
	10. Putingbato	10. Putingbato United Settlers Organization (PUSO)	27	11	Feb 2002
	11. Pinamintangan	11. Pinamintangan Home of Paradise, Sympathy & Peace	42	11	Feb 2002

* The Fourteen Priority Communities of Origin are the bigger, more accessible barangays in CFSI's service areas.

	12. Spring	12. Bag-ong Komunidad sa Spring para sa Kalinaw ug Kalambuan	50	10	Feb 2002
4. Kibenez	13. New Ranzo				
Sub-Total	13	12	457	120	
B. KABACAN					
1. Nangaan	1. Proper		100	7	Jan 2002
	2. Dangleg		187	7	Jan 2002
Sub-Total	2		287	14	
C. PAGAGAWAN					
1. Barangay Nabundas	1. Sambulawan	1. Sambulawan Community Association for Peace and Development (SCAPD)	100	5	May 2002
	2. Bulikay	2. Bulikay Community Association for Peace and Development (BCAPD)	75	5	Jun 2002
	3. Tatas	3. Sigay nu Pamagayon a Ompungan sa Tatas (SPOT)	124	5	Jun 2002
	4. Bual	4. Bual Community Organization for Peace and Development (BCOP)	134	5	Jun 2002
2. Barangay Pagagawan	5. Peditundungan	5. Peditundungan Association for Community Development (PACD)	70	5	Jun 2002
	6. Punol	6. Umpungan nu Pakadsinganen sa Kalilintad endo Kapgiseg	223	5	Jun 2002
3. Bulit	7. Bai Tonina	7. Bai Tonina Association for Community Development (BTACD)	58	5	Jun 2002

4. Barangay Dungguan	8. Endisalong	8. Endisalong Farmers Association (ENFA)	66	10	Mar 2002
	9. Butabuaya	9. Butabuaya Multi-Purpose Association (BMA)	166	10	May 2002
	10. Butig	10. Butig Farmers Association	36	10	May 2002
	11. Tuka	11. Tuka Development Association	57	10	May 2002
	12. Kadingilan	12. Lakeg Community for Peace and Development (LPD)	54	10	May 2002
	13. Lakeg	13. Kadingilan Association for Peace and Development	142	10	Jun 2002
	14. Singko	14. Singko Fishermen's Association (SFA)	91	10	Jun 2002
	15. Langkapon	15. Langkapon Integrated Farmers and Fishermen Association	108	10	Jun 2002
	16. Balogo	16. Balogo Farmers and Fishermen Association	58	10	Jun 2002
	17. Calbuan	17. Calbuan Farmers Association		10	Jun 2002
Sub-Total	17	17	1562	135	
D. PAGALUNGAN					
1. Barangay Inug-ug	1. Proper		208	5	Jun 2002
	2. Agakan	1. Umpungan nu Malilintad a Maginged sa Agakan (UMMA)	52	10	Feb 2002
	3. Gantong	2. Umpungan nu Malilintad a Maginged sa Gantong (UMAGA)	66	10	May 2002
	4. Butig	3. Kalilintad O Kaisaisa nu Mga Tao sa Butig (KKTB)	110	10	Mar 2002
	5. Langgang	4. Farmers Organization for Peace and Development	134	10	May 2002

		(FOPD)			
Sub-Total	5	4	570	45	
E. PIKIT					
1. Barangay Gli-gli	1. Kabanbanan	1. Umpungan na Nagisa-isa a Tao Siya sa Kabanbanan (UNTK)	112	6	May 2002
2. Barangay Rajamuda	2. Pasagi	2. Umpungan nu Mga Tao a Bagingarap sa Kagkapia nu dalpanilan a Pasagi (UBKDNP)	50	8	Jun 2002
	3. Proper	3. Rajamuda Community for Peace and Development	74	7	Mar 2002
	4. New Talitay	4. New Talitay Peace and Development Organization (NPDO)	51	7	Jun 2002
3. Barangay Talitay	5. Proper	5. Umpunganu Malilintad a Maginged sa Talitay (UMMAT)	124	10	Jun 2002
	6. Babang	6. Babang Peace and Development Organization	39	5	Jun 2002
	7. Patang	7. Patang Peace and Development Organization (PPDO)	39	8	Jun 2002
	8. Salakeb	8. Salakeb Peace and Development Organization (SPDO)	63	7	Jun 2002
4. Barangay Inug-ug	9. Lower	9. Inug-ug Peace and Development Organization (IPDO)	200	10	Mar 2002
Sub-Total	9	9	752	68	
Grand Total	14	46	42	3628	382

APPENDIX C
MINIMUM BASIC NEEDS (MBN)

I. Top 5 Unmet MBNs in 45 CFSI-Assisted Sitios in North Cotabato and Maguindanao

Rank	Indicator Number	Indicator	No. of Families	%
1	24	Family Income above subsistence threshold level	2481	66.11%
2	17	Housing durable for at least five (5) years	2097	55.88%
3	14	Family has access to sanitary toilet	1983	52.84%
4	13	Family has access to potable water within 250 meters or 10 minutes walk	1713	45.64%
5	11	Couples practicing family planning in the last 12 months	1693	45.11%

