



08 JUNE 2026 | 3:00 PM

# SITUATIONAL REPORT #01

## Magnitude 7.8 Earthquake in Mindanao (Region XII – SOCCSKSARGEN)

### CONTEXT

On 08 June 2026 at 07:37 AM local time, a **magnitude 7.8 tectonic earthquake** occurred around **32 km southwest of Maasim in Sarangani (05.99° N, 125.17° E)** at a depth of 33 km (DOST-PHIVOLCS, 2026a).

The earthquake was initially reported as magnitude 7.0. It was subsequently revised to magnitude 7.8 following further analysis of seismic data by the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-PHIVOLCS), the government-mandated agency to monitor and generate seismic data.

The earthquake was widely felt across Mindanao and neighboring regions and generated strong ground shaking in areas closest to the epicenter.

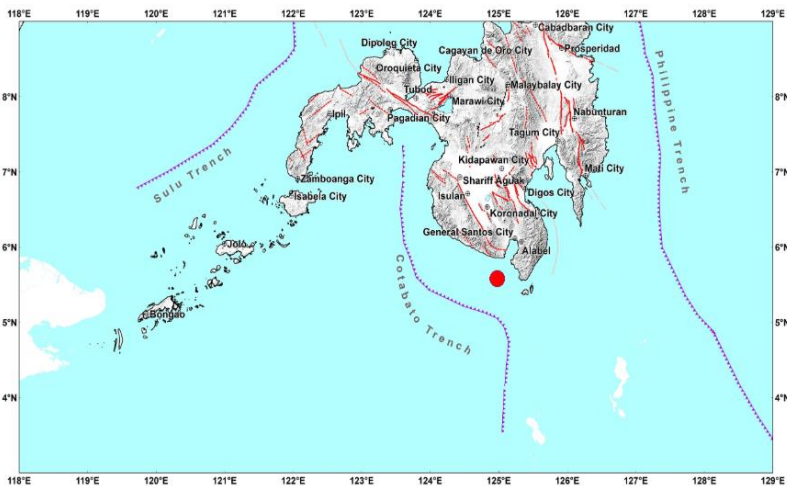


Figure 1. Location of the Magnitude 7.8 earthquake epicenter. Figure from DOST-PAGASA (2026a).

Using the PHIVOLCS Earthquake Intensity Scale (PEIS), **the highest reported intensity is PEIS VII (Destructive)**, which was observed in General Santos City. In contrast, PEIS VI (Very Strong) was reported in Palimbang and Senator Ninoy Aquino in Sultan Kudarat (DOST-PHIVOLCS, 2026a). Instrumental intensities also reached Intensity VII in Koronadal City in South Cotabato and Santa Maria, Davao Occidental. At PEIS VII, most people are frightened and run outdoors, old or poorly built structures suffer considerable damage, and some well-built structures may be slightly damaged.

DOST-PHIVOLCS recorded several aftershocks immediately following the mainshock, including a **magnitude 6.7 aftershock** located 17 km from Balut Island, Davao Occidental, an hour after the mainshock. These strong aftershocks persist and could last for several days to weeks.

### HIGHLIGHTS



**~75,000**  
PEOPLE AFFECTED

**~15,000**

FAMILIES AFFECTED

COUNTRY

Philippines

**5**

REGIONS AFFECTED

Region XI Davao Region  
Region XII SOCCSKSARGEN  
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

**8**

PROVINCES AFFECTED

Sarangani, Sultan Kudarat, Davao Occidental, and South Cotabato as the most affected

**>200**  
INJURED

**>8**  
MISSING

**>15**  
FATALITIES



**~20,000**  
DISPLACED INDIVIDUALS



**~4,000**  
DISPLACED FAMILIES

Consolidated data as of 08 June 2026, 03:00 PM

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Information presented above are only preliminary estimates based on initial reports from affected local government units, media monitoring, and disaster management authorities. Figures remain subject to validation by DSWD-DROMIC and NDRRMC.

In addition, DOST-PHIVOLCS also immediately issued a **tsunami advisory** following the magnitude 7.8 offshore earthquake, expecting tsunami waves exceeding one meter above normal tide levels and recommending people along the coasts of Sarangani, Davao Occidental, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Basilan, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi to move farther inland and seek higher ground as strong currents and rapid changes of seawater level are expected due to the intense ground shaking (DOST-PHIVOLCS, 2026b). DOST-PHIVOLCS warned that tsunami waves may continue for several hours and may be most pronounced in enclosed bays, straits, and coastal inlets. Local government units immediately conducted pre-emptive evacuations in low-lying and coastal communities while authorities monitored sea level disturbances and possible tsunami wave arrivals.

