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PROMISE PROJECT

Philippines

NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Implemented By:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

Submitted To:

ADPC

Reporting Period:

October 2006

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.

- Final Screening of Small Scale mitigation project of pilot barangays
- Meeting with Dr. Gonzales regarding the Disaster Information Management System for Dagupan.

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

- Meeting with Dr. Gonzales regarding the Disaster Information Management System for Dagupan.
- Meeting for the next quarter phase.
- Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction
- First Working Group Meeting
- Dagupan Study Tour of PROMISE partners and country Coordinators

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

- Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction
- First Working Group Meeting
- Dagupan Study Tour of PROMISE partners and country Coordinators

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

- Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction
- First Working Group Meeting
- Dagupan Study Tour of PROMISE partners and country Coordinators
- Promotion of Dagupan PROMISE project to other institutions like TAO (Technical Assistance Organization), PRRM (Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement) and to the upcoming Avian Influenza Forum and Children and Disaster Risk Management Forum.

Activity 1: Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction

The Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction conducted last September 25-29, 2006 was attended by participants from the different project areas in the region including the Dagupan Promise Team (Dr. Leo Carbonel, Mrs. Emma Molina and Ms. Mayfourth Luneta). The training became a venue for rich sharing of different tools and strategies in Disaster Risk Reduction and Governance from different areas/ countries (Vietnam, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Philippines) and institutions (UNIFEM, NDCC-OCD, University of the Philippines, UN Habitat, ADPC and others). ADPC gave a very rich module that could help

each Promise Partner in the field. CDP gave their full support in this event (provided most of their manpower): Ms. Lorna P Victoria as one of the facilitators; Ms. Eufemia Andaya as an observer; Ms. Grace Molina and Ms. Jelyne Gealone as part of the secretariat team; Ms. Emily De Vera and Marita Santos as the support team.

The last workshop paved for the initial planning of the DRM and Governance training to be replicated by participants in their own countries. The Philippine Team composed of the Philippine Promise Team, DILG and representative from Batangas City. The tentative date will be after the 2007 election in the Philippines most likely in September 2007.

Activity 2: First Working Group Meeting for the entire Promise Project in the REGION

The meeting started with the Coordinators Meeting on October 1, 2006. Ms. Luneta attended this meeting and the problems in different areas were discussed (from forms to the Project implementation). The meeting helped the Coordinators in solving their problems in the project by sharing of experiences and discovering together the solutions to puzzles such as making the Project Monitoring Plan. Then the meeting proceeded with the different presentations of the four components of the project by the five PROMISE Countries. It was attended by the coordinators, project partners, city partners, training partners. The Philippines presented the four major components through different presenters who are part of the PROMISE Team. The Philippine Promise Team agreed to have different facilitators presenting different components (based on their specialties):

Component 1 HVC Assessment was presented by Mrs. Emma Molina (City Agriculture Head)

Component 2 Capability building was presented by Ms. Mayfourth Luneta (Promise Coordinator, Training Partner)

Component 3 Mainstreaming DRM was presented by Mayor Benjamin Lim (City Mayor)

Component 4 Information Dissemination by Mr. Orpheus Velasco (Public Information Officer, Dagupan).

The WGM gave the different teams various strategies and lessons in handling the different components. USAID attended the WGM and was made aware of the various activities done in the partner cities. Ms. Eufemia Andaya also attended representing the training partner of Philippine PROMISE.

Activity 3: Dagupan Study Tour of PROMISE partners and country Coordinators

The Dagupan Study Tour of Promise partners (ADPC, USAID and other Partner NGO's) and country coordinators were planned by the PROMISE Team. The eight pilot communities presented different outputs/activities done in the communities:

Bacayao Sur presented a skit about what the community did before PROMISE came and when PROMISE arrived.

Bacayao Norte presented the Social Venn Diagram and the KKK (health, livelihood and attitude) tools in risk assessment.

Lasip Grande presented their hazard map.

Pogo Grande presented what the Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council do before, during and after a disaster.

Tebeng presented their Early Warning Plan

Mangin presented their Evacuation Plan

Salisay presented the Barangay Structure and Functions.

Lasip Chico displayed their HCV Assessment results and maps.

The trip also included a press conference participated by different Media organizations (radio, television local and national, and print (local and national). Philippine Daily Inquirer, one of the leading national newspapers covered the Promise activity last October 9, 2006 while the press conference was shown in ABS CBN both in the regional network as well as nationwide. The press conference gave media mileage for the PROMISE Project and helped in promoting Disaster Mitigation for Hydro-meteorological hazards.

