# Project Information Document/<br/>Identification/Concept Stage (PID)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 06-Oct-2020 | Report No: PIDC226981

Oct 07, 2020 Page 1 of 14

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

#### A. Basic Project Data

Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)	Environmental and Social Risk Classification	Project Name
P174480		Substantial	Mindanao Trust Fund- Reconstruction and Development Project Phase III
Region	Country	Date PID Prepared	Estimated Date of Approval
EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC	Philippines	06-Oct-2020	
Financing Instrument	Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency	
Investment Project Financing	Community and Family Services International	Community Family and Services International	

# **PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

SUMMARY			

Total Financing	3.00

3.00

# Financing Gap 0.00

# **DETAILS**

**Total Project Cost** 

# **Non-World Bank Group Financing**

Trust Funds	3.00
Philippines - Multi-donor Trust Fund Program for Mindanao	3.00

# **B.** Introduction and Context

**Country Context** 

The Philippines is a middle-income country in Southeast Asia with a population of around 106 million. Over the past decade, the Philippines attained significant economic growth registering an average of 6.2 % of GDP growth. The country also saw a strong reduction in the poverty rate from 23% in 2015 to 16% in 2018.

Oct 07, 2020 Page 2 of 14

Despite these positive trends, challenges such as uneven growth in the country, especially in the Mindanao region, still remain.

Mindanao is the second largest group of islands located in the southern part of the country. According to the latest 2018 Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) census, the island hosts 25.5 million inhabitants, of which 23% are Filipino Muslims and 36% are Indigenous Peoples (IPs), with the rest considered migrants mostly from the Visayas and some from Luzon. Most of the Muslim population in Mindanao and the Philippines in general are concentrated in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), until January 2019 known as the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Mindanao has experienced one of the longest and most complex violent conflict in Southeast Asia spanning almost 5 decades. Multiple drivers of conflict include (i) social injustice, exclusion and alienation of Muslim and indigenous peoples; (ii) displacement from their own lands; (iii) inter-ethnic conflicts; (iv) "rido" clan war and revenge killing; (v) land tenure and ownership disputes; (vi) competition for natural and mineral resources; (vii) local election disputes; (viii) ineffective governance and lack of rule of law and service delivery; (ix) widespread poverty and lack of job opportunities.[1] It is not surprising that Mindanao hosts two large Muslim secessionist groups the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). Different extremists and terrorist groups are also based in the region such as the ISIS affiliated Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters and infamous "Maute" group that laid siege to Marawi in 2017.

The cost of conflict in Mindanao is high, estimates suggest that the armed conflict has claimed around 100,000 to of 150,000 lives and cost the government a total of almost Php. 658 billion (US\$13.9 billion)[2]. The conflict has severely affected the socio-economic and political conditions in the region. Despite posting positive GDP growth in the recent years, the BARMM still tops as the region having the highest poverty incidence in the country at 61 percent [3], and one of the highest school dropout rates and lowest literacy levels in the country. In terms of health, BARMM has the least access to health and sanitation, thereby contributing to high child mortality rates, stunted growth and low immunization [4].

Over the years, the Philippine Government (GPH) has been relentless in seeking a political solution to the separatist clamor of both the MNLF and the MILF. Through the facilitation by Libya and Indonesia, a peace agreement was signed in 1996 between the GPH and the MNLF, which resulted in the establishment of the ARMM (predecessor of BARMM). The agreement also included the decommissioning of the MNLF combatants or their integration in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Subsequently, with the facilitation of Malaysia, the GPH and the MILF signed a peace agreement in 2014 entitled as the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB). The CAB consolidated the previous framework agreements (FAB) and its annexes on transitional arrangements and modalities, normalization, wealth-sharing, power-sharing, and territories. It served as the basis of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) that was legislated in June 2018 and ratified in January 2019. The law, aimed at legally entrenching the political commitments contained in the peace agreement, has paved the stage for BARMM's transition covering political, social and arms decommissioning.

