

Socio-Economic Contribution of Fisherfolk Associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan

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The objective of this study was to determine the socio-economic contribution of Fisherfolk Associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan. It aimed to determine the profile of the respondents in terms of name of organizations, location, objectives, years of operation, and sources of funds; the activities of the fisherfolk associations; and the socio-economic contribution of fisherfolk associations in occupation aspect, social status and education aspects. Moreover, the challenges encountered by the fisherfolk associations in the implementation of its socio-economic activities were also determined.

The respondents of this study were the presidents of the 14 different Fisherfolk Associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan. Researchers used a mixed method in the study in gathering, analyzing, and interpreting the data gathered through document analysis and survey questionnaires, which employ a case study and descriptive research design to determine the socioeconomic contribution of fisherfolk associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan. Based on the records from the Municipal Agricultural Office (MAO), fourteen (14) are currently active and accredited Fisherfolk Associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan. Their respective presidents represented this Fisherfolk Association. The list of this active Fisherfolk Association is as follows: This study used document analysis and a survey questionnaire as the data gathering tool. Experts in this field would validate the research instrument of this study. Their opinions, comments, and suggestions would be served as the basis and framework for the comprehensiveness of this study. Frequency, percentage and mean were utilized.

Based on the findings of the study, the researchers arrived at the following conclusions: The respondents to this study are all located in Binmaley, Pangasinan. These are the 14 active Fisherfolk Associations that are registered, and most of them have been in service for a long time. They were all able to present and discuss their main objectives. Based on the findings, the respondents rely heavily on their membership fees for their associations' financial stability.

In terms of the activities of the fisherfolk associations, the study revealed that the most common activity was "performs a clean up drive to promote an eco-friendly community". In terms of the socio-economic contribution of the fisherfolk associations, the study revealed that a high contribution through Fisherfolk Association promotes decent work in fisheries and aquaculture, a very high contribution through Fisherfolk Association maintains the peace and unity of the municipality, very high contribution through Fisherfolk Association obeys the policies implemented by the municipality, and high contribution through Fisherfolk association encourages youth to participate in fishing activities, respectively, for occupation, social status, and education aspects. The most serious challenges encountered by the respondents are: Lack of funds; Threats of pollution; and Threats of climate change.

It is recommended that fisherfolk associations may create or lobby work and projects with the aim of reducing the impacts of pollution on the municipality's local waters such as advocating for stronger regulations, working to improve wastewater treatment systems, and investing in sustainable fishing practices. They may seek out grants, investments, and other financial support sources to help cover the costs of their operations and activities. Fisherfolk associations should create fundraising strategy to increase their financial resources. This strategy include activities such as raising donations from local businesses, organizing fundraising events, or applying for grants from foundations or other organizations. Fisherfolk associations should adopt an adaptive management approach to prepare for the impacts of climate change, such as investing in more resilient fishing gear and ensuring that their members have the necessary training and resources to be able to operate in a changing environment. They should focus in improving the state of life of low-income individuals. This can be achieved through targeted programs that provide access to basic amenities, healthcare services, and social welfare support.