



**PANGASINAN STATE UNIVERSITY
LINGAYEN CAMPUS
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**



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Preface

Public Administration and Governance Studies and Undergraduate Research Initiatives or PAgSuri is dedicated to the compilation of researches in the field of Public Administration, which aims to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and to the government. This collection of study represents the collaboration efforts of researchers who are committed to continue to evolve in response to emerging social, political, and economic, generating innovative ideas and solutions, and applying rigorous methodologies in their respective domains.

The research of public administration intersects with multiple facets of governance, policy, management and public service delivery. The compilation presented in this journal highlights a diverse range of topics, from awareness and implementation of a particular laws, and effectiveness of a programs or policy. By focusing on both research abstract and their corresponding methodological frameworks, this volume offers a concise yet insightful view into the research design, direction and scope of contemporary studies within the field of public administration.

The inclusion of methodology not only strengthens the academic integrity of each study but also serves as a guide for future researchers, allowing them to replicate, critique or expand the work. Whether qualitative and quantitative approaches are applied, the methodological transparency is offered in this journal to underscore our commitment to evidence based public administration research.

It is our hope that this research journal will serve not only as a platform for sharing knowledge and ideas. We invite readers from across disciplines to engage with the ideas presented here and how they might be informed or inspire their own ideas and thoughts to the various studies presented in this research journal.

Message

It gives me great pleasure to extend my heartfelt congratulations to researchers and article authors. As an institution committed to four-fold functions by the university, research, production, instruction and extension. This journal stands as a testament to our unwavering dedication to the student on their research and intellectual advancement.

Our faculty and students continue to engage in research that not only for the academic requirements and understanding but also addresses the real world challenges across the Pangasinan. The research featured in this journal reflect a diverse range of ideas, rigorous methodologies, and meaningful contributions to the government.

I would like to commend their research team for their meticulous efforts in maintaining high standards of quality and integrity throughout the publication process. I also thank our researchers and faculty of Public Administration Department who contribute to making this journal a credible platform for academic discourse.

Let this journal serve not only as a repository of knowledge but also as an inspiration for future inquiry, critical thinking, and collaborative exploration. I encourage all members of our academic community to actively participate in this endeavor and to continue contributing to the growing body of research that defines our College.

Together, let us move forward in strengthening our culture of research and innovation.

DR. ABELARDO S. ABALOS, JR.

Dean, College of Public and Business Administration
Pangasinan State University – Lingayen Campus

Message

It is with great pleasure that I extend my greetings to the readers, contributors, and editorial team of this esteemed research journal in Public Administration. As Chairperson of the Department, I am proud to witness the ongoing commitment to scholarly excellence and critical inquiry that this publication represents.

Public Administration, as a discipline, continues to evolve in response to the complex challenges of governance, policy-making, and public service delivery. In times marked by rapid technological advancement, increasing public expectations, and shifting socio-political landscapes, the role of research becomes ever more vital. This journal provides a critical platform for academic discourse, empirical investigation, and theoretical innovation—strengthening the link between scholarship and practice.

I commend the authors who have contributed their valuable research to this issue. Your work reflects the diversity and depth of thought that our field demands. I also extend my appreciation to the editorial board and peer reviewers for their diligence in upholding the standards of academic integrity and rigor.

Let this journal continue to inspire meaningful dialogue, influence policy, and shape the future of public administration. I encourage all readers—academics, students, practitioners, and policymakers alike—to engage deeply with the ideas presented and to contribute to the growing body of knowledge that will define the next generation of public governance.

ZSHYNA MAE V. AHMED, MPA

Chairperson, Public Administration Department
Pangasinan State University - Lingayen Campus

Table of Contents

Title Page	1
COPYRIGHT PAGE.....	2
Preface	3
Message of the College Dean	4
Message of the Department Chair	5
Table of Contents.....	6
Education, Economic and Health Status and Challenges of Labrador-Laguait Upland Farmers Association.....	9
<i>Nova E. Arquillano, Gilbert Moralista, Jandy Z. Cacapit, Cherish Kay Pastor, Abelardo Abalos Jr., Lemuel. Ventayen Maria Jasmin De Guzman, Philip Segurolo, Sheena Doria Menard P. Nava, Christian Mark Cabaluna, Cliff Ervin David Christian Thom Tabisola, Karen Lea A. Estira, Zshyna Mae V. Ahmed, Jefferson Ramos</i>	
Addressing Grave Abuse of Discretion in Philippine Administrative Law: A Critical Analysis.....	14
<i>Atty. Benedict A. Fernandez</i>	
Outcome Assessment of Health-Related Activities in Indigenous Cultural Community in Pangasinan.....	15
<i>Nova E. Arquillano, Jandy Z. Cacapit, Kristine Dawn Dudang Donabel Sabas, Jobelle Navarro, Jayson Molina, Helen Viray, Great I Am Gismundo, Melani Caronongan, Geraldine Nuneza</i>	
Adherence to Local Government Unit Ordinances in Holding Local Cultural Activities its Impact of Socio-Economic in Calasiao Industry.....	20
<i>Ernison M. Bustamante, Rina Mae Carla G. Ramirez, Mary Joy Q. Vinluan, Marichu C. Yambao</i>	
Alaminos City Government Intervention Program to Business Owners during Covid-19 Pandemic in the Tourism Industry.....	22
<i>Rhea R. Abellera, Diezel B. Mararac, Anna Flor C. Limon, Camille O. Oquin</i>	
Awareness of the Students in Fire Safety Features of Public Schools in Lingayen, Pangasinan.....	24
<i>Kathrina Jane A. Palma, Teodora A. Abalos Mitch B. Estrellas, Kharl James C. Madrid</i>	
Barangay Officials' Coping Mechanisms during COVID-19 Pandemic in Lingayen, Pangasinan.....	26
<i>Angela Mae Delos Santos, Cheska Arencel O. Bravo Guadalupe Q. Bartolome, Arjay P. Cabanilla</i>	
Climate Change Adaptation Effort in the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan.....	28
<i>Charlene Fontanilla, Kim Charlie Gonzales Lovely Malicdem, Princess DC. Yaon</i>	
Commission on Higher Education Scholarship Programs as Implemented by Pangasinan State University, Lingayen Campus.....	30
<i>Roselle C. Dela Cruz, Clyde Aliyah Resurreccion Rhodora Kaye F. Salacsacan, Rica P. Santos</i>	

Community Perception on the “Go Bike Project” of Padyarescue Incorporated in Bugallon, Pangasinan.....	32
<i>Rochelle M. Bravo, Jierlyn Z. Cabarlo</i>	
<i>Christian Dave P. Dela Cruz, Lea D. Evangelista</i>	
Cultural Heritage Preservation and Protection in the Province of Pangasinan.....	35
<i>Mary Jane DC. Abalos, Ma. Allyson B. Moles, Emily S. Pabona</i>	
Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Flood-Prone Municipalities in Pangasinan.....	37
<i>Mae Ann V. Carbonel, Sherry O. Molina</i>	
<i>Gemarie C. Orilla, Hannah Grace O. Sison</i>	
Implementation of Department of Labor and Employment Programs in the Second Congressional District of Pangasinan.....	39
<i>Deo Navato, Mary Jene Donato, Lorena Cabas-an,</i>	
<i>Myca N. Martin</i>	
Innovative Disaster Emergency Response Services Plan in Pangasinan.....	41
<i>Maricar B. Bautista, Leona Irah G. Erguiza</i>	
<i>Zyrine Jane B. Manaois, Catherine D. Sindao</i>	
Level of Implementation of Reproductive Health Law as Perceived by Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program Beneficiaries in Anda, Pangasinan.....	43
<i>Vincent T. Arcilla, Jamaica T. Clave</i>	
<i>Paula Joy Z. Mejia, Jessa Marie V. Palma</i>	
Out-Of-School Youth Policy Review and Implementation in the Second District of Pangasinan.....	45
<i>Myles Renzo T. Estrada, Rona B. Fernandez</i>	
<i>Ma. Andrea R. Garcia, Joanna B. Hermosado</i>	
Perceived Learning Effectiveness of Online and Traditional Internship of Bachelor of Public Administration Students.....	47
<i>Christian A. Fernando, Charmine C. Samson</i>	
<i>Lemer Roy C. Sanchez</i>	
Public Perception on Land Reclassification and Implementation of Zoning Ordinance in the Municipality of Binmaley.....	49
<i>Jessica Mei S. De Guzman, Sara Mariejoy C. Balingit</i>	
<i>Chriberly C. Dela Cruz, Roselyn L. Ligayo, Shiela P. Medina</i>	
Satisfaction of Senior Citizens on the E-Government Services of Selected National Government Agencies.....	52
<i>Crysta Kate P. Biason, Joyce O. Bautista</i>	
<i>Marjorie M. Borinaga, Christine Gutierrez</i>	
Socio-Economic Contribution of Fisherfolk Associations in Binmaley, Pangasinan.....	55
<i>Cesar Carl F. Belda, Julia D. Caguioa</i>	
<i>Alfed F. Frianeza, Veronica DG. Untalan</i>	
Status and Challenges of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources–Funded Fishery Projects in the Municipality of Binmaley.....	56
<i>Joshua D. Banique, Shiera Mae P. Batayen</i>	

Diana O. Caburnay, Jessica R. Gutierrez

Status of Informal Settlers in Dagupan City..... 58

Rizalyn M. De Guzman, Kia Joy O. Franco

Maribeth P. Servanda, Morena L. Yangao

Work Performance of the Philippine Senate and its
Contribution to the National Development Plan..... 61

Karen R. Caburnay, Devine D. Cayabyab

Shekinah Kim R. Cruz, Derick V. Garc

Education, Economic and Health Status and Challenges of Labrador-Laguit Upland Farmers Association

Dr. Nova E. Arquillano
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Introduction

The Philippine government announces that the average age of Filipino farmers has decreased. The previous age of farmers was 57 years old and this has decreased to about 49 to 50 years old. This could be attributed to those individuals who have retired early and decided to pursue their love for farming, and the Young Farmers Challenge project and the scholarship for agriculture-related courses by the Department of Agriculture (PCO, 2023). However, this sector continues to decline and live in poverty.

The results of the October 2022 Labor Force Survey revealed that agriculture and forestry industry lost 511,000 workers, from July to October 2022 due to seasonality. The huge drop in jobs includes planting, transplanting and other related activities, growing of paddy rice, and growing of banana. This drop is caused by the population growth, diminishing farm size, and declining incomes in agriculture.

On the other hand, the Philippine Statistics Authority (2023) reported that fisherfolks and farmers are the top poorest sectors in terms of poverty incidence in 2021. These had the highest proportion of individuals belonging to families with income below the official poverty thresholds compared to the other basic sectors. Fisherfolks and farmers also registered the highest poverty incidences in 2015 and 2018. High poverty incidence in this sector is associated with lower quality of life indicators. On Poor households which rely on agriculture for the majority of their income show indicators of lower standards of living such as low levels of education, lack of access to community water system, and lack of access to electricity, among others (Reyes et al, 2012). These, combined with poor infrastructure, and of extension services available to smallholder farmers, remain as hindrances to development in rural agricultural areas (Balisacan, 1998). For their livelihood, these sectors form association for access to credit, farm equipment, and inputs.

Farmers association is a people organization with members in the basic sector. From Republic Act 8425, the basic sectors or disadvantaged groups are poor, farmers, indigenous peoples, persons with disability, and others. This policy enhances the Social Reform Agenda that addresses the basic inequities in the Philippine society through social interventions from the different agencies of the government both local and national. It also created the National Anti-Poverty Commission that implements anti-poverty programs that streamline poverty alleviation processes and mechanisms and reduce duplication of functions among various agencies of the government. Some of the anti-poverty programs are Pantawid Program and Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, and the National

Rice Program and National Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture Program of the Department of Agriculture or DA (DBM, 2023). The DA also launches three big programs in 2023 and these are Philippine Rural Development Project Scale Up, the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project, and the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency Project (DA-AFID, 2023). Also, President Marcos is aiming to complete the distribution of lands under the New Agrarian Emancipation Act before his term ends. President Marcos distributed 90,000 free land titles to agrarian reform beneficiaries in 2023 (Valente, 2024).

Pangasinan has a total number of 171,643 farmers cultivating an area of 185,379 hectares. The major crops are rice, corn and mango. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, Pangasinan remains the top 3 palay producer nationwide (PPDO, 2021). The Municipality of Labrador is part of the second congressional district of Pangasinan. It has a land area of 9,099 hectares and a population of 26,811 according to the 2020 census. One of the farmers association in Labrador is Labrador-Laguait Upland Farmers Association. It has an area of 255 hectares located at Laguait Padilla in Bugallon and Bolo in Labrador. Farmers has specific concerns not only in farming or their livelihood. Being a basic sector, there are needs to be identified like on health, education and livelihood. Thus, this study.

Methodology

Using the descriptive type of research, this study is about determining the health, education and livelihood status and challenges of the members of Labrador-Laguait Upland Farmers Association (LALUFA). This association is located in the Municipality of Labrador in Pangasinan. The researchers met the officers and members of the association in April 1, 2022 including its president Mr. Salvador P. Belingan. The meeting was held at the office of LALUFA in Sitio. Kadampat, Brgy. Bolo, Labrador, Pangasian. The researchers, timeline or milestones, and the purpose of the study were presented. Also, the consent to conduct the study was requested from the group.

This study utilized survey questionnaire as instrument. A draft was developed and validated by experts. From the comments and suggestions of validators, the final version of the instrument was developed. It has three parts – health, education, and livelihood. The respondents are 71 farmer-members of the association. In-person data collection was conducted in April 12, 2022. This was done in order to personally attend to the questions and other research-related concerns of the respondents.

