



**“Participatory Barangay Development Planning and Budgeting”**

# TERMINAL REPORT



A Joint-Undertaking of  
**The City Government of Oroquieta**  
and **The Environmental Cooperation and Linkages Inc.**  
In cooperation with  
**Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)**

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# **TERMINAL REPORT**

## **Part 1: Background Rationale**

The Participatory Barangay Development Planning and Budgeting Project for the 47 Barangays of Oroquieta is a joint-undertaking of the City Government of Oroquieta and the Environmental Cooperation and Linkages Inc. (ECOLINK) in cooperation with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). This project aims to address the weak capacities of the barangay LGU's in realizing their mandates as set forth in R.A. 7160 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of the Republic of the Philippines". The project involves cooperation among offices throughout the whole project duration-that is, October 2006- December 2006.

This report summarizes and formally closes the project as indicated in the project implementation plan.

The report herein focuses on the governance situation of barangays covered by the conduct of PRA and BDC meetings.

All in all, the project has achieved the following objectives:

### **Objectives:**

- 1) develop a strategic sustainable and doable programs for the municipality as well as the barangay LGU's;
- 2) determine the nature and extent of current participatory mechanisms in the barangay;
- 3) enable participants to learn participatory planning skills, such as data gathering methodologies, including computation and analysis in order to maximize the presence of potential resources;
- 4) assist in community investment planning processes where direct citizen participation and a better interaction among and between the LGU bodies and the citizens can be generated/ developed;
- 5) support in review and validation processes in communities where there are existing substantial Barangay Development Plans (BDPs);
- 6) In communities without substantial BDPs, participants will undertake a "learning by doing" process of producing participatory-based BDP.

## **Part II: Methodology**

The Barangay Development Council Meetings were carried out in four batches:

Consistent with the conceptual framework, the following projects/ activities will be conducted:

- 1) BDPB Training Program and Workshop Plans drafted.
- 2) BDPB Teams formed and conducted BDP.
- 3) Facilitators' Training-Workshop on BDP conducted. A Facilitators' Training-Workshop on BDP was conducted.
- 4) Actual training on BDPB in forty-seven barangays conducted. After the conduct of the Facilitators' Training-Workshop on Barangay Development Planning, workshops were conducted in the 47 barangays.
- 5) BDC' s were re-activated.

### **Part III: Financial Accomplishments**

The following table provides the detailed breakdown of expenses incurred in the implementation of the project. This only includes the direct costs of the project since indirect costs are totally shouldered by the ECOLINK.

Budget Items	Cost Chargeable to	
	LGU Equity	ECOLINK
<b>Trainers Training</b>		
Venue Rental		3,500.00
Streamers		1,000.00
Decors		3,000.00
Tapes, Cartolina		200.00
Kits	15,500.00	25,000.00
Pens, Inks, Markers		5,000.00
Manila papers, boards		400.00
Food	22,500.00	
Snacks	5,000.00	
Stipends		14,100.00
Facilitators' Honorarium		9,000.00
Documenter		2,100.00
Transportation Costs		6,000.00
Certificates, Printing Costs		6,000.00
<b>PRA</b>		
Streamers (2 pcs.)		1,200.00
Tapes, Glue, Cartolina		4,500.00
Pens, Inks, Markers		5,000.00
Manila papers		4,500.00
Bond Papers		11,000.00
Transportation for 2 BDP teams		32,900.00
Communications		7,400.00
Food (facilitators)		14,100.00
<b>BDC</b>		
Streamers		P 1,000.00
Tapes, Cartolina		200.00
Pens, Inks, Markers		5,000.00
Manila papers, Folders, Envelops		4,000.00
LCD Projector Rental		10,000.00
Snacks		15,000.00
Stipends (selected far-flung barangays)		5,000.00
Facilitators' Honorarium		20,000.00
Documenters		10,000.00
Transportation Costs		8,000.00
Certificates, Printing Costs		6,000.00
<b>BDP Package</b>		
Encoding/Statistical Analysis	62,000.00	31,000.00
Editing and Layout	79,500.00	39,750.00
Printing	45,000.00	22,500.00
Materials	17,915.00	8,957.50
<b>Total:</b>	<b>247,415.00</b>	<b>341,307.50</b>
<i>Note: the excess of 47,415 LGU equity covers the contribution of the barangays</i>		

## **Part IV: Governance Situation of Barangays**

### **A. Revenue Generation and Management Capacities of Barangays**

The revenue generation and management capacities of the barangay councils in Oroquieta City are weak. In fact, there are only a few among them that are actively collecting taxes in their respective communities as mandated in the R.A. 7160.

