There's More to the Philippines:

Building Resilience for Peace in Mindanao Through Water







There's More to the Philippines...

"It should be clear that there's more to the Philippines than Manila, more to its politics and society than upper-class Catholicism, and more to its security concerns than partnering with the United States to push back against the PRC [People's Republic of China] in the South China Sea. There's Mindanao, there's Moros, there's separatism, there's issues of justice that have been papered over by the Manila establishment to present a neat neo-liberal narrative that complements the U.S. pivot to Asia. And there's Duterte." Peter Lee at http://chinamatters.blogspot.com/2016/05/mindanao-duterte-and-real-historyof.html



A Piece of the Peace Dividend in the Philippines: Water and Security Dynamics

Mindanao,
 Moros, Morality

2. So what?

3. What does it mean for us?





More than Manila...



Source: bing.com/maps



It's Mindanao...



Mindanao is 1 of 3 island groups, with Luzon and Visayas, that make up the Philippines

Muslim Mindanao



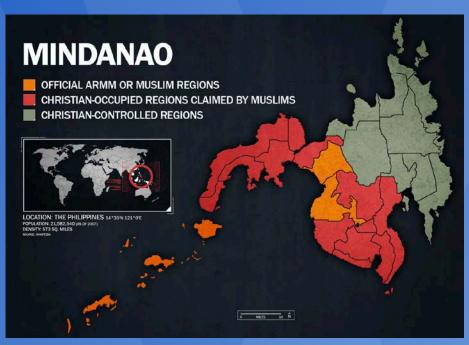
Source: bing.com/maps



- Mindanao consists of the island of Mindanao and smaller outlying islands
- These include
 Maguindanao, Basilan,
 Lanao del Sur, Sulu and
 Tawi Tawi, the five
 predominantly Muslim
 provinces that make up the
 Autonomous Region in
 Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)



It's a Mindanao Thing...



Source: https://www.jihadwatch.org/2015/07/christians-in-the-philippines-fear-creation-of-muslim-sub-state-sharia-law

- Location
- Autonomy
- Water resources
- Economic isolation
- Political weight
- Changing climate and environmental conditions
- Geopolitics

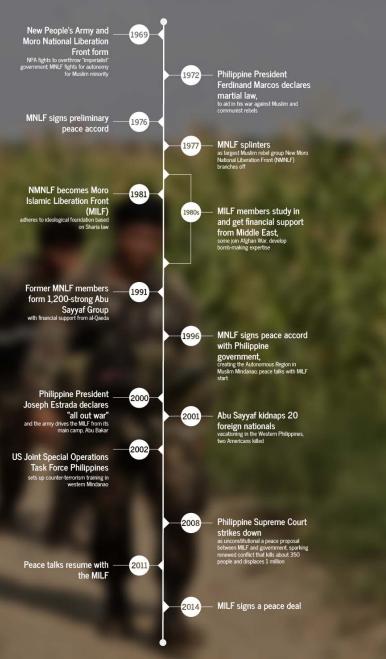


There's Moros...



Source: Gil Nartea and PhilANSA, https://vouthpeacenetwork.wordpress.com/2015/01/30/10-things-why-should-we-pursue-the-bangsamoro-peace-talks









There's Morality (Justice)...



Source: http://www.irinnews.org/photo/20081212/young-boy-milf-fatigures-salutes-passing-convoy-sprawling-rebei-camp-near-mindanac

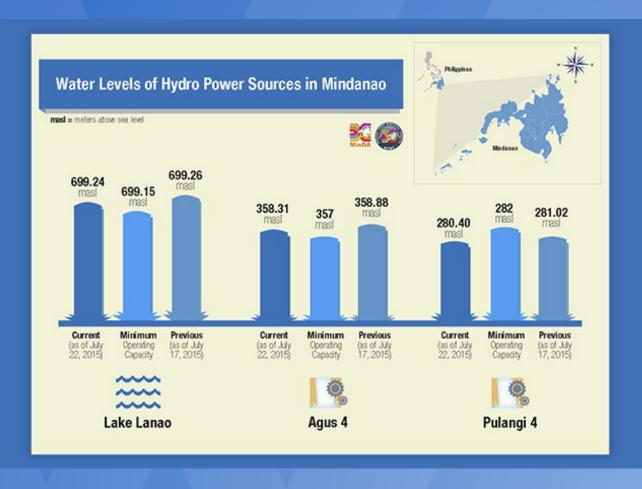


Drought and Urban Water Security





Energy Production, Water Insecurity and Land Tenure





Impacts on Other Sectors on Water Resources



After clearing Zambo City's conflict zone, Scout Rangers

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QUAKE CAUSES WATER SPRING RUN DRY

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Displacement and Water Scarcity







Source: Mathias Eick EU/ECHO



Source: http://www.cdrc-phil.com/tropical-storm-emong-swept-regions-i-ii-iii-and-car/ Citizens' disaster response center

And then there's Duterte...



"We will survive, without the assistance of America, maybe a lesser quality of life, but as I said, we will survive" - Intelligence Community Assessment." *Global Water Security*, February, 2012.

- Absence of the rule of law
- Lingering effects of dictatorship
- Exacerbating socio-economic factors
- Geophysical changes

So What?



MINDANAO'S CONFLICT

IN NUMBERS







2

"MOST WANTED"

Abu Sayyaf senior leaders in the US Rewards for Justice Program; Isnilon Hapilon (\$5 million), Radullan Sahiron (\$1 million)





11,000 fighters

currently in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front



150,000+ people killed

during Muslim and communist insurgencies



RESEARCHER: Simone Orendain SOURCES: Office of the Peace Advisor on the Peace Process; Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police; Internal Displacement Monitoring Center; World Bank; Center for Strategic and International Studies; Philippine Institute for Peace, Violence and Terrorism Research; Asia Foundation; US State Department



Local Effects/Impacts

PATHS OF INFLUENCE: MINDANAO

SOCIETAL	ECOLOGICAL	EFFECT ON	HUMAN	FEEDBACK
CONTEXT	CHANGE	HUMAN SYSTEMS	RESPONSES	MECHANISM
 History of violent conflicts: Marcos dictatorship; natural resource conflicts; ethnic tensions Absent rule of law Lack of tenure and indigenous rights Economic isolation of Mindanao Demographic pressures Climate change 	 Persistent drought Spreading deforestation and soil erosion More frequent and severe storms, winds & flooding Increased water contamination 	Weakened rural livelihoods Rising food insecurity Humanitarian crises & displacement of vulnerable peoples Destroyed & degraded infrastructure More frequent black/brown outs	 Intensified conflicts over natural resources: land, water, forests, minerals Sharper ethnic tensions Increased drive for political autonomy Strengthened insurgent movements 	 Increased pressure on natural resources Persistent conflicts to control natural resources Erosion of formal political systems



Where Does that Leave Us?



Implications for U.S. Strategic Interests

- Development: U.S. geostrategic interests in the region: South China Sea and disputed Spratly Islands
- Defense: In 2014 the United States and the Philippines signed the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement allowing the United States to rotate troops into the Philippines
- Diplomacy: Since 2001 Mindanao has been part of a "second front in the war on terror" with the U.S. Joint Special Operations Task Force Philippines combatting the Islamist groups Jemaah Islamiyah and Abu Sayyaf

Future Directions

Water, Security and Strategic Interests

- Using water programs as points of entry to invest in peacebuilding and climate resilience
- Building trust among the key stakeholders including local actors, the national government, and international aid groups
- Linking defense, diplomacy, and development efforts tied to water management programs

