



**PROMISE PROJECT**

**Philippines**

**NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**

**Implemented By:**

***Center for Disaster Preparedness***

**Submitted To:**

**ADPC**

**Reporting Period:  
September 2007**

## **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.

- **TWG Meeting**
- **Oxfam Case Study of Good Practices in CBDM**
- **Planning Workshop for the Sustainability of CBDRM in Dagupan City**

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

- **CBDRM Study Tour for Care Bangladesh**
- **TWG Meeting**
- **Oxfam Case Study of Good Practices in CBDM**
- **Protection and Education Clusters Meeting**

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

- **CBDRM Study Tour for Care Bangladesh**

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

- **CBDRM Study Tour for Care Bangladesh**
- **Oxfam Case Study of Good Practices in CBDM**
- **Planning Workshop for the Sustainability of CBDRM in Dagupan City**
- **Protection and Education Clusters Meeting**

## **Activity 1 CBDRM Study Tour for Care Bangladesh**

ADPC in coordination with CDP facilitated a CBDRM Study Tour for Care Bangladesh from September 2-8, 2007 in the Philippines. This activity was also funded by USAID. There were 15 participants in the study tour from Care Bangladesh (composed of CARE staff and partners from the community).

Ms. Gabrielle Iglesias gave the overall orientation for the group on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. On September 4 the study tour group went to Marikina City to see the City's Disaster Risk Management. They were able to see the 161 response mechanism of the city, the Marikina River Development Program, and the prestigious Waste Management of the City. They were also given a chance to talk with key officials in the city including Mayor Maria Lourdes Fernandez. Discussions on Disaster Risk Management and other relevant issues were done.

The next day the group went to San Mateo to visit Buklod Tao and were able to see the active participation of the community in CBDRM, they were also able to see the good practice in Novotas thru SANAGMANA (people's organization) by involving people in the community in building their houses.

After seeing separately the active participation of the City and the participation of the people in the community, the Care Study Tour group went to Dagupan to witness the participation of both the City Government and the community people in Disaster Risk Management at the same time. During the first day, they were welcomed by Vice Mayor Belen Fernandez (who expressed great interest in Disaster Risk Management and even asked the PROMISE team to have an orientation with the whole City Council). The whole study tour was highlighted by the community presentations:

Cluster 1 (Barangay, Tebeng, Salisay and Mangin)

- Presentation on the risk assessment on hazards highlighting the hazard maps and the elements at risk
- Presentation on Early Warning and Evacuation Plans which was based on the risk assessment
- Presentation on the Flood Response Simulation
- Presentation of the Kalasag Award for Barangay Mangin for the Regional Level

Cluster 2 (Bacayao Norte and Bacayao Sur)

- Presentation on Risk Assessment on Vulnerability and Capacity
- Presentation on Disaster Risk Reduction Measures through Economic Mitigation
- Community Drama about what the community does before, during and after.

Cluster 3 (Lasip Chico, Lasip Grande, Pogo Grande)

- Community Simulation highlighting their skill in Communications, Water Search and Rescue and First Aid



On the morning of the second day in Dagupan, the Care Study Tour Group was able to meet and discuss with Dagupan City Mayor Alipio F. Fernandez. This was followed by an evaluation of the study tour, which were the following:

- the participants were happy with the study tour
- objectives were met and it even exceeded their expectation.

## **Activity 2 TWG Meeting**

Ms. Emma Molina went to CDP to have a meeting for the upcoming workshop, finance matters for the project, and for the logistics for the Dagupan representative for the DM and Governance Course. The meeting focused more on the flow of the workshop.

### First Day

- Assessment of the Bangladesh Study Tour
- Status of Livelihood Project Implementation in the Eight Pilot Barangay
- Other PROMISE project Small Scale Mitigation Projects in other countries, and other Suggestions from ADPC, CDP and TWG
- Identification and Submission of SSMP for the last quarter
- Finalization of agreements and future Plans
- Pointers of the TWG community Visit

### Second day

- Community Visits for validation of the SSMP
- Assessment of City Level Plans
- Planning for sustainability
  - Orientation of the newly elected councilors/ officials
  - Orientation of the new BDCC members
  - Study visit in Best Practices of CBDRM
  - Fund Sourcing for Sustainability of CBDRM
  - Follow up of City Level EOC

## **Activity 3 Planning Workshop for the Sustainability of CBDRM in Dagupan City**

The Planning Workshop for the Sustainability of CBDRM in Dagupan City happened last September 19-20, 2007. The workshop was attended by the TWG and the BDCC's of the pilot communities during the first day. Attached are the different proposals from the Barangay and the city for the small scale mitigation project. Only Barangay Lasip Grande has not finished their proposal yet (transportation during flood). After scrutiny and validation of the TWG during the community visit on the second day, did they revise some of the proposal.

