

PROMISE PHILIPPINES
2nd Quarter Report
for the period April to June 2008

I. Project Description and Objectives

The PROMISE Philippine Project in Dagupan has already reached its two and a half year of implementation. The challenge of sustainability is the highlighted factor this quarter. Still the project continued to fulfill 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) Strengthen networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improving potential and capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned.

The efforts of sustainability was shown in various events during this quarter:

- The signing of commitment for DRR by Mayors, Vice Mayors other LGU and Line agencies officials and NGOs in the cities, municipalities and province nearby Dagupan as well as in the national arena.
- Conscious efforts of reaching out to different networks for various assistance whether technical assistance or financial assistance like involving with the educational cluster of the Philippines
- The DRM and governance courses launched by CDP and Dagupan City in Dagupan City and in the National level showed the PROMISE Philippines experience as well as other good CBDRM practices to help in mainstreaming DRR in local governance
- The best effort is the taking on of the local government of Dagupan of the CBDRM training for the 23 barangays. The Mayor and his staff were able to show their sincerity in DRR by giving 10,000 per community for the said training which will be done next quarter.

II. Summary of Accomplishments for the Reporting Quarter

A. Training

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

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. This was done last April 8-10, 2008 in Dagupan City.

- **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.

- **National Governance DRR Course in Sulo Hotel**

Last June 3-6, 2008 twenty eight participants from 11 different LGUs, 1 from Mercy Malaysia, 16 from 6 NGOs and 1 from government agency had the National Governance DRR Course in Sulo Hotel. It was a fruitful event and during that time various Line Agencies in the National levels were able to present current updates on DRR from their different organizations. The Buklod ng Kabataan were also able to present their drama on environmental protection.

B. Information Sharing and Network

B1. Information Sharing

- **5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia**

The 5th DM Practitioners Workshop in Cambodia during the first week of April 2008 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

- **Launching of AVP of Oxfam Good practice and National DRR Course by NDCC**

The Oxfam 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.

- **Sharing of Risk Assessment tools for RECLAIM Philippines**

Ms. Mayfourth Luneta also participated in a sharing session of community hazard mapping tools for high-risk communities in Baguio last May 11 by sharing PROMISE-Philippines’ experience in community risk mapping.

- **Regional Workshop on Climate Change**

Last May 13, 2008 Ms. Luneta and Dr Leo Carbonell attended the Regional Workshop on Climate Change in the Makati City sponsored by UN. Dr. Carbonell was able to present the DRR activities and CCA practices in Dagupan. Furthermore, the team was tasked to write on CCA of Dagupan for the World bank primer on Climate Change Adaptation

- **CBDM Training Learning Circle**

Ms. Luneta shared the learning in the TLC workshop on risk assessment specifically on GPS. Dagupan is also now a member of the TLC Philippines.

B2. Networking

- **Covenant Signing**

Fundamental part of 1st LGU Course on Governance and DRR 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)

- **Networking In times of tragedies**

PROMISE-Philippines was hit by two tragedies. First, Mr. Reginaldo Ubando, TWG member of Dagupan’s City Disaster Coordinating Council and Head of the Solid Waste Management Division, passed away due to a heart attack on May 3. Mr. Ubando was an active and committed city official and supporter of PROMISE-Philippines.

Second, Typhoon Cosme (international name Halong) hit Dagupan hard with its winds on May 17, and resulting in total damage (3,349 houses) or partial damage to houses (15,034 houses), affecting 24,973 families. Damage to public infrastructure (school buildings, day care centers, health centers, barangay and city offices, lighting) is estimated at PhP 28.9 million (USD 0.69 million). The deaths were three children who were living next to Pantal River and were swept into the waters, and one adult male who died from exposure. Although there was no rain in Dagupan, there is some flooding due to dam water release and high tide. Estimated losses for the fishing industry are at PHP 537 million (USD 13 million).

PROMISE-Philippines is acknowledged for having help the city prepare against disaster. The city and barangay disaster coordinating councils were all activated well ahead of the typhoon’s approach. The flood early warning system was monitored non-stop, and there were no deaths in spite of the high-risk locations of the project barangays. Barangay Mangin, with the highest risk, evacuated its residents, and distributed its own relief goods to add to the relief goods (medicine and food) from the City, ensuring that all its residents were reached. The city’s relief work and the Dagupan Red Cross began immediately after the typhoon passed, as well as recovery efforts to purify water, clear roads and restore water and electrical services.

Activities accomplished this month include preparations for the National Course on DRM and Governance, scheduled for June 3 to 6, and for the 2008 PROMISE Working Group Meeting in Da Nang, both of which will continue until next month. Ms. Mayfourth Luneta also participated in a sharing session of community hazard mapping tools for high-risk communities in Baguio last May 11 by sharing PROMISE-Philippines’ experience in community risk mapping.

- **Avian Influenza Network Meeting**

Though Philippines is still Bird Flu Free, efforts of keeping it safe from AI still continuous. Last May 5, 2008 Ms. Luneta attended the the AI Network Meeting. She was able to have the privilege of requesting of safe suits for AI for Dagupan City.

C. CBDRM Demo Projects

Monitoring of City Demonstration Projects were done during this quarter.

