



SUPPORTING ACCESS TO FAMILY PLANNING & POST-MISCARRIAGE CARE (SAFPMC)

Mindanao, Philippines

ABOUT SAFPMC

Helping women, girls, and their partners achieve their rights to sexual and reproductive health (SRH), including the right to choose if, when, and how often to get pregnant is central to CARE's mission to reduce poverty and promote social justice. In times of crisis, the need for life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services does not go away for women and girls. Indeed, the needs often increase due to inadequate access to health services, safe drinking water, sanitation, and nutrition; a breakdown in social structures and norms; insecurity, violence, and psychological trauma.

Globally, CARE's Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Abortion Care (SAFPMC) initiative aims to reduce unintended pregnancies and deaths from unsafe abortion by increasing access to:

- Quality family planning, safe abortion, and post-abortion care services for women and girls in settings of protracted or chronic crisis
- SRH services, including family planning and emergency obstetric and neonatal care, during acute humanitarian emergencies



PROJECT TITLE

Supporting Access to Family Planning & Post-Miscarriage CARE (SAFPMC) in Mindanao, Philippines

LOCATION

Province of Lanao del Sur



SRH SITUATION IN ARMM/BANGSAMORO

Despite improving SRH indicators at the national level, the Philippines continues to experience frequent disasters (both natural and man-made) that inhibit the country's most vulnerable populations in accessing comprehensive and life-saving SRH services.

Since 2017, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) or now known as Bangsamoro Region has experienced displacement of 400,000 people because of the armed conflict between government forces and militant group called "Maute Group."

The subsequent government crackdown in the region has left individuals and families in both evacuation centers and host communities, further limiting their access to services.

Additionally, several rural health units (RHUs) in the region have been shut down due to looting of their equipment during the fighting. Prior to this conflict, ARMM already demonstrated the weakest MCFR in the country, at 19 percent for married women age 15-19.



PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

CARE seeks to build the capacity, responsiveness and resilience of the Philippines public health sector in Lanao del Sur province in responding to SRHR needs during times of crises and emergencies. The intervention focuses on the following components:

1. Training and capacity building at multiple levels of the health system in Lanao del Sur
2. Socialization of MISp for integration of MISp activities into emergency health plans at the multiple health office and provincial health offices
3. Establishment and fortification of high-quality family planning and post-miscarriage care services at 10 key facilities that currently serve host community and internally displaced people (IDPs).
4. Increased demand for services through community engagement

INTERVENTION SITES

The intervention covered 10 static public health facilities in Lanao del Sur of ARMM (now Bangsamoro Region), where the majority of IDPs were living in and around Marawi City.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Training on Modern Family Planning Level 1, Level II, Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) and Basic Emergency Obstetrics and Newborn Care (BEmONC) for health care providers
- Monthly supervisory visits in RHUs in close coordination with the Integrated Public Health Office (IPHO) of Lanao del Sur to ensure health providers follow 'Quality of Care' protocols related to infection prevention, clinical procedures and storage of contraceptive materials/stock management
- Provision of maternal health items and medicines
- Awareness raining on SRHR involving municipal health officers, community health workers, mid-wives in every community, nurses and Muslim religious leaders.



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