

Incorporating Gender Concerns in the CBMS: *The Case of Barangay Salvacion*

In the course of its continuing collaboration with the Institute for Social Studies Trust (ISST) in India, the MIMAP-Philippines Project began to incorporate gender concerns in its community-based monitoring system (CBMS) work. Thus, the results of the CBMS surveys of 12 barangays in Puerto Princesa City, where MIMAP-Philippines has been providing technical assistance, provide conventional indicators with gender disaggregation.

The next sections will focus on the results of the CBMS survey taken in November 2001 in Barangay Salvacion, one of the barangays in Puerto Princesa City, that enumerate conventional indicators with gender disaggregation. That Barangay Salvacion was recently chosen as the site for a follow-up survey to be undertaken jointly by MIMAP-Philippines and ISST-India on nonconventional indicators (with gender orientation)¹ makes it all the more logical to zero

in on the results of its previous CBMS survey on conventional indicators with gender disaggregations.

Barangay profile

Barangay Salvacion has a total land area of 27,680.45 hectares. It is bounded on the north by Barangay Manalo, Barangay Sta. Cruz on the south, Barangay Bahile on the west and Honda Bay on the east.

The barangay has a total of 191 households distributed among its three puroks, namely, Pagkakaisa, Masagana and Pag-asa. Nine hundred fifty-three (953) individuals reside in the barangay, 495 of whom are male and 458, female.

The predominant dialects spoken in the barangay are Cuyunin,

Ilonggo and Tagalog. Several religious groups are also present such as Roman Catholic, Protestants, Iglesia ni Cristo and the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA).

Of the 191 households, 113 are poor (59.2%) while 78 are nonpoor, representing 40.8 percent (Table 1). A household is considered poor if its income for the past year is below the food threshold set by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), which was P9,960 per person for the year 2001 in Region IV. The proportion of these households with income below the food threshold is defined as subsistence incidence.

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¹See "Incorporating Gender Concerns in the CBMS: An Update." MIMAP Project Updates, June 2002.

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Assessing MIMAP-Philippines' Impact on Policymaking

As part of an ongoing evaluation of the Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Adjustment Policies (MIMAP) Project, Dr. Kirit Parikh, former Executive Director and Professor Emeritus of the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research-India, visited the Philippines and

met with the MIMAP-Philippines researchers and the project's clients to examine the extent by which MIMAP has attained its targeted goal of providing impact to policymaking.

Dr. Parikh also met with MIMAP partners, both at the national and local levels in the coun-

try. Among those interviewed were focal persons from some of the client agencies of MIMAP such as the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), Department of Interior and Local Governments (DILG), Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), School of Economics at the University of the Philippines, Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies-De La Salle University, and the provincial government of Palawan.

The week-long evaluation activity (August 12-16) was organized by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)-Canada through the MIMAP-Philippines Project Management Office. *BEM*



In order to orient barangay officials and other community representatives in Roxas, Palawan on the community-based monitoring system (CBMS), the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) of Roxas, headed by its coordinator Mr. Lorenzo Heredero Jr., invited the Project Management Office (PMO) of the Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Adjustment Policies (MIMAP) Project to conduct a workshop on an overview of the CBMS, nature of the questionnaire, and processing of data using tally sheets and consolidation forms. The workshop was held in collaboration with the Palawan Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO).

Held on August 22-24, 2002, the workshop had the barangay cap-

tains and councilors, most of whom were newly elected, of the municipality of Roxas in attendance, together with the community volunteers and enumerators from the 31 barangays of Roxas.

During the workshop, the importance of the CBMS initiative being implemented in their community was impressed upon on the barangay officials. In particular, Mr. Heredero urged them to use the CBMS results in their planning exercises as mandated in Executive Order No. 3 which was recently

signed by Palawan Governor Joel Reyes. He also stressed to the officials that the planning exercise starts in the barangay through the gathering of data and ends there, too, through the implementation of the projects based on the needs identified in the CBMS.

Invited as trainers for the workshop were Mr. Kenneth Ilarde, Senior Research Analyst of MIMAP, and Ms. Josephine Rabang and Ms. Donna Fuentes, Economist and Researcher, respectively, from the PPDO. *KCI*



RESEARCH RESULTS

Gender Concerns... (From Page 1)

Among the puroks, Purok Pag-asa has the highest rate of subsistence incidence at 66.7 percent while Puroks Pagkakaisa and Masagana registered 54.9 and 59.4 percent rates of incidence, respectively.

