Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities, and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance

Proceedings of the 2009 National Conference on CBMS
Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities, and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance

Proceedings of the 2009 National Conference on CBMS

December 8-10, 2009
Manila, Philippines

The 2009 CBMS Philippines Conference was organized by the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies, De La Salle University-Manila with support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).
Acknowledgements

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Table of Contents

Preface ................................................................. xi
Program .................................................................. xiii
Integrative Report ...................................................... 1

Opening Remarks
  • Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities, and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance ...................... 9
    Celia M. Reyes

Welcome Remarks
  • Promoting Good Governance through CBMS ........................................ 11
    Winfred M. Villamil
  • Framing Appropriate Policy Responses and Investing in a More Sustainable Future Using CBMS ........................................... 13
    Evan Due

Inspirational Address
  • Facilitating a Convergent Approach to Poverty Reduction Using CBMS ................................................................. 15
    Br. Armin A. Luistro, FSC

Keynote Address
  • Gearing Up for New Challenges in Local Governance ............................................................... 17
    Austere A. Panadero

Conference Papers/Presentations

Session 1: Panel Discussion of Governors on Achieving Development Vision
  • The Uses of CBMS in Biliran ................................................................. 19
    Rogelio Espina
  • The Use of CBMS in Improving Local Governance: The Experience of the Provincial Government of Marinduque ....................... 23
    Jose Carrion
  • Palawan’s CBMS Experience: Instrumental in Broadening the Adoption of CBMS by Other LGUs ......................................................... 29
    Joel Reyes
• Achieving the Development Vision for Zamboanga del Norte .......................... 33
  Rolando E. Yebes

• The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in the Philippines .................. 37
  Celia M. Reyes, Alellie B. Sobreviñas and Jeremy de Jesus

Session 3: Use of CBMS for Disaster Risk Management at the Local Level
• Use of CBMS for Disaster Risk Management at the Local Level: The Labo Experience .......................... 71
  Evaristo Pandi
• Disaster Management Planning Using CBMS and GIS Software .......................... 77
  Frances Eduarte
• Puerto Princesa City: A Model in Sustainable Development .......................... 81
  Jovenee Sagun

Session 4: Uses of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring
• LGU-Dumaran’s Development Projects Funded Under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program .......................... 85
  David Aurello
• Uses of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring in LGU-Mercedes .......................... 91
  Irene Nenette Gonzales
• CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program in Camarines Norte .......................... 95
  Madonna Abular
• Use of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring in Tabaco City .................. 103
  Ma. Antonio B. Burabod

Keynote Address
• The CBMS Program: A Lasting Legacy in the Fight Against Poverty .......................... 105
  Domingo F. Panganiban
Session 5: Global and National MDG Program Initiatives

- **Status Report on National MDG Achievements and Initiatives in the Philippines** .................................................. 109
  Erlinda M. Capones
- **The Importance of Tracking the Millennium Development Goals** .......................................................... 129
  Corazon T. Urquico

Session 6: Empowering Communities in Meeting the MDGs Challenge

- **Capacity-Building Strategies of SRTC for CBMS: The Batangas Experience** ................................................. 131
  Gervacio Sekla, Jr.
- **Statistical Capacity Building for MDG Monitoring at the Local Level** ......................................................... 137
  Donald Gawe
- **Achieving Local Development Agenda through CBMS** .................................................................................. 141
  Meynard Melo
- **The Provincial Government of Tarlac and CBMS** ......................................................................................... 145
  Victor A. Yap
- **Government-Academe Partnership in the Implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System** ........ 147
  Krishna Buenaventura
- **Use of Handhelds for Data Gathering: A CBMS Innovation of the Province of Tarlac** .......................... 149
  Joel Zapanta
- **Localizing the Millennium Development Goals: The Gasan Experience** .................................................. 153
  Victoria A. Lao Lim and Arturo M. Salva, Jr.
- **The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Report of the Province of Agusan del Sur** ....................... 169
  Edna Tongson

Session 7: Applications of CBMS for Evidence-Based Policymaking at the Local Level

- **Using the Community-Based Monitoring System in Drug Abuse Prevention** .......................................... 183
  David A. Ponce de Leon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 9: Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS in the Comprehensive Development Plans of LGUs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Implementation and Uses of the Community-Based Monitoring System for Improving Local Planning and Program Implementation</strong> ........................................... 187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold G. Guyguyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS into the CDP</strong> .......................... 193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuel Q. Gotis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Enhancing Local Development Planning and Poverty Diagnosis through CBMS</strong> ......................................................... 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merlita Lagmay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Use of CBMS for Local Planning and Revenue Allocation in Candon City, Ilocos Sur</strong> ................................................. 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naulie Cabanting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 10: Use of CBMS for Provinclal Development Initiatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Uses of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Sarangani</strong> ............ 207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rene Paraba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Uses of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Zamboanga del Sur</strong> .... 213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loy Canales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Uses of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Agusan del Sur</strong> ........ 219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allan Santiago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>The Agusan del Sur CBMS System</strong> ........................................ 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephtali Morgado</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 11: Use of CBMS for Improving Local Governance in Mindanao</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>The Agusan del Norte MDG Situationer</strong> ..................................... 227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erlpe John Amante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Uses of CBMS for Improving Local Governance in Zamboanga del Norte</strong> ................................................................. 233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosevic Lacaya-Ocampo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Using CBMS as a Tool for Local Governance in Margosatubig</strong> ........ 237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Minor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The Implementation of CBMS in the Municipality of Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte .......................... 247
  Alanixon A. Sekla

Session 12: Regional Development Initiatives on CBMS
• Highlights of the Implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System in (CBMS) in MIMAROPA Region ...................... 253
  Oskar Balbastro
• Scaling Up Poverty Monitoring through CBMS in Eastern Visayas ...................... 257
  Aida Z. Laruda

Directory of Participants .................................................. 263
Snapshots from the Conference .............................................. 289
Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the 6th National Conference on the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) organized by the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies of the De La Salle University-Manila in collaboration with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

The 3-day Conference held at the Diamond Hotel on December 8-10, 2009 attracted over 300 CBMS stakeholders consisting of local chief executives, development practitioners, policymakers, academicians, and researchers from the north to the south of the Philippines.

Under the theme “Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance” the Conference featured keynote presentations and panel discussions on the following: (i) Achieving the development agenda of local chief executives; (ii) Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on poverty; (iii) Using CBMS for Disaster Risk Management; (iv) Using CBMS for program targeting and impact monitoring; (v) Global and national initiatives on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); (vi) Empowering communities in meeting the MDGs; (vii) Applications of CBMS for evidence-based policymaking at the local level; (viii) Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS in the Comprehensive Development Plans of local government units; (ix) Uses of CBMS for provincial development initiatives; (x) Uses of CBMS for improving local governance in Mindanao, and (xi) Regional development initiatives on CBMS.

Once again, the Conference showcased the rich, fruitful and meaningful experiences of local government units all over the country in using CBMS for planning, program formulation, policy impact assessment and poverty monitoring, among others. The insightful presentations of the invited resource persons were most often followed by spirited discussions that were stimulated further by the commentaries and responses of the participants.

We take this opportunity to convey our sincerest thanks and appreciation to the authors for allowing us to feature their papers and presentations in this volume, as well as to our growing list of partners who continually provide us with the inspiration to continue pursuing and advocating the CBMS cause through their first-hand accounts of how they have been able to find pathways out of poverty through CBMS.

The PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team
Day 1: December 8, 2009
Theme: Global Crisis-Challenges for Good Governance and Ways Forward

8:00-8:45  -  Registration
8:45-9:00  -  Opening Ceremony
   -  Welcome Remarks
      •  Dr. Celia M. Reyes
         CBMS Network Leader
      •  Dr. Winfred M. Villamil
         Executive Director
         Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies
         De La Salle University-Manila
      •  Dr. Evan Due
         Senior Regional Program Specialist
         International Development Research Centre

9:00-9:30  -  Inspirational Address
   Br. Armin A. Luistro, FSC
   President and Chancellor
   De La Salle University-Manila

9:30-10:00  -  Keynote Address
   Undersecretary Austere A. Panadero
   Department of the Interior and Local Government

10:00-10:15  -  Open Forum

10:15-10:30  -  Coffee Break

10:15-11:45  -  Session 1
   Panel Discussion of Governors on Achieving Development Vision
   Moderator: Dr. Tereso S. Tullao, Jr., DLSU-Manila
- Governor Rogelio Espina
  Biliran
- Governor Jose Carrion
  Marinduque
- Governor Joel Reyes
  Palawan
- Governor Rolando Yebes
  Zamboanga del Norte

11:45-12:00 - Launch of CBMS Publications
- The Many Faces of Poverty, Volume 1
- Fighting Poverty with Facts: Community-Based Monitoring Systems
- Developing and Piloting a Gender Responsive Community-Based Planning and Budgeting Tool for Local Governance
- The Palawan Human Development Report
- Monitoring the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) using CBMS: Proceedings of the 2008 CBMS National Conference

12:00-1:00 - Lunch Break

1:00-2:00 - Session 2
CBMS Network’s Research Findings on the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty

Session Chair: Dr. Josef T. Yap, PIDS

- CBMS Network Research Findings on the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty
  Dr. Celia M. Reyes
  CBMS Network
- A New Approach to Targeting the Poor with Application to CBMS
  Dr. Nanak Kakwani
  Resource Person- PEP-CBMS Network
Day 2: December 9, 2009
Theme: Shaping Policy Reforms and Advancing a Human-Centered Development Agenda

8:30 - 9:00 - Invocation/National Anthem

9:00-9:15 - Keynote Address
Sec. Domingo Panganiban
Lead Convenor
National Anti-Poverty Commission
9:15-10:20 -  
**Session 5**  
**Global and National MDG Program Initiatives**

Session Chair: Dr. Celia M. Reyes, CBMS Network Leader

- Status Report on National MDG Achievements and Initiatives in the Philippines  
  Dir. Erlinda Capones  
  Social Development Staff  
  National Economic and Development Authority

- Global MDG Initiative and Next Steps of UNDP Philippines on MDGs  
  Ms. Corazon Urquico  
  United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines

10:20-10:30  
**Presentation of CBMS Publications**

10:30-12:30 -  
**Session 6**  
**Empowering Communities in Meeting the MDG Challenge**

Session Chair: Mr. Ramon Falcon, NEDA-SDS

- Statistical Capacity Building for MDG Monitoring at the Local Level  
  Dir. Gervacio Sekla  
  Statistical Research and Training Center  
  Mr. Donald Gawe  
  National Economic and Development Authority Region 4-A

- Achieving Local Development Agenda through CBMS  
  Mr. Meynard Melo  
  Batangas  
  Governor Victor A. Yap  
  Tarlac  
  Prof. Krishna Buenaventura  
  CBMS-TWG Tarlac  
  Mr. Joel Zapanta  
  CBMS-TWG Tarlac

12:30-1:30 -  
**Lunch Break**
1:30-3:00 -  
**Session 6**  
**Empowering Communities in Meeting the MDGs Challenge**  
Session Chair: Mr. Ramon Falcon, NEDA-SDS  

- Mayor Victoria Lim  
  Municipality of Gasan, Marinduque  
- Mr. Arturo M. Salva, Jr.  
  Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator  
  Gasan, Marinduque  
- Ms. Edna Tongson  
  Provincial Planning and Development Office  
  Agusan del Sur  

3:00-4:00 -  
**Session 7**  
**Applications of CBMS for Evidence-Based Policymaking at the Local Level**  
Session Chair: Dr. Aniceto Orbeta, PIDS  

- Vice Gov. David Ponce De Leon  
  Palawan  
- Mr. Arnold G. Guyguyon  
  MPDC, Asipulo, Ifugao  

4:00-5:30 -  
**Session 8**  
**Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Policy Shocks on Poverty**  
Session Chair: Dr. Myrna Austria, DLSU-CBE  

- Impact Assessment of National and Regional Policies: An Application of the Philippine Regional General Equilibrium Model (PRGEM)  
  Dr. Roehlano Briones  
  Philippine Institute for Development Studies  
- Poverty Impacts of Preferential and Multilateral Trade Liberalization on the Philippines  
  Mr. Angelo Taningco  
  De La Salle University-Manila  

*xvii*
• Labor Supply Responses to Adverse Shocks Under Credit Constraints: Evidence from Bukidnon, Philippines
  Ms. Jasmin Suministrado
  Knowledge for Poverty Alleviation Programs, CCLFI

Responses
• Dr. Aniceto Orbeta, Jr.
  Philippine Institute for Development Studies
• Dr. Ramon Clarete
  UP School of Economics

5:20-5:30 - Open Forum
5:30-5:40 - Presentation/Accreditation of CBMS Trainors
  Asst. Dir. Anna Bonagua
  Bureau of Local Government Development
  Department of the Interior and Local Government

Day 3: December 10, 2009
Theme: Enhancing Local Development Planning and Poverty Diagnosis through CBMS

9:00-10:30 - Session 9
Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS in the Comprehensive Development Plans of LGUs

Session Chair: Prof. Simeon Ilago, UP-NCPAG

• Dir. Manuel Q. Gotis - CESO III
  Bureau of Local Government Development
  Department of the Interior and Local Government
• Engr. Merlita Lagmay
  City Planning and Development Coordinator, Pasay City
• Mr. Arnold G. Guyguyon
  Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Asipulo, Ifugao
• Engr. Naulie Cabanting
  City Planning and Development
  Coordinator, Candon City

10:30-10:45 - Coffee Break

10:45-12:30 - Session 10
  Uses of CBMS for Provincial
  Development Initiatives

Session Chair: Prof. Simeon Ilago, UP-NCPAG

• Mr. Rene Paraba
  Provincial Planning and Development
  Coordinator
  Sarangani
• Mr. Loy Cañales
  Provincial Planning and Development
  Coordinator
  Zamboanga del Sur
• Hon. Allan Santiago
  Provincial Board Member and CBMS
  Team Leader, Agusan del Sur
• Nephtali Morgado
  CBMS-TWG, Agusan Del Sur

12:30-1:45 - Lunch Break

1:45-3:00 - Session 11
  Uses of CBMS for Improving Local
  Governance in Mindanao

Session Chair: Asec. Dolores de Quiros-Castillo, NAPC

• Gov. Erlpe John Amante
  Province of Agusan del Norte
• Ms. Rosevic Lacaya-Ocampo
  Provincial Planning and Development
  Coordinator
  Zamboanga del Norte
• Mayor George Minor
  Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur
• Atty. Alanixon A. Sekla
  Municipal Administrator, Siayan,
  Zamboanga del Norte

xix
3:00-4:15 -  Session 12
Regional Development Initiatives on CBMS

Session Chair: Asec. Dolores de Quiros-Castillo - NAPC
- RD Oskar Balbastro
  NEDA, MIMAROPA
- ARD Aida Z. Laruda - CESO IV
  DILG Reg. 8 (Eastern Visayas)

4:15-4:45 -  Session 13
Next Steps/Future Directions

Dr. Celia M. Reyes
CBMS Network Leader
Over 300 CBMS practitioners and stakeholders converged for the 6th CBMS Philippines National Conference which was held on December 8-10, 2009 at the Diamond Hotel in Manila. The event served as an avenue where various local government units from all over the Philippines were able to discuss recent developments in CBMS implementation as well as impart learnings and key findings from their localities. In particular, policymakers shared some concrete and practical uses of the CBMS in the areas of policymaking, program designing and impact monitoring.

Organized by the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies of the De La Salle University – Manila, the event was also made possible with the support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Philippines. Serving as co-organizers of the conference were the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) and National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

Secretary Domingo Panganiban of NAPC and Undersecretary Austere Panadero of the DILG delivered keynote speeches during the conference.

The PEP-CBMS Network also launched five publications during the same occasion: The Many Faces of Poverty (Volume 1), Fighting Poverty with Facts: Community-Based Monitoring Systems, Developing and Piloting a Gender-Responsive Community-Based Planning and Budgeting Tool for Local Governance, the Palawan Human Development Report, and the Proceedings of the 2008 CBMS National Conference. The newly-accredited CBMS trainors from the DILG, NAPC, NEDA and several local government units were also recognized.
Another highlight of the conference was the session on Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Policy Shocks on Poverty which featured presentations from Dr. Roehano Briones of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Mr. Angelo Taningco of DLSU-Manila and Ms. Jasmin Suministrado of Knowledge for Poverty Alleviation Programs, Center for Conscious Living Foundation.

The discussions during the three-day conference revolved around three themes: Global Crisis Challenges for Good Governance and Ways Forward; Shaping Policy Reforms and Advancing a Human-Centered Development Agenda; and Enhancing Local Development Planning and Poverty Diagnosis through CBMS.

Achieving Development Vision
During the panel discussion of governors, Governor Rogelio Espina of Biliran, Governor Jose Carrion of Marinduque, Governor Joel Reyes of Palawan and Governor Rolando Yebes of Zamboanga del Norte shared how they utilized their CBMS databases in pursuing their development agenda. Enumerating programs where their CBMS data were used, they all shared the sentiment that indeed, CBMS is a useful tool.

Governor Espina highlighted how the data from the CBMS were used to target beneficiaries for income and livelihood programs. Meanwhile, Governor Carrion shared how they linked up with non-government organizations in implementing various programs wherein CBMS data were used as a targeting tool.

Governor Reyes, on the other hand, shared how they have been using CBMS for years as a basis for their local planning exercises. Further, he proudly said that they can readily tell their service providers which particular households are in need because of the data. The Provincial Government of Palawan has prepared two issues of Human Development Reports which were based on the data they have been gathering using the CBMS methodology.

For Zamboanga del Norte, Governor Yebes hoped that implementing their 2nd wave of CBMS in 2013 will allow them to carefully plan and achieve more significant headways in alleviating poverty.

Findings on the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty
In the first quarter of 2009, a special initiative to monitor the impact of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) which hit both developed and developing countries was launched. Dr. Celia Reyes, CBMS Network Leader, presented an analysis of the GFC’s impact on poverty in the Philippines. The results of the study showed that the impact was not as large as initially expected. However, coupled with the impact of the rising prices of rice and fuel in 2008 and the recent natural calamities, poverty incidence was expected to go up. The results further revealed that in response to the crisis, households adopted various
coping mechanisms some of which may have negative effects in the long run. The study suggested improvements in program design and targeting of government interventions.

On the other hand, Dr. Nanak Kakwani of the University of South Wales introduced a new approach of targeting the poor that could be applied to CBMS. He developed a targeting indicator, which provides the probability of a program selecting a poor or a non-poor as a beneficiary.

Use of CBMS for Disaster-Risk Management at the Local Level
Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (MPDC) Engr. Evaristo Pandi of Labo, Camarines Norte shared with the participants how CBMS was used for disaster-risk management in their municipality. Using their household-level maps, they were able to identify households which were vulnerable to disasters enabling them to immediately respond to crisis situations. For instance, evacuation centers nearest to the affected areas were immediately pinpointed. Monitoring of affected households and distribution of relief goods were also facilitated through this method.

Engr. Frances Duarte of Olongapo City shared how they were able to make more detailed hazard maps using household-level maps of CBMS, thus allowing for identification of hazard-prone households and installation of early warning devices. Further he said that the CBMS data is used as a reference of the City Disaster and Coordinating Council’s Emergency Response Plan.

Meanwhile, Engr. Jovenee Sagun discussed how the city government of Puerto Princesa used its CBMS data in implementing programs geared towards fostering sustainable development.

Uses of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring
As a recipient of the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program for years 2005, 2006 and 2007, Mayor David Aurello of Dumaran, Palawan, shared how they were able to efficiently target beneficiaries using the CBMS approach for their seaweed farming and marketing livelihood, water system and salt-making projects. He reported that after the projects, there was a significant decline in the poverty incidence in the project sites and a decline in the proportion of households without access to safe water.

Echoing this, MPDC Irene Nenette Gonzales of Mercedes, Eastern Samar, shared how they were able to improve their access to sanitary toilets by using the CBMS data to target beneficiaries for their project which was also funded under the grant program. She further said that the utilization of CBMS data in their municipality did not stop upon project completion, but that they utilized their database to launch different livelihood activities.
Arch. Madonna Abul-ar, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator of Camarines Norte and CPDC Antonia Burabod of Tabaco City, Albay, both agreed that through proper targeting they were able to improve the situation of their constituents.

Global and National MDG Program Initiative
Dir. Erlinda Capones of the NEDA – Social Development Staff (SDS) presented the status of the Philippines vis-a-vis the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). She argued that by 2015, there is a big possibility that most of the MDG targets will be achieved by the country despite suffering devastation from natural calamities such as Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng and various economic crises such as the GFC and increases in the price of food and oil. However, more than the natural calamities and the economic crises, Dir. Capones noted that one tough challenge is the resource gap in financing the MDGs. To address these gaps then, she noted how the national government has prioritized the MDGs in the budget preparation process.

Ms. Corazon Urquico of UNDP-Philippines highlighted the importance of tracking the MDGs. She shared how this year, the UNDP initiated the formulation of provincial progress reports on the MDGs. She reported that a total of 10 provinces have agreed to prepare the reports using CBMS data. She further noted that the preparation of these reports is very timely given that they are able to highlight disparities across regions and localities. She argued that knowing the status at the local level is important because the status at the national level is defined by this.

Empowering Communities in Meeting the MDG Challenge
Given the thrust towards the achievement of the MDG targets by 2015, the national government, through its various line agencies, has embarked on several projects to monitor the status of the regions. Dir. Gervacio Sekda of the Statistical Research and Training Center (SRTC) shared what they have been doing in their efforts to meet the MDG challenge. The SRTC considers the CBMS a viable approach in generating subregional data that are vital to local planning and decision-making. Thus the SRTC made the four CBMS modules as part of its regular course offerings. He also shared how they are currently implementing CBMS in Batangas through an MDG project funded by UNDP.

In Region IV-A, Mr. Donakl Gawe of NEDA noted that they initially did not have the data requirements to monitor the MDGs until they implemented CBMS. He proudly shared that in fact, it’s not just their database that was greatly improved, but the local planners gained more knowledge and technical skills as well.
To illustrate further how the implementation of CBMS empowered communities in meeting the MDGs, PPDC Meynard Melo of Batangas showed how the CBMS indicators greatly complement the MDG indicators, as well as the priorities of the administration of Governor Rosa Vilma Santos-Recto.

Governor Victor Yap of Tarlac agreed with Melo in saying that CBMS has allowed them to monitor the status of achieving the MDG targets easily at the local level and added that in fact the CBMS data they have were used to target beneficiaries aimed at reaching the MDG targets. Krishna Buenaventura of Tarlac State University explained how the Provincial Government of Tarlac, the academic institutions in the province and other organizations worked together to implement the CBMS. She shared how they utilized the faculty and students of Tarlac State University for data collection, encoding and processing. Mr. Joel Zapanta from the Technical Working Group of Tarlac added that when they implemented CBMS they added an innovation to the process by having the e-data collection instead of the usual pen and paper data collection method.

Mayor Victoria Lim and MPDC Arturo Salva Jr. of Gasan, Marinduque shared their status vis-a-vis the MDG targets and highlighted the fact that it is through CBMS that they were able to know where they stand, what they have to achieve and what they need to do to achieve their goals. This was also the point made by Edna Tongson of the Provincial Planning and Development Office of Agusan del Sur when she gave a brief overview of where Agusan del Sur is in terms of achieving the MDGs.

Applications of CBMS for Evidence-Based Policymaking at the Local Level
Vice Governor David Ponce de Leon of Palawan shared how they were able to utilize CBMS in their campaign against substance abuse. He noted that the CBMS’ use in poverty alleviation programs complements their Anti-Drug-Abuse Program which consists of preventive education programs, information dissemination and establishment of community outreach programs, among others. He argued that in contrast to the traditional planning method against drug abuse where initiatives begin at the top level and are based on perceived needs, in the CBMS planning method, the initiatives begin at the community level and are based on actual needs.

Another example of the concrete use of CBMS in evidence-based policymaking was given by MPDC Arnold Guyguyon of Asipulo, Ifugao. He shared how the CBMS data allowed communities to determine and decide the direction of their development and identify which programs fit their needs. Also, the communities were empowered to seek assistance since they have data to prove to the policymakers that these are the types of interventions that they need.
Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS in the Comprehensive Development Plan

Dir. Manuel Gotis of the Bureau of Local Government Development (BLGD)-DILG discussed how the Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) and the CBMS can be integrated in the Comprehensive Development Plans of LGUs. As a more concrete example of the integration of the LGPMS and the CBMS for the CDP, CPDC Merlita Lagmay of Pasay City presented how this process will benefit the LGUs since the data needed in the LGPMS can be provided by the CBMS. CPDC Naulie Cabanting of Candon City echoed this by saying that the CBMS data is very rich and very useful for sectoral planning.

Uses of CBMS for Provincial Development Initiatives

Provincial Board Member Allan Santiago and TWG Member Nephtali Morgado of Agusan del Sur showcased the use of CBMS in their province. Further, they introduced the new system based on CBMS that they developed.

Mr. Rene Paraba of the Provincial Planning and Development Office of Sarangani shared that statistics generated by Small Area Estimates (SAE) of the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) revealed Sarangani was one of the poorest provinces in the country. He said that this situation seemed unrealistic to all development stakeholders in the province. Thus, the province decided to implement CBMS in February 2008.

Meanwhile, Mr. Loy Canales, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator of Zamboanga del Sur discussed the interventions to help scale-up poverty alleviation in the province: preparation of CBMS-based development plans; reduction in the number of waterless barangays; improvement in access to livelihood opportunities; increase in health insurance coverage; rationalization of resource allocation, formulation of social policy memos; and preparation/updating of PDPFP-CLUPs-CDPs. All of these, he said, were identified with the help of the results of the CBMS survey.

Uses of CBMS for Improving Local Governance in Mindanao

Governor Erle John Amante of Agusan del Norte shared that in their province, the CBMS was used to prepare different plans: Barangay Development Plans, Disaster Risk Management Plan, Provincial Investment Plan for Health, Municipal and Provincial Ecological Profile and the Participatory Initiatives In Governance Project (PING). The data has also been used in various projects such as the SEA-K, cash transfer, and investment programs among others.

Likewise, Mayor George Minor of Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur said that the situation in their municipality is not unlike other municipalities – poverty still remains as their top concern. Being a 3rd class municipality, the municipal government launched a number of programs aimed at alleviating poverty. These programs, to improve efficiency and effectivity in program
delivery, were designed based on their situation illustrated by the CBMS data they collected.

In a similar note, Municipal Administrator Alanixon Sekla of Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte shared how they implemented projects based on a barangay’s profile. This scheme enabled them to launch more programs that could help alleviate poverty the municipality. The CBMS data allowed them to tailor-fit their programs to the needs of the barangay.

Regional Development Initiatives on CBMS
Regional Director Oskar Balbastro of NEDA-MIMAROPA (IVB) argued that CBMS still remains to be the most cost-effective and easy-to-sustain system available to LGUs that can generate household information aggregated from the barangay level up to the provincial, regional and national levels. And given that it has both spatial and statistical data, it is very useful in physical planning and disaster risk management. He noted that CBMS can augment national data, especially on agriculture and tourism, the two resource sectors of the region.

On the other hand, Assistant Regional Director Aida Laruda of DILG-Region VIII, shared that from the initial 16 municipalities which first implemented CBMS in Eastern Visayas, they now implement the system region-wide. Because of the presence of data, some provinces were able to avail of development grants. Given the benefits they get from implementing CBMS, the DILG-Region VIII went a step further by strengthening its collaboration with the Commission on Population to integrate CBMS core local poverty indicators with population and development indicators in the preparation of the ecological profile as an input to the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). This is in response to the DILG’s circular on the harmonization of plans at the local level.
Opening Remarks

Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities, and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance

Celia M. Reyes*

Welcome to the 6th CBMS National Conference!

The annual CBMS National Conference in the Philippines convenes national and local policymakers, planners, and development stakeholders to discuss and share the recent progress in the implementation and applications of the community-based monitoring system. Over the years, CBMS has been found useful for local development planning and budgeting, poverty mapping, program design and targeting, and monitoring the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

This year’s theme is “Building Partnerships, Strengthening Capacities, and Fostering Responsive and Accountable Governance.” Our partnerships with national government agencies and local governments have facilitated the adoption of CBMS in the country. This system is now being applied in 59 provinces, of which 31 are implementing it province-wide. The National Anti-Poverty Commission, the Department of Interior and Local Government, and the National Economic and Development Authority have been our key partners in the advocacy and capacity-building efforts. With their support, capacities of local governments have been strengthened, and these are manifested in more responsive plans and budgets, and better targeted programs.

Among the highlights of this year’s conference are presentations on the uses of CBMS for monitoring the impact of the global financial crisis on poverty and for managing disaster risks. There will also be presentations on the status of provinces and municipalities vis-à-vis the MDG targets. This gathering has been made more meaningful with the participation of governors and mayor who will share their vision for their provinces and show us how CBMS is helping them achieve such vision.

* Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Research Network Co-Director and CBMS Network Leader
We would like to express our gratitude to our development partners for their continuing support to the CBMS Network. In particular, we are very honored to have with us our distinguished President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro; our dynamic DILG Undersecretary Austere Panadero; the Executive Director of the Angelo King Institute Winfred Villamil; our energetic governors; and our very supportive CBMS focal persons and representatives from national government agencies and academe. We would like to express our gratitude to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), which has been supporting our program for the last 18 years. Through their support, CBMS is now not just being implemented in 59 provinces in the Philippines; it is applied in 14 other countries as well.

On behalf of the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team, we welcome and thank you for participating in this annual gathering of CBMS practitioners and supporters.
Welcome Remarks

Promoting Good Governance through CBMS

Winfred M. Villamil*

Our partners in development efforts, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen, good morning!

On behalf of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies, let me extend our warmest welcome to all of you on this 6th National Conference of the Community-Based Monitoring System.

The CBMS, as you all know, is a systematic way of collecting information on the well-being of the population in a community. The indicators used in the collection of data are able to capture the multidimensional aspects of poverty and to correctly assess the needs of the poorest households in a community. As such, CBMS has proven itself to be quite an effective tool by local governments, civil society, national government, and various multilateral and bilateral development agencies in the identification of concrete and focused policies, programs, and projects to alleviate poverty in the locality.

It is also used to evaluate the efficacy of interventions and to monitor progress in poverty alleviation. Indeed, it has proven itself to be so effective that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) have partnered with us to pilot test the use of CBMS in monitoring progress in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the local level.

One of the important uses of CBMS is to make sure that the programs and projects of government effectively target and benefit poor households.

The information contained in the survey are also used by scholars and researchers, particularly at the De La Salle University where the project is based, to analyze the causes and consequences of poverty.

* Executive Director, Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies, De La Salle University-Manila
They are also used to determine the impact of exogenous shocks such as natural calamities, recession, and the global economic crisis on poor households.

We have, in fact, sessions during this conference on disaster risk management and on monitoring the impact of the global crisis on poverty.

The CBMS is now being implemented in 59 provinces, 667 municipalities, 41 cities, and 17,244 barangays. Indeed, having CBMS in an LGU has become the benchmark in determining who among our local chief executives are serious in pursuing development in their jurisdiction.

This conference brings together policymakers, program implementers, and other CBMS practitioners to share lessons in the implementation and use of CBMS in development planning, program design, and impact monitoring, among others.

It provides an excellent opportunity for our partners and other stakeholders to share experiences in the implementation of the CBMS and to identify lessons and determine how the information can be used.

Let me take this opportunity to recognize and thank our partners in this undertaking. First of all, our long-time partner who has been with us since the start of the project: the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), represented here by our friend Dr. Evan Due; our partners in government—the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and NEDA; our partners in the various development agencies—AusAID, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and UNDP; and most of all, our most important partners in the local government, our governors and mayors.

Let me end by wishing all of you a fruitful conference.

Thank you and good day!
Welcome Remarks

Framing Appropriate Policy Responses and Investing in a More Sustainable Future Using CBMS

Evan Due*

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) has been supporting CBMS since its inception in the early 1990s here in the Philippines. As part of the global Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) research network, CBMS has long been an important initiative for the Centre and has positively impacted the lives of many people in the Philippines as well as around the world.

The value of the research programs which IDRC supports is how it ultimately improves living standards through better education, nutrition, incomes, and livelihoods. For this to occur, research must not only be policy-relevant but also empower local communities and citizens to actively participate in the development process. The strategy of CBMS of involving communities in knowledge and capacity building - alongside local researchers and planners - in generating evidence-based information for development planning, reflects IDRC’s core value of partnership in development research.

It is an honor to be part of the Sixth Philippines National Conference on CBMS being organized by the PEP-CBMS team of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies, and led by Dr. Celia Reyes and the CBMS family here in the Philippines. This year’s conference is especially significant given the impacts of the recent global financial and economic crisis and the importance of CBMS in assisting policy makers and planners in framing appropriate policy responses to mitigate the negative impacts on the poor and for investing in a more sustainable future. The CBMS approach is being recognized internationally as an appropriate tool for understanding the dynamics of household and community responses to the crisis, and how public

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policy and resources can best be tailored to cushion the shocks as well as stimulate productive action.

On behalf of IDRC, we are also pleased that the work of CBMS which originated in the Philippines has been adopted in many developing countries and continues to grow. The recent IDRC In_Focus publication titled Fighting Poverty with Facts reflects the lessons of CBMS for development planning and is gaining much popularity. IDRC is delighted to be a partner with CBMS and looks forward to continued cooperation.
I was extremely delighted to learn that my colleagues are hosting the 6th CBMS National Conference. While we were awaiting the opening of this conference, we were huddled at the back, discussing our plans for the seventh conference. I will not yet reveal our collective plans, but I am sure we are all looking forward to another exciting year, especially when the time comes to celebrate our seventh conference here in the Philippines.

We have already acknowledged our honorable guests. But I think, more than anyone else, our special welcome goes to all of our local government units, and everyone here who is eager to help our country. I also extend my welcome to those of you who embark on poverty alleviation projects, those of you in similar lines of work, and those of you who create actual changes in the future of young people.

I know that the majority of you here are from local government units that have been working with us for several years. I am certain that all of you have lessons and findings that you want to share with one another. But I also encourage you to actively listen during the conference proper and share your personal discoveries with the other participants during informal sessions and breaks.

This is what the CBMS project is all about. Information is power and once you give individuals access to accurate information, you have the formula for sustainable development. At the height of the CBMS project in the Philippines and in other countries, it provided its partners in government, the academe, nongovernment organizations, and other entities working in the frontlines accurate information and data to help them provide efficient services and make important decisions.
Our vision at the De La Salle Angelo King Institute is to be a national league board through the conduct of research that becomes a basis for institutional and quality innovation. The amazing turnout of participants in this conference is a global testament to how CBMS, over a span of six years, fulfilled its long-term objective of providing reliable and credible information at the local level for policymaking, program design, and impact monitoring. The De La Salle University continues to support the CBMS network’s two-fold objectives: to develop local research capacity on poverty issues and to develop new concepts and methodologies through fundamental research. The availability of household- and community-level data from CBMS also benefits our researchers and faculty at the De La Salle University because these data help us in our discussions.

Whether dealing with major crises such as the Maguindanao massacre or the ordinary concerns that are part of the mandates of local government units, the most basic information needed is accurate data. In this conference, you will see the many ways that CBMS can help, such as in enabling a better understanding of the global financial crisis, for example, or providing an idea of the impacts of natural calamities and other shocks on poor households. We are fortunate that we have and can produce more robust data as we guard the changing conditions at the household level.

The results of various research using CBMS data provide directions to policymakers on how to design interventions that will help reduce poverty in the country. By providing the data and publishing them, we will be able to effectively choose those methods with the best potential for growth and success. CBMS data facilitate interventions from the community, local government, national government, and even from regional or international entities. The exciting development is that CBMS has shown a convergent approach on poverty reduction not only in our country but also in other countries in Asia and Africa as well. We are very pleased to note that the CBMS Network is expanding continuously with ongoing projects in three continents. In Africa, CBMS is used in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Zambia. In Asia, it is used in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam. In Latin America, it is used in Peru.

My personal vote is that since we are very much a part of the CBMS network, we will not be left behind by the other countries we are working with. As we build up our CBMS data here in the Philippines, we can show in words and deeds that said data are indeed used for eliminating poverty from our lives.

As host of the CBMS conference, let me share the University’s desire to continue to work with all of our partners, most importantly those of you who are part of poverty alleviation and poverty reduction efforts in your local government units.
To us, conferences like this one are very important because it is probably the only time that we can get together to assess where we are as well as to chart the way forward. I am not sure about the profile of the participants here, but I think it includes participants who have attended past CBMS conferences like our local government units from the Province of Palawan. For those who have been involved in CBMS for quite some time, it is now time to find out how to further progress as well as maximize the use of CBMS. I hope this conference will leave something important in the sense that, while the participants here bring different perspectives, collectively, we can assess how we can make full use of CBMS so that we will not just have 59 provinces on board but have CBMS implemented in all provinces in the Philippines.

I am really glad that this conference will allow us to have more sharing. This is the way to go for our local governments. We will be able to share with others how to carry out a program on an operational basis and ideas on how we can improve the implementation of such programs. Over the past years, our partners in poverty alleviation programs have been engaged in challenging work. Many programs have been put in place but they raised the question of how to improve targeting. The CBMS has been localized and implemented in different parts of the country. That helped us a lot by giving us the necessary information on the extent of the problems, and this, in turn, enabled the local governments to make better designed and more responsive programs. I hope this conference will be an opportunity for everyone to look into the practices and best practices of those local governments, and I hope everyone will make full use of this conference as a way of sharing what can be done better and
what can be improved. In order to improve the way we target, we should be able to identify the priorities of our poverty alleviation activities.

The implementation of CBMS over the years also helped us improve at the local level. We now have basic information, a database to start our planning for poverty alleviation and other similar programs. Next year is another transition year for local government units. Transition will bring about changes. I think today we can train and probably next year, we should be able to make sure that the transition could happen more smoothly in the sense that the information we have put in place will guide those who will succeed our current local leaders.

The first six months of 2010 will be a time for what we call “revisiting local plans.” Under the current guidelines agreed upon by the four oversight agencies, there is a definite set of plans that we are following and the first six months of 2010 will be devoted to assessing the plans. We will again check the realities on the ground and look at the development conditions. We hope that the CBMS will be a key component of this overall assessment. It should be made part of sound, good, evidence-based, situational analysis, which will definitely help. So I hope this conference will look into those issues on how we can better prepare our local leaders and help them better understand the local situation for local plans and programs.

As we move forward, there are, of course, obvious challenges that we need to face. While we have instruments, I think what we need to ask is how to sustain CBMS in the 59 provinces. The second concern is how to expand coverage. The third concern is the matter of disaster management. We should pay more attention to how we can harmonize or integrate disaster management into the CBMS. The CBMS is the more practical tool for assessing vulnerabilities at the community level. We can decide areas where we can put resources and ideas together.

We can also make use of this conference as an opportunity to share our thoughts and suggestions on how to improve the CBMS as a tool even as we expand the coverage. There are, of course, other initiatives like targeting. We, at the Department of the Interior and Local Government, look up to Dr. Celia Reyes and her team to guide us in this aspect. At the end of the day, we need to be one in terms of the tools and methodologies used in identifying the poor because ultimately, we will have one output. I therefore hope that this conference will be a very productive one and I encourage everyone to take part in the dialogue and discussions that will take place and learn how we can further improve.

Thank you very much and congratulations!
The Uses of CBMS in Biliran

Rogelio Espina*

If we will benchmark or compare the performance of the Province of Biliran against the results of national censuses or representative surveys in the context of the CBMS core local poverty indicators, we will generally get an uneven picture of development as indicated in the summary table below.

The proportion of children aged zero to less than five years old who died is 0.6 or six per 1,000 live births. In terms of proportion, the prevalence of underweight children under five years old was 5.4 percent.

In terms of living conditions, the proportion of households considered as informal settlers was 2.5 percent. Meanwhile, the proportion of households with access to safe drinking water and sanitation was quite high at 93.6 percent and 71.4 percent, respectively.

Our CBMS data also underscore the fact that although elementary and secondary education in public schools is free, many other factors prevent the children from continuing their studies, foremost of which is poverty.

Our data likewise indicate the massive extent of poverty prevailing in the province. In 2006, 64.8 percent of households in the province were living below the poverty line. Meanwhile, 53.1 percent were living below the food threshold. The survey further revealed that 12.9 percent households experienced food shortage.

On the other hand, we have no peace and order problem in the Biliran. In fact, there are no New Peoples Army (NPA) forces operating in the province; NPA rebels only come to the province for “rest and recreation.”

Faced with these situations, we at the provincial government together with the line agencies of the national government have to improve the productive capacities of families, especially those in the agriculture sector, and provide them with more employment opportunities. More graduates today

* Governor, Province of Biliran
prefer white collar jobs such as those being offered by the call center industry. There is a waning interest in agriculture and we must work to reverse this. One way of doing such is by providing support to technology and research and development as well as to the academe in agricultural colleges.

In eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, agri-fishery production must be improved by intensifying and diversifying the farming and fishery programs through better production technologies and the provision of support infrastructure. Increased income of families and the generation of livelihood opportunities can be addressed by developing the small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in all municipalities of the province. An efficient marketing strategy has to be institutionalized and access to credit needs to be enhanced. Developing the local tourism industry can contribute greatly to providing more employment opportunities, as well as institutionalizing the

| Table 1. CBMS Core Indicators, Province Biliran, 2005-2006 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| **Indicator**                   | **Proportion** | **Performance** |
| **Health & Nutrition**          |                |           |
| - Children 0-4 years old who died | 0.6           | Good     |
| - Women who died due to pregnancy-related causes | 0.3 | Good |
| - Children 0-5 years old who are malnourished | 5.4 | Good |

**Housing**
- Households living in makeshift housing | 4 | Fair |
- Households who are informal settlers | 3.4 | Fair |

**Water & Sanitation**
- Households without access to safe water | 6.4 | Good |
- Households without access to sanitary toilets | 28.6 | Good |

**Basic Education**
- 6-12 years old not attending elementary school | 23.4 | Poor |
- 13-16 years old not attending high school | 43.6 | Poor |
- 6-16 years old not attending school | 17.4 | Poor |

**Income & Livelihood**
- Households with income poverty threshold | 64.8 | Poor |
- Households with income below food threshold | 53.1 | Poor |
- Households who experienced food shortage | 12.9 | Fair |
- Unemployment rate (15 years old and above) | 22.3 | Poor |

**Peace & Order**
- Victims of crime | 0.8 | Good |

**CBMS Composite Indicator** | 2.4 | Fair |
Public Employment Service Office (PESO) and conducting regular jobs fairs. Sustaining the supplemental feeding program would require greater NGO and private sector participation.

In the aspect of providing universal education, the Learning Competency Improvement Program can be strengthened by establishing functional reading projects in all schools and making use of computer-aided learning materials. Also, the implementation of the Alternative Learning System (ALS) can be improved by providing adequate supplies and instructional materials.

For health, the implementation of the Maternal and Child Healthcare Program has to be sustained and continuous advocacy on lifestyle and infectious diseases has to be undertaken. Adequate and efficient water supply and sanitation facilities in underserved areas shall be installed.

The lives of slum dwellers can be improved through proper planning of settlements. Beneficiaries of government housing and resettlement projects must be thoroughly assessed and selected, especially for the Core Shelter Project and the Community Mortgage Program.

On reversing the loss of environmental resources, environmental laws should be strictly enforced by concerned government agencies. The government should continue to provide protective infrastructure to hazard-prone areas, regulate indiscriminate land conversion to protect prime and viable agricultural lands, encourage urban expansion to environmentally compatible areas, and review and update the land-use plans and zoning of the municipalities.

In closing, I would like to state that CBMS must be used not only by local governments but by national government agencies as well. I sincerely hope that we will put into action the lessons and insights we have gained from our CBMS implementation so that in our own little way we can help liberate our people from poverty and deprivation by sustaining our own interventions that have proved to be successful; by adopting and replicating other LGUs’/agencies’ strategies to the targets that we find difficult to attain; and by simply attuning our activities to the actual needs of our local communities, which we can ascertain through the CBMS.
The Use of CBMS in Improving Local Governance: The Experience of the Provincial Government of Marinduque

Jose Carrion

To the organizers of the Sixth National Conference headed by Dr. Celia M. Reyes, PEP co-director and CBMS Network Leader, all the Governors, Mayors and delegations from the more than 50 provinces in the country that are CBMS implementers, national government agencies, members of the private sector and donor agencies, good day to all.

My province is proud and fortunate to be a CBMS implementer. For this, we wish to thank the World Bank for making Marinduque as one of the recipients of the WB-ASEM Technical Grant Assistance in 2005. Thank you too to the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) for endorsing Marinduque for the grant assistance and for the technical assistance as well. Today, Marinduque will be part of the launching of *The Many Faces of Poverty* (Volume 1).

Having learned that 61 percent of the total household population of my province in 2005 were living below the poverty threshold (based on the estimates of the National Statistical Coordination Board or NSCB), I was really taken aback, for this was not the situation I left after the term of my first governorship from 1996 to 1998.

Thus, upon assumption to duty as Governor of the Province once again in July 2007, I immediately instructed the Provincial Planning and Development Officer (PPDO) to conduct an in-depth data gathering which I can use as reference to determine the target beneficiaries of the available funds that we have for the administration’s priority programs and projects, guided by my Executive Agenda. I then issued an authorization for the updating of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS), especially since the enhanced CBMS for MIMAROPA coincided with my priority thrust: Health, Education/Environment,

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* Governor, Province of Marinduque
Agriculture and Tourism (HEAT). This action was fully supported by all the Municipal Mayors in the province, with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement manifesting their support in updating the CBMS.

An Executive Order institutionalizing CBMS as the set of the official data of the province will be issued as soon as the 2008 CBMS data gathering is completed so that the whole province will speak a common language.

Why CBMS?
CBMS can capture almost all the basic data that we need especially because our programs and projects would pertain to human and social capital like health, education, nutrition, housing, income, peace and order and the production sector. In particular, CBMS is viewed as a way of providing necessary data as a guide for developing, planning and monitoring at the local level and is seen to be practically reliable for decisionmaking processes. The tool can also provide adequate information to back up the policy formulation, design and implementation of programs and projects for the eligible beneficiaries. Without a reliable source of data, local planners would usually just opt to, as the saying goes, shoot an arrow that could hit less or none at all of the eligible targets. But with the CBMS, we now have a set of disaggregated data that can easily target and identify Who are the poor? Where are the poor? And why are they poor?

The policymakers' point of view on the need for up-to-date and reliable data for program implementation
With the limited resources that LGUs are facing, development planners and policymakers, particularly the Local Chief Executives, need to ensure that the delivery of basic services is prioritized with the most efficient cost-benefit ratio. We need to be precise in identifying development needs and in measuring levels of performance. We need reliable data in order to formulate appropriate programs and implement projects.

In order to help make our local plans and programs effective, various tools had been initiated in the past. However, we soon realized that these tools had been understudied, and hence, ineffective and untimely, costing the government so much funds yet had not been that useful. Moreover, even before a tool could be fully implemented, it would either be scrapped or replaced by another tool, and then the same fate would happen again and repeated through the years.

The practice of discontinuing programs that are associated with previous administration/s is also an issue that is difficult to address as it has become part of the culture. Validating the identified poor families as target beneficiaries normally took a long time, and required so much resources, both manpower and financial, that validation was no longer able to be undertaken. And before
programs could have been fully implemented, political events like election would take place, causing a change in administration as well as a change in priorities.

**The National Agenda on fighting poverty is also the administration’s goal to achieve**

Poverty is viewed as the deprivation of essential assets and opportunities which every human being is entitled to and should have access to like primary health care services, basic education, decent housing and employment.

The goal of eradicating poverty is a national concern but without the LGUs’ support, this is close to impossible to achieve. The strength of the national government can be drawn from the LGUs. Partnership with the private sector and nongovernment organizations (NGOs) is also vital, considering the high dependency of LGUs on the internal revenue allotment (IRA) which is so meager to address the issues of hunger and poverty.

In one of my assembly meetings with barangay officials, I directed them to fully support the conduct of the CBMS survey and announced to them that no barangay projects shall be provided with financial assistance if they will not use the CBMS for targeting beneficiaries. In this way, it will be easier to monitor the output of the programs and projects, and determine whether the programs being implemented and assistance being provided have an impact on their lives or not, economically speaking. Otherwise, there is a need to review or enhance the plans and programs.

When I took my oath of office in 2007, I had a mindset or goal to reduce poverty by 30 percent before the end of my current term, using the 2005 CBMS data as my baseline. As of today, all the five municipalities in Marinduque except Boac whose results are still pending, have their data completed and validated. The proportion of population has decreased by up to more than 20 percent from the 2005 CBMS.

Many of the projects initiated and implemented under my administration are geared toward human capital development. To wit:

- **The Haplos ni Bong** that extends microfinancing assistance to small entrepreneurs with no interest to recipients; as of this date, we already have 221 families and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that have availed of the program. We foresee that this will further expand this coming year;

- **The various livelihood projects through the Technology and Livelihood Development Center.** I assigned Gen. Recaredo Sarmiento II, a former PNP Chief, as a planning adviser and agriculture program consultant to lead the Committee that will ensure that appropriate livelihood projects will be implemented. Among these are:
Pangassius Farming for Upland Farmers covered by the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) Forest project
Community-Based Agri Tourism and Eco Park covering 100 hectares of upland forest in one of the poorest barangays in Buenavista, benefiting 200 small fishermen.
500 hectares of DBP forest project, benefiting upland farmers and small fishermen.
19 Barangay Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (BFARMcs) as recipients of 200 fishing paraphernalias
Abaca processing, bee-keeping, and others

• The establishment of an employment kiosk, assisting jobseekers right at the doorstep of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO);
• Provision of school supplies to all Day Care Children, Pre-elementary and Grade 1 school pupils province-wide because the lack of money to buy school bags and other school supplies is one of the reasons why most parents cannot send their school-aged children to school;
• The provision of computer units to grade schools was to be at par with other schools and school children and to attain global competitiveness;
• A more improved nutrition program to address the malnutrition problem. Our Provincial Nutrition Office (PNO) continues to conduct research on nutritious food and do promotion and advocacy on Marinaya products;
• Procurement of Mobile Clinic to bring the government programs closer to the people, particularly those in the countryside;
• Universal coverage of Philhealth for Indigent Families in the Province in collaboration with LGUs.
• The approved Provincial Investment Plan for Health to be funded under the Formula 1 of the Department of Health using our CBMS as baseline data. Concerns on Maternal Mortality and Infant Death will be addressed as soon as BeMoc facilities are established.
• Spearheading of the formation of the Marinduque Education Stakeholders Alliance, a tripartite organization that will focus on the education sector. The Provincial Government ties up with the 57-75 Reverse the Education Crisis campaign to assist the local government in addressing the problems on education and nutrition.
• Implementation of farm-to-market roads to give access to the production sector and the establishment of the Barangay Bagsakan for agri products in support of our farmers, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture.
- Implementation of Barangay Operationalization for Neopolitical Governance empowering our Barangay government and the community to develop and implement plans at the local level.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was also very generous in providing grant assistance to Marinduque, specifically for the municipality of Torrijos for its waterworks projects in barangays Bangwayin, Payanas and Malinao; one (1) livelihood project (Organic Native Chicken Dispersal) for Bagtingon, Buenavista; and one (1) waterworks project for Tiguion, Gasan.

The Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) is also known for having a great heart in helping poor provinces like Marinduque. Our sincere gratitude to them for helping our province. I know that Gasan was one of its waterworks project recipients, amounting to PhP 1million.

The Norwegian Mission Alliance (NMA) used the CBMS data in validating the information generated from national government agencies. Five barangays in Buenavista that are in the bottom poor became the pilot barangays of the Norwegian Government through the Norwegian Mission Alliance in terms of providing project assistance, particularly in education, nutrition, community and youth development programs. My Office also signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the NMA to build a stronger partnership between our two entities. This also signaled the expansion of their program in other barangays and municipalities wherein for this year, it expanded its program in the municipality of Torrijos. Through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) KALAHI-CIDDS program, there were seven barangays in the municipality of Buenavista which were the beneficiaries of waterworks projects. These are the barangays with difficulty in terms of access to safe water.

Hopefully, as soon as the updated CBMS survey for 2008 is completed, the results will show that these barangays, which were given assistance based on the CBMS findings, will no longer be among those experiencing inaccessibility to such services and facilities.

Lastly, may I say that CBMS is one effective and useful tool to be used as a guide for a leader to push through his priority programs and projects. But how effective and useful could it be if the one leading his people is not a hands-on leader? A leader should be one who has a Vision, one who knows the people he is leading and the province where he grew up in and who cares for it very much. For some of us who are aware of what the CBMS can do, it can be viewed as a tool for someone who is aspiring for a good political career. It is an arm that can strengthen someone's political status. If used correctly and with sincerity, and with the Almighty's guidance and love, CBMS is good politics and good politics is good governance. And let CBMS not be used to serve only
building strong partnership between the LGUs and CBMS will in due time alleviate the sufferings of the ballooning population of poor families and will help us achieve our Vision.

And finally, may I once again thank the CBMS Network Coordinating Team headed by Dr. Celia Reyes for all their help and support. We will always welcome any assistance coming from them.
Palawan’s CBMS Experience: Instrumental in Broadening the Adoption of CBMS by Other LGUs

Joel T. Reyes*

Dr. Celia M. Reyes, PEP Co-Director and CBMS Network Leader, fellow workers in government, representatives of the private sector, friends, ladies and gentlemen, good morning!

It is with much pride and honor to present to you the benefits we have reaped in the implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) and how it has helped in improving local governance in Palawan. As you may well know, CBMS started in Palawan in 2000 after a successful pilot testing of its survey instrument in 1999. We have already done our fourth round of CBMS updating in 2008 and we will persevere in pushing through with its implementation until the last day of my term as governor of Palawan.

CBMS started in Palawan upon my instruction to our provincial planning and development coordinator to institutionalize a system where we can objectively measure the impact of government and private sector interventions on the well-being of our constituencies. We met Dr. Celia M. Reyes in 1999 and she introduced CBMS to us. We were convinced that this system was the instrument that we needed to concretize an improved local governance under my administration.

For me, local governance involves effective planning and decisionmaking, monitoring and evaluation of implemented actions and impact assessment of these actions in the form of programs and projects. These are functions mandated to local government units (LGUs) by virtue of the enactment of the Local Government Code which paved the way for decentralization.

We envisioned Palawan to be a province where the people, culture and economy are in harmony with the environment and natural resources and living in peaceful, orderly and prosperous communities. This vision is

* Governor, Province of Palawan
embodied in our 2009-2014 provincial development and physical framework plan, which sets the development direction for the province. We are recognized to be the first province to produce this framework plan which is in accordance with the prescribed standards set forth by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) under their manual guidelines. Major data presented in this document were derived from the sectoral data of the CBMS.

In order for us to attain our vision, we have formulated, through an inter-agency workshop, the developmental strategies to be pursued in the 23 municipalities of Palawan. For easier management and concerted action, we clustered the municipalities into seven zones based on their location. A core municipality or growth area was determined as the center of development for the zones. The strategies adopted are based on the potential advantages of the zones.

The strategic directions and compositions of the zones are: zone 1, which comprises Cuyo, Agutaya and Magsaysay as an agro-marine development area since its strength lies in its fishery and marine resources; zone 2, which consists of Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan or the Calamianes Group of Islands, and considered to be an aqua-based eco-tourism destination area; zone 3, which is composed of Roxas, Taytay, San Vicente and El Nido (this zone is well-suited to be an agriculture, fishery and eco-tourism area); zone 4, which includes the municipalities of Aborlan, Narra and Espanola, and dubbed as the rice granary of Palawan; zone 5, which is composed of Brooke’s Point, Bataraza, Quezon, Rizal and Balabac, and is being promoted as a cross-border trading area between Brooke’s Point, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah and Malaysia; zone 6, which consists of the island municipalities of Araceli and Dumaran and are potential areas for seaweeds production, establishment of mangrove-friendly shrimp culture, marine fish culture in cages, and mangrove crab and mollusk culture; and zone 7, which comprises the municipality of Kalayaan with tremendous potentials for fishery and dive site development. In consonance with the clustering of municipalities into zones, our CBMS data presentation and narrative analysis were likewise done by zone. These CBMS zonal data are presented during zonal planning workshops.

We continuously use CBMS data as our basis in our local planning exercises where we formulate the development plans at all levels, from the barangay, municipality and the province. We have available data of households that are most in need of specific interventions since we have systematized the processing of data using the Census Survey Processing (CSPro) and CBMS Statistical Simulator (StatSim) programs. With these data, we can readily pinpoint to our service providers the particular households that are eligible to receive specific projects.
CBMS plays an important role in the monitoring and evaluation of development plans, programs and projects. Part of monitoring is determining the level of physical accomplishments of programs and projects. This includes, for instance, the number of recipients who benefited from the project, be it a social or infrastructure project. To facilitate this, the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team has revised the CBMS Household Profile Questionnaire which now incorporates the list of interventions received by each household respondent. With this, we can now validate the reliability of monitoring reports submitted to us by implementing agencies. Furthermore, we can also use it as basis for the identification of other interventions that are needed by most households in a certain locality.

In addition impact assessment of programs and projects can easily be done using the CBMS data. Since we update the CBMS every two years, we have at our fingertips vital information on “before and after” project implementation situation per household. Thus, we can be provided with reliable information on how responsive our plans have been in the improvement of the welfare conditions of our people.

Local chief executives, on the other hand, can use the cycle of planning, monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment in determining if our programs and projects have been effective in responding to and addressing the problems and needs of our people. In Palawan, we have already published two human development reports, one in 2000 and another in 2006. We are confident that these documents have been useful not only for us in the government sector but also for the academe — students and researchers — and the business sector.

These reports show the welfare conditions of our people in Palawan presented by sector and indicators for the said periods. Graphs, maps and tables provide information at a glance to our readers. A narrative report by sector depicts which municipalities, for a specific indicator, are well-off or not. We have also included some recommendations as to how we can address the most prevalent unmet needs of our people.

I will just discuss the Human Development Index (HDI) for 2000 and 2006 to show you the rich information we can derive and generate from the CBMS. The HDI is a function of real income, literacy rate and lifespan of the people. The closer the level of HDI is to “1”, the better or more improved the well-being of the people is. The Palawan Provincial HDI in 2000 was recorded at 0.698, registering a 0.163 progress from its status of 0.535 in 1997. In 2006, the HDI level for Palawan was estimated at 0.778, showing further improvement.

We are in the process of producing the third edition of our human development report which will focus on an in-depth analysis of the possible factors affecting some abrupt and fluctuating changes in CBMS data. We will
also focus our study on poverty since this is the most pressing problem of our communities.

It is very humbling to know that Palawan’s CBMS experience under my administration has been instrumental to the increasing number of provinces that are now using CBMS as tool for local governance. Let all local chief executives in the country be made aware of the usefulness of CBMS in government in their respective LGUs. For me, CBMS is a legacy that I will leave not only for Palawan but for the rest of the nation where leaders have manifested their political will and resolved to utilize and implement CBMS. Foremost, I believe that CBMS is indeed worthy to be recognized as an exemplary practice of LGUs in improving governance in their localities.

On this note, let me thank all of you for your attention.
Ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

Like most of my colleagues in the League of Governors in the Philippines, there is no better vision that we all desire to achieve but the vision to uplift the living condition of our respective constituencies; make a difference in their lives, and bring to higher heights of development the province that we are given the rare opportunity to serve.

This is one vision that is perfectly attuned with the vision of the national government; for that matter, said vision is kept in every Filipino’s heart.

When the Yebes Administration took the reins of government in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte in July 2004, the province was in the top of the list of the twenty poorest provinces throughout the country.

The outcome of the Family Income and Expenditures Survey (FIES) conducted in the year 2003 showed the Province of Zamboanga del Norte having the highest poverty incidence rate of 64.6. This was quite ironic for the eighth largest province in the country and one of the most blessed in terms of natural resources. Ironic, too, for the province with the biggest cash in the bank, second only to the Province of Cebu, per published information by the Commission on Audit for about the same period.

We were thus presented with the gargantuan task to make a turnaround for the better for the province, and extricate it from being the poorest province in the entire country. That was, and still continues to be today, our principal vision for the province.

After a hundred days in office, I was interviewed and asked by the Malacañang Broadcasting Staff about my vision for Zamboanga del Norte. My response was to see my province being progressive and taken out from the list of impoverished provinces in the whole country.

* Governor, Province of Zamboanga del Norte
By progressive, I meant having more investment and job opportunities in the areas of agriculture, tourism, and trade and industry; improved health and social services and infrastructure; and a sound environment. And when we metamorphose into an enriched province, we shall empower our people to slowly become self-reliant economically, politically and socially.

We did not have the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) then, and so we launched and conducted our own poverty mapping program that provided us answers to the questions:

• WHO are the poorest of the poor;
• WHY are they poor;
• WHERE are they; and
• WHAT do they really need?

We gave importance to starting right because with limited government resources on hand, we have to make tough choices on our way to address the multi-faceted concerns of poverty.

We are now reaping the sweet fruits of this poverty mapping program undertaken.

All initiatives conceived and implemented, which focused on the identified indigent families, contributed immensely to the improvement of the poverty ranking of the province. We have effectively reduced the poverty incidence of the province by 13 percent between the years 2003 and 2008.

In terms of magnitude, this meant that roughly 10,000 families living below the poverty line in 2003 are now empowered to provide for themselves the most basic human needs of family members.

This is one significant accomplishment that makes us all truly proud and stand tall.

To name a few of these initiatives, allow me to cite the following: in the area of agriculture, we launched the Hilly Lands Greening Program or the Hi-Green Program, Isdaan sa Barangay Program, and the Manukan and Kandingan sa Barangay Programs to ensure the availability of food on the table and to augment the families’ income derived from farming and fishing, especially those families belonging to the province’s Indigenous Peoples tribes. The Hi-Green Program is likewise aimed at rehabilitating idle agricultural lands which have great promise for agri-business.

We strongly pushed for the development and promotion of our tourism industry with the celebration of the ZaNorte Hudyaka Festival on a yearly basis, starting in 2005 on the occasion of the Founding Anniversary of the province.

Today, four years after we started, the ZaNorte Hudyaka Festival has gained national recognition when it got the fourth slot in the Search for Best Tourism Event of the Year throughout the country by the Department of
Tourism, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Manila Broadcasting Corporation.

The celebration of the Hudyaka Festival is actively being participated in by the province’s two cities and 25 municipalities. It showcases the culture that binds all ZaNortehanons as a people, in particular, ethnic dances and music, and beliefs that give more color and joy to the celebration.

It brings about significant multiplier effects to the rest of the economy, namely, agriculture, transportation, business community, and food and restaurant industry, among others.

Starting in May last year, we fortified the access of some 27,279 indigent families to health services by enrolling them with the PhilHealth, with an appropriation amounting to PhP 20.0 million.

In October this year, an additional 42,696 indigent households were signed up with the PhilHealth, effectively expanding the coverage of those who benefit from the government’s health insurance through our initiative and funding. This brings the total now of those indigent families with access to PhilHealth to 69,975.

We acted quickly in implementing the Poverty Mapping Program because we knew that addressing poverty has an immediate and meaningful impact on the lives of our people who live below the poverty line.

I could go on and on with what we have been doing to achieve our vision of development for the Province of Zamboanga del Norte. But we also realize that the journey to completely extricate the province from the list of impoverished provinces in the country is still long.

Nevertheless, we know that we are going toward that direction; we see the light of hope at the end of the tunnel, so to speak.

With the CBMS scheme of identifying the priority needs of poverty-stricken barangays, we are hopeful that by 2013, more significant headways can be achieved toward achieving the vision of development that we keep in our hearts for our people and for the Province of Zamboanga del Norte.

Thank you and Abante pa ZaNorte!
The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in the Philippines

Celia Reyes, Alellie Sobreviñas and Jeremy de Jesus*

Abstract

The recent global financial and economic crisis that started in the United States and expanded to other developed countries has, to some extent, affected developing countries as well. Given the vulnerability of most developing nations, it is important to monitor the impact of this global crisis on poverty. This study, therefore, aims to assess the impact of the crisis on poverty in the Philippines. The result of this study would serve as input to policymakers when they prioritize mitigating measures that would address the crisis’ impact.

In this study, monitoring was done primarily through the conduct of CBMS surveys in selected sentinel sites. Household- and community-level data were collected to capture the different dimensions of poverty. In addition to the CBMS core indicators, specific indicators (including the outcome and impact indicators) were monitored to determine the effect of the global crisis. These indicators were identified based on the relevant key transmission channels for the Philippines, including overseas employment and remittances, and local employment. The study also looked at the different coping mechanisms adopted by households in response to the crisis. Finally, it attempted to identify those who were able to access the programs being implemented in the community.

Ten (10) barangays all over the Philippines were selected to serve as poverty observatories or sentinel sites for monitoring the impact of the global crisis. These sites were selected based on the relevant transmission channels for the Philippines. Results reveal that although the impact of the crisis is generally minimal, the crisis has affected some specific sectors in the economy. The degree of impact also varies among different groups of households. Hence, policies should be designed to mitigate the impact of the crisis on these affected sectors and household groups.

* Director, Research Associate and Research Assistant, respectively, of the CBMS Philippines Team. The authors are grateful to Steffie Joi Calubayan for her excellent research assistance.
1. INTRODUCTION

The recent global financial and economic crisis that started in 2007 in the United States and expanded to other developed countries has, to some extent, affected developing countries as well. Developing countries could be affected by the financial crisis in two ways: (1) financial contagion and spillovers for stock and bond markets in emerging markets; and (2) economic downturn in developed countries. Economic downturn in developed countries may have significant impact on developing countries through the following channels: (a) trade and trade prices; (b) remittances; (c) foreign direct investment and equity investment; (d) commercial lending; (e) aid; and (f) other official flows.

Although the economic impact of the global financial crisis would vary across different countries, it is expected that, in general, there would be further pressures on current accounts and balance of payment. The crisis could also result to weaker export revenues, lower investment and GDP growth rates and loss of employment. In terms of social impact, the lower growth would translate into higher poverty and even slower progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (Velde, 2008).

The Philippines was not able to escape the adverse consequences of the crisis. This can be clearly shown by Philippine data for the period 2004-2009. In terms of economic growth, the Philippines posted an annual rate of 3.8 percent in 2008, which is down from 2007’s 31-year high of 7.1 percent (Figure 1). In 2009, the country posted a relatively lower GDP growth at 0.6 percent, 1.5 percent and 0.76 percent during the first three quarters of the year, respectively. Note that the first and the third quarter figures are still lower than the revised official government target of 0.8 to 1.8 percent for the year. Growth projections for the Philippines have been trimmed down due to potentially lower exports and foreign direct investments, among others. In fact, data on these key economic indicators show that the global economic slowdown has affected the Philippine economy.

In terms of exports, the country’s earnings for September 2009 declined by at least 18.3 percent (from US$4.446 million in September 2008 to US$3.634 million) year-on-year, which was primarily due to lower demand from advanced economies (Figure 2). Negative growth in total exports is observed since October 2008. Note that the United States and Europe accounted for about 17.8 percent and 20.0 percent, respectively, of the Philippines’ export income for the period January-September 2009. It is also important to highlight that electronics, which is the country’s major export product accounting for about 57.6 percent of the total export revenues from January-September 2009, is the most affected. There was an increasing trend in the volume of exports starting March 2009 but year-on-year growth remained in negative territory.
In terms of employment, at least 41,000 people in the Philippines lost their jobs as of 24 March 2009 amid the global crisis. The total number covered job losses from the crisis since October 2008, including overseas-based contract workers from recession-hit economies (about 5,700 persons) and employees in domestic factories (35,300 persons) affected by the fall in global demand. Hence, unemployment rate as of April 2009 stood at 7.5 percent (Figure 3). During this period, the manufacturing sector reported a negative
year-on-year growth (i.e., about -1.5%) in the number of employed persons. However, based on the report on employment as of July 2009, the unemployment rate stood at 2.9 million compared to 2.7 million in the same month in 2008. This translates to unemployment rate of 7.6 percent in July 2009, an increase of 0.2 percentage points compared to previous year’s figure.

![Figure 3. Unemployment Rate, 2004-2009](image)

Furthermore, employment growth, measured in terms of labor turnover rates started to decline significantly during the second quarter of 2008 (Figure 4). However, it improved considerably to 2.2 percent in 2009 as compared to the 2008 figure of nearly zero growth rate (0.27%). It is also important to highlight that the manufacturing sector recorded a negative labor turnover rate during the first quarter of 2009. This means that in the manufacturing sector, separation rate (or terminations of employment or resignations that occurred during the period) is higher than the accession rate (or the additions to employment).

Another negative impact of the global financial crisis is the slower growth in remittances from overseas Filipino workers (Figure 5). According to the reports of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), remittances coursed through banks grew by 8.6 percent in September 2009 year-on-year, notwithstanding the global financial crisis. Remittances during the period reached US$1.447 billion. It is important to highlight, however, that the September growth is lower compared to the 16.9 percent growth a year ago. The BSP expected that remittances will grow by about 4 percent this year to US$17.1 billion, “noting that the impact of the global economic crunch on the amount of money sent by Filipinos overseas was less severe than expected.” It had earlier projected that
The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in the Philippines
Celia Reyes, Alellie Sobreviñas and Jeremy de Jesus

Figure 4. Labor Turnover Rate, 2007-2009

Source: BLES

Figure 5. OFW Remittances, 2007-2009

Source: BSP
remittances this year would only be the same as last year’s level of US$16.4 billion. It pointed to more favorable trends in recent months for the revision of forecast figures. Note that based on the data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), a total of 1,236,013 workers were deployed in 2008, which is 14.7 percent higher compared to the 1,077,622 in 2007. The growth (year-on-year) in the number of deployed workers, however, declined during the third and fourth quarters of 2008 (Figure 6).

**Figure 6. Deployment of OFWs, 2007-2009**

![Graph showing the deployment of OFWs, 2007-2009](image)

Source: POEA

Given the vulnerability of the Philippines, it is important to determine the potential impact of this global crisis on poverty. This study, therefore, aims to assess the impact of the crisis on poverty in the Philippines. In particular, the study aims to determine which sectors of the economy are affected by the crisis. It also looks at the different coping mechanisms adopted by households, as well as the programs implemented by the government, in response to the crisis. The result of this study can help policymakers in prioritizing measures that can mitigate the impact of the crisis on poverty. In particular, the results can help in identifying and designing the necessary social protection programs, as well as in refining program targeting, and in addressing the incidence as well as stimulus of the taxes and expenditures. The need for improved social protection programs has already become clear when the food and energy price rose just before the financial crisis and global slowdown.
2. METHODOLOGY

Given the objectives of the study, the impact at the household and community level will be analyzed using data on different dimensions of poverty obtained from community-based monitoring systems in the Philippines. This study demonstrates how CBMS can be used as a tool for monitoring the impact of shocks (such as the global financial and economic crisis) on poverty.

2.1 Transmission Channels

Based on the review of the literature and further discussions, the relevant channels by which the impact of the global crisis could affect households were identified. In the case of the Philippines, these channels include overseas employment and remittances, and local employment. Under local employment, there were two categories: (1) entrepreneurial activities; and (2) wage earners and salaried workers. This study, therefore, focuses only on these channels. These key transmission channels helped in the identification of the poverty observatories or sentinel sites for monitoring the impact of the crisis, as well as the additional indicators that were monitored at the household- and community levels.

2.2 Data and Indicators

In addition to the existing CBMS core indicators (which are being considered as impact indicators), specific outcome indicators were monitored to determine how households are affected by the global crisis. As mentioned earlier, the outcome indicators were identified based on the relevant transmission channels for the Philippines. Indicators of coping mechanisms were also monitored to determine how households were adopting to the crisis.

2.3 Project Coverage

In this paper, results are presented for 10 selected sites1 in the Philippines that serve as poverty observatories or sentinel locations for monitoring the impact of the crisis (Table 1). As mentioned earlier, these were identified based on the relevant transmission channels for the country. They include four sites in rural areas, five sites in urban areas outside NCR, and one site in urban NCR. To be consistent with the CBMS methodology, all households in the selected sites were included in the survey. Selected barangays under this study consist of about 3,274 households. For this round of data collection, the reference period used is six months (i.e., from November 2008 to April 2009).

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1 The CBMS Network initiative covers 13 sentinel sites for the GFC Impact study. Data encoding for the remaining sites is still ongoing.
## Table 1. Total Number of Households and Total Population per Barangay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barangay</th>
<th>Municipality/City</th>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Households</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td>Pasay City</td>
<td>NCR-4</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>192 Urban NCR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>856</td>
<td>24.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Outside NCR</td>
<td>Labo</td>
<td>Camarines Norte</td>
<td>1,738</td>
<td>49.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gumamela</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>432</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villa Angeles</td>
<td>Orion</td>
<td>Bataan</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poblacion III</td>
<td>Santo Tomas</td>
<td>Batangas</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magbangon</td>
<td>Cabucgayan</td>
<td>Biliran</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masikap</td>
<td>Puerto Princesa City</td>
<td>Palawan</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Ando</td>
<td>Borongan</td>
<td>Eastern Samar</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Miguel</td>
<td>Llorente</td>
<td>Eastern Samar</td>
<td>174</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvacion</td>
<td>Puerto Princesa City</td>
<td>Palawan</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Vicente</td>
<td>Santa Elena</td>
<td>Camarines Norte</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,499</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4 Data Collection Instruments and Conduct of Necessary Training

Aside from the CBMS Core questionnaires (Household Profile Questionnaire and Barangay Profile Questionnaire), rider questionnaires were prepared and administered to selected sentinel sites to collect the additional information required for monitoring the indicators. Two new rider questionnaires that were developed are: (1) HPQ Global Crisis Rider (CBMS Form 5); and (2) BPQ Global Crisis Rider (CBMS Form 6). These rider questionnaires were designed particularly to collect information on the indicators of outcome and impact of the crisis, as well as the different coping mechanisms adopted by households in response to the crisis.

To help the enumerators, manuals on how to administer the questionnaires were prepared. The CBMS Manual 5 presents the details on how to accomplish the HPQ Global Crisis Rider Questionnaire while the CBMS Manual 6 provides the instructions on how to fill out the BPQ Global Crisis Rider Questionnaire. The CBMS-Philippines Team provided training to enumerators and supervisors, particularly on the key concepts of the survey and on how to administer the questionnaires. The training also came with hands-on exercises on the conduct of the survey. Finally, assigned data encoders were given a short training on the revised encoding system.

The CBMS encoding system was also revised to incorporate the questions contained in the rider questionnaires.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Impact on Households through Overseas Employment and Remittances

3.1.1 Returning OFWs Due to Retrenchment

As mentioned earlier, data on deployment from the POEA reveal positive year-on-year growth in the total number of deployed workers during the period 2007 to 2009. However, the CBMS data shows that some OFWs were retrenched during the period November 2008 to April 2009. In particular, about 440 of the 3,274 surveyed households, which translate to about 13.4 percent of all households interviewed, have at least one member previously working abroad. Although 38.0 percent of respondents reported that they had an OFW who returned during the period, only about 16.2 percent pointed to retrenchment or lay-off as the reason for their return.

A large proportion of retrenched OFWs used to work in Saudi Arabia. Data for the 10 sentinel sites reveal that about 25.0 percent of OFWs retrenched came from Saudi Arabia, followed by the United States (17.4%). Data disaggregation also shows that most of the retrenched OFWs were males (14.3%).
Table 2. Distribution of Retrenched OFWs, by Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of Retrenched OFWs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

Figure 7. Distribution of Retrenched OFWs, by Country

Most of the retrenched OFWs used to work in private households with employed persons. In fact, these workers represent about 21.4 percent of the retrenched OFWs (Table 3). A relatively large proportion of retrenched OFWS came from the health and social work sector (17.9%) and manufacturing sector (14.3%).
3.1.2 Wage Reduction Among OFWs

Rather than returning to the Philippines, some OFWs agreed to wage cuts during the reference period. About 9.3 percent of households with OFWs reported that their OFW members experienced wage reduction during the period November 2008-April 2009. Specifically, about 42 OFWs experienced such wage reduction. Major reasons mentioned for the decrease in wage are: (1) reduced working hours (33.3%); (2) the firm where the OFW works is cutting costs (26.2%); and (3) the firm where the OFW works is incurring losses (11.9%).

About 71.4 percent of OFWs who experienced wage reduction are working in Asian countries. A significant proportion is, in fact, working in the Middle East. In particular, about 37.2 percent of the affected OFWs are working in Saudi Arabia, followed by those in the United States (9.3%) and Hong Kong SAR (9.3%). Disaggregation by sex reveals that male workers dominate the group of OFWs with a reduction in wage or salary.

Most OFWs (30.2%) who experienced wage reduction are service workers, and shop and market sales workers. This is followed by those who engage in

---

Table 3. Retrenched OFW, by Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Private households with employed person</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Health and social work</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Manufacturing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Financial intermediation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Transport, storage and communication</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Real estate, renting and business activity</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Hotel and restaurants</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Wholesale &amp; retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, and personal household goods</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Other community, social and personal service activities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Construction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Male | 20 | 71.4 |
Female | 8 | 28.6 |

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
trades and related work (14.0%), technicians and associates (14.0%), and laborers and skilled workers (14.0%). The rest works in other types of occupation. Still, male workers dominate the group of affected workers (Table 5).

3.1.3 Decline in the Amount and Frequency of Remittances Received

As mentioned earlier, data from the BSP indicate that remittances continued to increase, although the pace slackened. Based on the CBMS data, however, not all households with OFWs actually received remittances during the six-month period of the study. In fact, about 21.6 percent had reported that they did not receive remittance. In addition, about 8.9 percent of households with OFWs experienced a reduction in the amount of remittances received during the period. An estimated 7.1 percent of all households experienced a decline in the frequency of receipt of remittances.

The largest proportion of households with OFWs who experienced a decline in the amount and frequency of receipt of remittances, is reported in urban NCR (about 18.3%). Meanwhile, the reported figures among households in rural and urban areas outside NCR were only 8.9 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively (Table 6).
Table 5. OFW who Experienced Wage Reduction, by Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Job</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Occupations</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service workers and shop and market sales</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trades and related workers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technicians and associate professionals</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers and skilled workers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant and machine operators and assemblers</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officials of government and special interest organization, corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors and supervisors</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers, forestry workers and fisher folk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special occupations</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

3.2 Impact on Households through Local Employment

The study also tried to determine how households were affected through local employment by looking at those who are involved in entrepreneurial activities and those who are wage earners and salaried workers. Based on the CBMS data, there were 5,701 members in the labor force, 88.5 percent of which were employed during the reference period. This translates to an unemployment rate of 11.5 percent. About 62.5 percent of the employed individuals were males (Table 7).
Table 6. Households Affected by the Crisis through Remittances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban NCR</th>
<th>Urban Outside NCR</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>905</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>1,738</td>
<td>3,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH with OFW</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH who received remittances during the past 6 months</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH who experienced a decline in the amount of remittances received</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH who experienced a decline in the frequency of receipt of remittances</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
3.2.1 Opening of New Business and Closing of Existing Business

Only a few households were engaged in a new business during the period (Table 8). Results showed that a meager 2.1 percent of households surveyed actually engaged in a new entrepreneurial activity during the six-month period of the study. This translates to 75 new businesses set up in all the barangays covered by the study. Majority (i.e., about 57.3%) of these new businesses were related to wholesale and retail trade, and repair of motor vehicles. Most households that engaged in a new business were living in urban areas.

A few households also closed their existing business during the period. In fact, only 19 households (or 1.0%) reported that they closed their businesses during the period. These results confirm the minimal effect of the crisis in these select sites in terms of households’ engagement in a business or entrepreneurial activity.

Table 8. Outcome Indicators: Entrepreneurial Activities, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Magnitude</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HHs engaged in new entrepreneurial activity</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs engaged in an entrepreneurial activity</td>
<td>1,817</td>
<td>51.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs which closed a business</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs with significant change in the monthly income from the business</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>79.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs with significant change in the no. of employed persons in the business</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
3.2.2 Change in the Number of Employed Persons and Amount of Monthly Income from the Business

About 8.7 percent (or 158) of households engaged in entrepreneurial activity experienced a significant change in their monthly income from their business (Table 8). Majority of households (79.1%) reported a decline in their monthly income from the business while the remaining 20.9 percent experienced an increase in income from business. The proportion of households that suffered a decline in monthly income from a business is lower in rural areas (i.e., 69.2%) as compared to those households living in urban areas. Furthermore, a meager 0.3 percent of households engaged in at least one entrepreneurial activity reported a significant change in the number of employed persons in their business. Fifty percent of these businesses said that they decreased the number of their employees during the period of the study.

Wage Earners and Salaried Workers

3.2.3 Loss of Job

The global crisis potentially affected local employment given the reduction in exports, including export of electronics. Unemployment rate, using the data from NSO, went up and employment in the manufacturing sector declined. Labor turnover rate for the first quarter of 2009 in the Philippines was at 0.27 percent, indicating that the separation rate (layoffs) was just slightly lower than accession rate (hirings).

During the period November 2008 to April 2009, 92 households reported job loss of at least one of their members, representing 2.2 percent of all households surveyed (Table 9). This translates to a total of 109 persons who lost their job during the period. Many of the affected individuals used to work as service workers and shop and market sales workers, accounting for 23.9 percent of all affected members (Table 10). In addition, there are also those who used to work in the manufacturing industry, which accounts for about 20.2 percent of the total number of persons who lost a job (Table 11). Hence, this sector could potentially be affected by the crisis through the employment channel. Note that no individual from the agriculture sector was reported to have lost his/her job due to layoffs.

3.2.4 Reduction in Wage, Number of Working Hours and Employment Benefits

Some of the employed individuals also experienced a reduction in wages, number of working hours, and employment benefits (Table 12). These employed persons would prefer working in the same job despite these reductions rather than moving to another job or being unemployed. Based on
### Table 9. Outcome Indicators, Wage Earners and Salaried Workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HH with member who lost job</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members who lost job</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH with member who experienced wage reduction</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH with member who experienced a reduction in number of working hours</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HH with member who experienced reduction in employment benefits</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

### Table 10. Members who Lost Job, by Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of job</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service workers and shop and market sales workers</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers and skilled workers</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant and machine operators and assemblers</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technicians and associate professionals</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

### Table 11. Members who Lost Job, by Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private households with employed person</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other community, social and personal service activities</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale &amp; retail trade, repair of motor vehicles</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotels and restaurants</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, storage, and communication</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration and defense; compulsory social security</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial intermediation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and social work</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity, gas and water supply</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining and quarrying</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate, renting and business activities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra-territorial organizations and bodies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
the responses given during the survey, about 1.6 percent (or 83 persons) suffered a decline in wage. In addition, 73 persons had reduced working hours while eight persons suffered from a reduction in benefits. Although there are more employed men than women, the reported proportion of employed women affected by reduced wages (1.9%) and working hours (1.9%) is slightly higher as compared to men.