DOST-PHIVOLCS also warned the public of other earthquake-related hazards possible consequent to the earthquake, including earthquake-induced landslides, rock falls, mass movements along sloping terrains, liquefaction, and inundation of seawater. Damage assessments remain ongoing across affected provinces as government agencies continue to validate the extent of impacts caused by the earthquake.

## IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Considering the high magnitude and proximity of the epicenter to settlements, the resulting impacts were **significant**.

As of writing, **official consolidated figures on the total number of affected families, displaced population, and damaged houses are still being validated by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), and affected local government units.**

Several provinces and municipalities continue to experience challenges in providing exact numbers and figures due to disrupted electricity, intermittent communications, ongoing rapid assessments, and the need to prioritize search and rescue and evacuation operations. Preliminary reports indicate that thousands of families were affected across the SOCCSKSARGEN Region and neighboring provinces, particularly those located along coastal areas subjected to tsunami evacuation orders.

However, based on the current information available from local government units, media reports, and disaster management authorities, **the provinces of Sarangani, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, and Davao Occidental, as well as General Santos City, were among the worst-hit areas (Manila Bulletin, 2026).** Coastal municipalities in Sarangani Province, particularly Maasim, and neighboring coastal communities, immediately conducted pre-emptive evacuations following the issuance of the tsunami warning. Many residents moved to higher ground and remained in open spaces and designated evacuation areas due to community fear, recurring aftershocks, and uncertainty regarding the tsunami threat.

The earthquake also resulted in significant disruptions to the education sector. According to the Department of Education (DepEd) Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), classes in 6,224 public schools across 33 divisions and five regions were suspended immediately following the earthquake to allow for rapid damage assessments, conduct of earthquake evacuation procedures, and implementation of contingency measures. The suspension affected approximately 3,239,964 learners and 128,861 teaching and non-teaching personnel across Regions IX, X, XI, XII, and CARAGA (DepEd, 2026).

Initial reports also indicate **at least 15 fatalities and more than 200 injured individuals** across affected areas. General Santos City recorded the highest number of reported casualties, accounting for at least seven fatalities and approximately 130 injured individuals. Several of the reported injuries were associated with falling debris, collapsing structures, panic-related incidents, and earthquake-induced accidents. **These figures remain preliminary and may increase as validation and assessment activities continue (Manila Bulletin, 2026).**

Significant structural damage was also reported in several municipalities and urban centers affected by the earthquake. Older concrete buildings, commercial establishments, residential houses, schools, bridges, and government facilities sustained varying degrees of damage, including cracked walls, damaged columns, collapsed ceilings, and partial structural failures.

In General Santos City, several buildings partially collapsed, while key access infrastructure, including bridges, sustained significant cracking and damage requiring immediate inspection and safety assessment. A two-story school building also reportedly collapsed during the earthquake, prompting search and rescue operations and further structural inspections of educational facilities. The total cost of damaged assets is yet to be determined.

Critical lifeline facilities were also affected, leading to power outages and communication disruptions in several affected municipalities. Authorities reported interruptions in electricity and telecommunications services in parts of Sarangani Province immediately following the earthquake. Transport operations were likewise affected, with the temporary suspension of operations at General Santos International Airport and cancellation of several domestic flights while safety inspections were undertaken. Educational activities were also disrupted as classes and public gatherings were suspended to allow rapid structural assessments of school buildings and other public facilities.

The situation remains fluid, especially with aftershocks continuing and assessments still ongoing. These aftershocks or even other environmental hazards, such as incoming typhoons and heavy rainfall, in the future can exacerbate the conditions of the already-weakened structures and potentially trigger a total structural collapse, thereby prolonging displacements of affected families. In addition, the earthquake potentially caused destabilization of slopes in areas surrounding Sarangani and neighboring provinces, leading to an increased chance of landslides and other secondary hazards within the affected area.

Due to the widespread and potentially lasting damage and impact across multiple provinces in Mindanao, **the Action Against Hunger Mission Emergency Response Team (MERT) has been deployed to conduct a rapid needs and damage assessment on 08 June 2026**, primarily in the affected areas in Sarangani province and General Santos City, and support coordination with local government units and humanitarian partners.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION & FINDINGS

**Initial reports from affected areas indicate ongoing assessments and response actions following the magnitude 7.8 earthquake, with local authorities prioritizing life-saving operations, search and rescue activities, safety verification of infrastructure, and monitoring of secondary risks.** Information remains preliminary, with Provincial and City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices continuing to validate data as access improves and rapid assessments are completed.

