



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Ilocos Norte
MUNICIPALITY OF ADAMS

MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING SYSTEM (CBMS)...Adams, Ilocos Norte Experience

I. BACKGROUND-

When CBMS was introduced in 2006 by the Department of Interior and Local Government of Ilocos Norte, several municipalities most especially smaller municipalities are encouraged to participate in the series of attending the modules which requires computer skills. Participants were the MPDC's and MSWD's and their staff who are always the ones needing important facts, data and information in the delivery of essential and responsive governmental services.

As MPDC, we are sometimes required to formulate and submits many plans for the DILG, NEDA and other agencies that requires vital information to report the real picture of our municipality and other relevant records but sometimes we are just doing it "para complacer" and guessing the facts and information requested for submission most especially that letter request are usually rush and when it arrives in our municipality the deadline is almost over or sometimes it was over the deadline

Knowing fully of the importance of the system, I persuaded the Municipal Mayor during that time for the Municipality to participate in the conduct of CBMS Survey wherein more One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 150,000.00) is estimated to be the project cost of the project which represents meals and snacks of enumerators for a 2-day training and their wages.

However, with limited funds, because during that time budget is already passed and appropriations are already in placed I suggested that the requested amount can be trimmed down to just a minimal amount if the hired contractual of the municipality who resides in different sitios and

knows very well the environment, culture and traditions of the residents shall be utilized as enumerators which was approved.

With the approval of the Sangguniang Bayan, the Municipal Mayor was then authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to the DILG for the conduct of CBMS Survey in our municipality which was made possible with the technical assistance of DILG Provincial Office where we are one of the first municipalities in Region I in 2007 to submit the results.

The CBMS results is another milestone of the municipality in its quest to improve the lives of its people by having a data as a tool in allocating its fund equitably in delivering responsive government services to the people that contributes a greater impact in their lives.

The CBMS survey was conducted by utilizing our contractual who were given a non monetary benefits of non-reporting to one month and a travel allowance of One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00) upon completion their assigned puroks and sitios upon completion. The strategy is for them to be motivated in completing their assigned place of assignment the soonest wherein they were able to complete their survey less than the one month period.

Using these contractual who were residents in the municipality benefited the local government in accessing authentic data, facts and relevant information to the residents because they know the terrain and almost the residents are their relative and peers. Unlike other agencies who were using other people as their enumerators, utilizing local residents is more appropriate because of the intimacy that they have and can generate factual and authentic information from them.

II. CBMS SURVEY : A MUST FOR EVERY LGU

The absence of reliable data in the municipality especially the household records, family and community socio-economic activities hinders the government in addressing the real needs of the people and deprived them the community based solution to be immediately given to them. Most programs and projects coming from national government usually a pre-determined by them and not the real needs of the people and the community that renders the programs and projects can not serve its purpose.

The presence of an available data in the municipality will provide a clearer view of what governmental services is needed to be delivered. Without a data, it is like seeing the tip of an iceberg in the ocean that one could not determine the extent of ice in it. There are plenty cloud of doubts in what really needs of the people. The kind of project that suits their lands, culture, values, environment and their capability to embrace these projects that would redound their economic activities and uplift their status of living.

Every survey has its own limitations but I honestly believed that CBMS Survey is the most accurate and reliable data that the municipality should possessed in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals particularly on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education and ensure environmental sustainability where Adams, Ilocos Norte is maximizing its resources in ensuring that whatever developments shall not pose any danger to its vast and verdant forests.

III. CBMS SURVEY : USER FRIENDLY AND COST CHEAPER THAN WHAT YOU THINK

Today, most municipalities is now using the CBMS Survey and was already institutionalized because it provides basic information on the records of households. CBMS Survey however was in the first place very expensive tool in planning most especially in bigger municipalities where there are many households. In fact, the governor of the province is now giving counterparts to those municipalities who can not afford the cost of the trainings, human resource requirements, technical assistance, capability enhancement and supplies and materials needed.

However, our municipality, a 5th class municipality with a very minimal income have develop a strategy by using our own people to do the survey with minimal cost, in our 2010 survey we utilized our Barangay Health Workers and we just give them a Php 1,000.00 honorarium and one (1) of our contractual who is a computer trained is the one encoding, digitizing and processing the results of the survey that reduces cost of the survey. Thus, updating the CBMS cost less than the first survey and maintenance of it is lot easier.

Furthermore, to ensure the authenticity of records, the municipality is distributing to the different sitio or puroks the results during Barangay visitation (Sitio Visit) where programs, projects and activities of the local government is announced and likewise the time of the residents to comments on the result of the survey as way of validation.

IV. CBMS RESULTS: A SIGNIFICANT TOOL AND SYSTEM IN PLANNING THE FUTURE OF THE PEOPLE

The CBMS result determines where are the poorest among the poor? Why they are poor? And how the local government allocates its resources to give a community based solutions to the needs of the people where unlike the national government cash transfer program aimed to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger in achieving the Millennium Development Goal No. 1, CBMS result provides other second look in addressing the needs of the community which centers on the real picture of households and families.

While many efforts have been initiated to make government services more user friendly and more effective through surveys and assessments, many of these initiatives have been less than successful due to the absence or inadequacy of data and information in planning the needs of the people by having a community based solution to make them participate and involved themselves in changing their lives. As they say **“don't give people a fish for their meal for a day but teach them how to fish for their food forever”** is likened to the CBMS results wherein it can be used forever in the gathering and collection of required data in planning the plight of the populace which is paramount in planning.