Oct 07, 2020 Page 3 of 14

The current COVID19 pandemic has not spared the country, as of June 21, 2019 around 30,000 confirmed COVID19 infections were registered by the Department of Health with 1,169 deaths [5]. The pandemic has exposed the multitude of challenges faced by the country's health and medical system, from the lack of technological capacity to tackle outbreaks and emerging pandemics, the high costs of the health care that have disadvantaged the poor, deficient facilities and lack of incentives for medical practitioners. In terms of the economic impact of COVID19, the World Bank in its Philippine Economic Development Report, June 2020, projected a 1.9% contraction of the Philippine economy and a skyrocketing of unemployment from 5.3% in January 2020 to 17% in April 2020. As of June 21, 2019, the BARMM has recorded 87 confirmed cases of COVID 19 infections. The region has also sustained high economic losses due to the lockdown imposition resulting to limited movement of products, closure of business establishments and high OFW returnees from abroad and within country. Compounding to this is the lack of health and medical facilities and professionals in the region. The economic difficulties and the perceived inability of government to respond to the pandemic in a timely and effective manner has resulted in new tensions, conflicts and violence in the BARMM region adding to existing pressures and an increase in extremist activities. [6]

- [1] The World Bank Group; DRAFT Mindanao Peace Lens Operational Task Team's Handbook, April 2020
- [2] Including the most recent Marawi siege damage and needs.
- [3] http://rssoarmm.psa.gov.ph/statistics/poverty
- [4] http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/111061560785917573/pdf/Towards-a-More-Equitable-and-Better-Prepared-Public-Primary-Health-Care-System.pdf
- [5] https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker
- [6] Conflict Alert: https://conflictalert.info/cems-bulletins2019/special-cems-bulletin-on-covid-19-and-conflict-1-february-17-april-2020/

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

President Duterte has made peace and development in Mindanao one of his top government priority as reflected in the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 under the theme, "Attaining Just and Lasting Peace". The government has also adopted a Six-Point Roadmap and a Strategic Framework for Mindanao Peace and Development, bringing together three streams of: (i) political settlement of armed conflicts; (ii) intensified development; and (iii) peace-building in support of five strategic outcomes. The strategic framework is built around five interlinked strategic outcomes: (1) Resilient Communities Built; (2) Effective Governance Promoted; (3) Inclusive Economic Growth and Jobs Ensured; (4) Security Environment Stabilized; and (5) Consensus for Peace Strengthened. Full implementation of the 2014 Comprehensive Agreement on the

Oct 07, 2020 Page 4 of 14

Bangsamoro (CAB) with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) is a central element of the government's plan.

As part of its commitment to the CAB implementation, the President in May 2019 appointed the 80 member Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) with 41 of the seats held by the MILF members, the Interim Chief Minister Ahod Ebrahim is also the concurrent chair of the MILF. The BTA is the transitional government in the BARMM that replaced the ARMM governance structure, it acts as the legislative and executive body in the region. As such, its mandate includes the acceleration of programs and services delivery such as social welfare programs, infrastructures and other basic services. It is also tasked legislate important codes such as the administrative, electoral, civil service, revenue, indigenous peoples and education amongst others. In addition, it also needs to overhaul the regional agencies departing from the department type of agency to becoming a ministry, hiring of civil servants and producing the government's medium to long-term plan and budget.

The Social Justice section of the BOL states: "The BARMM Government shall provide, maintain, and ensure the delivery of basic and responsive health programmes, quality education, appropriate services, livelihood opportunities, affordable and progressive housing projects, power and electricity, and water supply, among others, to the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region." In addition, it is expected to be prepared for disasters, able to provide immediate and effective relief, and "...ensure the rehabilitation of calamity-affected areas and victims of calamities." To help meet these expectations, the BARMM Government has both requested and welcomed the assistance of both Development Partners and Humanitarian Partners. The RDP/3 is a response to this call.

The First Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP), crafted in 2020 by the BARMM Government for the period 2020-2022, provides direction for development activity in the conflict-affected area, including the RDP/3. Four pillars of the BDP are particularly relevant: "establishment of the foundation for inclusive, transparent, efficient, and accountable governance"; "uphold peace, security, public order and safety, and respect for human rights"; "create a favourable environment for inclusive and sustainable economic development"; and "ensure access to, and delivery of, quality services for human capital development". Many of the activities carried out through the RDP/3 are expected to contribute toward the achievement of some of the desired outcomes of the BDP. For example, the fast-tracking of the rehabilitation of conflict-affected areas, increased productivity in agriculture, and strengthened people's participation in local governance.

