



TANAUAN CITY: Utilizing CBMS as a Tool for Strategic Planning and Resource Allocation

Presenter:

HON. ANTONIO C. HALILI
City Mayor, City Government of Tanauan

Tanauan City Brief Profile

Tanauan is a second class city and one of the oldest towns in Province of Batangas. It became a first class municipality in 1996 and eventually became a city by virtue of Republic Act 9005, otherwise known as "An Act Converting the Municipality of Tanauan in to a Component City to be known as the City of Tanauan," which was enacted on February 2, 2001 and duly ratified and approved through a plebiscite on March 10, 2001.

Tanauan City is located at the northeastern part of the Batangas province and at the southern periphery of Metro Manila. It is proximate to Makati City, the country's primary financial and commercial business district. It is also mid-way between the country's main seaport and airport, the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and the Manila International Seaport, and the Batangas International Seaport (the alternative seaport of Metro Manila).

Tanauan City, with a population of around 152,000, is the third largest entity in the entire Batangas Province. It has an area of about 107 square kilometers covering the city's forty eight (48) barangays. As a result of development spillovers of Metro Manila, the city is rapidly urbanizing in recent years.

The city is predominantly agricultural in terms of land utilization. Due to its strategic location, Tanauan City is the traditional trading hub for vegetables, fruits and livestock coming from Southern Tagalog and Bicol regions. While it is primarily agricultural in orientation, the city's commerce, trade and industry have been steadily growing in recent years.

CBMS Background

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) was first introduced to the City Government of Tanauan (CGT) by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) as a tool for the preparation of the city's Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP).

In 2005, after a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between CGT, the DILG and CBMS Network Team has been signed, CBMS was formally adopted and implemented by the city government.

That same year, the first round of CBMS data gathering was carried out by the city government. Led by the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO), the survey initially covered 24,987 households of the city's forty eight (48) barangays. Second round was conducted in 2008 and the third round was completed in 2011, involving the city's 28,562 and 32,472 households, respectively.

CBMS Application in the City Government of Tanauan

For the past nine (9) years of its implementation, CGT greatly benefited in utilizing baseline information (data) obtained from CBMS – generally, in the formulation of policies and programs designed for the city government’s strategic planning and resource allocation.

The City Planning and Development Office (CPDO), the city government’s lead implementing unit and the central depository of CBMS database, compiles these baseline information obtained from CBMS. The CPDO gathers, processes, validates and presents CBMS results to the city’s various stakeholders and to the policy makers within the city government.

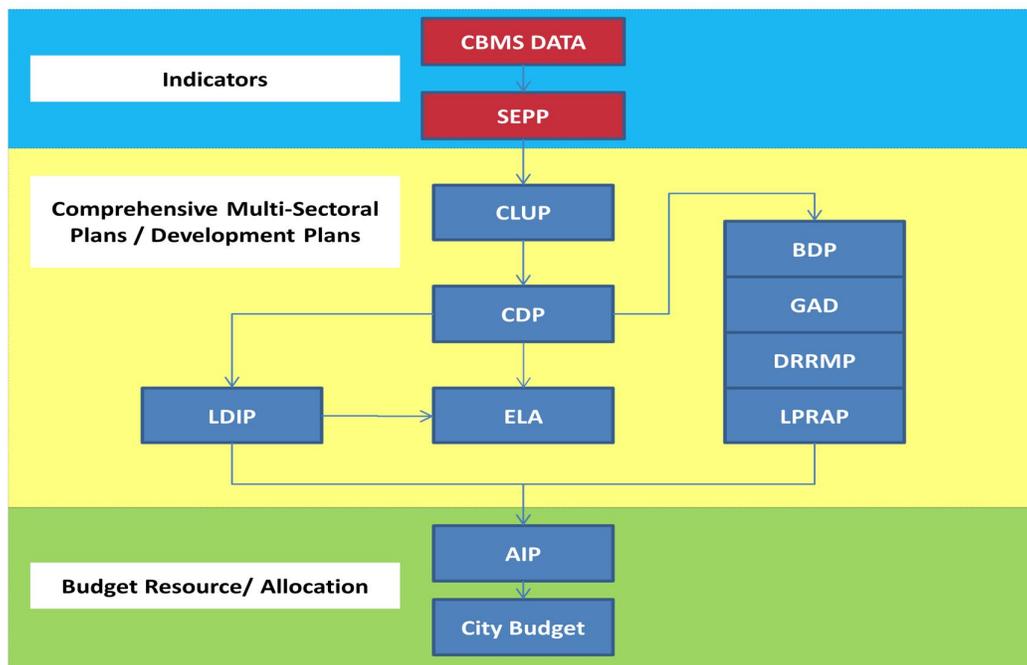
By May 2014, the fourth (4th) round of CBMS survey targeting Tanauan City’s approximately 40,000 households will unroll.

