



## **POLICY BRIEF**

### **PROJECT READY: Reinforcing Emergency Awareness During Calamity**

#### *Gearing the Community Towards Flood Reduction and Mitigation*

#### **WHAT IS THE ISSUE?**

On April 9, 2023, a Low-Pressure Area (LPA) brought heavy rainfall to the Davao and Soccsksargen Regions, resulting to flooding in Davao City, Digos City, Magsaysay, and Santa Cruz in Davao del Sur Province. In total, 1,538 people from 318 households were affected. Almost 350 people were displaced and moved to evacuation centers. Notably, this poses a significant threat to Davao Sur, as it affects people's livelihoods, damages infrastructures, and puts public health at risk at the same time.

#### **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**

As a result, it becomes essential to evaluate household readiness and the effectiveness of early warning systems in reducing community vulnerability when it comes to flood-related risks. Flood reduction and mitigation education is essential to help the locals and the community on what to do during excessive rain. This would help the people gear themselves on the threats brought by the calamity being the ones who are widely affected by it.

#### **WHAT SHOULD POLICY MAKERS DO?**

Policymakers may opt to employ short term and long term policies such as:

1. Impose wide dissemination about flood reduction and mitigation to the community; such as capacity building training for the locals.
2. Enhance early warning systems and emergency preparedness
3. Invest in flood-resistant infrastructure
4. Provide relief and support to affected communities
5. Develop and implement local flood risk management plan
6. Strengthen waste disposal management