While peace dividends are slowly being felt and seen in the BARMM, the peace and security situation is still fragile. Land related conflicts, especially against indigenous peoples, have been steadily rising, the increased skirmishes between the ASG and BIFF against the AFP have led to civilian displacements especially in Maguindanao, North Cotabato and Sulu provinces. The absence of any significant progress in the rebuilding of Marawi continues to fuel a growing sense of despair and anger towards the government. Extremist groups could exploit the frustrations of the community and the current COVID19 situation to heighten antigovernment sentiments that in turn could be used to recruit members and rally their support.

Oct 07, 2020 Page 5 of 14

The peace and development agenda in Mindanao have been supported by the World Bank for more than forty years through initiatives to build institutions for citizen security, justice and jobs. Furthermore, the Bank has managed the Mindanao Trust Fund (MTF) and through the MTF supported an extensive analytical and advisory program, including (i) Conflict Alert, a sub-national conflict monitoring system run by International Alert, which tracks incidents, causes and impacts of violent conflict; (ii) studies on violent conflict and displacement, jobs in Mindanao, land conflict, Islamic finance, a needs assessment of MILF combatants, and a public expenditure review for ARMM; (iii) the bulk of the technical assistance for the MILF's Bangsamoro Development Plan; and (iv) support to various peace process mechanisms and institutions established by the Government and MILF since 2013.

The MTF-Reconstruction and Development Programme (MTF-RDP) was first initiated in December 2005 and came to an end in 2017, after the completion of seven separate, but related projects. From 2016, RDP supported intensive work in the camps of the MILF, specifically, the "six previously acknowledged" camps and twenty-five (25) base camps. By the conclusion of the eleven-year Programme, in March 2017, more than 638,000 persons had benefitted, of which 52% were female. Six hundred and fourteen (614) community sub-projects had been completed in 332 villages (barangays) in 114 municipalities in 19 provinces. More than 300 people's organizations had been formed.

In April 2018, a second phase, in the form of a Project, began. Known as the MTF-Reconstruction and Development Project, Phase Two (MTF-RDP/2), this intervention was designed with a specific focus on the "six previously acknowledged" camps, the largest within the span of influence of the MILF. The first stage of this Project, known hereinafter as RDP/2, delivered 30 community sub-projects by the end of August 2019, benefitting at least 42,321 persons, 52% of whom were female. In view of expressed as well as observed needs in the six MILF camps, developments in the environment, and project implementation momentum, additional financing was provided for stage two of RDP/2. The additional financing, approved in late August 2019, allowed for the expansion of the coverage of the RDP/2, creating the potential for greater impact, and the extension of the closing date of the Project till December 31, 2020.

Despite the clear successes of RDP/2, there is still a need to continue the support for the communities located in the 6 acknowledged camps of the MILF.

#### Relationship to CPF

This project is in line with the 2020 - 2023 World Bank Philippines CPF. Specifically, this is linked to the CPF focus area: Promoting Peace and Building Resilience, to address the country's core vulnerabilities of conflict alongside natural disasters and climate change. Incorporating cross-cutting themes of strengthening governance, with a focus on implementation capacity including at the sub-national level. This project will directly contribute to the following CPF objectives: a) Increased availability of basic services in conflict affected areas; (b) Support the normalization process in the Bangsamoro region; and (c) Increased resilience to natural disasters and climate change.

Oct 07, 2020 Page 6 of 14

This project is also linked to the CPF focus area (ii) Competitiveness and Economic Opportunity for Job Creation through the socio-economic infrastructure and technical skills training provided by this project.

#### C. Project Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The development objective is to enable identified communities in the conflict-affected area of Mindanao to access socio-economic opportunities as well as basic services and engage select ministries of BARMM in participatory governance mechanisms.

#### **Key Results**

The results of the project will be focused around smaller socio-economic projects in the communities, supported by targeted skills training for enhanced productivity, and a strong focus on COVID19 health prevention activities, including both awareness/information training and campaigns as well as health, WASH and isolation facilities. Finally, the project will focus on mainstreaming, working with ministries to facilitate their understanding of and delivery of services through participatory approaches.