Determining where we can find the poorest among the poor and other vulnerable groups is essential in the formulation long term and medium term plans and short term plans as well. Socio economic-activities of the population is paramount in planning and formulating development plans like the Annual Investment Plan (AIP), Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

As planning officer, database or databank is very important in our quest to give the municipalities a better look to our stakeholders, officials and residents most especially those who are capable of helping and assisting our municipality who relies primarily on its share of Internal Revenue Allotment as its income.

Thus, having this CBMS Survey in the municipality provides a better understanding of what kind of services the government should give that have an impact and touch the lives of the people. The officials and department heads concerned most especially those who deliver frontline services will be able to make their specific goals to achieved for every calendar year, like health, nutrition and sanitation, maternal health, education, environmental sustainability, income and employment, etc

V. PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES DERIVED FROM OUR CBMS SURVEY

The following programs, projects and activities are generated through the CBMS survey Results:

- 5.1 **October 17, 2009** – through the CBMS Survey results submitted in DILG Regional Office the Municipality was the lone municipality in Ilocos Norte where the Regional Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAH!) Caravan was conducted and pledges programs, projects and activities and some are already delivered which are as follows:

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Conducted one (1) day Medical and Dental Mission
2. Granted Six (6) scholars for foreign study in Japan with only Php15,000.00 each participant was collected to defray their expenses through Bitagurean Foundation
3. CHED – granted 2 scholars for College Education
4. MMSU – granted 8 scholars for the study of agriculture and forestry courses with an stipend of Php 2,000.00/semester
5. NCIP – 5 scholars in tertiary education and gave Php 30,000.00 for Tribal Chieftain for their Tiger Grass Broom production
6. DOLE gave a financial assistance to the vulnerable groups for their identified programs, projects and activities;

6.1 TUPAD	-	Php 100,000.00
6.2 Adams PWD	-	Php 100,000.00
6.3 Adams, Tiger Grass Broom Production		Php 300,000.00
6.4 Skills Training on Hollowblock Making		Php 113,000.00
6.5 Skills Training on masonry		Php 257,000.00
6.6 Skills Training on Carpentry		Php 180,000.00

7. DTI
 - 7.1 Product Development (Tiger Grass) Php 10,000.00
 - 7.2 Hollow Block Making Php 10,000.00

8. TESDA
 - 8.1 Kabataan Information technology operation training
10 beneficiaries
 - 8.2 Small Engine Repair 15 beneficiaries

9. BFAR Regional Office
20,000 fingerlings for fishpond

10. NIA

6 units water pumps for irrigation Php 240,000.00

11. PSWD

Financial Assistance to Wine Makers Php 100,000.00
Php 5,000.00 per member as seed capital

Capital Assistance Php 15,000.00
Php5,000.00 per beneficiary from the Tiger Grass Producers

12. DENR

Appointment of 20 Bantay Gubat with a P3,000.00/month
for 3 months

Handog Titulo program where personnel from the DENR came and
assist lot owners in titling their lands.

13. Department of Agriculture

21 heads of goats
40 pcs of chicks saso for livestock production
Exotic Fruit Tree seedlings, lanzones, rambutan, oranges and lychees

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte (PGIN)
Construction of Arimit Bridge (completed) Php 7Million
Construction of Fence, Municipal Compound Php 450,000.00

2. Department of Agriculture
Farm to Market Roads PHP 2 million
Concreting of Roads (Cost Sharing Project) 500,000.00

3. DPWH
Repair of Roofing of Adams Central Elem. School Php 200,000.00
Construction of Solar Dryer Php 300,000.00

UNDELIVERED PLEDGES as of today, February 2, 2011

1. National Irrigation Administration (NIA) –

PHP 1,000,000.00 for the construction of Irrigation Canal at sition malaggao

2. Department of Public Works and Highways-

Baset Bridge along Pancian-Adams Provincial Road

Conversion of Adams-Pancian Provincial Road and Adams-Bucarot-Calansan

Road into and inter regional National Highway – documents and survey has

Been conducted ans submitted to the Congressman of 1st District, Ilocos Norte

VI. ANALYSIS AND LESSONS LEARNED : Sustained CBMS Survey and have an authentic data base ready for distribution to any agencies and other interested stakeholders.

As they say in computer system parlance, garbage in garbage out. Our experience in bringing the real household records and actual state of condition of our municipality and people as reflected on our survey shows how far can the government helps and assist municipalities with meager resources to respond to the needs of its people. Inter government relations as well as commitment to the plight of the poor which is the primary reason of the establishment of the Regional KALAH! Convergence group which composed of different line agencies, non government organizations to fulfill their promise with the theme " STAND UNITED FIGHT POVERTY" or Tumayo, Magkaisa Labanan ang Kahirapan! shows how our records touched their hearts in choosing Adams, Ilocos Norte where they conducted their program in fighting poverty.

Of the above delivered programs, projects and activities, today the people of Adams now begins to feel the impact of these projects in their personal life.

With a databank that is generated and gathered which is the primary source of information in accessing these essential governmental services we can assure to our benefactors that their efforts in assisting our populace will be

sustained and whatever improvements or innovations in the CBMS will be beneficial to the municipality and its people.

ERNESTO A. MANEGDEG

MPDC Adams, Ilocos Norte

Other Designations:

1. HRMO Designate
2. Personnel Officer Designate