In terms of persons, Table 2 shows that a total of 631 persons belong to poor households in Barangay Salvacion, 329 of whom are males and 302 are females.

What the indicators show

Health and nutrition

The health and nutrition status of the barangay residents are

monitored in the CBMS survey through the following key indicators: prevalence of malnutrition among children, infant mortality and child mortality.

Table 3 shows that the CBMS results indicate a high rate of malnutrition among children in the barangay at 24.7 percent. Meanwhile, in Table 4, more female children are noted to be malnourished (35.6%) compared to male children (14.7%).

The possible reasons for the high malnutrition rate among children, as noted by officials in the barangay, are food shortage experienced by some families, lack of livelihood opportunities, and lack of access to safe water. Furthermore, the officials expressed the opinion

that it has also something to do with the values of some parents in the community because they do not attend seminars/meetings on family health care. This is especially true among families with malnourished children.

The Barangay Nutrition Scholar, however, said that the malnourished children reported in the survey were mostly 1st degree cases or with mild malnutrition. Her assessment was supported by the results of the October 2001 report of the Bureau of Nutrition Survey (BNS) which showed that there were only 5 (1 male, 4 females) children reported as moderately malnourished (2nd degree) and 1 (male) as severely malnourished (3rd degree).

Only children who are severely and moderately malnourished are being monitored by the BNS for feeding programs. The mothers of these children are invited to attend nutrition and health classes conducted by the barangay once a month.

Results of the survey further show that the highest malnutrition rate is in Purok Pagkakaisa at 30 percent. In terms of gender, 19 out of 41 female children or 46.3 percent were reported as malnourished in said purok as seen in Table 4. Most of them belong to the poor households. For males, Purok Masagana records the highest malnutrition rate of 4 out of 24 male children or 16.7 percent. It is noteworthy to mention that there are no malnourished male children belonging to nonpoor households.

Table 1. Number of households by purok and income distribution Brgy. Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City, 2001

Purok	Total households	Poor		Nonpoor	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Pagkakaisa	82	45	54.9	37	45.1
Masagana	64	38	59.4	26	40.6
Pag-asa	45	30	66.7	15	33.3
Total	191	113	59.2	78	40.8

Table 2. Number of persons by purok, income distribution and gender, Brgy. Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City, 2001

Purok	Total Persons	Poor		Nonpoor	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Pagkakaisa	406	136	140	69	61
Masagana	303	103	88	61	51
Pag-asa	244	90	74	36	44
Total	953	329	302	166	156

RESEARCH RESULTS

Gender Concerns... (From Page 3)

In a focus group discussion with barangay officials, it was also revealed that there are more malnourished children living in the "talipapa" area in Purok Pagkakaisa, a place where households are considered to be better off in terms of income-earning capacity.

What might explain for this seeming unexpected situation?

According to the barangay councilors, this is because both par-

ents are busy with their work that they have less time to take care of their children. The fathers in the area are fishermen who usually fish during nighttime while the mothers sell in the market during daytime.

The BNS added that males have better appetites than females, explaining why there is a higher incidence of malnutrition among females than among males.

In terms of household income distribution, 27 out of the 30 households (90%) with malnourished children aged 0-5 years have incomes

below the food threshold. More than half (52%) of the poor households have at least one malnourished child while about 44 percent reported having two malnourished children in their households.

With regards to infant mortality, results of the survey show that out of a total of 33 infants (children less than 1 year old) born in the barangay, 21 are males while 12 are females. Only two infants, both female, were recorded to have died in the barangay during the reference period, resulting in a 17 percent female infant mortality rate (Table 4).