The PDO-level results indicators include the following:

- 1. Direct beneficiaries in the identified communities, disaggregated by gender and age, reporting improved access to socio-economic infrastructure in terms of time, distance. and cost;
- 2. Direct beneficiaries in the identified communities, disaggregated by gender and age, reporting improved access to basic health services in terms of time, distance, and cost;
- 3. Direct beneficiaries in the identified communities, disaggregated by gender and age, reporting increased income following skills training and receipt of tools; and
- 4. Number of BARMM ministries, at least two, engaging with the identified communities through participatory governance mechanisms, such as technical working groups, local development councils, and community assemblies.

#### **D. Preliminary Description**

Activities/Components

#### **Project Components**

The RDP/3 will support activities organized under three components: (1) community development assistance, (2) institutional capacity and partnership building for mainstreaming, and (C) project administration, monitoring, and evaluation.

(1) Community Development Assistance

Oct 07, 2020 Page 7 of 14

The purpose of community development assistance financed through the RDP/3 is to rapidly improve the quality of life, reduce the risks associated with COVID-19 as well as other disasters, and promote social cohesion in the selected communities in the six MILF camps, including those comprising Muslims, Christians and Indigenous Peoples. The decision as to what type of assistance will be provided will be determined in large part by the communities themselves, through participatory processes carried out by the JTFCTs, with support from BDA.Options may include, but are not limited to:Community Sub-Projects expected to yield socio-economic benefits and greater access to basic services; Health Sub-Projects that result in access to services, early intervention, and risks reduction; and Skills Sub-Projects for practical training to help ensure there is always food on the table.For all sub-projects, selection criteria will include:feasibility, responsiveness to the basic needs of the community, disaster resiliency including attention to COVID-19 prevention, the participation of women, engagement with Government, and prospects for sustainability.

The Community Driven Development (CDD) approach will be employed, with some of the processes modified in accordance with the social distancing requirements of COVID-19. The CDD approach operates on the principles of transparency, participation, accountability, and enhanced local capacity. In the MTF context, it involves five steps:institutional preparations; social preparation and community validation; sub-project proposal preparation and approval; procurement; and sub-project implementation, turn-over, and acceptance. For the RDP/3, the CDD approach will be enhanced by taking into account community needs and priorities identified through participatory processes facilitated by the JTFCT at an earlier point in time, that are then reviewed and validated and/or revised by the respective communities, ideally in the presence of BDA and CFSI, again through participatory processes, after the start of the RDP/3. The proposed validation process is a result of lessons learned during RDP/2 where, in some sites, consultations with the community were reported to have been more like briefings, not well attended, and/or involving very few females. The enhanced CDD approach will also enable the communities to at least consider, if not seize, opportunities associated with the priorities and efforts of the respective LGUs and select ministries of the BARMM Government. Further, the enhanced approach will provide opportunities for the community to learn more about how to prevent, as well as address the impact, of the COVID-19. People's Organizations will be mobilized, encouraged to become more inclusive, formally engaged, trained, and supported to manage, in close consultation with the JTFCTs and BDA, all sub-projects provided through RDP/3.

Some of the envisage outputs of Community Sub-Projects (CSPs) include: increased income; shorter travel times; safe drinking water; and reduced vulnerability to economic shocks. The economic benefits will likely be due to greater crop yields, diversified agricultural products, and/or more fish and processed fish products. To achieve these outcomes, the range of assistance available through CSPs might include, for example, the construction of socio-economic infrastructure (SEI), such as water systems, access roads, and post-harvest facilities, combined with equipment, training, and/or other forms of technical assistance related to enhanced production, such as seeds from MAFAR for quick-growing, backyard gardens. The dual aim from such an assistance package would be to ensure the new facilities, designed to be both disaster-resilient and compliant with COVID risk reduction advisories, are continuously utilized to foster productive activity in the community that ensures sufficient food at the household level and, ideally, excess that can be sold or traded to meet other basic household needs. This will also help ensure food is available in the community if/when there are disasters, outbreaks of conflict, and/or COVID-19 quarantines and travel restrictions. The

Oct 07, 2020 Page 8 of 14

relationship with MAFAR could be reflected in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Commitment Statement, ideally leading to sustained technical assistance, such as inputs on new farming approaches and agri-business plan development, both during and after the completion of the RDP/3.