The displacement situation following the earthquake remains extensive. The displacement is not limited to those whose homes were damaged; many residents have chosen to evacuate voluntarily due to the persistent threat of aftershocks, structural instability, tsunami warnings, and community fear and trauma.

### City of General Santos

In General Santos City (Gensan), response efforts are focused on urban impacts, particularly in built-up areas. Ongoing retrieval operations are being conducted for individuals reportedly trapped in damaged structures, while authorities continue building integrity assessments to determine the safety of affected infrastructure. Classes and work across the city have been suspended as a precautionary measure to reduce exposure to aftershocks and allow for uninterrupted response operations. Power lines, water supply, and communication lines are disrupted. Damages have been reported across several schools, commercial establishments, and hotels, indicating disruption to essential services and local economic activity. Initial reports indicate that General Santos City recorded the highest number of reported casualties and injuries among affected areas.

### Province of Sarangani

In Sarangani Province, assessment operations are ongoing, with authorities reporting at least four casualties as of the latest update. However, the province remains under monitoring for potential tsunami risks, reflecting continued exposure to secondary hazards following the earthquake. While initial reports suggest limited immediate physical impact, the evolving nature of the situation warrants close observation, particularly in coastal communities where precautionary evacuations were undertaken following the issuance of tsunami warnings. Within the province and neighboring coastal areas, thousands of residents moved to higher ground following the issuance of tsunami warnings and remained in open spaces, evacuation centers, schools, churches, and other public facilities as aftershocks continued throughout the day. Some families have established makeshift shelters in open areas and roadsides, while others are temporarily staying with relatives and host communities.

### Province of South Cotabato

Initial assessments indicate both human and infrastructure impacts following the earthquake. Provincial authorities confirmed two fatalities in the Municipality of Tupi, while temporary power and internet disruptions were reported in several areas, affecting communication and information management efforts (Inquirer, 2026). Damage assessments remain ongoing, with local authorities continuing to validate reports on affected public facilities, residential structures, and critical infrastructure.

### Province of Sultan Kudarat

Similarly, in Sultan Kudarat Province, assessments are still underway, with no reported casualties or damages to date. Authorities are maintaining active monitoring of tsunami alerts and other potential after-effects of the earthquake. The absence of reported impacts at this stage may reflect either minimal damage or delays in information flow from more remote areas, and further verification is ongoing. The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office is expected to provide updated information as assessments progress.

Available videos on the current impacts of the earthquake are available below:

- Infrastructure collapse and damages in General Santos City:
  - <https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c20y4xp43ywt?post=asset%3Acecf7e45-3a8c-4735-9b78-dde631e53fc5#post> (Source: Verlyn Dela Pena via BBC News)
  - <https://youtu.be/lglVYqChWJI?si=CsNZpUmIP4PQuQvP> (Source: Manila Bulletin)
  - <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1831wHShTy/> (Source: One Mindanao)
  - <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1341371481469997> (Source: Bombo Radyo Philippines)
- Road and infrastructure damages in the Municipality of Sarangani (not to be confused with the Province of Sarangani), Davao Occidental:
  - Barangay Pangpang, Sarangani, Davao Occidental - <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1548904736899298> (Source: DXMD RMN GENSAN)
  - Malungon, Sarangani, Davao Occidental - <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1349439390430577> (Source: DXMD RMN GENSAN)
  - Barangay Tapon, Glan, Sarangani - <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1760007105234187> (Source: 96.3 Star FM Davao)
- Strong sea currents damaged boats and coastal infrastructure in Sultan Kudarat:
  - Barangay Sta. Clara, Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat - [https://www.facebook.com/reel/36983197061267356/?s=single\\_unit](https://www.facebook.com/reel/36983197061267356/?s=single_unit) (Source: Daily Tribune)
- Footage of ground shaking in Davao Occidental:
  - Barangay Kilalag, Malita, Davao Occidental - <https://x.com/gmanews/status/2063807787604529333> (Source: DepEd Mahayahay Elementary School)

## EMERGING NEEDS

Given the impact of the earthquake and the resulting humanitarian situation, **several emerging needs have been identified; however, grounded information on specific sectoral needs remains limited.** The following points are based on existing information and emerging trends.

With the medical capacity under strain and several health facilities managing an influx of injured individuals, immediate needs include medical support, especially for trauma victims, resupply of essential medicines and surgical supplies, and ambulatory support. The Department of Health's deployment and call for medical volunteers validate this gap in health personnel and supplies.