On the second day, First Councilor Farah Marie Decano (replacing Vice Mayor Fernandez for she visited the DM and Governance Course in Thailand) attended the planning of the TWG and was able to appreciate the work of the PROMISE Project in Dagupan. She scheduled the PROMISE orientation on October 2, 2007.

The workshop transpired according to plan. It was agreed in the work plan that active CBDRM promotion in the City Council was one strategy to help in the sustainability by helping them draft good laws in Disaster Risk Reduction. Furthermore, intensive networking to other stakeholders and donors was also seen as a good strategy.

During the workshop the TWG and also the community people expressed their appreciation for being chosen as a model for CBDRM and local governance, however, they also expressed that it will also be good if they also visit other places of good practice in DRM.

In the plan, the production of case studies and public awareness materials were also raised. The following were the planned materials to be produced:

- AVP on CBDRM
- AVP on Flood Simulation Response
- AVP on Disaster preparedness day
- Case study of the DRM in the whole of Dagupan

#### **Activity 4 Oxfam Case Study of Good Practices in CBDM**

Oxfam announced that they are looking for Case Studies of Good Practices in Disaster Risk Management. Promotion of not only the project PROMISE but also the essence of CBDRM encouraged CDP to submit its entry. CDP (Ms. Mayfourth Luneta and Ms. Grace Molina) submitted an abstract on the PROMISE Dagupan Experience. Attached is the said abstract. After two weeks, Oxfam staff Ms. Dona Lagdameo that our abstract was considered.

CDP is planning to have Ms. Adelina Sevilla, the new managing director of CDP, to write the case study (of course with the collaboration with the TWG and Ms. Luneta).

#### **Activity 5 Protection and Education Clusters Meeting**

UNICEF invited CDP to attend both the protection cluster (September 10-11, 2007) and education cluster (September 13, 2007) meeting for assessment and planning of different stakeholders in the Philippines. The cluster approach was introduced by UN to help in the networking and other mechanisms in DRM before, during and after a disaster. CDP participated in the meeting sharing the experiences in CBDRM including the PROMISE experience.

#### **A. Next month activities Plan**

City Council DRM Orientation

Conceptualization of Public Awareness Materials

Sharing of DRR in the Educational Sector in Dagupan to the UN DRR Workshop in Bangkok.

#### **B. Issues encountered and solutions**

There will be an upcoming Barangay election in October. There should be careful implementation of the SSM Project during this time so that it will not be used for political gain. The sustainability of CBDRM rest on the new officials. That's why during the planning the orientation for the newly elected Barangay Officials were also considered

Prepared by:

Mayfourth Luneta

## Abstract for Oxfam:

### CBDRM in Dagupan Case Study

#### 1. How does the good practice relate to disaster risk management?

The project became a strong advocate of the principle that disaster is everybody's concern since it paved the way to promote multi-stakeholders participation. It is evident that this endeavor has exemplified a good practice for the active and substantial involvement of each sector was ensured in the Community Based Disaster Risk Management. In particular, this initiative was spearheaded by the local government officials in the city level and the Center for Disaster Preparedness. The project provided an effective opportunity to city officials to go back to the villages and give training on CBDRM. This kind of setting has nurtured a closer and well coordinated relationship between those in authority and the local people. As such, the BDRMs were revitalized, which helped in crafting disaster reduction plans where the city benefited, particularly the eight most vulnerable communities. The project was instrumental in bridging the GAP between high level officials and the community through disaster risk communication and understanding of development projects.

#### 2. Which among the list of CBDRM elements is/are present in the practice? Please elaborate on each CBDRM element indicating quantity, time, processes, etc.