The expected outputs of Health Sub-Projects (HSPs), best measured over time, include efforts in place to prevent illness as well as loss of life, and improved scores on basic health indicators. Addressing the risks and impact of COVID-19 will be a top priority. Likewise, the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) of the Ministry of Health (MOH), focused on infants and children under five years of age. A range of assistance will be available through the RDP/3, guided in part by the approach of the National and BARMM Governments to the COVID-19 crisis. This could include, for example, the construction of Community-Based Infrastructure (CBI) in the camps, such as hand-washing stations in strategic locations, properly furnished and equipped health centers or health stations, and possibly even isolation facilities, all designed in accordance with the minimal standards of the MOH. In addition, and/or alternatively: training of community-based health volunteers; COVID-related information, education, and communication campaigns (IEC); provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); and mechanisms for two-way communications between communities and health authorities for infectious disease control and in support of referral pathways. Collaboration with the MOH could be reflected in many ways, including a MoU, the integration of the health facility and/or select services in the annual budget of the MOH, the inclusion of the community in the regular EPI for a specified number of years, and the regular provision of health education materials.

The outputs of the Skills Sub-Project (SSP) is expected to include more food on the table, restored livelihoods, and productive engagement in community initiatives. The SSP is designed specifically for graduates of the Basic Literacy Programme of the ALS under RDP/2, in response to repeatedly expressed interest and evaluations of the ALS. It is informed by the early impact of the COVID-19 crisis as well as the predicted future, specifically quarantines that limit access to public markets, necessitating closer to home food supplies, the loss of jobs due to local travel restrictions, and the construction and related works demands of the RDP/3 and other proposed initiatives in the six camps, such as the construction of temporary and permanent shelters, classroom buildings, etc. The range of assistance will be informed by the interests and prior experience of the expected participants, but might include, for example: training, seeds, and tools for backyard gardening; training and equipment for home-based food production activities; sewing machines for tailors; fishing nets and supplies for fisherfolk; carpentry sets for carpenters; and training and supplies for hollow block making, etc. Information and education about COVID-19 will be provided for all the participants of the SSP, which will be carried out in accordance with social distancing advisories, and delivered in a manner consistent with the Learning Continuity Plan (LCP) of the MBHTE, released in early June 2020. Effort will be made to enter into a MoU with the MBHTE for the SSP, building on the existing MoU between CFSI, BDA, and the MBHTE on the ALS for RDP/2.

Technical and practical assistance will be provided to the JTFCTs in each camp, as they are expected to play major coordinating and facilitation roles throughout the RDP/3, as they did during RDP/2. They will be trained and coached to help ensure inclusivity as well as compliance with safeguards, prevent and address COVID-19, foster greater accountability on the part of all stakeholders, and promote sustainability in all camp activities. Skills necessary for building linkages, fostering coordination, and nurturing relationships with the

Oct 07, 2020 Page 9 of 14

communities, People's Organizations, Local Government Units (LGUs), select BARMM ministries, and other development partners will further be strengthened. To ensure timely information sharing between the camps and among stakeholders, at least one consultationworkshopwill be undertaken every two months, with the support of the BDA and CFSI, the COVID-19 situation allowing.

### (2) Institutional Capacity and Partnership Building for Mainstreaming

BDA will be provided with the technical and practical assistance required to effectively carry out its project implementation and reporting responsibilities, further develop its institutional capacity, and build meaningful partnerships with select ministries of the BARMM Government and various development partners. As Project Implementing Unit, BDA will be responsible for recruiting in accordance with agreed standards, training, deploying, supporting, monitoring, and evaluating the performance of its staff. It will work closely with CFSI and, in particular, the JTFCTs in each camp to progress the various activities of the RDP/3 in accordance with the approved Work and Financial Plan (WFP), Operations Manual, various Field Guides, and safeguards. BDA will be the party of primary responsibility for strengthening, in a systematic and well documented manner, the capacities of the camp-level JTFCTs as well as the People's Organizations involved in the RDP/3. Through experiential learning processes, CFSI and BDA will work hand-in-hand with the JTFCTs and the POs across the sub-project cycles. Brief reflection sessions will immediately follow each of the key steps in these cycles, resulting in the timely identification and documentation of lessons learned, which will then be shared with concerned others. BDA staff members will participate in training activities organized and/or provided by CFSI, in close consultation with the leadership of BDA.