Results and Discussion

Education status and challenges of farmers

It can be gleaned from the table that most of the Labrador-Laguait Upland Farmers Association members are 41-50 years old (29.6 percent), 31-40 years old (19.7 percent) and 51-60 years old (18.3 percent). There are female (64.8 percent) and male (35.2 percent) members. They are mostly married (73.2 percent) and not member of Pantawid Program (63.4 percent) and indigenous community (69.1). On education, the respondents are mostly high school graduate (40.8 percent), and elementary graduate (26.8 percent).

Table 1. Education status of farmers, N=71

	Profile variables	f	%
Age	21-30 years old	12	16.9
	31-40 years old	14	19.7
	41-50 years old	21	29.6
	52-60 years old	13	18.3
	51-69 years old	11	15.5
Sex	Male	25	35.2
	Female	46	64.8
Civil status	Single	10	14.1
	Married	52	73.2
	Widow	4	5.6

	Lived in	5	7.0
Highest educational attainment	Elementary undergrad	8	11.3
	Elementary graduate	19	26.8
	High school graduate	29	40.8
	College undergraduate	1	1.4
	College graduate	10	14.1
	Vocational graduate	4	5.6
4Ps Member	Yes	26	36.6
	No	45	63.4
As indigenous people	Yes	22	30.9
	No	49	69.1

The data suggests that the respondents covered in this study are late adult, female, married, without college degree, and not a member of Pantawid Program and indigenous group. With regards to the members of indigenous community, there are mostly Kankanaey. Very few are Igorot and Pangasaan/Tapuac tribe.

Table 2. Education of children by birth order

Education	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	Last child	Total
Elementary graduate	11	8	4	5	2	2	2	0	0	34
High school graduate	20	19	15	7	4	4	3	1	2	75
College graduate	11	7	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	25
Vocational graduate	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3

Table 2 presents the educational attainment of the respondents' children by birth order. It shows that the educational attainments of respondents' children are high school graduate, elementary, and college graduate. For the high school graduate, the birth orders with highest number of graduate are first-born, second, and third-born.

Economic status and challenges of farmers

Table 3. Economic status of farmers, N=71

Economic variables		Frequency	Percentage
Occupation	Farmer	50	70.4
	Seasonal worker	9	12.7
	Employed	4	5.6
	With business	3	4.2
	Fisherman	3	4.2
	Tricycle driver	2	2.8
Average monthly income	P2,500-8,500	53	74.6
	P8,501-14,000	15	21.1
	P14,501-20,000	3	4.2
Other sources of income	With	32	45.1
	Without	39	54.9

It can be seen from Table 3 that the respondents are mostly farmers (70.4 percent) and seasonal workers (12.7 percent). They have an average monthly income ranging from P2,500 to P8500 (74.6 percent). They have no other source of income (54.9 percent).

Table 4. Farming challenges and needs of farmers

Farming challenges	Frequency	Rank
Irrigation	22	1
Expensive fertilizer	19	2
Water pump	16	3
Sprayer	14	4
Capital	9	5
Tractor/cultivator	5	6.5
Climate change	5	6.5
Rake	4	8
Other machineries	3	9
Farm needs		
Capital	17	1
Power sprayer	13	2.5
Seedlings	13	2.5
Fertilizer	12	4
Hand tractor	11	5
Rake	7	6.5
Irrigation	7	6.5
Hose	4	8

The challenges of respondents are mostly on irrigation, expensive fertilizer, water pump, and sprayer. On farm needs, these are capitalization, power sprayer, seedlings, and fertilizer.

Health status and challenges

Table 5. Health status of respondents' family members, N=71

Relationship to the respondent	Frequency	Age range of respondents' relatives	Health conditions of respondents' relatives
Father	5 respondents	41-68 years old	PWD, heart disease, mental disorder, blurred vision
Mother	4 respondents	54-62 years old	high blood, diabetes, asthma
Daughter	4 respondents	8-30 years old	special child, muteness, allergy, high blood
Son	4 respondents	2-32 years old	PWD, asthma, heart disease

On health status of the respondents' family members, their fathers are mostly sickly with conditions like disability, health disease, mental disorder and blurred vision. From the health conditions, heart-related is present in all members of the family. With regards to disability, two fathers and two sons of the respondents are physical challenged. There is the possibility to inherit disability, mental disorder, and heart disease. For this, data suggests that the health conditions of the respondents' family members

are hereditary. It recommended that The local health offices should assess and monitor the health status of the respondents and their families. The same offices as well as the Pangasinan State University should provide information like access to health assessment or diagnosis, treatment, and the needed financial assistance.

Conclusion and recommendations

Most of members of the farmer association covered in this study are late adult, high school graduate, with low income and do not have other source of income. They have several children and most already finished high school. On health, the respondents' parents are suffering from heart-related illnesses. There are four respondents with family members having physical disability. The challenge on livelihood of the respondents is related to farming. These are poor irrigation facility, expensive fertilizer and source of water for the farm.

It is recommended that the leaders of the farmers association should inform the local government units about the health, education, and livelihood status and challenges of the members and make necessary follow up especially on the planning and conduct of interventional projects. They should actively cooperate with the LGU on whatever projects it could provide. The respondents' family members should be aware of the health, education and livelihood programs of the LGUs and national governments. They should avail these services for their social and economic security.

It also recommended that the local health offices should assess and monitor the health status of the respondents' family members with disability, mental disorder, and heart ailments. The same local government offices as well as the Pangasinan State University provide information like access to health assessment or diagnosis, treatment, and the needed financial assistance. Also, the Pangasinan State University could give assistance to the farmers association in developing partnership with local government units, government agencies, non-government organizations, and other organizations for their health, education, and livelihood conditions.

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Addressing Grave Abuse of Discretion in Philippine Administrative Law: A Critical Analysis

Atty. Benedict A. Fernandez, AB, MDM, JD.

Administrative law plays a foundational role in maintaining order and fairness within the machinery of government. It provides the framework through which executive agencies exercise their regulatory functions, while ensuring that such powers are not wielded arbitrarily. In the Philippine context, this legal discipline is essential to striking a balance between the broad discretion granted to administrative bodies and the need for accountability under the rule of law.

Central to this balancing act is the principle of *grave abuse of discretion*, which serves as the primary standard for judicial review of administrative actions. As discussed in one jurisprudence, *grave abuse of discretion* denotes a capricious, arbitrary, and whimsical exercise of power. The abuse of discretion must be so patent and gross as to amount to an evasion of a positive duty or a virtual refusal to perform a duty enjoined by law—such that the act is considered, in contemplation of law, as not having been performed at all. It also arises when the power is exercised in an arbitrary and despotic manner, motivated by passion or hostility.¹

This doctrine allows courts to intervene when a government agency acts in a manner that is capricious, whimsical, or patently beyond its legal authority. It is a constitutional safeguard designed to prevent the misuse of administrative power and to uphold the integrity of public decision-making.

More distinctively, under the 1987 Constitution, judicial power includes the authority to review acts of government entities to determine whether they have committed *grave abuse of discretion*. This expanded mandate empowers courts to intervene when any branch or instrumentality of the government acts in a manner that is arbitrary, despotic, or patently beyond its jurisdiction. Such abuse must be so egregious that it effectively nullifies the legitimacy of the official act.

Under the 1987 Philippine Constitution it states that: “Judicial power includes the duty of the courts of justice to settle actual controversies involving rights which are legally demandable and enforceable, and to determine whether or not there has been a grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction on the part of any branch or instrumentality of the Government.”²

The doctrine serves a dual role, functioning both as a protective barrier and an instrument of correction. On one hand, it acts as a “shield” for administrative agencies, preventing unwarranted judicial interference that could undermine their autonomy and expertise. Courts are rightly hesitant to substitute their judgment for that of a specialized agency unless absolutely necessary. On the other hand, it serves as a “sword,” empowering the judiciary to step in and rectify blatant injustices. This power is reserved for instances where an agency's action is so arbitrary, whimsical, or patently illegal that it amounts to a refusal to perform a legal duty.

Ultimately, the continued importance of this doctrine lies in its ability to safeguard the integrity of government institutions and promote legal accountability. In a modern governance landscape where administrative bodies make decisions that increasingly impact the fundamental rights and overall well-being of the public, the ability of the courts to correct manifest injustices through this doctrine is more relevant than ever. It ensures that public officials and administrative agencies are accountable for their actions and that the rule of law prevails over arbitrary authority.

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- 1 KMU vs Aquino III, G.R. No. 210500, April 2, 2019
- 2 Article 8 Section 1, 1987 Philippine Constitution

Outcome Assessment of Health-Related Activities in Indigenous Cultural Community in Pangasinan

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INTRODUCTION

Good health is central to handling stress and living a longer, more resource for everyday life, not the objective of living. Health is a positive concept emphasizing social and personal resources, as well as physical capacities. It is a resource to support an individual's function in wider capacities. It is a resource to support an individual's function in wider active life. In 1986, the World Health Organization defines health as a society, rather than an end in itself. A healthful lifestyle provides to lead a full life with meaning and purpose (Sampson, 2023).

The determinants of health are biology and genetic endowment, culture, education, employment and working conditions, gender, health services, income and social status, personal health practices, physical environment, and social environment and support. One of the fundamental determinants of health is the organic makeup of the human body. Meaning, the susceptibility of an individual to diseases is based on his or her biological form, which is inherited or passed on to the next generation. This is in line with the humanistic theory that holds that organisms die but the genes live on and pass onto generations (Genibalzo, 2020).

Having a job is good for health than having no job (Geniblazo, 2010). Health equity is dependent on one's control over his or her work. If an individual has better employment, he or she has financial security, personal development, social relations, social status, self-esteem and health protection. However, workers are also troubled with stress. Syed (2020) found out that employment and working conditions contribute to health problems such as cardiovascular disease, obesity, metabolic syndrome, depression, and sleep disorders. Also, there are reports about call center agents who are experiencing psychosocial stress due to high workload, job insecurity, excessive supervision and monitoring, and unpredictable work schedules (Lozano-Kuhne, et al, 2012). For women working in selected semiconductor companies, the most reports from this group of workers who are exposed to organic solvents are narcotic effects, irritation of respiratory tract and the skin, and Steven Johnson syndrome (OSHC, 2006). It is advisable that workers, especially those who belong to lowest income groups, should take care of their health to effectively perform their tasks. Research shows that income earners coming from the lowest income groups are most likely to experience the highest level of psychological distress (APA, 2010). On the other hand, unemployment is associated with poorer health. Meaning, it is better to have a job than without a job. Unemployed individuals have a greater degree of psychological distress, health problems, major activity limitation, hospitalization and health services utilization than employed persons.

In the study of Wilkinson and Marmot (2003), they found out that poor people have more illnesses and shorter life expectancies than the rich. Poor is defined as individuals and families whose income fall below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development Authority and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life (RA 8425). Because of poverty, some Filipinos' health is compromised indirectly by living in communities blighted by concentration of deprivation, low educational attainment, high unemployment, poor quality housing, limited access to services and a poor quality environment. When it comes to income expenditure, high income group spends high on education while lower income group on personal care (Geniblazo, 2010). Mapa (2019) reported that the poverty incidence among population of the Philippines in 2018 is 16.6 percent or 17.6 million Filipinos.

This is the number of Filipinos who lived below the poverty threshold to meet the basic food and non-food needs at Php 10,727 for a family of five per month. Another, the subsistence incidence in 2018 was registered at 5.2 percent. Filipino families consisting of five members should at least earn a combined monthly income of Php 7,528 in order to meet their basic food needs. Among families, the proportion of poor families in 2018 was estimated at 12.1 percent or equivalent to three million families, while the subsistence incidence among families in 2018 was recorded at 3.4 percent or 800 thousand families.

Another determinant of health is education. Education is any formal or informal act or experience that has formative impact on the ability of an individual. According to Zarcadoolas, Pleasant and Greer (2006 as cited by Geniblazo, 2010), health status increases as level education increases. It is expected that as individual attain higher level of education or literacy, his or her ability to understand and use health care information is instrumental to reduction of health risk, improvement of health status and improvement in quality of life. Also, education help people to solve problems, secure job, and attain income satisfaction.

The social environment as determinant of health has something to do with social relationships and support from families, friends and communities. Study shows that married people live longer than unmarried people. Also, widowhood is associated with illness and death. For adults and persons with disability who live alone, their social network is limited causing problems in the event that they need support. Among those who are 75 years old and above whole live alone, a substantial proportion have either only one or no family members to whom they feel close (Geniblazo, 2010). In Sitio Mapita, there are 17 mentally challenged and 17 persons with disability (PWD) or physically challenged persons. PWD are those who have long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society in equal basis with others (RA 10524). On the other hand, mental health condition refers to a neurologic or psychiatric condition characterized by the existence of a recognizable, clinically-significant disturbance in an individual's cognition, emotional regulation, or behavioral that reflects a genetic or acquired dysfunction in the neurological, psychosocial, or developmental process underlying mental functioning. Psychosocial problems refers to a condition that indicates the existence of dysfunctions in a person's behavior, thoughts and feelings brought about by sudden extreme, prolonged or cumulative stressors in the physical or social environment (RA 11036). From Republic Act 8425, the basic sectors or disadvantaged groups are poor, farmers, indigenous peoples, persons with disability, and others. The foregoing served as basis for the proponents to study the health status of special populations of Sitio Mapita like mentally challenged and persons with disability.