Activity 4: Meeting with Dr. R. Gonzales regarding the Disaster Information Management System for Dagupan

An informal luncheon meeting with Dr. Gonzales (Head of University of the Philippines Geodetic Engineering) regarding the Disaster Information Management System (DIMS) for Dagupan was done last October 17, 2006. The possibility of having her students next semester help Dagupan City in encoding and enhancing its DIMS was discussed. She requested for the available data of Dagupan. The results of the risk assessment in Dagupan as well as the result of the previous discussion with Ms. Iglesias were given to Dr. Gonzales the next day October 18, 2006. The next meeting was set on second week of November 2006.

Activity 5: Technical Working Group Meeting (Screening of Small Scale Mitigation Project and Quarter Planning)

The first part of the TWG meeting was done last October 19, 2006 in Dagupan City Hall with the City Department Heads (attended by Mr. Robert Mejia- Erfe, Mrs. Emma Molina, Mr Orpheus Velasco and Ms. Dea Que) and Ms. Mayfourth Luneta. The following were discussed:

1. The final screening was done based on the criteria set earlier on by the TWG for the proposals/ action plans of the eight pilot communities. For items and equipment, it was reminded during the meeting that the communities should make written guidelines for the use of approved items/ equipment for BDCC operations. As for the livelihood options, the approval depended on the appropriateness for the Barangay requesting (like Bacayao Sur is well known for its Guapple produce so the TWG approved the making of Dried Guapple as a livelihood option).
2. The next quarter planning was done focusing on the Public Awareness Component with Mr. Velasco as lead person for this as part of the information dissemination of the PIO. A proposal was passed for the said component including the disaster preparedness calendar with the winning paintings in the Disaster Preparedness Day as the design for the calendars. Other Public Awareness Activities were also listed. Aside from the said component, the granting and implementation of the small scale projects for the eight communities were also included. Likewise, the making of the DIMS will be started.

After the first part, the meeting continued in Tondaligan Resort in Dagupan City where the TWG City Hall Staff joined the City Heads. It was emphasized that the TWG will remind the communities in making the guidelines for the usage of items to be given. The TWG was commended for a job well done especially for preparing the communities for the Study tour done last October 5, 2006. Tokens (solicited from a donation) were presented by Ms. Luneta to each TWG member as a sign of appreciation for all the efforts done.

Activity 6: Promotion of Dagupan PROMISE project to other institutions like TAO (Technical Assistance Organization), PRRM (Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement), Tear Fund and HEED and to the upcoming Avian Influenza Forum and Children and Disaster Risk Management Forum.

Promotion of the Dagupan PROMISE project were done to the following organizations to strengthen networking and increase dissemination of information regarding tools, strategies, and lessons learned in disaster risk reduction:

- Ms. Luneta gave a lecture last October 17, 2006 on Fundamentals on Disaster Risk Management for a training headed by TAO for young professionals, having the Dagupan PROMISE project experience as an example.
- The Project Coordinator of PROMISE Philippines, during a consultation with PRRM last October 13, 2006 promoted the Dagupan PROMISE experience as a model for promoting Disaster Risk Management in Local Government Units.
- Ms. Luneta gave an orientation of the Project PROMISE in Dagupan City to study tour visitors from TEAR Fund of United Kingdom and from HEEDS of Bangladesh.
- Preparations for the back to back activities for Avian Influenza Forum as well as the Children and Disaster Risk Management Forum and Exhibit to be held on October 26, 2006 were being done by CDP, the project coordinator as well as Dagupan TWG as part of the promotion to different institutions.

B. Next month activities Plan

- Continuous follow-up with Dr. Gonzalez for DIMS
- Giving Away the Flood Markers.
- Public Awareness Activities
- Implementation of small scale mitigation measures

C. Issues encountered and solutions

The Dagupan City Tour of Coordinators and PROMISE Partners last October 5, 2006 had a problem in time management. The estimated time was not enough for the whole group to visit all the clustered communities. The solution was to let the other visitors go ahead to Manila after the press conference, while the Coordinators from Pakistan, Mr. Masood; from Vietnam, Ms Trang; from Bangladesh, Mr. Huq; from Philippines, Ms. Mayfourth; ADPC staff and CDP staff were left behind to go to other pilot communities who were not visited yet.

Then another issue encountered was the late checking out from the hotel. CDP was able to talk with the hotel Manager and pleaded that ADPC be allowed to pay only for one day accommodation instead of the two day accommodation demanded by the hotel due to late checking out. After a long conversation, the Manager agreed.

Prepared by:

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