Emergency shelter materials, including tents, tarpaulins, sleeping kits, blankets, and other essential non-food items (NFIs), are also urgently needed for displaced families. Many households in Sarangani and surrounding areas are currently unable or unwilling to return to their homes due to structural safety concerns, ongoing aftershocks, and pending building assessments. The widespread displacement and precautionary evacuations following the tsunami warning further underscore the need for temporary shelter assistance.

Provision of potable water, including water trucking, repair of damaged water tanks and supply systems, sanitation facilities, and hygiene kits are also immediate priorities in the aftermath of the earthquake. The concentration of displaced families in evacuation centers and temporary shelters may increase pressure on existing water and sanitation facilities, thereby increasing public health risks if not immediately addressed.

Psychosocial stress and displacement are also emerging concerns. With homes and public buildings damaged, many residents have been forced to evacuate, and the ongoing aftershocks are contributing to anxiety and fear. Psychosocial support services, particularly for children, women, older persons, and individuals directly exposed to traumatic events, will be critical to support recovery and community well-being.

**As the situation remains fluid and information continue to emerge, needs are expected to evolve over the coming days as more detailed assessments are completed.**

## RESPONSE

National agencies, local governments, and humanitarian actors have mobilized response measures following the earthquake, ensuring early coordination, evacuation, rapid assessments, and readiness to address the earthquake's impacts. Below are the specific actions undertaken by external actors and, subsequently, by the Action Against Hunger team.

### **Government Interventions and Interventions from Humanitarian Actors:**

- DOST-PHIVOLCS immediately issued earthquake and tsunami advisories and continues to monitor aftershock activity and other secondary hazards, including landslides, liquefaction, and coastal inundation risks.
- Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (DRRMOs), the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and other emergency responders were mobilized to conduct search, rescue, retrieval, evacuation, and rapid damage assessment operations in affected areas, particularly in General Santos City and coastal municipalities exposed to tsunami risks.
- Local government units implemented pre-emptive evacuations in coastal communities following the issuance of tsunami warnings and activated emergency operation centers to coordinate response activities and monitor evolving conditions.
- DepEd suspended classes in 6,224 public schools across 33 divisions in Regions IX, X, XI, XII, and CARAGA, affecting approximately 3.24 million learners and 128,861 teaching and non-teaching personnel. Schools were directed to undertake rapid structural assessments and activate emergency protocols, while some facilities were prepared for possible use as evacuation centers.
- National and local authorities continue to conduct Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA) activities, validate casualty and displacement figures, and assess damages to critical infrastructure, public facilities, and lifeline services.

### **Action Against Hunger:**

- Action Against Hunger Philippine Mission has been actively monitoring the situation and coordinating with partners on the ground, including local and international NGOs and government agencies (e.g., OCD and DOH), as well as the ECHO-ACCESS consortium, to share and gather the latest information.
- As of 08 June 2026, a Mission Emergency Response Team (MERT) has been deployed to conduct rapid needs assessment activities in Sarangani Province and General Santos City while maintaining coordination and support to consortium partners conducting Emergency Needs Assessment (ENA) and assessment activities in other affected areas, including Davao Occidental and South Cotabato.
- Action Against Hunger Philippine Mission has established coordination with local government units, humanitarian actors, and consortium partners to facilitate information sharing, assessment planning, and response preparedness.
- Preparations for a potential emergency response are underway, including the review of available response mechanisms, emergency funding options, and operational capacities should humanitarian needs escalate in the coming days.
- Action Against Hunger Philippine Mission remains well-positioned to respond to emergencies through a combination of rapid relief, early recovery, and coordination with local and international partners. At present, 647 prepositioned WASH kits and 497 non-food item (NFI) kits are available in Cotabato and Metro Manila for rapid deployment. In addition, Action Against Hunger maintains an active standby

agreement with UNICEF Philippines for emergency WASH support should the scale of humanitarian needs increase. We are also exploring the possibility of providing emergency multi-purpose cash assistance should the need arise.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

While additional primary information from communities affected is pending, a comprehensive sectoral needs analysis remains limited. In the meantime, based on the current situation and identified gaps and trends, Action Against Hunger has outlined key recommendations and proposed next steps.