To help sustain the gains of the RDP/3 and ideally mainstream some of the tested principles and processes that inform direct engagement with communities in the camps, BDA and CFSI will aim to forge strong ties with select ministries of the BARMM Government. As earlier stated, these are envisaged to include the MOH, MBHTE, MAFAR, MSSD, MIPA, MOPW, and MILG. In addition, BDA and CFSI will closely coordinate with the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority (BPDA) to better ensure the alignment of the RDP/3 with the First Bangsamoro Development Plan (2020-2022). While the degree of collaboration may vary from ministry to ministry, experience and recent discussions suggest some of the following might be evidence of engagement: MoU, Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), signed Commitment Statements, exchange of letters, and/or the designation of officers as representatives to the Project Board, technical working groups, and/or meetings. Some of the envisaged outputs include, but are not limited to: technical inputs on the design and equipping of infrastructure; the certification of facilities, training programmes, and/or service providers such as Community Health Volunteer; training and/or training materials; and inclusion in annual budgets.

#### (3) Project Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Project Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation component will include support for the oversight, coordination, overall management of the project, and quality assurance. This will include assistance for specialized staff, the procurement of required goods, and financing of incremental operating costs for CFSI, as Trust Fund Recipient, to execute and monitor the RDP/3, as well as for the communication and

Oct 07, 2020 Page 10 of 14

dissemination of information on the project objectives, strategies, and lessons learned. This component will also support a strengthened monitoring and evaluation system, with expanded roles and technical capacities for both the camp-level JTFCTs and the POs. In addition, enhanced Feedback as well as Grievance and Redress Systems.

Joint Monitoring Missions (JMM), introduced by CFSI and piloted under the RDP/2, will continue to be an essential element of the quality assurance processes. Led by the executives of CFSI and BDA, the first JMM will be strategically scheduled at the time when communities have identified their sub-project and are undergoing technical site validation. This will enable CFSI and BDA leaders to assess the viability of proposed sub-projects before decisions are taken and also help mitigate the risk of "elite capture" and/or insufficient participation by women. The observations and learning from the JMM, as well as other monitoring efforts, will feed into an enhanced project-level Information and Management System at CFSI.

This component will also finance quality assurance activities, including review and support missions and the external audit of the RDP/3. The audit will include visits to field sites, the COVID-19 situation allowing.

The project strategy will adhere to the following principles:

- Community-driven and participatory: the Annex on Normalization commits the government and the MILF to a model of development that is "community-based and reinforce[s] social cohesion". This reflects the importance of enhancing community participation in decision-making to ensure that communities have a say in how development resources will be allocated in their area. As a continuation of the MTF RDPs 1&2, the communities will be given platforms to analyze their development problems, identify development solutions and be directly engaged in project implementation and monitoring. This approach is proven in the Philippines, including in conflict-affected areas, to be cost efficient and to enhance sustainability. Participatory approaches are also expected to strengthen the constituency for peace, in line with the government's Peace and Development Strategic Framework.
- *Inclusivity*: the project will seek to ensure that access to benefits is equal for all community members, regardless of gender, age, ethnic, religious or political affiliation. Efforts will be exerted to ensure equitable access for men and women and for Indigenous Peoples.
- GPH-MILF Partnership: socio-economic assistance in the Six MILF Camps is explicitly identified in the Annex on Normalization to the CAB as a confidence-building measure. Such measures seek to prevent hostilities, reduce tension and build mutual trust between different parties. Accordingly, at all levels the project will seek to facilitate the deepening of partnership between the GPH and the MILF. In practical terms this will mean support for joint oversight and implementation structures, alignment with both local government development plans and the BARMMs Bangsamoro Development Plan and (where possible) collaboration with project implementation from local government units at the municipal and barangay levels.
- Build local capacity: the project will place a strong emphasis on building local capacity for
  participatory development planning and implementation to support community organizations, local
  government units and different parts of the MILF structure.

