

5th National CBMS Conference

Conference Paper of Governor Maria Valentina G. Plaza, Provincial Governor of Agusan del Sur

Establishment of CBMS in Agusan del Sur

With the introduction of the Community Based Monitoring System, Agusan del Sur has moved towards a co-ordinated local-level approach to data and information collection, analysis and dissemination.

The Community Based Monitoring System (CBMS) in Agusan del Sur was created by virtue of Executive Order No. 15-04. It was implemented with the first survey in 2005 which covered the capture of household data on the welfare status of the people throughout the province, a population of some 549,946. The system has been established and CBMS databanks are available and being accessed by key staff in Provincial level as well as in each of the Municipal Planning offices of the 14 Municipalities of Agusan del Sur.

A strong foundation has been laid for the usage of the CBMS repository with the output of a comprehensive set of poverty and welfare indicators, some 13+1 Core indicators and an additional 23 Non-Core Indicators which are immediately accessible, and which are considered to be of key importance for program and project development. The CBMS of Agusan del Sur makes data and information available at Provincial as well as Municipal and Barangay local government levels. Additionally, household level data are available where they are required for selection of beneficiaries.

Characteristics of CBMS Repository in Agusan del Sur

Reference year for which the data was captured: 2005

Complete household coverage - a baseline has been established in Agusan del Sur Province-wide including 14 component Municipalities, 314 Barangays

Number of Households: 109,123

Number of Individuals: 549,946

Major Indicators Utilized: 13+1 Core Poverty Monitoring Indicators [see Appendix 1A]

: 23 Non-Core Poverty Monitoring Indicators [see Appendix 1B]

Additional Data Utilized : Household member details

Format of information available: Maps, Reports, Graphs/Charts, and locally developed website

Most recent CBMS activities in Agusan del Sur(2007):

-- Consolidation and harmonization of data at Provincial level

-- Resolution No.256-07 for Adoption of consolidated Provincial data by Sangguniang Panlalawigan

-- Newly elected Governor Maria Valentina G. Plaza reaffirms support to CBMS

-- Provincial Strategic Planning (2007-2010) endorses incorporation of CBMS findings into Programs and Projects.

-- Regular requests for data from Provincial and Municipal CBMS units. from concerned offices, agencies, NGOs

How CBMS is being utilized in the Province of Agusan del Sur

Summary reports and indicator maps are being accessed from the PPDO and from respective MPDO's, from Provincial through to Barangay . Currently 13+1 Core and 23 Non-Core Indicators are summarized and each indicator is ranked so that particular areas can be prioritized according to their severity. Together with this, the CBMS team can provide specific household level information, so that even households throughout the province can be prioritized. Through data-querying and data-mining the CBMS teams at provincial and municipal levels are able to process complex requests from users and this has proven to be a powerful tool for identification of beneficiaries in Agusan del Sur. Additionally, authorized government officials may login to our in-house website to quickly get to secured, detailed level information. Other , more general information, not requiring confidentiality, is available to the public. It is intended as a gateway to a comprehensive set of maps and data from provincial down to household level. This site is currently a work-in-progress, developed in-house by the Provincial Information Technology Unit and the developers are open to comments and suggestions. The internet address is <http://192.168.2.47/cbms>

The CBMS information enables clear identification of priorities at Local Government level and target them for resource allocation and action plans.

The following provides a brief summary of the utilization of CBMS throughout the province:-

(1) CBMS used in establishment/enhancement of databanks

Computerized CBMS databanks including comprehensive maps have been established in all component municipalities of the province of Agusan del Sur

CBMS has enhanced the provincial Information Executive System (IES) for government officials. This system aims to provide easy, user-friendly access to data on a range of development indicators. It is a one-stop decision-support system incorporating key sectoral data including Socio-Economic & Demography, Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources, Infrastructure, Project Monitoring & Evaluation, and Human Resources. CBMS has provided socioeconomic attributes to the IES.

CBMS has been used to enrich the Peace Process database of the Office of the President (OPAPP Program) . The information has been utilised in negotiations, providing profiles of conflict and non-conflict areas in Agusan del Sur.

Municipal Health Offices have updated their municipal records with CBMS data on the mortality and morbidity rate of malnourished children, and also water & sanitation problems

The Department of Education (DepEd) has integrated municipal data in in their annual improvement plan and enhanced their data school participation rate and dropout rate both in elementary and high school.

(2) Preparation of socio-economic profiles/developments

The Socio-Economic Profile (SEP) provides a poverty profile – who are the poor and where they are.