D. Advocacy

- The covenant signing opens the pillars for advocacy for all North Luzon DRR Network members.
- The formation of the DRR Net Philippines last June 12, 2008. This enabled CDP to have larger networks in Advocacy for DRR. This network focuses in the crafting of the DRM Bill. Latest achievement is the inclusion of DRR in the SONA this coming July 28, 2008.
- Mainstreaming Activities of DILG

1. Consultations with Selected LGUs and DILG Regional	The activity was designed to create awareness among LGUs and DILG field officers on the new trends in Disaster Management and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in local governance. The discussions on DRR/DRM will familiarize the LGUs on the need to mainstream DRR/DRM in their
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Offices	planning, investment programming and budgeting activities through DRR programs/projects and activities.
2. Validation Workshop on the Enhanced Comprehensive Development Manual	<p>The activity was conducted and attended by the DILG regional development planning specialists, LGU Planning and Development Coordinators and Budget Officers. The objectives of the validation workshop is to present the Enhanced Guide to CDP Preparation with the following contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Basis for CDP preparation • Relationship between the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. • Relationship between CDP with other sectoral/thematic plans • Synchronization of Local Planning, Investment Programming, Revenue Administration, Budgeting and Expenditure Management • NGA-LGU Interface • Province – Component LGU Complementations • Sectoral/Cross Sectoral Concerns • Planning/Budgeting Calendar • Poverty Reduction and MDG • Disaster Risk Management • Gender and Development
3. DILG-HLURB Consultation Workshop on the Harmonization of Convergence Points in the CLUP-CDP Preparation	<p>This activity was aimed to review the content of databases promoted by DILG (Local Development Indicators) and Menu of Cookbook by HLURB wherein data such as population at risk, vulnerable areas, hazards and risks assessments are part of the local development indicators in the CDP and CLUP. A proposed Joint Memo Circular between DILG and Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) will be the output of this initiative.</p>
4. Customized Training on Urban Planning and Comprehensive Development Planning Process	<p>The activity was designed for the Regional and National Development Planning Specialists who will provide technical assistance to LGUs in the preparation of their Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). DILG commissioned the School of Urban and Regional Planning (SURP), University of the Philippines to conduct the ten-day (10) in-campus training.</p>
5. Orientation for DILG Regional Directors (16 regions except Autonomous Regions for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM))	<p>The activity was designed to orient the DILG Regional Directors to have a better appreciation of the Comprehensive Development Plan formulation process and contents of the Guide to CDP Formulation in order to deepen their understanding the role of DILG vis-à-vis the implementation of the Rationalized Planning System and the JMC No. 001 Series of 2007.</p>

III. Planned vs. Actual Achievements

The following planned activities for this quarter were mostly achieved:

- The two GDRR courses were implemented
- DILG had mainstreaming activities alongside with the CDP Courses

IV. Lessons Learned and Challenges

Small Scale Mitigation Project

- The continuous support of the local government by involving the high risk communities in institutionalization of disaster Preparedness helps in reducing risk
- The DRR concept should be appreciated by all stakeholders to facilitate coordinated implementation of the DRR measures.
- Involving the stakeholders in the whole process of disaster risk reduction efforts from risk assessment, planning, consultation and implementation magnifies positive impact and increases capacities of the CITY and the community
- Continuous public awareness is needed in the communities to gain greater support
- Need to increase resources and manpower both in the city and the community that are solely dedicated for DRR measures to ensure positive results
- Monitoring and evaluation of the small scale mitigation projects are needed to further improve them.

Practices for Mainstreaming

- DRR consciousness and adoption as a practices should adopt a vertical and horizontal approach to insure a wider scope of acceptance and work in systems.
- DRR efforts should be a neighborhood issue among cluster local government units who should adopt and complement integrated/coordinated efforts.
- Participatory consultation is important to get the acts of stakeholders together.
- Establish partnership with institutional organizations and other partners, i.e. NGOs.

Partnership and Networking

- Private and public sectors' knowledge and skills in Disaster Risk Reduction should be enriched and harmonized .
- A collective and coordinated effort among varied interest stakeholders is a strength of the high risk communities and a shield to disaster .
- Responsible media can facilitate quick disaster response due to good information dissemination.
- Action Plans for North Luzon Disaster Risk Reduction Network should be drafted
- Continuous Capability Development for partners is a must
- Improving existing partnership and extending networks

Emergency DRR Plan and Implementation

- Community involvement foster higher degree of success in implementation of DRR practices locally conceptualized
- Active participation of the BDCC in the aspect of DRR elicited cooperation and insure coordinated response.
- Partnerships and networking done during pre disaster times helped alot during emergencies
- Improvement of the City Operations Manual based on the City's Assessment of Response Incorporating Climate Change/Crisis Issues
- The sustainability of the Northern Luzon Network for DRR should be encouraged. Plans should be established The establishment of the EOC should
- Be continuously supported and campaigned through all departments in the LGU of Dagupan City

Technology Transfer

- Indigenous Early Warning practices can be incorporated in the Community Early warning System to increase the EWS' level of acceptance
- Capability Development should always be based upon the need of the community

- Secondary hazards should be incorporated in the EWS and be given enough preparedness measures as well.
- Early Warning System for all hazards needed to be developed not only in the community level but for the city
- Continuous Public Awareness campaign for the people of Dagupan is needed
- Updating Risk Assessment Results is a must

V. Achievement over Project Objective Indicators

- One National GDRR course conducted
- One City wide GDRR course conducted
- City EOC started

VI. Planned Action for the Next Quarter

- Planning for Promise Extension
- CBDRM Training of 23 barangays
- Climate Change Plan for the NGDRR

VII. An Update on Participating Organizations and Individuals

The following are the new network of CDP for DRR mainstreaming being a member of the DRR Net Philippines and for starting the NGDRR Course:

- Development Academy of the Philippines
- Accion Contra El Hambre
- School of Urban and Regional Planning
- Phil Association of Program Implementers
- IIRR
- OCD NCR
- Oxfam Partners
- Christian Aid
- PRRM
- ULAP
- League of Cities
- Senate and House for DRM Bills

VIII. Project Financial Status

Please refer to attached forms 4 and 5.