Methodology

This study utilized the descriptive research design. The objective of this study is to describe the profile of the subjects and their health status. This study does not include the knowledge and skills of the subjects and its utilization as stated in the proposal since the seminar was not conducted.

This study covers 16 PWDs and 17 mentally challenged individuals in Sitio Mapita. Sitio Mapita is home of indigenous peoples particularly Kanakaney and Ibaloi. Data are sourced out from documents of Barangay Health Worker and 2023 extension terminal report Adopt-a-Sitio Program. The health assessment was conducted by the health personnel of PSULC and faculty members of Social Work department, Health and Nutrition department, and Physical Education department in December 7, 2023. Data are presented in narrative form.

Results and Discussion

Profile of the subjects. There are 5 female and 12 male PWDs. The subjects are either physically disable or have impairment of the eye or ear. For the mentally challenged, 7 are female and 10 are male. The World Health Organization (2023) estimated 1.3 billion people experience significant disability. This is equivalent to 16 percent of world's population, with 80 percent living in the Global South. From the report of Ines (2023) that is based on the Philippine Statistics Authority's Labor Force Survey, there were almost 76 million working-age Filipinos in 2022 and out of this number, 1.9 million are PWDs. Also. The Philippines indicates a low labor force participation rate among PWDs. Out of the 1.9 million working-age Filipinos with disability, only 353,000 or less than one in five were part of the workforce in January 2022.

The prevalence of disability tends to be higher within indigenous peoples worldwide than amongst non-indigenous groups (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2010). The high prevalence of

disability amongst indigenous peoples is viewed as both cause and consequence of severe poverty, violence and unsafe living conditions, including exposure to environmental degradation, toxic waste and the adverse impacts of development projects (Carson, et al 2007). The lack of access to employment, training and disability-specific support has created poverty traps for indigenous persons with disabilities.

Health Status. For the PWDs, two of them needs eye glasses, three PWDs are requesting for hearing aid, and another three for cane. This suggests that the impairments of the subjects are physical, vision, and hearing. Among the mentally challenged, one has diabetes and heartburn, and one with epilepsy.

Conclusion and Recommendations

There are indigenous people with disability and mental disorder in Sitio Mapita. On disability, the indigenous peoples covered in this study have hearing and physical disability and more male have disability and mental disorder than female. Very few indigenous people with mental disorder have serious medical condition. It is recommended to conduct health seminar as well as the dissemination of information to the PWDs and mentally challenged in the community to determine the outcome the adopt-a-sitio project. The health offices of LGU Aguilar and Laoag should have regular assessment or monitoring of the health status of the indigenous peoples with disability and mental disorder. Immediate referral or connection with related government agencies, non-government organizations, and private companies or individuals should be initiated by the health offices of LGU Aguilar and Laoag, and Pangasinan State University (PSU) to assist in the medical needs and treatment and livelihood of the indigenous peoples with disability and mental disorder. The health offices of LGU Aguilar and Laoag, and PSU should also communicate with different government agencies, NGOs and/or private companies and individuals for the livelihood of the family members of the IPs with disability and mental disorder.

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STUDENT THESES

Adherence to Local Government Unit Ordinances in Holding Local Cultural Activities its Impact of Socio-Economic in Calasiao Industry

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This study focuses on the development and implementation of policies and guidelines governing cultural activities in the Municipality of Calasiao, located in the Province of Pangasinan. The research explores how local cultural programs are planned, managed, and evaluated in accordance with the policies established by the local government unit (LGU). It particularly investigates the extent to which these policies are adhered to in terms of defining roles and functions, providing quality services, and organizing cultural events that highlight the town's heritage and traditions. Moreover, the research examines the conduct of cultural festivals in Pangasinan—especially in Calasiao—by analyzing their activities, product promotion strategies, and cultural preservation efforts. The study also aims to assess the overall impact of these cultural endeavors on the socioeconomic development of the municipality.

The Municipality of Calasiao is renowned for its cultural identity, primarily celebrated through its annual Puto Festival, which honors its signature rice cake delicacy. Cultural activities such as this festival serve as a unifying element for the community while simultaneously promoting tourism and stimulating local economic growth. However, to ensure that such events remain organized, inclusive, and culturally enriching, it is essential that they are guided by coherent policies and well-defined administrative mechanisms. Therefore, this research sought to examine the policies and guidelines created by the LGU to regulate cultural activities and assess how these frameworks are being followed in actual practice.

The study focused on the heads of the Tourism Office of Calasiao, who were selected as respondents based on their central role in implementing the LGU's ordinances related to cultural programs. These officials possess firsthand knowledge of the policies, the processes of event organization, and the challenges encountered during festival management. Through their insights, the research aimed to evaluate how well the LGU and its personnel adhere to established guidelines, particularly in the preparation and execution of the Puto Festival, and how their planning and services contribute to community welfare.

To collect relevant data, the researcher employed qualitative methods, specifically using interview guides and document checklists. The interview guide contained structured and semi-structured questions designed to elicit comprehensive responses from tourism officials. Meanwhile, the document checklist was used to review official reports, ordinances, and policy documents related to the conduct of local cultural activities. The combination of these instruments provided both primary and secondary data that allowed for triangulation and validation of findings. Additionally, document analysis and thematic analysis were utilized to examine collected materials systematically. These methods helped identify recurring themes, patterns, and insights relevant to the development and implementation of local cultural policies.

Findings from the study revealed that adherence to policies and guidelines is generally well observed in the conduct of cultural activities in Calasiao. The LGU, through its Tourism Office, ensures that cultural events are aligned with local ordinances, national cultural policies, and community development goals. Each stage of festival organization—from conceptualization and planning to implementation and post-event evaluation—is guided by procedural standards that safeguard the quality and inclusivity of cultural activities. The presence of these guidelines has helped maintain order, transparency, and accountability among organizers and stakeholders.

In terms of activities, the study found that the Puto Festival and other local events feature a variety of cultural performances, trade fairs, food exhibitions, and competitions that promote the town's cultural and culinary heritage. These activities not only serve as entertainment for the community but also as venues for education and cultural preservation. Through such events, traditional practices, local

crafts, and indigenous knowledge are showcased to both residents and visitors, thereby strengthening cultural identity and pride among the people of Calasiao.

Regarding product promotion, the LGU has implemented several strategies to enhance the visibility of locally made products, particularly the famous “Calasiao Puto.” These include marketing campaigns, product exhibits, and partnerships with local entrepreneurs and regional tourism offices. Such initiatives have expanded market opportunities for small businesses and increased tourist spending during festival periods. The research noted that policies on local entrepreneurship, fair trade, and tourism development were effectively integrated into the festival framework, ensuring that economic growth goes hand in hand with cultural sustainability.

Cultural preservation emerged as another key area where LGU policies play a vital role. By institutionalizing annual festivals and community-based cultural programs, the local government ensures the transmission of traditions to younger generations. Furthermore, the study highlighted the importance of collaboration with schools, cultural organizations, and private sectors in implementing educational programs that promote awareness and appreciation of Pangasinan’s heritage. These partnerships help sustain the relevance of cultural events and encourage continuous participation from various sectors of society.

In examining the socioeconomic impact, the research found that the LGU’s cultural activities significantly contribute to Calasiao’s development. Festivals generate employment opportunities for residents, particularly in tourism-related sectors such as hospitality, food services, transportation, and handicraft production. They also boost local revenues through increased business activities and visitor inflows. Beyond the economic benefits, cultural events foster social cohesion, civic engagement, and local pride. They provide a platform for citizens to participate in community life, celebrate shared values, and strengthen their sense of belonging.

Despite these successes, the study also recognized certain challenges encountered in the implementation of cultural policies. These include limited financial resources, logistical constraints, and the need for stronger coordination among departments and stakeholders. Additionally, there are concerns about ensuring the authenticity of cultural presentations and preventing the commercialization of traditions. Some respondents emphasized the need for continuous policy review and capacity-building initiatives to improve management competencies and sustain high-quality cultural programming.

Based on the findings, the study concludes that the Municipality of Calasiao demonstrates strong adherence to its established cultural policies and guidelines. These frameworks serve as a foundation for organizing meaningful, inclusive, and economically beneficial cultural events. The LGU’s commitment to policy implementation has enabled the success of festivals such as the Puto Festival, which now stands as a cultural symbol of the municipality and a driver of its tourism industry.

However, to further enhance the effectiveness and impact of these initiatives, the study recommends several actions. First, there is a need to identify which festival activities remain relevant and beneficial to the community and which ones may need to be revised or discontinued. Continuous evaluation of festival components ensures that resources are utilized efficiently and that programs evolve with changing community interests. Second, monitoring attendance trends and audience engagement levels should be prioritized to determine whether local festivals are growing in popularity and competitiveness compared to other major festivals in the Philippines. Third, strengthening partnerships with national tourism agencies, private sponsors, and cultural organizations can provide additional support for future initiatives.

Ultimately, the study underscores that cultural policy development is not a static process but a dynamic one that requires regular assessment and community participation. The experience of Calasiao demonstrates that when cultural programs are guided by sound policies and effective governance, they can serve as powerful tools for cultural preservation, social unity, and sustainable economic growth. By continuously refining its cultural policies, the Municipality of Calasiao can aspire to elevate its local festivals to a level of national and even international recognition—attracting both local and foreign tourists while keeping the heart of Pangasinan’s culture alive for generations to come.

Alaminos City Government Intervention Program to Business Owners during Covid-19 Pandemic in the Tourism Industry

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Alaminos City is an urban area in western part of the Province of Pangasinan. During the pandemic, this city was not exempt from its effects. This study was conducted to understand the city's condition, especially the support provided by the local government of Alaminos to private businesses. It utilized the descriptive survey method to gather data through a survey questionnaire.

The respondents of this study were business owners of resorts, restaurants, and travel agencies located in Alaminos City, Pangasinan. A total of 50 respondents were identified and selected using the Total Enumeration Sampling Method, based on official records obtained from the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) of the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Alaminos City. This approach ensured that all qualified business establishments within the tourism sector were represented in the study, thereby providing accurate and comprehensive data for analysis.

The Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO), along with the Business One-Stop Shop (BOSS) of the LGU Alaminos City, played an essential role in facilitating the initial phase of this research. These offices provided the official list of newly registered and renewed business establishments, which served as the sampling frame for the study. Prior to the distribution of survey questionnaires, a formal written request was submitted to the City Mayor of Alaminos to obtain permission to conduct the study. Upon approval, the researcher distributed the survey questionnaires to the identified respondents. The questionnaire served as the primary data-gathering instrument and was designed to obtain information regarding the business profile, level of responsiveness, and challenges encountered by tourism-related business owners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The results of the survey revealed that the majority of businesses in Alaminos City's tourism sector were sole proprietorships, indicating that they were owned and managed by individual entrepreneurs rather than corporations or partnerships. Most of these businesses reported a starting capital ranging from ₱501,000 to ₱650,000, with annual earnings between ₱251,000 and ₱400,000. These figures suggest that many of the enterprises fall under the small business category, playing a vital role in sustaining local employment and contributing to the city's tourism-driven economy.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Alaminos City implemented several programs and initiatives to support local business owners, particularly those in the tourism industry. Among these government interventions were: (1) The Responsiveness of the Filipino Brand of Excellence Program, aimed at improving service quality and business resilience; (2) A 25% discount on business tax payments to provide financial relief to struggling enterprises; (3) Extension of business permit deadlines and renewal without penalties or interest to accommodate operational disruptions; (4) Orientations for accommodation establishments operating under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) guidelines to ensure compliance with health and safety standards; (5) Suspension of penalties for delayed payments during the crisis; (6) Capacity-building seminars and training programs for tourism stakeholders to enhance their knowledge and adaptability in crisis situations; and (7) Temporary suspension of the 25% penalty and 2% interest on overdue taxes and fees.

The findings of the study showed that the level of responsiveness of the local government was rated as highly satisfactory. This positive rating was largely attributed to the LGU's proactive efforts in providing orientations, implementing safety measures, and extending assistance programs to help business owners continue their operations amidst the challenges of the pandemic. The collaboration between government offices and private business owners demonstrated a shared commitment to economic recovery and the protection of public health.

However, despite these commendable initiatives, the study also revealed that business owners in Alaminos City's tourism industry encountered several significant challenges in accessing government support and intervention programs. These challenges included: (1) Limited mobility and travel restrictions brought about by lockdowns, which prevented business owners from processing documents and accessing government offices; (2) Strict health and safety requirements, such as the mandatory presentation of vaccination cards, which delayed the renewal of business permits; (3) Inadequate information dissemination due to limited resources and communication barriers, leaving many entrepreneurs unaware of available assistance programs; (4) Numerous documentary requirements and bureaucratic procedures that were difficult to complete within the given timeframe; (5) Complex guidelines and unclear instructions on how to avail of certain government aid; (6) Personal circumstances, including illness, family emergencies, or accidents, that affected the ability of business owners to comply with requirements; and (7) Instances of social discrimination or stigma that discouraged some individuals from participating in public programs during the pandemic.

These barriers significantly hindered the full participation and benefit of many business owners in the government's intervention efforts. Consequently, while the LGU's programs were generally effective, the study emphasized the need for improved communication strategies, simplified procedures, and greater inclusivity in policy implementation.

In conclusion, the study highlights that the tourism-related business owners in Alaminos City, Pangasinan, exhibited resilience and determination in coping with the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Local Government Unit's responsive measures greatly contributed to sustaining their operations and restoring confidence in the local tourism industry. However, continued efforts are still necessary to enhance accessibility, reduce bureaucratic challenges, and strengthen coordination between government agencies and the private sector. By addressing these gaps, Alaminos City can further promote sustainable economic recovery and fortify its reputation as one of Pangasinan's leading tourism destinations.