The Socio-economic profile includes information on Poverty and Human Development

The Provincial Socio-Economic Profile has used an estimated 80% of its information from CBMS data which has been consolidated at the provincial level

Similarly, CBMS data is being used as inputs into Municipal Socio-Economic Profiles, Municipal Development Plans and Municipal Annual Investment Plans throughout the province

At barangay level also, CBMS data has been used as baseline data for preparation of barangay development plans, Barangay Socio-Economic Profiles, and Barangay Annual Investment Plans

CBMS reports have proved invaluable as inputs into the recent provincial strategic planning process (2007-2010) in particular, the provincial summary of core and non-core indicators, and the municipal ranking and also barangay ranking of these indicators.

NGOs such as the Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC) have used CBMS data to enhance resource profiling of environment project sites in the Province.

(3) Formulating appropriate interventions

CBMS has provided inputs into Convergence Development Program (CDP) planning, and prioritization of geographic areas. CDP aims to pool together local resources in order to have a focused and integrated strategy to maximize the impact of programs and projects which would ensure economic and social development. Currently, 32 barangays are targetted and individuals whose monthly incomes do not go beyond P2,000.

The 5-year 'F1' strategy spearheaded by the Provincial Health Office, has availed of CBMS information in its planning stages. Agusan del Sur is one of the few Provinces in the country (16 in total) to be selected for F1 and is designed to fast-track major health improvement projects.

Mindanao Rural Development Program has made use of CBMS outputs, in particular barangay ranking of indicators in selected Municipalities (Santa Josefa and Prosperidad)

Analysis of data on Indigenous Peoples in selected areas has been conducted by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). This has been used for deliberation of a CADT (Certificate of Ancestral Domain) application. Coverage includes the selected Municipalities of Talacogon, Rosario and San Luis.

The Provincial and Municipal Agriculture Offices have made use of summary CBMS statistics. The Provincial Agriculture Office has, for example, requested information on households engaged in livestock production.

CBMS was a reference for a Scholarship Program designed to assist persons with disability. This was established through an ordinance no.14-06 and CBMS data also provided a foundation for selection of beneficiaries.

CBMS has provided data for SELAP , Support to Emergency and Livelihood Assistance Program and CIDP, Caraga Integrated Development Program which has used the information for Goats and Carabao distribution.

The Agusan Malaria Reduction Program has drawn information on selected barangays regarding their overall welfare status

The Child Friendly Movement program has drawn on child demographic data plus indicators on welfare status of children in Agusan del Sur

At the Municipal level, the Department of Agrarian Reform has utilized data in the identification of support services to farmers in Agrarian Reform Community(ARC) areas

Additionally, Municipalities have reported that projects have been created to strengthen the delivery of basic health services on the basis of CBMS results.

Department of Interior and Local Government has requested CBMS information for inputs into Municipal level Executive and Legislative Agenda and local inputs into the Millenium Development Goals (MDG) Program.

In some areas (notably the Municipality of Veruela) additional information has been gathered for the purpose of facilitating resolution of peace and order issues

(4) Identifying beneficiaries of programs and projects

CBMS has facilitated targeting by providing information on who are the eligible beneficiaries for specific programs. In particular:

CBMS data has been used by Municipal Social and Welfare Development offices for selecting PhilHealth beneficiaries and support to the poor in healthcare.

Used in the determination of beneficiary farmers of the Convergence Development Program where farmers in target barangays have been identified based on monthly per capita income of less than P2,000.

Additionally, CBMS has facilitated identification of indigent families for Conditional Fund Transfer in target Municipalities.

The Department of Education (DepEd) in some municipalities has availed of data for the purpose of "literacy mapping", to identify beneficiaries of a literacy program

In the Municipality of Veruela, CBMS has identified barangays which are prone to disasters and in need of relief operations.

(5) Preparation of project proposals for external funding

Barangay profiles have been utilized by the Provincial Agricultural Office in preparing a concept paper for a Provincial Food Terminal project.

CBMS spot maps have been analysed by the Provincial Engineering Office (WATSAN) to guide the identification of barangays and households in need of water facilities, and in submission of a related development proposal.

Provincial CBMS summary data used for analysis for employment generation activities by the Agusan del Sur Economic Research & Business Center (ASERBAC) and for Provincial Employment Services Office (PESO)

The Department of Trade & Industry (DTI) has availed of barangay level data in the municipalities of Bunawan and SanLuis for proposal packaging to NZAID

(7) CBMS data can be used as basis for impact monitoring of projects and programs.

