

AN APPLICATION OF PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO STUDY ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT: A Case Study in Mambing, New Corella, Mindanao, Philippines

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1. INTRODUCTION

The study sought: to determine the effectiveness of participatory approach for development; to identify the factors that affect on rural activity and community; and to find factors closely related to the household economy.

2. STUDY AREA

Barangay Mambing has nine (9) villages and is one of the 20 barangays of the Municipality of New Corella located at the northeastern most part of the Municipality. It is about 26 kilometers from the Poblacion and 12 kilometers from the Municipality of Nabunturan. It is bounded at the northeast by the Municipality of Montevista, Compostela Province and barangay San Isidro of Nabunturan, Compostela Province on the eastern part. El Salvador and Sta. Fe of New Corella on the southeast and Cabidianan on the west. As of year 2004, the barangay has an estimated population size of 1,379 with 273 households. 72% are settlers and migrants coming from different inlands of Luzon, Visayas, 28% are Indigenous People. The literacy rate of the barangay is 87%. The barangay products are mainly agricultural, particularly corn, coconut, banana and coffee. Among the livestock, native chickens, hogs and goats are mostly raised in the backyard of the residents. The barangay has 1,485 hectares total of land area of forested mountains and terrains as well as bald hills brought about by “kaingin” and land conversions. It is documented that 65% of the total land area were shifted to agriculture although few maybe classified as timberland. The location of the study area as shown in Figure 1.

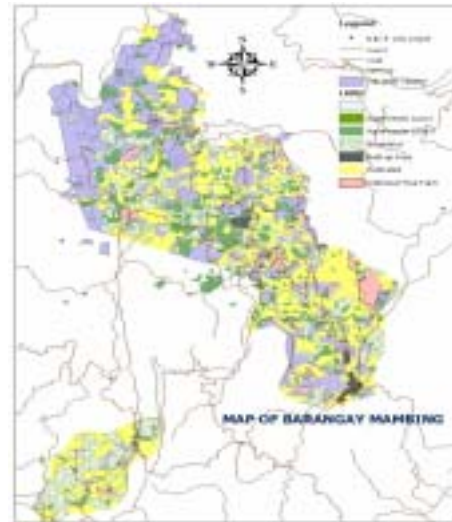


Fig. 1. Location of the Study Area

For the purpose to apply the three (3) typical villages selected namely: Bingas Village, New Padada Village and New Antiquera Village.

3. METHODOLOGY

A baseline survey was conducted in October 2003 with the statistical data and general information gathered from the local government units and non-government organizations.

The surveys were of three types: (1) open-ended interviews with key informants national, provincial, municipal, barangay and NGO levels were conducted about the three 3-selected villages of Barangay Mambing (e.g., population size and composition, educational level, development committee, sources of water and electricity, agriculture, land use and religious groups); (2) a household questionnaire survey was undertaken to the 3-selected villages to collect basic demographic, personal information, economic, KAP (Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices), social and other environmental constraints data.; and (3) in-depth interviews to 6 households of each selected villages to confirm and validate the

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questionnaire information using Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) Tools such as scalogram, flow chart, seasonal diagram and time allotment. Distribution of respondents according to villages as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of Households According to Villages

Village Name	No. of Respondents	Population Size		Facility	Distance from Centre
		Male	Female		
Bingas	34	107	91	None	3 kms.
New Padada	30	70	67	None	2 kms.
New Antiquera	36	96	76	Primary School	2 kms.
TOTAL	100	273	234		

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

As a preliminary study results, followings were drawn.:

The participatory approach jointly advocated by the Local Government Unit (LGU) and Non-Government Organization (NGO) might be unified the rural people in Maming and work together for community development. The migrant and non-migrant villages bonded their efforts together for a common cause that is the realization of their aspiration to uplift their household economy and the whole community. Because of this, harmonious relationship exists among the people in the village.

The LGU and NGO initiated and introduced viable technologies to improve crops and livestock production as an assurance of rural development. The community people were given serves of trainings and seminars in live with technology adoption. By the support of LGU and NGO in the locality coupled with their effective, the people were able to gain ideas on how to maintain/improved their village and household economy. Thus, continuous training and seminars were conducted and improve their attitude.

The respondents noted that the conducted PRA is useful to them for they were able to sort out in their minds the ill effect of some factors and be able to direct their occupation to other vocation to maintain and/or uplift their household economy.

The village people through their participation in participatory approach were able to identify factors that affect them and their community development as well as their household economy. Significantly, the identified limiting factors under climatic condition were the occurrence of raining months and long dry weather condition the so-called El Nino. These factors have various ill effects to the growing crops especially to the seasonal crops such as corn and coffee. It also affected to the perennial crops such as banana and fruit trees as well as livestock and poultry. These, therefore affect the income of farmers even how much they made use of the technology. Shortage of agriculture inputs is also identified as a limiting factor.

5. CONCLUSION

Base on the finding of the study, the participatory approach initiated to the rural people was successful in term of their rural development. The limiting factors that caused hindrance to rural and household economy development were identified and could be overcome by the rural people.

REFERENCES:

- Local Government Officials of Municipality of New Corella (2000) Barangay Maming, Comprehensive Development Plan 120p.
- DENR-SUSIMO (2004) SAMABACO Land Resource Map (1:50,000)