Table 3. Community-based monitoring system (CBMS) indicators by purok for Barangay Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City

Area of concern	Indicators	Percentage			
		Pagkakaisa	Masagana	Pag-asa	Barangay Total
<i>A. Survival</i>					
Health	1. Infant mortality rate	0.0	12.5	7.7	6.1
	2. Child mortality rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nutrition	3. Prevalence of malnutrition among children 0-5 years old	30.0	27.9	15.3	24.7
Water and sanitation	4. Proportion of households with access to safe water supply	50.0	75.0	42.2	56.5
	5. Proportion of households with access to sanitary toilet facilities	42.7	59.4	37.8	47.1
<i>B. Security</i>					
Shelter	6. Proportion of households not living in makeshift housing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Peace and order	7. Proportion of persons who were victims of crimes	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.4
<i>C. Enabling</i>					
Employment	8. Proportion of households with income greater than the poverty threshold	45.1	40.6	33.3	40.8
	9. Employment rate	90.3	87.2	78.0	86.1
	10. Underemployment rate	63.1	68.6	80.3	69.0
Basic education and literacy	11. Elementary school participation rate	81.9	88.3	78.4	83.3
	12. Secondary school participation rate	66.7	71.0	66.7	68.3
	13. Literacy rate	98.2	90.1	94.6	94.5
Community participation	14. Proportion of persons who are members in community organization	20.7	20.8	20.9	20.8
	15. Proportion of persons who participated in the last electoral process	93.6	98.5	88.1	93.8

RESEARCH RESULTS

As to the incidence of death among children recorded in the barangay during the reference year, the survey shows none as Table 4 will bear.

Education and literacy

In terms of education and literacy, the key indicators monitored by the CBMS are elementary school participation rate, secondary school participation rate and literacy rate.²

As seen in Table 3, Barangay Salvacion records an 83.3 percent school participation rate in the elementary level, meaning that 150 out of 180 children aged 6-12 years old are currently in school. There are more females than males in this age category who are currently in school as gleaned in Table 4, with Purok Pagkakaisa registering the highest number of female students at 87.8 percent participation rate.

There are 32 male students each from Puroks Pagkakaisa and Masagana although in proportion to their total student population, Masagana registered a higher participation rate at 88.9 percent.

Fifty percent of the poor households that had children attending school are from Purok Pagkakaisa while Purok Masagana had the highest rate of children coming from nonpoor households

who are attending school. Purok Pag-asa, meanwhile, registered the lowest number of student participation for both poor and nonpoor households.

In contrast to the elementary school participation rate, that of the secondary schools is low at 68.3 percent (Table 3). This may be explained by the lack of a secondary school facility in the barangay. Secondary school students need to travel to the next barangay or go to Puerto Princesa City proper to attend high school. The nearest facility is located at Barangay Bahile, which is about four kilometers north of the barangay. Puerto Princesa City is about 36 kilometers away, with a one-way bus fare costing P25.00.

Barangay officials said that because of poverty, parents do not have enough money for the education of their children. Thus, the children, especially the males, are obliged to help the family by working, in particular in "sawali-making." This also explains why the participation rate of male children is quite low as seen in Table 4. Only 22 out of 40 or a low 55 percent of male children aged 13-16 years are able to attend school. The participation rate of female children is much higher, though, at 81.0 percent.

Children who are residents of Purok Masagana registered the highest rate of male participation in secondary school at 61.5 percent while Purok Pagkakaisa recorded the highest rate for females at 86.7 percent.

Based on income, while 75.6 percent of the households that have children attending secondary school are poor, a higher percentage—82.4 percent—have children not attending secondary school and are also poor.

In the meantime, in terms of literacy, Table 3 shows that a high literacy rate (94.5%) was recorded for Barangay Salvacion. Males registered a higher literacy rate of 94.9 percent compared to females with 94.1 percent as shown in Table 4. As expected, nonpoor household members registered a higher rate of literacy than those belonging to poor households in every purok in the barangay. This may be explained by the fact that nonpoor households have more capability to send their children to school to become literate.

Peace and order

A single indicator monitors the peace and order situation in the barangay: proportion of persons who were victims of crime.

Two males and two females were indicated to be victims of theft—the only crime committed during the survey period—over the past year (Table 4). One male and one female are members of poor

²Elementary school participation rate refers to the number of children aged 6-12 years old attending elementary schooling over the population of children aged 6-12 years.

Secondary school participation rate refers to the number of children aged 13-16 years old attending secondary schooling over the population of children aged 13-16 years.