Uses of CBMS in the City Government of Tanauan

The CBMS dataset is generally used as input variable in crafting of CGT’s programs, plans and policies. It is the very substance of the city’s Socio-Economic and Physical Profile (SEPP), the most important information base used for the city’s comprehensive planning.

Figure below illustrates the general application of CBMS data in the framework of CGT’s local governance policies and plans.

CBMS APPLICATION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



Data obtained from CBMS were articulated into Tanauan City's SEPP. The SEPP serves as the "input" data for the formulation of the more important comprehensive multi-sectoral/development plans of CGT. Among these are the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Executive-Legislative Agenda (ELA), Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), Local Development Investment Plan (LDIP), Barangay Development Plan (BDP), Gender and Development Plan (GAD), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan (DRRMP) and the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP).

The totality of these comprehensive multi-sectoral/development plans is translated into CGT's Annual Investment Plan (AIP), which is the major component of the city's Annual Budget.

Other City Government Programs that Uses CBMS Data

Aside from the formulation of Tanauan City's comprehensive multi-sectoral/development plans, specific projects and programs of the city government also rely on CBMS indicators. Most of these projects are in health, nutrition, poverty alleviation, human resource and skills development, livelihood, environmental and sanitation designed to benefit the city's poor and less privileged sectors.

CBMS data provides a more reliable, up-to-date and comprehensive quantitative information in the identification of target beneficiaries and in the allocation of the program's funding requirements.

Below are specific projects carried out by CGT that benefited from CBMS:

1. Distribution of PhilHealth Cards for qualified indigent beneficiaries jointly undertaken by CGT and the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP). Beneficiaries were taken from the list of indigent families generated by the CBMS encoding system.
2. Self Employment Assistance (SEA) and Practical Skills Development – livelihood programs of the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) thru Tanauan Livelihood and Training Center wherein target beneficiaries were constituents who fell below the city's poverty threshold and those unemployed.
3. Under the City Health Office' (CHO) Environmental and Sanitation Program, all households without proper sanitary toilets were given each with toilet bowl.
4. The Food Assistance Program/Rehabilitation, a 6-month feeding program (also of the CHO) for the city's severely underweight children were identified malnourished children were given specialized food supplement to improve their nutritional status by the end of six months rehabilitation period.

5. Maternal Health Program, a comprehensive program of the CHO which includes Family Planning and Maternal Care Program, Immunization Program, Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Program and Infant and Young Child Feeding Program.
6. The Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the Department of Education - Tanauan made use of the data on the city's out of school youth. The Alternative Learning System (ALS) is a ladderized, modular non-formal education program for dropouts in elementary and secondary schools, out-of-school youth, non-readers, working constituents and even senior citizens.

Recommendations, Challenges, and Next Steps

This year 2014, the city is on its fourth round of its implementation of the CBMS. Taking advantage of technology, CGT opted to use the tablet-based survey, the first to implement in the whole Region IV-A (CALABARZON). The tablet-based survey will eliminate the traditional manual paper-and-pencil survey and manual encoding system.

However, embarking on the tablet-based survey, the city government is confronted with some challenges and issues such as personal safety of enumerators, software and hardware malfunction and data back-up procedures. With these challenges, our city is confident that we can properly manage and overcome them.

Currently, the city government is now on the stage of massive information, education and communication drive for the city's forty (48) barangays to promote awareness and encourage community participation. The city government will conduct the same usual process: Training/Workshop, data collection and field survey operations, data processing and database management, data validation and dissemination. Although the city is not yet completed with its 4th round using tablet-based survey, it is anticipated that on this process encoding will be integrated with the data collection and field survey operations resulting to a shortened procedure – seventy (70) days as compared to the 150 days in the traditional CBMS implementation, thus recommending also other cities to adopt the tablet-based. Further, the city is also recommending the continuous implementation of the CBMS to validate the effectiveness of the programs/projects and other interventions executed by the city.

Again, banking on experience and learning gained from the nine (9) years of CBMS implementation, the city government has high hopes on the unqualified success of the forthcoming 2014 Tablet-Based CBMS.

As history has proven, information provided by the CBMS serves as the catalyst for the city government to come up with relevant, noteworthy and essential multi-sectoral comprehensive plans resulting from strategic planning and proper resource allocation towards its the realization of Tanauan City's vision – "The dynamic city in Southern Luzon center of education, culture, history and sports with empowered God-loving people in a

sustained environment, advanced agriculture, industry, commerce and tourism and leader in exemplary governance.”

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