Based on these findings, the researchers recommend: strengthening communication and coordination among barangay officials, community members, business owners, and the city government to ensure smoother access to local government programs; simplifying processes and reducing documentary requirements to facilitate timely compliance; allocating additional financial support to the tourism sector; and ensuring that assistance is granted to the most deserving beneficiaries.

Awareness of the Students in Fire Safety Features of Public Schools in Lingayen, Pangasinan

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This study aimed to determine the awareness of the students in fire safety features of public schools in Lingayen, Pangasinan. It utilized the descriptive method and questionnaire to gather data. The researchers prepared a set of questionnaire and validated by five experts including the BFP Fire Marshall of Lingayen, the BFP SPO3 in Lingayen, Chairperson of Public Administration, ABEL Instructor, and PE/NSTP Coordinator. The improved questionnaire was distributed to the senior high school students of Pangasinan National High School and Pangasinan School of Arts and Trades. The sample size is 362.

Frequency counts and percentages were used in determining the profile of the respondents. The average weighted mean was applied to determine the level of awareness of the students in Fire Safety Features, and the rank was also used to determine the challenges encountered by the students in Fire Safety Features.

Based on the findings of the study, several conclusions were drawn regarding the level of awareness and challenges encountered by Senior High School students in Pangasinan National High School and Pangasinan School of Arts and Trades concerning fire safety features. The results indicate that most of the respondents belong to the age group of 16 to 18 years old, representing the typical age range of senior high school students. The majority of the participants were female and enrolled in Grade 11. When asked about their experiences with fire incidents, most students responded that they had not experienced any actual fire emergency. However, a large number of them had attended fire drills conducted within their schools, reflecting a basic exposure to fire safety practices.

The study further reveals that the overall level of awareness of students regarding fire safety features was rated as "Moderately Aware." This implies that while students possess a general understanding of fire safety concepts, there remain significant gaps in their knowledge and practical application of these safety measures. Among the most common challenges identified were: (1) lack of sufficient knowledge on the proper use of fire extinguishers and other protective equipment, (2) limited familiarity with the types and locations of protective equipment available within school premises, (3) difficulty in interpreting and understanding various fire safety measures and procedures, (4) limited opportunities to attend seminars or training sessions provided by the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Lingayen, and (5) poor accessibility of critical fire protection systems such as alarm pull stations, sprinklers, and fire extinguishers during emergencies.

Additionally, statistical analysis using the chi-square test revealed that there is no significant relationship between the students' profile variables—such as age, sex, and grade level—and their level of awareness of fire safety features. This finding suggests that demographic characteristics do not directly influence the students' understanding or preparedness in terms of fire safety, thereby supporting the acceptance of the null hypothesis.

In light of these conclusions, the researchers proposed several recommendations aimed at enhancing the students' knowledge and preparedness in fire safety. Firstly, it is strongly recommended that the school administrations collaborate with BFP Lingayen to regularly conduct seminars, orientations, and hands-on training sessions for Senior High School students. These activities would help strengthen their practical skills and confidence in responding to fire emergencies. Secondly, public schools are encouraged to install reliable fire detection systems, such as smoke detectors and heat sensors, in every building to provide early warnings through both audible and visible alarms. Schools are also advised to provide backup power sources like generator sets to ensure the continuous operation of alarm systems during power interruptions.

Moreover, the installation of swing-out or outward-opening doors is recommended to facilitate faster evacuation during emergencies. Schools should also display clear and complete safety color codes and signage throughout the campus to help students easily recognize different safety symbols and their meanings. Lastly, the Department of Education (DepEd) is encouraged to prioritize and allocate financial assistance to public schools for the procurement and maintenance of essential fire safety equipment and facilities. Through these measures, schools can create a safer learning environment and significantly improve students' awareness, preparedness, and responsiveness in the event of a fire emergency.

Barangay Officials' Coping Mechanisms during COVID-19 Pandemic in Lingayen, Pangasinan

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This study intended to determine the Barangay Officials' Coping Mechanisms during Covid-19 Pandemic in Lingayen, Pangasinan. Specifically, it gathered the profile of the respondents; the challenges experienced by barangay officials during covid-19 pandemic; the coping mechanisms of barangay officials; and the strategies can be recommended to enhance the capability in coping with uncertain to difficult situations.

The descriptive research design was employed in this study, with the questionnaire serving as the primary data-gathering instrument. This design was chosen because it allows the researcher to describe systematically the current conditions and practices of the respondents. The participants of the study were barangay officials from selected barangays in Lingayen, Pangasinan, namely Barangay Poblacion, Maniboc, Libsong West, Libsong East, and Tonton. These barangays were identified as having the highest number of positive COVID-19 cases, based on data provided by Rural Health Unit I (RHU I) of Lingayen.

The respondents consisted of various barangay functionaries, including the barangay captain, seven (7) barangay councilors, and two (2) barangay health workers from each barangay. In total, there were 50 respondents who participated in the study. Their responses were collected, organized, and presented using appropriate statistical tools, particularly frequency counts, percentages, and ranking methods to provide a clear and objective interpretation of the data.

The questionnaire was the principal instrument utilized to gather the necessary data that would determine the coping mechanisms of barangay officials in Lingayen, Pangasinan during the COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure the validity and reliability of the instrument, it was subjected to a validation process conducted by experts in the field. These validators included two Department Chairpersons, two faculty members from the College of Business and Public Administration, one

For the analysis of Problem 1, frequency and percentage distribution were used to determine the demographic profile and distribution of respondents according to specific variables such as age, gender, civil status, and years of service. For Problems 2 and 3, frequency and ranking methods were applied to identify and analyze the coping mechanisms and challenges experienced by barangay officials in the performance of their duties during the height of the pandemic.

Upon careful analysis of the data, the study revealed several key findings and conclusions. Most of the barangay officials in Lingayen, Pangasinan had four to six (4–6) years of experience in public service. The majority of them were male, married, and within the age range of 39 to 48 years old. In terms of administrative functions, it was found that these officials demonstrated effective time management and organizational skills in carrying out their responsibilities amidst the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 crisis. Furthermore, in relation to their personal coping mechanisms, many respondents expressed that faith and spirituality played a vital role in maintaining their morale and perseverance. Praying for courage, strength, and hope served as one of their most significant sources of comfort and resilience as they continued to serve their constituents during the pandemic.

Overall, the study concluded that barangay officials in Lingayen exhibited strong dedication, adaptability, and commitment in fulfilling their duties despite the numerous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Their experiences highlight the importance of effective local governance, teamwork, and emotional resilience in times of public health emergencies.

The study recommended that the Municipality Government of Lingayen may train the barangay officials in risk management, may conduct practical seminars to improve leadership styles and decision-making, and may provide seminars on discipline to constituents.

Climate Change Adaptation Effort in the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan

Charlene Fontanilla
Kim Charlie Gonzales
Lovely Malicdem
Princess DC. Yaon

Climate change is one of the most strenuous problem the world is facing. The evidence is clear it surrounds us. This study was focused on assessing the Climate Change Adaptation efforts of the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan. The researchers used a qualitative design on data gathering.

The researchers sought to determine the climate change adaptation efforts of the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan. To achieve this objective, the study employed both document review and interview methods as the primary means of data collection. Four key personnel from the Municipal Government of Lingayen served as the main research subjects and sources of the necessary data and documents. These participants were the department heads of the following offices: the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO), the Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), and the Lingayen Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (LDRRMO).

These four officials were instrumental in the formulation of the Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) of the Municipality of Lingayen. They were also directly responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the municipality's climate change adaptation programs and initiatives. Their extensive involvement in both planning and execution made them credible and knowledgeable respondents for the study.

The data-gathering process utilized a combination of a document checklist and interview guide questions. The document checklist was used to guide the review of official documents, ensuring that all relevant information was systematically analyzed. This tool specifically addressed Problem 1, which involved establishing the profile of the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan. Both the document checklist and the interview guide questions were employed in Problem 2, which focused on identifying the efforts and initiatives of the Municipality of Lingayen in line with the priority areas of the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP). Similarly, these same instruments were used in Problem 3, which examined the challenges and limitations encountered by the municipality in implementing climate change adaptation measures consistent with the NCCAP framework.

Before the actual data collection, the researchers secured the necessary permissions and approvals. A formal request letter, duly signed and endorsed by the thesis adviser, was submitted to the Dean of the College to seek authorization for the conduct of the study. Another official request letter, also noted by the thesis adviser, was forwarded to the Office of the Municipal Mayor of Lingayen to obtain permission to conduct interviews within the respective local government offices. Upon approval by the Municipal Mayor, the researchers were allowed to proceed with the interviews and document collection.

The interviews were conducted individually at the respective offices of the four department heads. The duration of the interviews varied depending on the availability and depth of discussion with each respondent, ranging from 30 minutes to as long as two hours. Prior to the start of each session, the purpose of the study, as well as the nature, objectives, expectations, and time frame of the interview, were clearly explained to the participants. The researchers also assured each respondent of the confidentiality and anonymity of their responses to encourage open and honest participation.

The interviews were conducted in a formal yet conversational manner, allowing for a natural exchange of ideas while adhering to the prepared guide questions. Questions were presented one at a time to allow respondents sufficient time to reflect and provide thoughtful answers. The responses were manually recorded and encoded to ensure accuracy and reliability of the data collected.

In addition to interviews, the researchers conducted a comprehensive document review to support and validate the information obtained from the respondents. Prior authorization was sought from the Municipal Mayor to access relevant municipal documents. The reviewed materials included the Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP), records of implemented adaptation projects, and other related planning and policy documents. These documents served as primary evidence to substantiate the findings and provide a deeper understanding of the municipality's ongoing climate initiatives.

The collected data from both primary and secondary sources were analyzed using thematic analysis, a qualitative method that involves identifying and interpreting recurring themes and patterns in the data. This approach enabled the researchers to systematically organize the findings and draw meaningful conclusions about the climate change adaptation strategies of the Municipality of Lingayen.

Through this rigorous process, the researchers were able to obtain valuable insights, relevant concepts, and practical examples that explain the municipality's proactive stance on climate change adaptation. The integration of in-depth interviews and document analysis ensured that the study presented accurate, factual, and evidence-based information regarding the efforts of the Municipality of Lingayen, Pangasinan, to address and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change.

Upon the results on the findings of the study, conclusion was inferred; with regards to the data gathered, the Municipality of Lingayen Pangasinan is located at the northwest part of Pangasinan by the Agno River. The entire area of land and water is 23,012.66 hectares. The months of for wet and dry seasons have been altered due to climate change. In the months of December, February, January and November saw the lowest rainfall totals ever recorded for the same time period. December 2009 had the highest rainfall among those months. The theme that has been given priority is food security, water sufficiency, ecological and environmental stability and human security. In terms of challenges encountered the respondent's office share the same dilemma. The challenges are as follows; lack of budget, inadequate community participation and lack of skilled personnel.

Based on the summary of findings and conclusion of the study, the researchers recommended the following; the Municipality of Lingayen may create income generating projects to cover the budget lacking in the implementation of the climate efforts, the Municipality of Lingayen may continue its information dissemination to promote community cooperation and participation and the Municipality of Lingayen may look into innovative alternatives to implement plans for sustainable energy.

Commission on Higher Education Scholarship Programs as Implemented by Pangasinan State University, Lingayen Campus

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This study was conducted to assess the implementation of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) scholarship programs at Pangasinan State University (PSU) – Lingayen Campus, with particular focus on two major programs: the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP). The main objective of the research was to evaluate the profile of fourth-year student-grantees, determine the extent of implementation of CHED scholarship programs, and identify the challenges encountered by the beneficiaries in relation to these programs.

To achieve these objectives, the study employed the descriptive survey method, a research design suited for describing and analyzing the characteristics of a given population. This approach enabled the researchers to gather quantitative data and qualitative insights from student-grantees through a structured questionnaire, which served as the primary data-gathering instrument. The responses collected were systematically described, analyzed, and interpreted to draw conclusions regarding the effectiveness and challenges of the scholarship programs.

The respondents of the study consisted of fourth-year student-grantees of the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP). However, based on information from the Office of Student Services (OSS) at PSU Lingayen, there was no available updated list of grantees for the academic year 2022–2023 at the time of the study. To address this limitation, the researchers utilized the available list of beneficiaries for the second semester of the academic year 2020–2021, which contained data indicating the grantees' year level at that time. From this list, the researchers identified the students who were fourth-year students during the conduct of the study.

According to the OSS record for that period, there were 19 grantees under the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and 558 grantees under the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP), totaling 577 student-grantees from both programs at PSU Lingayen Campus. To determine the appropriate number of respondents for the survey, the researchers applied the Slovin's formula to compute for a representative sample size. Based on this computation, a total of 236 respondents were selected using random sampling, ensuring that each grantee had an equal chance of being included in the study.

Prior to the administration of the questionnaire, the instrument underwent a validation process to ensure its reliability, clarity, and content relevance. The validation was conducted by five experts within the PSU Lingayen Campus and two external evaluators, namely the Coordinator of the Provincial Scholarship Program (PSP) for PSU students and a Fiscal Examiner. The feedback and recommendations provided by the validators were carefully considered, and necessary revisions were made to improve the overall quality and accuracy of the questionnaire.