Some offices have utilised the data to seek ways of validating their existing data and information and in some cases, participatory assessments have been conducted with CBMS as baseline reference. The basic cornerstone of the approach is that different data and information sources will interrogate each other, This should enable greater depth to be given to the basic statistical findings gleaned at first glance of the CBMS data.

In summary, the province is addressing the complex and varied needs of development by undertaking many varied activities in parallel, with the support of CBMS. With the aid of CBMS as a supporting information system, these activities will be underpinned by evidence-based decisions.

This approach recognizes that many evidence-based decisions, when added up over time will have a major impact.

This is a step-by-step approach to utilizing CBMS that starts with addressing priority needs and builds support for maximum utilization of the data. In this way the Province will address the real problems with realistic solutions to deliver tangible benefits for the people of Agusan del Sur.

The future direction of CBMS in Agusan del Sur

We now have the data that we need...we also need to strengthen capacities to respond...this is our focus over the coming year. It is a time to maximize utilization of the outputs in order to enhance projects and programmes with quality data as well as to make the most of opportunities for advocating our needs.

Although we can continue to improve our technology, there is always a need to look to improve the processes which lead to the effective usage of the data.

The management of internal processes have been strengthened already. CBMS personnel have undergone intensive training in database management and this is yielding benefits in terms of a greater knowledge on data quality and data management. In the future this collective knowledge will assist the on-going development of CBMS in Agusan del Sur. The future impact will be to improve overall quality and accessibility to information. The support and presence of a volunteer knowledge management adviser has also had a positive spin off on general data management issues and in strengthening the capabilities of staff.

Meeting the increasing demand for detailed level data, the challenge that lies ahead is in providing the information quickly and also protecting our constituents whose details we hold in our repository. It is after all our constituents' needs that come first, and they must also be assured that their details are kept strictly confidential. Some of these challenges will be met with the introduction of an ordinance, and some of the implementing rules and regulations will help to protect the Agusanon whilst at the same time serving to assist the improvement of their welfare condition.

A draft of a local legislative ordinance is underway establishing the CBMS within the Province, "An Ordinance for Institutionalizing the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) in the Province of Agusan del Sur, Providing Funds Therefor and For Other Purposes"

Basing policy and decision making more firmly on available evidence is a major challenge for the years to come. The establishment of a local ordinance and the associated implementing rules and regulations will ensure that the appropriate mechanisms are firmly established in planning and development activities. The focus for the ordinance will be to link the CBMS with resource allocations and expenditure.

We have already initiated the improvement of the processes and practices that underpin the CBMS and the utilization of the information. We are happy with our accomplishments so far, but we know there is always room for further innovation and improvement.

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AGUSAN DEL SUR CBMS SURVEY 2005

CORE INDICATORS

CHILD DEATHS (0-5 YRS)
MATERNAL DEATHS
MALNOURISHED CHILDREN (0-5 YRS)
NO ACCESS TO SAFE WATER
NO ACCESS TO SANITARY TOILET
HOUSEHOLDS LIVING IN MAKESHIFT HOUSING
INFORMAL SETTLERS
HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME BELOW POVERTY THRESHOLD (P13,228 PER CAPITA, PER YEAR)
HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME BELOW FOOD THRESHOLD (P9,354 PER CAPITA, PER YEAR)
HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCED FOOD SHORTAGE
MEMBERS 6-12 YRS NOT ATTENDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MEMBERS 13-16 YRS NOT ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL
UNEMPLOYMENT
VICTIMS OF CRIME

Appendix 1B

**AGUSAN DEL SUR CBMS SURVEY 2005
NON-CORE INDICATORS**

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

DISABLED PERSONS

SENIOR CITIZENS

SOLO PARENTS

OFW

COUPLES ENGAGED IN FAMILY PLANNING

MEMBERS ABOVE 10 YRS WHO ARE LITERATE

MEMBERS WHO ARE BOARD PASSERS

PERSONS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVED TREATMENT FOR SICKNESS

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO GARBAGE COLLECTION

Appendix 1B

**AGUSAN DEL SUR CBMS SURVEY 2005
NON-CORE INDICATORS**

HOUSEHOLDS WITH APPLIANCES

HOUSEHOLDS WITH BUSINESS

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN CROP FARMING AND GARDENING

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK RAISING

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN FORESTRY

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN FISHING

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTION

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN MINING AND QUARRYING

HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING

**HOUSEHOLDS ENGAGED IN COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL (CSP)
SERVICES**