Literacy refers to the ability to read and write a simple message. A person is literate when he can both read and write a simple message in any language or dialect. Literacy rate is the number of literate persons 10 years and above over the population of persons who are 10 years old and above.

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Gender Concerns... (From Page 5)

households while the other two are nonpoor.

Enabling/employment

Employment patterns of the people in the barangay are monitored through the CBMS survey using the following key indicators: employment rate and underemployment rate.

Table 3 shows that the employment rate for the barangay is 86.1 percent, with males registering a higher rate vis-a-vis females (Table 4).

The highest number of persons (133) employed are male members of poor households. About 48.6

percent of the working males are employed in the agriculture, fishery and forestry sector, mainly as farmers and fishermen. However, according to one councilor, Ms. Clarita Cortez, "*Minsan maganda ang ani, minsan hindi, dahil na rin sa peste at bagyo. Hindi rin gaanong marami ang naaning palay at mais sa barangay dahil sa kakulangan sa patubig.*" [Income for farmers depends on the crop yield, which may be low because of pests, irregular rainfall and sourcing of water for irrigation.]

Another councilor, Ms. Fe Barcellano, added that being employed in the other sectors may not also mean enough income for a male worker. The minimum wage rate for a regular laborer is only P120-P180. For those into sawali-

making, the income is about P400 per day but it is irregular since the product is only on order basis.

According to the councilors, the reason for the variation in the employment patterns and earnings is related to the type of work or job available in each purok. For instance, employed persons in Purok Pagkakaisa are mainly involved in fishing. This is where the market or "talipapa" is located. Some of them are also employed as peddlers. Employed workers in Purok Pag-asa are mostly engaged in sawali-making, gardening and backyard production, and upland farming while those in Purok Masagana are engaged in upland farming, vegetable farming/gardening or work as local government officers/employees and teachers.

Table 4. Community-based monitoring system (CBMS) indicators by gender for Barangay Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City

Area of concern	Indicators	Percentage							
		Male				Female			
		Pagkakaisa	Masagana	Pag-asa	Total	Pagkakaisa	Masagana	Pag-asa	Total
A. Survival	Health								
	1. Infant mortality rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	20.0	16.7
Nutrition	2. Child mortality rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3. Prevalence of malnutrition among children 0-5 years old	12.8	16.7	15.6	15.8	46.3	42.1	14.8	35.6
B. Security									
Peace and order	4. Proportion of persons who were victims of crime	0.0	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.4
C. Enabling									
Employment	5. Employment rate	94.0	92.4	86.9	91.7	81.8	76.3	60.0	74.1
	6. Underemployment rate	69.1	74.0	83.0	74.1	47.2	55.2	72.2	55.4
Basic education and literacy	7. Elementary school participation rate	76.2	88.9	72.2	80.2	87.8	87.5	84.2	86.9
	8. Secondary school participation rate	46.7	61.5	58.3	55.0	86.7	77.8	77.8	81.0
	9. Literacy rate	98.6	92.6	92.0	94.9	97.7	87.4	97.5	94.1
Community	10. Proportion of persons who are members in community organization	21.0	12.2	21.4	18.2	20.4	30.9	20.3	23.6
	11. Proportion of persons who participated in the last electoral process	95.7	98.6	86.8	94.4	91.1	98.4	89.6	93.2

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Purok Pagkakaisa has the highest employment rate for male and female workers.

Employment in the different sectors also shows differences in gender employment capabilities and preferences.

For instance, there are more employed males in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector (48.6%) than females (22.9%), with the women's role concentrated more on selling the fish that their husbands caught. Some of them also make and sell native products like "kakanin" while others are engaged in backyard production. Unfortunately, as one of the councilors stressed, the activities of women in this sector are unaccounted or are not reported in the survey.

The industry sector registered only 16.8 percent of the total employment rate in Barangay Salvacion, with marked differences between the employment of males and females in this sector. Male employment was recorded at 21.8 percent while female employment reached only 3.6 percent in this sector. Females were employed only in the manufacturing subsector with one as a dressmaker and two others as "pawid-makers."

For the services sector, meanwhile, a higher rate of employment was registered for females at 55.4 percent while only 25.5 percent was recorded for males.

