

THE PHILIPPINES

We estimate that conflict triggered 466,000 new displacements in the Philippines in the first half of 2017. Most were the result of ongoing tensions and armed conflict on Mindanao Island in the south of the country, which has a history of political unrest and a long-standing Muslim separatist movement. The current unrest is linked to the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) and the Abu Sayyaf group.

Fighting took place in Marawi city on 23 May between the Philippines armed forces and fighters from the Maute group, also known as the **Islamic State of Lanao**, allegedly supported by elements of Abu Sayyaf and BIFF. More than 350,000 people are estimated to be displaced in the city and surrounding region.