

Implementation of Department of Labor and Employment Programs in the Second Congressional District of Pangasinan

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This study examined the flood-risk reduction and management practices of selected Local Government Units (LGUs) in Pangasinan. It specifically sought to (1) describe the profile of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (MDRRMOs), (2) assess the level of flood-risk reduction and management implementation, (3) evaluate the budget allocation and utilization for the four thematic areas—Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Rehabilitation and Recovery, and (4) analyze the trend in budget allocation and utilization of the MDRRMOs in selected LGUs from fiscal years 2016 to 2021.

The study employed a mixed-methods design, integrating both qualitative and quantitative approaches to provide a comprehensive understanding of flood-risk management at the local level. The purposive sampling technique, a non-probability sampling method, was used to select participants based on their roles and expertise in disaster risk reduction and management, particularly those working in flood-prone municipalities in Pangasinan. This method was appropriate for gathering in-depth insights from key individuals directly engaged in disaster management operations.

The research was conducted in the municipalities of Calasiao, Sta. Barbara, and Mangatarem—areas identified as highly susceptible to flooding based on the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) flood susceptibility map. A total of 36 respondents participated in the study, including three (3) Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officers and eleven (11) members from each of the Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (BDRRMCs). Each barangay group was composed of one (1) Barangay Captain, seven (7) Barangay Kagawads, one (1) Barangay Secretary, one (1) Barangay Treasurer, and one (1) Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson. The barangays were identified by the MDRRMOs as those most frequently and severely affected by flooding incidents.

Data collection involved the use of survey questionnaires and document analysis. The survey gathered information on the level of disaster preparedness, mitigation measures, and response practices implemented by the BDRRMCs. The instrument was validated by faculty experts from the College of Business and Public Administration, AB English Language, and General Education Department, as well as a representative from the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, to ensure content validity and reliability. A pre-survey was conducted to refine the instrument and confirm the suitability of the questions for the target respondents. The collected data were tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted using frequency, percentage, and mean for the first two research problems, while documentary analysis was applied to assess trends in budget allocation and utilization covering the fiscal years 2016–2021.

Findings revealed that the level of flood-risk reduction and management among the selected LGUs was rated as very highly managed. The activities implemented by the MDRRMOs and BDRRMCs were consistent with the four thematic areas of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework—Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Rehabilitation and Recovery. Budget allocation and utilization were also found to be effectively managed, reflecting the LGUs' commitment to improving flood-risk reduction efforts and ensuring public safety.

Based on these results, the study recommends the following measures to further strengthen flood-risk management in Pangasinan: (1) Enhance coordination and collaboration between municipal and barangay officials to ensure unified disaster response efforts and efficient resource utilization, (2) Expand and strengthen partnerships with national and local agencies such as the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), and Philippine

National Police (PNP) to enhance disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies, (3) The MDRRMOs should continue to align their programs with the guidelines and policies of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to ensure consistency and compliance with national standards, (4) LGUs should leverage technology and data-driven systems to improve forecasting, early warning, and communication during disaster events, thereby increasing operational efficiency and responsiveness, (5) Finally, there should be a sustained effort to educate and train residents on individual household preparedness, ensuring that communities are resilient and capable of immediate action during flood emergencies.

In conclusion, the study highlights that the flood-risk reduction and management programs in the selected LGUs of Pangasinan are well-organized and effectively implemented. However, continuous capacity-building, inter-agency cooperation, and community-based preparedness remain essential to further strengthen disaster resilience and ensure sustainable safety for all constituents.