### Table 12. Members who Experienced Reduction in Wage, Working Hours or Employment Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No. of Employed Persons</th>
<th>With Wage Reduction</th>
<th>With Reduced Working Hours</th>
<th>With Reduced Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3,155</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1,891</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,046</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

### 3.3 Impact on the Agriculture Sector

Data on the group of households involved in agriculture tend to show that the agriculture sector was not affected much. According to the responses gathered during the conduct of the survey, no individual from the agriculture sector has lost his/her job due to the crisis. Out of the 3,499 households included in the survey, only 775 (23.7%) were involved in the agriculture sector, with Barangay Salvacion (Puerto Princesa City, Palawan) recording the highest proportion of households engaged in an agricultural activity at 87.8 percent (Table 13). Among those households that reported a decline in income from existing businesses, 61 (48.8%) were involved in the agricultural business while 64 (51.2%) were not engaged in an agricultural activity. Note that, in general, the average income of households working in the agriculture sector is significantly lower than those of non-agriculture households. Only 27 (of the 927 households involved in agriculture), or 2.9 percent, reported a decline in their income from their agricultural business (Table 14). The decrease is mainly due to damages caused by natural calamities or inclement weather and not necessarily related to the global crisis.

Among all sites included in the study, Villa Angeles (Orion, Bataan) recorded the highest proportion of households affected by the global financial crisis (Table 15). In particular, about 22.3 percent of the households living in Villa Angeles were affected by the crisis in terms of overseas employment and remittance or through local employment. Note that most of the barangays with a high proportion of households engaged in any agriculture activity were not
Table 13. Households Involved in the Agriculture Sector, by Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>No. of HHs</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salvacion</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>87.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ando</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>71.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Miguel</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>69.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Vicente</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>67.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magbangon</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>53.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gumamela</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villa Angeles</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masikap</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poblacion III</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brgy. 192</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>927</strong></td>
<td><strong>26.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

Table 14. Distribution of Households by Type of Involvement in the Agriculture Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of HHs</th>
<th>Agri HHs</th>
<th>Non-Agr HHs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of HHs</td>
<td>927</td>
<td>2,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average income (Php)</td>
<td>22,792.8</td>
<td>74,446.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHs with a decrease in income from agricultural business</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Agri HHs refer to those which are involved in the agriculture sector while Non-Agr HHs refer to those which are NOT involved in the agricultural sector

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

affected by the crisis. For instance, in Ando (Borongan, Eastern Samar), where about 71.8 percent of the households were involved in an agriculture activity, only 1.1 percent were affected through the local employment channel, and 2.3 percent through overseas employment and remittance channel.

3.4 CBMS Core Indicators: Changes over Time

3.4.1 Panel Data for Barangay 192, Pasay City

A panel dataset was prepared for Barangay 192 (Pasay City, NCR) by defining the same household as one with at least one member present in both rounds (i.e., in 2005 and in 2009). Results reveal that only 324 households
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barangay</th>
<th>Affected by GFC</th>
<th>Affected through Overseas Employment and Remittance</th>
<th>Affected through local employment</th>
<th>HHs Engaged in any Agriculture Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>192</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Outside NCR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gumamela, Labo, Camarines Norte</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Villa Angeles, Orion, Bataan</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poblacion III, Sto. Tomas, Batangas</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magbangon, Cabucayan, Biliran</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masikap, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ando, Borongan, Eastern Samar</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Miguel, Llorente, Eastern Samar</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Vicente, Sta. Elena, Camarines Norte</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
(out of the 836 households during the 2005 survey) matched in both survey rounds. The panel data created show that the proportion of poor households in the area slightly increased from 8.3 percent in 2005 to 9.9 percent in 2009 (or a 1.6 percentage point increase) (Table 16). This is despite the fact that the unemployment rate decreased slightly—by 4.9 percentage points—from 17.5 percent in 2005 to 12.6 percent in 2009. These results may imply that the decrease in the proportion of unemployed1 does not necessarily increase the per-capita income of households living in the area. While the total number of unemployed persons decreased by 44, the number of employed individuals declined by 57 (Table 17). The total members of the labor force also decreased by 101 (from 634 in 2005 to 533 in 2009). One of the possible reasons for such drop in the labor force is the splitting of households in 2005. That is, note that only one of the split households was included in the panel dataset.

Based on job status, about 85.5 percent of all employed persons are working in a permanent job while the rest are either working in a non-permanent job (i.e., whose status may be described as either short-term, seasonal/casual work, or worked on different jobs) (Table 17). The number of members who have a permanent job remained almost unchanged while the number of persons who are considered working in a non-permanent job declined from a total of 76 in 2005 to 19 in 2009, translating to a decrease of 75.0 percent. Thus, members who lost their job within the reference period are those who are working in non-permanent jobs.

Another possible explanation for the increase in poverty incidence during the period is the potential drop in the mean income of employed persons. Note that there was a significant increase in the number of laborers and unskilled workers by 112 (or 86.2%). In addition, the number of professionals, associate professionals, service workers, trades and related workers all dropped significantly for the period 2005-2009 (Table 18). Side by side the decline in the number of employed persons in 2009 (some of whom are professionals, service workers, or trades workers), there was also a shift in the type of occupation for those members who were still working. It is possible that new entrants into the labor market work as laborers and unskilled workers.

3.4.2 CBMS Core Indicators for the Ten Selected Sites (All Households)

Annex A shows the CBMS core indicators reflecting the potential impact of the global crisis (and possibly, of other shocks) on poverty in 10 selected GFC sites. Results show that poverty incidences in most of the sites increased

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1 The difference in the employment definition (based on NSO’s official definition) used in the 2005 and 2009 surveys may have also contributed to the decrease in unemployment rate. The definitions used in the surveys differ terms of the adoption of the “availability criterion” and the imposition of a “cut-off period for the job search” of the discouraged workers in the 2009 survey.
### Table 16. CBMS Core Indicators for Panel Households in Barangay 192, Pasay City, 2005 and 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBMS Core Indicators</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-4 years old who died</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy related causes</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-5 years old who are malnourished</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelter</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that are squatters</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>43.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water and Sanitation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to safe water supply</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 6-12 years old who are not attending elementary school</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 13-16 years old who are not attending secondary school</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the food (subsistence) threshold</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that experienced food shortage</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who are unemployed</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peace and Order</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who were victims of crimes</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
**Table 17. Job Status of Employed Members in Barangay 192, Pasay City, 2005 and 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job status</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed Persons (15 yrs old and above)</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>85.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term, seasonal or casual</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worked on different jobs on day to day</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed Persons (15 yrs old and above)</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total No. of Labor Force</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>42.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

**Table 18. Distribution of Employed Workers by Type of Occupation, 2005 and 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>2005 Data</th>
<th>2009 Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officials of government and special-interest organization, corporate</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>executives, managers, managing proprietors and supervisors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>6.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technician and Associate Professionals</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>11.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerks</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>5.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service workers and shop and market sales workers</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>42.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers, forestry workers and fisherfolk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trades and related workers</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>13.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant and machine operators and assemblers</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>11.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers and unskilled workers</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special occupations</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>524</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
in 2009 as compared to their previous CBMS round. Although the change in the poverty indicators could not be attributed solely to the global crisis, the interactions of different shocks that households faced in between periods definitely contributed to the worsening condition, and hence, increased poverty.

**4. COPING MECHANISMS ADOPTED BY HOUSEHOLDS**

Households usually cope with shocks (e.g., the global crisis) by increasing receipts, reducing consumption or shifting to cheaper substitutes. During the period of the study, majority of households (i.e., 86.0%) reported that they modify their consumption of food (Table 19). In particular, most households tried to reduce consumption of relatively expensive food items. Another common strategy adopted is to buy food in retail and smaller portions/packages. Next to food, clothing is another major expense affected when households try to cope with the shocks.

It should also be noted that some of the coping strategies adopted by households may have negative long-term consequences, especially on women and children. For instance, about 57.0 percent of the surveyed households reported that they modified their expenses related to health while a quarter of the surveyed households said that they modified some of their expenses related to education. In terms of health, households (33.8%) usually cope by shifting to generic drugs/cheaper medicines. In addition, about 28.4 percent of all respondents mentioned that they shifted to medicinal plants or herbal medicines in case one of their household members got sick. The other most common coping strategy in terms of health expenses include shifting to government health centers/hospitals and resorting to self-medication. It is also worth noting that 172 (or 4.9%) of all the surveyed households reported that they did not buy medicines deemed necessary.

In terms of education, about 1.4 percent of students were withdrawn from school during the period November 2008 to April 2009 and in the coming school year (i.e., SY 2009-2010). In addition, about 0.8 percent of students enrolled in private schools in the past year moved to a public school during the period November 2008-April 2009 and in the coming school year. Although these strategies are not damaging in the short-run, they can be counter-productive in the medium- and long-run.

Another major coping strategy adopted by households is to tap various fund sources. In fact, about 40.0 percent of households reported that they borrowed money from various fund sources while 13.0 percent used their existing savings. Another 6.6 percent of households either pawned or sold their assets. Furthermore, another major strategy is to seek an additional source of income. About 6.3 percent of households said that at least one household member looked for work in addition to their existing job. However, not all of
them were able to find and do the additional job. In fact, only 4.6 percent of households reported that at least one of their members actually took an additional work during the period. A few households also reported that at least one household member not previously working took a job to cope with the crisis. Some also tried to look for work abroad.

All in all, the impact of the global crisis is not as severe as the impact brought by food and fuel price shocks. Annex B presents some details of the different coping strategies adopted by households by location. Note that some of the coping strategies adopted by households may differ by location. For instance, in terms of health, majority of households in the rural and urban areas outside NCR tried to adopt by using medicinal plants or herbal medicines while more households in urban NCR shifted to generic brands or cheaper drug brands. In terms of education, more households in the rural area and urban areas outside NCR reduced the allowance given to members who study while a large share of households in urban NCR used second-hand uniform or shoes.

Table 19. Coping Strategies Adopted by Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coping Strategy</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Modified the ff: Type of Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>3,008</td>
<td>86.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>2,871</td>
<td>82.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>2,668</td>
<td>76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel</td>
<td>2,290</td>
<td>65.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>2,138</td>
<td>61.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1,996</td>
<td>57.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>1,785</td>
<td>51.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>1,188</td>
<td>34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Tapped various fund sources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowed money</td>
<td>1,401</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used savings</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawned assets</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold assets</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Sought additional source of income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looked for additional work</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did additional work</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed members not previously working</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looked for work abroad</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
Given the recent global crisis, the government put in place programs to mitigate the impact of the shocks. These programs included the Comprehensive Livelihood and Emergency Employment Programs (CLEEP), Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and National Food Authority (NFA) rice program, among others. The succeeding sections present a brief description of some relevant programs and provide updates on the status of the implementation.

5. MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF THE GLOBAL CRISIS

General Description of Programs

5.1 Comprehensive Livelihood and Emergency Employment Programs (CLEEP)
This program aims to provide emergency employment and income-generating services to the poor, returning expatriates, workers in the export industry, and out-of-school youth. It aims to protect these vulnerable sectors from threats and consequences of reduced or lost income brought by the global economic crisis. President Gloria Arroyo had made it clear that the CLEEP is to be implemented nationwide as long as the world is in recession. Government department heads were instructed specifically to (1) hire for emergency employment; and (2) fund and supervise livelihood projects.

A total budget of PhP13.69 billion was allocated to this program to ensure jobs and employment opportunities are available for poor and underprivileged Filipinos during the crisis. About PhP8.37 billion out of the total budget allocation committed by the agencies had already been obligated for the implementation of CLEEP. Based on a report on October 2009, the programs/activities/projects (PAPs) under CLEEP intended to employ 466,644 individuals nationwide. It is estimated that 333,088 Filipino workers had been given jobs (or 71.4% accomplished as of October 2009) under the CLEEP program since its implementation in January that year.

5.2 Philhealth-Sponsored Programs
This program aims to provide medical privileges to the marginalized sector of the Philippine society. This program is open to qualified indigents belonging to the lowest 25 percent of the Philippine population. Under this program, the government shoulders the monthly contribution of qualified beneficiaries. The goal is to achieve universal health insurance coverage by enrolling 4.7 million indigent families or 23.5 million poor beneficiaries. As of March 2009, there were about 3.4 million indigent families, or about 17 million beneficiaries, enrolled.
5.3 Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)

This is one of the poverty alleviation programs of the government (through the Department of Social Welfare and Development) that were launched to shield the people from the effects of high oil and commodities prices. The local government units are expected to comply with the conditions of the program in terms of providing basic facilities and supplies for health such as vaccines and family planning services, and education. Under the program, a family beneficiary with maximum of three children will receive a monthly allowance of PhP1,400, a PhP500 monthly allowance for nutrition and health expenses, and PhP3,000 for one school year or PhP300 per month for educational expenses per child.

Beneficiaries have to comply with certain conditions to continue receiving the cash grants. These conditions include parents ensuring that their children attend school at least 85 percent of the time and receive vaccinations and health care. This was formerly called the Ahon Pamilyang Pinoy Program.

As of June 2009, 4Ps has benefited 695,746 poor households nationwide. The program targets to provide a total of 700,000 households starting June 2009. The expansion was approved by President Arroyo in December 2008 with a corresponding additional budget of PhP5.0 billion. The areas included in the second set of implementation were selected from the 100 poorest municipalities from the poorest provinces based on the 2003 Small Area Estimates (SAE) of the National Statistical and Coordination Board (NSCB).

5.4 NFA Rice Access Program

This program offers NFA rice at subsidized prices, which can be bought through NFA rolling stores, Tindahan Natin outlets, and other government-run stores. In 2008, 14 million families availed of the subsidized NFA rice. That same year, NFA distributed 13,108,343 bags to Tindahan Natin outlets and 953,972 bags of rice to the Bigasan sa Parokya outlets. These total 14,062,315 bags at PhP16.75 per kg or PhP837.50 per bag of 50 kg. The 2008 worldwide crisis on the rice supply resulted in high acquisition cost of imported rice by NFA at PhP34.00 per kg, or PhP1,700 per bag. Given this, the agency incurred total losses of PhP12.1 billion, exclusive of the cost of Iron-Coated Rice Premix.

From January to November 16, 2009, the NFA distributed a total of 32,217,942 bags of 50 kg rice with daily average sales of 146,445 bags nationwide. The average acquisition cost of NFA rice was PhP31.80 per kg, or PhP1,590 per bag for 2009 rice importation. These stocks were sold to accredited retailers at a highly subsidized price.

5.5 Self-Employment Assistance-Kaunlaran (SEA-K)

This is a capability-building program in coordination with the Local Government Units (LGUs), which is designed to enhance the socio-economic
skills of poor families to establish and self-manage a sustainable community-based micro-credit organization for entrepreneurial development. Its target beneficiaries are unemployed and under-employed families. A press release dated 27 August 2009 showed that 1,172 individuals were employed under the SEA-K program. The regions covered, so far, were the following: CAR, ARMM and Region XII.

**General Findings**

In response to the global crisis, several programs were identified and implemented by the Philippine government. Some of these programs (such as NFA and 4Ps), however, were already existing even before the crisis. For instance, the conditional cash transfer program was stepped up in response to the crisis.

Based on preliminary findings, many of these programs suffer from weak targeting. For instance, the long-running NFA program, despite the issuance of family access cards to avoid mistargeting still suffers from significant leakage and exclusion. Among all households belonging to the first income quintile, 68.9 percent were able to access the NFA rice program. Note that even the households in highest income quintile were also able to access the NFA rice program.

**Table 20. Households who were Able to Access the NFA Rice Program (10 GFC sites)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Quintile</th>
<th>Magnitude</th>
<th>% of HHs in the Income Quintile who were able to access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>68.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>53.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>36.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,367</td>
<td>39.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

It is also important to highlight that there are relatively high leakage and exclusion rates for all sites covered in the study. In fact, about 48.9 percent of all households who access the program are considered non-poor (leakage rate) (Table 21). In addition, 35.6 percent of all poor households were not able to access the program (exclusion rate). The highest leakage rate is reported for urban NCR while the largest exclusion rate is observed in urban areas outside NCR. This also reflects poor targeting of the program.
It is important to mention that there are two key questions that need to be considered when implementing a targeted program. First, whether the poor are reached; and second, are there any benefits that are leaking to non-poor or non-eligible persons or households. Hence, identification of poor households is critical. Such can be identified properly based on income or based on a Proxy Means Testing (PMT) Model. Based on income, the leakage rate for NFA rice program was 48.9 percent for all sites while exclusion rate is 35.6 percent (Table 22). Note, however, that the leakage rate is relatively higher when the poor are identified based on PMT. Under the PhilHealth program, about 65.8 percent of the income poor were unable to access the PhilHealth program. However, about 65.4 percent of the PMT poor households were able to access the program.

Table 21. NFA Rice Program: Leakage and Exclusion Rates (10 GFC sites)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Leakage Rate</th>
<th>Exclusion Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL SITES</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>44.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Area Outside NCR</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Leakage Rate</th>
<th>Exclusion Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Sites</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>44.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Outside NCR</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

Table 22. Leakage and Exclusion Rates for NFA and Philhealth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NFA</th>
<th>Philhealth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leakage</td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on Income</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Sites</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>44.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Outside NCR</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on PMT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Sites</td>
<td>61.1</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban NCR</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>44.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Outside NCR</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>40.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study aims to monitor the economic and social impact of the global financial and economic crisis in the Philippines. Although the impact was not as large as initially expected, modest increase in poverty is expected. However, if coupled with the impact of price shock in 2008 and the recent natural calamities, poverty incidence is expected to go up significantly. This is more worrisome given that the recent reversal in poverty incidence observed in 2006, when poverty incidence went up for the first time since 1985.

Results of this study showed that the potential impact of the crisis on poverty varies across different groups of households. In fact, certain groups of households or individuals were affected more as compared to other groups. The crisis has affected the households in terms OFW remittances and local employment. That is, households highly dependent on remittances as a source of income would be adversely affected through reduced remittance receipts. In addition, households with members who are working in the affected sectors (e.g., manufacturing) could be negatively affected through reduced income. This may, therefore, result in an increase in poverty incidence, albeit modestly. In response to the crisis, households adopted various coping strategies, some of which may be damaging and counter-productive in the medium- and long-run. For instance, one of the coping mechanisms adopted by households is to withdraw their children from school, which may have negative long-term consequences. The health status of the affected households could also be adversely affected in the long-run if they do not seek medical attention.

Although the government has identified and implemented programs that could mitigate the impact of the crisis, more efficient targeting is necessary. The recurring problem in social protection programs highlights the need for a good targeting mechanism to ensure that only the eligible beneficiaries actually benefit from the program. Household-level data, such as those being generated by the community-based monitoring system, would be useful in identifying eligible beneficiaries. Hence, an evaluation of current programs is needed so as to identify those that are ineffective and need not be implemented anymore.
ANNEX A. CBMS Core Indicators for the Ten (10) Selected Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBMS Core Indicators</th>
<th>URBAN NCR (Pasay City)</th>
<th>URBAN OUTSIDE NCR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-4 years old who died</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy related causes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-5 years old who are malnourished</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelter</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that are squatters</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>30.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water and Sanitation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with access to safe water supply</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 6-12 years old who are not attending elementary school</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 13-16 years old who are not attending secondary school</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the food (subsistence) threshold</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that experienced food shortage</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who are unemployed</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peace and Order</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who were victims of crimes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2005, 2006 and 2009
### ANNEX A. CBMS Core Indicators for the Ten (10) Selected Sites (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBMS Core Indicators</th>
<th>Ando (Borongan, Eastern Samar)</th>
<th>San Miguel (Llorente, Eastern Samar)</th>
<th>Salvacion (PPC, Palawan)</th>
<th>San Vicente (Sta. Elena, Camarines Norte)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Nutrition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-4 years old who died</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy related causes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0-5 years old who are malnourished</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shelter</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that are squatters</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water and Sanitation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to safe water supply</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 6-12 years old who are not attending elementary school</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 13-16 years old who are not attending secondary school</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td>43.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold</td>
<td>49.7</td>
<td>52.3</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>75.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the food (subsistence) threshold</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households that experienced food shortage</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who are unemployed</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>38.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Peace and Order</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who were victims of crimes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2005, 2006 and 2009
### The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in the Philippines

Celia Reyes, Alellie Sobreviñas and Jeremy de Jesus

#### Coping Strategies

**Tapped various fund sources**
- Used savings
- Sold assets
- Pawned assets
- Borrowed money

**Sought additional source of income**
- Did not buy medicine
- Discontinued intake of prescribed medicine
- Shifted to government health centers and hospitals
- Shifted to alternative medicine
- Resorted to self medication
- Reduced prescribed drug intake
- Lessened the availment of medical treatment for any illness
- Did not seek medical treatment for any illness
- Used medicinal plants/herbal medicines
- Shifted to generic drugs/cheaper drug brands
- Others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coping strategies in terms of education</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Urban NCR</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Urban, Outside NCR</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did not attend school</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>1,401</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifted from private vehicle/school bus to commuting</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>1,184</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifted from private vehicle/school bus to commuting</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>1,184</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009

#### ANNEX B. Coping Strategies Adopted by Households in the 9 Selected Sites, by Location, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coping strategies</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Urban NCR</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Urban, Outside NCR</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did not buy medicine</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>1,401</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifted to government health centers and hospitals</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>75.9</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>1,061</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifted to alternative medicine</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resorted to self medication</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>45.2</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not seek medical treatment for any illness</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used medicinal plants/herbal medicines</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shifted to generic drugs/cheaper drug brands</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>1,184</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CBMS Survey 2009
Use of CBMS for Disaster Risk Management at the Local Level: The Labo Experience

Evaristo Pandi*

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) was initiated in the Province of Camarines Norte in 2003. The Municipality of Labo was the first Local Government Unit (LGU) to pilot test the system. During this time, the CBMS was still a work in progress and so, we committed a few errors here and there that were part of our learning curve. For example, our processing system then was MS Excel-based.

There was also some form of resistance from the local council. As you know, we had implemented the MBN and SRA survey in the past, and this resistance stemmed from the fact that the welfare conditions of the people were not improving despite these surveys. Despite the community’s limited resources and various forms of resistance posed by its different agencies, the municipality, however, was able to implement successfully the first round of enumeration in its 52 barangays.

With our achievements in CBMS, the municipality and local leaders of Labo were recognized for the following:

- Gawad Kalasag Award (Best MDCC) National Disaster Coordinating Council (2004, 2006, 2007)
- Gawad Kalasag, Hall of Fame, 2008
- Outstanding Municipal Mayor, Local Government Leadership Award 2008
- Punongbayan Award of Excellence 2008

* Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Municipality of Labo, Province of Camarines Norte
• Outstanding Accredited Government Agency (CSC Region V) 2002 & 2006; (CSC Central Office) 2002
• Sentrong Sigla Award, DOH Center for Health & Development (Region V) 2002
• Plaque of Recognition, Regional Winner – Search for Child Friendly Municipality 2002
• Most Active LGU Advocator of CBMS-2005

We truly believe that CBMS is one of the best tools that provide policymakers and program implementers with a good information base for decision-making. Moreover, it involves the participation and capacity-building of key persons at each geopolitical level.

We used CBMS for the following:

• Crafting the vision statement of the local government unit. Our vision statement is as follows: “Labo shall be a city serving as the administrative center of Camarines Norte, which promotes agro-industrial development for healthy, empowered and God-centered people enjoying a progressive economy in an ecologically balanced and sustainable environment supported by functional infrastructures and managed by dynamic local leaders.” In crafting our vision statement, we used the comparative results of our CBMS surveys in 2003 and 2006.

• Preparation of the municipal profile. The preparation and presentation of the Municipal Profile have changed significantly. Previous profile presentations were more on tables and graphs. On the other hand, CBMS introduced additional features into the presentation such as the GIS-Based Information System, wherein data and information where graphically represented in maps.

• Preparation of disaster-risk management plan and determination of households in high-risk/vulnerable areas prior and during the occurrence of disasters. To maximize the use of the software, the MDCC, through the Office of the Civil Defense Deputized Coordinator (CDDC), utilizes GIS maps to reflect the vulnerabilities of the barangays. A typical vulnerability/hazard map is a color-coded pictorial representation of the earth’s surface featuring risk or vulnerable areas such as the flooding area, erosion area, fault line, volcanic core, etc. Since Labo is a land-locked municipality, its hazard maps are limited to flooding maps, erosion maps, fault line maps, road accident maps, and fire hazard maps.
### Table 1. CBMS Core Indicators of Labo, Camarines Norte for 2003 and 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>1. Proportion of child deaths (0-5 yrs. old)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>.16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Proportion of women deaths due to pregnancy-related causes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Proportion of children who are malnourished (0-5 yrs. old)</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>8.75</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>8.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSING</td>
<td>4. Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>5.51</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>5.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Proportion of households who are informal settlers</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>4.41</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>4.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER &amp; SANITATION</td>
<td>6. Proportion of households without access to potable water supply</td>
<td>5,639</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>5,639</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Proportion of households without sanitary toilet facilities</td>
<td>5,447</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>5,447</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>8. Proportion of children 6-12 yrs. old not in elementary school</td>
<td>3,266</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>3,266</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. Proportion of children 13-16 yrs. old not in high school</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td>10. Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold</td>
<td>10,804</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>10,804</td>
<td>67.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11. Proportion of households with income below the food threshold</td>
<td>8,224</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>8,224</td>
<td>51.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12. Proportion of households that experienced food shortage</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYMENT</td>
<td>13. Proportion of persons who are unemployed</td>
<td>3,053</td>
<td>11.92</td>
<td>3,053</td>
<td>11.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEACE AND ORDER</td>
<td>14. Proportion of persons who were victims of crime</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flood-Prone Barangay Sta. Crus, Labo, Camarines Norte

Under the Bad (Yellow) Scenario, the concerned BERTs OCOu consults the map and lists down the households threatened and conducts warning activities.

When the disaster accelerates, the Bad (Yellow) turns to Worse (Orange) Scenario. The concerned BERT OCOu assists in the preparation of would-be affected households for evacuation, then upon practical judgment conducts evacuation. Meanwhile, the BERT OCOu in the purok where evacuation centers are located assists the BDCC in the preparation of the center and the facilities needed by evacuees.

During the Worst (Blue) scenario, all affected households must be in the evacuation centers. The BERT OCOu of the affected Purok shall, if humanly possible, be responsible in over-seeing the security of the properties left by the evacuees.

Using CBMS data, we are also able to determine households who are in high-risk or vulnerable areas:

- **PRE-DISASTER ACTIVITY** - The number and the location of households in high-risk/vulnerable areas can be determined prior to the occurrence of disasters.
- **DURING THE DISASTER ACTIVITY** - The affected household can be easily monitored because they were already evacuated.
- **POST-DISASTER ACTIVITY** - Distribution of relief goods and emergency assistance is provided to the pre-determined affected household.

I would like to end my presentation with the following saying: “*Sa isang bayang laging handa, ang epekto at tama ng sakuna ay hindi malubha.*”

**Figure 1. Bad (Yellow) Scenario**
Figure 2. Worse (Orange) Scenario

Figure 3. Worst (Blue) Scenario
Disaster Management Planning Using CBMS and GIS Software

Frances E. Eduarte*

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), as we know, is primarily used for poverty alleviation. In the case of Olongapo City, however, we are using the system not only for the poor but for the rich as well. After all, within the context of disaster management, disasters affect both rich and poor alike.

The devastation caused by Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng demonstrated anew the importance of disaster management planning in local government units (LGUs).

In our case, we had used CBMS data for the development of more detailed hazard maps. In particular, such data helped identify households that are more prone to hazards. We also used CBMS data as a tool for post-disaster rapid assessment, for easy identification of families that are eligible to receive relief operations and for continuous IEC campaign (e.g., drills, installation of early warning devices, and hazard advisories), particularly in identified high-risk areas.

The CBMS data were also used as reference for the City Disaster Coordinating Council’s Emergency Response Plan. Olongapo City is the first LGU to have an emergency response plan in Region 3. We are proud to say that with the help of CBMS, we were chosen as a Hall of Famer of the Gawad Kalasag.

The CBMS can easily determine priority areas in case of disasters. This also facilitates the planning for allocations in case of calamities, and helps organize and hasten the preparation and distribution of services and supplies.

* City Planning and Development Office, City of Olongapo
I. Identification of Households Prone to Hazards

The City Government of Olongapo is currently using MANIFOLD, a Geographic Information System (GIS) that integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information. The components used in our hazard map (to be overlayed in the MANIFOLD software) are as follows: base map, hazard map, satellite image, and CBMS household map. Since we already have a CBMS household map, we could better interpret and appreciate the hazard map.

The following is an example of a landslide hazard map that was overlayed with a CBMS household map.

---

Figure 1. Hazard Map Overlayed with CBMS Household Map Generated in G.I.S. Software
We also used the same method in developing our hazard maps for fire, floods, and tsunami.

Hazard mapping that is enriched with CBMS data provides the following advantages:

- Determines the magnitude and proportion of households that are in a high-, medium- or low-risk hazardous area;
- Ascertains names and addresses of individuals who may be affected, and disaggregates these by age and sex;
- Determines households living in houses made of light materials and makeshift that are potential fire hazards;
- Identifies households with mobile capabilities that could be tapped in cases of emergency evacuation;
- Identifies professional, medical, technical, and engineering practitioners in affected and nearby areas who could be tapped to volunteer in times of emergency;
- Identifies potential persons with disabilities who might need to be prioritized in times of emergency.
II. IEC Campaigns Particularly on Identified High Risk Areas

Using the hazard maps, we conducted information and education campaigns in identified high-risk areas. These include the following:

- Advisories (e.g., whether housing lots are flood/landslide prone) given by the office of the zoning administrator to residents applying for zoning certifications;
- Drills (e.g., flashflood drills) conducted in identified communities prone to hazards;
- Olongapo City’s Colors of Beauty and Safety: Community-Based Early Warning System (Figure 3);
- Early warning signages installed in communities identified as hazard areas.

**Figure 3. Community-Based Early Warning System**

RED PAINT from 4 to 6 ft. – high risk. The area should be cleared. Everyone should be safe in the evacuation centers.

GREEN PAINT from 2 to 4 ft. – evacuate. Families should evacuate their homes and go to their assigned evacuation centers.

YELLOW PAINT from 0 to 2 ft. – get ready. Families should secure all of their possessions and prepare necessary items for evacuation.

Before I end my presentation, I would like to share a quotation from Confucius: “The superior man, when resting in safety, does not forget that danger may come. When in a state of security, he does not forget the possibility of ruin. When all is orderly, he does not forget that disorder may come. Thus, this person is not endangered, and his estates and all their clans are preserved.”
Puerto Princesa City: A Model in Sustainable Development

Jovenee Sagun*

Puerto Princesa is the main gateway to this wonderful region called Palawan and happens to be the capital and centrally located city of the province. Recently, the city was proclaimed as a HUC. It is considered as the largest in terms of land area, although its urban and urbanizing areas cover only 6 percent of such land area. Around 75 percent of the city’s population resides in the urban areas.

Our city promotes two major economic activities: tourism and agriculture. It therefore places a high premium on ecotourism as a long-term and sustainable foundation of its economy. Fishing is another vital source of livelihood for our people. In general, the city and the province supply more than 50 percent of the fish-and-marine product requirements of Metro Manila.

Sustainable development has been the official policy of the city. We want to show that in this part of the world, there is a healthy balance between development and environment. We want to bequeath to the future generation a city that is as beautiful, if not more beautiful, than it is today.

There was a time in the past when Puerto Princesa was a microcosm of the country’s environmental drift. Our forest and seas provide for the both the needy and the greedy. Our streets were so dirty and our garbage uncollected for days, sometimes even for weeks. The air quality in the urban center worsened due to carbon emissions from tricycles. Our forest cover fell from 75 percent in 1976 to less than 52 percent in 1992 due to illegal logging activities, slash-and-burn farming and kaingin or Swiden farming. Our coastal and marine areas, greatly devastated by cyanide and dynamite fishing and the prevalence of muro-ami, did not only destroy our marine ecosystem but the future of our children as well.

* City Planning and Development Coordinator, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
These were the challenges that faced the local government unit (LGU). There was limited alternative livelihood to agriculture as a quick, cash-based income-generating activity, and marginalized people were highly dependent on forest resources.

Today, the city has gained the distinction of being a model city in terms of cleanliness, environmental protection and conservation, and local governance in general.

While some of the programs and environmental programs and projects that I will be presenting have been implemented even before the city adopted CBMS in 2000, the CBMS-generated data gave the city better understanding of the sectors. Those who are most affected by the programs are composed of the marginalized and vulnerable population. So, the issues go beyond environmental protection and conservation as it involves livelihood and poverty reduction as well.

The CBMS Validation workshops that we had conducted generated wide participation from community members. Hence, they were instrumental in the design and development of new programs and the enhancement of the strategies of existing ones.

So rather than make these community members the target of the programs, we made them partners on different capacities, either as monitors (bay and forest watch) or enforcers.

The effect of this distinction is particularly noteworthy in the marginal sector that does not normally participate in government initiatives.

The Bantay Puerto Program was conceptualized in 1992 to avert the fast decline of forest and marine resources. However, the LGU then had a very limited financial resource for programs and projects on environmental protection and management.

In the Philippine setting, 5 percent of the LGUs’ annual income is set aside as calamity fund. This means that one cannot use that fund if there is no calamity or disaster. In the early 1990s, the power to declare a state of calamity lay in the hands of the president of the Philippines only. Nonetheless, the city’s executive back then took the call and risk of using that fund to relocate forest occupants and provide alternative livelihood assistance to slash-and-burn farmers, illegal loggers as well as displaced fishermen who employed illegal fishing methods. The argument was that one did not have to wait for calamities to happen to use that fund because the ongoing threat to our natural environment was a disaster waiting to happen. This move actually heralded the passage of a House Bill that sought to empower LGUs to declare a state of calamity whenever they see fit and has now become a Republic Act.

- **Bantay Puerto or Puerto Princesa Watch.** This program aimed to ensure sustainable development of the city’s natural resources and to optimize their contribution to the long-term local and
national development. So far, there were more than 1,800 violators apprehended and 400 jailed.

- **Oplan Linis Program.** Puerto Princesa is a Hall of Fame awardee as the Cleanest and Greenest City.

- **The Pista Y ang Kagueban** or feast of the forest. This activity has 2 million trees planted since 1992.

- **Love Affair with Nature-February 14.** This is a Valentine’s Day Mangrove Reforestation program.

- **Underground River.** For the first time in our history, a national park was turned over to a local government for management and control. Today, the Underground River is a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site and a candidate for one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature.

- **Engineered Sanitary Landfill.** Knowing that the sanitary landfill is not the be-all and end-all of the city’s solid waste management system, the city partnered with Mother Earth Foundation to train barangay officials on RA 9003. It is expected that by 2010, the barangay LGUs will have to be RA 9003-compliant or they will be sued by the EcoWaste Coalition and the GLACC. Under this partnership, our diversion rate target has been at 90 percent.

- **The Coastal Renewal Program.** This program aims to provide informal settlers occupying the city’s coastal areas with decent housing, reclaim the beauty of Puerto Princesa Bay, and protect the bay from further undue development.

- Meanwhile, the **Tenement Housing Project** looks after fisherfolks displaced by the Coastal Renewal Program.

- **The Green Homes** is a relocation site for fisherfolks affected by the Coastal Renewal Project and who opt to own their own piece of land. By combining basic need with climate protection, the Green Homes design features energy-efficient fixtures for lighting and electricity, natural lighting, ventilation and a rainwater catchment facility. It prohibits the use of wood for its components to decrease the need for wood cutting.

- **Tricycle Sa Kabuhayan At Ekolohiya (Trike) Project.** The Trike’s objective was two-fold: To lower air and noise pollution as well as to develop the livelihood and entrepreneurial skills of those that would be most affected by the implementation of the project (i.e., the operators and drivers).

- **The Preventive Maintenance Program** provides a scholarship program for engine technicians to help the latter generate additional income.
The Tricycle Volume Reduction Program called for a 50:50 traffic scheme and was promulgated to reduce the number of tricycles plying the city streets by half. These vehicles were only allowed to ply the streets on alternating days. A Tricycle Fund was set up to finance the alternative livelihood of drivers on the days that they are not on the road. It comes with special interest rates and repayment packages especially designed for the needs of drivers and operators.

The city does not stop there. We continue to find more efficient or cleaner technologies to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with our vision of sustainable development. Prototypes of e-jeepneys and e-tricycles were designed for the city as well as e-boats for island hopping tourists. Hybrid solar and wind turbine lamp posts were installed in an off-grid barangay.

Because of the city’s policy on sustainable development, Puerto Princesa is now a booming tourist destination. Our tourist arrivals increased from a mere 12,000 in the early 1990s to almost 300,000 in 2008 with an annual growth rate of 20 percent.

As a result of these initiatives, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) environmental ministers conferred the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable City Award to Puerto Princesa in October 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The many successes of Puerto Princesa have restored its people’s pride and confidence in themselves and in their government. It has proven that strong partnership between the people and the government can result in tremendous accomplishments. Some intangible benefits have been earned in the process of working together. It is believed that most of these intangible benefits have translated into the people’s improved socio-economic wellbeing.
LGU-Dumaran’s Development Projects Funded Under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program

David Aurello*

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to first extend my heartfelt gratitude to the PEP-CBMS Network and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines for making us one of your recipients under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program in 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Before I proceed with my presentation on the three grant projects, let me first give you some basic information about the Municipality of Dumaran.

Our municipality is located in the northern portion of Palawan. It has a total land area of 55,328.18 hectares and is composed of 16 barangays, nine of which are situated in mainland Palawan while the rest are island barangays. Based on the National Statistics Office (NSO) Census of Population in 2007, we have a population of 18,737 people and are growing at the rate of 3.77 percent. Farming, fishing, livestock, and poultry-raising are the major sources of income of households in Dumaran.

All beneficiaries of our three grant projects were selected based on the CBMS results. The first grant project we received in 2005 was for the seaweeds farming and marketing livelihood project. Areas identified for this project were Sitio Aguinaldo and Ilang-Ilang in Barangay Cayapas, and Sitio Mangingisda in Barangay Sta. Teresita. Households with very low income were the targeted recipients.

The poverty incidence was relatively high in the project areas due to the high unemployment rate. Sitio Aguinaldo and Ilang-Ilang recorded a 32.97 percent and 45 percent poverty incidence in 2005, respectively. Meanwhile, the poverty incidence in Sitio Mangingisda in Sta. Teresita reached 31.65 percent for the same period. Average household income of the three sitios in 2005 was P1,783.50.

* Mayor, Municipality of Dumaran, Province of Palawan
The project has the following development objectives:

- To expand the seaweeds industry in Dumaran;
- To enhance the capabilities of farmers in the efficient seaweeds farming technology; and
- To effect sustainable livelihood for seaweeds farmers.

The project was managed by the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) and by the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist. The MPDO had undertaken organizational strengthening, project management supervision, monitoring and marketing linkage. The Office of the Municipal Agriculturist provided the required seminars on seaweeds farming technology and other extension services on seaweeds production, including harvesting and handling.

The respective production areas for all members of the association were set up. Every member acquired planting materials such as seaweeds stocks, nylon rope and bionic straw via a loan. Because Dumaran was frequently visited by typhoons and had to contend with incidences of Ice-Ice infestation on seaweeds seedlings, only two cropping cycles of seaweeds were made possible.

Prior to project implementation, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed between the Municipal Government of Dumaran and the beneficiaries of the project. The following are the important provisions of the MOA: (1) A repayment scheme of 2 percent by the association beneficiaries to the LGU of Dumaran; and (b) and the need for the MPDO and the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist to regularly monitor and provide technical assistance to the beneficiaries. A three-month grace period for loan repayment was initially implemented, after which a quarterly loan repayment scheme was adopted.

Coastal protection was likewise part of the project implementation. The LGU and the beneficiaries had jointly undertaken regular patrolling of coastal areas to avoid the destruction of production areas.

**Table 1. Project Financial Status (in PhP)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>CBMS-UNDP Grant</th>
<th>LGU Equity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technology training and seminar</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation cost of materials</td>
<td>97,980.00</td>
<td>18,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials (nylon, rope, straw)</td>
<td>102,020.00</td>
<td>48,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting materials (seaweeds)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty sacks (100 pcs)</td>
<td>200,000.00</td>
<td>71,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>71,500.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project Outcome/Impact

The project was initially extended to five households for Sitio Aguinaldo, and 10 households each for Sitio Ilang-Ilang in Capayas and Sitio Mangingisda in Sta. Teresita. Thanks to an efficient repayment scheme, an additional 31 households in Sitio Ilang-Ilang and 32 households in Mangingisda were provided a soft loan for seaweeds production.

