

Orientation on Camp Coordination and Camp Management for Barangay Officials

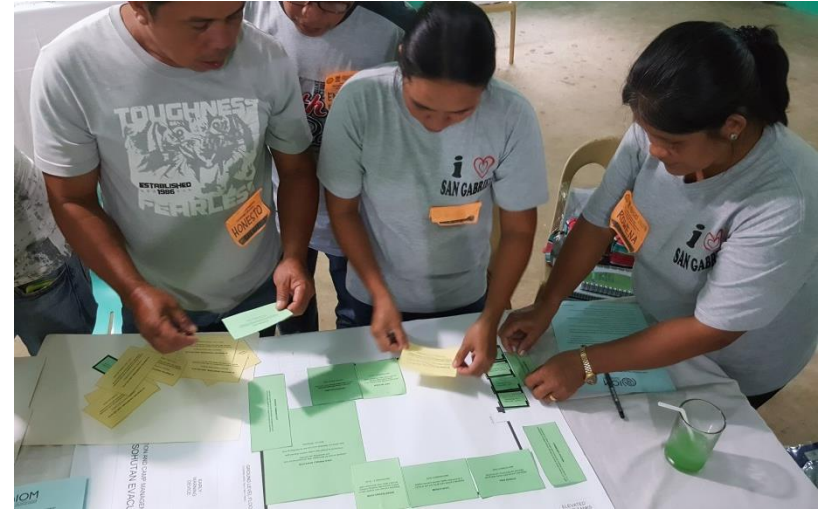
Enhancing capacity for planning mass evacuation and managing community evacuation shelters

On 25 to 27 January, IOM, in partnership with the Borongan City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO), conducted the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Orientation in the City of Borongan, Province of Eastern Samar. This is part of an ongoing IOM-UNICEF project called “Enhancement of the Network of Evacuation Centres in Eastern Samar”. Under this project, the first community evacuation centre was built in the Municipality of Guiuan in April 2016, and a second centre is under construction in the City of Borongan.

The orientation aimed to increase the capacity of barangay officials and community leaders to plan for mass evacuation in natural disasters. The orientation also attempted disseminate information related to the management of community evacuation shelters and collective centres to ensure protection and assistance to the most vulnerable individuals and families until more appropriate and durable shelter solutions are provided. Participants included Barangay Captains and Councilors, Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officers (BDRRMO), Barangay Tanod, Barangay Health Workers, and representatives from special interest groups like the Senior Citizens Association.

The one-day orientation, conducted three times, was attended by a total of 69 personnel from 17 barangays. The programme content focused on key points of the DSWD Guidelines for Evacuation Center Coordination and Management within the context of international best practice for humanitarian response. The day commenced with an overview and introduction to fundamental concepts such as humanitarian principals, cluster coordination mechanisms, information management tools and organizational structures. It was followed by protection mainstreaming, evacuation shelter pre-planning, and evacuee preparedness. The topics were facilitated by IOM technical staff as well as representatives from the CSWDO and the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO).

The highlight of the day was the practical application of the Guidelines in a Simulation Exercise requiring each barangay to set-out the basic facilities of an evacuation centre, taking into consideration building capacity, estimated duration of stay, connection to utilities (power and water), proximity to other services, and the demographics of the evacuee community. One of the participants commented: “I can now strategically apply what I learned in this training to help others that have not attended the training”. CSWDO Ms Thelma Banal also commented: “this is a kind of training that I should replicate to other barangays because we learned a lot”.



Participants engage in decision making process in setting up an evacuation centre © IOM 2017



Participants actively engaged in group exercise © IOM 2017