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PROMISE PROJECT

Philippines

NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Implemented By:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

Submitted To:

ADPC

Reporting Period:

July 2006

A. Activity Summary

Objectives and the corresponding activities for this month:

1. Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk by stakeholders in Dagupan City.

- Meeting of the TWG with PAG ASA (Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration) Flood Control
- Project Visit of Mr. NMSI Arambepola, Director, UDRM and Project Director PROMISE
- GIS Consultation and Orientation by with Ms. Gabrielle Iglesias, Information and Networking Coordinator UDRM
- Disaster Safety Week

2. Increased stakeholder involvement and further enhancement of strategies, tools, and methodologies related to community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban communities

- Meeting of the TWG with PAG ASA Flood Control
- Project Visit of Mr. NMSI Arambepola, Director, UDRM and Program Manager PROMISE
- GIS Consultation and Orientation by with Ms. Gabrielle Iglesias, Information and Networking Coordinator UDRM
- Disaster Safety Week

3. Enhanced coordination with USAID Missions to promote sustainability and ensure program activities accord with USAID country and regional strategies.

- Project Visit of Mr. NMSI Arambepola, Director, UDRM and Program Manager PROMISE

4. Strengthen networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/ organizations for improving potential and capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned.

- Meeting of the TWG with PAG ASA
- Project Visit of Mr. NMSI Arambepola, Director, UDRM and Program Manager PROMISE
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- **Activity 1:** Meeting of the Technical Working Group with PAG-ASA Flood Control

The meeting of the TWG and PAG-ASA Flood Control was on June 27, 2006 in Rosales, Pangasinan. The meeting proved to be very rewarding. Chief Engineer Arturo Ladislao along with his staff were able to give an orientation regarding the flood flow, recording of the floods from telemeter stations, and the passing of information from the stations to the concerned cities and municipalities. The TWG

were also able to show the flood markers/staff gauge designed by Engineer Camilo Cayabyab of the City of Dagupan for comments. Chief Ladislao was able to suggest improvement on the design like making the staff gauge hard wood rather than steel to protect from rust. The PAG-ASA Flood Control also assured CDP and the TWG in working hand in hand in the preparedness measures on flood. (Attached is a picture of the TWG, CDP in the PAG-ASA Flood Control Office)

- **Activity 2:** Project Visit of Mr. NMSI Arambepola, Director, UDRM and Program Manager PROMISE

The project visit of Mr. Arambepola was very fruitful. He went to Dagupan along with Ms. Luneta from July 11-12, 2006. He was able to be a part of the press conference of the Project Promise in the Philippines covered throughout the Northern Luzon (Radio and television networks). This was the culmination of the radio hopping of the TWG for the Project Promise promotion. This helped a lot in the networking for the upcoming activities of the Project. Mr. Arambepola was also able to see the pilot communities and the activated Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council in the eight communities namely Lasip Chico, Salisay, Mangin, Tebeng, Bacayao Sur, Bacayao Norte, Pogo Grande and Lasip Grande. During his visit he was able to share what was happening in other countries covered by the Project Promise. He was able to inspire and challenge the TWG as well as the city of Dagupan in continuing their efforts in disaster preparedness.

Mr. Arambepola also went to USAID office in Manila along with Ms. Lorna Victoria, (CDP Director). Project updates were done during their meeting.

- **Activity 3:** GIS Consultation and Orientation by with Ms. Gabrielle Iglesias, Information and Networking Coordinator UDRM

For the past months, the DIMS aspect of the project was put on hold due to lack of technical knowledge. During the visit of Ms. Gabrielle Iglesias on July 11, 2006, she was able to give an orientation on GIS for the CDP staff. Her presentation was well appreciated by the staff because it was easy to understand and made their information (risk assessment results) at hand functional for the DIMS.

She was also able to make a presentation on GIS with the TWG on July 18, 2006 and was able to shed great light on the subject. She saw the flood markers design and was able to contribute on the appropriate units to be used.

- **Activity 4:** Disaster Safety Week

July 16, 2006 was declared Dagupan City Disaster Preparedness Day through Sangguniang Panglungsod (City Legislation) Resolution no. 5469-2006(attached are the pictures of the resolution)This was done through the suggestion of CDP and the TWG to the City Councilors. Since July 16, 2006 was a Sunday. Ms. Dea Que, Head of Tourism member of the TWG in charge of the Disaster Safety Day suggested that the event will be done through a week long celebration (attached is the program for the week). The program included Academic Olympics having disaster preparedness as the theme and mangrove reforestation (headed by the City Agriculturist Ms. Emma Molina). The invitation for the competition was Province wide through Department of Education Culture and Sports. The week long competition was co sponsored by DAGUPAN Bangus Jaycees a local NGO and the DECS in the province level and the schools under

it. Truly the networking and the propagation of Public Awareness throughout Dagupan as well as throughout the province, and even nationwide is already happening.

Ms Gabrielle Iglesias of ADPC and Mayfourth Luneta were assigned to be judges for the slogan competition and oratorical contests. The Olympics was opened by a parade of the City Officials including the Mayor Benjamin Lim and the City Councilors as well as some TWG members. The activity ended with an earthquake drill in Schools in Dagupan which was covered by the Philippine Daily Inquirer (nationwide newspaper).

B. Next month activities Plan

- Early Warning System Workshops for Barangay and City level
- Meeting with Dr. Rodora Gonzalez for possible collaboration for GIS through Student Volunteers
- Setting up a Criteria for Barangay Mitigation projects and Partial implementation
- Giving Away the Flood Markers.

C. Issues encountered and solutions

There was a slight delay of remittance from ADPC due to the delayed submission of needed requirements from the CDP and the city (local counterpart of the city). CDP was able to cover for the delayed remittance.