<b>EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT AND OPERATIONS MONITORING</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous monitoring and gathering of information from local news sources and local government contacts are being conducted.</li> <li>• Rapid damage and needs assessment in affected geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas in Sarangani Province and General Santos City, and nearby affected areas if needed.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVATION OF RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible activation of rapid response mechanisms through ACCESS and activation of AECID emergency fund and stand-by agreement with UNICEF based on needs and impact, which may cover the following sectors:</li> </ul>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>WASH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide life-saving interventions such as provision of water supply among the affected population.</li> <li>• (Other interventions will be determined once information from needs assessment has been provided).</li> </ul>
	<b>Nutrition and Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support to local health services in addressing trauma and injury-related incidents.</li> <li>• Provide psychosocial first-aid among the affected population.</li> <li>• (Other interventions will be determined once information from needs assessment has been provided).</li> </ul>
	<b>Shelter and Non-food Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide sleeping materials, especially for those who will be staying longer in the displacement camps/.</li> <li>• Other interventions will be determined once information from needs assessment has been provided.</li> </ul>
	<b>Food Security and Livelihood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sector/intervention will be defined based on the ongoing needs assessment at the field level.</li> </ul>
	<b>Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sector/intervention will be defined based on the ongoing needs assessment at the field level.</li> </ul>
	<b>Cross-cutting themes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sector/intervention will be defined based on the ongoing needs assessment at the field level.</li> </ul>

## SOURCES

1. DepEd. (2026). *Situation Report # 2 Earthquake in Maasim (Sarangani)*, 8 June 2026, 12:00 PM.
2. DOST-PHIVOLCS. (2026a). *Earthquake Information No. 2. - 05.57°N, 124.98°E - 032 km S 04° W of Maasim (Sarangani)*. <https://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/earthquake-information/>
3. DOST-PHIVOLCS. (2026b). *Tsunami Information No. 1 - 05.99°N, 125.17°E - Offshore Sarangani*. [https://tsunami.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/Tsunami\\_Information/2026\\_Tsunami\\_Information/Jun/07/20260607\\_2337z\\_Advisory3\\_1.html](https://tsunami.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/Tsunami_Information/2026_Tsunami_Information/Jun/07/20260607_2337z_Advisory3_1.html)
4. Inquirer. (2026). *2 dead in South Cotabato after magnitude 7.8 Mindanao quake*. <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2242635/2-dead-in-south-cotabato-after-magnitude-7-8-mindanao-quake>
5. Manila Bulletin. (2026). *OCD validating 14 reported deaths due to M7.8 earthquake in Sarangani; 7 missing*. <https://mb.com.ph/2026/06/08/ocd-validating-8-reported-deaths-due-to-m78-earthquake>

6. Sarangani Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office initial data.
7. Sultan Kudarat Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office initial data.
8. General Santos City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office initial data.

## FOCAL PERSONS – CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Suresanathan Murugesu	Country Director	Manila	<a href="mailto:smurugesu@ph.acfspain.org">smurugesu@ph.acfspain.org</a>
Philipp Danao	Deputy Country Director	Manila	<a href="mailto:pdanao@ph.acfspain.org">pdanao@ph.acfspain.org</a>
Macy Sally Daroza	Head of Project/ Mission Emergency Response Team Lead	Cotabato	<a href="mailto:mdaproza@ph.acfspain.org">mdaproza@ph.acfspain.org</a>

## PHOTOS



In photos: Damaged establishments in General Santos City. (Photo source: Philippine Red Cross)



In photos: People fleeing for shelter in Davao City (Photo source: EPA SHUTTERSTOCK/BBC)



In photo: The Kidapawan City Hospital temporarily evacuated its patients to the center island along the Cotabato–Davao Highway. The patients await ambulances to transport them to the Crisis Intervention Center in Barangay Nuangan, Kidapawan City. (Photos by William Magbanua/ Cebu Daily News)



**In photo:** Road collapse in Barangay Tbolok, General Santos City (Photo Source: Barangay Tbolok / General Santos City via Facebook)



**In photo (left):** One of the collapsed buildings at the Notre Dame of Dadiangas University in General Santos City (Photo Source: Br Manuel de Leon/ Inquirer)



**In photo (right):** Houses and fishing boats were damaged after tsunami waves struck Barangay Sta. Clara in the municipality of Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat (Photo Source: Anthony Gaña/ Tribune)



**In photo (left):** Damaged home in Malapatan, Sarangani. (Photo by Malapatan Information Office via One Mindanao)  
**In photo (right):** Two corpses found by search and rescue under rubble, Barangay Calumpang, General Santos City (Photo Source: Kutangbato News via Facebook)



**In photo (left):** Residents from the coastal areas of Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat set up a temporary tent after seawater entered their houses due to the earthquake this morning (Photo Source: Mheng Datukaka/ Kutangbato News)  
**In photo (right):** The Barangay Hall in Barangay Malalan, Jose Abad Santos, Davao Occidental collapsed (Photo Source: Olive Deguerro/ PIA Davao Region)