The major sources of revenue of the Barangay are the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) and shares of revenues from the City and Provincial Government. This means that without the two mandatory appropriations, the barangays of Oroquieta City could not stand on their own feet.

It can also be observed that many among the active revenue collections are made in the absence of enabling ordinances. Worse, there are many cases where the Barangay Council collects revenues from its constituents without the issuance of official receipts. This is very common in “water services fees”. Not only that these practices are unethical to the conduct of officials, these practices are violative of the Government Accounting Manual provisions. The enforcement of taxation powers of the barangays should and must be supported by an ordinance and done with the issuance of OR’s.

But this negative situation among the barangays can also be an avenue of positive reforms. If given the right capability-building intervention and approach, these weaknesses can be transformed into potentials.

(Please see Attachment A)

There are several revenue potentials identified during the community appraisals. There are 189 revenue potentials from 45 barangays covered by the appraisal. The most notable potential includes tax on stores and retailers, trade of animals and water usage.

### **B. Executive Functionalities**

There are only a few Punong Barangays who are exercising executive powers in the issuance of EO’s and Memorandum Circulars. This is a reflection of a widespread febleness of Punong Barangays in the exercise if such functions.

There are only a total of 13 EO’s issued on 2006 from the 45 barangays. Only 71 total Memorandum Circulars issued starting 2004 – 2006.

(Please see Attachment B)

### **C. Legislative Functionalities**

Of the 45 barangays less than half have favorable legislative functionalities. All in all, the average resolutions formulated per barangay is only 8.

Most resolutions also do not follow standard formats and language contents. Besides, majority of the barangays are still using typewriters.

Many among the Sangguniang Barangay Councilors also lack the technical skills in crafting resolutions and performing other legislative works.

There exists a trend among barangays to treat resolutions as merely “documents”, instead of a particular section in the proceedings of a Barangay Council meeting. In such cases, it is not surprising to find out that resolutions furnished to other offices including those authorizations for withdrawal are falsified and are not actually excerpts from the sessions’ minutes.

(Please see Attachment C)

### **D. Law Enforcement Capacities**

It is very important to analyze the law enforcement capacities of barangays as this may determine the overall program thrusts of higher concerned offices towards community-level law enforcement.

There are a total of 349 tanods with at least 1 functioning handheld radio in each barangay.

Most barangays with teargas complain that these are no longer functioning, probably expired. Not one of the flashlights issued by the DILG before are operational.

(Please see Attachment D)

### **E. Standing Councils**

Most, if not all, of the standing councils created in compliance to R.A. 7160 and DILG Memorandum Circulars are only “lists” of names. Several among the community members are even surprised to find their names on the list. There exists no mechanism in monitoring the performance of these mandatory administrative bodies.

But, some barangays also have functioning councils. Yet, only 1 or 2 among the many are actually working.

(Please see Attachment E)

## **F. Conflict –mitigation Capacities**

Settling disputes in the community is but one among the most important functions of the Barangay Council. Among the 45 barangays covered in this report, there are a number of Punong Barangays who are confused of the dynamism between the Lupong Tagapamayapa and the Pangkat. They argue of the sole power of the Punong Barangay in settling disputes. The Lupong Tagapamayapa, therefore, is useless. This is a potential point of developing an intervention to assists Punong Barangays in the performance of conflict-mitigation capacities.

It can also be observed that some Lupong Tagapamayapa's are not observing rules of procedures in handling disputes. In a worse case scenario, a Barangay Councilor insists in presiding a hearing instead of the Punong Barangay.

