

PROMISE PHILIPPINES
4th Quarter Report
for the period October to December 2007

I. Project Description and Objectives

The period was marked by the development of partnerships that enhanced the efforts of the PROMISE Team in Dagupan and promoted disaster risk reduction (DRR) in other areas as well. At the same time, the Barangay Elections in October brought in a new set of local government officials that needed to be oriented on DRR. The outputs for the period are all geared towards the achievement of the following objectives:

- 1) Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk
- 2) Increased stakeholder involvement and further enhancement of strategies, tools and methodologies related to community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters
- 3) Enhanced coordination with USAID Missions to promote sustainability and ensure program activities are in accord with USAID country and regional strategies
- 4) Strengthened networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improving potential and capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned.

Highlights

A new set of local government officials have been elected in October. Hence, the members of the TWG have focused on familiarizing the new officials with the PROMISE Project and soliciting their support for the project's continuity. Moreover, the City Council ratified an ordinance which establishes an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) in the City.

The gains of the Project for the period were intensified by the establishment of partnerships with other groups and sectors. Such partnerships enabled the Project PROMISE Team to share experiences and learn from others. These partnerships resulted in the participation in local and international training and workshops, mainstreaming of DRR in local governance, and publication of the PROMISE experience in international papers.

II. Summary of Accomplishments for the Reporting Quarter

A. Training and Workshops

1. *Presentation of the PROMISE Project to the City Council*

Ms. Mayfourth Luneta presented the achievements of the PROMISE Project to the Dagupan City Council on 2 October 2007. She also highlighted the key role played by the City Council when it passed the City Ordinance on Disaster Safety Day in 2006. Moreover, she sought additional support from the Council in passing local laws that would ensure the sustainability of disaster risk reduction measures in the City. Such laws include the establishment of a 24-hour Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and official adoption of the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and City Disaster Coordinating Council Manual drafted by the Technical Working Group (TWG).

B. Information Sharing and Network

1. *Asia Pacific Regional Workshop in School Education and Disaster Risk Reduction*

Ms. Luneta attended the Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on October 8-10, 2007. The Workshop promoted the participation of children in DRR. During the parallel sessions, Ms. Luneta highlighted the PROMISE project experience in DRM and local governance. Likewise, a tarpaulin showing pictures of schools and children involved in the PROMISE Project was exhibited.

2. *National Training Course on Landslide Risk Management*

The RECLAIM project invited Ms. Luneta to share the process of CBDRM in Landslide Management on 17 October 2007. She underscored the key processes adopted by Dagupan City. As a result, some participants from the local government sector recognized their need to implement disaster risk reduction measures in their areas. The participation of CDP in the CBDM component of the RECLAIM project was also sought.

3. Sharing of Experience with Plan-East Timor

Ms. Luneta shared the PROMISE Project and Child-Oriented Participatory Risk Assessment and Planning (COPRAP) experiences with Plan-Timor Leste Staff. Plan is an international organization that promotes the rights and welfare of children. While the hazards in East Timor are often human-induced, the approaching rainy season and possible flooding prompted the organization to seek the inputs from CDP.

4. Training Learning Circle-Philippines Launching

The CDP, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), All-India Disaster Mitigation Institute, Provention, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) - South South Cooperation, and CADRI formed the Training and Learning Circle (TLC) on Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM). The TLC seeks to enhance the capabilities of trainers and learners in CBDRM. The TLC members initiated the Training on Network Analysis on Dec 10-13, 2007 where CDP actively participated. Right after the training, the TLC-Philippines was launched on December 14, 2007. The launching was attended by local NGOs, international donors, local government units (LGUs).

5. Workshop on Mainstreaming DRR

The PROMISE Project experience was again shared with the participants of the one-day Consultation and Workshop on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Comprehensive Land Use Planning (CLUP) on 20 December 2007. Initiated by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the event was attended by LGU representatives from all over the country. Ms. Lorna P. Victoria of CDP discussed the different concepts of DRR, while Ms. Emma Molina presented the Dagupan experience.

C. CBDRM Demo Projects

1. Ratification of City Ordinance 367: Creating the Emergency Operation Center of Dagupan City

The City Council ratified Ordinance 367 on December 10, 2007. The ordinance allows the creation of an Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for Dagupan City. The TWG members actively monitored the drafting and finalization of the ordinance. The law allots a budget of around P10 million for the Center's operations. Still, the EOC will need to integrate preparedness and public awareness in its endeavors.

