

## **Community Perception on the “Go Bike Project” of Padyarescue Incorporated in Bugallon, Pangasinan**

Rochelle M. Bravo  
Jierlyn Z. Cabarlo  
Christian Dave P. Dela Cruz  
Lea D. Evangelista

This study aimed to assess the community perception of the Go Bike Project of PadyaRescue Incorporated, implemented in the Municipality of Bugallon, Pangasinan. The research sought to gain a comprehensive understanding of how the project operates, the resources it utilizes, and its perceived effectiveness among the residents of Barangay Umanday. Specifically, the study sought to answer questions concerning the profile of the Go Bike Project in terms of its objectives, years of existence, partners, and activities; the status of its operational resources, including financial, personnel, and physical resources; the level of effectiveness of its activities as perceived by the community, particularly in terms of safety services and disaster risk reduction management (DRRM); and finally, the challenges and problems encountered by the organization as perceived by the project executives and active volunteers.

The Go Bike Project, launched by PadyaRescue Incorporated, was established as an innovative initiative combining cycling and community service, aiming to promote disaster preparedness, mobility, and sustainability. In Bugallon, the project has become an avenue for local volunteers and community members to engage in humanitarian efforts, especially during emergencies and natural disasters. The researchers recognized that while the project has gained visibility in local communities, limited studies have been conducted to evaluate its performance and community impact. Therefore, this study served as a means to document the project's development, resource utilization, effectiveness, and the perception of stakeholders toward its implementation.

The research was conducted during the academic year 2022–2023 and utilized a combination of case study and descriptive research methods. The case study approach allowed the researchers to explore the operational structure and unique experiences of the Go Bike Project in Bugallon, while the descriptive method was employed to describe the community's perception and evaluate specific aspects such as effectiveness, resources, and challenges. Together, these approaches provided both an in-depth and statistical perspective of the project's impact.

A total of 164 respondents participated in the study. These included one (1) executive director and co-founder of the Go Bike Project, seven (7) project executives, twenty (20) active volunteers, and one hundred thirty-six (136) household heads from Barangay Umanday, Bugallon, Pangasinan. This diverse group of respondents was selected to represent different perspectives—administrative, operational, and community-based—thus ensuring a holistic assessment of the project's implementation and outcomes.

To collect the necessary data, the researchers utilized two main research instruments: an interview guide and a set of survey questionnaires. The interview guide was designed in two parts. Part I focused on the profile of the Go Bike Project, which covered four areas: (a) project objectives, (b) years of existence, (c) partner organizations, and (d) activities. This section was aimed at providing a descriptive overview of the project's history and operational focus. Part II dealt with the status of operational resources, which included (a) financial resources, (b) personnel resources, and (c) physical resources. These aspects were addressed primarily by the executive director and co-founder, providing essential details on how the project sustains its operations and mobilizes its members and assets.

The survey questionnaire, on the other hand, was administered to the household heads of Barangay Umanday to determine their perception of the effectiveness of the project's activities. The questionnaire was structured based on key performance indicators relating to safety services and disaster risk reduction management (DRRM). The responses provided by the residents helped gauge how the community viewed the project's contribution to safety, disaster preparedness, and emergency response.

The study also made use of document analysis to examine official records, reports, and organizational documents related to the Go Bike Project. This included materials detailing its financial performance, partnerships, and activities conducted since its inception. The data gathered through document analysis were interpreted using narrative explanation, which allowed the researchers to describe the project's progress and operational conditions in qualitative terms.

In processing the survey results, statistical tools were applied to ensure accurate interpretation. The average weighted mean was used to determine the overall level of effectiveness of the Go Bike Project's activities as perceived by the respondents. Responses were measured and interpreted through a Likert scale, which categorized perceptions into levels such as "very effective," "effective," "moderately effective," "less effective," and "not effective." Furthermore, the challenges and problems encountered by the organization were analyzed using the ranking method, which allowed the identification of the most pressing issues based on frequency and significance.

The study found that the Go Bike Project of PadyaRescue Incorporated has well-defined objectives that align with the promotion of community safety, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable mobility. The project's mission centers on empowering volunteers through cycling-based rescue and relief operations, environmental advocacy, and public safety education. Since its establishment, the project has built strong partnerships with local government units, non-governmental organizations, and community stakeholders, enabling it to expand its reach and sustain its programs.

In terms of resources, the study revealed that while the project has dedicated and competent personnel, its financial and physical resources remain limited. Funding largely depends on donations, sponsorships, and community contributions, which at times restrict the scale of its operations. Nevertheless, the project effectively maximizes available resources through volunteerism and strategic partnerships. Personnel resources consist mainly of active volunteers and trained responders, while physical resources include bicycles, rescue equipment, safety gear, and basic communication tools. Despite resource constraints, the project continues to deliver vital services to the community.

With regard to the level of effectiveness, the results of the survey among households in Barangay Umanday indicated that the community perceives the Go Bike Project as highly effective in promoting safety services and disaster risk reduction management. Residents recognized the project's active involvement in assisting during emergencies, conducting awareness campaigns, and providing first-response support during disasters. The presence of trained volunteers and the project's visibility in community activities have strengthened the sense of safety and preparedness among residents. Moreover, the Go Bike Project's innovative use of bicycles for mobility and rescue has been viewed as both practical and environmentally friendly, aligning with modern principles of sustainable development and green advocacy.

However, the study also identified several challenges and problems encountered by the organization. Among these were inadequate funding, insufficient rescue equipment, and the need for continuous training of volunteers. Organizational sustainability and resource mobilization were highlighted as recurring concerns, as maintaining operations requires both financial stability and consistent manpower. Additionally, some logistical limitations—such as the availability of transportation and communication tools during large-scale emergencies—were noted as areas for improvement. Despite these challenges, the commitment and solidarity of the volunteers have enabled the project to continue delivering community services effectively.

Based on the findings, the study concludes that the Go Bike Project of PadyaRescue Incorporated is a significant and well-regarded initiative in Bugallon, Pangasinan. Its focus on safety, disaster readiness, and community involvement has earned the trust and appreciation of residents. The project's effectiveness lies not only in its direct services but also in its ability to inspire civic responsibility and volunteerism. To further strengthen its impact, the study recommends the establishment of stronger partnerships with local government units and private organizations to enhance financial and logistical support. It also suggests periodic evaluations of the project's performance to ensure sustainability and adaptability to evolving community needs.

In summary, the study demonstrates that community-based initiatives like the Go Bike Project can play a vital role in promoting disaster resilience, safety, and social engagement. Through collective

effort, proper management, and community support, such projects can serve as models of grassroots innovation in disaster preparedness and sustainable development.