After validation, the finalized questionnaire was distributed to the selected respondents. The survey covered questions regarding the respondents' demographic profile, their awareness and experience regarding CHED scholarship programs, and the challenges they encountered in terms of access, requirements, and implementation. The responses were collected, tabulated, and analyzed using statistical tools such as frequency distribution, percentage, and ranking methods. These statistical techniques were utilized to interpret the data objectively and to present the findings in a clear and organized manner.

The use of a descriptive survey method, combined with a validated questionnaire and a statistically determined sample size, provided a strong foundation for this research. It ensured that the

data gathered were reliable, representative, and sufficient to draw meaningful conclusions about the implementation of CHED scholarship programs at PSU Lingayen Campus.

Overall, the study aimed not only to assess the effectiveness of the TES and TDP programs but also to contribute insights that could help improve the management, accessibility, and efficiency of scholarship implementation. By identifying both the strengths and the challenges of these programs, the research hopes to guide policymakers, administrators, and CHED officials in developing strategies that enhance educational support and promote equitable access to higher education among Filipino students.

The study found that most of the grantees were Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, 21 years old, and the majority are female. In terms of occupation of their father, 112 out of 236 are construction and labor workers. In their mother's occupation, 181 out of 236 are housemakers, with the majority of annual combined income being Php100,000 and below. In the level of implementation of Commission on Higher Education scholarship programs in Pangasinan State University Lingayen Campus as perceived by grantees, the study revealed that in terms of submission of requirements, it was highly implemented; and in terms of releasing of grants, it was also highly implemented, which implies that the fourth-year student-grantees have agreed to a significant level of implementation of the scholarship procedures. Among the challenges encountered according to the grantees, releasing of financial assistance is delayed or not released on time served as rank 1. On the other hand, the schedule regarding on claiming of grants is not followed causing a large crowd during the release served as rank 9.

Thus, it is recommended that PSU Lingayen must sustain and be effective in the implementation of the releases of the financial assistance that must be provided to the grantees for each semester. It also needs to be transparent and provide grantees with a semester update in the process of grants if there are any delays or late releases and may establish programs to take into consideration the challenges that grantees encountered and address their specific concerns. The findings of this study should encourage the attention of policymakers involved in strengthening the Commission on Higher Education scholarship programs, specifically the Tertiary Education Subsidy and Tulong Dunong Program, as it is an essential indicator that every grantee is maintaining their scholarship as well receiving their financial grants on time.

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

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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.

Cultural Heritage Preservation and Protection in the Province of Pangasinan

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This study aimed to examine the strategies, practices, challenges, and future plans related to the preservation and protection of selected cultural heritage sites in Pangasinan Province. Specifically, it sought to identify the salient features of the legal framework supporting the preservation of Casa Real and the Provincial Capitol Building, to explore the existing practices and strategies for their maintenance, and to determine the challenges and plans concerning their preservation, daily upkeep, and long-term sustainability.

A qualitative research approach was utilized, focusing on the analysis, interpretation, and understanding of non-numerical data regarding cultural heritage preservation in the province. As described by Yilmaz (2013), qualitative research is “an emergent, inductive, interpretive, and naturalistic approach to the study of individuals, cases, phenomena, and social situations and processes in their natural contexts to express in evocative words the meanings individuals attribute to their perceptions of the world” (p. 312). This aligns with the premise that qualitative research emphasizes inductive and interpretive methods of data collection and analysis within the natural environment where the phenomena occur.

The descriptive method was employed to identify and describe the current situation—specifically, the existing conditions of cultural heritage preservation and protection in Pangasinan. Data were gathered through an interview guide questionnaire administered to the respondents. The research was conducted in Lingayen, Pangasinan, focusing on two key heritage sites: Casa Real and the Provincial Capitol Building. Respondents included officials from the Provincial Tourism and Cultural Affairs Office (PTCAO). An interview guide was used to collect detailed information about the practices, strategies, challenges, and plans implemented by the PTCAO concerning the preservation of these heritage structures.

Data collection involved interviews, document analysis, and a review of relevant literature. According to Frey (2018), document analysis is a qualitative research technique that systematically examines documentary evidence to address specific research questions. In this study, document analysis included the review of official records, legal documents, and lists of recognized cultural heritage sites within the municipality of Lingayen.

The qualitative data obtained from PTCAO were analyzed using thematic analysis, which enabled the researchers to identify, analyze, and report recurring patterns or themes. This method provided a comprehensive understanding of the preservation and protection efforts in the province.

Interviews played a crucial role in this research. As noted by Esteburge (2002), qualitative interviews allow participants to express their insights and experiences freely, providing rich, detailed information about social and institutional processes. Through open-ended questions, the researchers identified the challenges, best practices, and future plans associated with maintaining the province’s cultural heritage sites.

The findings revealed that both local and national ordinances play vital roles in safeguarding cultural heritage in Pangasinan. These heritage sites hold significant historical and cultural value, symbolizing the province’s identity. Various strategies are currently being implemented, including initiatives in preservation and protection, human resource management, visitor management, and maintenance practices. However, several challenges hinder effective preservation, such as natural disasters that cause structural deterioration, partial damage, total destruction, or the loss of cultural significance. In terms of planning and maintenance, the study emphasized the importance of maintaining the structural integrity of heritage buildings through regular monitoring, restoration, and preventive maintenance.

Based on the findings, the researchers recommend the following: (1) The formulation of additional local ordinances to strengthen the preservation of all identified cultural heritage sites in Pangasinan, (2) The Provincial Government should enhance public awareness through workshops and seminars that highlight the importance of cultural heritage preservation, (3) The Provincial Government should prepare funding proposals and seek assistance from the National Government for restoration and repair projects, particularly for Casa Real and the Provincial Capitol Building, and (4) The Local Government should establish preparedness measures to address challenges such as natural disasters and environmental threats.

Through these collective efforts, Pangasinan can ensure that its historic landmarks—Casa Real and the Provincial Capitol Building—remain enduring symbols of the province’s cultural and historical legacy for future generations.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Flood-Prone Municipalities in Pangasinan

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This study aimed to examine the flood-risk reduction and management strategies implemented by selected Local Government Units (LGUs) in the Province of Pangasinan. Specifically, it focused on: (1) the profile of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO); (2) the level of flood-risk reduction and management; (3) the budget allocation and utilization of the MDRRMO across the four thematic areas—Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Rehabilitation and Recovery; and (4) the trend in budget allocation and utilization of the MDRRMOs of selected LGUs from fiscal years 2016 to 2021.

The study utilized a mixed-methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Data were gathered through the purposive sampling technique, a non-probability sampling strategy that involves selecting participants based on their roles and expertise related to disaster risk reduction and management. This approach was deemed appropriate since it enabled the researchers to obtain relevant insights from individuals directly involved in managing flood-related risks in highly affected municipalities of Pangasinan.

The research was conducted in three selected LGUs—Calasiao, Sta. Barbara, and Mangatarem—identified as flood-prone areas based on data from the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) flood susceptibility map. A total of 36 respondents participated in the study, consisting of three (3) MDRRM Officers and eleven (11) members each from the Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (BDRRMC). Each barangay group included one (1) Barangay Captain, seven (7) Barangay Kagawads, one (1) Barangay Secretary, one (1) Barangay Treasurer, and one (1) Sangguniang Kabataan Chairperson. These barangays were selected upon the recommendation of the MDRRM Officers, as they were identified as the most flood-affected areas in their municipalities.

To collect data, the researchers used survey questionnaires and document analysis. The survey aimed to determine the factors influencing flood-risk management and the level of implementation of DRRM activities within barangays. The questionnaire was validated by faculty members from the College of Business and Public Administration, AB English Language, General Education Department, and a representative from the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, ensuring the reliability and appropriateness of the research instrument. A pre-survey was conducted to refine the questionnaire and ensure its accuracy and relevance to the respondents' experiences.

The data collected were tabulated and analyzed using frequency, percentage, and mean to answer the first two research problems, while documentary analysis was applied to assess budget allocation and utilization from 2016 to 2021.

Findings revealed that the level of flood-risk reduction and management in the selected LGUs was very highly managed. The activities conducted by the MDRRMO and BDRRMCs were consistent with the four thematic areas of DRRM: Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Rehabilitation and Recovery. The study also noted that budget allocation and utilization were efficiently implemented and aligned with disaster management objectives.

Based on the findings and conclusions, the following recommendations were proposed: (1) Strengthen collaboration between LGUs and barangay officials to enhance disaster management activities and ensure coordinated efforts during emergencies, (2) Expand partnerships with national 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 ensure coherent goals and strategies in disaster risk reduction, (3) The Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (MDRRMOs) should

intensify their participation in the programs and guidelines set by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to strengthen local implementation, (4) LGUs are encouraged to collaborate with technology providers to improve data access, enhance communication systems, and increase the efficiency of disaster response and early warning mechanisms, (5) Lastly, community education programs on Individual Home Preparedness should be promoted to build local resilience and ensure that residents are well-equipped to respond during flood events.

Through these measures, LGUs in Pangasinan can continue to strengthen their disaster preparedness and response mechanisms, ensuring the safety and well-being of communities in flood-prone areas.

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.

Innovative Disaster Emergency Response Services Plan in Pangasinan

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This study was undertaken to examine the innovative disaster emergency response services plans implemented in the Province of Pangasinan. Specifically, it aimed to describe the risk profiles of selected local government units (LGUs), assess the standard disaster emergency response services and the challenges encountered across the four thematic areas of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM): Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Response, and Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery. The study also explored the innovative emergency response strategies adopted by the City of Dagupan and the Municipality of Calasiao, Pangasinan.

The main subjects of the research were the heads of the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) of Dagupan City and the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) of Calasiao. To collect relevant data, the researchers used interview guide questions and document analysis as primary instruments.

This study employed a qualitative research design, focusing on the analysis, understanding, and interpretation of non-numerical data related to the innovations in disaster emergency response services initiated by the selected LGUs. The MDRRMO and CDRRMO heads served as the major sources of information, given their crucial roles in disaster preparedness and response operations. Dagupan City and Calasiao were identified as the research sites based on the findings of Estember et al. (2018), which classified these areas as among the most disaster-prone in Pangasinan, particularly susceptible to typhoons and flooding.

The researchers began the study by securing necessary permissions and data. A formal request letter, signed by both the researchers and the research instructor, was submitted to the concerned offices. The team first visited the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) in Lingayen, Pangasinan, to obtain official data verifying that Dagupan City and Calasiao were among the most flood-prone areas in the province. After securing this information, the researchers proceeded to the selected LGUs to gather additional data.

Before conducting interviews, the researchers sought approval from the Mayor's Office and then proceeded to the DRRM Offices to request copies of their Contingency Plans and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans. These documents, along with responses from the interviews, formed the foundation of the data used in the study. The selection of respondents was conducted with consideration of their willingness to participate, ensuring ethical research practices and the protection of participants. Interview questions were delivered clearly and comprehensively to obtain precise and relevant responses. All data collected were subsequently tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted systematically.

Secondary data gathered from official reports and related literature underwent document analysis, focusing on the innovative emergency response practices of the two DRRM Offices. The researchers used thematic analysis to identify emerging patterns and themes from the data. As stated by Caulfield (2019), thematic analysis enables researchers to examine qualitative data by categorizing and organizing responses into meaningful themes. This method facilitated the identification of common ideas, innovative practices, and patterns across various data sources, ultimately helping the researchers to develop new concepts and insights relevant to disaster response innovations.

The study's findings revealed that innovative disaster emergency response services are actively implemented in the selected LGUs. These innovations are categorized into four key areas: technologies, facilities, products, and approaches. Each innovation serves as an alternative or complementary method that demonstrates efficiency and effectiveness in addressing various disaster situations. The results also showed that most of these innovative practices originated from community initiatives,

reflecting the local population's adaptability and resilience in facing recurring natural disasters such as typhoons and floods.

Based on these findings, the study recommends the adoption and enhancement of innovative practices as models for improving disaster response and management strategies. Furthermore, it suggests the intensification of seminars, workshops, and training programs focused on disaster response, as well as the strengthening of collaboration between rescuers and the general public. These measures would improve coordination during emergencies and allow communities to address both minor and major challenges more effectively.

In conclusion, the study highlights the significant role of innovation in enhancing local disaster emergency response services. The proactive efforts of LGUs such as Dagupan City and Calasiao demonstrate that creativity, technology, and community involvement are key to building a more resilient and prepared province in the face of natural disasters.

Level of Implementation of Reproductive Health Law as Perceived by Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program Beneficiaries in Anda, Pangasinan

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This research primarily aimed to assess the extent of implementation of the Reproductive Health Law as perceived by the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) beneficiaries in the municipality of Anda, Pangasinan. The findings of the study are expected to aid the government and program implementers in evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the Reproductive Health Law in the local context of Anda, Pangasinan.

The study utilized a quantitative research design, focusing on collecting measurable data from a representative group of 4Ps beneficiaries. The goal was to determine and analyze the perceived level of implementation of the Reproductive Health Law based on the experiences and observations of the selected respondents. The respondents of the study consisted of 271 4Ps beneficiaries from Anda, Pangasinan. In addition, the Municipal Health Office (MHO) of Anda participated to identify the common problems and challenges they encountered in the enforcement of the law. To obtain the desired sample, the researchers applied systematic sampling, which Kalton (2017) defines as a reliable and efficient technique for selecting a probability sample from a defined population.

According to the most recent data from the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Anda, Pangasinan, there were 2,323 registered 4Ps beneficiaries as of 2022. Applying Slovin's formula, the researchers computed a sample size of 271 respondents distributed across five identified barangays.