D. Advocacy

1. *Case Study of Barangay Mangin's CBDRM Experience*

Ms. Luneta and Ms. Grace Molina of CDP wrote the case study on Barangay Mangin's CBDRM Experience in coordination with the TWG members. The case study is part of a publication by Oxfam Great Britain which showcases the best CBDRM practices in the country and provides a tool kit on implementing CBDRM. The case study on Mangin highlighted the participation of the community in developing and implementing their Early Warning System (EWS).

2. *Case Study on Setting Up Early Warning System and Evacuation Plan*

Ms. Luneta and Ms. Molina also wrote a case study on Dagupan's City's Warning System and Evacuation Plan. The case study will be published in ADPC's *Safer Cities*.

E. Others

1. *Meetings and Consultations of the Technical Working Group (TWG)*

The 29 October 2007 barangay Elections prompted the Technical Working Group (TWG) to adjust the schedule of activities for November. The implementation of small scale mitigation projects (SSMPs) was put on hold as the newly elected Barangay Officials had yet to be declared. The TWG members also met on 23 November 2007 to discuss the Case Studies for the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) on Early Warning Systems, Case Study on Barangay Mangin's Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Experience for Oxfam-Great Britain, City Ordinance on Establishing the EOC, Orientation of the newly-elected barangay officials on CBDRM, and implementation of SSMPs.

2. *Financial Review of Zay Yar*

Mr. Zay Yar reviewed the finances of CDP on October 25-26, 2007. His review identified ways to improve the financial documentation of the Center. The financial officers of the project PROMISE likewise discussed financial procedures with Mr. Yar.

III. Planned vs. Actual Achievements

Almost all the planned activities for the quarter were realized. However, the implementation of the SSMP was put on hold because of the Barangay Elections. Moreover, the production of an audio-visual presentation (AVP) on the PROMISE project was set aside.

IV. Lessons Learned and Challenges Encountered

⇒ It was necessary to delay the implementation of some project activities during local elections as people might perceive such activities as part of the campaign of those running for posts.

- ⇒ The PROMISE Team members needed to familiarize themselves and establish working relations with the newly elected local officials. At the same time, coordination with the local DILG was necessary to ensure that CBDRM can be integrated in the orientation of new officials.
- ⇒ It is important to conduct monthly assessment and monitoring to ensure that the PROMISE project efforts are in line with the schedule and activities of the LGUs.
- ⇒ Several opportunities to share the experience in implementing the PROMISE project arose. Moreover, these opportunities resulted in the promotion of CBDRM in local governance and replication of strategies used in other areas. At the same time, they enhanced the capabilities of the members of the PROMISE Team.
- ⇒ The partnership with DILG helped expand the PROMISE Project's network, specifically with other LGUs.
- ⇒ The establishment of an EOC in Dagupan City inspired the main Promise Project partners (TWG and CDP) in the Philippines to continue their advocacy in mainstreaming DRM in local governance
- ⇒ The involvement of the City Council in the Project PROMISE was key in the development of appropriate ordinances and local laws that will promote preparedness and DRR.
- ⇒ Study tours in Dagupan City by organizations from different parts of the world encouraged the Dagupan City Government to continue and improve their good practice in DRM.

V. Achievement over Project Objective Indicators

The indicators for the quarter showing the progress of the project include the following:

- ⇒ Ratification of a local ordinance establishing an EOC.
- ⇒ Promotion of the PROMISE DRM framework, methods and tools in Manila, and other parts of the world through publications, training, study tours, and international conferences.
- ⇒ Partnership with the DILG National Office and mainstreaming DRR in CLUP.

VI. Planned Action for the Next Quarter

The planned activities for the next quarter include the following:

- ⇒ Community Landslide Risk Reduction Seminar for RECLAIM Project
- ⇒ Study Tour of Different Oxfam Organizations in Dagupan City
- ⇒ Study Tour of the TWG and CDCC in Pampanga and Manila
- ⇒ Implementation of SSMP
- ⇒ Preparation of DRM and Local Governance Training and Workshop in Dagupan City
- ⇒ National DRM and Local Governance in Manila

VII. Update on Participating Organizations and Individuals

The partnership with the DILG National Office has helped mainstream DRM in Local Governance.

VIII. Project Financial Status

Please refer to attached forms 4 and 5.