



Evacuees gather in front of their tents. The situation is grim and sphere in the evacuee centers tense. See more pictures on PASALI's facebook.

### Armed conflict in northern Palimbang drags on

*Northern Palimbang, Mindanao, July 12, 2011-* The armed conflict that erupted on June 20 in northern Palimbang continues as the complexity of the situation hinders its end: entanglement of a land owner dispute, rumors of extension of armed groups, political feuds and the involvement of members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front due to blood ties. The government estimates 1596 families are internally displaced. During the second batch of PASALI's relief distribution on July 4-6, PASALI listed 1569 evacuee families who subsequently received relief assistance. Medical assistance has been meager, the provincial government brought a team of 9 doctors but the local government reports they stayed less than three hours. PASALI's medical partner Hearts&Brains held clinic twice in two evacuation centers (June 28-30, July 5-6).

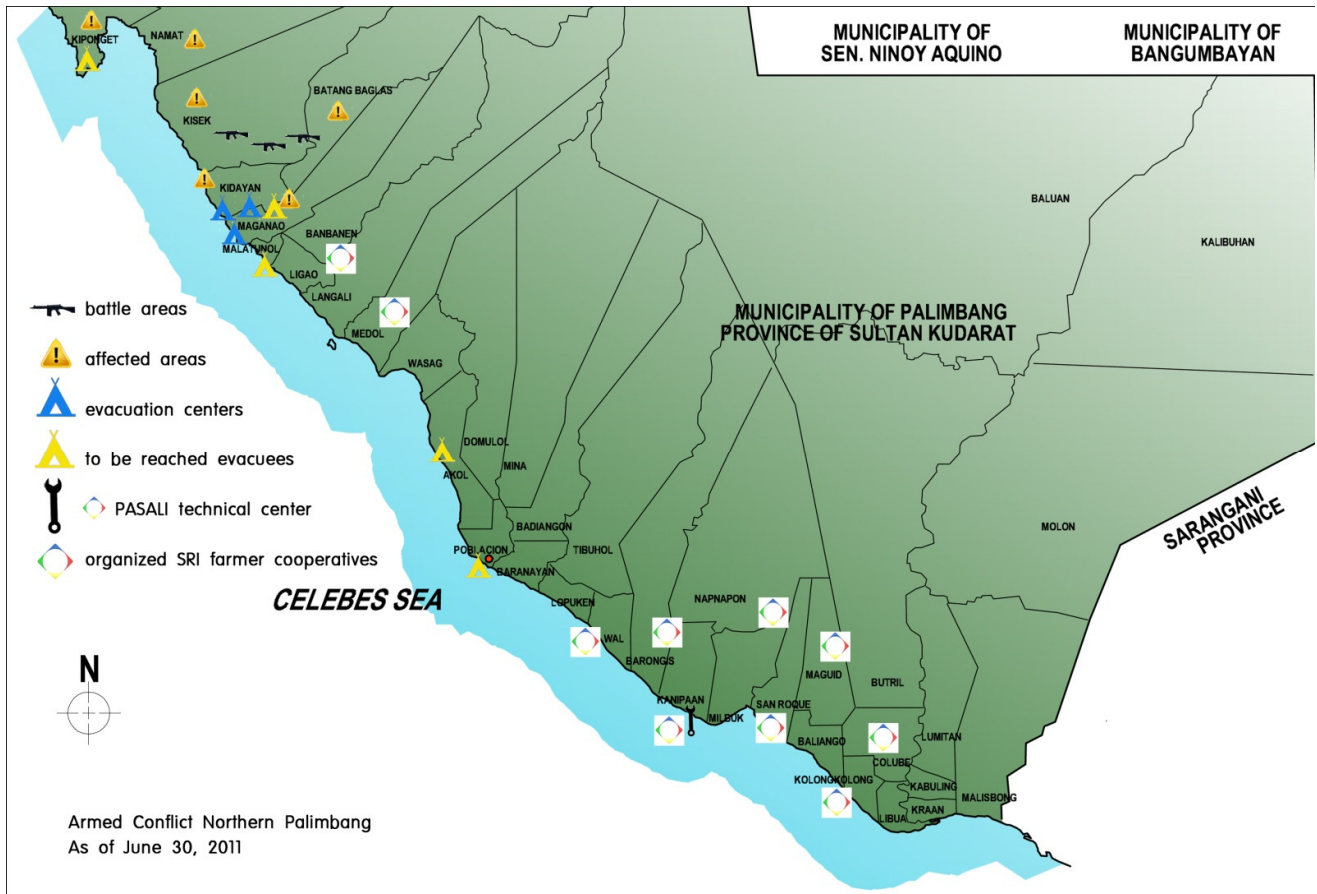
The MILF Coordinating Committee on Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH), the members of the General Staff of the MILF has taken measures to pull out its members engaged in the conflict, but lawless armed groups remain.

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*Videoclips can be found on PASALI's Facebook wall*

### ABOUT PASALI

PASALI is a migrant organization in the Netherlands and Mindanao, Philippines. PASALI Netherlands and PASALI Philippines intertwines the transfer of technology, knowledge, and resources by skilled Filipino migrants for the development of rural areas, the integration of returning migrants and the creation of opportunities for youth. PASALI is a member of the Dutch Consortium of Migrant Organizations.

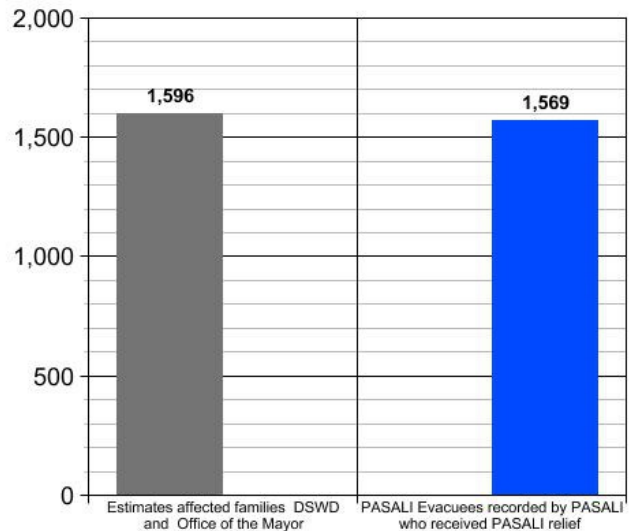


On July 11, it was confirmed that one group moved south, closer to the opposition rather than away from it. The Mayor's Office is currently writing a resolution to bring in the army, which could endanger the entire peace process of the government and the MILF and in the worst case scenario trigger a war through-out Palimbang.

On July 12, PASALI dispatched food packets to a 65 evacuee families who fled to Kalamansig, the municipality north of Palimbang. These families have not benefitted from any relief assistance distributed to the other three evacuee sites. PASALI coordinates efforts with the Kalamansig LGU.

PASALI is now preparing for a third batch of relief assistance. PASALI is also initiating a plan of action for speedy recovery, smooth rehabilitation and conflict transformation after the end of the conflict and relief operations. Disaster Risk Reduction, building food security, local economic development, and Tri-people cooperation are important components. ###

Evacuee Families who received relief assistance



PASALI Philippines July 11, 2011

**Partners PASALI Philippines in Relief Efforts**

- 1<sup>st</sup> batch June 28-30: Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society, Hearts&Brains medical team
- 2<sup>nd</sup> batch July 5-6: Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst, FPOP/MCDOI/Labela Hospital (medicine)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> batch July 17-19 tent: Dutch Consortium of Migrant Organizations, Cordaid Netherlands