To collect the necessary data, the researchers developed two sets of structured survey questionnaires as the main research instrument. These were designed to measure the level of implementation of the Reproductive Health Law as perceived by both the 4Ps beneficiaries and the MHO. Guided by the study's objectives, the questionnaire consisted of four main parts: (1) The profile of the 4Ps beneficiaries and the Municipal Health Office of Anda, Pangasinan; (2) The perceived level of implementation of the Reproductive Health Law; (3) The problems encountered by the 4Ps beneficiaries in the implementation of the law; and (4) The challenges faced by the Municipal Health Office in enforcing the provisions of the law.

The first set of questionnaires addressed the first three objectives and was administered to the 4Ps beneficiaries, while the second set focused on the fourth objective and was answered by the MHO. Both instruments underwent content validation by experts — two from the academe and two practitioners in the field. The validators' feedback and suggestions were carefully reviewed and integrated to refine and finalize the instrument prior to data collection.

Before data gathering, the researchers sought formal approval from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Regional Office in San Fernando, La Union, and the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Anda, Pangasinan. Through these offices, permission was granted to access the list of 4Ps beneficiaries in the five selected barangays. The validated questionnaires were then distributed following the systematic sampling procedure determined using Slovin's formula.

The researchers addressed the study's objectives by distributing two separate sets of questionnaires. For the 4Ps beneficiaries, the questionnaires were distributed through a door-to-door approach, allowing respondents to answer immediately and return the forms within the same day. For the Municipal Health Office, the questionnaires were provided separately and collected after a few days to allow sufficient time for completion. The entire data collection process lasted ten (10) days. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, mean, and ranking were used to analyze and interpret the gathered data.

The findings revealed that most respondents were mothers, with 5–10 family members, beneficiaries for over four years, monthly income below ₱5,000, and primarily housewives. Regarding the services availed within the past 12 months, the most common were family planning seminars, counseling and symposiums, child immunization services, and medical missions for youth.

For the Municipal Health Office, results showed that they had 41 or more health workers, facilities including clinics, birthing centers, rural health units, and outpatient care centers, and offered all essential health services mandated under the Reproductive Health Law. The study further found that the implementation level of the Reproductive Health Law in Anda, Pangasinan was rated as very highly implemented.

However, the study also identified several challenges: limited access to health services due to geographic barriers, low participation among male and female family members in reproductive health-related activities, insufficient medical equipment and services, and health facilities vulnerable to natural disasters.

Based on the findings, the researchers recommend the conduct of comprehensive information and awareness campaigns on reproductive health, expanded seminars and training programs for the youth, and the enhancement of accessibility of healthcare services to all sectors of the community.

Out-Of-School Youth Policy Review and Implementation in the Second District of Pangasinan

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This study aimed to examine and evaluate the existing policies concerning Out-of-School Youth (OSY) and their implementation within the Second District of Pangasinan. Specifically, it sought to present the development and key features of OSY-related policies in the Philippines, focusing on the areas of education, skills development, and labor and employment. Moreover, it aimed to identify the activities undertaken in implementing OSY policies in the Second District of Pangasinan under these three aspects, as well as to determine the challenges encountered during their execution.

The research respondents consisted of the heads and/or officers-in-charge of the various Municipal Social Welfare and Development Offices (MSWDOs) across the eight municipalities in the Second District of Pangasinan. In addition, officials from different agencies directly involved in OSY-related programs were included, such as the Department of Education (DepEd) Division I Office of Pangasinan, Pangasinan State University (PSU) Lingayen Campus, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Pangasinan Provincial Office, and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Western Pangasinan Field Office.

The study utilized a qualitative research design, which was deemed the most suitable approach for this type of inquiry. This design allowed the researchers to obtain in-depth insights into the experiences, perspectives, and strategies of the concerned agencies in implementing OSY policies. The participants included the heads or officers-in-charge of the eight MSWDOs within the district and those from national agencies cited in related literature—DepEd and PSU Lingayen Campus, responsible for the education component; TESDA Pangasinan Provincial Office, which handles skill development programs; and DOLE Western Pangasinan Field Office, tasked with implementing employment and livelihood initiatives for OSY in the Second District of Pangasinan.

To gather data, the researchers employed document analysis and structured interviews. Document analysis was used to examine both national and local policies relevant to the study area. Among the national policies reviewed were Republic Act No. 8044, otherwise known as the *Youth in Nation-Building Act*, and Republic Act No. 5462, or the *Manpower and Out-of-School Youth Development Act of the Philippines*, along with other related laws. Structured interviews were conducted to assess how these policies were operationalized within the district. To ensure the relevance and comprehensiveness of the interview guide, the researchers conducted an extensive review of RA 5462, RA 7796, RA 8044, RA 9155, RA 10917, RA 11230, RA 11510, as well as related literature and studies.

Prior to data collection, the researchers secured approval from their research adviser. After receiving permission, formal requests were sent to the Municipal Mayors through their respective MSWDOs in all eight municipalities within the district to conduct interviews and access necessary records. Similar letters were also addressed to the heads and supervisors of the DepEd, TESDA, and DOLE offices involved in the study. Once the data were collected, the information was organized systematically in tabular form. The researchers then analyzed and interpreted the data to formulate the findings and conclusions of the study.

The study utilized interview guide questions and a document checklist as primary instruments. The results revealed that OSY policies are indeed being implemented in the Second District of Pangasinan through various programs and activities organized by both the local government units (LGUs) and concerned agencies. Each policy has contributed positively to the advancement of OSY development, particularly in improving educational access, enhancing skills training opportunities, and expanding employment prospects.

However, the study also identified some gaps in the implementation process. These include the absence of a comprehensive OSY profiling system and insufficient budget allocation to sustain the

activities and programs. Despite these limitations, the LGUs and partner agencies have taken alternative measures to continue supporting OSY initiatives.

In light of the findings, the researchers recommend the strengthening of OSY profiling and data management systems, as well as the expansion of program coverage to reach a larger number of beneficiaries. Furthermore, enhancing coordination among implementing agencies and ensuring adequate budget support are necessary steps to improve the overall implementation and effectiveness of OSY policies in the Second District of Pangasinan.

Perceived Learning Effectiveness of Online and Traditional Internship of Bachelor of Public Administration Students

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Internships play a vital role in shaping students' professional competence, providing them with real-world exposure, and enhancing the skills necessary for employment. They bridge the gap between theoretical learning in the classroom and its practical application in the workplace. Through internships, students develop discipline, communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and an understanding of the organizational environment—elements crucial for future employment. However, in the past three years, the global pandemic brought by COVID-19 drastically altered the landscape of higher education, including internship programs. Educational institutions, including Pangasinan State University (PSU), were forced to shift from traditional face-to-face learning environments to virtual modes of instruction and internship implementation.

This study was therefore conducted to determine the learning effectiveness of both online and traditional internships among the Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA) student-trainees of Pangasinan State University – Lingayen Campus, particularly from the batches of 2019 and 2022. It aimed to examine how these two different internship modalities contributed to students' learning experiences and skill development. Moreover, it sought to identify whether there was a significant difference in the perceived learning effectiveness between online and traditional internships, as well as to assess the seriousness of problems encountered by the student-trainees during their internship engagements.

To achieve these objectives, the researchers adopted a quantitative research design and employed total population sampling to purposively collect data related to the learning effectiveness of online and traditional internship programs. This method was chosen because it allowed the researchers to include the entire population of BPA student-trainees from the two specified batches, thereby ensuring a comprehensive representation of experiences. The total population consisted of 148 student-trainees, with 68 from batch 2019, who underwent traditional internships, and 80 from batch 2022, who participated in online internship programs.

A survey questionnaire served as the primary data-gathering instrument. To accommodate both accessibility and convenience, the researchers administered the survey through Google Forms, ensuring that the respondents could easily participate regardless of location. Because the questionnaire was newly developed and not adapted from an existing instrument, the researchers ensured its content validity and reliability through expert validation. The validation process involved five (5) experts in the field of internship programs and academic management, including the OJT Campus Coordinator, the OJT University Director, and three instructors handling internship subjects.

In addition, a pilot testing or dry-run was conducted among five BPA student-trainees from batch 2020 of PSU-Lingayen Campus, who were not part of the actual study population. The purpose of the pilot test was to ensure clarity of questions, coherence of content, and appropriateness of format. Feedback from the dry-run participants helped improve the structure and content of the final questionnaire.

After data collection, the responses were tabulated and analyzed using frequency, percentage, and mean to describe the data. To determine whether a significant difference existed between the learning effectiveness of online and traditional internships, the Mann-Whitney U test was employed. This non-parametric test was appropriate for comparing two independent groups that may not follow a normal distribution.

The findings of the study revealed that both online and traditional internships were perceived as very highly effective by the student-trainees. Respondents from both batches expressed that their respective internship modalities enabled them to acquire substantial knowledge, improve communication and leadership skills, and develop work ethics and professionalism.

Despite the shift from physical to virtual internships due to pandemic restrictions, the data showed that the students were still able to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The results of the Mann-Whitney U Test confirmed that there was no significant difference between the perceived learning effectiveness of online and traditional internships across the four major dimensions of evaluation: knowledge and skills acquisition, work attitude and ethics, adaptability and communication, and overall learning experience. This means that both modalities—though delivered through different platforms—were effective in providing meaningful internship experiences to the students.

However, when it came to problems encountered, the level of seriousness varied slightly between the two modalities. For both types of internships, respondents rated the encountered problems as slightly serious, implying that while challenges were present, they were not severe enough to hinder learning. Yet, online internship participants reported experiencing more difficulties compared to those in traditional settings. The most frequently cited problems in online internships were poor and unstable internet connectivity, technological interruptions, and distractions caused by household activities and social media. These factors affected concentration and the timely completion of assigned tasks.

On the other hand, traditional internship participants cited issues related to transportation costs, limited exposure to certain office operations, and occasional miscommunication with supervisors. Nevertheless, these challenges were generally manageable and did not significantly affect their overall learning experiences.

Based on the study's findings, it can be concluded that both online and traditional internship programs implemented by the Pangasinan State University – Lingayen Campus for BPA students were highly effective in enhancing student learning and professional development. The lack of a statistically significant difference in perceived learning effectiveness indicates that online internship programs, when properly managed and supported, can serve as a viable alternative to traditional face-to-face internships. This is particularly relevant in situations where physical presence in partner institutions is limited, such as during pandemics or emergencies.

However, while both types of internships were successful, the effectiveness of the online internship largely depended on technological readiness, internet stability, and the students' ability to manage distractions in a home-based learning environment. The findings emphasize the need for continuous monitoring, support systems, and innovative strategies to address these limitations.

In light of the conclusions, the researchers propose several recommendations aimed at improving both online and traditional internship programs: (1) Training and Seminars on Employability Enhancement: The university should organize regular training sessions and seminars that focus on employability skills such as communication, critical thinking, and workplace ethics. This will help prepare students to transition smoothly from academic settings to professional environments, (2) Knowledge Retention and Performance Assessment.

It is recommended that additional assessment activities, such as post-internship reflection papers, oral presentations, and peer evaluations, be implemented to reinforce learning and ensure knowledge retention among student-trainees, and (3) Technological Support and Resource Assistance: For online internships, the university should provide access to stable internet connections and digital tools or collaborate with local agencies to ensure that students can effectively perform their internship tasks without interruptions caused by technological limitations.

Strategic Placement and Partner Agency Coordination: To optimize learning outcomes, students should be strategically placed in agencies or institutions that align closely with their field of specialization. In cases where issues arise, the university may consider relocating interns to alternative partner agencies to provide a safer and more conducive environment for learning. **And Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation Systems:** Regular monitoring and feedback sessions should be conducted between university supervisors, host institutions, and interns to ensure that the objectives of the internship are met and to promptly address any problems encountered during the program.

By implementing these recommendations, Pangasinan State University can further enhance the quality and effectiveness of its internship programs, ensuring that both online and traditional modalities continue to equip students with the skills and competencies necessary for their future careers.

Public Perception on Land Reclassification and Implementation of Zoning Ordinance in the Municipality of Binmaley

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Land use management is a critical component of local governance, as it determines how land resources are allocated, developed, and preserved to promote sustainable growth. One of the key instruments for managing land use is the zoning ordinance, which regulates the classification of land according to its designated purposes, such as residential, commercial, agricultural, or industrial use. In the Municipality of Binmaley, land reclassification has been implemented to support economic development and urban expansion. However, these changes have also raised concerns among residents regarding their environmental, economic, and social impacts.

This study was conducted to determine the public perception of land reclassification and the implementation of the zoning ordinance in the Municipality of Binmaley. Specifically, it aimed to (1) determine the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, nature of employment, number of years of residency in the barangay, and average household monthly income; (2) assess the residents' perception toward land reclassification; (3) identify the challenges encountered by the residents following land reclassification; (4) identify the areas and properties that were officially reclassified; and (5) determine the current status of implementation of the zoning ordinance in the municipality.

This research utilized a Sequential Explanatory Design, which is a form of mixed-method research that combines both quantitative and qualitative approaches to provide a more comprehensive understanding of a phenomenon. The researchers selected this design because it allows quantitative findings to be supported, explained, and deepened by qualitative insights, leading to a more complete interpretation of the results.

The quantitative phase focused on gathering numerical data regarding the respondents' profiles, their perception of land reclassification, and the challenges they encountered as residents of affected barangays. A survey questionnaire was used as the main instrument for quantitative data collection. The questionnaire consisted of three parts: the first part gathered demographic information; the second assessed perceptions of land reclassification; and the third identified the problems or challenges experienced by the respondents.

