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PROMISE PROJECT

Philippines

NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Implemented By:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

Submitted To:

ADPC

Reporting Period:

September 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.

- Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop for Eight Pilot Barangay
- Preparing and conduct of the City Level Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop

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

- Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop for Eight Pilot Barangay
- Preparing and conduct of the City Level Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop

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

- Planning for Avian Influenza Network among Civil society

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

- Preparation for the DM and Governance training and Regional Promise meeting on October

Activity 1: Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop for Eight Pilot Barangay

The training was conducted last August 29-31, 2006 in Dagupan City Museum. There were invited speakers from PAG-ASA (Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical, Astronomical Services Administration) Public Information from the National level. The speakers, Mrs. Venus Valdemoro and Mr. Nino Relox, (weather specialists) were able to discuss the Early warning system of PAG-ASA Weather Forecasting, as well as the nature and work of PAG-ASA while, Engr. Arturo Ladislao Chief of the Agno River Flood Forecasting discussed the flow of river from upstream to Dagupan City. The invitation of different Government Institutions as speakers for the training helped strengthen the networking of stakeholders and duty bearers. Then the early warning specialist Ms. Mariser Palencia facilitated the Evacuation plan workshop while Ms. Luneta assisted in the facilitation of the Early Warning Workshop. There were around 60 participants (3 from each barangay and the rest were from the city government co-facilitating the workshops) the participants actively improved their draft of the early warning system to become an early warning and evacuation plan. It was agreed upon that the TWG will be the one to follow up and help the community finalize the said plan.

Activity 2: Preparing and conduct of the City Level Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop

The preparation for the Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop for the city level was done simultaneously with the previous activity. Logistics were taken care of by Mrs. Molina and her staff. The City Level Early Warning and Evacuation Workshop was done in the City Museum last September 12-14, 2006. There were 35 participants composed of Department Heads and Staff of the City Disaster Coordinating Council (CDCC) which is also the Technical Working Group for PROMISE.

Mr. Maximo of Philippine Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOCS) discussed among the city officials the Early Warning System and Public Awareness of PHILVOCS. Ms. Palencia and Ms. Luneta facilitated the early warning workshops and risk mapping. The time was not enough because of the wide coverage (city-wide) and because some of the participants come and go even during the sessions because of urgent responsibilities for the City. However, there was an extensive discussion of the structure and function of CDCC which resulted to clearer roles and responsibilities of the members of CDCC/ Roles were assigned to specific people in the City Government. The outline of the early warning and evacuation plan was discussed and the creation of the components was assigned to the different departments present.

Activity 3: Avian Influenza Network Strategic Planning among Civil society

The planning was done in World Vision Office in Quezon Ave., Quezon City last September 15, 2006. This event was facilitated by Ms. Lorna Victoria of CDP and was attended by different NGOs as well as the Department of Health (DOH). The Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) which is a vital partner of DOH and an adviser of the AI Network has Avian Influenza Preparedness Program supported by USAID. Ms. Luneta asked Dr. Carbonel, head of the Department of Health of Dagupan City on how they can help the existing AI Preparedness Program in the City. Dr. Carbonel was willing to show their plans and accommodate improvement.

Activity 4: Preparation for the DM and Governance training and Regional Promise meeting on October

Preparation for the DM and Governance training in September 25-29, 2006 were done during this month. Logistical support was done by CDP. Preparation for the presentation for the DM and Governance training as well as for the Workers Group Meeting on October 1-4, 2006 was discussed and was being done during this month. Invitations among local and regional networks were done. The preparation of the said events strengthened linkages between local and international LGUs and NGOs.

B. Next month activities Plan

- Follow-up meeting with Dr. Gonzalez for collaboration for GIS through Student Volunteers
- Giving Away the Flood Markers.
- DM and Governance Training and Working Group Meeting
- Public Awareness Meeting
- Implementation of small scale mitigation measures

C. Issues encountered and solutions

The attendance of the City Heads in the City- Level EWS and EP training fluctuated, because, they are very busy with their usual roles in the City Hall (they tend to come and go during the sessions). During an informal consultation among some of the participants, the viable solution for the next workshop is to do the event outside the city.

Prepared by:

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