

Project Progress Report

Project	Community-Led Emergency Response and Climate Resilience Recovery for Earthquake-Affected Indigenous and Vulnerable Communities in Southern Mindanao
Reporting Period	June– August, 2026
Submitted to	The Samdhana Institute
Submitted by	Daloy Care Organization Inc.

Project Progress Summary

Following the recent 7.8 magnitude earthquake that affected vulnerable communities in Malapatan, Sarangani Province, Daloy Care Organization Inc., in partnership with Samdhana Institute and closely working with local volunteers, community leaders, Indigenous Peoples (IP) leaders, and Local Government Unit (LGU), successfully implemented the Community-Led Emergency



Response and Climate Resilience Recovery for Earthquake-Affected Indigenous and Vulnerable Communities Project. The intervention was undertaken within communities predominantly inhabited by the **Blaan Indigenous Peoples (IP)**, comprising approximately 500 families. While the emergency response directly assisted the 2,500 most vulnerable earthquake-affected individuals, the project recognized the wider humanitarian needs of the entire Blaan community and adopted an inclusive, culturally appropriate, and community-led approach throughout implementation.



The emergency response focused on providing immediate humanitarian assistance while laying the foundation for recovery and rehabilitation. Assistance included the distribution of food and non-food packs, provision of initial Psychological First Aid (PFA), and household profiling to identify priority rehabilitation needs. Special attention was given to ensuring that women and men, girls and boys, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, and Indigenous

Peoples were able to participate equally in the response.

Women actively participated in participants validation, household consultations, relief distribution, and psychosocial support sessions, while men contributed to logistics, transportation, community coordination, and community recovery planning.



Household profiling was conducted with both female and male household representatives whenever possible to ensure that the distinct needs and priorities of all family members were adequately captured. The project has now transitioned from immediate emergency response toward the rehabilitation and early recovery phase.

Objectives Achieved

The project successfully accomplished the following objectives:

- Delivered emergency food assistance to 2,500 vulnerable earthquake-affected individuals and families.
- Distributed essential non-food items to support immediate household needs.
- Conducted initial Psychological First Aid (PFA) sessions for affected families.
- Coordinated closely with LGUs, barangay officials, Blaan Indigenous leaders, community volunteers, and humanitarian partners.
- Completed rapid household profiling and needs assessment to inform rehabilitation planning.
- Established an initial database of affected households for follow-up interventions.
- Ensured equitable participation of women and men throughout planning, implementation, and community consultations.

These accomplishments were consistent with the project's implementation approach, which prioritized coordination, relief distribution, psychosocial support, community accountability, and inclusion. They also aligned with the planned coordination, participant validation, relief distribution, and PFA activities described in the activity design.

Major Accomplishments

A. Coordination and Community Mobilization

Prior to implementation, coordination meetings were conducted with the Municipal Government, Barangay Officials, MDRRMO, community volunteers, and **Blaan Indigenous Peoples leaders** to validate participants lists and organize distribution activities. These activities followed the coordination and validation approach outlined in the project design.

Key accomplishments	• Participant validation completed. • Distribution venues identified. • Community volunteers mobilized. • LGU endorsement secured. • Referral mechanisms established. • Distribution schedule finalized. • Indigenous leaders actively engaged in participant identification and community mobilization. • Women leaders and female household representatives participated in community consultations, ensuring that the concerns of women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities were reflected in planning and implementation.
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B. Emergency Relief Distribution

The project successfully distributed emergency assistance to 2,500 of the most vulnerable individuals within the larger population of approximately 500 Blaan Indigenous Peoples families affected by the earthquake.

Food Packs Included	• Rice • Sardines • Corned Beef • Instant Noodles • Biscuits • Coffee
Non-Food Assistance	Essential non-food items were also distributed to support immediate household recovery and basic daily needs. • Bath soap • Clothing The distribution process included: • Registration • Participant verification • Distribution of relief assistance • Acknowledgement receipts • Photo documentation • Participants feedback collection

Women and men participated equally in the distribution process. Female participants were encouraged to receive assistance directly whenever appropriate, while both male and female household representatives participated in participant feedback discussions to ensure diverse perspectives were captured. These steps aligned with the planned distribution workflow.



C. Initial Psychological Support

Recognizing the emotional impact of the earthquake, social worker provided initial psychological/psychosocial sessions during relief distribution. The sessions covered:

- Emotional support
- Active listening
- Stress management
- Family coping mechanisms
- Identification of individuals requiring specialized support
- Referral pathways for severe psychosocial cases



Both women and men actively participated in the sessions and openly discussed the different challenges they experienced following the disaster. Women frequently expressed concerns regarding children's safety, household recovery, and food security, while men highlighted the loss of livelihoods, damaged farms, and concerns about rebuilding homes. These

discussions provided valuable insights for planning future rehabilitation interventions. Participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share their experiences and receive emotional support. The PFA activities were implemented as planned.