Females in the services sector were employed in only two subsectors, namely, wholesale and retail trade, and community, social,

recreational and personal services. In the wholesale and retail trade subsector, they were employed as vendors (15), wholesale merchants (5), saleslady (1), and sawali seller (1). More than half of the vendors are wives of fishermen who sell the fish/shell catch of their husbands. Seventeen out of the 22 employed females in this sector are from Purok Pagkakaisa where the "talipapa" or market is located.

For the community, social, recreational and personal services subsector, the women hold jobs as Barangay Kagawad (4), barangay health worker (4), elementary school teacher (3), barangay secretary (2), record clerk (2), catechist teacher (2), barangay nutrition scholar (1), day care teacher (1), high school teacher (1), caretaker (1), manicurist (1), and utility person (1).

With regards to underemployment, the survey results show a high rate in the barangay at 69 percent. Out of 303 working persons, 209 individuals are underemployed or have expressed the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or have an additional job, or a new one with longer working hours.

According to the barangay councilors, underemployment is relatively high in the area because of the need for additional income for the households. Sawali is not immediately sold and livelihood projects are not sufficiently provided. They likewise added that for females, a credit-lending program was organized in the barangay for those who want to start a small busi-

ness. Called the "Mabuting Asawa, Responsableng Ina at Iba pa" (MARIA), the program is a promising activity but it has not yet been fully implemented.

Males registered a higher rate of underemployment at 74.1 percent than women (Table 4). One reason may be attributed to the fact that males are usually the household heads and should thus earn more to be able to provide for the needs of the family. Among the females, meanwhile, more than half expressed their desire for longer working hours.

Underemployment is also higher for males from poor households but higher for females from nonpoor households.

Participation in community development

Finally, the last conventional indicator included—participation in community development—is monitored through two key indicators: membership in community organization and participation in electoral processes.

Table 3 indicates that there is only a 20.8 percent participation rate in community organizations of persons living in the barangay. This translates into just 198 out of the total 953 persons residing in the area who are involved in community organizations.

Females registered a higher rate of involvement in several organizations such as charity women's organization, parents-teachers com-

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Malnutrition Situation in the Philippines: An Update

The prevalence of malnutrition as manifested in the existence of underweight,¹ stunting² and wasting³ among children, has always been one of the major problems that affect children in the Philippines and in the whole world. In the Philippines, various programs have been implemented to address this concern but in order to determine whether or not said programs need to be improved, regular updates on the country's nutritional status, especially among children, have to be provided such as that in this writeup.

In providing such updates, global comparability of data has to be ensured. Thus, the Department of Agriculture required all concerned agencies in 2000 to use the International Reference Standards (IRS) as the point of reference in computing for malnutrition rate and in generating statistics on mal-

nutrition. It also required that data for earlier years be likewise converted using IRS for trend comparison.

Malnutrition among children aged 0-10 years

On the whole, when one compares the prevalence of underweight

large extent, this may be true but the trend in wasting among children provides a worrisome figure. From a proportion of 5 percent among children 0-5 years old in 1989-1990, for instance, it rose to 6.3 percent in 2001. There are no available data, though, for wasting among those aged 6-10 years old.

A closer look between the years shows that the policies and programs in the period 1992 to 1996 relating to this concern possibly yielded positive results as the various manifestations of malnutrition (except wasting although its sharp increase was arrested in 1993 and eventually went down to 5.2 percent in 1996) declined. The devastating combined effects of the 1997

Table 1: Trends in the prevalence of malnutrition among children aged 0-10 years

Year	Underweight		Stunted		Wasted ¹
	0-5 years old	6-10 years old	0-5 years old	6-10 years old	0-5 years old
1989-90	34.5	34.2	39.9	44.8	5.0
1992	34.0	32.5	36.8	42.8	6.6
1993	29.9	30.5	34.3	42.2	6.7
1996	30.8	28.3	34.5	39.1	5.2
1998	32.0	30.2	34.0	40.8	6.0
2001	30.6	32.9	31.4	41.1	6.3

¹No data available on wasting for 6-10 years old.

¹A child is considered underweight if his/her weight is less than that of normal children of the same age.

²A child is considered stunted if his/her height is less than that of normal children of the same age.

