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**PROMISE PROJECT**

**Philippines**

**NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**

**Implemented By:**

*Center for Disaster Preparedness*

**Submitted To:**

**ADPC**

**Reporting Period**  
**August 2010**

## **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 Pasig City

- **Pasig City CBDRR Commencement Exercise**
- **Community Early Warning System Orientation**

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

- **Study Tour Visit for PROMISE Cities**
- **Pasig City CBDRR Commencement Exercise**
- **Community Early Warning System Orientation**
- **Rizal High School DRR Orientation**

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

- **Study Tour Visit for PROMISE Cities**
- **Pasig Division Department of Education DRR Orientation**

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

- **Study Tour Visit for PROMISE Cities**
- **Pasig City CBDRR Commencement Exercise**
- **Community Early Warning System Orientation**
- **Pasig Division Department of Education DRR Orientation**
- **Rizal High School DRR Orientation**

## **Study Tour Visit for PROMISE Cities**

Mercy Corps China had a study tour facilitated by CDP. There were four delegates- Mr. Lui Liangchuan(Mercy Corps point person), Mr. Zhu Yun, Mr. Zhang Jian and Mr. Dong Zhoukai (3 government officials). Part of the study tour was to go to PROMISE areas. The delegates went to PROMISE Cities and other partner areas of CDP last August 4-6, 2010 with Ms. Luneta and Ms Jelyne Gealone of CDP. The purpose of the study tour was to see how the cities do their disaster risk reduction.

#### Highlights of the Dagupan Visit:

- PROMISE project presentation by Mrs. Emma J. Molina
  - Capacity Development in CBDRRM for the City TWG
  - Capacity Development for the Communities
  - Non Structural and Structural Mitigation in the Community
  - City and Community Early Warning System
- Question and Answer portion handled the City TWG
- Community Early Warning System Presentation by Mangin DRRMC
- Hazard Capacity Vulnerability 3d Map presented by Councilor Eva Clores of Mangin.

The participants appreciated the DRR efforts made by the local government and the community. Furthermore, they were happy with how the city and the communities work with each other in increasing each other's capacity in preparedness and community based DRR.

#### Highlights in Pasig City Visit:

- Orientation on the Pasig City C3 (communication command center) –showing the early warning system of the city using a CCTV camera monitoring the water level in one of the lowest community in the city and giving an alarm if needed
- Centralized monitoring of major streets to be prepared in any kind of hazard
- Showed also the abilities of the award winning Search and Rescue team of Pasig.
- Showed the Typhoon Ketsana emergency response
- The participants also had a time for asking their questions to the City TWG. There was sharing of the TWG CBDRR training experience.
- The participants were also able to see the structural mitigation made by the city to reduce the risk of flooding
- They were also able to see the high tech gadgets used for emergency response.

The participants were very much interested with the advance practices that Pasig already have also with the community based DRR training that the TWG shared.

### **Pasig City CBDRR Commencement Exercise**

More than 400 participants of the Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Seminar from the eight pilot barangays of Pasig City gathered together on 13<sup>th</sup> of August for the well-attended graduation ceremonies in the classy Tanghalang Pasigueno for their graduation ceremonies. This also marks the connection to relevant PROMISE objectives. Each community had a presentation showing their expertise. The highlights of the community presentations were the DRR Mini Play, environmental songs, and a multi talent presentation (song, dance and skit) depicting what they should do before during and after a flood.

Ms. Lorna Victoria, CDP advisor and author of the famous local CBDM book in the Philippines graced the event as the guest speaker along with Pasig City Mayor, Hon. Robert Eusebio and PAGASA Representative Engr. Jun Paat. The speakers encouraged the participants to continue in sharing what they have learned in the community and to be a part of the community based DRR.

The participants expressed their commitment and received their certificates.

The event was attended by the participants, the Barangay Captains, CDP staff and directors, PAG-ASA representative, Pasig City CBDRRM TWG, Pasig City staff and by City Councilor Ian Sia.

### **Community Early Warning System Orientation**

The Community Early Warning System Orientation was done to help improve the Community Risk Assessment Results and to give a guide in making a Community Early Warning System.