II. Top 5 Unmet MBNs in 23 CFSI-Assisted Sitios in North Cotabato

Rank	Indicator Number	Indicator	Number of Families	%
1	24	Family income above subsistence threshold level	1069	67.74%
2	17	Housing durable for at least five (5) years	841	53.30%
3	14	Family with sanitary toilet	826	52.34%
4	13	Family with access to potable water within 250 meters or 10 minutes walk	759	48.10%
5	11	Couples practicing family planning in last 12 months	676	42.84%

III. Top 5 Unmet MBNs in 22 CFSI-Assisted Sitios in Maguindanao

Rank	Indicator Number	Indicator	Number of Families	%
1	24	Family with income above subsistence threshold level	1412	64.92%
2	17	Housing durable for at least five (5) years	1256	57.75%
3	14	Family with sanitary toilet	1157	53.20%
4	11	Couples practicing family planning in last 12 months	1017	46.76%
5	13	Family with access to potable water	954	43.86%

APPENDIX D
Location of Pulungan Centers

Pulungan Centers constructed as of 30 June 2002
CFSI Mindanao Project

MUNICIPALITY	SITES OF ORIGIN		NO. OF BENEFICIARIES	
	SITIO	BARANGAY	Families	Persons
1. Carmen	1. Tabulon	1. Gen. Luna	54	265
	2. Lower Malugasa	2. Liliongan	70	350
	3. Pinamintangan		41	205
	4. Upper Malugasa		58	290
	5. Spring		46	230
	6. Putingbato		27	135
	7. Matingao	3. Malapag	33	165
2. Kabacan	8. Proper	4. Nangaan	302	1,510
3. Pagagawan	9. Bai Tonina	5. Bulit	58	309
	10. Peditudungan	6. Pagagawan	17	85
	11. Punol		200	1,148
	12. Butabuaya	7. Dungguan	876	4,380
	13. Sambulawan	8. Nabundas	97	485
4. Pagalungan	14. Agakan	9. Inug-ug	77	385
	15. Butig		110	550
5. Pikit	16. Mother	10. Inug-ug	298	1,505
	17. Mother	11. Talitay	183	915
	18. Kabambanan	12. Gli-gli	114	1,070
SUB - TOTAL:				
5	18	12	2,661	13,982

B. Evacuation Center (EC)				
MUNICIPALITY	EVACUATION CENTER		NO. OF BENEFICIARIES	
	NAME OF E.C.	BARANGAY	Families	Persons
1. Carmen	1. Malapag HS	1. Malapag	29	167
	Malapag Mosque		81	424
	2. Liliongan Market	2. Liliongan	180	837
	Site			
	3. Tawagon EC	3. Kibudtungan	61	300
2. Pagagawan	4. Dike	4. Pagagawan	72	394
	5. Tents	5. Bulit	25	137
3. Pagalungan	6. Layog Tents	6. Layog	370	1,997
	7. Layog Elem		188	966
	8. Central ES/ et al	7. Poblacion	1,282	6,041
SUB -TOTAL:				
3	8	7	2,288	11,263
B. Community of Origin (COO) Second Priority				
MUNICIPALITY	SITES OF ORIGIN		NO. OF BENEFICIARIES	
	SITIO	BARANGAY	Families	Persons
1. Carmen	1. Kumaret	1. Bentangan	45	225
	2. Bayabas	2. Palanggalan	30	150
	3. Marang	3. Tupig	66	330
2. Pagagawan	4. Ali	4. Talitay	465	2,325
3. Pagalungan	5. Sapakan	5. Buliok	150	750
	6. Leong	6. Kalbugan	519	3,280
	7. (rehab site)	7. Kudal	277	1,385
	8. (rehab site)	8. Bagoinged	376	1,880
4. Pikit	9. Mother	9. Rajamuda	359	1,856
	10. Banto	10. Bagoinged	518	2,590
	11. Tuka 1	11. Barungis	272	1,360
	12. Mamasalagat	12. Buliok	338	1,690
	13. Proper	13. Kabasalan	900	4,500
	14. Saging	14. Ginatilan	92	460
	15. Proper	15. Makabual	800	4,000
SUB - TOTAL:				
5	15	15	5,207	26,781

SUMMARY CHART OF PULUNGAN CENTERS				
A. First Priority Sites Of Origin (SOO-1)				
MUNICIPALITY	No. of Sitio	No. of Barangay	BENEFICIARIES	
			FAMILIES	PERSONS
1. Carmen	7	3	329	1,640
2. Kabacan	1	1	302	1,510
3. Pagagawan	5	4	1,248	6,407
4. Pagalungan	2	1	187	935
5. Pikit	3	3	595	3,490
TOTAL	18	12	2,661	13,982
B. Second Priority Sites of Origin (SOO-2)				
MUNICIPALITY	No. of Sitio	No. of Barangay	BENEFICIARIES	
			FAMILIES	PERSONS
1. Carmen	3	3	141	705
2. Kabacan	-	-	-	-
3. Pagagawan	1	1	465	2,325
4. Pagalungan	4	4	1,322	7,295
5. Pikit	7	7	3,279	16,456
TOTAL	15	15	5,207	26,781
C. Evacuation Center (EC)				
MUNICIPALITY	No. of Evacuation Center	No. of Barangay	BENEFICIARIES	
			FAMILIES	PERSONS
1. Carmen	4	3	351	1,728
2. Pagagawan	2	2	97	531
3. Pagalungan	17	2	1,840	9,004
TOTAL	23	7	2,288	11,263

**APPENDIX E
CONFLICT MAP**