An important outcome of the project is the decline of poverty incidence in the said project areas. From a poverty incidence of 32.97 percent in 2005 for Sitio Aguinaldo, it decreased to 25 percent in 2008. For Sitio Ilang-Ilang, a decline of about 32 percent was experienced (i.e., from 45 percent in 2005 to 13 percent in 2008). Likewise, the income of households in Sitio Mangingisda improved, as the poverty incidence of 31.65 percent in 2005 dropped to 17 percent in 2008.

The second grant project we received under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program was the construction of the Level II Water System in Barangay Bacao in Dumaran in 2006. The total number of direct beneficiaries was 175 households. Although the total number of households with access to safe water in Bacao was quite high at 77.19 percent in 2005, we decided to award the water system project to these households due to the high incidence of diarrhea in 2006. In addition to this, houses in Bacao had no septic tank, which explained why their source of drinking water was contaminated.

Development objectives of this project were:

- To provide a potable water supply to the community; and
- To improve the health and living conditions of the barangay’s residents.

Project strategies/activities included the following:

- Barangay consultation on the amendment on the technical designs and plans from Level I to Level II, which aimed to provide ease in collecting water such that more time will be devoted for work;
- Formation of a Users Consultation Team (UCT) and briefing them on their respective duties;
- A barangay consultation was undertaken to discuss the project costs and provision of counterpart funding with the following breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PhP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBMS-UNDP</td>
<td>200,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Counterpart</td>
<td>90,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barangay Counterpart</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>370,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. Project Financial Status (in PhP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Water Supply Level II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construction of deep well (4mx4m)</td>
<td>42,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construction of concrete tank (4mx4m)</td>
<td>90,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Submersible pump</td>
<td>10,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Yanmar Engine with complete accessories</td>
<td>35,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Power House</td>
<td>30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Treatment Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hypochlorinator drip type</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Pipelines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Black pipes</td>
<td>99,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Transmission line accessories</td>
<td>35,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Contingency</td>
<td>23,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>370,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Outcome/Impact
The proportion of households with access to safe water increased from 77.19 percent to 89.15 percent as an outcome of the project in Barangay Bacao.

Moreover, because the organized water users’ association was empowered, the community organization skills in the area grew stronger. This was done through the regular training on the operation and management of the water system conducted by the BAWASA. The organized group is now listed as a potential association for future livelihood project intervention due to their efficient management of the water project.

The third grant project given to us under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program is Salt-Making and Marketing Project in Barangay Bohol in Dumaran in 2007. The project initially identified 40 beneficiaries but at present only 31 completed the preparation of 62 salt beds. An average of one sack of salt was produced for every salt bed on the first and second months of the cropping period (January and February 2009) at two cropping cycles a week. However, during the months of March to April, one-half sack was produced for every salt bed at two cropping cycles, or eight cycles a month, while during the month of May, there were only four cropping cycles a month. A total of 2,542 sacks of salt were produced. Each sack of salt had a capacity of 20 *ganta*. The total salt produced is sufficient for the demand of *bagoong* (*alamang*) manufacturers, which were abundant in the project site. This project aimed to provide a stable source of income for households. Poverty incidence in Bohol was recorded at 50.42 percent in 2005.

Let me inform you that while the release of the funds to us by UNDP was still pending, the municipal government initially funded the release and
production of salt beds during the summer months of this year. The funds of the municipal government disbursed for salt production will be reimbursed upon release of the CBMS-UNDP Grant.

The project’s development objectives were:

- To provide an alternative livelihood for additional income; and
- To readily make salt readily available to consumers in the barangay and its nearby areas.

Project strategies/activities included the following:

- The Municipal Government of Dumaran, through the Office of the Mayor and the MPDO, supervised and oversaw the operation of the project. Likewise, these offices provided training and seminars on organization strengthening, monitoring and market linkages to project beneficiaries.
- A MOA on the repayment scheme was executed between the municipal government and the beneficiaries prior to the implementation of the project. The MOA also imposed a 5-percent interest for the soft loan of the repayment scheme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3. Project Financial Status (In PhP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cement (139 bags x P285)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand and gravel (50 cu. m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearing of site/construction of salt beds and filter box, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warehouse construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Outcome/Impact**

The project was implemented by utilizing the natural environment, but without hazardous effect. The project operation maintained the surrounding after clearing clean salt water for the quality salt produced. The association/beneficiaries were responsible for protecting and maintaining the project area's natural condition.

The project was relatively small scale but able to provide additional income to the beneficiaries. It still has room to become bigger in the future as beneficiaries’ skills become more effective in increasing production and uplifting the economic condition of the sector.
Uses of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring in LGU-Mercedes

Irene Nenette Gonzales*

The municipality of Mercedes is one of the growing number of municipalities in the country that are implementing the CBMS and also one of the LGU-Grantees of the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program.

Mercedes is a fifth-class municipality located in the southeast area of Eastern Samar. It is bounded by the municipalities of Guian and Salcedo on the south and north, respectively. Pacific Ocean abuts the east side and Leyte Gulf, the west side. The municipality has a total population of 5,848. It has 1,229 families with an average of five members per family spread out in 1,107 households. The municipality is composed of 16 barangays with a total land area of 2,360 hectares. The top three economic activities, or the most common means of earning a living, are the following:

1. Farming and fishing
2. Working as laborers and skilled workers
3. Working as service, shop, and market sales workers

Official statistics show that we are the poorest municipality in our province. We have had many social and economic problems but not all have been adequately addressed by past programs and projects because of various reasons, one of which is the unreliability of the municipal database. This database is a necessary foundation of effective local development plans and policies. It cannot be denied that previous projects and plans in this town were formulated according to the problems and issues seen only by the naked eyes of officials and a few influential personalities of the local government unit (LGU) and sometimes, based only on their whims. This was the situation until the conception of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), which

* Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Municipality of Mercedes, Province of Eastern Samar
was well-timed with the updating and improvement of the LGU’s linking of the planning and budgeting systems of the Philippines.

So when CBMS was introduced to, and adopted by, our province and our municipality, we gave much attention to it. It was a pro-poor program and Mercedes is a poor municipality so the two were complementary. When the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed, the LGU immediately started the implementation, keen as it was for the data it could generate, which would be the takeoff point for our town planning. The CBMS LGU Technical Working Group worked to attain the best data collection. We even set our own LGU qualification standards for enumerators so that they could produce dependable information.

Even before the survey of 16 barangays was over, we had already started encoding for the first batch of barangays that had undergone enumeration. We were a little bit ahead of the official results because our planning office consolidated the data manually before we processed the data electronically. This process was a little harder but we wanted to identify problems that previous surveys failed to reveal.

The very first thing our LGU did was to use CBMS results to update data on our municipality’s socioeconomic profile and fix local-level data gaps. The survey results revealed problems and issues such as low income, low percentage of households without access to safe water, low percentage of households with sanitary toilets, malnourishment, long travel time to a primary hospital, and long distance to wet and dry markets, among others. These issues needed to be prioritized and categorized as to which belonged in the short-, medium-, and long-term LGU development plans.

One alarming problem that came out after the CBMS survey was the sanitation problem in Busay. We had no idea that so many households in this barangay had no toilets. This barangay is the biggest producer of farm products in the municipality—root crops, vegetables, fruits, native chicken, and coconuts. It sells its produce to the locals and to the nearest big town. So we came up with a proposal to provide toilets and septic tanks to the households with no toilets. The local poverty indicators of Busay show that 48 percent of the households have no toilets.

To start with, it was a little difficult to bring this kind of poverty indicator out in the open. This is somewhat a delicate issue in a community and exposing this kind of problem may elicit different reactions from the concerned households. We made a confidential list of households with no toilets. Then I informed the barangay officials of the sanitation problem and I discussed with them the proposed toilet project and its activities, which are to be funded under the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program. Right then and there, the barangay officials pledged their support and cooperation.
Next, our sanitary inspector, health workers, and I tried to meet with the members of the households with no toilets to give them an overview of the proposed project. The health workers talked to them about sanitation, proper toilet usage, and the effects of fecal contamination on health and the environment. At this point, we took care not to let them feel that not having a toilet or living in a community with such a problem makes them an "outcast." We made it clear that our aim was to help them by eradicating or at least reducing the problem.

The first strategy I employed was to befriend them so that they will not hesitate to express opinions or concerns about the project. Since the amount appropriated was not enough to construct toilets for the 34 households without toilets, we conferred with the barangay officials and the concerned households. We were able to trim the number of expected beneficiaries to 25 households. We prioritized those households with more members who stand to benefit from the project, especially those households composed mostly of children, over households with only one member.

The beneficiaries and barangay officials participated in a basic training program on masonry and toilet construction conducted by the LGU. This training emphasized the proper dimensions of the leaching and digestive chambers, the ideal water depth of a septic tank, the gradient of soil pipes, and other basic technical specifications. I also encouraged them to use indigenous and recycled materials for the walls and roof of the toilets to minimize expenses. If there is any money left over, I encouraged them to spend it on another unit of septic tank and toilet flooring, including the water closet and the pipe.

The idea brought out the resourcefulness of the beneficiaries. Barangay officials and beneficiaries worked hand in hand supervised by the MPDC and the municipal engineering office. In doing so, they gained a sense of ownership over the project. All throughout the project, I gained the cooperation and trust of the barangay officials and the beneficiaries. We completed the project successfully.

After completion, the CBMS Network and its partners inspected and assessed the project twice and conducted a focused group discussion with the beneficiaries. As the project's focal person, I felt fulfilled because I played a part in reducing their sanitation problem. The beneficiaries, barangay Busay, and the constituents of the municipality of Mercedes had a positive impression of the CBMS-UNDP Toilet and Septic Tanks Project and about CBMS in general. They realized the importance of the program.

Being on the frontlines, I have seen the outputs or results of various surveys, all prescribed and described as being effective planning tools. In my experience, however, the survey strategy of CBMS was the best producer of reliable data. I have used consolidated data produced by old and various
community-assessment measures, but I found these data to be not as effective as CBMS-produced data.

The use of CBMS in program targeting and impact monitoring in the municipality of Mercedes did not stop upon completion of the CBMS-UNDP project. We utilized our database to determine the needs of the people and the place. Now we have:

1. San Roque Milkfish and Fish-Saving Project funded by NEDA – A livelihood project combining “bangus” culture and environment protection to reduce numbers of low-income families
2. Barangay Bagsakan funded by Department of Agriculture – A stall selling local produce and other daily necessities to help farmers market their produce and make the public market operational
3. Upgraded municipal health center
4. Other small projects and programs

These initiatives were designed based on the results of the data collected using CBMS.
The CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program in Camarines Norte

Madonna Abular*

My presentation will focus on the experience of the province of Camarines Norte, the first province in the Bicol Region that adopted the CBMS as a poverty-monitoring tool. The CBMS was first implemented in the municipality of Labo in 2003. Other municipalities then followed suit. My report will present the various initiatives and activities in the adoption of the CBMS and the key stakeholders involved in the implementation of three projects funded by the CBMS-UNDP Development Grant Program. Before we proceed to the projects, let me introduce our province.

The province of Camarines Norte is found in the northwestern coast of the Bicol peninsula, which forms the southeastern section of Luzon. It is one of the six provinces that make up the Bicol Region. It is bounded in the north by the Pacific Ocean, in the east by the Pacific Ocean and San Miguel Bay, in the west by Lamon Bay, and in the south by the adjoining provinces of Camarines Sur and Quezon. Camarines Norte's land area is 232,007 hectares, roughly 13 percent of the entire Bicol Region and 0.077 percent of the total Philippine land area. Twelve municipalities compose the province, which is divided into Bicol- and Tagalog-speaking towns. Population is 513,785 while growth rate is 1.22 percent. Of the total population, 60.35 percent is rural population while 39.65 percent is urban. In terms of human development, our rank in 2000 was 59th; in 2003, 50th; and in 2006, 54th.

Poverty incidence in 2000 was 52.7 and we ranked 11th. In 2003, poverty incidence was 46, and we again ranked 11th. In 2006, it was 38.4 and we ranked 37th. In terms of primary and high school enrolment, we

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* Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Province of Camarines Norte
had 86.6 in 2000, 92.8 in 2003, and 87.4 in 2006. Unemployment in 2003 was 6.9 and underemployment was 28.4.

Camarines Norte is particularly suitable for agriculture and fishery industries. Its main crops are coconut, paboy/rice, pineapple, corn, root crops, and vegetables. It also has livestock, poultry, and fishing industries. Mineral resources, such as gold, silver, iron, iron lump ore, iron in laterite, lead, zinc, copper, and ball quartz are abundant as are nonmetallic minerals, such as silica sand, marbleized limestone, kaoline/white clay, diatomites, refractory clay, diatomaceous clay, and sulphur. Trade and commerce also thrive in the province as evidenced by 4,636 business establishments.

There are four major industries in the province: jewelry-making, fishery, pineapple-growing, and tourism. Jewelry-making has evolved from being a home-based activity into an industry that has become a major source of income for many families. It has also increased export receipts and maximized the country’s advantage as one of the top producers of jewelry in Asia. The coastal waters of the province are one of the region’s richest ecosystems, characterized by extensive coral reefs and dense mangrove forests. Hence, next to agriculture, fishing is another major source of income for the province. The Queen variety of pineapple is highly adapted to the province’s soil and climatic condition and is grown largely as a coconut intercrop. This variety is characterized by yellow flesh color, crispy texture, rich flavor, and distinct sweetness. In terms of tourism, Camarines Norte is endowed with a rich and aesthetic environment ideal for tourism development. Existing tourist attractions include land, coastal, man-made, cultural-historical, and socioeconomic destinations.

The CBMS core indicators show that the proportion of households without access to safe water is 32.8 percent and households without access to sanitary toilets is 21.6 percent. The proportion of children 6-12 years old not attending elementary is 32.2 percent; for high school, it is 45.3 percent. The proportion of children 6-16 years old not attending school is 26.7 percent. The proportion of households with income below food threshold is 43.6 percent. This shows that CBMS can generate data on income, demography, health, and education. Now going back, we see that the selection of our project sites was made much easier with the use of these data. CBMS was an effective tool in identifying these areas. The core indicators helped us identify the sites to be prioritized. Now having identified the project, the identified barangays submitted proposals to the CBMS Network. Different sectors were involved. The design and planning were undertaken by the provincial planning office and stakeholders were deeply involved with the project.

Now these are the projects. The first project was the Provision of Access to Safe Drinking Water in Bagong Silang II, Labo, with a total cost of
PhP200,000. This project was implemented from July 2007 to March 2008. The second was the Provision of Access to Safe Drinking Water to Mangcamagong, Basud, worth PhP200,000 and implemented from May to December 2008. The third was the Provision of Sanitation Facilities in Hinipaan, Mercedes, for PhP200,000 and implemented from May to December 2008.

The first project site, Barangay Bagong Silang has a total land area of 1,329 hectares. It has six puroks with a population of 1,453 spread out in 284 households. The major economic activity in Bagong Silang is farming. Looking at the selected CBMS indicators for Bagong Silang, we saw that the proportion of households without access to safe drinking water was 88.32 percent. Figure 1 shows the status of access to safe drinking water in the barangay before the project.

The objective of the project was to raise the proportion of households with access to safe drinking water, which, before the project just stood at 11.8 percent of the population of 1,452 spread out over 242 households. The project involved the installation/construction of ten units of jetmatic pumps with filter box, improvement of three existing open dug wells, installation of filter box, close coordination with the municipal local government unit (LGU) and barangay officials, and constant consultations starting from the identification of sites up to project implementation.

In terms of resource counterparts, the provincial government provided counterpart funds, construction supervision, skilled workers, and project
monitoring. The municipal LGU constructed the Level II water system, conducted sanitary inspection, and provided chlorine. The beneficiaries provided the labor component.

**Figure 2. Households Without Access to Safe Drinking Water (Before the Project), Barangay Bagong Silang II, Labo, Camarines Norte**

After the project, we now see that there are no more households without access to safe water.

**Figure 3. Status of Access to Safe Drinking Water (After the Project), Barangay Bagong Silang II, Labo, Camarines Norte, 2009.**
The second project site, Barangay Mangcamagong in Basud, has a total land area of 283 hectares. The major source of livelihood is farming and fishing. The total population is 1,506 and the total number of households is 295. In the selected CBMS indicators, the proportion of households without access to safe water is 92.4%. The figure below shows the proportion without access by purok.

Again, we see that there are more households without access to safe water than those with access.

This project’s objective was to provide access to safe drinking water to 266 households that are dependent on a once-weekly water ration provided by the Camarines Norte Water District (CNWD). For this project, four units of hand pumps with filter boxes were constructed and installed. Also, two units of dug wells were improved and filter boxes were provided. After the project, all the households now have access to safe water.

**Figure 4. Status of Access to Safe Water, Barangay Mangcamagong, Basud, Province of Camarines Norte, CY 2006**

![Bar graph showing status of access to safe water by purok in Barangay Mangcamagong, Basud, Camarines Norte, CY 2006.](image)
The third project was the Provision of Sanitary Toilets in Brgy. Hinipaan, Mercedes, Camarines Norte. Barangay Hinipaan has a total land area of 742 hectares and its main source of income is farming and fishing. The total population is 1,739 spread out over 330 households. In the selected CBMS indicators for the barangay, we saw that the proportion of households without access to sanitary toilets was high at 49.4 percent. The proportion of households without access to safe water was higher at 98.48 percent. However, at the time of the survey, we found out that a Level II Water System had already been constructed, which is why we decided to prioritize the improvement of access to sanitary toilets.

The figure below shows the location of households without access to sanitary toilets.
The project’s objective was to improve sanitation conditions in households without sanitary toilets. The project consisted of the provision of 48 sanitary toilets. It was implemented in close coordination with the municipal LGU and barangay officials. Also, constant consultations were made starting from identification of sites to project implementation. In terms of resource counterparts, the provincial government provided counterpart funds, construction supervision, skilled workers, and project monitoring. The municipal LGU constructed the Level II water system and provided sanitary inspection and chlorine. The beneficiaries provided the labor component.

The figure below shows the status after the implementation of the project. There are still households without access to sanitary toilets but the number is smaller now.
The success of the projects was made possible by the following facilitating factors:

- Availability of detailed data on poverty indicators through CBMS Core Indicators Survey Results
- Issuance of an executive order creating the CBMS-UNDP-DGP project management team
- Resource leveraging
  - CBMS-DGP: Financing
  - Provincial LGU: Counterpart funds, project supervision, skilled labor, monitoring
  - Municipal LGU: Validation of sites and beneficiaries, counterpart funds, sanitary inspection, and monitoring
  - Beneficiaries: Labor
- Sustained project monitoring
- Close coordination and partnership with project partners
  - Identification of sites
  - Identification of beneficiaries (using CBMS data)
  - Mobilization of beneficiaries

We saw the benefits immediately after the project. There was a reduction in water-borne illnesses. It is also expected that there will be a reduction in the malnutrition rate in covered barangays. The project proved that CBMS data is an important input in evidence-based development planning in LGUs as well as in the identification of projects and beneficiaries.
Uses of CBMS for Program Targeting and Impact Monitoring in Tabaco City

Ma. Antonia B. Burabod*

Our presentation is about how we addressed Target 11 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which involves reducing by half the proportion of people without access to safe water by 2015. The CBMS survey results at the city level indicate that 16.5 percent of households in Tabaco City have no access to safe water. However, there are a number of barangays such as the island of San Miguel and the upland barangays where majority of the residents have no access to safe water.

So what did the LGU do to address the situation in these barangays? In all our waterless barangays, pipelines were installed and water reservoirs were tapped. Before the project, our CBMS maps for these barangays showed that there were a lot of red dots. So what happened after the implementation of the project? After the project, more households were given access to safe water and the red dots in the maps became green after the installation of the water pipes.

Where did our funds for this water system project come from? The local government was able to source some funding from the Poder y Prosperidad de la Comunidad (empowerment and development of communities) and the Spanish government through the auspices of the Agencia Espanola de Cooperacion Internacional el Desarollo (AECID). The Poder Project under the AECID aims to empower and develop local communities. The tapping and use of said grant shows that mayors should be active in seeking external assistance for their communities.

* CBMS-Focal Person, City of Tabaco, Province of Albay
The CBMS data were used in targeting households for this project. The CBMS process thereupon proves to be needs-based and resource-based. Needs-based because it shows what the needs of the communities are and resource-based because it develops a sense of ownership among the community members and thereby makes all the stakeholders involved in the process.

Today, we have a number of ongoing projects in which CBMS data are being used. Because we realize how useful the CBMS is, our local government helped in promoting its use. It even gave each barangay PhP100,000 provided that they will use this for their CBMS implementation.
Keynote Address

The CBMS Program: A Lasting Legacy in the Fight Against Poverty

Domingo F. Panganiban*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to extend my gratitude to the organizers of this gathering for allowing me the opportunity to address you today. It is a great pleasure for me, both personally and officially, to participate in these proceedings.

I believe this conference can perform an important function in establishing an inventory of human needs in this country today while at the same time providing local and national executives a means to measure and examine those needs.

As many of you here know by now, the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is one of the most important advocacies being supported by the National Anti-Poverty Commission.

These are critical times for our nation, and the relevance of the CBMS program is undeniable against the backdrop of the challenges and prospects that we face.

Years from now, historians will settle on a term to describe this decade in which we are now living. It is my hope – and the hope of many others like me – that the term that will be used is “the decade of opportunity.”

The best of what this administration has tried to do for the Filipino people is encompassed and reflected in that word.

Over the past eight years:

• We have struck down many of the barriers that once denied willing workers the opportunity to find jobs – expanding investments, improving infrastructure, and encouraging the growth of Filipino industry.

* Secretary and Lead Convenor, National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)
We have likewise worked hard to bring the deficit down, to hold the line on inflation, to put more police on our streets, and to give our citizens the tools they need to get ahead and build their own communities.

Because of these actions, and many more similar ones, record numbers of Filipinos are today succeeding in the new global economy.

Unemployment has been down by around 2 percent. Since the beginning of the decade, our businesses are thriving, and the Filipino countryside is undergoing a period of bright renewal.

But still for many Filipinos, the gates of opportunity remain closed:
- Still too many among us – more than 12 million as of the last official count – are forced to live under conditions of extreme poverty, with little to eat and much less to hope for in the future.
- Still too many of our children die of curable diseases – or otherwise grow into the responsibilities of adulthood without the benefits of basic education.
- Still too many young Filipino mothers – around 11 each day – die because of pregnancy-related health complications.

All these point to the presence of serious deficiencies both in our national and local development systems – deficiencies that demand accurate and detailed information, careful study, and clear-headed analysis to correct.

No responsibility of government is more fundamental than the responsibility of maintaining the health, well-being and welfare of its people.

That is why, in a free society, there can be no dissent from the principle that all public officials must act in accordance to the public interest.

Nevertheless, in the past eight years, events have occurred in this nation to remind us that many of the tools currently available to national executives are no longer adequate to deal with the changed role of the national government – or with the changing conditions of Filipino governance and society.

Thirty years ago, the pursuit of the public good was simply a matter of establishing policy, and then pursuing that policy to its desired end.

Today, many of the problems government must confront have become so complex as to defy easy common sense solutions.

The objectives have not changed: that much is certain. It still is the blight of poverty that engages our hearts and challenges our intelligence.

Now, however, the same struggle cannot be treated without the most searching examination of how best to marshal, organize and muster the limited resources and information at our disposal.
New times call for new ideas and fresh approaches. And of the new technologies available to government today, CBMS is among the most promising.

It is promising because it is in keeping with the principles of decentralization – allowing local governments the means to gather information vital to the improvement of social conditions in their communities at any given time.

And it is promising because it provides us a great opportunity to do better – to accomplish more, and give new strength to our common cause while ensuring the efficient use of our precious resources.

It is therefore to the collective credit of the CBMS Network Coordinating Team, the UNDP and all other proponents of the system that we have made remarkable progress under the CBMS program over the past few years.

The system has inspired fruitful new collaboration between national agencies and local government units throughout the country.

It has helped local executives approach the challenge of human-centered development with confidence and careful planning.

And it has encouraged the translation of plan to practice that builds the kind of progress we all seek.

Not every initiative we have begun together under the program will be completed before the end of this administration. Some additional work will remain, especially in the area of advocacy.

Nevertheless, I am confident that our work to date will leave a firm foundation on which future administrations can build.

This, I believe, will be one of the most meaningful – and lasting – legacies that this administration will leave behind for its successors in the fight against poverty.

And today, we can all be proud to have been part of its making.

Thank you.
Status Report on National MDG Achievements and Initiatives in the Philippines

Erlinda M. Capones*

This presentation describes the progress that the Philippines has made in meeting the targets under each of the eight (8) Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) [of the United Nations] over the period 2000–2009. This is taken from the Philippine Midterm Progress Report, the result of the 2006 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), the 2008 National Demographic and Health Survey, the 2007 Annual Poverty Indicator Survey, the latest data from the Basic Education Information System (BEIS) of the Department of Education, updates on the Business Sector Participation in the MDGs, and the report of the Alternative Budget Initiative of Social Watch Philippines.

My presentation consists of five parts, as follows:

1. What are the MDGs?
2. How is the Philippines faring vis-à-vis the MDG targets?
3. How much is needed to achieve the MDGs?
4. What have been done to achieve the MDGs?
5. What still needs to be done to achieve the MDGs?

In September 2000, the Philippines as a member of the United Nations affirmed its commitments to reduce poverty and the worst forms of human deprivation. Along with other United Nations (UN) member states, the Philippines adopted the UN Millennium Declaration, which embodies specific targets and milestones in eliminating extreme poverty worldwide. Eight (8) goals and 18 targets were set for 2015. The eight goals are:

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

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*Director, Social Development Staff, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
• Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
• Goal 5: Improve maternal health
• Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
• Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
• Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Below are the 15 targets relevant to the Philippines:

**Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
*Target 1*: Halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty between 1990–2015
*Target 2*: Halve the proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption and halve the proportion of underweight children under five years old

**Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education**
*Target 3*: Achieve universal access to primary education by 2015

**Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women**
*Target 4*: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education not later than 2015

**Goal 4: Reduce child mortality**
*Target 5*: Reduce under-five mortality rate by two-thirds by 2015

**Goal 5: Improve maternal health**
*Target 6*: Reduce by three-quarters the maternal mortality ratio
*Target 7*: Increase access to reproductive health services to 60 percent by 2010, and to 80 percent by 2015

**Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases**
*Target 8*: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015
*Target 9*: Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases by 2015

**Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**
*Target 10*: Implement national strategies for sustainable development by 2005 to reverse loss of environmental resources by 2015
*Target 11*: Reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
Target 12: Achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million informal settlers by 2020

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Target 13: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system—including a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction—both nationally and internationally

Target 14: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

Target 15: Provide access to affordable essential drugs in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies

How Does the Philippines Fare with the MDG Targets?

Using the United Nations-Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UN-SIAP) methodology for determining the probability of attaining the MDGs, the target of halving extreme poverty from 24.3 percent in 1991 to 12.15 percent in 2015 is likely to be achieved.

Figure 1 shows the proportion of population below subsistence threshold decline from 24.3 percent (1991) to 14.6 percent (2006). However, it increased from 2003 (13.5%) to 2006 (14.6%). Moreover, with the recent typhoons and the global economic crisis, we expect a worsening poverty situation. This may therefore affect the country’s ability to meet the MDG target for 2015.

The recent typhoons present a special challenge because of the potential negative impact on our efforts to meet the MDGs. Based on the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) estimates (using Input-Output Model), the dampening effect of typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng is an estimated reduction in GDP growth by -1.24 and -0.58 percentage points, respectively. Total damage to infrastructure and agriculture is estimated at PhP10.9 billion due to Ondoy and PhP27.3 billion due to Pepeng (as of November 17, 2009).

Figure 2 shows that in 2006, only five regions are below the national subsistence threshold of 14.6 percent. Regions in the Visayas and Mindanao are still way above the national figure.

In Figure 3, using the UN-SIAP methodology, the overall poverty incidence rate also indicates medium probability of achieving Goal 1. Note that the poverty incidence increased from 30.4 percent in 2003 to 32.9 percent in 2006.

The next figure shows that wide disparities among regions exist. The majority of regions had poverty incidence above the national figure, with
the highest levels noted for ARMM (61.8%), MIMAROPA (52.7%), and CARAGA (52.6%). These figures are twice those registered by the well-off regions in Luzon, namely, NCR (10.4%), Region 3 (20.7%), CALABARZON (20.9%), and Region 2 (25.5%).

In Figure 5, prevalence of underweight among preschool children slightly improved from 34.5 percent in 1990 to 26.2 percent in 2008. However, it increased from 24.6 percent in 2005 to 26.2 percent in 2008. At this rate, there is a medium probability that the 2015 target of 17.3 percent will be achieved.

Figure 6 shows that elementary participation rates deteriorated from 2000 to 2008 and the MDG target of universal access to primary education will likely not be achieved by 2015.

Figure 7 shows the national and regional elementary participation rates in school year 2008–2009. Note that Region VI (74.93%), Region II (76.23%), and CARAGA (76.39%) had the lowest elementary participation rates.

Figure 8 shows the elementary cohort survival rates from school year 1990 to 2008–2009. Note that for school year 2008–2009, only 75.39 percent of pupils who entered Grade 1 reached Grade 6.

Figure 9 shows the national and regional elementary cohort survival rates in school year 2008–2009. Note that ARMM had the lowest cohort survival rate (41%), and NCR the highest (88%).

Figure 10 shows the elementary completion rate from school year 1990 to school year 2008–2009. The trend is going up, but still, 27 percent of pupils do not finish elementary school.
Figure 5. Prevalence of Underweight among Children 0–5 Years Old (%)

Figure 6. Elementary Participation Rate (%)

Figure 7. Elementary Participation Rates, SY 2008–2009 (%)
Figure 8. Cohort Survival Rate (%)
Figure 11 shows the national and regional elementary completion rates in school year 2008–2009. Again, ARMM shows the lowest elementary completion rate (38%) followed by Zamboanga Peninsula (59%).

Note that cohort survival rates and completion rates are not included in the global MDG targets, but the Philippines has included them as these are our problem areas.

Figure 11. Completion Rate, SY 2008–2009 (%)

Figure 12 shows that gender gap appears to be in favor of girls as far as participation in basic education is concerned. The government and other education stakeholders should look more seriously at the factors contributing to the comparatively low completion and retention among boys in the school system. Based on a recent study commissioned by UNICEF, boys dropped out of schools because they had to work, they lacked money for school requirements, and had lower level of motivation (more boys admitted feeling lazy going to school).

Figure 12. Elementary and Secondary Participation Rates, by Sex (%)
Figure 13 shows that clear gains have been made in reducing infant mortality rate and under-five mortality rate. Under-five mortality rate shows a decline from 80 to 33.5 deaths per 1,000 live births between 1990 and 2008 indicating a high probability of meeting the 2015 MDG target of 26.7 deaths per 1,000 live births.

The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births has slowed down from 209 in 1993 to 162 in 2006. At this rate, however, the country is unlikely to meet its maternal mortality target of 52.3 by 2015.

Main causes of maternal deaths in the country include post partum hemorrhage, eclampsia, and severe infection. The country is exerting efforts to reduce this through programs such as Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BeMONC) and Pantawid Pamulayang Pilipino Program (4Ps), among others.

Access to reproductive health services, particularly through the contraceptive prevalence rate, improved at a modest rate for currently married women aged 15-49 from 40 percent in 1993 to 50.7 percent in 2008. At this rate, the 2015 target of 80 percent access is difficult to achieve.

Note that Reproductive Health (RH) has 10 elements. These are: (1) family planning; (2) maternal and child health; (3) prevention and treatment of reproductive tract infections; (4) prevention of abortion and management of its complications; (5) prevention and appropriate treatment of infertility and sexual disorders; (6) prevention of breast cancers, cancers of the reproductive system, and other adverse gynecological conditions; (7) counseling and education on sexuality and sexual health; (8) adolescent reproductive health; (9) male reproductive health; and (10) prevention and management of violence against women.
The prevalence of HIV and AIDS has been kept below the national target of 1 percent of the population. However, figures on HIV and AIDS cases suggest that the infection has spread. Based on the AIDS Registry of the Department of Health (DOH), the total number of reported HIV Ab sero positive and AIDS cases from January 1984 to April 2009 reached 3,826. Cases on HIV Ab sero positive increased from 47 in April 2008 to 66 in April 2009. This is a 40 percent increase, the highest ever reported in a month.

The country has already achieved and surpassed its target on access to sanitary toilet facility as early as 2004. The target on access to safe drinking water is likely to be achieved by 2015.
To summarize, the Philippines is likely to meet the targets on poverty, gender equality in education, child mortality, HIV and AIDS, malaria, and access to safe drinking water and sanitary toilet facilities. However, it needs to double or triple its efforts to meet the targets on nutrition, dietary energy requirement, elementary participation rate, elementary cohort survival rate, elementary completion rate, maternal mortality ratio, and access to reproductive health services.

It is noteworthy that all the country’s 17 regions have already formulated their First Sub-National MDG Progress Reports. The reports were prepared through a participatory process involving our Regional Development Councils and Regional Social Development Committees.
Based on the findings of the 17 sub-national reports, targets on poverty, nutrition, child mortality rates, and access to safe drinking water and sanitary toilet facility are on-track in most regions. Consistently off-track are targets on elementary participation and cohort survival rates, ratio of girls to 100 boys in elementary and secondary levels, maternal mortality ratio, and women and men practicing family planning (contraceptive prevalence rate).

Due to unavailability or incompleteness of data in a number of regions, it was hard to assess the performance for HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.

It should be noted that Regions IX and IV-B have the most number of low probability of meeting the MDG targets and should therefore be given priority attention.

**How Much is Needed to Achieve the MDGs?**

In 2006, a study was conducted to estimate the financing requirements of MDGs. For 2010, a high PhP112.2 billion, or 1.16 percent of the country’s GDP, is needed to fill in the resource gap for MDGs. Around PhP480.8 billion (or 0.67% of GDP) is needed to meet the targets for the period 2010–2015. These estimates were done for poverty, basic education and health, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and water and sanitation.

The high figures highlight the fact that the Philippines cannot be complacent and act as if it is business as usual. It is unlikely that the MDGs will be achieved unless additional resources are allocated and spent for MDG-related programs and projects.

Table 1 and 2 show the estimation of MDG resource gaps and the detailed resource gaps for basic education, health, water and sanitation, and poverty reduction.

Based on the findings of the **Policy Study on the National and Local Government Expenditures for MDGs** by Dr. Rosario Manasan, for the period 1996–2006, the cut in real per capita national government spending was deepest in basic water and sanitation (29% yearly on average between 1997 and 2005), followed by basic health and nutrition (11%) and pro-poor infrastructure (10%). On the other hand, the contraction in real per capita spending on land redistribution (2%) and targeted income/employment enhancement measures was modest. It is also notable that real per capita spending on social welfare and development services actually went up by 1 percent yearly on average in 1997–2005, unlike on the other basic social service sectors.
Table 1. Estimation of Millennium Development Goal Resource Gaps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High cost assumption</th>
<th>Low cost assumption</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Resource Gap, 2010</td>
<td>PhP 112.2B (1.16% of GDP)</td>
<td>PhP 91.4B (0.95% of GDP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative resource gap of all MDGs</td>
<td>PhP 480.8B (0.67% of GDP)</td>
<td>PhP 346B (0.5% of GDP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>combined, 2010-2015</td>
<td></td>
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Source: Financing the Millennium Development Goals: The Philippines (Manasan, 2007)

Table 2. Summary of Resource Gaps in Current Prices, 2010-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Educ</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Watsan</th>
<th>Poverty reduction</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent to GDP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>53,326</td>
<td>9,110</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>49,502</td>
<td>112,243</td>
<td>1.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>52,547</td>
<td>9,350</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>39,510</td>
<td>101,663</td>
<td>0.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>50,080</td>
<td>9,680</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>34,552</td>
<td>94,511</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>38,658</td>
<td>9,979</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>28,395</td>
<td>77,161</td>
<td>0.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>28,255</td>
<td>10,237</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>20,858</td>
<td>59,394</td>
<td>0.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13,574</td>
<td>10,455</td>
<td>(58)</td>
<td>11,833</td>
<td>35,804</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2015</td>
<td>236,440</td>
<td>58,811</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>184,650</td>
<td>480,776</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What has the Philippines Done to Achieve the MDGs?**

Advocacy for MDGs has been very strong in the Philippines. At the national level, this has led to the adoption of MDGs as a framework in the formulation of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan, 2004–2010 and its accompanying Medium-Term Public Investment Program, 2005–2010. The Plan carries national targets for 2010 vis-à-vis MDG targets for 2015.

MDGs are prioritized in the budget. For instance, the National Budget Memorandum No. 101, or Policy Guidelines and Procedures in the Preparation of the FY 2009 Budget Proposals, states that “the budget shall prioritize key strategic programs and activities supportive of the 10-Point Legacy Agenda/SONA commitments and the MDGs to strengthen the foundation towards achieving sustainable prosperity and accelerate growth.”

On efforts to improve the current methodology on tracking MDG progress, a study was commissioned to review and come up with an inventory of possible tracking models. The result of the study was validated in the Consultation Forum on the Study on the Methodology for Tracking MDG Progress. It was further discussed with the National Statistical
Coordination Board (NCSB) and in the Multi-sectoral Committee on International Human Development Commitments. This led to the adoption of the original UN-SIAP MDG tracking methodology in the preparation of succeeding Philippine MDG Reports.

NEDA also initiated the formulation of monitoring tools and guidelines to institutionalize reporting of national government's budget and expenditures for the MDGs. The draft monitoring tools and guidelines have been discussed in a workshop attended by the planning and budget officers of national government agencies and is being pilot-tested in selected government agencies.

Sectoral reforms are being implemented by various government agencies. The Department of Education (DepEd) has formulated the Basic Education Sector Reform Agenda (BESRA), the government's response in translating the School First Initiative (SFI) into policy actions. It serves as the framework for a coordinated sector-wide approach to the participation of major stakeholders in the SFI. The Department of Health (DOH) adopted the FOURmula One for Health or F1 as the implementation framework for health sector reforms to achieve (1) better health outcomes, (2) more responsive health system, and (3) more equitable health financing. F1 has four thrusts: (1) more, better and sustained FINANCING; (2) REGULATION to ensure quality and affordability; (3) ensured access and availability of SERVICE DELIVERY; and (4) improved performance in GOVERNANCE. Meanwhile, the Social Welfare and Development Reform Project (SWDRP) aims to advance the social protection reform agenda of the government by strengthening the effectiveness of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as a social protection agency to: (a) efficiently implement the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps); and (b) expand the National Household Targeting System (NHTS).

The government has also pursued an integrated and comprehensive national anti-poverty strategy called the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (Linking Arms Against Poverty), which focuses on asset reform, human-development services, employment and livelihood, social protection, and participatory governance.

By the end of 2006, the government developed and launched an Accelerated Hunger Mitigation Program (AHMP) to address hunger from both the supply (e.g., increasing the supply and availability of food) and demand sides (e.g., putting money in poor people's pockets through livelihood).

- **No collection policy in all public elementary and high school.**
  
  To remove obstacles to the enrolment of school-age children, the DepEd is strictly enforcing the prohibition of collection of any fees
in public schools during enrolment period. This is in line with the DepEd’s constitutional mandate to provide free public education at the elementary and secondary levels.

- **Project ReACh.** The Project ReACh (Reaching All Children) targets elementary and high school enrollees to ensure that all school-age children are in school. Under the project, DepEd is banking on the active involvement of local government units (LGUs) and barangay officials to find school-age children, reach out to them, and keep them in school. Project ReACh enjoins all community stakeholders to extend assistance even beyond the workplace and their working hours if necessary to minimize, if not eradicate, potential school dropouts. Targeted unschooled students will be offered flexible alternative learning modules to catch up on their education.

- **Alternative Delivery Modes (ADMs).** To reduce school dropouts and respond to different needs of students, DepEd is implementing the ADMs, which are alternative schemes of schooling but are also considered formal and structured. Some ADMs currently implemented by the DepEd are: (a) Modified In-School and Out-School (MISOSA) for elementary; (b) Open High School Program (OHSP); and (c) Instructional Management by Parents, Community and Teachers (IMPACT).

Despite previous efforts and improvement in general health status indicators, the maternal mortality rates (MMR) have decelerated in the past to a point where the MDG of reducing MMR is unlikely to be achieved.

The DOH has issued Administrative Order No. 2008-0029 for the local implementation of an integrated Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health and Nutrition (MNCHN) Strategy. It outlines specific policies and actions for local health systems to systematically address health risks that lead to maternal and neonatal deaths.

The MNCHN Strategy seeks to achieve the following intermediate results:

1. Every pregnancy is wanted, planned, and supported;
2. Every pregnancy is adequately managed throughout its course;
3. Every delivery is facility-based and managed by skilled birth attendants; and
4. Every mother-and-newborn pair secures proper postpartum and postnatal care with smooth transitions to women’s health care package for the mother and to child survival package for the newborn.
These results shall be achieved by:

1. **Health Service Delivery**: Addressing the direct causes of mortality during childbirth by managing deliveries in either a basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEmONC) or a comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care (CEmONC) facility.
2. **Health Regulation**: Enforcement of regulatory measures and guidelines related to the establishment and operations of health facilities, as well as the capacity building of an adequate health staff.
3. **Health Financing**: Application of combined financing strategies using instruments available through DOH and LGU budgets, PhilHealth payments, and other funding sources.
4. **Governance for Health**: Establishment of governance mechanism that secures the political commitment of local stakeholders and exact accountability for results.

