



ISFI *Report to* ADDU PRESIDENT

September 2009

Better Shelter and Basic Services Support for Urban Poor in Talomo Area

Davao City is one of the most densely populated cities in the country. Apart from the population growth, the city's economic opportunities is a magnet to many people who seek better life. With more people in the city, the demand for housing tends to increase exponentially. Not all are fortunate to build their own, decent houses; they are often called informal settlers, making-do of the small spaces such as those considered road-right of way, those in danger zones (such as near riverbanks), those in private and government properties.

The Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA) and the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom are implementing a project called "Institutionalizing Local and National Partnerships to Address Urban Poverty and Homelessness in the Philippines. One of the initial requirements is the conduct of a city baseline survey as to the profile of the urban poor in key areas of the country such as Davao City. The Institute for Small Farms and Industries (ISFI) was tapped to undertake the baseline profile. ISFI also worked closely with the San Lorenzo Ruiz Socio-Economic Development Foundation and other offices of the Davao City Government to come up with the benchmark information on Davao City's urban poor, particularly those located in 11 puroks of Brgy. Talomo.

ISFI presented the findings of the baseline survey to the different urban poor stakeholders last September 18 at the MTRC; and again to the Mindanao PHILSSA members last September 29 at the Davao Eagles Ridge Resort.



Some of the significant findings were:

1. Davao City Government has earmarked support to the urban poor sector, including the provision of health, education, sanitation and emergency services. Pending the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Davao City Shelter Code, more assistance are in the works such as land acquisition and provision of infrastructure for relocation and resettlement area.
2. The urban poor families in Talomo area have access to the above services provided by the City Government. However, many households desire for better income and livelihood opportunities (half of the working sample population earns less than PhP 5,000/month).
3. The urban poor sector is organized, with as many as seven (7) federations and members reaching 16,849.

Other Project Updates

PTFCF-Bagumbayan Project

- Mapping activity of the road and other vital infrastructure thru the use of GPS technology
- Meeting with the Head of the Polytechnic College and the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, to finalize partnership on nursery establishment and seedlings production
- Participation to the Forest Land Use Plan training conducted by the EcoGov 2 Project

DENR 12-Watershed Characterization

- Community Mapping and GPS reading
- Secondary data gathering
- Coordination with the DENR on field activities and other additional requirements

WB-CSF Project on Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples

- Conducted Focused Group Discussion on two indigenous peoples groups in Marilog District -- the Matigsalog of Brgy. Salaysay and the Ubu-Manobo of Brgy. Bantol

CordAid Project: Catalysts in Enterprise Development

- Team discussion on the Local Economic and Enterprise Development Plans (LEEDP) of the 7 LGUs
- Organizational development activities of the craft village beneficiaries
- Continuous coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry and other relevant government agencies

Last Call for Donations!

ISFI is calling all its colleagues in the development work to join the 12th Founding Anniversary of SMSNAI on October 20, 2009, by sharing the following items:

1. **Medicines**
2. **Used clothing and books**
3. **Prizes for games**
4. **Food for the doctors, dentists, nurses and nursing student volunteers of the Medical and Dental Mission**

Your contribution will be acknowledged. For details of the donation drive and the anniversary, please contact ISFI (Emy or Matet) at telephone number 227-3091.

Joy Cabo is on-call consultant and AVP of OIDCI on a flex-time arrangement. She however continues to render services to ISFI on output basis and especially focusing on resource generation and mobilization (RGM), monitoring and evaluation (M & E)/regular staff meeting, linkage building and reviewing quality of project reports and other deliverables.