To complement and elaborate on the quantitative results, the researchers conducted a qualitative phase through document analysis and interviews. Document analysis was used to determine which specific lands in Binmaley had been reclassified. This process involved a systematic review, interpretation, and organization of existing records and documents from the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (MPDC) and the Office of the Municipal Assessor. Meanwhile, interviews were conducted using an interview guide to gather information on the status of implementation of the zoning ordinance, particularly from key officials, including the Municipal Zoning Administrator.

The study was conducted in the Municipality of Binmaley, Pangasinan. The researchers employed purposive sampling, selecting respondents from barangays where land reclassification had taken place. This ensured that participants had direct experience or knowledge of the phenomenon being studied.

According to data obtained from the MPDC in 2022, the total population of the target barangays was 8,786. Using the Slovin formula with a 5% margin of error, the researchers computed a sample size of 382 respondents. These participants represented a cross-section of residents from affected areas, enabling the researchers to capture diverse views regarding the impacts of land reclassification.

Three primary instruments were utilized to collect data: (1) Survey Questionnaire – used to gather demographic data, perceptions on land reclassification, and challenges encountered, (2)

Interview Guide – used during interviews with local government officials to assess the extent and effectiveness of the zoning ordinance's implementation, and (3) Document Analysis – employed to identify lands that had been reclassified and to validate the information gathered from the residents and officials.

The survey questionnaire was developed based on the study's objectives and was subjected to content validation by field experts to ensure accuracy and reliability. It was designed to provide quantifiable data to address the first three research questions. The document analysis and interviews, on the other hand, provided qualitative data supporting the fourth and fifth research questions.

The study revealed several important findings concerning public perception, encountered challenges, and the implementation of the zoning ordinance. Most respondents had been long-term residents of their barangays, with many living there for over ten years. The majority were middle-aged, and their occupations varied, including both agricultural and non-agricultural work. Household incomes generally reflected lower to middle-income brackets, indicating that many residents were directly dependent on land and agricultural activities for their livelihood.

Public Perception on Land Reclassification

The findings showed that residents held mixed perceptions regarding land reclassification. While some viewed it positively as a sign of progress, modernization, and economic development, others expressed concerns about its long-term effects on the environment, agriculture, and community welfare. A notable number of respondents worried about the loss of farmlands, displacement of agricultural workers, and increase in property taxes following land conversion.

The study identified several major challenges resulting from land reclassification. One of the primary issues was environmental degradation due to the alteration of natural waterways. The conversion of agricultural land for residential and commercial use led to the obstruction of drainage systems, resulting in flooding and stagnant water in some areas. Another key concern was that deforestation and removal of vegetation to make way for construction contributed to climate change-related hazards, such as higher temperatures and increased risk of soil erosion. Moreover, agricultural productivity decreased because farmland areas were reduced and fewer residents engaged in farming activities. This shift not only affected local food production but also disrupted the livelihoods of farmers who relied on agriculture as their primary source of income.

Through document analysis and interviews, the researchers found that while the zoning ordinance was being implemented, there were inconsistencies and gaps in monitoring and enforcement. Some reclassified areas lacked proper environmental safeguards, and not all residents were adequately informed about the process and its implications. It was also noted that coordination between government offices and local residents could be improved to ensure transparency and community participation in land use decisions.

The study concluded that while land reclassification in the Municipality of Binmaley aimed to promote urban development and economic progress, it also posed significant challenges to environmental sustainability and agricultural productivity. Residents perceived the process as both beneficial and problematic—acknowledging its potential to bring modernization but expressing concern over the ecological and social consequences. The implementation of the zoning ordinance was found to be functional but in need of stronger oversight, community consultation, and environmental consideration. Effective communication between the local government and residents must be strengthened to ensure that land reclassification aligns with sustainable development principles and community welfare.

In response to the findings, the following recommendations were made: (1) Environmental Management: The local government should conduct regular cleaning and dredging of canals to prevent flooding and remove accumulated waste caused by land development activities, (2) Tree-Planting and Conservation Measures: Implement strict regulations on tree-cutting, particularly in protected areas, and introduce reforestation programs to mitigate the environmental impact of land reclassification., (3)

Support for Agricultural Productivity: Establish partnerships with non-profit organizations that can help sustain and revitalize agricultural production, especially in areas such as Barangay Gayaman, which are heavily affected by land conversion, and (4) Public Awareness and Education: Conduct annual educational seminars on the implementation and importance of the zoning ordinance to ensure that residents are well-informed about the processes, benefits, and consequences of land reclassification. By implementing these measures, the Municipality of Binmaley can balance urban growth with environmental preservation, ensuring that development remains sustainable and inclusive for all its residents.

Satisfaction of Senior Citizens on the E-Government Services of Selected National Government Agencies

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In the digital age, governments worldwide have been transitioning to electronic systems to improve efficiency, accessibility, and transparency in delivering public services. In the Philippines, the adoption of e-government services has allowed citizens to access government transactions and information online. However, the extent to which these digital platforms meet the needs of senior citizens, who may have varying levels of technological literacy, remains a vital concern. Hence, this study was conducted to determine the level of satisfaction of senior citizens with the e-government services offered by selected national government agencies.

The researchers employed the descriptive method of quantitative research design to measure the satisfaction level of senior citizens in relation to e-government services. According to McCombes (2019), descriptive research is a method used to explore and describe the characteristics of a population or phenomenon. It focuses on answering “what,” “where,” “when,” and “how” questions rather than explaining “why.” In this study, the descriptive design was appropriate because it allowed the researchers to systematically assess how satisfied senior citizens are with digital government services without manipulating any variables.

The study was conducted in Lingayen, Pangasinan, a municipality known for its growing use of online platforms for government transactions. As of September 2022, there were 517 registered senior citizens across ten selected barangays in Lingayen who had formerly worked in either the government or private sector (Lingayen Capital Senior Citizens Federation, 2022). From this total population, 103 respondents were selected using quota sampling. According to Simkus (2022), quota sampling ensures that subgroups within a population are proportionally represented in the study, providing a balanced perspective on the research topic.

In addition, the researchers used a combination of purposive and convenience sampling techniques to select qualified respondents. To be eligible, respondents must (1) be retired employees from either the government or private sector, and (2) have experience using at least one e-government service. As explained by Nikolopoulou (2022), purposive sampling involves selecting participants who possess specific characteristics relevant to the study. This ensured that the respondents had direct knowledge and experience with e-government transactions. Meanwhile, Crossman (2019) defines convenience sampling as a non-probability sampling method where participants are chosen based on availability, accessibility, and willingness to participate. This approach was especially important because the researchers had to consider the health, mobility, and availability of senior citizens, particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic had not yet fully subsided at the time of the study.

The main data-gathering instrument used was a structured questionnaire, which aimed to capture the perceptions and satisfaction levels of senior citizens toward e-government services. The questionnaire consisted of several parts covering demographic information, frequency of e-government service usage, level of satisfaction, and challenges encountered. To ensure validity and reliability, the instrument was validated by five experts—two from the academe, two from the field of government service, and one from the university’s language department. These validators reviewed the content for clarity, relevance, and accuracy. Additionally, a pre-test was conducted among a small group of non-respondent senior citizens to ensure that the questions were understandable and appropriate for the target population. The feedback obtained from the pre-test helped refine the final questionnaire.

After validation, the questionnaires were distributed to the respondents in Lingayen. Due to the age and health considerations of the participants, the researchers assisted some respondents in completing the forms to ensure accuracy and comfort during data collection. The gathered data were then processed and analyzed using frequency, percentage, mean, ranking, and analysis of variance (ANOVA) to identify patterns and draw conclusions. The results revealed important insights into the

demographic characteristics, levels of satisfaction, and challenges encountered by the senior citizens in using e-government services.

The majority of the respondents were female senior citizens aged 60 and above. Most were college graduates, married, and retired government employees. These findings suggest that the respondents generally had formal education and prior work experience that may have exposed them to basic computer or administrative systems, which could influence their ability to adapt to digital services.

It was also found that many respondents relied on family members or relatives for assistance when using online government platforms. This indicates that while senior citizens recognize the value of e-government services, they still face difficulties navigating these systems independently. Most of the respondents reported that news programs and media sources were their primary channels for learning about government online services, highlighting the need for more targeted information dissemination efforts among older citizens.

The study showed that a majority of the respondents had used the e-government services of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), which provides retirement, loan, and benefit transactions online. On average, most respondents accessed e-government services one to three times in the previous year. This relatively low frequency may be attributed to limited internet access, lack of familiarity with digital systems, or the occasional nature of government transactions among retirees.

Based on the results, the overall level of satisfaction of senior citizens with e-government services was rated as "satisfied", particularly in terms of usefulness and ease of use. Respondents appreciated that online systems allowed them to perform tasks such as checking benefits, filing claims, and accessing official records without having to travel or line up at government offices. This demonstrates that e-government platforms contribute significantly to convenience and service accessibility for senior citizens. However, despite this general satisfaction, some respondents expressed moderate concerns about technical difficulties and system usability, especially for those unfamiliar with digital technology. The need for user-friendly interfaces and customer support services was also emphasized by many respondents.

The most common problem identified was the need for a stable and high-speed internet connection to access online government platforms. Slow or unreliable internet connectivity often caused frustration among senior citizens, particularly those residing in areas with poor network coverage. In addition, technological barriers, such as the lack of digital literacy and limited access to computers or smartphones, posed challenges to maximizing the benefits of e-government systems.

Another issue raised was insufficient information dissemination about available services. Some respondents were unaware of certain online platforms or did not fully understand how to use them. This lack of awareness hindered participation and reduced the overall effectiveness of e-government initiatives for the elderly population.

The study concluded that while senior citizens in Lingayen generally have a positive perception of e-government services, several barriers continue to affect their full participation and satisfaction. Most respondents expressed appreciation for the convenience, usefulness, and accessibility that digital government services offer. However, challenges such as poor internet connectivity, limited technical skills, and lack of information dissemination remain significant obstacles.

To enhance the effectiveness and inclusiveness of e-government systems, the following recommendations were made: (1) Enhanced Information Dissemination: Government agencies should include comprehensive information campaigns about e-government services in their programs and activities. These should specifically target senior citizens, using accessible communication channels such as radio, television, and community announcements, (2) Improved Internet Accessibility: The establishment of public areas with free and reliable internet access, such as in barangay halls and senior citizen centers, is highly recommended to facilitate easy access to online services, (3) System Enhancement and Technical Support: Continuous improvement of system interfaces and the inclusion of user-friendly features should be prioritized. Providing customer assistance hotlines or in-person support desks for senior citizens will further encourage their participation, and (4) Training and Capacity

Building: Conducting training and seminars on digital literacy for senior citizens will help improve their confidence and skills in navigating online platforms.

By implementing these measures, national government agencies and local authorities can better ensure that e-government services are inclusive, accessible, and responsive to the needs of all citizens, particularly the elderly sector, thereby strengthening the overall effectiveness of public service delivery.

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.

Status and Challenges of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – Funded Fishery Projects in the Municipality of Binmaley

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This study sought to assess the status and challenges of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)-funded fishery projects in the Municipality of Binmaley, Pangasinan covering the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2022. The research aimed to describe the profile of fisherfolk associations involved in these projects in terms of their names, locations, membership, registration status, years of operation, and funding sources. Furthermore, it summarized the BFAR-funded fishery projects implemented in the municipality, evaluated their present conditions, and identified the major challenges encountered during implementation.

The study adopted a mixed-method research design, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative approaches to gather comprehensive and accurate data. The quantitative aspect involved summarizing measurable characteristics such as the profile of the associations and project status, while the qualitative aspect explored deeper insights into the beneficiaries' experiences, perceptions, and challenges. This design was selected to provide a holistic understanding of the implementation and outcomes of BFAR-funded projects in Binmaley.

The research locale for this study was the Municipality of Binmaley, located in the second district of Pangasinan. According to the 2020 Census, Binmaley had a population of 86,881 people distributed across 33 barangays. The municipality is known for its aquaculture and fisheries industries, which play a crucial role in local livelihood and food security. In 2018, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that Binmaley achieved a 6.56% poverty incidence, a notable decrease from previous years—indicating improvements in local socio-economic conditions. The Local Government Unit (LGU) of Binmaley, through its Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), provides agricultural support services, infrastructure projects, and livelihood assistance to farmers and fisherfolk. Among these efforts are programs funded and implemented by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) to strengthen the fisheries sector and support sustainable livelihoods.

The Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO) serves as the main agency in charge of agricultural and fisheries development within the community. Its programs are centered on improving the socio-economic well-being of farmers and fisherfolk, particularly those from marginalized sectors. Meanwhile, the BFAR-National Fisheries Development Center (NFDC) based in Bonuan, Dagupan City, oversees the implementation of BFAR-funded fishery projects across Pangasinan, including Binmaley. The NFDC provides both financial and technical assistance to ensure that the projects are properly executed and beneficial to local communities.

The researchers utilized purposive sampling in selecting respondents. Out of the 14 active and accredited fisherfolk associations in Binmaley, six associations were chosen as primary respondents. These associations were among the beneficiaries of four BFAR-funded fishery projects implemented between 2017 and 2022. The presidents or representatives of these associations were interviewed to provide detailed information about their organization's profile, project experiences, and encountered challenges. Additionally, key informant interviews were conducted with focal personnel from the Municipal Agriculture Office of Binmaley, BFAR-Regional Field Office I based in Sual, Pangasinan, and the BFAR-National Fisheries Development Center in Dagupan City. These interviews provided institutional perspectives on project implementation and monitoring.