Oct 07, 2020 Page 11 of 14

Mainstreaming for sustainabilty: As the RDP 3 consolidates the gains of the previous MTF-RDPs, the
project will closely coordinate with the BARMM-BTA government through its ministries by engaging
them at the onset of the project. Specifically, the project will seek partnerships with key ministries,
invite them to be members of the project board with the project having an indirect reporting line to
partner ministries to keep them updated of the ongoings.

# **Environmental and Social Standards Relevance**

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ESS Standards		Relevance
ESS 1	Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	Relevant
ESS 10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	Relevant
ESS 2	Labor and Working Conditions	Relevant
ESS 3	Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Relevant
ESS 4	Community Health and Safety	Relevant
ESS 5	Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	Relevant
ESS 6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	Relevant
ESS 7	Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities	Relevant
ESS 8	Cultural Heritage	Relevant
ESS 9	Financial Intermediaries	Not Currently Relevant

#### **Legal Operational Policies**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered	<b>Explanation (Optional)</b>
Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	No	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60	No	

Summary of Screening of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Since the proposed RDP3 will cover six camps which are located within or around the peripheries of the Mindanao River Basin, it is important that the Project will screen sites and subprojects based on a Selection Criteria which will exclude areas located in Environmentally Critical Areas declared under the Philippine EIA

Oct 07, 2020 Page 12 of 14

law such as forests and protected areas designated as strict protection zones, biodiversity conservation areas, national parks and critical natural habitats as well as disaster-prone areas that are frequented by typhoons, floods, earthquakes, landslides and the like. The sites and sub-projects will be determined through the RDP/3 project process using the base maps prepared in RDP/2 which delineate the current land use of the core territories to make sure that the activities will not intrude, extract raw materials for construction or food production and processing or affect in any way the ecological balance or ecosystem services provided by protected areas in, adjacent or near the sites. Since the subprojects are small-scale, given the compressed time allocated to implement RDP/3 of half a year, it is realistic to assume that the physical development for the small infrastructure will cover only a few hundred square meters of land in each camp or rehabilitation or lengthening of existing gravel roads. The CCD type activities pose limited environmental risks/impacts & expected to be localized, temporary and reversible. The anticipated impacts are low-level noise, dust from project vehicles, water, air and soil pollution due to improper waste disposal, concerns on occupational health and safety and community health and safety, including COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. Based on the assessment of the environmental aspects of the project, the Environmental Risk Rating is considered moderate. In terms of social impact, the project?s intrinsic intent is expected to have positive outcomes in terms of social cohesion to help create confidence in the peace process. Given that the Project aims to provide much needed socio-economic infrastructures and alternative learning programs in targeted poor communities, improvement in the quality of lives in the area is anticipated. However, the project remains cognizant of the emerging threats from extremist groups & some historical issues of social injustice that could ignite clan conflicts or ?rido?. Mindanao is also prone to natural disasters (typhoon and earthquake specifically) as well as to extreme weather conditions (i.e., La Nina or El Nino). The long years of conflict and frequent occurrence of natural calamities are among the major reasons that BARMM provinces are among the top ten poorest in the country. The camps are also vulnerable to the COVID19 pandemic, even more so because of the inadequate health services. With high incidence of poverty, intermittent threat conflict, the pandemic and isolation, the households in the camps are vulnerable to other social threats such as child labor, women/child trafficking and other exploitative/hazardous conditions. The Project recognizes all the aforementioned risks and draws from experiences under RDP1/2 to adopt design features that mitigate these social risks, most important of which is the community-driven development approach that entails participation of communities in key decision making and revives social cohesion. Despite the participatory processes, it is still anticipated that RDP/3 will encounter risks of elite capture among the community members/leaders as well as undue influence from intermediaries. This will be mitigated through more strategic capacity building among partner agencies and local government. Also, two camps have presence of indigenous peoples whose interests could be undermined since they are minority in the area. As an affirmative action, the RDP/2 provided a separate allocation for community sub-projects of the IP groups which will be similarly adopted under RDP/3. Given the aforementioned assessment, a social risk rating of substantial is recommended.

#### **CONTACT POINT**

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Oct 07, 2020 Page 13 of 14

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# **Implementing Agencies**

Implementing Community Family and Services International

Agency:

Public Disclosure Copy

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Oct 07, 2020 Page 14 of 14