

PROMISE PHILIPPINES
MONTHLY SUMMARY REPORT
For the Period May 1-25, 2006

Workshops on DRM Framework, Conduct of PRA and Initial Action Planning in 8 Barangays

- The 8 pilot communities were all targeted to be reached by the training workshop within the month. Initially, two teams of facilitators from the City Government were formed with five members each. The first two trainings were held last May 10-12, in Bacayao Norte and Lasip Chico. There were 21 participants in Lasip Chico (3 youths and children, 12 male adults and 6 female adults). In Bacayao Norte, there were 24 participants (4 youths and children, 9 male adults and 11 female adults). Two mentors who observed the trainings noticed that the facilitators were good even if it was their first time to handle the training workshop. It was led by the Heads and staff of the different departmental units of the City. The people in the community had a very healthy and lively interaction with the City Officials. The people were very happy that for the first time the City Officials came to them to give them training. They were appreciative of the new learnings as well as the interaction they had with people from the City Government. For the Facilitators, they also appreciated the process they underwent with the community in understanding and finding solutions to the risks the people are exposed to. However, there were certain weaknesses in the grasp of basic DM concepts as well insecurity on the part of some facilitators in handling some sessions. Thus, it was recommended that the scheduled 2 community trainings for the following week be shelved and instead a facilitators workshop be conducted to enhance the knowledge and skills of the facilitators.

The Facilitators Workshop was held last May 18-19 and a total of 28 (13 male, 15 female) facilitators attended. The workshop provided the participants the venue to hone their knowledge and skills in facilitating Disaster and Risk Management Training Workshop at the barangay level. Module 1 was review of basic concepts of DRM and PRA Tools for Capacity Vulnerabilty Assessment. Module 2 was on Curriculum Development and Practicum. The workshop was facilitated by the Project Coordinator and one Training Consultant.

- Following the successful 2 day mentoring workshop, the City Facilitators decided to break the existing two teams in order to form three teams so they can still finish the workshops for the rest of the target communities within the month.
- The second batch of community training was held last May 22-24. The communities covered were Mangin, Salisay and Lasip Grande. The Facilitators' workshop resulted in very marked improvement in the handling by the Facilitators of the training workshops.
- The full support of the City Government to the Project can be seen by the support given by the Mayor and the City Administrator for the training activities. The City prepared Certificates of Participation signed by the Mayor and CDP and these were given during the Closing Program. The City Administrator also graced one Closing Program.
- During this time Dr Iftekhar Ahmed, the Project Manager of Urban Disaster Risk Management visited Dagupan City and CDP to monitor the progress of the project. He was able to see the actual community training. He met the training team as well as the Mayor and had a brief sharing about the progress of the project PROMISE in the Philippines as well as in other countries. He also helped CDP in polishing the Project/ Performance Monitoring Plan.
- The plans developed by each community did not center on what to do with the funds they would get from the project. In fact, they were not told of the possibility of getting any outside funding support. The plans were made based on their priorities after considering the result of the participatory risk assessment. The plans though, given the time limitation, still need a lot of working out details.

The next batch of training will be on May 29-31 and the target communities are Tebeng, Bacayao Sur, and Pogo Grande.

Plans for the legislation of the Disaster Safety Day and the program to be done to raise awareness of the City residents to reduce disaster risks will be discussed by the Committee that was formed specifically for the purpose this 26th of May.