- 3 Community ownership. Aside from the series of consultative meetings, they have also given much time and effort in the actual community risk assessment involving all sectors, planning and implementation of their community based disaster risk reduction plans including early warning and evacuation plans.
- 3 Use of local knowledge about hazards. The community people made their own hazard maps highlighting the elements at risk in their respective localities.
- 3 Communities as ultimate beneficiaries of the good practice. All the high risk communities for flooding were able to make their own risk reduction, early warning and evacuation plans which were tested and improved through the conduct of a city wide flood response simulation.
- 3 Multi-stakeholder participation. The project involved local NGOs like Bantay Dagupan, Red Cross, the media, church groups, academic institutions and other members of the civil society in and out of Dagupan. The stakeholders were able to participate in the public awareness campaigns, during the city drill and other risk reduction activities.
- 3 Education and capacity-building. The following are the capability development activities done during the project period: CBDRM/ PRA ToT in the city level, CBDRM Trainings in the 8 high risk communities, Early warning and Evacuation Workshops, Community Based Emergency Response, Training for Medical Responders, Disaster Risk Management Orientation for schools and media, Water Search and Rescue training, Communications training, international courses on DM and Governance, Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction for Cities, Community Risk Assessment
- 3 Gender sensitivity. From the risk assessment up to the implementation of the project, women's participation was ensured.
- 3 Culturally appropriate. The use of indigenous warning device such as *kanungkong (made of bamboo)* was used in their early warning plans.
- 3 Sensitive to local social structures. The existing BDRMs were tapped and reactivated to utilize existing structures.
- 3 Harmonizes local, indigenous and scientific knowledge. This was considered in the making of the Early Warning Systems for the communities and the city
- 3 Complements top-down approach. The approach used in this project is CBDRM which is complemented by the top down approach for the city employees which were considered the highest structure were the ones who ensured the effective implementation of CBDRM.
- 3 Demonstrates potential for building economic resilience. Economic mitigation was done through the small scale mitigation projects provided by the program such as tri bike operation, rice retailing and micro-financing.
- 3 Demonstrates transparency in procedures and processes. CDP and Dagupan City conducted open consultations with each other and with the communities regarding the plans, implementation and even financial matters.
- 3 Commitment and accountability of stakeholders. MOU among stakeholders and project partners was drafted, signed and honored throughout the project implementation.
- 3 Exit strategy or sustainability mechanisms. Planning workshop on sustainability was carried out including plans of involving the Local Legislative Body of the city to ensure sustainable mechanisms for CBDRM and continuous networking with other organizations to help in the sustainability of DRM in Dagupan City.

#### 3. Based on the following good practice characteristics, which among them were present in the initiative? Explain why the case study is successful.

- 3 Responsive to community needs. Implementation of CBDRM was responsive to the community needs because from the beginning which is the risk assessment until the implementation, the community people were not only consulted but they were the main actors.

- 3 Accepted by the community. Since the community people of the high risk areas were involved, the PROMISE Project, was accepted and owned by the locality.
- 3 Strong community participation and functional organizations. This was proven through the conduct of the barangay flood response simulation which tested not only the plans but the community participation and functional BDCCs as well.
- 3 Tangible results
  - Launch a multi-sectoral project orientation workshop
  - Formation of the Technical Working Group (TWG)
  - Conduct of a Community Based Disaster Risk Management and Participatory Risk Assessment Training of Trainers (ToT) for the TWG
  - Community Risk Assessment conducted both at the city and community levels
  - Conducted CBDRM PRA in the 8 high risk areas
  - Reactivated the existing BDCCs in the 8 high risk areas
  - The community was able to produce (implement) CBDRM Plans for the 8 high risk areas and for the city including their own Early Warning and Evacuation Plans
  - Institutionalization of the Disaster Safety Day
  - Produced a number of public awareness materials (i.e. calendar, book mark) for the Information, Education and Communication campaign (i.e. Academic Olympics as part of the Disaster Safety Day) in schools and community
  - TWG facilitated disaster management orientation for the schools, media and other stakeholders
  - Sharing of DRM experiences with neighboring barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces
  - Possible replication to the 23 barangays
  - Conducted City Wide and Barangay Flood Simulation Response
  - Producing a manual on Disaster Operations for the City
  - Conducted several networking consultation with other stakeholders
  - Equipping the BDCCs of the 8 high risk areas
  - Implementation of relevant economic mitigation and alternative livelihood for high risk areas
  - Sharing of CBDRM tools, strategies and learnings to other communities, cities and countries
  - Conducted the following capability building: (a) basic life support and first aid (b) communications orientation (c) early warning and evacuation seminar
- 3 CBDRM systems in place /Can be a model for replication. Yes in fact, after a year of implementation, the City of Dagupan and Barangay Mangin (one of the pilot areas) were both recipients of the Kalasag Award for the Regional Level
- 3 Cost effective. Yes, since we are using existing structures like the BDCCs and CDCC along with their available resources.

#### 4. How was the practice implemented? Give details.

Disaster Risk Management and Participatory Risk Assessment Training of Trainers (ToT) was held from March 27 -31, 2006. A total of 24 participants from the City Level and 16 from the communities attended the five day training which included field practicum in one barangay. The main trainers were Ms. Mayfourth Luneta, the Project Officer, Ms. Marita Santos, CDP's Training Officer, Mr. Ernie Elcamel from the City of Naga and Mr. Voltaire Acosta, Environment Officer of the League of Cities of the Philippines.

#### Community Workshops and PRA

Each of the eight (8) communities namely Bacayao Norte, Bacayao Sur, Tebeng, Lasip Grande, Pogo Grande, Mangin, Salisay, and Lasip Chico were prioritized for focused intervention by the project. A 3-day Disaster Risk Management Orientation and Participatory Risk Assessment and Planning (CBDRM/PRA) Workshop was held in those prioritized communities. The officers and staff from the City government who underwent the ToT were the main facilitators for these community trainings. The said trainings included a half day walk around the community (community watching) as well as dialogue with the residents regarding their perceived capacities and vulnerabilities to the flood situation.

