



Restoring Water Supply Services in Marawi City

Water supply and sanitation services have been a perennial problem for residents of Marawi City even before the hostility broke out in 2017. However, after the five-month conflict between the Philippine government and the Maute-ISIS Terrorists Group, the city of Marawi faced an unimaginable challenge in terms of water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services. Apart from displacing people, the conflict completely paralyzed businesses and social service infrastructure and heavily damaged supply and sanitation facilities.

After the conflict, government agencies began constructing temporary and permanent shelters for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the eastern part of Marawi City. Three years later, there is vibrant economic activity in the Less Affected Areas in Marawi City while government agencies conduct full-scale reconstruction projects.

The Marawi City Water District's (MCWD) Development Master Plan includes providing deep wells within the seven barangays surrounding the Mindanao State University (MSU), the Department of Interior Local Government's Sagana at Ligtas na Tubig Para sa Lahat (SALINTUBIG) Program, and the IDP's permanent resettlement areas in the eastern host barangays. SURGE focused on supporting this Master Plan to increase service coverage.

SURGE in Marawi City

SURGE helped prepare the engineering design documents, which facilitated the decision of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) to immediately release Php163,670,040 to support the physical implementation of the projects in Zones 1, 2, and 3.

SURGE conducted geo-resistivity surveys for groundwater source development in the major IDP's temporary and permanent resettlement areas - the seven barangays covered by the SALINTUBIG Program and the seven barangays surrounding the MSU area. It also assisted the MCWD in conducting a pipe network diagnostic assessment using the Hydraulic Pipe Network Model.

SURGE provided technical advice in the WASH restoration and reconstruction in the Most Affected Area in support of the substantial contributions of the Local Water Utilities and Administration (LWUA) in the engineering planning and construction.

Other organizations that contributed immediate assistance on WASH in Marawi City

Action Against Hunger (AAH) ● Asian Development Bank (ADB) ● Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) ● Local Water Utilities and Administration (LWUA) ● International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Institutional strengthening efforts of SURGE for WASH in Marawi City:

- Training on Geographic Information System (GIS) for what SURGE call the establishment of Water Supply System
- Water Quality Management Training conducted by Cagayan de Oro Water District
- Peer to Peer Sharing with Big Brother Wao Water District
- Water Safety Plan (Workshop on Hazard Analysis, Risk Assessment and Improvement Plan)
- Workshop on Development of Water Safety Plan (Standard Operating Procedures and Development Plan)
- Workshop on Finalization of Water Safety Plan
- Continuous Efforts on Leak Repairs

SURGE trained 70 officials and staff from MCWD and the city government to effectively operate and manage water and sanitation systems in the city. However, the trained persons could not apply their learned skills because the water system projects in Marawi were generally not yet established at that time.

SURGE facilitated the collaboration among local and national government agencies, enabling prompt completion of WASH restoration and development projects according to prescribed national and international WASH engineering standards.

Figure 1: Inter-Agency Participation in the Overall WASH Restoration and Development Projects in Marawi City