In short, the barangays of Oroquieta City have an 83 % conflict settlement capacity.

(Please see Attachment F)

## **G. Records Management**

The aspect of Records Management is probably the weakest among the barangays. Almost of Barangay Secretaries and Barangay Councils *per se* do not have records available of their minutes, resolutions, communications, proceedings, and so on.

Barangay Secretaries do not have any knowledge of their responsibility of keeping the records of day-to-day transactions and activities of the barangays. The absence of records is very crucial to questions concerning policies implemented by the barangay with supporting ordinances. Financial transactions, usually resolutions authorizing the Treasurer, are made in the absence of records. In the filing of documents, only 1 barangay utilizes "indexing".

The saddest thing to consider in records management is that records of barangay properties and other documents are brought and kept in the Secretary's residence. A number of barangays do not have Offices and Cabinets for records keeping.

## **H. Fiscal Management**

The budgetary process defined by law is rarely followed by the barangays. In most cases, the Treasurer prepares the budget and the Sangguniang Barangay approves it without question. Even the Punong Barangay seldom insists any revision. Only 1 Barangay practices the crafting of an Executive Budget, an Annual Procurement Plan and a budgetary letter addressed to the Barangay Council.



On their 2005 budgets, the barangays do not provide allocations for GAD fund, contrary to the provisions of RA 7160 and relevant Memorandums. Only a few Barangays provide appropriations for livelihood enterprises.

The barangay do not have its own accounting records.

## **I. Sangguniang Kabataan Functionalities**

There are several striking realities as to the functionalities of SK Councils in the barangays. Several among the barangays have a few remaining SK councilors who are still qualified to continually serve. In cases like this, the SK Budgets are diverted to projects and activities determined either by the Punong Barangay or by the Sangguniang Barangay. In either scenario, the SK functions are deemed undermined. This result in the use of SK funds for field trips of Barangay officials, purchase of cellular phones, etc.

In barangays where SK Chairpersons are still functioning, STF budgets are spent on unproductive expenditures such as tours and the like.

Another dilemma faced by the SK Councils is the fact that they are contributing 5,000 pesos to the City Federation. Although relatively a small amount, the said figure could mean a lot in rural barangays.

## **J. Other Concerns**

There are common problems not covered within the key result areas of the project besetting Barangay LGU's at present. These are:

1. **Properties under Dispute-** Many among the barangays have properties without legal papers at hand. These are usually in the forms of barangay lots acquired through verbal donations of deceased individuals now being claimed by the donor's heirs.
2. **Territorial Disputes-** Boundaries between barangays and the membership of households to neighboring communities often result in disputes between Barangay Councils. If not given due attention, this may result in conflicts of law enforcement jurisdiction and the delivery of basic services.
3. **Non-functionality of Officials-** A number of barangays raise concerns over the failure of 1 or 2 Sangguniang Barangay Councilors to attend dozens of consecutive sessions. This problem may affect the usual flow of council functionalities as well as it may trigger conflict among community members interested of the position.

## **Part V. Recommendations**

It is highly –recommended that the Executive Office and the DILG should develop a mechanism within the Local Government that will attend to the needs of the barangays. This mechanism should be tasked to develop and implement Capability-building, institutional and technical support to barangays.

With the failure of Upper Langcangan and Toliyok to participate in the BDPB appraisals, the ECOLINK has to exert efforts in individually encoding and interpreting barangay data. There are also Barangays which did not yet provide RBI records. It would a month or two to finally complete the BDP's.



## *Acknowledgement*

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*Above all to the Heavenly Father for guiding us throughout the whole project process, avoiding us of any untoward incident that could have brought havoc to our lives as well as to the attainment of the project's objectives;*

*To Honorable Mayor Jorge T. Almonte, for giving us the opportunity to be of service to the barangays;*

*To the Punong Barangays of the 45 communities who participated wholeheartedly in the project; and*

*To the countless people who have hoped of fulfilling their visions and dreams of their communities.*

*Thank You!*