The implementation of the country’s population program is guided by the following four pillars: (1) Responsible Parenthood, (2) Respect for Life, (3) Birth Spacing, and (4) Informed Choice. Health services, including reproductive health services, have been devolved to the LGUs, which have the responsibility of providing couples and individuals with information and services to enable them to exercise Responsible Parenthood.

Over the years, the government has responded to reproductive health programs through a variety of policies, programs, and projects. They include implementation of the contraceptive self-reliance strategy (CSR) in anticipation of the shortage of family planning commodities with the phase-out of contraceptive donations, and provision of family planning education and services through innovative and acceptable mechanisms for promoting contraception (both natural and artificial).

**Localizing the MDGs**

To make MDG localization happen, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) has issued for LGUs a set of guidelines which provide a menu of programs and projects that would contribute to the attainment of the MDGs.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) issued Local Budget Memorandum No. 53, which included the MDG localization as part of the Initial FY 2008 Internal Revenue Allotment and other related budget preparations. This is a significant move that DBM initiated to emphasize the importance of localizing the MDGs.

Recognizing that LGUs are effective partners to achieve the MDGs, the Municipal Development Fund Office (MDFO)-Policy Governing Board of the Department of Finance passed Resolution No. 04-12-22-2005 allocating...
PhP500 million from the MDF-Second Generation Fund to establish and finance the MDG Fund, in turn, to support and fund LGU initiatives that directly contribute to the attainment of the MDGs. As of October 31, 2009, the MDFO has already allocated PhP247 million for the 21 approved sub-projects, i.e., provision/construction of public markets, water systems, day care centers, medical equipment, hospitals, heavy equipment, and others. About PhP88.6 million have been released to the LGUs.

Aside from national reports, the Sub-national Progress Reports of the country’s 17 regions have been prepared. The sub-national reports, consistent with the Regional Development Plans and Regional Investment Programs, help build MDG ownership and provide opportunities for local policy- and decision-makers to articulate their needs, raise their level of awareness, and allocate resources for the MDGs. There is also an ongoing initiative to formulate provincial MDG progress report on selected areas (Batangas, Camarines Norte, Marinduque, Eastern Samar, Biliran, Romblon, Agusan Del Norte, Agusan Del Sur, Sarangani, and Siargao) through the use of Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS). CBMS systematically gathers 14 core local poverty indicators from the provincial level down to the household level. It has been adopted to serve as the monitoring tool tracking the attainment of MDGs through SDC Resolution No. 3, series of 2006.

**Partnership with Civil Society Organizations**

The civil society organizations (CSO) and the business sector are important players in MDG financing.

A collaboration among Social Watch Philippines, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the National College of Public Administration and Governance of the University of the Philippines (UP-NCPAG) gave way to an assessment of the fiscal feasibility of attaining the MDG targets. A series of fora provided opportunities to discuss the resulting issues on MDG financing and led to the publication of a book entitled “May Pera Pa Ba?: Moving Forward with the MDGs.”

A major milestone in the history of budgeting in the Philippines is the joint initiative of legislators and civil society to present an alternative budget under the 2007 budget. Some PhP5.2 billion of the approved national budget can be attributed to the alternative budget advocacy campaign. The additional budget was allocated for the construction of more than 17,000 classrooms, food supplementation, hiring of new teachers, and additional scholarships for tertiary education. For 2008, PhP6.3 billion of the approved budget for social development can be attributed to the alternative budget campaign, and PhP7.7 billion in the 2009 budget is allotted for the environment, basic and higher education, agriculture, and health.
Mobilizing the Business Sector

In 2002, during the forum of business leaders and social development practitioners hosted by the International Business Leaders Forum and the UNDP, the Philippines was one of the three countries (with Brazil and South Africa) identified as models to demonstrate how the business sector actively engages with the government and civil society for MDGs.

The Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) led the business sector in crafting the Philippines MDG Framework for Business Action through a series of consultations with business executives, leaders of corporate foundations, and partners from the government, NGOs, and the donor community. This process led to the development of the report “Responding to the Millennium Development Challenge: A Roadmap for Philippine Business,” published and launched in 2004. The Roadmap contains best practices on corporate social responsibility as business response to the MDGs and action plans clustered into four MDG focus areas, namely, poverty, education, health, and environment. For the period 2004–2009, the business sector committed around PhP3.2 billion to consolidate and scale up successful programs along poverty reduction, small and medium enterprise development, basic education, and water and health. As of July 2009, an estimated PhP227 million was invested by the business sector through the Business and the MDGs Program.

The donor community strongly supports the MDGs. The Philippine Development Forum (PDF) is the primary mechanism of the government to facilitate policy dialogue among stakeholders of development, especially the donor partners. A Working Group on MDGs and Social Progress under the PDF has become a regular venue for discussing policy and program issues on the MDGs, especially along health, education, and social protection. The Working Group is chaired by the DSWD and co-chaired by the World Bank.

The Philippines has been selected as one of the countries to be assisted by the Government of Spain and the UNDP MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F). The MDG-F aims to accelerate the attainment of the MDGs by supporting policies and programs that would impact on selected MDGs, focusing on eight key areas: (1) democratic governance; (2) gender equality and women’s empowerment; (3) basic social needs, including youth employment and migration; (4) economic development; (5) environment and climate change; (6) conflict prevention and peace building; (7) cultural diversity and development; and (8) development and the private sector. A joint program has already been approved for the following thematic windows: (1) climate change (US$8 million); (2) youth, migration, and employment (US$6 million); (3) economic governance (US$5.4 million); and (4) children, food security, and nutrition (US$3.5 million).
Notwithstanding the contributions of various sectors to achieve the MDGs, the country still confronts a number of issues and challenges. To achieve the MDGs it needs to:

1. **Address the wide disparities across regions**—Regions with poverty incidence rates above the national average must receive more than a proportionate share of the resources allocated to overcome the problem.

2. **Curb the high population growth rate**—Dealing with this problem will entail reassessment of the present programs and projects on reproductive health.

3. **Improve performance of the agriculture sector**—The government’s anti-poverty strategy must focus on agriculture and rural development through asset reforms accompanied by reforms in the agricultural sector.

4. **Since education and maternal health targets are mostly those with low probability of achievement,** there is a need to accelerate the implementation of basic education and health reforms. Two major reform packages for health and education must be implemented, with critical interventions supported by an effective management structure and financing arrangements. Moreover, government and other education stakeholders should look more seriously at the factors contributing to the comparatively low completion and retention among boys.

5. **Ensure strict enforcement of laws pertinent to the achievement of the MDGs**—The government has to ensure that laws supporting the MDG targets, including laws that protect and promote the welfare of women and children, have to be strictly enforced and continuously monitored.

6. **Bridge the financing gap**—The government should continue to exert maximum effort to ensure that resources are used efficiently, mobilize taxes to generate public funding for vital projects, reduce the fiscal deficits, mobilize external development assistance, and pursue options like the debt-for-MDGs scheme.

7. **Since basic services have been devolved to the LGUs,** there is a need to strengthen their capacity to deliver basic services and manage programs and projects. Aside from ensuring the availability of manpower, the government should put in place quality improvement programs to upgrade skills and capacities of frontline workers, e.g., health workers and teachers.

8. **There is also a need to ensure transparency and accountability in government transactions.** Graft and corruption must be addressed. Accountability and transparency in every branch of government
from national to local levels should be ensured for more efficient use of funds for MDG-related programs and projects.

9. Address peace and security issues—Mindanao lags behind in the MDGs, thus, the government has to prioritize the lagging areas. Provision of basic services and other assistance should be viewed in the context of peace and development that will have an impact on the peace process.

10. Strengthen public–private partnership—The government should actively partner with the private sector and civil society in monitoring performance of government officials, advocating for the MDGs, and promoting environmental sustainability, among others.

11. Improve targeting, database, and monitoring—The lack of updated and accurate information and/or disaggregated data for MDG indicators make the design and targeting of appropriate interventions difficult. Enhancement of data collection and quality has to be given attention. This should include surveillance activities for hunger, AIDS, and disease outbreak, among others. The current institutional arrangement at the sub-national level also needs to be strengthened and made operational.
The Importance of Tracking the Millennium Development Goals

Corazon T. Urquico*

In 2015 or six years from now, the whole world will face the truth on whether the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have been achieved, 15 years after these were launched in September 2000. All 189 United Nations (UN) member nations which signed the Millennium Declaration in 2000 will finally find out if 15 years of work on the MDGs have been enough or have fallen short.

For the first time at the turn of this new century, the MDGs, as initiated by the UN, have been developed as time-bound, quantifiable, and therefore measurable eight goals whose overarching goal is poverty reduction, with its income and non-income dimensions—like education, health, gender equality, and the environment.

The UN also initiated the practice of tracking progress on the MDGs so that leaders and prime movers of the MDGs can better manage their achievements. The UN produces, on an annual basis, a progress report on the MDGs. This report provides trends by region and the UN maintains an online monitor of each and every country that has committed to the Millennium Declaration.

In the Philippines, the national progress report is prepared every three years. Since 2000, the Philippines has prepared three reports including a mid-term progress report produced in 2007. The next national progress report will be prepared in 2010. In the 2007 mid-term progress report, the Philippines prepared regional progress reports for the first time and these showed sub-national trends and the regions that are ahead and lagging behind in achieving the MDGs. It is through these reports that the Philippine stakeholders on the

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MDGs have been made aware on which MDGs the Philippines is likely and unlikely to achieve if the current pace and responses are not changed or improved.

This year, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) initiated the preparation of the provincial progress reports and thanks to the widening use of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), 10 provinces have agreed to prepare their provincial progress reports. It is in this same light that the preparation of provincial MDG progress reports are important, especially because trends now show the inequitable or disparate status of the progress on the MDGs across regions. It is also for this reason that the quest for the MDGs by 2015 may be won or lost at the local level. A Philippines that is able to achieve its MDGs at the national level depends on how each and every town, city, and province—led by the local officials, private and business sector, civil society organizations, the youth and all other stakeholders—is able to achieve major progress in its locality.

It is for this reason that the campaign and advocacy for the achievement of the MDGs has shifted to their localization. In the next six years, we will witness an upscaling of the advocacy for the localization of the MDGs. Each and every province, through its leagues, regional councils, and leaders will be the target of a high-level campaign to mainstream the MDGs in its local development plan in the same manner that in the early years of the MDG campaign, the battle cry was the mainstreaming of the MDGs in national development plans.

In this campaign to localize the MDGs, tracking the progress will play a major role because it is through tracking that provinces and municipalities, through CBMS data, will become aware of the status of their progress; thus they can plan better, identify the best strategies, and allocate the resources necessary to achieve their MDG targets.

Based on the MDG global reports produced annually, it has been shown that the MDGs are attainable. Many countries have achieved their target of halving poverty even before the 2015 deadline like Malaysia and Thailand, which are comparator-countries of the Philippines.

The Philippines can strive to achieve the same by 2015 but we must all work for a well-planned strategy that can only be developed if we rely on relevant, accurate, and timely data like the CBMS data. I therefore enjoin the provinces to regularly measure their progress on the MDGs and respond strategically and appropriately with no excuses.

Thank you.
I am Jun Sekda of the Statistical Research and Training Center. My presentation this morning is titled “Capacity-Building Strategies of SRTC for CBMS: The Batangas Experience.”

My presentation follows this outline. First, a short introduction about the Statistical Research and Training Center (SRTC), the agency I head. Then I will relate to you our involvement in the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) and why we are heavily involved in this undertaking. After which, I will present the project we have in Batangas. This will give you an idea on the strategies we adopted to ensure that the various activities lined up are carried out and our objectives attained.

Later, I will try to link you to our website. For 2010, we shall be uploading the complete schedule of our training courses where the training on CBMS is included. In our website, you can register online to reserve slots.

**SRTC as a Research and Training Arm**
The SRTC is the research and training arm of our country’s highly decentralized statistical system.

SRTC is one of the five major statistical agencies operating in our country. The National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) is the coordinating and policy-making body on statistical matters. We also have the National Statistics Office (NSO), the data gathering agency for general purpose statistics. We have two specialized statistical agencies—the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) and the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES)—which are in-charge of agricultural statistics and labor and employment statistics, respectively.
The SRTC is currently attached to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), like the NSCB and NSO.

Being the training arm of the PSS, SRTC is responsible for conducting statistical trainings designed to upgrade the quality of statistical manpower in the government.

Our trainings cover data collection and/or data generation, processing, maintenance, utilization which includes analysis of data, and packaging and dissemination—all of which comprise the various aspects of statistical work. I would like to inform you that SRTC has been involved in statistical capacity building activities since it was created way back in 1988. These trainings are made available to all agencies through its regular course offerings, which can be accessed in our website: www.srtc.gov.ph. For specialized statistical training needs, we can design them to fit an agency’s specific requirements.

So much for the advertisement. Now for the current involvement of SRTC in CBMS.

First, let me point out that SRTC considers CBMS a viable approach in generating subregional data that are vital to local planning and decisionmaking.

This is also the position of the NSCB Board when it adopted the system as a means to generate local-level statistics and enjoined everyone to provide support to this undertaking through a resolution issued many years ago.

We consider the system statistical. Hence, starting 2010, SRTC made the four CBMS modules as part of its regular course offerings.

The inclusion of CBMS trainings in our course offerings is aimed at providing proper training to local government unit (LGU) personnel involved in CBMS work.

So far, we have conducted several trainings on CBMS with participants coming from different provinces of the country.

We also conducted many trainers’ training to develop a pool of qualified resource persons at the local level. Our long-term view on this is that later on, we will be concentrating more on the higher-level training needs of LGUs such as enhancement of analysis and/or utilization of CBMS data for local planning and decisionmaking. This is when we are through building up the pool of resource persons at the local level, this will allow the local provision of basic CBMS trainings, that is, the four modules of CBMS that we have right now.

**SRTC and CBMS Field Implementation**

SRTC is also involved in the implementation of CBMS in the field. Right now, we are heavily involved in the institutionalization of CBMS in Batangas through a province-wide Millennium Development Goal (MDG) project funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
You may be wondering why Batangas was chosen as the site of our pilot CBMS project although the province is not considered poor. Well, the project is a product of convergence of many factors. First, the area is close to the National Capital Region and therefore, it is an ideal place that allows us to closely monitor the implementation of the project. Second, there was a strong demand from the provincial government to train their staff on CBMS. Third, the provincial government is committed to provide counterpart support for the undertaking. And finally, the leadership, the governor herself, is committed to make the system the backbone of information system for planning, targeting, and policymaking in the province.

The main goals of our CBMS project in the province of Batangas are two-fold, namely: (1) to put in place CBMS data system in all cities and municipalities of the province and (2) train LGUs in data analysis/utilization to come up with the required MDG report.

In putting up the CBMS data system in the whole province, several strategies were adopted.

One of these was to link up with the CBMS Network Team, NEDA Region IV-A, and the Provincial Government of Batangas (PGoB) and make them main partners in implementing the project.

Thus, we made the three institutions our main partners in implementing the project. Through this set up, SRTC made its entry into the province.

After establishing our link with the PGoB, we secured the support of Governor Vilma Santos-Recto for the project. This allowed us to have a smooth entry in the province and this eventually facilitated the implementation of the CBMS-based project.

Then we expanded the base of partnership and cooperation for the project by securing the support of other national government agencies operating in the province like the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). We also brought in the city and municipal governments and the local academic community to actively participate in the project through the help of the DILG, provincial government, and NEDA Region IV-A. Later, the local academic community represented by the Batangas State University and University of Batangas, became major partners in the successful implementation of the local capacity building.

As part of our implementation strategy, we conducted many trainers’ trainings to develop a core of local resource persons for the various trainings on CBMS. This core of local resource persons became the backbone of our training program in the whole province. They were the ones who trained the designated trainers in each city/municipality for the second-level trainings. Here, we would like to emphasize that given the coverage that we have in the province, i.e., 32 cities and municipalities, and the limited number of resource
persons available from SRTC and CBMS Network Team for the conduct of various CBMS trainings, SRTC decided to come up with a pool of local resource persons to address the need for qualified resource persons to handle the various CBMS trainings all over the province. This was done through the conduct of several trainers’ training at SRTC in Quezon City and in the province.

Right now, our pool of core resource persons for CBMS trainings in the province is composed of trained personnel from PGoB, academe, NEDA Region IV-A, and DILG Region IV-A. This was our strategy to help localize the CBMS trainings in the province.

Another strategy adopted to meet the need for qualified resource persons for various CBMS trainings at the local level was to train additional personnel from PGoB, academe, NEDA Region IV-A, DILG Region IV-A, and office key personnel in the planning and development offices of each city and municipality. Through this, we were able to come up with the needed number of resource persons for the second-level trainings.

Considering the resources needed to implement the province-wide project and the limited funds given to the project, we requested the PGoB to help marshal local support for the project. Through initiatives, the PGoB was able to raise around PhP4.0 million for the project, which were used to cover the cost of second-level trainings, the questionnaires for the data collection, and other related expenses. The city and municipal governments, on the other hand, shouldered the cost of the project in their respective areas.

Aside from providing resource persons, our partners from the academic community made available their information technology (IT) and training facilities for our various computer-based trainings on CBMS. This was made possible through the assistance of NEDA Region IV-A. Through this, we were able to have these facilities for the various trainings free-of-charge to the project.

Another strategy we have for the project is to work closely with the PGoB, NEDA Region IV-A, and CBMS Network Team in implementing data collection and post-data collection activities. Through this, we were able to ensure the quality of data collection undertaken and the subsequent activities in the whole province.

Right now, we have a total of 124 personnel to act as local resource persons for CBMS trainings, of which 16 are core trainers—ready to provide needed CBMS trainings anytime and anywhere in the province. The rest are based in the cities and municipalities.

Through them, we were able to conduct extensive trainings on the four modules of CBMS in all cities and municipalities of the province.

Other accomplishments of the project are as follows:

- Number of trained personnel for local CBMS data collection – 3,548
- Conducted data collection in 32 cities and municipalities
• Started data editing in 32 cities and municipalities
• Started data encoding in 25 cities and municipalities
• Initiated the mapping and/or digitizing in 20 cities and municipalities
• Expected to complete the CBMS data system for 32 cities and municipalities by the end of 2009

So with that, I end my presentation. We hope you find our sharing of experiences and strategies helpful. To the CBMS Network Team, we thank you for the continuing support given to us in making the LGUs more information-rich so that they will be able to come up with realistic and implementable plans, programs, and decisions for their respective areas.

Thank you at magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat.
Statistical Capacity Building for MDG Monitoring at the Local Level

Donald Gawe*

Director Severino Santos of NEDA Regional Office IV-A is unable to come as he was requested a few hours ago to be present at the Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) technical committee meeting because proposed projects for the rehabilitation of Laguna Lake are among the projects for deliberation. As you all know, CALABARZON, especially the Laguna Lake areas, was widely devastated by Typhoons Ondoy and Ketsana.

We were invited to share with you our initiatives and experience on statistical capacity building for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Even before NEDA IV-A was actively involved with CBMS, we learned from our local planners of their need for capacity building on statistics and research. A survey conducted by NRO IV-A among local planners of training needs showed that statistics and research are among the top of such needs. Many local planners noted that they have no adequate background on research (survey and sampling design) and statistics.

The older local planners told me that many years ago, NEDA had a comprehensive program for them on development statistics. There were even exams and they said they used trigonometric tables. All I can say to that was, “Is that how it was?”

The NEDA regional offices being tasked to consolidate not only line agency reports on MDGs but also that of the provinces’ saw the difficulty of getting the reports.

When we talk with local planners who are our link at the local level about their reports, they would say, “Where will we get the data?” They would say that much of the data required is not regularly gathered.

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If you tell them to do a survey, they would answer, “How will we do that?” And yet we are only talking about the Core Local Poverty Indicators. Incidentally, NRO IV-A did a training needs analysis (TNA) that showed that research and statistics is number three among the local planners’ training needs. Most of them would say that they know how to interpret sample data, but they want to know more about sampling and survey and other statistical techniques.

Of course, NEDA IV-A does not have funds to address the training needs of local planners, but we promised them that we will coordinate with training institutions/higher-education institutions (HEIs) to address their concerns.

The situation in our region shows that the five provinces have research and statistical divisions. The reports of local planners state that most staff in those divisions are not statistics graduates and have very limited training. In terms of actual work, most staff in those divisions are not doing research and statistics but other special concerns. Meanwhile, many of our local planners are new; planners previously trained on basic statistics and research have either retired or transferred to other offices.

With the structure at the local level, the planners suggested not limiting capacity building to them but to include other departments as well.

As we mentioned earlier, many of the MDG data requirements are not readily available at the local level so if the planners have limited appreciation of how to generate data—use of proxy—then there really is no MDG report.

At this point, the Regional Statistics Coordination Committee (RSCC) of the Regional Development Council (RDC) decided to act on the matter.

After assessing the local data-generation tools available, the RSCC saw CBMS as an opportunity to get the needed data as well as a means to capacitate local planners on the conduct of surveys, data interpretation, research, etc.

Prior to these, the decision of the region was to allow the provinces to use whatever tools they have as long they produce the data for the 14 core indicators. In the beginning, they said they have these kinds of tools but we found out that there is none.

This led to the RDC’s adoption of the CBMS as the common data-generation instrument for local-level statistics and for monitoring the progress of the MDGs. Some of the salient provisions are:

- creation of a regional pool of resource persons on CBMS to be composed of the Provincial Planning and Development Offices, other provincial departments, and the HEIs
- Statistical Research and Training Center (SRTC) to ensure capacity building
- RSCC to oversee the capacity building and implementation of the CBMS
We tried our best to address some of the training needs by using our network. For example, we met with the officials of the University of the Philippines - School of Urban and Regional Planning (UP-SURP) to discuss their modules for the special course on urban and regional planning, with special focus on data interpretation, where to get proxy, etc. We were able to encourage many from the depressed municipalities of Quezon to attend.

We organized training on GIS with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). We saw to it that the emphasis was on data analysis using GIS, not only on how to make maps and PowerPoint presentations exciting.

We continue our advocacy of CBMS adoption as we see this as an opportunity for statistical and research capacity building. Based on the feedback we gathered from the local planners, they said that they have acquired more skills or become more familiar with the design and administration of surveys, field editing, and data processing, among others.

This early, we can easily see the difference in the quality of reports/planning output of those who were trained on CBMS and those who were not. Some of our other initiatives are:

- We encourage local planners to join professional organizations (e.g., Philippine Statistical Association- professionalization – assist in the review – take the exams on environmental planning)
- Provide a mechanism for information sharing such as this
  - Findings of conducted research
  - Statistical update
  - On Friday, December 11, we will have the first CALABARZON Statistics and Research Forum, a collaborative undertaking with De La Salle-Lipa and SRTC.
- To encourage LCEs, we commend LCEs through resolutions

**Ways Forward**

- RSCC to oversee the creation of local statistics committees that shall ensure the sustainability of the gains derived from the CBMS training
  - CBMS Technical Working Group (TWG) at the local level shall serve as the nucleus of the local statistics committee
- Strengthen the Regional Affiliates Program (RAP) of SRTC (composed of public and private HEIs) to provide continuing training on statistics.
Achieving Local Development Agenda through CBMS

Meynard Melo*

Governor Rosa Vilma Santos-Recto believes that in order to improve the lives of her constituents, good governance and professional political leadership must be accompanied by common vision and values and shared responsibility. Realizing the urgency of addressing poverty, health, and illiteracy problems, the Provincial Government of Batangas adopted measures to effectively combat illiteracy, fight malnutrition, provide health and medical interventions, and wage war against extreme poverty.

As a local government leader since 1998, the governor’s leadership has been centered on socioeconomic and cultural development with emphasis on health, education, employment, peace and order, tourism, and technology. She has maintained her dedication to upholding the welfare of the poor and the marginalized sectors and her devotion in fulfilling these goals has extended to all the municipalities of Batangas now that she is the governor.

The HEARTS Program is the battlecry of Batangas. HEARTS stands for Health, Education, Environment, Agriculture, Roads, Tourism, and Security. The poverty-reduction strategies under this program, as the governor envisions it, will be achieved through collaboration and the integration of efforts and measures using a system that can identify the problem areas of the target population. When she was still the mayor of Lipa, her program was anchored on the Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) approach. Now, her HEARTS program is guided by the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS). As shown in the table below, there are some interesting parallelisms of the CBMS, MBN, and the HEARTS Program of the provincial government as they relate to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

* Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Province of Batangas
Status of CBMS Implementation
Batangas started the dialogue regarding the implementation of CBMS in February 2009. After a period of consultation, we officially commenced implementation on May 13, 2009.

Based on the latest status report, we have already covered 87.4 percent of households. Editing of the Household Profiles Questionnaire (HPQs) now stands at 91.5 percent while encoding of the accomplished HPQs now stands at 61.8 percent.

The governor is confident that CBMS provides techniques that respond to the needs of Batangas with regard to providing information applicable to the local or provincial scenario. Data are generated and produced within the local jurisdiction, through the initiative of the local leaders, and participated in by the local residents, initially with the barangay captains, Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) or Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) or barangay coordinators or enumerators. The participatory nature of CBMS can lead to a better and shared understanding of the system, foster social learning and community building and awareness. Furthermore, because it aims to depict a true picture, the data user may be able to provide a real situationer analysis. With this, the likelihood that the results and issues will be acted upon and used to make decisions is increased. In addition, community participation and empowerment through CBMS leads to transparency, which, in effect, helps foster trust in the government and boosts the government’s credibility.

Since almost all government projects and development plans depend on statistical data and researchers, CBMS is a helpful tool in the implementation of the HEARTS program through the proper identification of areas of concern, the rightful beneficiaries, and assessment of appropriate interventions. Development plans, budget management and allocations will also be properly made and maintained.

The governor’s strong determination to alleviate poverty; lessen unemployment and help provide alternative sources of income; combat illiteracy; provide accessible and affordable health and medical care; alleviate nutrition problems; maintain a safe and secure community for Batangueños, tourists, and investors; make Batangas a first-rate home of healthy, educated, and peace-loving residents; a topnotch tourist destination; and an excellent investment location, has motivated her to implement the CBMS. The CBMS has an easily understood core set of indicators, and it establishes databanks at each geopolitical level—from the barangay up to the province. Using this database, LGUs can easily determine in an objective manner their priorities.

When the original proposal for CBMS implementation was presented to the governor, the total cost of the project, including training costs, supplies, reproduction of survey forms, etc., was pegged at more than Php100 million
Table 1. The HEARTS Program vis-à-vis the CBMS and the MDGs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEARTS Program of Batangas</th>
<th>Minimum Basic Needs</th>
<th>Millennium Development Goals (Nos.)</th>
<th>CBMS Core Indicators (Nos.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong> - Enabling adequate health care access for Batangueños</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>MDG 4</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 6 &amp; 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water and Sanitation</td>
<td>MDG 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>MDG 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Education</td>
<td>MDG 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong> - Raising the level of literacy of public school children</td>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>MDG 8</td>
<td>4, 5, 6 &amp; 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water and Sanitation</td>
<td>MDG 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Education</td>
<td>MDG 2</td>
<td>8 &amp; 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environment</strong> - Conservation and clean-up movement of valuable natural resources</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>MDG 3</td>
<td>10, 11, 12 &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>MDG 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
<td>MDG 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture</strong> - Increase and regularized agricultural yields through financial assistance / cooperatives / livestock development</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>MDG 6</td>
<td>10, 11, &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>MDG 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
<td>MDG 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roads</strong> - Development of adequate and proper access to the province- a path to economic vitality</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>MDG 9</td>
<td>10, 11, &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
<td>MDG 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tourism</strong> - Strengthening the province’s position as the country’s premier tourist destination</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>MDG 2</td>
<td>10, 11, &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income</td>
<td>MDG 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Security</strong> - Regular and explicit interactions with the PNP and other agencies</td>
<td>Peace and Order</td>
<td>MDG 4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
for the entire province. However, the governor said that if we have a common vision and common values, we can also share the responsibility. The provincial government, as a result, had to allot only Php4 million for this project. This was because the barangay and municipal governments shared the cost of implementing the CBMS.

We also shifted from a departmentalized to team approach to project implementation. Traditionally, CBMS work is lodged in the planning and development offices. Since I am the human resources management officer, I know which employees have the skills and commitment to see this project through. I divided them into four groups that are now overseeing the implementation of CBMS in the four districts of Batangas.

It has not been a smooth ride, however. But with the assistance of the Statistical Research and Training Center (SRTC), the University of Batangas, and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Office 4A, we were able to succeed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Data Collection</th>
<th>Field Editing</th>
<th>Encoded Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st District</td>
<td>75.73</td>
<td>93.01</td>
<td>27.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd District</td>
<td>89.19</td>
<td>79.54</td>
<td>78.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd District</td>
<td>95.61</td>
<td>98.24</td>
<td>74.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th District</td>
<td>89.12</td>
<td>95.03</td>
<td>67.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>87.41</td>
<td>91.46</td>
<td>61.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Good afternoon to everyone.

Let me share with you our vision for the Province of Tarlac. Tarlac: a progressive, peaceful and environment-conscious province with sustainable and globally competitive agriculture; a major logistics and IT investment, and tourism destination; with well-planned communities that are home to healthy, productive, and principled citizenry. The vision’s translation into concrete programs is summarized under the “Sulong Tarlac” banner.

Our problem then is how to turn our vision into something concrete as well as how to turn our policies into programs. It is in this light that I wish to outline how the CBMS data were able to help us.

The 14 Core Indicators of Poverty are addressed by each of the Four Pillars of Development under the “Sulong Tarlac” banner (Food, Health, Livelihood and Education). And the CBMS Core Indicators complement the priorities of the government, thus allowing for a more evidence-based decisionmaking. The CBMS data can greatly enhance targeting of beneficiaries of our programs since the CBMS provides us with data on food, health, livelihood and education, which are the Province’s priorities.

In particular, we use CBMS to identify new PhilHealth beneficiaries and validate existing ones. It was also used to help develop innovations in health service delivery such as the TeleMed.

In terms of housing, we have the Gawad Kalinga (GK) housing program to address the problem of informal settlers. All our GK sites have livelihood components.
And the skills identified through the Household Profiling helped to establish the employment and livelihood opportunities to be provided in the sites.

The Tarlac Water District, meanwhile, has recently held a water summit to address the problem of access to safe water. We are preparing a feasibility study on the Barangay Water Refilling Stations. The CBMS data would be used to identify households that have no access to sanitary toilet facilities for direct service provision.

A province-wide school profiling project will also start in January 2010. For those who are not in school, literacy and numeracy programs are implemented through the Tarlac State University and Tarlac College of Agriculture. For those who are in school, we provide books, school bags, and school supplies.

The CBMS data were also used for the validation of beneficiaries of agriculture programs and projects such as Barangay Gulayan’s Micro Finance Program and of various Farmer’s Groups.

For the 2010 Budget, PhP5 million is allocated to the Easy Access Cooperative Bank, PhP2 million to Micro-Credit and PhP16 million to the Tarlac Placement and Network Office (TNPO). Given these resources, targeting of beneficiaries could be made more effective and efficient with the aid of the data.

Given the benefits of the CBMS, we therefore decided to employ the system in Tarlac to help achieve our vision. Thank you.
Government-Academe Partnership in the Implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS)

Krishna Buenaventura*

To follow the steps in the implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), the Provincial Government of Tarlac (PGT) decided to set up a group that will be responsible in handling all CBMS-related activities. Involved were the Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) of Tarlac, the Tarlac State University (TSU), in particular, the Institute of Local Government Administration (ILGA), the University Extension Office (UEO), the University Research Office (URO) and the College of Public Administration (CPA), and other Colleges. This eventually led to the creation of a CBMS Project Management Office under the Provincial Governor’s Office (PGO) through an Executive Order.

Students and faculty members were involved in the conduct of advocacy activities meant to introduce and promote the CBMS. Among the activities were visits to local government units (LGUs), discussion of work plans, setting up of the CBMS organizational structure at the local level and conduct of CBMS orientation sessions for Barangay Chairpersons.

A province-wide training on data collection and field editing was also carried out as facilitated by the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) and the Angelo King Institute. This was followed afterwards by municipal-level training on data collection as facilitated by TSU faculty and students.

Enumeration was done through paper-based paraphernalia and handheld personal computers (PCs). Training activities such as refresher courses, and training on the preparation of Barangay Profiles and data validation were likewise conducted per LGU.

*Member of the CBMS-TWG of the Province of Tarlac and of the faculty of Tarlac State University
For the preparation of the Municipal Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and Comprehensive Development Plans (CDPs), the URO, UEO, CPA and ILGA took charge in helping local governments come up with the CLUPs.

In sum, the various steps and tasks in the CBMS process were undertaken and made successful by the partnership between the government and the academe.

The partnership was specially made successful by the fact that the PGT has an endless supply of capable faculty and technology-enabled students willing to volunteer in the implementation of the CBMS.

The faculty and students are given opportunities to participate in training activities, research, poverty analysis, and direct service provision in the Province and through its participation, the University fulfills its mandate to provide instruction, research, and extension services to its community. In the process, an enabling environment for the community is thereby created.

**Figure 1. Government-Academe Partnership and the CBMS Process**

![Diagram showing the steps of the CBMS process involving TSU-ILGA, TSU-URO, TSU-UEO, and TSU-Faculty and Students.]
Use of Handhelds for Data Gathering: A CBMS Innovation of the Province of Tarlac

Joel Zapanta*

The challenge that Governor Victor Yap of Tarlac gave me was to find a way to innovate the data gathering stage of CBMS. As you can see from the CBMS process illustrated below, the data collection and data encoding are the next sets of activities after the advocacy and organization stage.

Figure 1. General Activities in Implementing CBMS

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* Member, CBMS-Technical Working Group, Province of Tarlac
These are very critical components of the CBMS because data quality and reliability are determined at this stage. Moreover, these processes are very labor-intensive. Data enumeration actually takes about 30 minutes for each household. So the first question I asked myself was: “What if we try to speed up the enumeration process?” That is, how can we speed it up? We can do this by introducing a computerized data enumeration where the system will guide the enumerator on to the next appropriate question, and where he does not have to do any calculations and simply fills in the questions that need to be answered. At the end of the enumeration, all appropriate questions should have been answered.

**Figure 2. Paper Based Process Workflow**

The next step after data collection is field editing. If you remember, we have an existing manual on this as well as actually went through several presentation slides on this topic during the training. In the process-based workflow, field editing actually takes place a number of days after the data collection. So, my next question then was: “What if we eliminate the field editing process?” We can do this if we get all the respondents’ answers validated as they are being given. This means that enumerators will not have to return to the households whenever there are discrepancies in the household profile questionnaire (HPQ).

As a result of this innovation, we can actually speed up the process as illustrated below:
Use of Handhelds for Data Gathering: A CBMS Innovation of the Province of Tarlac

Joel Zapanta

Figure 3. Computers/Handhelds Process Workflow

Table 1. Average Time Taken for CBMS Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Paper Based</th>
<th>Handheld</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enumeration</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Editing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encoding</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brief Profile of the Municipality of Gasan
Gasan is located at the western part of the Province of Marinduque. It shares common boundaries with Boac on the north, Buenavista on the southwest, and Tablas Strait on the west. It accounted for 12.44 percent of the province’s total land area and is the fourth largest town.

Gasan is a third class municipality with 25 barangays, 17 of which are coastal. It has a total land area of 11,930 hectares and the major economic activities of the people are farming and fishing.

In 2007, Gasan had an Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of PhP41.1 million (85.4%). Its locally-generated revenues which amounted to PhP6.0 million (14.6%). In 2008, the IRA of the municipality accounted for 86.5 percent while its locally-generated revenues accounted for 13.5 percent.

Gasan has 7,649 households with a total population of 31,591. It has an average household size of four.

Gasan has the following vision statement: Gasan: a God-centered self-reliant and empowered citizenry living harmoniously in an ecologically-balanced community. Its vision statement is as follows: Effective delivery of basic services by harnessing the natural, human and fiscal resources through a capable and people-oriented leadership.
Table 1. Household Size per Barangay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barangay</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Household Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Antipolo</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bachao – Ibaba</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Bachao – Ilaya</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>939</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Baconbacon</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Bahi</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Bangbang</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>1,468</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Banot</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Banuyo</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>1,379</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Barangay I</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Barangay II</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Barangay III</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Bognuyan</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Cabugao</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Dawis</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>1,911</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Dili</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>1,586</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Libtangin</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>1,446</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Mahunig</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Mangiliol</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Masiga</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>2,257</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Mat. Gasan</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>1,358</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Pangi</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Pinggan</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>1,962</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Tabionan</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>1,146</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Tapuyan</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Tiguion</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>2,905</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,649</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,591</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definition of Poverty Revisited

- Poverty is the denial of opportunities and choices to lead a long, healthy, creative life, and to enjoy a decent standard of living, freedom, dignity, self-esteem and respect of others.
- Poverty is the chronic inability to meet basic needs, shortness of income—lack of access to health, education, and other social services.
- However, poverty is only half the picture, the other half shows resiliency of the poor in coping with their condition and the external shocks that come their way.
• Poverty reduction remains to be one of the biggest challenges faced by the nation.
• To successfully fight poverty, it is important to know who are the poor, where they are, and why they are poor.
• It is impossible to reduce poverty without economic growth yet economic growth cannot happen without significantly reducing the number of poor people.
• Causes of poverty are complex, and the remedies are equally so. Poverty reduction is not an overnight affair.
• Poverty reduction can only be achieved by a mixture of programs, policies and political will.
• LGUs play a significant role in the fight against poverty, either as implementer, co-implementer or facilitators.

**Some Tools Used for Tracking MDG Progress**
The Municipality of Gasan uses the following tools for tracking progress on the Millennium Development Goals:

1. Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) - The LGPMS is a self-assessment indicator system that allows local governments to determine their limitations and capabilities in the delivery of essential public service.
2. Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) and Poverty Mapping - Digitized maps of barangays or municipality using the core local poverty indicators.
3. Reports - Accomplishment reports of various department of the local government unit (LGU).

Gasan has implemented two rounds of CBMS already—one in 2004 and another in 2008. A number of indicators monitored during these two rounds can be subsumed under the eight goals of the Millennium Declaration as indicated in the succeeding tables below. As a result, we can now assess and even benchmark our progress on the attainment of the MDGs.

Across barangays, the results of the CBMS survey in 2008 indicate that poverty incidence is highest in Barangay Tabionan with more than eight out of 10 households living below the poverty line.
Barangay Tabionan also recorded the highest subsistence incidence in the municipality at 71.8 percent.
Barangay Tabionan is located 10 kilometers from Poblacion Gasan. Farming is the major economic activity of the residents. Their major crops are coconut, banana, and rootcrops.

Meanwhile, as indicated in Table 5, Gasan’s performance on education has dramatically improved.
Female children, however, need to catch up with their male counterparts as indicated in Table 6.

Gasan has 28 daycare centers, 17 public elementary schools, and two private elementary schools. It also has five public high schools, two private high schools, and two colleges. Literacy rate is 98 percent which is higher than the national figure of 93.4 percent.

The number of child deaths during the two surveys did not change with 22 deaths during both periods.

The municipality has been declared as malaria-free. The top five causes of mortality for all ages during the two surveys are presented in Table 9.

The first column in Table 10 below shows the ideal ratio of public health workers to the population while the second column shows current situation or ratio for the municipality of Gasan. Based on this, the LGU can be seen as having an appropriate structure and facilities for health and nutrition but lack human resources to implement it.

Meanwhile, the performance of the municipality on other key indicators are presented in Tables 11-15.

The local government of Gasan has also issued a number of ordinances and resolutions, as well as created special bodies with the participation of nongovernment and civil society organizations to help attain the MDG targets (Table 16).

