



PROMISE PROJECT

Philippines

NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Implemented By:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

Submitted To:

ADPC

**Reporting Period:
November 2009**

I. ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Pasig City was one of the areas devastated by Typhoon Ondoy (International name, *Ketsana*) in September 2009. Because of the extensive damages brought about by the typhoon, the city government searched for ways to strengthen the city's resilience to face a similar threat in the future. It was during this time that the Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) approached the city government for the possibility of jointly implementing the Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE) in the area. The City of Pasig, through Mayor Robert Eusebio, welcomed the opportunity and began the necessary preparations with CDP in November 2009.

The following were the first activities held November to contribute to the realization of the objectives of the Project PROMISE:

Objective	Activity
1. Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk by stakeholders in Pasig City	⇒ DRR Orientation of Pasig City ⇒ PROMISE Orientation
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	⇒ DRR Orientation of Pasig City ⇒ PROMISE Orientation
3. Enhanced coordination with USAID Missions to promote sustainability and ensure program activities accord with USAID country and regional strategies	⇒ PROMISE Orientation
4. Strengthened networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/ organizations for improving potential and capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned	⇒ PROMISE Orientation

II. ACTIVITIES

DRR Orientation of Pasig City

The DRR Orientation Workshop for the City of Pasig was held on November 11 to 13, 2009 in Tagaytay City, Cavite. It was facilitated by Ms. Mayfourth Luneta of CDP and participated in by 63 officials and staff members from all the departments of the city government. It was Pasig City's initiative to have this orientation, they sponsored this first activity for PROMISE. Mayor Robert Eusebio and Mrs. Maribel Eusebio (the Livelihood Foundation Head) were also present and participated throughout the 3 day workshop. The participants were also the people who actively participated during the emergency response for Ketsana.

The three-day activity sought to familiarize the participants on the terms, concepts, frameworks, and activities in Disaster Risk Reduction/Management (DRR/M). Moreover, the event enabled the participants to assess the city's emergency response when typhoon Ondoy occurred, and unite on the structure of the Pasig City Disaster Coordinating Council (CDCC) The Mayor identified the eight pilot *barangays* for Project PROMISE in consultation with the head of the Search and Rescue Unit (deputized civil defense officer)- Mr. Ritchie Angeles. The selection was based through the flood experience and the existing data of Pasig City. These areas are the most vulnerable barangays in the City when typhoon and flooding occur. The following are the chosen barangays:

1. Santolan
2. Pinagbuhatan
3. Sta Lucia
4. Kalawaan,
5. Maybunga
6. Rosario
7. Bambang
8. Manggahan.

It was also agreed to appoint the *Barangay* Affairs Office (BAO) as the lead department for the project.

PROMISE Orientation

The PROMISE Project Orientation was held on November 27, 2009 at the Tanghalang Pasigeño in Pasig. The orientation was aimed at familiarizing the key officials of the city on the objectives, framework, and key stakeholders of PROMISE. .

The orientation was attended by 170 city officials, members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), *barangay* captains, ADPC, and CDP.

Ms. Padma Karunaratne the Program Manager gave an overview of Promise Project in the region, while Ms. Adelina Sevilla Alvarez CDP's president shared the achievement of the PROMISE Dagupan experience. Furthermore, Ms Luneta shared the upcoming activities for PROMISE Pasig. The highlight of the event was the signing of the covenant for DRR by Mayor Robert Eusebio.

III. ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 2009

The activities for December 2009 shall focus on the preparations of BAO for the PROMISE implementation. At the same time, CDP will be involved on advocacy and information-sharing with partners. The specific activities to be conducted are:

- ⇒ Meeting and planning with BAO
- ⇒ Sharing of the PROMISE experience with Child Fund Philippines
- ⇒ Sharing of the PROMISE experience with the Education Cluster
- ⇒ Participation of Pasig City in the Oxfam Launching of DRR Materials
- ⇒ Gift-giving to the victims of Ondoy and Pepeng

IV. ISSUES ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS UNDERTAKEN

One of the biggest challenges in implementing PROMISE in Pasig City is finding a common schedule among the key city officials involved in the project. This is aggravated by the campaigns for the 2010 national and local elections. Despite such difficulties, the PROMISE Project Coordinator (Ms. Luneta) was able to adjust to the schedule and availability of the officials.

Prepared by:

Mayfourth Luneta