During the orientation the following were discussed:

- Enhancement of hazard maps and other CRA tools
- Discussion of the outline of a CBDRRM Plan
- Discussion of the Community Based Contingency Plan or the Community Early Warning System Orientation
- Evacuation Plan
- Looking for a suitable Evacuation Center/ Camp
- Coordination with local schools
- Provision of PROMISE early warning flood markers and other relevant gadget (Php 10,000 each community). These will be provided if they will submit a CBDRRM plan, contingency plan for flooding and a proposal that will be approved by the Pasig TWG and CDP.

The following were the schedule of the orientation of the communities by the different TWG:

August 16 facilitated by CDP and Avatar for Santolan and Manggahan

August 17 facilitated by CDP and Fujiwara for Pinagbuhatan and Sta Lucia

August 18 facilitated by CDP and Bantam for Bambang and Kalawaan

August 19 facilitated by CDP and Balibago for Rosario and Maybunga

The meeting and orientation were also attended by Mr. NMSI Arambepola, UDRM Director of ADPC. Mr. Arambe gave encouragements to the participants for them to realize the importance of community based DRR.

Issues during the Ketsana Evacuation were discussed. It was emphasized that proper planning should be done and coordination with partners and other stakeholders (esp. the coordination with principals for the use of schools as temporary evacuation centers) should also be done before a disaster strikes.

Mr. Arambe and Ms Luneta together with Mr. Evangelista had a short meeting with Mayor Eusebio about what will transpire in the next months-

- Invitation to Mayor Eusebio for a DRR conference in Europe
- Making of community DRR plans and contingency plans for flooding
- Provision of funds for Early warning system from PROMISE.

## **Pasig Division Department of Education DRR Orientation**

As part of promotion of DRR in the City, the PROMISE project sponsored a DRR Orientation in the Education Sector for Pasig City Division of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports. The orientation on August 20 was done in collaboration with the National DEP ED. The orientation was facilitated by Ms. Luneta ( PROMISE Coordinator) and Ms. Candy De Juan (National Dep Ed – DRR point person).

The following were discussed:

- Overview of DRR in Schools
- Basic Concepts in DRR
- Child Centered DRR
- Gaps and Issues
- RA 10121
- Evacuation Center Management
- Tales of Disaster

It was attended by 36 DRR coordinators and teachers for 29 elementary schools and 16 DRR coordinators and teachers for 11 secondary schools in Pasig City.

The discussions were very fruitful and inspiring especially during the discussion on the use of Schools as evacuation centers. The participants no longer want the schools to be used as evacuation centers because of the past experience during Ketsana Typhoon. Most of the evacuees were not organized and the evacuation was not planned. These resulted to the improper use of the rooms and facilities of the schools. The administrators no longer want to let evacuees to use classrooms/schools as evacuation centers.

It was cleared out by Ms. De Juan that schools can still be used as evacuation centers if there are no other option in the area and will only be used for a short period of time (Contrary to the interpretation of the schools in Pasig that the schools will no longer be used as evacuation centers). Ms. Luneta further explained that the use of schools during emergencies would be better provided that the local government and the school administration will have a memorandum of agreement for the usage of schools.

## **Rizal High School DRR Orientation**

Last August 27, 2010, Ms. Luneta was invited by Principal Josephine Cruz to facilitate a session on disaster preparedness for the teachers of Rizal High School in Pasig City. (This school was a Guinness book record holder for the most number of students in the world).

Ms. Luneta gave some tips on disaster preparedness for different hazards. Furthermore, she showed different teaching materials on DRR that can be used for their classes (this included Tales of Disaster and Materials Produced by DEP ED with ADPC).

#### **A. Next month activities Plan**

Follow up of Community DRR Plan and Contingency plans  
NCR DEP ED DRR Training  
Swift Water Rescue Orientation

#### **B. Issues encountered and solutions. Lessons learned**

The early warning system and evacuation plan (or the contingency plan for flooding) is one of the most essential part of the PROMISE project however, lack of time and resources were big hindrances in making these plans. The PROMISE Team made sure that these will not impede the making of the community plans, by having the community meeting/orientation with the leaders and the most active participants of the CBDRRM training. Furthermore, the TWG advised the leaders to have their own community consultation and validation using their own resources.

Issues on Evacuation centers by the barangay leaders and school administrators were aired both during community consultation and school DRR training. The PROMISE TWG helped in explaining each other's side and gave suggestions on how to improve on evacuation and evacuation center management. PROMISE project gave a venue to bridge the gap.

Prepared by:

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