Table 2. Progress in the Attainment of the MDGs (Goal 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger</th>
<th>2004 HH = 6,686 Pop = 29,648</th>
<th>2008 HH = 7,649 Pop = 31,591</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income less than poverty threshold</td>
<td>3,830 or 57.3%</td>
<td>4,298 or 56.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income less than the food threshold</td>
<td>2,549 or 38.1%</td>
<td>3,281 or 42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households eating less than 3 full meals a day</td>
<td>511 or 7.6%</td>
<td>1,026 or 13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons aged 15 years old and above who are not working but are actively seeking work (Unemployment)</td>
<td>1,274 or 12.3%</td>
<td>1,172 or 12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of malnourished children aged 0 -5 years old</td>
<td>320 or 6.9%</td>
<td>308 or 6.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Households with Income Below the Poverty Threshold, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
<th>Households with Income Below the Poverty Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Magnitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antipolo</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachao Ibaba</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachao Ilaya</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacongbacon</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahi</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangbang</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banot</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banuyo</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bognuyan</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabugao</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawis</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dili</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libtangin</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahunig</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangliiol</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masiga</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mat. Gasan</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangi</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pingan</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabionan</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tapuyan</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiguion</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Table 4. Subsistence Incidence, by Barangay

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<tr>
<th>Barangay</th>
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<th>Households with Income Below Food Threshold</th>
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Table 5. Gasan’s Performance for MDG 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 6-12 years old who are attending elementary school</td>
<td>4,635/5,296 or 87.52%</td>
<td>5,646 / 5,885 or 95.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 13-16 years old attending high school</td>
<td>2,436/2,865 or 85.03%</td>
<td>2,969 / 3,172 or 93.6%</td>
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Table 6. Gasan’s Performance for MDG 3: Promote Gender Equality

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<tr>
<td>Elem: Male Participation Rate</td>
<td>52.48%</td>
<td>51.63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Participation Rate</td>
<td>47.52%</td>
<td>48.37%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec: Male Participation Rate</td>
<td>52.60%</td>
<td>52.80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Participation Rate</td>
<td>47.40%</td>
<td>47.20%</td>
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Table 7. Gasan’s Performance for MDG 4: Reduce Infant and Child Mortality

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 0-5 years old who died</td>
<td>22 / 4,606 or 0.5%</td>
<td>22 / 4,552 or 0.5%</td>
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Table 8. Gasan’s Performance for MDG 5: Improve Maternal Health

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<tr>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy related causes</td>
<td>1/672 or 0.1%</td>
<td>0 / 719 or 0%</td>
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Table 9. Gasan’s Performance on MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other Infectious Diseases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Five Causes of Mortality in All Ages</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>Top Five Causes of Mortality in All Ages</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Senility</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1. Pneumonia</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Pneumonia</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2. Hypertension</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Hypertension</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3. Senility</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Heart Diseases</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4. Cancer, All Forms</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Cancer, All Forms</td>
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<td>5. Heart Diseases</td>
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### Table 10. Public Health Workers to Population Ratio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratio of Public Health Workers (PHW) to Population</th>
<th>LGU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor - 1/20,000</td>
<td>1/31,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses - 1/15,000</td>
<td>1/15,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist - 1/20,000</td>
<td>1/31,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwives - 1/5,000</td>
<td>1/7,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All public PHW - 1/600</td>
<td>1/3,949</td>
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### Table 11. Gasan’s Performance for MDG 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

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<th>2004HH = 6,686</th>
<th>2008HH = 7,649</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to safe water</td>
<td>514 or 7.7%</td>
<td>653 or 8.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilets</td>
<td>2,091 or 31.3%</td>
<td>1,908 or 24.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households who are squatters/ informal settlers</td>
<td>191 or 2.9%</td>
<td>305 or 3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>274 or 4.1%</td>
<td>252 or 3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with access to electricity</td>
<td>4,742 or 80%</td>
<td>5,339 or 69.8%</td>
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</table>
### Table 12. Households Without Access to Safe Drinking Water

<table>
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### Table 13. Households without Access to Sanitary Toilet

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Table 14. Households who are Informal Settlers

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Table 15. Households Living in Makeshift Housing

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<td>Tapuyan</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiguion</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.86</td>
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<td><strong>GASAN</strong></td>
<td><strong>7649</strong></td>
<td><strong>252</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.29</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>Ordinances, Resolutions, Executive Orders</td>
<td>Institutions/ Special Bodies</td>
<td>NGOs, CSOs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Executive Order organizing the Municipal Poverty Reduction Action Team (MPRAT)</td>
<td>Public Employment Service Office (PESO)</td>
<td>Cooperative Gasan Insect Farmers MPCGasan Vendors Multipurpose Cooperative</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Memorandum Order approving the Scholarship Program Executive Order organizing the Municipal Technical Education &amp; Skills Development Committee Executive Order creating the Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC)</td>
<td>Local School Board Gasan Scholarship Council</td>
<td>PTCA Fed.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Executive Order creating the Gender and Development (GAD) Council</td>
<td>Local School Board</td>
<td>Gasan Women’s Welfare Association (GAWWA)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Executive Order creating the Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC) Resolution on Memorandum of Agreement for the Inter Local Health Zone</td>
<td>Local Health Board</td>
<td>Gasan ECCD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 6</td>
<td>Executive Order Creating the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Council Resolution on the Memorandum for the Inter Local Health Zone Executive Order organizing the Municipal Technical Working Group (MTWG) for PhilHealth Promotion and Program for Healthy Places</td>
<td>Local Health Board</td>
<td>Marinduque Council for Environmental Concerns (MACEC) Center for Agricultural &amp; Rural Development (CARD) Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Executive Order organizing the Ecological Solid Waste Management Board Executive Order organizing the Gasan Marine Reserve Council Executive Order organizing the Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (MFARMC) Executive Order organizing the Coastal Resources Management (CRM) Council</td>
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</table>
MDG-Responsive Programs, Projects and Activities

Thus far, the local government of Gasan has implemented the following programs, project and activities which are expected to contribute to the attainment of the MDGs:

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
  - Adoption of Butterfly and Coco-based Products as the One-Town-One Product (OTOP) assisted by Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); Awarded as Best OTOP Implementer in Region IVB DTI, Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan (MIMAROPA)
  - Self-Employment Assistance (SEA) Program – 866 Families
  - Emergency Assistance – 826 Families
  - Food Assistance – 1206 Families
  - Implementation of PhilHealth program for indigent families – 1,886 families
  - Implementation of Visionaries for Lifegiving Labours (VLL Programs)
  - PhP2M Financial assistance to accredited cooperatives and organizations
  - Livelihood Training Programs assisted by TESDA and DTI
  - Fish Net and Gear Distribution Programs – 140 Fisherfolks
  - Implementation of labor-based Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)-assisted programs – cost sharing scheme
  - Implementation of Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAHI) Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDSS) Program assisted by provincial government
  - Implementation of Katas ng VAT Para kay Lolo at Lola – 1,144 Senior Citizens

- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
  - Implementation of Expanded Scholarship Program
  - Sustainability for the Early Childhood Development (ECCD) Programs
  - Donation of government-owned property for the construction of elementary schools under the School-in-every-Barangay Program
  - Support for the SIBOL Initiatives – Gawad Kalinga Preschoolers Learning Program

- Goal 3: Promote gender equality
  - Formulation of a Gender and Development Code
Localizing the Millennium Development Goals: The Gasan Experience

Victoria A. Lao Lim and Arturo M. Salva, Jr.

- Establishment of a women’s-desk at the Municipal Police Station to deal with women affairs
- Construction of a separate detention cell for women

- Goal 4: Reduce infant and child mortality
  - Implementation of Maternal and Child Health Care Program
    - Expanded Program on Immunization
    - Garantisadong Pambata
  - Construction and rehabilitation of Barangay Health Stations through the ECCD Program

- Goal 5: Improve maternal health
  - Implementation of Maternal Health Care Program
  - Promotion of PhilHealth maternal package
  - Adaptation of Inter Local Health Zone
  - Implementation of Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BeMONC)

- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases.
  - The municipality has been declared as malaria free.
  - Health education campaign and surveillance
  - Promotion of Botika sa Barangay, Botika Binhi.

- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
  - Repair/Improvement of various waterworks system (PhP600,000) in Brgy. Pinggan, Masiga, Bahi, Mat. Gasan and Tiguion (UNDP PhP120,000).
  - Implementation of Waterworks Project in Brgy. Antipolo (PhP1M) through the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF)
  - Distribution of 100 sets of jetmatic pumps and pipes
  - Distribution of 50 diamante Toilet Bowls
  - Construction of communal toilet in Brgy. Bachao Ibaba and Masiga
  - Establishment of Pawikan Sanctuary in Brgy. Masiga (CRM Project)
  - Establishment of Morion Village in Brgy. Cabugao as Core Shelter Site in the north
  - Acquisition of lot in Brgy. Bachao Ibaba as resettlement site of informal settlers of the south
  - Provision of skilled labor for the completion of 90 housing units for Gawad Kalinga
  - Completion of 15 housing units thru CSAP/DSWD and another 14 units still in the pipeline

- Goal 8: Develop partnership for development.
  - Establishment of a sisterhood with Marikina City.
Key Areas for Strategic Decisions and Action to Address the Gaps, Issues, and Challenges
The Municipality of Gasan has identified the following as key areas for strategic decisions and action to address the gaps, issues, and challenges:

1. Governance:
   - Local Investment Code
   - Strengthen Feedback Mechanism
2. Administration:
   - Workable Comprehensive Revenue Generation Plan
3. Social Services:
   - Increase proportion of immunized children
   - Decrease proportion of malnourished children
   - Better access to non-formal education program
   - Improve secondary graduation rate
4. Economic Development:
   - Increase crop yield
   - Increase job opportunities
5. Environmental Management:
   - Increase forest cover
   - Sustain waste management program

In closing, we would like to share the following quotation from Vivian Longbian-Bureros:

“We can only say that planning is successful and development is achieved when most, if not all of the people in the locality have a decent way of living. This is when they have food to eat, sufficient health care when they are sick, livable environment and have opportunity to improve their status in life. This, is the human face of development.”
The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Report of the Province of Agusan del Sur

Edna S. Tongson*

Introduction
Agusan del Sur is a landlocked province located in Northeastern Mindanao with a total land area of 896,550 hectares, 76 percent or 681,378 hectares of which are timberland, and 24 percent or 215,172 hectares are alienable and disposable lands. It is composed of 14 municipalities, 318 barangays, and two congressional districts.

Based on the 2005 CBMS Survey, household population was 550,332 with a ratio of 107 males for every 100 females.

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood with 70 percent of the total households in the province engaged in farming.

Poverty incidence in the province is high (70%). In response, the provincial government implemented various strategies and programs to uplift the living condition of the poorest households. This includes the provision of:
(1) basic social services to households with a monthly income of PhP3,500.00 and below, and (2) livelihood program known as Diversified Farming System (DFS) to households with a monthly income of PhP3,500 to PhP6,500. There are 26,653 target households for DFS until 2015 costing PhP1.27 billion.

The poverty gap ratio of the province is low at 0.3 compared to the national figure of 7.7. This is the average gap in order for the poor people to reach the poverty threshold per capita. Or if it is converted into cash, all the poor should be given the amount of PhP4,785.00 per capita per year in order to reach the poverty threshold of PhP13,290 as of 2005.

Although the employment rate in the province is high, poverty remains widespread. This is mainly due to the nature of employment - most of the people are employed as farm laborers.

* Chief, Evaluation, Research and Statistics Division, Provincial Planning and Development Office, Agusan del Sur
The prevalence of underweight children five years old and below is lower than the national figure. Feeding programs for malnourished children are implemented in the province. Moreover, the proportion of underweight children among girls is higher than boys in the province.

### Table 1. Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population with income below poverty threshold</td>
<td>69.4</td>
<td>32.9 (FIES, 2006)</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Gap</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>7.7 (FIES, 2006)</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rate</td>
<td>89.87</td>
<td>88.7 (NSCB, 2005)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>Male: 4.5</td>
<td>24.6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Female: 5.2</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

There are nine municipalities whose poverty incidence is higher than that of the province which is 69.4. Of these, seven are river towns such as Esperanza, La Paz, Loreto, San Luis, Sta. Josefa, Talacogon, and Veruela; and two are highway towns such as Rosario and Sibagat. The worst condition is observed in San Luis with 85 percent, followed by La Paz and Sibagat.

Figure 2 shows that the municipality of San Francisco has the lowest poverty incidence in the province. There are four municipalities with fair poverty incidence. The rest of the municipalities are the problem areas that need intervention such as Sibagat, Esperanza, San Luis, Talacogon, Loreto, Veruela, Rosario, and Sta. Josefa.

Poverty gap measures the shortfall of the poor from the poverty line. San Luis has the highest poverty gap ratio of 0.55 followed by Loreto with 0.51 and La Paz with 0.43. Six municipalities exceeded the provincial poverty gap ratio of 3.36 — La Paz, Loreto, Rosario, San Luis, Sta. Josefa, and Sibagat.

Trento has the highest employment rate, followed by Veruela, and Bayugan. Trento is a growth center of the development areas classified as Commercial Center. It has an existing Oil Palm plantation and mill, which provide employment to the people. Moreover, some are also engaged in cultivated farming both rice and corn, palay seed growing, and in wood-based products like furniture. Veruela ranked second because most of the people are engaged in seasonal economic activity such as farm labor and forest products laborer. Bayugan ranked third because it is one of the growth centers of the
Figure 1. Proportion of Population Below Poverty Threshold, by Municipality

![Bar chart showing the proportion of population below poverty threshold by municipality in Agusan del Sur.]

Figure 2. Proportion of Population Below Poverty Threshold, by Municipality

![Map showing the proportion of population below poverty threshold by municipality in Agusan del Sur.]
Figure 3. Poverty Gap, by Municipality

Figure 4. Employment Rate, by Municipality
province, and it has many commercial establishments, and many people are engaged in farming.

The elementary education among the 6-12 year-old children is lower at 73.8 than that of the national figure’s 90.6. Elementary enrolment for girls is higher than that of the boys. Elementary schools in the province are limited in numbers and inaccessible to children in far-flung barangays. Moreover, teachers are lacking. The provincial government offered honoraria for 58 voluntary teachers in order to augment the problem. Access to library through the establishment of 203 Pagtuon Library Centers supplemented the book requirements, especially of the hard-to-reach barangay. Counterpart funds for the construction of the school buildings was also provided under the Third Elementary Education Program (TEEP), a World Bank-funded project. The province is also a recipient of 4Ps Program (Pamilyang Pantawid Pilipino Program) which also helps the children of poor households. The target of the province for 2015 is only 90 percent participation rate in elementary. The 4Ps is anticipated to help fill the gap which will reach about PhP1.4 B in 2015.

At the provincial level, the cohort survival rate among the children in elementary school is only 54.32. It means that only half of the population of children from Grade I are able to reach Grade VI. Moreover, female population is greater than the male which is 61.91 percent compared to boys with only 47.84 percent. Boys usually assist their parents in various field works. The reason for low cohort survival rate among children aged 6-12 years old are poverty, access to school, and lack of motivation of the parents.

The province has a very high literacy rate (97.77%) among the youth ages 15-24 years old. It is higher than the national figure. There is no problem with literacy rate at this level.

There are seven municipalities that have the same or higher proportion of 6-12 year-old children enrolled in elementary than the provincial figure of

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<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 6-12 enrolled in elementary</td>
<td>73.8</td>
<td>National: 90.6 (Annual Poverty Indicators Survey, 2004)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male: 72.1 Female: 75.5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cohort Survival Rate in elementary</td>
<td>54.32</td>
<td>75.3 (2007)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male: 47.84 Female: 61.91</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy rate of 15-24 years old</td>
<td>97.77</td>
<td>96.6 (2003)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 5. Proportion of Children Aged 6-12 Enrolled in Elementary School, by Municipality

Figure 6. Literacy Rate of 15-24 Year-Olds, by Municipality
The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Report of the Province of Agusan del Sur

Edna S. Tongson

73.8. These are Bunawan, Prosperidad, Rosario, San Francisco, Sta. Josefa, Talacogon, Trento which have more schools compared to the other towns. The school age population has easy access to schools especially in Prosperidad and in San Francisco. San Luis has the lowest proportion of only 65.5, followed by La Paz, and Loreto. These are river towns with big area of land and the populace has less access to school.

There are eight municipalities with literacy rate higher than the provincial figure of 97.77. These are Bunawan, Prosperidad, Rosario, San Francisco, Sta. Josefa, Talacogon, Trento, and Veruela. San Luis has the lowest literacy rate for 15-24 years old because of the municipality’s insurgency problem. Moreover, its far-flung barangays’ school age population has less access to school.

The ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education is 1:1. It means that there is no gender disparity.

There is 1:1 ratio also in literacy rate of persons aged 15-24.

The proportion of elective seats occupied by women in the province is lower than the national figure. There are only 25 women (16.23%) out of the 154 in the elective seats in the province and municipalities.

The province supports the Gender and Development Program and strengthens women organizations through Livelihood Skills Trainings for

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<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in primary education</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1 (2007)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.1 (2007)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in tertiary education</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.2 (2005)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of literate females to literate males aged 15-24 years old</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1 (2003)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of elective seats held by women in municipality and province</td>
<td>16.23</td>
<td>20.2 (2007)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
Women such as fossilized flower making, and corn husk utilization skills training. There has been a yearly allocation for Gender and Development Program in Agusan del Sur.

The province has only 0.77 percent proportion of child death (one child death per 1,000 children aged 0-4 years old) which is very much lower than the national figure. The number of male and female deaths for the said age range are the same. The existence of child health programs in the province like immunization programs, availability of Botika ng Barangay with cheaper medicines helped avoid sickness and death among children.

The province has only 2.06 percent of infant death or about two infant deaths per 1,000 live births, much lower than the national figure. The death of

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<tr>
<td>Proportion of children aged 0 to less than 5 years old who died</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male: 0.80</td>
<td>(2008)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female: 0.69</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of infants who died</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male: 2.35</td>
<td>(2008)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female: 1.60</td>
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Figure 7. Proportion of Children Aged 0 to Less than 5 years old who Died, by Municipality
male children is greater than the female which is about two deaths in male and about one death in female per 1,000 live births.

The proportion of deaths due to pregnancy-related causes is only one; very much lower than the national figure. It is because the rural health personnel are promoting health programs along pregnancy and is supported by the barangay officials.

Birth attendance by health personnel is only 54.69, which is lower than the national figure and implies that almost half of the deliveries are attended by non-skilled birth attendants like hilots.

There are three municipalities with no maternal death such as Talacogon, Sta. Josefa, and Rosario. Rural health workers are keen in advocating for

**Figure 8. Proportion of Infants who Died, by Municipality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Proportion of Infants who Died</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barugan</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunawan</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esperanza</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Paz</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loreto</td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosperidad</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Luis</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sta. Josefa</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talacogon</td>
<td>3.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trento</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venuela</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabagat</td>
<td>0.59</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are three municipalities with no maternal death such as Talacogon, Sta. Josefa, and Rosario. Rural health workers are keen in advocating for

**Table 5. Goal 5: Improved Maternal Health**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of deaths due to pregnancy related</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>162 (2006)</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>causes</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of births attended by skilled</td>
<td>54.69</td>
<td>72.9 (2007)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>health personnel</td>
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</table>
maternal care, hence, more pregnant women become aware of prenatal care. The rest of the municipalities have one maternal death per 1,000 live births. Maternal death in the province is low because several health programs for pregnant women are already in place.

The province has zero death rate associated with malaria since 2003 because the province has implemented Malaria Control Program, an AusAID Funded Project with provincial counterpart which began in 1999. This project, which is currently being sustained by the province, includes distribution of treated mosquito nets and provision of drugs to those areas considered high-risk for malaria.

Death rates associated with tuberculosis is still lower than the national rate at only 6.9 compared to 33. This is mainly due to the availability of free medicines under the TB DOTS Program of the Department of Health.

Figure 9. Proportion of Women Deaths Due to Pregnancy-Related Causes, by Municipality
Table 6. Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Death rates associated with malaria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.3 (2003)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death rates associated with tuberculosis</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>33 (2003)</td>
<td>0</td>
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Figure 10. Death Rates Associated with Tuberculosis, by Municipality

Sibagat has the highest death rate caused by tuberculosis with 11.6, followed by Prosperidad with 10.2, Bunawan ranked third with 9.1. The lowest is Bayugan with only 1.0, followed by Trento with 4.2, and Veruela with 5.6.

The proportion of land area covered by forest is 68.45, which is higher than the national figure. With this, Agusan del Sur has not experienced drought.

As to access to safe drinking water, the province has only 66.70 compared to the national figure of 80.20. Although Agusan del Sur is crisscrossed by 13 rivers and several lakes, potable water is scarce unless these rivers are utilized into drinking water which involve huge capital. To reduce the percentage of waterless households, Agusan del Sur implemented Project TINA (Tubig Imnonon Natong Agusanon). For this year, PhP6.48 million is allocated for this for the production and distribution of concrete water dispensers containing bio-sand filters. It is targetted that 90 percent (31,461 HHs) of the waterless
households will be provided with safe water through TINA by the year 2015 with a total project cost of PhP70 million.

Table 7. Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of land area covered by forest</td>
<td>68.45</td>
<td>52.6 (2006)</td>
<td>increasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population with access to safe drinking water source</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>Male: 66.3</td>
<td>80.2 (2004)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Female: 67.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population with access to sanitary toilet facility</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>Male: 78.8</td>
<td>86.2 (2004)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Female: 79.5</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Figure 11. Proportion of Population with Access to Safe Drinking Water, by Municipality

Access to sanitary toilet is 79.10, a little lower than the national rate of 86.20. Access is slightly higher for females at 79.50 while it is 78.80 for males. Households with no toilets are those which are located in areas that are far from water sources like rivers and creeks.
Rosario, Esperanza, San Francisco, and Bayugan have a higher level of accessibility to safe drinking water. These are the municipalities having Level III water supply projects. While the municipalities of La Paz, Talacogon, and Loreto have lesser access to safe water since these are located along the Agusan River. Several Level I water supply projects have been implemented but the water produced is not potable. These municipalities are the top priority for the TINA Project, including other municipalities situated along the Agusan River.

Veruela ranked lowest in terms of access to sanitary toilets, followed by Prosperidad. Third is Esperanza. These municipalities have many far-flung barangays in which most households do not have water-sealed and closed pit type of toilet facilities. Moreover, 35 percent of the population of Esperanza are indigenous people, which is also one factor to be considered. On the other hand, La Paz, Loreto, and San Luis are the top three municipalities without access to sanitary toilet if closed pit type will not be considered as sanitary based on the health standards. The graph below shows that Bunawan, Bayugan, and Rosario have high access to sanitary toilets. This means that more households are aware of sanitation and health concerns.

The province has provided sanitary toilets to all pilot barangays of Convergence Development Areas such as Rosario, Sibagat, Esperanza, San Francisco, and Prosperidad. Moreover, the municipalities have a regular project under Rural Health Units (RHU), which is the provision of sanitary toilets to barangays.

**Figure 12. Proportion of Population with Access to Sanitary Toilet Facility, by Municipality**
The province has a lower proportion of population with cellular phones than the national figure. It is only one-third of the proportion of the national population with access to telephone/cellphones. Although all of the 14 municipalities have cell sites, the households have less access to telephones/cellular phones because not all can afford to buy. Moreover, there are nine municipalities with landlines such as Veruela, Sta. Josefa, Trento, Bunawan, San Francisco, Prosperidad, Bayugan City, Sibagat, and Esperanza.

The top three municipalities with high proportion of households with cellular phones/landlines are San Francisco, Trento, and Bayugan.

**Table 8. Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households/population with telephone/cellphones</td>
<td>HH: 21.08</td>
<td>increasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population: 21.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National (2006)</td>
<td>65.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing (2007)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 13. Proportion of Households with Telephones/Cellular Phones, by Municipality**
Using the Community-Based Monitoring System in Drug Abuse Prevention

David A. Ponce de Leon*

Program Overview
The Province of Palawan was one of the first local government units (LGUs) in the country to adopt the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS). For over 10 years now, the CBMS in Palawan has been an effective guide and support system to the Provincial Government for its policymaking, resource allocation, project implementation and monitoring of anti-poverty programs province-wide.

For the communities in Palawan, the CBMS is an empowerment tool in that it has enabled them to become recipients of government undertakings adopted through community participation. No longer are they the passive recipients of inappropriate public programs but active movers of needed interventions.

For a province like Palawan, whose land and maritime geography is bigger than any other province in the country, with 23 municipalities, 12 of which are island-municipalities, and whose financial resources are barely sufficient, the CBMS has become an organized way of collecting the right and correct information at the ground level on community needs to address the poverty problem.

With the CBMS in Palawan, need-based provincial government interventions in the various component municipalities had become the rule.

CBMS as Used in Palawan’s Anti-Drug Abuse Program (DAP)
A. Adoption of CBMS by the Palawan Anti-Drug Abuse Council (PADAC)
The drug problem in Palawan, while not a serious one, is a matter of continuing concern for the Provincial Government. In May of this
year, the PADAC decided to adopt the CBMS in its anti drug-abuse program, considering the proven CBMS effectiveness in poverty reduction initiatives which are believed to be complementary to the province’s drug program. The PADAC’s drug demand reduction activities would surely benefit from the better and more accurate statistics or benchmark information for evidence-based policymaking as made possible by the CBMS.

B. PADAC’S Anti Drug-Abuse Program (DAP) consists of:
   a. Preventive Education
   b. Information Dissemination and Trainings
   c. Intake and Referrals
   d. Primary Intervention
   e. After-Care and Follow-Up
   f. Establishment of Community Outreach Centers
   g. Volunteer Services
   h. Research and Documentation
   i. Monitoring

C. PADAC’S recognition of CBMS’ advantage over traditional planning even in drug programs

D. Program implementation
   a. Initial Measures
      i. Identification of target communities and areas province-wide with or without reported drug incidence based on reports obtained by PADAC’s auxiliary municipal anti-drug councils and the Philippine National Police. For the first five months of the CBMS-DAP, a total of 166 barangays in Palawan were covered (66 in Puerto Princesa and 97 in southern municipalities). A total of 17,000 participants from various social and community groups were involved.
      ii. Strategic Clustering of Communities and Areas. This is done to maximize the use of limited resources. The clustering process is based principally on geographic location and social and cultural affinity of target areas.
      iii. Identification of monitors who are from the different sectors of the community, namely:
         1. Barangay Leaders
         2. Barangay Health Workers
         3. Barangay Nutrition Scholars
         4. Educators
Using the Community-Based Monitoring System in Drug Abuse Prevention

David A. Ponce de Leon

Table 1. Traditional Planning versus Community-Based Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Planning</th>
<th>Community-Based Planning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emanates from the top level</td>
<td>Emanates from the members of the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selective composition of planners</td>
<td>Comprehensive composition through the inclusion of MSGs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on “perceived” needs</td>
<td>Based on the actual needs of the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermittent, depending on the “lifespan” of the program or tenure of policymakers</td>
<td>Sustainable, since it is the community which carries out the planning and the monitoring activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitized data and reports</td>
<td>Reports reflect the true situation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Religious Leaders
6. Senior Citizens
7. Youth (in-school, out-of-school)
8. Women
9. Others

Program Activities
1. Convening of barangay and other community leaders as monitors
2. Conduct of two-day CBMS seminar/workshops in the target areas
3. Modular discussion such as introduction of the paradigm of drug abuse prevention, barangay assessment of local drug situation, barangay mapping, introduction to community organizing and mobilization, preparation of information flow process, and the adoption of the CBMS and the barangay anti-drug program

Important Results and Findings
Based on the first day modular discussion, the following important results and findings emerged:
1. Correlation of poverty and drug abuse incidence
   Contrary to the conventional belief, even among some drug enforcers, drug abuse incidence can be high in areas of poverty as in areas of affluence. The drug market is often in the rich areas but retail distribution is often strong in the poverty-stricken areas where employment even for illicit illegal activities is easily taken. The income would relatively be higher than ordinary jobs; however, exposure to drugs often leads to acceptability of drug abuse in a continuing manner.
2. Out-of-school youth (OSY) involvement in drug distribution
   The drug pushers are often the out-of-school youth. Relative to this, the LGUs are being enjoined to review their OSY programs or adopt such program if they have none.

3. Communities where family ties and moral and spiritual values are weak are "good" areas for drug use and distribution. Curfew hours for the youth have been a common suggestion.

4. The idea of "spying" on neighbors, friends, schoolmates is not good but the realization that it is for the greater good makes it more acceptable albeit under strict conditions.

5. Entry points for illegal drugs are the open ports in Palawan. The open ports in the remote municipalities have become the preferred entry points for illegal drugs, particularly the backdoor ports in southern Palawan. These findings have been endorsed to the Philippine National Police (PNP), Coast Guard, Navy and other investigative offices for appropriate action as well as for visibility and vigilance.

Action Plans Based on the First CBMS-DAP
1. Continuing analysis of CBMS-DAP findings and results
2. Institutionalization of the CBMS-DAP in target communities through barangay and municipal resolutions.
3. Expansion of the CBMS-DAP to cover the rest of Palawan’s 23 municipalities
4. Integration of the CBMS-DAP in PADAC’s provincial drug abuse prevention programs
Implementation and Uses of the Community-Based Monitoring System for Improving Local Planning and Program Implementation

Arnold G. Guyguyon*

Introduction

Sometime in November 2006, the Municipal Local Government Operations Officer (MLGOO) gave a copy of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) Project Proposal of the Province of Benguet to the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) of Asipulo as a basis for the drafting and submission to the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The year 2007 being an election year, however, led to the CBMS proposal probably being forgotten or lost along the way to the DILG.

The change in local government unit (LGU) leadership in 2007 brought about changes and the need to update existing LGU development plans to fit the development thrusts of the new administration. The local chief executive (LCE) believed in preparing a development plan based on data that reflect the true situation of the LGU and its people. The existing LGU data were outdated, however, and since planning could only be made with updated primary and secondary data, heads of offices of the LGU supported the idea of gathering data for planning purposes and a “task force” was created composed of service provider offices and led by the planning and development office to discuss and come up with a tool for data gathering.

All offices were requested to submit a list of the data needed by their respective offices while other offices were tasked to look for old survey questionnaires used by other past programs like the CECAP BDP RRA Survey, MBN Survey, IRAP Survey, LAPP II Survey, Health Survey and other surveys as a basis for the LGU survey tool. A final draft consisting of 14 pages was finally approved but the LGU being a UNFPA pilot area, the project implementors thought it best to include a questionnaire on the program. Thus, another page was included making the LGU Household Survey Questionnaire into 15 pages.

* Municipal Planning & Development Coordinator, Municipality of Asipulo, Province of Ifugao
How the LGU’s CBMS Household Survey was Implemented
Since data gathering is part of the work of the Planning & Development Office, the “Task Force” gave the operationalization of the project to the municipal planning and development coordinator (MPDC) as lead implementor and team leader.

Since it was already the third quarter of the year, the following questions had to be answered first before the project is implemented: (1) where to get funds for the printing of the questionnaire, (2) how to finance the orientation and training of enumerators on the survey questionnaire and the honoraria for the actual enumeration, and (3) how to finance the consolidation of barangay data and the conduct of barangay data validation.

Upon review of the 2007 LGU budget, only the printing of the household questionnaire could be charged from the excess MOOE of the different LGU offices, the bulk of which would come from the MPDO.

Due to the limited funds available for the conduct of the household survey and in order to ensure the proper implementation of the survey and the quality of data gathered, a plan of action to implement the project was proposed to the municipal mayor.

The Plan
- Mobilize all LGU employees who have a minimum of two years college education, including all department heads, as enumerators and group them into teams with two heads of office to lead each team.
- All female employees and heads of offices shall be grouped into a team with 6-9 members to conduct survey in the six accessible barangays.
- A special mobile group of 15 selected male employees led by the MPDO shall conduct the survey in the far flung areas composed of three barangays and four special economic zones which could only be reached by hiking 8–12 hours.
- All enumerators assigned to accessible barangays are given the option to conduct the survey during working days or to offset a maximum of five work days if they prefer to conduct the survey during the weekends.
- Meal allowance of PhP100.00 for accessible barangays and PhP120.00 for the mobile group per day may be claimed subject to availability of funds; and use of LGU vehicles for transportation may be allowed whenever possible to support the enumerators.
- All household questionnaires are to be completed, checked for data entry errors and submitted by the team leaders to the MPDO by the end of October 2007.
Expenses for the conduct of orientation and training of enumerators and the collation and preparation of questionnaires are to be charged to the lead implementing office.

The Timetable

- The project started with the canvassing of printing services in September 2007.
- Upon delivery of printed questionnaire, the enumerators’ orientation and training was conducted in the last week of September, including the field testing and final briefing for all enumerators.
- Actual survey started on October 3, 2007 by the mobile group and ran through the end of November 2007.
- While the household survey was ongoing, the MLGOO updated the Provincial and Regional DILG Offices on the LGU’s activity and requested assistance for the consolidation of data.
- A copy of the LGU survey questionnaire was sent to the DILG-Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) but this was referred instead to the BLGD Central Office.
- In the third week of November, the LGU received an invitation from the BLGD to attend the CBMS Module II Training at the BLGD Conference Hall in the first week of December to train the LGU on how to go about the consolidation of the household data.

There was no update from the DILG regarding the LGU CBMS proposal in 2006; thus, we never knew about the joint program of the CBMS Network and the DILG. Unknowingly, though, our efforts to gather data were parallel with the CBMS Program.

During the CBMS Module II Training, our LGU joined other LGUs from South Cotabato and Quezon Province but on the first day of training, the BLGD-CBMS Team found that we had a different questionnaire from that of the other LGUs.

The Team was surprised to find out that our questionnaire was similar to the latest version of the CBMS Survey questionnaire, the Minalin Version. We were relieved that at least, even if not all the questions in our household survey could be consolidated using the CBMS software, consolidation of most of the data could be done easier and faster.

After the LGU “CBMS Team” successfully completed the three-day training and was ready to share the knowledge gained using the CBMS software, another problem came up: that is, the need for computers and encoders. Since Module II entailed the encoding of the data and the digitizing of maps for the presentation of the 13 + 1 Core Indicators, these were needed.
To remedy the problem, computer sets submitted to the Treasury Office as waste materials were retrieved and repaired and the “LGU CBMS Team Leader” requested the LCE to issue an Administrative Order for all offices to send one staff each to be trained in encoding and help in the encoding of the LGU-CBMS Household Survey Questionnaires.

Training of the encoders was done by the team that attended the Module II Training without funding except for free snacks provided by the MPDO.

Additional funding for the wages of encoders working on weekends was requested from the UNFPA and was subsequently granted. This thereupon fast-tracked the encoding of the survey questionnaires.

**Uses of the CBMS Softwares**

**CBMS Encoded Data:**
- Household data could be readily retrieved or located
- Household data are processed to rank households based on the number of unmet needs as a basis for the LGU to provide services, i.e., enrollment to the PhilHEALTH Program).

**Statistics Simulator:**
- Data on the 14 core indicators of poverty are easily prepared and transferred to Excel file format for presentation and backup of data.
- Disaggregated data by sex and age could be presented by purok, barangay or municipality.
- Data under question could be easily traced out to the household level.

**CS PRO:**
- Tables consisting of numerical data could be generated faster and transferred to Excel file format for presentation and backup of data.

**NRDB PRO:**
- Household data are matched with the digitized maps to present data in color-coded map format for presentation of the 14 Core Poverty Indicators, which can easily be understood by a layman.

**Uses of CBMS Data**
- Identification of unmet needs of the community based on the 14 Core Indicators of poverty
- Community people are able to analyze, identify and prioritize their needs
- Communities are able to suggest/contribute and participate in decisionmaking
- Communities are able to identify and prioritize programs/projects in a collective manner to overcome their problems
• Community people are able to decide the direction of their development and decide what priority programs and projects should be funded out of the Barangay and Municipal Development Funds
• Community people are able to lobby for the funding of their priority projects with LGU officials and to source out funds from other funding sources
• People are able to implement, monitor and maintain projects and become accountable for their project funds
• And finally, people empowerment is achieved through the institutionalization of the “Kapantutubtubi Program.”
Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS into the Comprehensive Development Plans of LGUs

Manuel Q. Gotis*

We cannot disassociate the Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) from the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS). Knowledge and information are power. In any endeavor, especially in local governance, where the welfare of the people is at stake, there really is a need to have very good and very accurate information. And with that idea, the Department of Local and Interior Government (DILG) came up with two tools that started with the LGPMS. The DILG is advocating both the LGPMS and CBMS as tools that will enhance the present system of analyzing the planning environment as inputs to local planning. My brief discussion will focus on integrating the LGPMS and CBMS to reinforce the analysis of the five development sectors—social, economic, environmental, physical/infrastructure, and institutional. To a large extent, CBMS can readily give out household-level information on the social development sector and, to a limited extent, on the economic and environmental sectors. The CBMS can also generate information on accessibility to infrastructure services at the barangay level.

The LGPMS, on the other hand, can generate information on the five development sectors using secondary data.

The Simplified Planning Process
This is the simplified process for the preparation of the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) as advocated by the DILG. It shows how the LGPMS and CBMS can be utilized in the whole process of CDP preparation down to plan implementation. Both systems are now in place in all the steps of the planning process—setting the vision; determining the vision-reality gaps (VRGs); setting the goals, objectives, and targets; screening of projects, services,
and legislation; and plan monitoring and evaluation as basis for the next term plan.

Consistent with the DILG’s mandate to provide technical assistance to local government units (LGUs) to improve their fiscal, administrative, and technical capabilities, we have already completed the nationwide roll-out on CDP preparation to all our regional, provincial, and highly urbanized cities (HUC) CDP trainers, including the provincial planning and development coordinators (PPDCs) and the HUC planning coordinators. This nationwide roll-out was designed to better prepare our people next year when LGUs update their CDPs. Corollary to this, we also continue to provide support to LGUs adopting the CBMS through technical assistance for modular trainings.

**The Value of LGPMS and CBMS in Determining the Current Realities**

The CBMS has the ability to produce a qualitative dimension to statistical information generated by the system. It also allows further observations and projecting the implications of the observed conditions. The LGU can therefore use relevant CBMS data to add a qualitative dimension to the statistical data in the ecological profile as a direct input to the statistical compendium or the Local Development Indicator System (LDIS).

On the other hand, the LGU may use the Display Data Utility (DDU) of the LGPMS Reports Generation Module to measure and determine its performance in that indicator against national standards.

**Figure 1. The Simplified Process**

![Interchangeable Simplified Planning Process](image-url)
The Value of CBMS in Generating Information Pertaining to the Social Development Sector

The CBMS as a system also has the ability to generate information on poverty at smallest geopolitical unit. It can provide socioeconomic information at the individual and household levels that are disaggregated by barangay, municipality, and province. This can be useful in the comparative analysis of data between one planning unit vis-à-vis another, i.e., municipality with higher- and/or lower-level LGU. This allows an appreciation of the differences between these areas with respect to certain indicators or attributes.

The CBMS adopts either output or outcome indicators, such as child morbidity rates, malnutrition rates, educational attainment, and participation rate. These indicators can provide a direct, more accurate, and meaningful measure of the state of local development.

Both the LGPMS and CBMS can generate information that will help in the analysis of infrastructure development concerns, such as, but not limited to, housing and basic utilities, support for agriculture and fisheries, solid waste facilities, percentage of irrigated land to total irrigable lands, use of special education and general funds in education, and accessibility through digitized maps and barangay profiles.

Both the LGPMS and CBMS can also generate information that will help in the analysis of institutional development concerns, such as, but not limited to, LGU administrative capacity and service delivery productivity. This consists of major indicators on administrative governance and valuing the fundamentals of good governance.
The CBMS also generates information on the participation of household members in civic organizations and other useful and related LGU specific indicators.

The illustration below explains the utilization of related data generated from the CBMS and LGPMS.

All input, output, and outcome indicators can be profiled in the CDP’s data organizer that we call the LDIS. The LDIS, which is spatial and temporal in nature, can facilitate the organization of the planning database by sector, by geographical location, and timelines.

The results of extracting intelligence or determining the VRGs will then serve as the bases for setting the sectoral goals, objectives, and targets and will be applied to the prioritization of projects, services, and legislation.

**Figure 3. Utilization of Related Data Generated from the CBMS and LGPMS**

How can the CBMS and LGPMS be Integrated in the Local Planning Process?
In any planning activity, the need for reliable, accurate, and updated information cannot be overemphasized. The various sets of information generated by the CBMS, LGPMS, and the System Competency Assessment for Local Government (SCALOG) all contribute to the establishment and building-up of a database that can contribute to, and facilitate, the conduct of planning as a major function of LGUs.

The output of LGPMS called the State of Local Governance Report (SLGR) can serve as an important tool for local development planning since it can help
identify issues and concerns in the LGU as well as list and prioritize programs, projects, and activities that can respond to the identified needs of the community. The SLGR can also serve as the “launch pad” for the preparation of the Executive and Legislative Agenda (ELA) that charts the course of development efforts for the local officials’ three-year term of office.

Household income was added as a good catch-all indicator of well-being because it shows whether or not a family can afford the goods and services that the members need to sustain a good quality of life.

**Direct Use of CBMS in the Formulation of the CDP**

Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 001 Series of 2007 provides for the updating or formulation of the CDP after the 2010 elections. Following this policy and using the framework of the Rationalized Planning System (RPS), CBMS can be directly used as basis in revisiting the vision elements down to the setting of sectoral goals, objectives, and targets, which will be used as input in the review of the Local Development Investment Program (LDIP) and the preparation of the Annual Investment Program (AIP).

In the screening of priority projects, services, and legislation, CBMS can also be used as reference in sifting the projects and ensuring that the local investments and, eventually, the budget for the ensuing year are consistent with the actual needs and aspirations of the people as shown in the CBMS results.

The system for monitoring and evaluation of the CDP is strengthened by reviewing the impacts of antipoverty programs and studying how the implementation of such programs can be improved in the next term.
Enhancing Local Development Planning and Poverty Diagnosis through CBMS

Merlita Lagmay*

Enhancing Local Development Planning and Poverty Diagnosis through CBMS
Let me first congratulate the CBMS Network Team for making this gathering possible for the sixth time. As Director Manuel Gotis mentioned earlier, for those who are not implementing CBMS yet, it is time to start now.

I had attended the Department of the Interior and Local Government’s (DILG) training on the preparation of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) and Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). Let me recapitulate here why we, as per this training, need to rationalize:

• To fully comply with the Local Government Code’s (LGC) requirements;
• To reduce the number of plans to be formulated by local government units or LGUs. There were a number of plans asked of us: e.g., there were plans for women, children, and senior citizens, among others. Now, however, we only need to pass two. We would have to harmonize all plans and consolidate them into the two plans, namely, the CLUP and the CDP;
• For the national government agencies (NGAs) to harmonize or dovetail their planning guidelines to avoid further confusing the LGUs; and
• To reconfigure the planning process (from technocratic to multi-stakeholder participation).

