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PROMISE PROJECT

Philippines

NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Implemented By:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

Submitted To:

ADPC

Reporting Period:

APRIL 2008

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.

Activity 4 Launching of AVP of Oxfam Good practice and National DRR Course by NDCC

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

Activity 1 The 1st LGU Course on Governance and DRR in Dagupan City

Activity 2 Trocaire DRR Workshop

Activity 3 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia

Activity 4 Launching of AVP of Oxfam Good practice and National DRR Course by NDCC

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

Activity 2 Trocaire DRR Workshop

Activity 3 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia

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

Activity 1 The 1st LGU Course on Governance and DRR in Dagupan City

Activity 2 Trocaire DRR Workshop

Activity 3 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia

Activity 4 Launching of AVP of Oxfam Good practice and National DRR Course by NDCC

Activity 1 The 1st LGU Course on Governance and DRR in Dagupan City, April 8 to 10

To mainstream disaster risk reduction into the initiatives of the Local Government Unit and to share the experiences of the Dagupan City under the Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE), a three-day learning event dubbed as 1st LGU Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction in Dagupan City was organized. The event aimed to promote the culture of disaster safety and resiliency putting forward the element of good governance

among individuals and groups involved in the bureaucratic work. There were thirteen (13) individuals from eight neighboring municipalities, cities and province of Dagupan who attended the course. The participating Local Government Units (LGUs) are Alcala, Asingan, Dagupan City, La Union, Rosales, San Fabian, Sta. Barbara and Urdaneta City. (Please refer to the attached participants' directory). The representatives of the above stated LGUs took the opportunity to learn from Dagupan City's best practices on how the city government and the community people engaged in collaborative effort and championed in making disaster risk reduction a way of life.

Resource persons from the City Government (Technical Working Group), Center for Disaster Preparedness, Guagua Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council and the Department of Interior and Local Government Region 1 became instrumental in imparting lessons learned and good practices in disaster risk reduction and good governance to the participants. Interactive discussions on the following thematic areas emerged during the course: Local Disaster Situation; Participatory Risk Assessment; Basic Concepts of Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and DRM; Good Governance and the Millennium Development Goals; Capacity Enhancement on CBDRM for LGUs; Early Warning System in the City and Community; Public Awareness for DRR; Role of Different Actors and Stakeholders in DRM; Guagua Experience in Institutionalizing DRR in Local Governance; Comprehensive Development and Land Use Planning; Comprehensive Monitoring Evaluation System (CBMS); Mainstreaming DRR in Local Governance: New Policies and Directives; and Activating Barangay Disaster Coordinating Councils (BDCCs).

Apart from the interactive lecture, other methodologies were also utilized to facilitate a dynamic information exchange and learning between the facilitation team and participants. These strategies include brainstorming sessions; group workshops; Focus Group Discussion (FGD); audio visual presentation. ADPC publications were used as resource especially the materials from the 1st Regional Course on Governance and DRR. Furthermore, the participants were also given the opportunity to concretely see the good practices in CBDRM in the 8 pilot communities under PROMISE Project namely Mangin, Salisay, Tebeng, Lasip Chico, Lasip Grande, Bacayao Sur, Bacayao Norte and Pogo Grande. A half-day study visit transpired and this allowed them to interact closely with the community people and learn from their rich stories. In particular, they were able to see how the BDCC and community work hand in hand and how emergency response activities such as search and rescue operation is performed.

An action planning activity was also an important component of the learning event. Each participating municipality, city and province was requested to draft a plan which will showcase the activities that they would like to take on when they come back to their respective communities. In particular, they were asked to identify various activities before, during and after a disaster which they think would help their communities become safer and prepared.

Moreover, another fundamental part of the said course was the covenant signing among the LGUs in Region 1. This ceremony allowed them to embark on partnership in promoting and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into their plans and programs. A total of 42 representatives from different municipalities, cities and

province have shown their commitment to this advocacy including the mayors, heads of the local disaster coordinating councils, staff of the various LGU departments, officials from the DILG and OCD regional office, non-government organizations and civil society. (Please see attached list of covenant signatories)

Activity 2 Trocaire DRR Workshop

The Trocaire DRR Workshop was on March 31 to April 4 2008 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Ms. Mayfourth Luneta was assigned to attend the said workshop to share the CDP/PROMISE experience in Risk assessment and to get some orientation in doing GIS. The workshop was attended by different Trocaire partners in the region. Ms. Luneta was able to present the risk assessment experience in Dagupan City and the risk reduction measures done as results of the risk assessment.

Then Ms. Giorgina Jordan of Trocaire was the one who gave the participants an overview of what GIS is and how it can help in risk assessment. She was also the one who taught the participants on how to use GPS gadgets in plotting areas, labeling and how to transfer the data to the computer. The software used was ARC GIS. Ms. Luneta was able to attend the initial practicum. However, for the final practicum, she was not able to attend for she has to go back to the Philippines to prepare and attend the Dagupan DRR and Governance.

Activity 3 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia

The 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia from April 2 to 4 was one of the most attended by different DM Practitioners from the Region. Ms. Lorna P. Victoria of CDP presented “Sustaining Partnership in CBDRR: Experiences in Urban Areas”. Experience from Buklod Tao and Dagupan City PROMISE project were the cases highlighted in the presentation. (Refer to attached ppt. presentation). She was able to present it in two separate sessions and she was also able to distribute copies of the PROMISE 2008 calendars and Safer Cities 16.

Activity 4 Launching of AVP of Oxfam Good practice and National DRR Course by NDCC

Oxfam GB launched the ten-minute AVP of the CBDRM Good practice Case Studies on April 29, 2008 at Shangri-La Hotel having different stakeholders from all over the Philippines. This included the Barangay Mangin- Dagupan Experience in CBDM entitled “Strength in Numbers: The Barangay as Building Block”. This showed the experience in strengthening the BDCC and helping them involve the community in CBDM. The early warning systems as well as other CBDM components were also shown in the AVP.

There were 6 case studies included in the AVP like the APSEMO experience, the Academe experience in Bato, Camarines Sur and Infanta Quezon Case study.

This activity was included in the Multi-stakeholders DRR Workshop (from April 29-30, 2008) spearheaded by NDCC and OCD. National NGO's, Government agencies and funding agencies attended the said event.

B. Next month activities Plan

TWG Meetings

Preparation for National DRM and Governance Training

Sharing of Community Hazard Mapping Tools for High risk communities in Baguio

C. Issues encountered and solutions

Though a lot of partners attended the covenant signing for CBDRR, the challenge of sustainability for DRR still remains.

The last week of April was the Bangus Festival. Dagupan City had a hard time sending representatives to attend the launch of the Oxfam Good Practice. Still, the project gains support and popularity not only in Dagupan but also nationwide.

Prepared by:

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