³A child is considered wasted if his/her weight is less than that of normal children of the same height.

and stunting among children aged 0-10 years in 1989-1990 with those in 2001, the programs meant to address the problem of malnutrition seem to be working as the 2001 figures (Table 1) show declines. To a

East Asian financial crisis and El Niño weather phenomenon, however, reversed such trend and led to a worsening of the malnutrition problem, in particular, that of wasting among children, as seen in 1998.

INDICATORS

Table 2: Prevalence of underweight among 0-5 year old children

Region	1996	1998	2001	Percent change	
				1996-1998	1998-2001
Philippines	30.8	32.0	30.6	1.2	-1.4
NCR	23.0	26.5	20.3	3.5	-6.2
CAR	27.9	26.7	23.4	-1.2	-3.3
Region I	26.0	36.2	31.5	10.2	-4.7
Region II	34.5	32.3	31.2	-2.2	-1.1
Region III	25.3	26.7	25.9	1.4	-0.8
Region IV	26.2	26.3	27.8	0.1	1.5
Region V	37.6	36.5	37.6	-1.1	1.1
Region VI	36.3	39.6	35.2	3.3	-4.4
Region VII	32.2	33.8	28.3	1.6	-5.5
Region VIII	40.1	37.8	32.0	-2.3	-5.8
Region IX	35.3	34.4	31.8	-0.9	-2.6
Region X	31.5	29.8	34.1	-1.7	4.3
Region XI	31.1	32.9	32.3	1.8	-0.6
Region XII	36.8	32.4	30.2	-4.4	-2.2
ARMM	29.7	29.1	27.9	-0.6	-1.2
CARAGA	34.4	34.1	33.5	-0.3	-0.6

Source of Data: Food and Nutrition Research Institute, Department of Science and Technology

The 2001 situation: focus on the regions

Has the situation changed in recent years? Has recovery, especially among the regions, taken place?

Zeroing only on the underweight condition of children aged 0-5 years or the preschoolers, the regional picture shows that six regions, which experienced an increased prevalence of underweight in 1998, were able to recover in 2001. These six regions, as shown in Table 2, include the National Capital Region (NCR), Region I, Region III, Region VI, Region VII and Region XI. The NCR posted the biggest recovery or a decline in the prevalence of underweight at 6.2 percentage points, followed by

Region VII at 5.5 percentage points. NCR is likewise seen to be the region consistently having the lowest rate of malnutrition.

On the other hand, seven regions, which posted declines in their malnutrition rates in 1998, were able to maintain such positive situation. Region VIII registered the biggest decrease at 5.8 percentage points, followed by the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) at 3.3 percentage points. The CARAGA, meanwhile, registered the least decline at 0.6 percentage points.

In the meantime, Regions V and X posted decreases in their malnutrition rates in 1998 but unfortunately were not able to sustain this favorable trend in 2001. In particu-

lar, Region V had the highest rate of malnutrition in 2001 at 37.6 percent

And finally, Region IV is the only region that was not able to recover from the 1997 shocks, suggesting that somehow the programs meant to respond to the deterioration in their nutritional status were not able to help.

In view of this and the continuing increase in the prevalence of malnutrition in certain regions, there is a need to regularly review and improve the various health and nutrition programs being implemented by both national and local governments to make sure that they really produce favorable results.

LEV

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community association, salvation multi-purpose cooperation, and Salba tribal association. There are also other organizations such as Kislap, Brotherhood, and the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association or PBMA. Their participation is highest in Purok Masagana.

For males, involvement in community organizations is highest in Purok Pagkakaisa.

For both genders, the involvement in community organizations is higher among subsistence poor household members. Participation is highest in Purok Pagkakaisa for both poor and nonpoor household members.

In contrast, the barangay's participation rate in the electoral process is fairly high at 93.8 percent, with 406 out of 490 persons aged 18 years old listed as registered voters. Meanwhile, only 381 persons voted in the last election.

Table 4 shows that male participation rate is slightly higher than female participation at 94.4 percent and 93.2 percent, respectively. Poor household members have higher participation rates in the electoral process for both males and females.

Subsistence poor household members residing in Purok Masagana registered a perfect rate of participation in the last electoral process (100%). The same purok's nonpoor household members also had the highest participation rate compared to the other puroks. *JPA*

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