* City Planning and Development Coordinator, City of Pasay
The Planning System

Why a planning system? The answer is founded on the dual functions of the LGU. One, as a political subdivision of the National Government, LGUs are in charge of the management of their entire geographical territory for and in behalf of the national government (Physical-CLUP). And two, as a corporate entity, LGUs are responsible for representing their inhabitants and delivering basic services and facilities that will enable such inhabitants to develop fully into self-reliant communities (Multisectoral-CDP).

One of the two mandated plans is the CLUP, which is the plan for the management of local territories. The second plan is the CDP, which is the plan with which the LGU promotes the general welfare of its inhabitants in its capacity as a corporate body.

So this is what Director Gotis has been talking about earlier. In the Local Governance Performance and Management System (LGPMS), if you fail to answer even one question, you cannot generate a table. However, most of the indicators there could be taken from the CBMS. The CBMS is therefore used to answer the questions in the LGPMS. For instance, there is one question in the LGPMS that I cannot really answer: the proportion of the labor force who still wants to work more. Fortunately, the CBMS has this as one of the areas it aims to focus and shed light on.

After implementing two rounds of the CBMS, we are proud to present below the results in Pasay City. Using our the 2005 data as our baseline, we are able to see the real performance of the local government.

Finally, the CBMS indicators were used as bases during the preparation of our Annual Investment Plan for 2010 and will be used for the CDP preparation for 2010.
Table 1. Pasay CBMS Core Poverty Indicators, 2008 & 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Indicators</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 0-5 year old who died</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy related-causes</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 0-5 years old who are moderately and severely underweight</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households living in makeshift housing</td>
<td>2799</td>
<td>3.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households who are informal settlers</td>
<td>3139</td>
<td>4.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with no access to safe water</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with no access to sanitary toilet facilities</td>
<td>2517</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 6-12 years old not in elementary school</td>
<td>7027</td>
<td>19.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of children 13-16 not in secondary school</td>
<td>5507</td>
<td>29.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of household with income below the poverty threshold</td>
<td>7785</td>
<td>11.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households with income below the food threshold</td>
<td>2342</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of households who experienced food shortage</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons in the labor force who are unemployed</td>
<td>15557</td>
<td>14.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of persons who are victims of crime</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Uses of CBMS for Local Planning and Revenue Allocation in Candon City, Ilocos Sur

Naulie Cabanting*

On behalf of our humble City of Candon, Ilocos Sur, I would like to thank the organizers for inviting us and giving us a chance to share to each and every one our experience in making the CBMS a very useful tool in local planning, especially in the newly implemented Rationalized Planning System and Revenue Allocation in the City, to address the needs of our constituents, particularly the less fortunate.

Candon City is a “C” shaped land mass located along the shores of Ilocos Sur, with a land area of 10,328 hectares. It has 42 barangays, four urban and 38 rural. It is strategically situated being 132 kms. south of Laoag City, 72 kms north of San Fernando City, La Union, 100 kms north of Baguio City and 347 kms north of Manila.

Candon City has great potentials to become a sub-regional growth center complementing the regional growth center - San Fernando City, La Union. It has also become the center of trade and commerce in the Southern Ilocos Sur area as it serves about 15 nearby towns in the provinces of Ilocos Sur, La Union and Abra even when it was still a municipality. Its 12-kilometer stretch of the National Highway is the only entry point to the eastern upland towns of the 2nd District of Ilocos Sur. Candon City consists of mountains and hills in the east; a bountiful farmland plains in the center; a 16-km shoreline; and a diverse setting of natural resources and solid agricultural-based economy. It is also bounded by four municipalities in the north, two municipalities in the east and one in the north.

* City Planning and Development Coordinator, City of Candon, Province of Ilocos Sur
**Why Did Candon City Adopt the CBMS?**

Several reasons could be cited in the decision of the City to adopt the CBMS. Among them are:

- Survey results were updated manually every four years
- Secondary data from other LGU Departments were not regularly updated
- Data from national government agencies like the National Statistics Office (NSO) could hardly be obtained and are sometimes unrealistic

**Who Introduced CBMS?**

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Officer was the one who presented the CBMS to the Local Chief Executive, Punong Barangays and the Planning Office. Realizing that CBMS could be a very useful and a “real-time” tool for planning, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between the City of Candon and Bureau of Local Government Development (BLGD) Director Manuel Gotis in 2005.

**The CBMS Project**

On the initial implementation of the CBMS, two staff from our MIS office and the CSWD Office attended the Orientation/Workshop on CBMS conducted by the BLGD and DILG Regional Office. The DILG Officer, the City Social Welfare and Development Officer and the City Planning and Development Coordinator held orientation sessions for all punong barangays and they were asked to organize a team to conduct household surveys composed of the barangay secretaries, day care workers and barangay health workers. The latter were tapped as enumerators since they are more familiar with the households in their respective barangays. We conducted a separate orientation for the survey teams to familiarize them with the Survey Forms. After the conduct of the survey, the barangay secretaries were trained on how to encode, especially those with computers in their barangays. To make the encoding faster, the city government hired encoders to complete and help the barangay secretaries in the encoding of data. With the expertise of the staff in the MIS under the City Planning Office, they conducted the map digitization.

**Cost-Sharing in the Implementation of the CBMS Between the City and the Barangay**

For the city government, they were tasked to conduct the orientation and workshop, reproduction of the survey forms, encoding of data (80% was done by the hired encoders), map digitizing, data management and consolidation of data for the 42 barangays.
For the barangays, they conducted the survey through the survey teams with their honorariums coming from the barangay coffers; 20 percent of the data were encoded by the barangay with computers and computer literate barangay secretaries; and the sketch maps were provided by them.

**Benefits and Uses of CBMS**

The CBMS data are very beneficial and useful because they are good data for planning not only in the barangay but also for the city as well. It is through the CBMS that the indigents are easily identified. Households without the basic facilities like toilets, water system, and electricity can easily be identified, too. Households with substandard housing facilities can easily be pinpointed. Children who are not in school by age bracket can also be identified and located. Resources are rationalized and judiciously allocated.

**Application of CBMS to Rationalized Planning System (RPS)**

With the Rationalized Planning System through the JMC 001 between the HLURB and DILG harmonizing the HLURB’s CLUP and the DILG’s Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) Guidelines, it is timely that we are in the process of updating our CLUP. We therefore decided to simultaneously update and formulate our CLUP, CDP, LDIP and Ecological Profile, respectively. It is good now that the HLURB realized the usefulness and importance of the CBMS data that they now allowed their use in the CLUP preparation in lieu of the NSO data, which are sometimes unrealistic and controversial. The CBMS data are very rich and comprehensive and specific in location particularly in sectoral planning data for the CLUP and CDP than that the NSO data as previously required. Linkage of planning and budgeting is clearly manifested using CBMS because targets for investment are cleverly identified. Land use allocation will be easier because target beneficiaries are specifically located and identified through the CBMS data. They are also gender-responsive because data are gender disaggregated. They are likewise rights-based data, MDG-responsive and child-friendly.

**CBMS-Based Programs and Projects**

Through the CBMS, we have identified the recipients of the FACES (Family-based Action for Children and Environments in the Slum) in which a certain amount of grant from the UNDP, then a counterpart from the city government and from the office of the Deputy Speaker Cong. Eric Singson, were used for the initial construction of low-cost housing (Gawad Kalinga), sanitary toilets and water system.

With the idea of FACES, we came out with a wider and more comprehensive program called “SHEPHERD” with the involvement of other national government agencies, nongovernment organizations, and the recipients as well.
Candon City's Next Step Regarding the CBMS
The city of Candon envisions to institutionalize the CBMS process through an ordinance that requires that surveys be conducted regularly with the different concerned city departments as point offices in their particular sectors; the creation of a unit in the MIS Division to handle the CBMS data processing exclusively; the upgrading of the system into a CBMS-based Geographical Information System (GIS) capable system; and the institutionalization of the CBMS at the barangay level.
Use of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Sarangani

Rene Paraba*

Sarangani Province has a total land area of 400,000 hectares. It has seven small towns and 140 barangays. It has a total population of 480,000, 34 percent of which are indigenous peoples and 14 percent Muslim. Eighty one percent are rural dwellers while 61 percent of the total population are agri-fishery dependent.

Statistics generated by Small Area Estimates (SAE) of the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) revealed that Sarangani was the fourth poorest province in the Philippines with 63 percent poverty incidence. Using the same methodology (SAE) in 2006, Sarangani was ranked the 11th poorest province. Hunger incidence in the province was also reported to be one of the highest in the country in 2007.

This situation was unacceptable and seemed unrealistic to all development stakeholders in the province. Thus, the province decided to implement Community-Based Management System (CBMS) in February 2008. The whole process was completed in July 2009. The province and its municipalities and barangays adopted a cost-sharing scheme where the provincial government and the LGUs absorbed 70 and 30 percent, respectively, of the total project cost. As stipulated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), the National Anti-Poverty Commission and the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team provided the system and technical assistance.

Some of the best practices in the project implementation are as follows:

1. The Municipality of Alabel tapped residents of the puroks to serve as enumerators and establish reliability of the survey results.
2. The Municipality of Glan showcased the potency of inter-agency collaboration by sharing manpower, equipment and other resources.

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* Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Province of Sarangani
3. The Municipality of Kiamba demonstrated proficiency in using the CBMS technology. It also adopted a systematic project phasing arrangement and took steps to ensure sustainability of the CBMS project.

4. The Municipality of Maasim demonstrated commitment to the initiative; it was one of the LGUs that started late but finished the entire CBMS process still within reasonable time.

5. The Municipality of Maitum had an early start and finished the CBMS process ahead of the other municipalities.

6. The Municipality of Malapatan showed commitment and teamwork despite low capacity and technology deficiencies.

7. The Municipality of Malungon used the strategy of clustering the barangays to facilitate smooth CBMS project implementation.

With regard to roles and responsibilities, the municipalities were in charge of harmonizing data requirements, validating the results, establishing protocol on data usage, etc. Meanwhile, the provincial government was in charge of data consolidation and formulated policy on data utilization.

Some of the results of the CBMS survey are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Total No. of Households</th>
<th>HHs w/ Income Below Poverty Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Magnitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabel</td>
<td>11924</td>
<td>8216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glan</td>
<td>7378</td>
<td>4233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiamba</td>
<td>11402</td>
<td>6929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maasim</td>
<td>8962</td>
<td>5406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maitum</td>
<td>8581</td>
<td>5359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malapatan</td>
<td>12958</td>
<td>10225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malungon</td>
<td>18101</td>
<td>11263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarangani</td>
<td>79306</td>
<td>51631</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. Proportion of Households with Income Below Poverty Threshold, Top 10 Barangay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Barangay</th>
<th>No. of HHs</th>
<th>HHs w/ Income Below Poverty Threshold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maitum</td>
<td>Bati-an</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>245 (99.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malungon</td>
<td>San Juan</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>275 (98.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabel</td>
<td>Datal Anggas</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>639 (96.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malapatan</td>
<td>Upper Suyan</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>830 (96.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malungon</td>
<td>Panamin</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>298 (93.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabel</td>
<td>Paraiso</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>352 (92.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malapatan</td>
<td>Kinam</td>
<td>1,302</td>
<td>1197 (91.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malapatan</td>
<td>Kihan</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>729 (87.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malapatan</td>
<td>Libi</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>431 (86.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malungon</td>
<td>Kawayan</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>373 (86.34)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1. Proportion of Children 6-12 Years Old not Attending Elementary School, by Municipality
What will become of our children under our care? The responses of the provincial government are enumerated below:

1. Education – The 25 percent participation rate in ECCD program in 2007 is projected to increase to 60 percent by 2010. This will be done through household targeting. With regard to the low elementary and high school participation rates, the province is now implementing the Quality Education for Sarangans Today (Project), which has the following components: (1) upgrading of teachers’ instructional prowess, prudence and values; (2) mobilization of youth for children education; (3) elimination of gaps in teacher-student ratio; and (4) establishment of integrated and boarding schools. On the other hand, the Paaral sa Sarangans project which was launched in 1992 and was rationalized through CBMS now produces 50-100 graduates from priority courses, including medicine. Also, in partnership with the Mindanao State University and the private sector, 240 scholars from indigenous peoples’ (IP) communities are now pursuing baccalaureate degrees in education.

2. Health – the provincial government has started rationalizing its health services through the crafting of evidence-based health plans at the provincial and municipal levels. It is also implementing universal health coverage, which hopes to eliminate disparities in health services delivery and generate revenue from capitation, thereby ensuring a sustainable health care program. The provincial
government is also pursuing a household-based nutrition program that focuses on the preparation of nutritious menus from locally-available food variants.

3. Poverty - Project 1021 was launched to address extreme poverty in Sarangani. The project is a multi-sectoral initiative and a collaborative effort of every department in the provincial government. It targets 35 disadvantaged barangays based on the 14 indicators of the CBMS. These disadvantaged barangays are considered the most deprived communities in terms of delivery of basic services and are mostly located in the province's upland/rural areas.
Use of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Zamboanga del Sur

Loy Cañales*

Geographical Location
Zamboanga del Sur occupies the southern section of the Zamboanga Peninsula (ZamPen) Region that forms the western part of Mindanao Island. It is bounded by the Province of Zamboanga del Norte in the north; Moro Gulf in the south; Lanao del Sur, Misamis Occidental and Panguil Bay in the East, and; Zamboanga Sibugay in the southwest. Pagadian City is the provincial capital and the new regional center of Region IX.

The province’s demographic profile is presented in the table below:

Table 1. Demographic Profile of Zamboanga del Sur

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2007 NSO Census)</td>
<td>914,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population of children (47.6%)</td>
<td>435,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Size</td>
<td>5.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Growth Rate</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Density</td>
<td>193 per sq km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP Population</td>
<td>15.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Rate</td>
<td>77.46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Province of Zamboanga del Sur
CBMS in ZDS: Status and Results
The CBMS work in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur started with a Memorandum of Agreement entered into by the provincial government, the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) and the PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team in July 2007. To date, 288 barangays representing 42 percent of the total were able to write their socioeconomic profiles and formulate their Barangay Development Plans; 573 barangays (84%) were able to validate the CBMS results at the community level; 579 barangays (85%) were able to process their CBMS data; 580 barangays (85%) digitized their barangay maps; 627 barangays (92%) encoded data using the CBMS encoding system; and 643 barangays (94%) were able to collect the data using the prescribed CBMS Household Profile Questionnaire.

Of the 27 component municipalities, only 22 (81%) have fully completed their municipal CBMS databases. The lone city of Pagadian and four municipalities of Dimataling, Dinao, Lapuyan and Pitogo have yet to complete their respective databases before consolidation into the provincial database. Meanwhile, the municipalities of Dumingag, Margosatubig, Dinao and Dimataling are being assisted by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), using a software version that is slightly different from the one provided by NAPC and CBMS.

Figure 1. CBMS Composite Index, by municipality
The CBMS survey results indicate that the provincial government needs to focus on its top development issues as shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2. Top 5 issues in Zamboanga del Sur**

1. 66.6% of households with income below poverty threshold
2. 51.7% of households with income below food threshold
3. 23.5% of households without access to sanitary toilet
4. 23.2% of children age 6-12 yrs old not attending elementary school
5. 23.9% of households without access to safe water

The following interventions have been identified to help scale-up poverty alleviation in the province: preparation of CBMS-based development plans; reduction in the number of waterless barangays; improvement in access to livelihood opportunities; increase in health insurance coverage; rationalization of resource allocation, formulation of social policy memos; and preparation/update of Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan-Comprehensive Land Use Plan-Comprehensive Development Plan (PDPFP-CLUPs-CDPs).

**Benefits Derived from CBMS**

1. Available CBMS data at the municipal/barangay levels enhances preparation of Barangay Socio-Economic Profile (SEP) and Barangay Development Plan (BDP)
   - In barangays covered by foreign-assisted projects such as CPC6, MRDP2, ARCP2, etc., CBMS data were used for resource profiling and as basis for sectoral analysis
   - CBMS data facilitated community participation during the BDP preparation
2. CBMS easily helps in identifying waterless communities, prioritizing them province-wide, municipal-wide, then barangay-wide
• Focused targeting is facilitated and readily justified
• Priority water supply (WS) projects in identified barangays/communities are ranked for endorsement to donor agencies
  – Three WS Projects located in Lapuyan, Midsalip, and Tigbao were endorsed to NAPC and approved funding under the President’s Priority Program for Water (P3W). The identification of these projects was supported by CBMS results.

3. Local poverty diagnosis aided by CBMS
• Disaggregated and detailed profiling of community/household needs enabled local officials and functionaries to assess causes and extent of poverty in the community
  – In MRDP2-assisted areas, local chief executives issued executive orders requiring the use of CBMS in identifying beneficiaries for the Community Fund for Agricultural Development (CFAD) Projects of MRDP2

4. The List of Poorest Households by Municipality/Barangay generated thru CBMS provided a ready list of eligible beneficiaries for reference of various PhilHealth partners (e.g., PLGU, MLGUs, PHIC, Congressmen, etc.). The poorest households in all municipalities/barangays were ranked using composite indicators used for identifying PhilHealth beneficiaries and for other specific programs/projects.

5. Provincial-level CBMS results provided factual basis for targeting the annual sectoral allocations of Local Development Funds to priority and most needed projects and services. It served as basis for detailing project profiles related to target municipalities and barangays, and specific groups (e.g., women, children)

6. As community needs and problems are identified through CBMS information, local functionaries were able to prepare draft policy memos that are evidence-based and analytical. Local policymakers were able to identify, prioritize, and adopt appropriate policy interventions needed to address inadequacies in affected communities

7. Data from CBMS will definitely enrich the existing local development indicator system and certainly help in analyzing sector-specific indicators that would result in better identification of interventions and beneficiaries. The CBMS sector and spatial data facilitate the interface between the CLUP and the CDP, as well as, strengthen the
link between sectors and physical resources in the preparation of the PDPFP.

**Policy Support for CBMS**
The provincial government has issued the following resolutions in support of CBMS:

1. **PDC Resolution No. 06-2009**
   - Adopting 2007 CBMS Survey Results as a common database for all component LGUs to facilitate generation, processing and utilization of data for planning, programming and implementing poverty alleviation interventions
   - Recommending to RDC-IX the use of the same by RLAs/Offices as basis for identifying, prioritizing and allocating resources throughout the ZamPen Region

2. **SP Resolution No. 2K9-1037**
   - Approving the use by component LGUs of the Results of 2007 CBMS Survey as basis for allocating funds to ensure that resources/benefits accrue to the legitimate poor and disadvantaged sectors

**Next Steps**
During the following months, we envision that we will now be able to use our CBMS database in enriching project proposals for external funding. We also expect that we will be busy with dissemination and advocacy campaigns for CBMS data utilization and with gathering support from all stakeholders. Finally, we look forward to our second round of the CBMS survey in 2010.
Uses of CBMS for Development Initiatives in Agusan del Sur

Allan Santiago*

Agusan del Sur is a landlocked province located in Northeastern Mindanao, with a total land area of 896,550 hectares, of which 76 percent (681,378 hectares) are classified as timberland, and 24 percent (215,172 hectares) as alienable and disposable lands. It is composed of 14 municipalities, 318 barangays and two congressional districts.

Based on the 2005 CBMS Survey, the province’s household population stood at 550,332 with a ratio of 107 males for every 100 females.

Being an agricultural province, agriculture is the main source of livelihood with 70 percent of the total households engaged in agriculture.

Our vision for the province is to be an agri-industrialized, eco-tourism province with God-centered, caring, healthy, productive and self-sustaining communities. Based on this vision, we formulated our Mission: Improve the quality of life of the Agusanons, especially the marginalized sectors, through effective, accountable, and participatory governance in Mindanao.

In consonance with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in reducing the province’s poverty incidence, our goals and objectives are the following: (1) to increase income and productivity through agri-industrialization and eco-tourism; (2) to improve access to quality and sustainable social services; (3) to enhance the financial management systems and procedures for an increase in revenue generation, effective allocation and utilization of resources; (4) to improve strategic alignment; and (5) to enhance and enforce policies and legislative measures.

Anchored on our vision is the Eight-Point Program of Government: Education, Health and Sanitation, Moral and Spiritual Renewal, Peace and Order, Economic Development, Social Cultural & Tourism Development, Ecological

* Provincial Board Member and CBMS Team Leader, Province of Agusan del Sur
and Environmental Protection, and Information and Communication Technology. All of these programs were set on the basis of reliable data gathered from the CBMS survey.

CBMS has indeed been a helpful tool in poverty reduction. It was started in our province in 2005 by former Governor Adolph Edward G. Plaza and now, the second round is being implemented. I believe our province is the first to implement the second round and province-wide implementation.

We are very thankful to the CBMS Network Team headed by Dr. Celia M. Reyes for its continued support to Agusan del Sur. CBMS has been helping us improve the governance of our province. Resource allocation has been made effective and efficient because through CBMS, targeting beneficiaries is made easy. Household information is readily available with complete name, address and the households’ specific needs.

The CBMS data have several uses. We used them in identifying beneficiaries of the following programs and projects: PHILHEALTH in identifying eligible enrollees, Mindanao Rural Development Program (MRDP) especially in the preparation of the Barangay Development Plan, Convergence Development Program (CDP), CPC MDG Monitoring, Project TINA (Tubig Imnonon Natong Agusanon), Validation of 4Ps beneficiaries, and Granting of Scholarships to IPs and Non-IPs. The data have also been used in planning and decision making as well as utilized by other data users like students, researchers, private sector and program implementors.

We also envisage making use of gender-disaggregated data, and other additional indicators related to socially disadvantaged groups such as disabled persons and senior citizens, agro-forestry and fishing activities, and natural resource land management data, among others.

Currently, the 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.

Toward this end, the Province of Agusan del Sur has the following interventions:

1. For households with income below PhP3,500.00/mo.:
   - Philhealth Beneficiaries
     There were 25,596 total enrollees of Philhealth in 2008 in which CBMS data were used in the identification of beneficiaries. The province has provided a counterpart of PhP8.5 million; so with the municipal government’s counterpart while the total counterpart of the barangays/members was PhP9.7 million.
• **Project “TINA”**
  This project is known as Tubig Imnonon Natong Agusanon or the provision of safe water to those barangays without access. There are two pilot municipalities for this project, namely, the Municipality of San Luis and the Municipality of Talacogon. There were 34,956 households (or 32.03%) without access to safe drinking water. The total target number of households for the TINA project was 31,461 for which the province has allocated PhP6.8 million for this year, 2009.

• **“Family Welfare Trainings”**
  The Population Services of the province has provided Family Welfare Trainings such as Family Planning, Marriage Counseling, and Nutrition Classes.

2. For households with income of PhP3,500-PhP6,500.00/mo.:
Of the 14 Core indicators, we give the highest priority in reducing poverty by providing livelihood opportunities to poor households whose incomes range from PhP3,500 to PhP6,500. We have allocated PhP1.5 million for every year with the help of our partner private sector, the People’s Bank of Caraga. This is the third year of implementation. Another intervention is the Diversified Farming System Program for our farmers. This provides financial assistance as well as training to our poor farmers. For 2009, we have released PhP12 million for this project.

  The province’s intervention for households with incomes of PhP3,500.00 to PhP6,500.00 per month relates to economic aspects such as the provision of livelihood projects. Among these are the Diversified Farming System (DFS) which is a livelihood program designed for farmers, and the Off-farm Livelihood program which is designed for the non-farmers. There were 267 farmers who benefited from the DFS, which has a total budget of PhP13 million for this year, 2009.

3. Several projects were implemented in the Convergence Development Areas, including the establishment of Botika ng Barangay, Bagsakan Center, Material Recovery Facility, vegetable production, banana production and others.

4. Reforestation Projects for upland farmers were also given priority to rehabilitate some of our forestlands.
Several other projects toward poverty reduction have also been implemented, to wit:

5. Scholarships
Among these are: Scholarships Grants to Deserving Students - as of 2009, we have 188 scholars which consist of the following: Doctor of Medicine - 10 scholars, B.S. in Nursing - 10, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) - 5 scholars, Masteral Degrees - 7, Scholarships for IPs -44, Scholarships for non-IPs -105, People with Disability - 7.

6. The five-year ‘F1’ (Formula 1) strategy spearheaded by the Provincial Health Office, has likewise 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 the F1 strategy which is designed to fast-track major health improvement projects. The Formula 1 strategy includes four components: Financing, Regulation, Service Delivery and Governance.

7. AGP (Agusan del Sur Goat Program)
This is a goat dispersal program consisting of one male and five females; to be paid in kind (six offsprings).

8. BAKAS (Baka Alang sa Kalambuan sa Agusan del Sur) – This Program is open to households identified in the CBMS database as living within the timberland areas.

9. ISDA (Integrated Sustainable Development of Aquaculture) - As of 2008, we have distributed 6 million tilapia fingerlings which produced 697,000 kilos of tilapia valued at PhP34.9 million. These fingerlings were grown from our Provincial Fish Hatchery, the only provincial government-operated hatchery in the Caraga Region.

10. BUGAS (Boosted Utilization of Grains in Agusan del Sur)
This Program provided seed and fertilizer inputs to 14,294 farmers in 28,588 hectares planted to rice, thus having a surplus of 87,809 metric tons of clean rice. Supporting the BUGAS Program is the provision of pre- and post-harvest facilities such as thresher, power tiller, shallow tube wells, and multipurpose drying pavement.

Gains and Benefits
Through the use of CBMS data, the province was able to receive a flow back of PhP8 million equivalents to the amount counter parted. Meanwhile, even if the CBMS was not used by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in identifying the 4Ps beneficiaries since the Department has its own tool, the Proxy Means Test (PMT), we nonetheless used the CBMS data in
validating the list of 4Ps beneficiaries in our province. The 4Ps allocation for Agusan del Sur will reach PhP1.48 billion in 5 years. Likewise the Mindanao Rural Development Program (MRDP) especially in the preparation of the Barangay Development Plan used CBMS data wherein we were able to access funds for the FMR in the amount of PhP89.2 million and for the Community Fund for Agricultural Development (CFAD), PhP7.5 million. For Tulay ng Pangulo in Convergence Development areas, a total of PhP116 million was allocated for the construction of bridges.

The province is also a recipient of the DAR MINSSAD (Department of Agrarian Reform Mindanao Settlements for Sustainable Agricultural Development) for the implementation of FMR with a total cost of P335 million, and for Shallow Tube Wells (STWs), PhP70.6 million. The Northern Mindanao Community Initiatives and Resource Management Program (NMCIREMP) are also still under the DAR project, funded by the European Union (EU), for which the province was allocated PhP90 million for infrastructure and PhP10 million for livelihood for the IPs. AusAID-PACAP provided financial assistance to various projects of NGOs, IPs, and People with Disability. PATSSARD (Philippines-Australia Technical Support for Sustainable Agricultural Development) has also provided funds for capability building in the amount of PhP50 million. These are some of the projects that Agusan del Sur has been enjoying through the use of CBMS data.

Current Status

We are now in the second round of the CBMS Survey, most of which is conducted in paperless mode.

There were 246 barangays out of 318 barangays (or 77% of the barangays) which were using paperless survey by means of encoding the data directly into the system. This is also what the Province of Tarlac did. However, there is a difference between us and the latter province because we developed our own system to capture the data in the field and immediately exported the data to the municipality’s designated CBMS server to consolidate them.

Our observation of the first round of CBMS survey is that it requires technical personnel to handle the processing and spot mapping to simplify the process and save more time. This would thus lead to the conceptualization and introduction of this new system in the conduct of the second round of the CBMS survey. This system is embedded with GIS functionality for poverty mapping and report generation. As of this date, we are 70 percent complete in terms of the process.
Future Plans

It is our plan to institutionalize the conduct of CBMS updating. We are planning to pass a provincial ordinance for the inclusion of the barangay council’s mandate to “update CBMS data regularly.” The province is planning to integrate all the existing databases in which CBMS data will serve as a main database thus formulating a provincial ID system. In addition, having this system in place, police, hospital, post office, civil registrar’s office and other national agencies could access the said database. We are also looking forward to expand this system into a comprehensive barangay information system where constituents can apply a sort of barangay clearance generated from the system.

We would like to thank the CBMS Network Coordinating Team, especially Dr. Celia Reyes, for extending its support to the Provincial Government of Agusan del Sur and for inviting us to this 6th CBMS National Conference.
In this very short presentation that I will make, I will be showing you the tool that we developed and used for the second round of our province-wide survey. But before I do that, let me emphasize the four reasons why we developed our own system. First, we wanted to shorten the process. As what we knew from the experience of the Province of Tarlac, they were able to cut short the data collection time from 45 minutes to 20 minutes. In the past, we had been using the CSPro and the StatSim and the NRDB for mapping and so the system that we developed is an integrated one. The second reason is that, since this is now our second round of survey, we wanted to make use of a third round so we migrated the data from the first round into this system. This means that 85 percent of the data we would just need updating. We do not have to encode everything anymore since we just have to search for the name of the household head or any household member and we will instantly be directed to the household's form and update thereafter the information. So we are really able to save time. The third reason is we want to track households. It is difficult to monitor movements in and out of poverty so what we did was to use the same ID that was assigned during the first round of the survey in the second round. Thus there is tracking and we can identify who were poor in the last round of survey and who moved out of poverty. And the fourth and last reason is because we wanted to institutionalize this system at the barangay level so that we can have real-time and the most updated data in the province.
The system has an authentication and authorization capability and thus cannot be used by anybody who has not been assigned as an enumerator. If the enumerator is given a laptop and is assigned to one particular purok or barangay to survey, he/she can migrate the data from the first round of the survey and then simply ask the household head for his or her surname and thereupon search for the house structure in the map. A picture of the house is taken. Given that most of the household heads do not state their income, having a picture of the house is one way of verifying that. We also asked the enumerators to capture the photo of the household to ensure that the enumerator will go to the household to conduct the survey. We also get the pictures of the household members but it is not compulsory. Some of the household members invoked their privacy but there are also many other household members who allow to have their photos taken. We are planning to distribute a card, an ID for the foreign families. It can be used to help them acquire the benefits offered by the government.

Immediately after the survey, the enumerators will report back to the municipality. Right there and then, the data gathered are collected and consolidated at the municipality level. And then the supervisor will validate them, thereupon completing the data collection process. No more data processing or mapping is required. The strategy is that a municipality with 27 barangays buys 27 laptops (i.e., one laptop for every barangay). The enumerators were deployed to one barangay or one purok and the validation will follow afterward.

With this approach, we were able to finish the household enumeration in the biggest municipality in one month. Then these are the reports, the system is already embedded with the MDG reports, the CBMS Core Indicators and other reports. Since we have the data from 2005, we can compare them with the results of the present survey. These are the reports that we show during the validation. It is also possible to correct for errors during the validation.

Finally, with regard to poverty mapping, it is already embedded in the system. If you will identify, like for example, households with income below the poverty threshold, you can easily point where they are. Just some clicks and you can generate a report. This is how fast the system is.

And on this note, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to show the system that we developed.
The Agusan del Norte MDG Situationer

Erlpe John Amante*

Agusan del Norte is situated in the northeastern part of Mindanao. It is bounded on the north by Butuan Bay and Surigao del Norte; on the east by Surigao del Sur; on the south and southeast by Agusan del Sur; and on the west by Misamis Oriental. It is one of the four provinces of Region 13 and it has eleven municipalities, with Butuan City as the capital. Province-wide implementation of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) commenced in February 2007.

The Situation
Based on the CBMS survey results in 2007, our province posted a 56.74 percent poverty incidence with the highest incidence recorded in the lakeside municipality of Jabonga at 79.88 percent. In 2009, the data from the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) showed that the province has graduated from the "club 40 poorest provinces" which lists down the 40 poorest provinces in the country.

How did we “pass the grade” and manage to get out from the list of the 40 poorest provinces? With the help of the CBMS, we were able to set a number of interventions to address the situation identified in the 2007 CBMS survey results.

The 2007 survey results showed that the proportion of households with income below the food threshold was recorded at 43.23 percent, with 5.40 percent having experienced food shortage. Malnutrition among pre-school children was shown to be 3.07, a significant decrease from the previous years. There was slightly more female than male pre-school malnourished children.

* Governor, Province of Agusan del Norte
Employment in the province is 95.89 percent, of which 34.59 percent are in agriculture, mining and forestry and 21 percent are laborers/unskilled workers.

Total elementary level enrolment rate province-wide is 78.17 percent while secondary school attendance rate is 57.30 percent. For the population aged 6-16 years old, the proportion of those attending school is 84.89 percent. Literacy rate is 97.60 percent.

Equal access to opportunities and entitlements to benefits of development for both men and women is the objective of Gender Equality as indicated in the MDGs. In the province, while more boys than girls are enrolled in the elementary level at 51 percent, the number/proportion decreases as the ladder gets higher. For instance, at the high school level, it becomes 46.76 percent and then at the tertiary level, it goes down slightly to 46.54 percent.

In terms of gender equality in politics, while the ideal representation in decisionmaking in politics/governance is 50-50 for men and women, the proportion of elective seats held by women is only 39 percent. Most of these numbers are in the lower echelon, the barangay level, and decreases as it goes up to the provincial level. There is only one woman Sanggunian Panlalawigan (SP) member at present.

Survival is among the basic rights of the child whose vulnerability is highest at age 0-5 years. Child mortality in the province is posted at 0.74 percent and is highest in the farthest municipality of Las Nieves at 1.46 percent. Among infants, more males die at 53 percent.

Women empowerment is partly giving the woman the right over her body. However, many of the rural women unfortunately have no control over their pregnancies, with 23 of the 5,182 women not being able to survive their pregnancies and make it to their next birthday.

The more popular methods of contraception are the modern method pills and IUD. There is also an increasing acceptance of SDM, which is a natural family planning method. The Contraceptive Prevalence Rate recorded in 2008 was 34 percent.

In terms of the data available to determine the status in achieving Goal 6 of the MDG, the use of condom as form of contraception rather than as protection from STI/HIV/AIDS has been listed. Of the 15,824 couples practicing family planning, 1.74 percent are condom-users, basically for birth spacing.

Meanwhile, the incidence of tuberculosis (TB) is increasing and is ranked 9 in the top 10 causes of mortality and sixth in the top ten causes of morbidity. Both TB and Malaria significantly affected the rural population rather than the urban residents at a ratio of 75/25 for TB and more pronounced for malaria at 99/1.
In terms of natural calamities, the latest weather disturbance on November 24, 2010 brought about total damage to 76 houses, and partial damage to 27 houses. Vulnerable to typhoon and flooding are the households with makeshift housing. They comprise 4.79 percent of the total household population. Consistent with the number of makeshift housing is the figure of informal settlers at 4.54 percent.

Of the 11 municipalities, the town of Magallanes has a very pronounced need for water at 68.73 percent of the population, surpassing the provincial average of 14.78 percent. In 2008, however, initiatives were done like tapping water sources from the neighboring town of Cabadbaran.

In terms of sanitation, 16 percent of our households do not have access to sanitary toilets, a number that is even higher than the percentage of provincial households without access to safe water (14.78 %) as mentioned in the previous paragraph.

With regard to ownership of computers, 5.14 percent of the households have computers while 36.18 percent have telephones and cellphones. Ten of the eleven municipalities have access to commercial internet cafes in their downtown areas and all eleven have cell sites.

With limited resources, it is important to determine specific targets or to have focused targeting. The CBMS data and results were used as basis for targeting and planning such as in the selection of beneficiaries for the Philhealth Indigency Program (Multipayor Scheme & Universal Coverage of PHIC), Certificates of Indigency for Free Court Litigation, medical and burial assistance, scholarship and educational assistance.

The data were also used for the preparation of the following planning reports:

- Barangay Development Plan
- Disaster Risk Management Plan
- Provincial Investment Plan for Health
- Municipal and Provincial Ecological Profile
- Participatory Initiatives In Governance Project (PING)

In response to the challenges posed by the results obtained from the CBMS survey, various programs were launched. Livelihood programs and projects and support strategies, for instance, such as the following were implemented to address low family income:

- Intensified Self-Employment Assistance – Kaunlaran (SEA-K) trainings and releases. In addition to the regular SEA-K of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the province also put up a special fund wherein for every PhP 1 million funded by the province, the DSWD will allocate an additional counterpart of PhP 1 million.
• Palay Price Equalization Fund. This refers to a subsidy to buy palay from farmers at a fair price to cushion exploitation from private traders.
• Allocation of PhP 1.5 million for the Large Animal Dispersal project and substantial amount for the Small Animal Dispersal project.
• Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training Programs and Scholarship for Vocational-Technical courses. The Province constructed a Manpower Training Facility in Las Nieves, the farthest municipality. Currently, there are 5 municipalities with Manpower Development Centers. There is also an increasing number of schools with TESDA-accredited courses.
• NALCO Co-management Program. For this program, 168 families will be granted stewardship agreement (rights to develop the land) and co-plantation will be granted to 3 applicants.
• Approved Investment/Incentive Code.
• Grant of conditional cash transfer to 4 municipality recipients under the 4 Ps project of the DSWD.

To combat hunger, the Accelerated Hunger Mitigation Program was launched as a major strategy to respond to the situation of households experiencing food shortage and hunger. The following programs were implemented in this regard:
• 140 Tindahan Natin Outlets in 167 barangays as well as several Bigasan ng Bayan outlets
• Food-for-School Program in 3 priority municipalities and the Healthy Start Feeding Program.
• Gulayan ng Masa.
• 2 irrigation projects in support of food sufficiency.
• Infant and Young Child Feeding – 50 percent of the barangays promote the Breast Feeding and complementary feeding programs.
• Under the population management program, 4,247 couples trained on Responsible Parenting to address the issue of demand for food.

To achieve universal primary education and improve secondary and tertiary participation, the following programs and projects were likewise initiated:
• SEF as source of salaries for teachers hired in newly opened schools in far-flung communities.
• Provincial Technical Scholarship Program (50 slots at PhP 7,500/semester per student).
• Four new elementary/secondary schools opened in 2008.
• Municipal LGUs funded scholarships.
• Congressional-funded scholarships were also provided.
• PGMA Training for Employment Scholarship Program (PhP 3 million counterpart of the province)

To ensure gender equality, the province approved in 2008 the Gender and Development (GAD) Code which provided for at least 30 percent of women membership in development bodies. A higher representation at 50 percent, though, was encouraged by the province. Among the programs aimed at this goal are:
• Advocate Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting in municipal LGUs and barangay LGUs.
• Integrate GAD in Responsible Parenting Classes.

Health interventions to address maternal- and child-health issues were also launched, to wit enrolment of more than 25,000 households through the multipayor scheme in the Philhealth Indigency Program. In 2009, the province allocated PhP6 million as counterpart for this purpose.
• 52 Botika ng Barangay (BnB) outlets were set up, out of which 3 became regional awardees for Best Botika ng Barangay (BnB).
• All rural health units (RHUs) are Sentrong Sigh accredited and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) accredited. Capitation fund from the PHIC used to fund more health services. Maternity care package is also available in some RHUs.
• Macronutrient & Micronutrient Supplementation.

For the prevention of STI, TB, Malaria and other diseases, the following interventions were made:
• Malaria diagnostic centers were established in 10 of the 11 RHUs. Functional Barangay Malaria Microscopists and RDT-BHWs were put in place in strategic locations. There were also active MAC & BAC in all endemic towns.
• Over 24,000 insecticide-treated bed nets were distributed in 2008. More were given in 2009, establishing a 1:3 family member-bed net ratio.
• Malaria-border operation approach was adopted between Agusan del Norte and del Sur towns.
• The Directly Observed Treatment Strategy (DOTS) approach is adopted in all RHUs and one PPMD unit is established as a reference center at the Provincial Health Office (PHO).
• Linkage with the Schistosomiasis Research Hospital in Palo, Leyte was established for the COPT.
• Filaria infections were treated during the annual Mass Drug Administration.
All schistosomiasis and heterophydiatis cases were treated with Praziquantel (Provincial Resolution 319-2009).

Meanwhile, to ensure environmental sustainability, the province has recently approved the Provincial Environmental Code. It had also implemented other projects such as:

- Gawad Kalinga which was implemented in four communities.
- Resettlement of 6 ha. of land for 450 families at Magallanes.
- Core Shelter Housing Project for Disaster Victims in partnership with the DSWD in Buenavista. Around 50 families became beneficiaries at a cost of PhP3.5 million.
- The municipal LGU of Magallanes is currently undertaking activities in coordination with non-government organizations (NGOs) and other government stakeholders to improve access to safe water.
- Construction of deepwell/artesian well and communal sanitary toilets through Participatory Initiative in Governance Project (PING) funds.

Global Partnership

The province is in the final stages of its Provincial Computerization Program at a cost of PhP 70 million. Access to all information/data is lodged at the MIS of the provincial office. Among the significant components of the project are: software outsourcing development, hardware acquisition and installation, humanware capacity building, and system customization and system roll-out to municipalities.

Institutionalization of CBMS

Finally, in 2010, the province is set to conduct the second round of the CBMS survey through a more technologically sound and accurate strategy. With the abovementioned interventions, we are very positive that there will be significant improvements among many indicators which will keep us from going back to the “Club 40” list of poorest provinces.
Uses of CBMS for Improving Local Governance in Zamboanga del Norte

Rosevic Lacaya-Ocampo*

My special greetings to my provincemates from Zamboanga del Norte, to Vice-Mayor Monteclaro of the Municipality of Sindangan and to my planning colleagues from the Municipalities of Siayan and Pinan.

