



Sustainable Human Development Program (SHDP)
(Center)

[2016] PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

I. Project Information

Project Code	HDRST
Project Title	Natural Resource Assessment Component under the Ecotown Demonstration Project in Bohol
Project Start	March 1, 2015
Project End	April 30, 2016
Project Price	PhP 1,493,273.6
Client/Organization	Climate Change Commission (CCC)

II. Project Team

Project Manager	Dorothea C. Boy-Navarro
Project Team Members	Marites Solomon Gremil Alessandro Naz -- resigned as of June 2015 Kristian April Narciso Noel Pelle
Supervising Fellow/ Project Director	Alan S. Cajés
Consultants/ Resource Persons	Dr. Edwin Combalicer – Forestry/Watershed Dr. Dixon Gevaña – ENRA Terrestrial Dr. Jose Nestor Garcia – Agriculture Ms. Angelie Nellas, as replacement for Dr. Nathaniel Añasco – Marine Coastal Dr. Gay Defiesta – ENRA Marine Coastal Ms Annabelle Jayco – Research and Organizing

III. Project Details

**Project
Description**

The project is on the natural resource assessment component which is the first of the seven steps in the development of the Ecotown framework demonstration. This current project aims to demonstrate the framework in another five municipalities in Bohol.

The Ecotown Framework Demonstration project is part of the scaled-up implementation of the eco-town framework project initiated by the Climate Change Commission (CCC) and anchored on the National Climate Change Action Plan. Adaptation and mitigation are key responses prioritized with adaptation as the anchor strategy. It is translated into the National Climate Change Action Plan and is linked to key actions such as impact, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, to name one.

The local level implementation of NCCAP is through the Ecotown, whereby an eco-town is a planning unit composed of municipalities or a group of municipalities within and around boundaries of key biodiversity areas which are at high risk to climate change. The task is to enhance climate resilience and promote green growth in project sites, creating a balance between environmental, social and economic sustainability.



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Project Objective	<p>The natural resource assessment shall take account of how ecosystems work by using information on the state of and pressures upon, different components of ecosystems, particularly habitats and species, water and soil quality. It shall also account for the services ecosystems provide to people by identifying the wide range of uses of natural resources and their value to the community for sustainable development. E.g. for agriculture, industry, tourism, recreation, health and well-being. Lastly, it shall look at the various involvement or role of people, in the use of and management of the different ecosystems using various usage, participation and governance mechanisms and policy instruments.</p>
	<p>Based on the NRA framework adopted, the study shall proceed from the physical assessment of the natural resources and the ecosystems, involving an inventory of the natural assets and stocks, the characterization of the condition or status and the identification of issues and future trends; to the natural resource accounting of the sectors and the "greening" of the income accounts, based on the existing natural resources in the five project sites as well as the natural resources management priorities of their respective local governments.</p>
	<p>In the context of eco-towns as showcases of climate resilient green growth, the natural resources assessment project aims to provide the baseline information that will establish the resources and their ecosystem services, their value and current conditions, towards a better appreciation, responsibility and sound basis for decision making over resource management and climate adaptation.</p> <p>Specifically, it aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Undertake stocktaking exercise on the different natural resource assessments and studies focused on agriculture, coastal and marine, forestry sectors as well as the socioeconomic profile of the project sites;2. Provide an analysis of the state of the various natural resources in the areas - the land, soil and water and related resources - including their management regimes, threats and opportunities;3. Characterize the socio-economic condition of the communities focusing on the local economy and health.4. Facilitate the presentation and dissemination of the results of the study through a climate change forum involving the stakeholders in the project sites; and5. Present an analysis of the potentials for renewable energy in the project sites.
Focus Area	Sustainable Human Development, partly training
Project Type	Technical assistance in combination with Research and Training
Project Beneficiary	Beneficiaries are the people and the Local Governments of the five municipalities of Antequera, Balilihan, Catigbian, Cortes and Maribojoc in the Province of Bohol.
Regional Coverage	Region VII

IV. Project Accomplishments

Key Activities Implemented	<p>The key activities implemented during the year are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engagement of and meetings and discussion with consultants (forestry &
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watershed, agriculture, health, coastal marine and ENRA consultants on framework, methodology and their respective outputs, as input into the inception report to be prepared