CDP organized a follow-up facilitators workshop to enhance their knowledge and skills.

The preparedness and mitigation action planning was carried out after the community risk assessment. This was conducted with the participation of the community people, local and city authorities, and different stakeholders. Community level projects for enhanced preparedness and mitigation of impact of hydro-meteorological was identified through continuous consultations.

After a tedious process of screening and approval of proposed small scale mitigation projects for the first phase, the TWG and CDP embarked on the survey of equipments needed (which is only a part of the proposal given by the eight pilot communities), then finally the procurement of the said equipments took place this month. The equipments include: boats, bamboo raft, road guides( so when flooding occurs people will not fall in open canals), flashlights, hard hats, raincoats, boots, ropes, megaphones, emergency lamps, indigenous warning devices two way radio, camera, radio transistor, petromax, farm tractor, life vests, and others. The equipments vary from one community to another depending upon their needs. Every community has their own

counterpart, like the labor for building markers and road guides, and providing batteries for the flashlights and storage. The communities were also required to submit guidelines in using, safe keeping and maintaining all the equipments before they will be provided of the approved gadgets. The equipping of the BDCC aims to help them in preparedness and in emergency to lessen the vulnerabilities of the community.

The training workshop for the eight (8) target communities was conducted last August 29-31, 2006 at the Dagupan City Museum. Speakers from the PAGASA were invited to explain its role in the country's disaster management system, the work of the Flood Control Office, and Early Warning System so that the City's and the communities' warning system for hydro-meteorological hazards will be linked with their system. CDP invited Ms. Mariser Palencia, an Early Warning and Evacuation Specialist, to facilitate the Evacuation Plan workshop while Ms. Luneta, facilitated the Early Warning Workshop. There were around 60 participants (3 from each barangay and the rest were from the City government who helped in facilitating the workshops). The participants actively worked on drafting their early warning and evacuation plan. To date, 4 out of the 8 barangays have finalized their plan with the help of the Technical Working Group. The other four communities have their drafts already and are in the process of finalization.

#### **Observance of the Dagupan Disaster Safety Day**

The City Councilors passed the City Resolution No. 5469-2006 to observe July 16 of every year as Disaster Safety Day. The event was in line with the National Government's declaration of July as Disaster Consciousness Month. Dagupan decided to extend the observance of the Disaster Safety Day into a month long celebration and they called it the City Wide Disaster Consciousness Month with the theme, "Maintain Development Gains, Prepare for Disasters". During the City Parade which was led by the City Mayor and members of the City Council and other City Government Officials, more than 15,000 people joined. With the number of participants, it can be said that the activity was successful in reaching a large number of people with the message of disaster preparedness.

In partnership with DepEd and the Dagupan Bangus Jaycees, an Academic Olympics (competition on oration, essay writing, slogan and poster making) was held and this was opened for students and professionals not just from the City but from the whole province of Pangasinan as well. ADPC and CDP served as judges for the slogan competition and oratorical contest. The winning entries of the slogan and poster making contests were printed in the 2007 Calendar as part of project's endeavor in increasing public awareness. Also included in the calendar are the tips to do before, during and after flooding and contacts numbers of the different departments of the City in case of emergency. Aside from the Academic Olympics, the City also had a day for River Clean Up and Mangrove Revegetation, headed by the City Agriculturist Madam Emma Molina and was participated by college students in tie up with their National Service Training Program (NSTP). Also, in cooperation with DepEd, an Earthquake and Evacuation Drill in schools were done. The City government estimated that around 55,000 students and teachers from both public and private schools participated in the drill.

For this year another improved academic olympics was done simultaneous with the Community Based Emergency Response Course and DRM Orientation for the Media and another for the Schools.

#### **City Wide Flood Response Simulation**

To put to test how well the community understood the essence of disaster risk management, a city wide flooding simulation was conducted. Around 300 eager individuals took part in this initiative that came from the community, city government, regional government offices, international non-government organization, religious groups, neighboring municipalities, health organizations, media and civil society. Though this was the first time that Dagupan has engaged in a flooding simulation, the city was fortunate enough to achieve success. Through their well coordinated efforts and hard toil, the said event became a big step towards the realization of their vision. The simulation has helped each sector involved to share their knowledge and skills in preparedness and response through allowing others to witness, impart comments and eventually replicate this kind of endeavor. It became a venue for them to learn from actual practice rather than relying in theoretical framework alone. Delineation of tasks, multi-sectoral participation and articulation of suitable responses were challenges that the activity have tried to address.