The participation of the Municipality of Siayan, through the representation of its Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Mr. Sixto Atuy, and Municipal Administrator, Atty. Alanixon Sekla, is special in light of the fact that it was declared as the poorest municipality in the entire country by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) following the conduct of the Family Income and Expenditures Survey (FIES) in 2003. The same survey showed the Province of Zamboanga del Norte as the poorest among the country’s provinces.

As what our Governor, Atty. Rolando E. Yebes, shared with you on the first day of this activity, being declared as the poorest province was ironic for the eighth largest province in the country, and one of the most blessed in terms of natural resources. More ironic for a province with the second biggest amount of cash in bank, second only to the Province of Cebu, according to official data published by the Commission on Audit in the national dailies at about the same time.

For you to know our province better, may I share a few facts about it or the Province of ZaNorte, as it is fondly called and named today?

ZaNorte Province is one of the three provinces that compose the Zamboanga Peninsula Region, otherwise known as Region IX. The two other provinces are the Provinces of Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga Sibugay.

* Provincial Planning and Development Officer, Province of Zamboanga del Norte
ZaNorte is the biggest province in terms of land area, spanning about 45.16 percent of the region's total land area. Its estimated population of 924,924 for this year represents 28.09 percent of the region's total estimated population.

It is situated in the northwestern edge of the region, bordering the Sulu Sea in the west, the Province of Misamis Occidental in the north, the City of Zamboanga in the south, and the Provinces of Zamboanga Sibugay and Zamboanga del Sur in the east.

The province encompasses two cities, Dipolog and Dapitan, and 25 municipalities, which collectively cover a total of 691 barangays.

It is home to Dapitan City, the historic place where our national hero, Dr. Jose P. Rizal, was exiled for four years, and to the world-famous Dakak Park and Beach Resort.

Having presented those, allow me now to discuss the uses of CBMS in improving local governance in the Province of ZaNorte.

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is about providing us, the LGUs, a meaningful tool and/or method of identifying the priority needs of our people, with the end in view of addressing the concern on poverty that has plagued not only Mindanao but also the whole country for years.

CBMS provides LGUs the avenue to examine and inventory our people's needs; allows us to plan better, identify better strategies and allocate resources to where they are most needed. Further, CBMS is recognized as a vital approach in generating sub-regional data that are vital to local planning and decision-making.

The fight against poverty is inextricably intertwined with the quality of governance of political leaders and partner stakeholders at all levels of government. For it is in the effective interplay of the characteristics of good governance that significant inroads become possible and achievable in tapering down the intensity of poverty in our communities.

These characteristics include being participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law.

On the first day of this conference, ZaNorte Provincial Governor Rolando E. Yebes briefly walked you through what his administration has been doing toward achieving his development vision for the province, sans the CBMS.

From being the poorest province in 2003 prior to his administration, we were able to improve the province's poverty ranking mid-way in his first term of office, starting in 2006 and onwards.

Although the improvement was modest, it is one achievement that we nevertheless feel very proud of for we have successfully sustained it.

We did not have the CMBS then. But it was the timely launching and implementation of the Poverty Mapping Program by the governor, using the minimum basic needs (MBN) indicators that played the key role in extricating
the province of Zamboanga del Norte from the infamous tag of being the poorest province in the entire country.

Its implementation greatly involved the active participation of local government units, barangay communities, key informants and the people themselves. Thus, we were able to implement interventions responsive to the immediate needs of our indigent communities.

These interventions include: livelihood opportunities in the areas of agriculture, fishery and tourism; productive agricultural lands; food on the table to mitigate hunger and malnutrition; protection of our environment; improved access to health, both preventive and curative, by enrolling indigent households with the PhilHealth which to date benefits a total of 69,975 indigent families; construction of a new 146-bed capacity provincial hospital, the ZaNorte Medical Center, equipped, among others, with a state-of-the art Dialysis Clinic and an 8-slice high-speed CT-scan; upgrading of other three major hospitals that are managed, maintained and operated by the provincial government; and funds for the hiring of 200 secondary public school teachers to help out the Department of Education address the concern on the lack of teachers in the barangays.

All these, we humbly note, are due to the good governance in Zamboanga del Norte. It may not be perfect nor have resulted to an earthshaking decline of the province’s poverty incidence, but still, it did make wonders to our people and province.

Then in August 2007, through the personal persuasion of Secretary Panganiban during his visit to the province, the ZaNorte provincial government officially adopted the CBMS and committed to implement the system, through Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 663, in 17 LGUs which were not covered by the DILG.

By that time, 10 of the 27 LGUs in the province had started to implement CBMS through the help of the DILG, completing Modules I and II.

When the ZaNorte-National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)-PEP-CBMS Network joined forces and started to conduct CMBS training, 14 LGUs participated. In the conduct of the succeeding trainings, six of the 10 DILG-led LGUs joined these 14 LGUs.

The implementation of the CBMS in the province was and continues to be a joint collaboration between the provincial governments, the local government units, the NAPC, and the PEP-CBMS Network.

For this, I am hereby conveying our province’s eternal gratitude to Secretary Panganiban and Dr. Celia Reyes for encouraging us to join the CBMS bandwagon. As the saying goes, “better late than never.”

We are positive that through this collaboration, we will be able to fast track the arrest of the roots of poverty in depressed communities spread throughout the province.
To date, we have six LGUs that have completed their respective CBMS LGU profiles, namely, the Municipalities of La Libertad, Pinan, Sergio Osmeña, Siayan, Leon Postigo and Godod.

Interestingly, the six LGU CBMS profiles, when consolidated, gave the picture that all six share the same priority concerns that need immediate response. More interesting is the fact that these priorities mirror the concerns that the provincial government had identified as priorities following the conduct of the poverty mapping program, namely, income below the poverty and food threshold, poor access among school-aged children to elementary and high school education, and poor access to water supply.

In all six LGUs, more than 50 percent of their households have incomes below the poverty and food thresholds.

Happily, the percentage of households experiencing food shortage is kept at bay, with the Municipality of La Libertad recording the lowest percentage at 1.4, and with the Municipality of Siayan recording the highest percentage at 25.2.

In terms of the second Millennium Development Goal on the achievement of primary education in the country, the CBMS data for the province confirm the poor achievement of this goal, not unlike what is obtaining in poor communities throughout the country.

We still have 18 LGUs that have to complete their LGU CBMS profiles while another three have yet to start implementation. It is still a long way for us but the vital information that we have gathered in this forum may help us cope with the concerns that partly cause the slow down of some LGUs in implementing the CBMS.

The presence of Vice-Mayor Monteclaro and the President of the Provincial League of Local Planners in ZaNorte, Mr. Sixto Atuy, is a blessing, for both can ably help the provincial government encourage and push these LGUs to move ahead and implement the CBMS. We also count on the DILG to facilitate the implementation of the CBMS among the LGUs under its care.

In closing, the Province of ZaNorte affirms that the use of CBMS will greatly improve governance in the province. We likewise affirm that indeed, CBMS paves the way for good governance to work.

To echo the words of Governor Yebes, with the CBMS scheme of identifying the priority needs of poverty-stricken barangays in ZaNorte, we are hopeful that by 2013, more significant headways can be achieved toward the vision of development that we keep in our hearts for our people and for the Province of Zamboanga del Norte.
Using CBMS as a Tool for Local Governance in Margosatubig

George M. Minor*

Good afternoon to my fellow believers in CBMS!

My task this afternoon is to share with you our experiences in local governance in Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur using CBMS data as a tool.

But first, let me introduce to you our municipality and then share with you in a walk through manner our survey results and the interventions that we have initiated and will be initiating to reverse the unfavorable situations of our constituents based on the survey results of the CBMS in 2008.

It is well to note that the CBMS activity in our municipality was made possible through the technical assistance of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Regional Office No. 9.

Margosatubig: Origin and Early Beginnings

The Subanens were believed to be the first people to have inhabited the municipality. In fact, Margosatubig got its name from “Malagus Tubig,” a Subanen term meaning swift river current. When the Spaniards arrived, Margosatubig became their choice of settlement and changed “Malagus Tubig” to its present name “Margosatubig.”

From 1917 to 1936, Margosatubig stayed as a municipal district of the City of Zamboanga. However, by virtue of Executive Order No. 17 dated December 23, 1936, Margosatubig finally became a regular and distinct municipality with eight original barrios, namely: Poblacion, Makulay, Lapuyan, Malangas, Kumalarang, Naga-naga and Talusan.

Today, Margosatubig is a third Class Municipality. It is located 52 kilometers away from Pagadian City. It has 17 barangays of which eight are

* Mayor, Municipality of Margosatubig, Province of Zamboanga del Sur
coastal barangays. It has a land area of 11,169 hectares with a population of 39,012. During the calendar year 2008, Margosatubig had an annual income of PhP50,575,074.61.

The vision of our municipality is as follows: Margosatubig as an emerging dynamic community of people who are pro-God, empowered, proactive, sharing equal opportunities socially, economically and politically in the spirit of love, peace and prosperity.

Our mission is to pursue a committed, efficient, and effective mechanism in the implementation of the plans and programs that will result in a desired level of sustainable socio-economic and political growth and development.

My report will cover the following:
- Health and Nutrition
- Housing
- Water and Sanitation
- Education and Literacy
- Poverty Threshold
- Food Threshold
- Employment
- Peace and Order

**Health and Nutrition**
In 2006, the number of children 0-5 years old of age was 4,020. Out of this, 6.72 percent were malnourished. With our initiative, we have reversed this in 2008 to 5.64 percent. This has been due to the strengthening of our Municipal and Barangay Nutrition Councils and the collaboration with all stakeholders. Because of this endeavor, we were awarded the Most Outstanding Implementor of Nutrition Programs in the Province of Zamboanga del Sur for two consecutive years (2007-2008) and we were adjudged second in the region.

In addition, we have implemented the Philhealth Program using a cost-sharing strategy where the Municipal Government shoulders only 60 pesos of the annual contribution while the beneficiary will shoulder the rest. This is done to ensure the sustainability of the program.

**Water and Sanitation**
You will note that we have two barangays that have the highest number of households without access to sanitary toilets: Brgy. Igat Island and Brgy. Limbatong. Because of this, I encouraged the Sangguniang Bayan to pass the Sanitation Code where one of the provisions is that all households without sanitary toilets will be penalized. During the implementation of the Sanitation Code, the municipality did not spend a single centavo for the construction of toilets because I believe that it is the responsibility of every household to have their own toilet.
Table 1. Proportion of Malnourished Children 0-5 Years Old, After Intervention

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<th>Barangay</th>
<th>Total Number of Children 0-5</th>
<th>Total Number of Children 0-5</th>
<th>Total Number of Children 0-5</th>
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As you can see in Table 4, we now have 12 barangays that no longer have problems on sanitation.

Education and Literacy

Based on the survey results, almost half of the children 6-12 years old in Brgy. Bularong were not attending school. This is mainly due to the presence of an indigenous people (IP) community which do not put premium on education.

Meanwhile, a number of barangays had more than half of the children aged 13-16 years old who are not attending high school. The major reason cited is the distance to the nearest high school. To address this problem, in the early part of 2007, we established a satellite high school in Brgy. Balintawak which will cater to high school students in Balintawak, Bularong, Guinimanan, Josefina and Igat Island.
Poverty and Subsistence Incidence

In Margosatubig, 80.36 percent or 5,208 out of 6,481 households are living below the poverty threshold. Fortunately, our municipality is part of the Mindanao Rural Development Program, one component of which is the Community Fund for Agricultural Development (CFAD) which aims to address diverse investment priorities of rural communities through the financing of sub-projects which meet community preferences and local priorities. We have organized 27 people’s organizations which will be the beneficiaries of this livelihood program. The local government unit will be allocating PhP50,000 per people’s organization. These organizations have been empowered by having been given the chance to select what livelihood program they will implement.

Strategy

Based on the results of the CBMS survey, we have identified our strategic directions as follows:

- To strengthen the existing livelihood programs of the local government and extend support to established and accredited cooperatives in the barangays.

Table 2. Households Without Access to Safe Water

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Barangay</th>
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<th>Households Without Access to Safe Water</th>
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<th>%</th>
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Table 3. Proportion of Households Without Access to Sanitary Toilet Facility

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<th>%</th>
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<td>Josefina</td>
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- To provide skills training to all unemployed individuals, especially the out-of-school youths.
- To improve/rehabilitate water supply systems in and provide potable water to identified barangays that have more households without access to potable water.

To date, we have implemented the following interventions designed to alleviate the plight of our constituents:

- Provided/extended alternative livelihood assistance to all accredited organizations, identified people’s organizations, and depressed and poor families.
- Provided skills trainings to out-of-school youths on small engine mechanics, slippers- and bag-making, rural barangay electrician and natural farming system through equalks2 (education quality and access for learning and livelihood skills).
- Rehabilitated and improved water supply systems in identified barangays with more households without access to potable water.
Table 4. Proportion of Households Without Access to Sanitary Toilet, After Intervention

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>2006 Number of Households</th>
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<th>2008 Number of Households</th>
<th>2008 Number</th>
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Table 5. Proportion of Households with Income Below Poverty Threshold

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### Table 6. Proportion of Households with Income Below Food Threshold

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Table 7. Proportion of Households who Experienced Food Shortage

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The Implementation of CBMS in the Municipality of Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte

Alanixon A. Sekla*

As I sat through the past two days’ sessions, I was overwhelmed and awed by the audio-video presentations of several provinces, cities, and municipalities. I come from a poor municipality and was tasked to share with you our CBMS experience. It is the case of the poor teaching the rich what to do. But my job perhaps is to teach you what not to do.

As I was taking in the CBMS experiences of the rich provinces and cities, I am reminded of the story of four mayors attending an international conference on best practices in governance. The mayor from France boasted: “Our country has the best system. We protect and serve our people from basket to casket.” To this, the mayor from Italy retorted, “Ours is even better: from womb to tomb.” The American mayor snapped, “Ours is the best: from sperm to germ.” And finally, the Filipino mayor blurted: “Gentlemen, you will not believe this. The Philippines has the perfect form of governance. We serve and protect our people from erection to resurrection.”

Our municipality started on the wrong foot.

In the 1950s, two families—Macias and Siasico—bitterly fought for political control of the municipality of Sindangan. So closely contested were elections where representatives from both families ran for office that it took only 30 votes or less to decide the outcome of these electoral exercises. In the early 1960s, our congressman interceded and introduced a bill creating the municipality of Siayan, then an interior barangay and 18 kilometers east of Sindangan. And so Sindangan, by political necessity, was carved out of the wilderness. Like the Biblical Abraham and Lot, Macias took in Sindangan and Siayan went to Siasico.

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To get to Siayan, you take a one-hour flight from Manila to Dipolog City, the capital of Zamboanga del Norte and then a two-hour bus ride to Sindangan. The bus exits to the 15-kilometer smooth, paved road to Siayan.

Our population, according to the 2007 census done by the National Statistics Office (NSO), stands at 34,588, spread out over 22 barangays. It is a typical town with typical scenery—mountains, rivers, ordinary folks eking out a living. More than 90 percent of our population belong to the Subanen tribe, early Malay settlers who built their settlements along the banks of the river. Suba means river and thus Subanen, which means “people by the river.” Subanens have a passion for winemaking. They use pangase or rice for their wine, which they age in old Chinese jars bartered from Malay traders.

One early evening sometime in September 2008, in a nationwide telecast of GMA 7’s 24 Oras, newscaster Mike Enriquez gravely intoned, “The municipality of Siayan in the province of Zamboanga del Norte has been declared by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) as the poorest municipality in the Philippines.” As rated through the Small-Area Estimate Model, Siayan has a poverty incidence of 97.5 percent. This means that for every 100 residents of Siayan, 98 are poor. Earlier, the NSCB had declared Pange in Siayan as the poorest barangay in the Philippines.

In conducting the survey, the NSCB used the Small-Area Estimate Model to predict poverty incidence and the breadwinner’s literacy level to predict his or her economic status. Other factors used as bases for determining economic status were ownership of residence, quality of housing (including access to sanitary toilets and electricity), and the type of roof used. Siayan was then in the midst of implementing CBMS. The results could confirm or dispel the idea that Siayan is the poorest municipality and Pange, the poorest barangay.

Eight enumerators were hired to conduct a survey of all households in the 22 barangays. Data gathering started in October 2007 and went on up to the second quarter of 2008. The results were validated in the third quarter of 2008. Even before the data were digitized and processed, we started looking at the preliminary results and factored them in our annual investment plans.

The words of former US President Abraham Lincoln spoken a century and a half ago have a timeless ring for our CBMS implementation. “If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do, and how to do it.”

We focused on six basic concerns: health and nutrition, shelter, water and sanitation, education, income, and employment.

- **Health and Nutrition** - Our municipality maintains 21 health centers, each manned by a midwife. Residents of Balok, which has no health center, go to Paranghumba. Of the total population (34,588), 5,303 are children aged 0-5 years old. Five-hundred and five of these kids are in Poblacion. Out of 5,303 children aged 0-5 years old, 38 are
malnourished. Soguilon has the highest number of malnourished children at seven.

- **Shelter** - Of 6,354 households, 171 households are in informal settlements with Datagan, in proportion to its number of households, having the highest incidence at 36.

- **Water and Sanitation** – Datagan, located on a relatively high plateau, has the highest incidence of households without access to safe water. Of 6,354 households, 4,126 are without access to safe water. A total of 3,258 households draw water from rivers, streams, and springs. A total of 4,261 households have no access to sanitary toilets.

- **Education** - Siayan has 6,773 children aged 6-12. Of this number, 2,353 are not in school, with Domagok having the highest incidence of out-of-school youths at 48.77 percent. The municipality has 3,602 kids aged 13-16. Of this number, 2,788 are not attending high school, with Barangay Pange having the highest incidence. Out of 128 kids in Pange, 126 are not in high school. By way of summary, out of 10,375 children aged 6-16, 5,141 are not in school.

- **Poverty Incidence** - Pange has the highest magnitude and proportion of households with income below poverty threshold at 99.19 percent. Out of 247 households, 244 are below the poverty threshold. By way of summary, of 6,354 households, 5,481 have income below the poverty threshold. Siayan’s poverty threshold is 86.26, which is 11 percent way below the projection of the NSCB.

- **Subsistence Incidence** - Regarding households with income below the food threshold, Pange is way ahead at 96.53. Of its 246 households, 235 are below the food threshold. Of 6,354 households, 4,937 households, or 77.70 percent, have income below the food threshold.

- **Food Shortage** - Balunokan had the highest percentage—72.97 percent—of households that experienced food shortage. This means that out of 148 households in the barangay, 108 had experienced food shortage.

- **Employment** - Of the 10,080 members of our labor force, 267 are not employed.

- **Peace and Order** - We are too poor to commit crimes. We have almost zero crime rate. Our mayor travels around town without any bodyguard or police escorts.

The Siayan CBMS data painted a surreal scene. This is our story:

- Out of every 100 persons, 78 have income below the poverty threshold.
- Out of every 100 persons, 86 are poor.
- Pange could indeed be the poorest barangay in the Philippines. For every 100 residents, 99 are poor.
• In basic education, for every six school children aged 6-12, three are not attending school.
• For every three kids of high school age, two are not in school.
• For every six households, four have no access to safe water.
• For every six households, four have no access to sanitary toilets.

The CBMS data are a wake-up call to the local government of Siayan: “What have we done to the least of our brethren?” We cannot just stand and preach a sermon on the Mount, “Blessed are the poor for they shall inherit the Kingdom of God.”

And so we set our commitment ... our priority.
• Raise the income of every family
• Provide sustainable means of livelihood and income
• We are aware that when one is poor, his main attention is to put food first on his table.
• A poor person cannot afford to send his children to school; he needs all hands to find food.
• A poor person cannot afford to construct a decent house with a sanitary toilet and potable water.

The CBMS data pointed the areas of priority to which we will channel our resources and manpower, limited though they may be.

We have envisioned that in 10 years, Siayan shall be the rubber center of Zamboanga del Norte, where every household will own at least 1 hectare of rubber plantation.

By that time, we shall have established and maintained rubber nurseries in all 22 barangays and hired the services of 12 rubber technicians. The provincial government of Zamboanga del Norte already helped us put up the Hi-Green and Gulayan sa Barangay Program.

We purchased a brand new bulldozer to supplement our aging bulldozer. We now use the two bulldozers to build roads connecting sitios to the barangays and to our main road networks. These are farm-to-market roads, not farm-to-pocket roads or roads-to-my-farm projects.

These road networks shall be the highway to learning for our school children. Easy access to schools encourages our children to stay in school.

Meanwhile, we constructed, with funding from the provincial government, a road to Pange, our farthest and poorest barangay, to connect it to our main roads.

Another school building was constructed and a complete elementary school system spanning Grades 1 to 6 was established and maintained. Three school teachers were employed, with each teacher handling two classes.
A hanging bridge was constructed across Pange river. The bridge is strong enough to bear the weight of a fully loaded habal-habal.

In Datagan, identified by CBMS data as the barangay where many households have no access to potable water, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) constructed a Level II water system and piped the water out to 11 outlets in the neighborhood.

In Moyo, the barangay that caught the attention of national and local health officials and the national TV networks because of the outbreak of capillariasis, a water-borne disease, we installed a water system and piped the water across farms and fields.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines pitched in and hauled truckloads of water-sealed toilet bowls, which we distributed to the barangays coded red in the CBMS maps.

We and the soldiers initiated a bayanihan in Moyo where the residents, soldiers, and employees of Siayan dug toilet pits.

In Domogok, determined by the CBMS survey as having the highest incidence of out-of-school youths, we found out that the sitio with the most number of red dots is located 12 kilometers from the nearest school campus. We constructed a two-room school building to cater to Grade 1 and 2 pupils. The COMELEC has put a voting precinct in that school so voters in that sitio could participate in the May 2010 elections.

In coordination with nongovernment organizations (NGOs) and local agencies, we implemented feeding programs in barangays with a high incidence of malnutrition. In Gunyan, we shelled out PhP 200 per day thrice a week to feed 50 children with the Gulay supplied by the Gulayan sa Barangay Program.

We are aware of our task.

We do not look forward to the next election.
Rationale for the CBMS Implementation in MIMAROPA Region

On August 31, 2005, the MIMAROPA (IV-B) Regional Development Council (RDC) approved the use of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) during its regular meeting as a common database management system for the region. The RDC, as the highest policy coordinating body in the region, recognized that a common database among the provinces and municipalities will facilitate the generation, processing and utilization of data for development planning and decisionmaking purposes, especially in the case of the MIMAROPA region which is made up of 1,978 islands and islets.

As a new region, it is opportune for MIMAROPA to use CBMS in development planning based on the following reasons:

- CBMS remains to be the most cost-effective and easy-to-sustain system available that can generate household information aggregated from the barangay level up to the provincial, regional and national levels;
- It has both spatial and statistical data that are useful in physical planning and disaster risk management;
- It provides an opportunity to capacitate local government units (LGUs) on data generation, data banking and data analysis which they can share with national line agencies;
- CBMS can augment national data, especially agriculture and tourism, the two resource sectors of the region;
- The MIMAROPA RDC would like to establish benchmark information reflecting local challenges and opportunities and to formulate development plans, policies and strategies focused on agriculture and tourism;

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It validates and monitors the impact of macroeconomic and regional plans, policies and projects at the local level.

**Distinct Feature of the MIMAROPA CBMS**
The distinct feature of the MIMAROPA CBMS is the incorporation of agriculture and tourism indicators in the Household Profile Questionnaire (HPQ), the instrument used in household survey. These two indicators were added since MIMAROPA is predominantly made up of agricultural rural communities and host to diverse tourism attractions. The RDC considered these two sectors as twin engines of growth and their development could bring economic progress in the countryside. The customized questionnaire was used in five provinces of the MIMAROPA Region. The intention is to establish baseline data and generate a situational analysis of the two sectors and subsequently direct the path of the region’s development. Focused interventions on these two resource sectors will maximize resource investments and potentials to further boost the economic development of the region.

This is in line with MIMAROPA’s vision to become the food basket of Metro Manila and CALABARZON, and serve as a gateway to Southern Philippines and a major tourism destination.

**Strategies Undertaken to Implement a Region-wide CBMS**
Region-wide implementation of the CBMS was done through the RDC IV-B via a series of advocacy activities, memorandum of agreement (MOA), creation of Technical Working Groups (TWG) and capability building. In particular, RDC IV-B adopted CBMS as the common database management system for the MIMAROPA Region through RDC Resolution No. 12-074-2005. Advocacy sessions with governors, sangguniang panglalawigan members and mayors on the rationale and advantage of CBMS were also conducted. To operationalize this, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed on 28 September 2006 among the governors, NEDA IV-B and the CBMS Network Coordinating Team. An important component in the implementation of CBMS was the creation of TWGs at the regional, provincial and municipal levels, with NEDA Region IV-B as the lead coordinator. NEDA IV-B and DILG IV-B were also capacitated to train provincial and municipal TWGs.

In the conduct of CBMS training modules, NEDA IV-B, the CBMS Network Coordinating Team and DILG IV-B served as the resource persons.

**Status of implementation of CBMS in the Region**
Presently, there are 59 provinces that are implementing CBMS in the country. It should, however, be noted that only the MIMAROPA Region is implementing CBMS on a region-wide basis.
All MIMAROPA provinces are currently implementing CBMS at various stages, having started doing so at various dates, to wit:

- Romblon – February 2007
- Marinduque - November 2007
- Palawan - January 2008
- Oriental Mindoro - February 2008
- Occidental Mindoro - April 2009.

The Province of Palawan is already in the fourth round of implementation while Marinduque is in the second round of implementation. Both were included as pilot areas in an earlier implementation of the CBMS in the country.

Romblon has completed data processing, barangay validation and the preparation of the barangay socio-economic profile and development plans. Processing of data in Marinduque, Oriental Mindoro and Palawan, meanwhile, is ongoing. Occidental Mindoro is still encoding its data. Table 1 presents the status of implementation in each province.

**Application of CBMS Indicators**
The LGU application of CBMS indicators is confined mostly to the identification and/or validation of program/project beneficiaries. Some of the projects are ongoing while others are already completed. The use of CBMS indicators/data facilitated the coverage of beneficiaries and defined the resources required for the programs/projects. In one instance, Romblon was able to use the CBMS Core Indicators to prepare its Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP). Table 2 presents the LGUs’ application of the CBMS.

**Problems Encountered**
There were two major problems encountered in the operationalization of the CBMS in the Region, namely: the incorporation of agriculture and tourism indicators in the HPQ and the financial resource requirements of the LGUs in implementing the CBMS.

Formulation of questions to incorporate agriculture and tourism indicators in the HPQ was difficult. The involvement of other national line agencies in the Region’s TWG, however, facilitated the crafting of details of the agriculture and tourism indicators in the HPQ.

As to the issue of funding, although the LGUs would have wanted to implement the CBMS immediately after the MOA signing, they were constrained by limited funds in supporting the CBMS implementation. To resolve such constraints, an arrangement of counterparting between the provincial government and the municipalities was undertaken. This approach varies per province, thereupon also resulting in different timetables in the implementation of the CBMS among the provinces.
There were also problems in data collection at the household level. Municipal TWGs/MPDOs (municipal planning and development officers) were constantly reminded to involve barangay officials during the household survey operation and data validation.

In the processing of data, meanwhile, other problems also occurred which includes: the need to enhance the technical skills of encoders and other TWG members on the use of CBMS softwares, the sustainability of having support staffs in the MPDO, loss of CBMS files/data, and breakdown of computers. TWGs were encouraged to back up their files and send them to the provincial TWG, NEDA and the CBMS Network Coordinating Team. The latter also offered special training courses while online and call helps were provided by both the PEP Team and the Regional TWG.

Future Directions
At present, all municipalities are in the stage of processing their data. Only Romblon has completed the provincial consolidation of the CBMS data. In this regard, the next steps will be:

1. To fast track the municipal and provincial consolidation of CBMS data/indicators through constant follow-ups with PPDOs/MPDOs;
2. To have a regional consolidation of data from the provinces to create a regional repository of data, with assistance from the CBMS PEP Team;
3. To prepare municipal, provincial and region SEPs and development plans using CBMS data/indicators; the municipalities in Romblon agreed to update their ecological profiles and CLUPs using CBMS indicators.
4. To prepare Provincial Human Development Reports; and
5. To disseminate the results.
Scaling Up Poverty Monitoring through CBMS in Eastern Visayas

Aida Z. Laruda*

On behalf of our regional director, Dir. William C. Paler, allow me to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to all Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) implementors in Eastern Visayas for their commitment and unwavering support in the implementation of the program.

While the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has been at the forefront in the advocacy of the CBMS, without their deep involvement and passion in the establishment of a planning tool that will help our local partners improve planning, resource allocation and mobilization, all these would not have been possible.

This morning, I am pleased to present to you the paper titled: “Scaling Up Poverty Monitoring through CBMS in Eastern Visayas.”

The presentation will cover the following:
A. Profile of Eastern Visayas;
B. Status of CBMS implementation in Region VIII;
C. Strategies adopted in the implementation of CBMS in Region VIII;
D. Utilization of CBMS data in Region VIII; and
E. Ongoing initiatives of Region VIII.

Eastern Visayas, designated as Region VIII, is one of the two regions of the Philippines that have no land border with another region. The other is MIMAROPA Region. Eastern Visayas consists of six provinces, namely, Northern Samar; Samar; Eastern Samar; Biliran, Leyte and Southern Leyte. The regional center is Tacloban City.

It has four cities, 139 municipalities and 4,390 barangays.

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Eastern Visayas is known for its rich culture, colorful festivities, historical spots, tourist destinations and the famous San Juanico Bridge which connects the islands of Leyte and Samar.

The Waray-warays dominate the region’s cultural linguistic group but the Cebuanos from the nearby island of Cebu live in Ormoc City, Western Leyte and parts of the Southwest of Leyte. Hence, there is a Cebuano-speaking portion of the region.

With a total land area of 21,431.7 sq. kms, 52 percent of the region is classified as forestland and 48 percent as alienable and disposable.

The primary sources of revenue in the region are manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, and services. Mining, farming, fishing and tourism contribute significantly to the economy.

Poverty reduction, however, continues to be a big challenge in the region, especially in terms of uplifting the socio-economic condition of the vulnerable groups.

Recognizing therefore the need for a poverty monitoring tool to make local government unit (LGU) programs, projects and activities responsive to and reflective of the felt needs of the people at the grassroots level, Region VIII, through the convergent efforts of the national government agencies, non-government organizations and LGUs, has adopted the CBMS.

From 16 pilot municipalities in the initial implementation of the CBMS in 2005, we are pleased to report that Eastern Visayas now has a region-wide CBMS coverage at different stages of implementation, with 139 municipalities and four cities.

The province of Biliran, with eight municipalities, is the first of the six provinces in the region to finish the implementation of CBMS.

During the first round, some of the LGUs in this province were able to submit project proposals and avail of grants using CBMS as evidenced-based data to support the same.

At present, Biliran is in the planning stage for their second wave of CBMS implementation.

The municipality of Cabucgayan, Biliran has already started with the implementation of the second round and is now in the phases of encoding the household profile questionnaires and digitizing the barangay maps.

Meanwhile, the province of Eastern Samar, with 23 municipalities, is the second province to finish its first round of implementation.

Like the province of Biliran, some LGUs in Eastern Samar were able to avail of grants using the data as basis for their project proposals.

At present, Eastern Samar is in its second round of province-wide implementation. This year, all LGUs have been trained in the three modules which include data collection and encoding; digitizing of maps; and data processing to fast-track their implementation.
During the province’s first round of implementation in 2005-2006, the results of the CBMS data were presented during the province’s first anti-poverty summit where Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, graced the event.

The provincial government of Southern Leyte, on the other hand, is currently in the consolidation phase of the encoded data and digitized maps of all 18 municipalities, including the City of Maasin.

Only last October 14-16 (2009), the provincial technical working group was capacitated, with technical assistance provided by the CBMS Network and facilitated by the provincial government (specifically the provincial health office of Southern Leyte) in coordination with the DILG regional and provincial offices, to fast-track the provincial consolidation of the CBMS data.

The province is set to conduct its second round of implementation to update its data for next year.

The province of Northern Samar, meanwhile, with 24 municipalities, also has a province-wide coverage and is targeting the completion of the first round implementation within the year. To update the data, the LGUs of Northern Samar are set to conduct a resurvey next year.

All 25 municipalities of the province, including the city of Calbayog, have adopted the CBMS. Concerned persons have been capacitated on the modular trainings of the program and are currently involved in different stages of implementation.

However, there is a need to fast-track the implementation of the program in the province to complete the process.

All 41 municipalities of the province of Leyte, including the cities of Ormoc and Tacloban, have adopted CBMS. Like the province of Samar, the concerned persons have also been capacitated on the modular trainings of the program and are likewise currently involved in the different stages of implementation.

The DILG wishes to commend all those coming from the national government agencies (NGAs), the nongovernment organizations and, most especially, the LGUs who have been involved in the CBMS implementation and who have collaborated with the DILG for their full commitment to this endeavor.

The DILG is continually coordinating with them as well as with the league of municipalities, regional planners, civil society and other stakeholders in the advocacy of the CBMS.

This year, we have also strengthened our collaboration with the Commission on Population to integrate CBMS core local poverty indicators with population and development indicators in the preparation of the ecological profile as an input to the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). This is a response to the joint memorandum circular (number 1, series of 2007) on the harmonization of plans.
A region-wide orientation on the Comprehensive Development Plan integrating the POPDEV approach was conducted from June to September 2009. This was attended by the CDP technical working group of the cities and municipalities of Region VIII where the financial and logistics support was provided by the German Technical Cooperation – Health Component.

With CBMS in place in most of the LGUs in the region, DILG VIII, under the technical services division, customized an ecological profile manual on how to generate data from the CBMS statistical simulator and census survey processing system softwares to facilitate the retrieval of the required data for said profiling.

Essential in the simplified sectoral planning process of the rationalized planning system is the determination of the LGUs’ current reality which can be done through the generation of new information and the current reality gap of the LGUs. This can be attained through an existing database that contains data down to the household level.

The CBMS data are useful and helpful especially for the LGUs that were able to complete the implementation of the program in enriching their ecological profile during the data gathering stage. This facilitated the identification of the current level of services to its constituents, the resources available and the problem situations affecting the target or specific segments of the population in the five sectors, namely; social, economic, infrastructure, environment and institution.

Moreover, CBMS is an essential tool in the data analysis using the local development indicators system (LDIS) through its disaggregated and geographically defined data in diagnosing and analyzing poverty-related issues in the LGU. The LDIS attempts to consolidate the various indicators that are relevant to local planning and portrays information in three dimensions: sectoral, temporal, and geographical or spatial.

The CBMS is beneficial to the LGUs in this analysis where LGUs can determine their current reality using evidenced-based and disaggregated data, make an analysis as to how and why the situation is such in their LGU by correlating significant variables, and design interventions that will address the needs of the people.

The DILG and GTZ-Environment Resources Development component are likewise closely collaborating in an effort to harmonize the disaster risk indicators in the ecological profile. We have started with Palo, Leyte and the three-year project will soon include 3 cities, Calbayog, Ormoc and Tacloban, on integrating a disaster risk-management approach into the CDP and Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP). This activity is also done in close coordination with the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) Region VIII, NEDA, local planners and other stakeholders.
We are also continually strengthening the NGA-NGO-LGU convergent efforts strategy in the region in the advocacy of the CBMS. This year, the Regional KALAHI Convergence Group (RKCG) has identified six poorest municipalities in the region, all from the province of Samar, as recipients of financial assistance to fast-track the implementation of the program. These are the municipalities of Daram, Zumarraga, Matuguinao, Tarangnan, Sta. Rita, and San Jose de Buan.

The CBMS Network and the Bureau of Local Government and Development (BLGD) of the DILG Central Office provide the regional office and our local partners the necessary technical assistance.

Considering that we have a region-wide coverage of the CBMS implementation, we have tapped local trainors from the LGUs and identified DILG regional, provincial and city focal persons to capacitate our local partners.

Moreover, DILG has created an email address where CBMS implementors can raise their queries, requests and recommendations to elicit quick responses in addressing their concerns.

DILG Region VIII is now giving emphasis to the utilization of the CBMS data for local planning and the identification of appropriate interventions and eligible beneficiaries that will address the felt needs of the people. Thus, our activity focuses on enriching the LGU’s ecological profile using CBMS data and beyond profiling through the local development indicators system.

We are likewise advocating the use of the data for the LGUs to determine how responsive they have been toward attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) using the MDG Tracking System, an excel-based instrument developed by De La Salle University and the BLGD.

Noteworthy to mention are the local development initiatives made by our local partners where they submitted project proposals to the CBMS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) using CBMS results as basis of said proposals. From the start of the implementation of CBMS in Eastern Visayas in 2005, there are now 10 beneficiaries to these grants.

We have our ongoing initiatives to sustain the implementation of the program in the region, now that CBMS data are integrated in local planning and program implementation. The DILG will be closely monitoring and evaluating the LGU’s response towards this endeavor.

But these achievements would not have been possible without building linkages and strengthening the NGA-NGO and LGU convergence effort strategies. While the truest picture of the status of implementation lies in the LGU where problems are encountered such as financial constraints, equipment failure, lack of manpower, to name a few, we can continue to make this happen with synergy, that is scaling up poverty monitoring in Eastern Visayas through CBMS, a tool that has proven to be useful in local planning and development.
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Snapshots from the Conference

Br. Armia Luistro, FSC shares an inspirational message to everyone.

Egr. Estefan Peck of Labo, Camarines Norte discusses the use of CBMS for disaster management.

Geo. Francis Echarte explains the early warning device in Olongapo City.

Geo. Aurelio Pascual delivers the keynote address.

CPOC Jerome Segura shares the experiences of Puerto Princesa.

Open Forum

Dr. Terese Tallo of DLSU chairs the Panel of Governors.

Mayer David Alcadel of Dモンタール, Palawan shares how they used CBMS.

MPDC Irene Nenetta Gabriela enumerates the many benefits of implementing CBMS.
Session on Integrating the LGPMS and CBMS in the Comprehensive Development Plans of Local Government Units

The Conference presentations revolved around three themes:

Mayor Victoria Lee Lim is proud that Gzena in Marinduque is implementing CBMS.

Mr. Derald Gano of NEDA IV-A discusses how the CBMS helps empower communities in meeting the MDGs.

Ms. Edna Forione shares the steps undertaken by Apayao del Sur to meet the MDGs.

Tarlac’s e-data collection significantly reduced duration of CBMS implementation, Mr. Joel Zapanta notes.

Governor Victor Yap of Tarlac enumerates the reasons why they implemented CBMS in the province.

PPDC Neyrand Mola talks about the HEARTS Program of Batangas.
During one of the many sessions of the Conference.

Various topics were covered during the three-day Conference much to the delight of the participants who eagerly raised questions, shared insights and gave suggestions.

Participants listening to the discussion.

The second batch of accredited trainers was announced on the 2nd day of the Conference by Asst. Dir. Anna Borlagas of BLCD-DILG.

Participants were given time to comment on the presentation during the open forum.

Dr. Geracio Sylva of SRTC shares their experiences in implementing CBMS in Bataan.
Participants flocked the registration tables on the first day of the Conference.

Kites were handed out to the participants which contain a number of CBMS publications.

One of the highlights of the Conference was the session on the MDG.

Another highlight was the session on the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty.

MPDC Arturo Salas Jr. shares the experiences of Gaysay, Marinduque.

Presentations covered topics such as program targeting and impact monitoring, which many participants appreciated given the topic's applicability in their own localities.
The session on the impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty featured presentations from Dr. Celia Reyes and Dr. Nonel Nebres. Dr. Josef Yap of PIDS chaired two sessions. Dr. Evan Ong of IDRC and Governor Joel Reyes of Palawan. Dr. Nonel Nebres and Ass. Catherine Mae Santos of NAPC. During one of the sessions of the Conference, At the sidelines of the Conference.
During one of the sessions of the Conference

Mr. Cesar Urquia of UNDP-Philippines discusses the Global MDG Initiative

From left to right: Governor Regalito Espina of Biliran, Governor Jov Cariño of Maribojoc, Governor Joel Reyes of Palawan and Governor Roberto Yabes of Zamboanga del Norte

The Governors with Dr. Terence Talisay of DLSU, Asea. Catherine Men Santos of NAPO, Dr. Colia Reyes of PEP-CBMS and Dr. Ewa Dau of IDRC
A session is progressing.

At the registration tables.

Dr. Eunice Deo, Dr. Winfred Willam, Br. Arnie Lastra, Assoc. Catherine Mac Santos and Dr. Celia Reyes.

The humongous stage backdrop.

At the registration tables.
From left to right: Dr. Celia M. Reyes, PEP-CBMS Network; Ms. Carmela Urquiza, UNDP Philippines; Secretary Demingo Panganiban, NAPC; Dir. Erliicks M. Capones, NEDA; and Dr. Euan Duie, IDRC.

Dr. Euan Duie and Dr. Celia M. Reyes hand a copy of the book "Fighting Poverty with Facts" to Secretary Demingo F. Panganiban of NAPC during the launching of CBMS publications.

Dr. Celia M. Reyes and Governor Victor A. Yap of Tarlac.

Assessment in progress.