- While waiting for the notice to proceed from CCC, gathering of studies, research and statistics on the sectors under study in the five LGUs and the province.
- Provincial level orientation, inception meeting and scoping at the ground level in April: visits and coordination with the five municipalities, and in particular, meeting-orientation with the Municipality of Cortes (April 29), with the participation of Ms. Ron from the PPDO.
- Preparation and submission of the NRA inception report
- Hiring and deployment of a local project team member working on coordination, follow through orientation of the LGUs, data gathering, formation of the five LGU teams (to be training participants) and the drafting of the socio-economic profile of the five LGUs.
- Formation of the Ecotown Technical Working Group (composed of five to six members) per LGU, supported by an Executive Order for the designation of the members of the TWG;
- Secondary data collection on the forest, agriculture, coastal marine, socio-economic and health sectors, from the five municipalities for the preliminary review and input to the GIS mapping and modeling of the project's consultants; among the data collected were the Forest Land Use Plan of Catigbian, some agriculture data and physical and human resource data from Maribojoc and the Comprehensive Land Use Plan of Cortes, on top of the various data sets obtained about the Province. Data sets available will also determine the extent of primary data gathering needed as well as guide the preparation of FGD tools
- Coordination with a local NGO, PROCESS for data sets particularly on the coastal marine studies on Cortes and Maribojoc.
- Coordination with Tagbilaran and Main office of PAGASA for hydro-meteorological data of the province.
- Designing of training module implementation of which shall be integrated in the assessment until the planning process of the NRA as well as the VA project being simultaneously done.
- Conduct of the initial field works for data gathering, KIIs and FGDs on the sectors in July 2015. Before actual field work, a one-day Introductory Course on Climate Change was conducted with the members of the Ecotown TWG from the five LGUs. The succeeding days were for simultaneous sectoral FGDs per town for participatory NRA and ENRA, as well as VA; a simultaneous limited household survey done in the five LGUs, for both terrestrial and marine/fisheries sector to establish use of resources as well as income
- Second fieldwork in August involved the presentation of the initial NRA and VA results for validation and for the determination of initial adaptation strategies per LGU
- Completion of the conduct of a biosurvey for the NRA of the marine coastal sector
- Conduct of Local Early Action and Adaptation Planning Workshop: initially scheduled in early September, this was actually done in mid October as per CCC request for change in schedule and conflicts in schedules of the five LGUs.



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	<p>A special planning workshop/mentoring was done for the LGU of Cortes due to their failure to attend the October Planning Workshop due to issues with the Mayor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project team is current working on the reports for submission to CCC
Major Outputs	<p>Major outputs for the year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inception Report• Completion of the training integrated with the assessments (sort of on-the-job) and planning.• Consultants' reports on NRA and VA on forestry, agriculture and health.• Basic maps as well as climate change vulnerability maps by LGUs• Biosurvey results of the marine resource of Maribojoc and Cortes• Collated household (partly socio-economic) of the five LGUs• Initial CC Adaptation Plans of the LGUs• Initial and final reports already submitted to Climate Change Commission
Project Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plans are not for implementation under project period
Lessons Learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DAP implementing both the NRA and VA components of the Ecotown is better than one component being implemented by another group: this is for cost effectiveness (since budget per component was relatively small and time frame is too short). But implementing the whole series of ecotown components by one organization will be a more efficient and effective strategy which the CCC can adapt. As it is now, DAP is only technical assistance in preparing for and in planning; it has no control anymore on how the plans will be interpreted or be implemented, as well as a sense of fragmented support for the LGUs who are at a certain momentum in pursuing the plan• There is also a feeling of confusion (and probably, resignation) on the part of the LGUs because other than the CCC-DAP, other government agencies are also calling them about climate change, with their respective climate change plans (e.g. DILG, MGB). While assistance from different agencies are welcome, the confusion also lies in the different tools used e.g. MGB's vulnerability maps, which are different from what the project also produced. The Provincial LGU thus, has a very important role in harmonizing all these efforts

V. Attachments

- Summary of Evaluation for Course and Resource Person (for training program)
- Certificate of Project Closure (for all completed projects)

Prepared by:

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Project Manager

Noted / Approved by:

Alan S. Cajés
Center Head