

CHILDREN OF WAR

A Rapid Needs Assessment of Orphans in Muslim Mindanao

ORPHAN

يتيم / *yatim* (Arabic)

الأيتام / *al-aytām* (Arabic)

i'lu (Sinug)

ilo (Bisaya, Mranaw, Maguindanaon)

ulila (Tagalog)

Orphans of war are children who have lost at least one parent, particularly the father, in the various conflicts in Southern Philippines.

Some are children of *shaheed*, or martyrs of the Moro revolutionary fronts, but many others are sons and daughters of civilians caught in the crossfire.



HOW MANY ORPHANS ARE THERE?

The MILF Social Welfare Committee (SWC) reportedly has a list of

8182

orphans as of April 2019.

The MILF Bangsamoro Islamic Women Auxiliary Brigade (BIWAB) is working on a partial list with just over

500

widows and a similar number of orphans as of January 2020.

WHO ARE THE ORPHANS?

Orphans can be classified based on:



PARENT LOST

AGE & GENDER

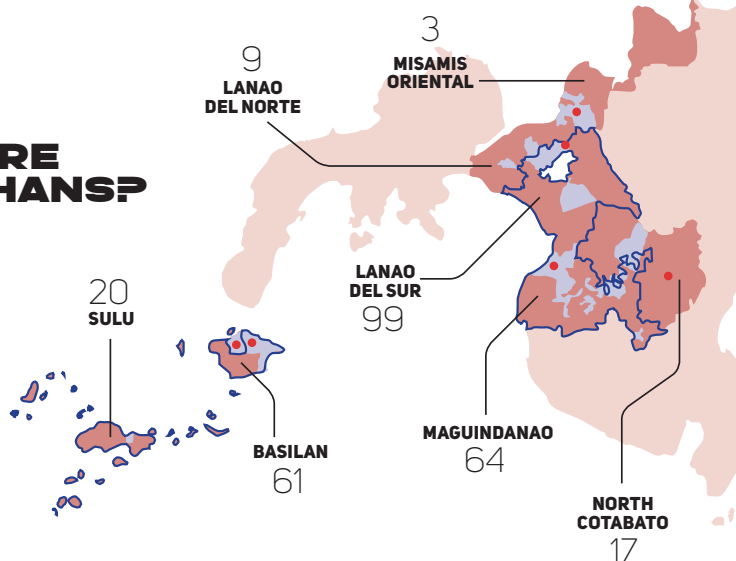
TYPE OF INCIDENT

TYPE OF DWELLING

lives at home
in a center
displaced

WHERE ARE THE ORPHANS?

A total of 273 respondents were interviewed across 34 municipalities in seven provinces.



RECOMMENDED SUPPORT FOR ORPHANS & WIDOWS



Policy measures, including laws ensuring support for orphans and widows of war



Establishing baseline data on orphans, widows, and existing de-facto orphanages, centers, and other service providers



Design and delivery of comprehensive support packages, including the establishment of a DSWD-run and accredited orphanage in the Bangsamoro



Continuous consultations with and monitoring of orphans and widows across all interventions

WHAT DO ORPHANS NEED?



Emotional and spiritual support



Access to balanced quality education



Access to jobs and livelihood



Physical safety and security especially for displaced communities



Access to justice



The Asia Foundation