D. Household Profiling and Needs Assessment

Following the emergency response, the project team completed household profiling among the affected families.

Assessment documented	- Household composition - Housing damage - Livelihood losses - Food security situation - Health concerns - Psychosocial conditions - Protection concerns - Priority rehabilitation requirements
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Where possible, interviews included both female and male household members to better understand differing priorities and recovery needs. The assessment found that women identified food security, children's education, and family well-being as immediate priorities, while men emphasized livelihood restoration, shelter reconstruction, and agricultural recovery. Both groups consistently identified psychosocial support and sustainable livelihood assistance as essential for long-term recovery. The profiling exercise generated an evidence base that will guide rehabilitation programming and future resource mobilization.

E. Results Achieved

Indicator	Target (families)	Accomplishment (individual)	Status
Earthquake-affected households assisted	500	2,500	Completed
Food packs distributed	500	2,500	Completed
Non-food packs distributed	500	2,500	Completed
Households receiving PFA	500	2,500	Completed
Household profiling conducted	500	2,500	Completed
Community coordination meetings	Planned	Completed	Completed
Women and men participating in consultations and feedback sessions	Equal participation	Achieved	Completed

F. Key Observations

The response identified several critical issues affecting the Blaan Indigenous Peoples communities:

- Many households continue to experience damaged or partially damaged shelters.
- Livelihood activities, particularly farming, have been disrupted, reducing household income.
- Children continue to experience fear and anxiety following recurring aftershocks.
- Elderly persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and single-parent households remain among the most vulnerable.

- Women continue to shoulder increased caregiving responsibilities while managing household recovery.
- Men expressed significant concerns regarding the restoration of livelihoods, shelter reconstruction, and income generation.
- Access to livelihood opportunities remains limited.
- Communities consistently requested continued psychosocial support, livelihood recovery assistance, and shelter rehabilitation.

G. Challenges Encountered

During implementation, the project team encountered several operational challenges:

- Difficult road access to remote Indigenous communities.
- Transportation constraints due to damaged infrastructure.
- Limited communication connectivity in upland areas.
- High humanitarian needs among approximately 500 Blaan families exceeded the available resources.
- Requests from additional earthquake-affected households outside the target coverage.

Despite these challenges, all planned emergency response activities were successfully completed through strong coordination with LGUs, Indigenous leaders, community volunteers, and humanitarian local partners.

Next Phase: Rehabilitation and Early Recovery

Based on household profiling and community consultations, the next phase will prioritize:

Livelihood Recovery	• Agricultural recovery assistance • Livelihood starter kits • Cash-for-work opportunities • Small enterprise support
Continued Psychosocial Support	• Community psychosocial sessions • Child-friendly activities • Parenting support • Women's support groups • Men's resilience and livelihood recovery discussions • Community resilience building
Community Capacity Building	• Disaster preparedness training • Community emergency response planning • Strengthening Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committees • Volunteer capacity development • Strengthening Indigenous community leadership in disaster preparedness

	Continuous monitoring and assessment to the affected families and communities
Resource Mobilization	The household profiling results will serve as the primary evidence base for mobilizing additional funding from institutional donors, corporate partners, philanthropic organizations, and individual supporters to support the broader rehabilitation needs of the approximately 500 Blaan Indigenous Peoples families severely affected by the earthquake.

Conclusion

The Community-Led Emergency Response and Climate Resilience Recovery for Earthquake-Affected Indigenous and Vulnerable Communities Project successfully achieved its primary objective of providing timely humanitarian assistance to 2,500 of the most vulnerable earthquake-affected individuals within the larger population of approximately 500 Blaan Indigenous Peoples families in Malapatan, Sarangani Province. Through coordinated delivery of food and non-food assistance, initial psychosocial support, and comprehensive household profiling, the project addressed immediate humanitarian needs while generating critical information for longer-term recovery planning. The response demonstrated strong collaboration among LGUs, Indigenous leaders, volunteers, women and men from affected communities, and humanitarian partners. Meaningful participation by both women and men strengthened community ownership, ensured that diverse needs and priorities were reflected in decision-making, and promoted a more inclusive and equitable response.

As emergency relief activities conclude, the project is transitioning toward rehabilitation and early recovery, with emphasis on restoring livelihoods, rebuilding shelter, strengthening psychosocial well-being, enhancing disaster resilience, and supporting Indigenous communities to recover with dignity and resilience. Household profiling findings will continue to guide resource mobilization and future programming to ensure that assistance remains responsive to the evolving needs of women, men, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and the wider Blaan community.



Emergency Response Team in Mindanao

Photo documentations:



Photographs documenting the orientation activities and the actual distribution of relief goods to affected families and communities, providing visual evidence of the implementation of the humanitarian response.



The Barangay Chairman delivered a message during the actual distribution of relief goods, expressing support and solidarity with the affected families and acknowledging the humanitarian assistance provided.



Participants actively engaged in psychosocial support activities while receiving clothing assistance as part of the humanitarian response.