To gather the necessary data, the researchers conducted oral interviews and document reviews. A structured interview guide was developed, which contained questions about the associations' profiles, the fishery projects they received, their implementation status, and the challenges faced. The interview questions were formulated based on related studies and were refined by the researchers to suit the local context. Prior to data collection, formal requests for permission were made to the Office of the Municipal Mayor, the Municipal Agriculture Office, and the BFAR offices involved, ensuring proper coordination and ethical compliance.

The study focused on four BFAR-funded fishery projects, namely: Oyster Project (2017), Mangrove Rehabilitation Project (2018), Gill Net Project (2019), and Fish Processing Training and Distribution of Kits (2021–2022). Each project had distinct objectives and activities designed to improve the productivity, sustainability, and income of fisherfolk beneficiaries. The Oyster Project aimed to revive oyster farming in Binmaley by providing fishermen with essential materials and training. Beneficiaries reported that the assistance helped them restore oyster production and increase local income opportunities. However, one of the major challenges encountered was the infestation of black mussels, which damaged oyster rafts and beds, resulting in production losses.

The Mangrove Rehabilitation Project focused on environmental restoration and coastal protection. Thousands of mangrove propagules were planted along coastal areas, with a 77.7% survival rate in some sites and 33.33% in others. While this project contributed significantly to environmental sustainability and biodiversity, it also faced challenges such as theft of propagules and insufficient community monitoring, which affected long-term survival and maintenance of the mangrove areas.

The Gill Net Project, on the other hand, provided fishermen with durable gill nets to enhance their fishing capacity. This project was well-received by the beneficiaries as it directly improved their means of livelihood and income generation. The gill nets were used effectively for several years; however, delays in procurement and distribution posed challenges to timely implementation.

Lastly, the Fish Processing Training and Distribution of Kits Project aimed to add value to fishery products by training fisherfolk in fish processing techniques and providing equipment kits to support microenterprise activities. This project involved two fisherfolk associations and conducted four major activities, including hands-on training and product marketing assistance. The project was particularly successful, as beneficiaries reported earning thousands of pesos monthly from their fish processing ventures and expanding their market reach. However, similar to other projects, procurement delays affected the distribution of equipment and limited the early operation of these enterprises.

Across the four projects, the status of implementation showed that most were active for about two to three years and conducted at least two major activities. The BFAR's continuous technical support and monitoring were crucial in ensuring sustainability, but external challenges such as environmental threats, logistical constraints, and administrative delays affected long-term project outcomes.

Based on the challenges identified, several recommendations were proposed. For the Oyster Project, continuous research and the introduction of environmentally safe solutions to control black mussel infestation are suggested. Regular monitoring and cleaning of oyster beds can also help minimize damage. For the Mangrove Project, the establishment of community watch groups and partnerships with local schools or organizations can help protect planted areas from theft and ensure maintenance. In the Gill Net and Fish Processing Projects, it is recommended that procurement processes be streamlined to prevent delays and ensure that materials and equipment reach beneficiaries promptly. Additionally, providing entrepreneurship training and marketing assistance can further help fisherfolk associations sustain their operations and increase profitability.

Overall, the study concluded that the BFAR-funded fishery projects in Binmaley have made substantial contributions to improving local fisheries, supporting livelihoods, and promoting environmental sustainability. However, the success of these projects depends greatly on effective monitoring, proper fund management, and the active participation of beneficiaries and local authorities. By addressing the identified challenges, future BFAR initiatives can further strengthen community-based fisheries development, enhance food security, and promote inclusive economic growth in the Municipality of Binmaley.

Status of Informal Settlers in Dagupan City

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This study was conducted to assess the living conditions of informal settlers and to understand their expectations regarding the Local Shelter Plan of Dagupan City. The research aimed to describe their socio-economic situation, access to basic services, and overall housing conditions, as well as to determine what they expect from the government's shelter initiatives in terms of safety, affordability, and livelihood opportunities. The findings of this study are intended to serve as a valuable reference for policymakers, local authorities, and planners in improving housing and relocation programs that address the needs of informal settlers more effectively.

The researchers employed a descriptive survey research design, which is appropriate for studies that aim to describe and analyze the characteristics, conditions, or opinions of a given population. This method allowed the researchers to collect data on the existing situation of informal settlers and to interpret their experiences and expectations in a systematic way. According to McCombes (2019), descriptive research focuses on answering the "what" questions rather than "why" questions—it helps to establish facts and provide a clear picture of a population's condition.

The respondents of the study were informal settlers residing within the boundaries of Bonuan Gueset, Dagupan City, one of the city's coastal barangays where numerous informal settlements have developed over time. The estimated population size of informal settlers in the area was around 2,000 individuals. To determine the appropriate sample size, the researchers applied a 95% confidence level with a 10% margin of error, resulting in a total sample size of 200 respondents. This sample size was deemed sufficient to represent the larger population and to ensure reliable results.

The study utilized purposive sampling, a non-probability sampling technique where respondents are deliberately selected based on specific characteristics relevant to the study. In this case, only individuals or families classified as informal settlers were included. Purposive sampling was used because the researchers needed participants who could provide firsthand information about the realities of informal settlement life and their views on the local shelter plan. This approach ensured that the data collected were directly aligned with the objectives of the study.

The primary instrument for data collection was a survey questionnaire, which served as the main research tool. According to McLeod (2018), a questionnaire is a structured research instrument composed of written questions that aim to collect factual information and opinions from respondents. The questionnaire was carefully designed to gather data on two major areas: (1) the current condition or status of informal settlers in terms of accessibility to services, habitability, affordability, and safety; and (2) their expectations and preferences regarding relocation and housing under the local shelter plan.

Before data collection, the questionnaire underwent validation by experts to ensure accuracy, clarity, and reliability. It was reviewed by one Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) social worker assistant and one faculty member specializing in social work, social studies, and public administration. Their feedback was used to revise and refine the questions to improve the quality and relevance of the instrument. The final version of the questionnaire incorporated their recommendations, ensuring that it was comprehensive and suitable for the target respondents. After validation, the survey was administered to the 200 selected respondents. The researchers used frequency, percentage, and mean to analyze and interpret the gathered data.

The results of the study revealed that the majority of the respondents were aged 30 to 39 years old, representing the working-age population. Most of them were female and married, indicating that family units are predominant in the informal settlements of Bonuan Gueset. Educational attainment was generally low, with most respondents being high school graduates, which limits their employment

opportunities. Consequently, the majority of respondents were unemployed, relying mainly on irregular or informal sources of income such as vending, fishing, and other daily-wage activities.

The findings also showed that most families had been living in their current residences for over 10 years, suggesting that informal settlement in the area is not temporary but has become a long-term living arrangement for many. On average, each family had five to eight members, reflecting a relatively large household size. In terms of economic condition, most families reported an average monthly income of less than ₱9,520, while their average monthly household expenditures were below ₱10,000, showing that their income barely meets their basic needs. This financial instability highlights the precarious living conditions of informal settlers and their vulnerability to economic shocks.

The study further analyzed the status of informal settlers based on four key indicators—accessibility of services and facilities, habitability, affordability, and safety. In terms of services and facilities, the results indicated that most respondents had reasonable access to basic services such as water, electricity, and education due to the proximity of their settlements to urban areas. Despite their informal status, many were able to benefit from nearby public facilities and community services. This accessibility, however, is often informal or inconsistent, as connections to utilities may be temporary or unauthorized.

When it comes to habitability, the study revealed that the houses occupied by informal settlers are generally small, overcrowded, and poorly constructed. Although most families expressed satisfaction with their proximity to schools and workplaces, they also emphasized the need for more space and better employment opportunities to improve their living standards. Their homes often lack proper ventilation, sanitation, and drainage systems, which contribute to health and hygiene issues.

Regarding affordability, the majority of respondents reported that they could access basic health care services through government programs such as PhilHealth, which provides free or subsidized health services. Community health centers also play a vital role in offering medical assistance to informal settlers. This finding suggests that while financial capacity remains limited, government interventions have helped alleviate some of their health-related burdens.

In terms of safety, the respondents generally felt relatively safe in their community, though they identified several risks that still require attention. The main environmental concerns included frequent flooding, poor drainage systems, and water contamination, which threaten their health and property. Moreover, the lack of a structured security system exposes them to potential safety issues, particularly during calamities and high tides. These conditions highlight the urgent need for proper urban planning and disaster risk reduction measures.

One of the key objectives of this study was to identify the expectations of informal settlers regarding the local shelter plan of Dagupan City. The results showed that most respondents prioritized relocation areas with nearby job opportunities. Employment accessibility was considered the most important factor in achieving sustainable housing, as many families depend on informal labor and need to be close to urban centers for livelihood. Another top priority among respondents was to be relocated to areas free from flooding. Safety and environmental stability were essential considerations, as most informal settlers currently live in flood-prone or coastal zones that are vulnerable to storms and tidal surges. They expressed hope that the local shelter plan would identify safer and higher ground for relocation.

Lastly, respondents emphasized the importance of affordable health care services in their new communities. They expected the local government to integrate access to health centers, schools, and livelihood programs within relocation sites to ensure a holistic approach to resettlement and social development.

In conclusion, the study found that the informal settlers in Bonuan Gueset, Dagupan City face significant socio-economic challenges related to poverty, housing inadequacy, and environmental risks. Despite these hardships, they remain resilient and hopeful that the local shelter plan will provide them with safe, affordable, and sustainable housing. Their main expectations revolve around proximity to employment opportunities, flood-free areas, and access to affordable health care—factors that they believe are essential for improving their quality of life.

The study highlights the importance of community participation in housing policy planning. By considering the lived experiences and expectations of informal settlers, the local government can develop a more inclusive and responsive shelter plan that addresses not only housing needs but also the broader social and economic dimensions of urban poverty.

Work Performance of the Philippine Senate and its Contribution to the National Development Plan

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This study sought to examine the work performance of the Philippine Senate during the administrations of Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III (2010–2016) and Rodrigo Roa Duterte (2016–2022), focusing on how the Senate contributed to achieving the National Development Plans (PDPs) under both administrations. Specifically, it aimed to (1) describe the profile of the Senate in terms of age, sex, partisan composition, and professional background during the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th Congresses; (2) evaluate the legislative performance of the Senate based on resolutions passed, bills approved, laws enacted, and treaties concurred; (3) identify the salient features of the Philippine Development Plans during the Aquino and Duterte administrations; and (4) assess the Senate’s contribution in achieving the goals outlined in the PDPs from 2011–2016 and 2017–2022.

To achieve these objectives, the study employed a qualitative research design, particularly the document analysis method, which focuses on reviewing and interpreting textual and documentary data to extract meaning, patterns, and insights. This method allowed the researchers to systematically analyze documents such as Senate records, official legislative journals, the Philippine Development Plans, and other related government publications. According to Bowen (2009), document analysis is a valuable research method for qualitative studies because it provides stable and rich data that can be re-examined for verification and triangulation. In this study, the method was used to assess the priorities, values, and beliefs reflected in Senate activities and to understand the alignment between legislative outputs and national development objectives.

Additionally, a thematic analysis was conducted to identify recurring themes and patterns in the Senate’s performance. This involved coding and categorizing information drawn from official records, legislative statistics, and policy documents. Through this approach, the researchers were able to capture the underlying narratives and relationships between the Senate’s legislative outputs and their corresponding relevance to the development agenda of both administrations.

The findings revealed several key characteristics regarding the profile of the Philippine Senate during the 15th to 18th Congresses. The majority of the senators were male, with only a small number of female legislators, showing that gender imbalance persisted in the upper chamber of Congress throughout both administrations. Most senators were within the working-age range and came predominantly from Luzon, particularly from Metro Manila and nearby provinces. In terms of partisan composition, the Liberal Party (LP) was dominant during the Aquino administration, while a more mixed political alignment characterized the Duterte administration, with the emergence of regional parties and alliances under PDP–Laban and its affiliated groups. Professionally, many senators had backgrounds in law, business, public service, and mass media, which significantly influenced their legislative priorities and styles of governance.

In terms of legislative performance, the Senate demonstrated consistent productivity in passing resolutions, bills, and treaties across the four Congresses. During the Aquino administration (15th and 16th Congresses), the Senate enacted several key laws that aligned with the Philippine Development Plan 2011–2016, which was grounded on the principles of inclusive growth, good governance, and anti-corruption. Laws focusing on transparency, social welfare, and education reform—such as the K-12 Education Act, Sin Tax Reform Law, and GOCC Governance Act—were notable outputs that supported the administration’s policy direction. The Senate also ratified important international treaties during this period, particularly those related to trade and maritime cooperation.

During the Duterte administration (17th and 18th Congresses), the Senate's legislative performance remained robust, though its focus shifted in accordance with the Philippine Development Plan 2017–2022, which emphasized infrastructure development, peace and order, and regional competitiveness. Landmark legislations such as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, the Ease of Doing Business Act, the Bangsamoro Organic Law, and the Build, Build, Build infrastructure program-related laws reflected the government's priorities. The Senate also played a critical role in the review and concurrence of treaties related to defense, trade, and international cooperation.

Despite these accomplishments, the study found that only a portion of the enacted bills directly contributed to the implementation of the PDPs under both administrations. While many laws had developmental implications, few were explicitly designed as legislative mechanisms to achieve specific PDP goals. This suggests a gap between the Senate's legislative agenda and the comprehensive development strategies outlined in the national plans. The analysis also revealed that the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for tracking the impact of laws on national development were limited, resulting in insufficient integration between legislative output and development outcomes.

Regarding the Philippine Development Plan (2011–2016) under President Aquino, the study noted that it was anchored on the Social Contract with the Filipino People, which emphasized inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and good governance. The plan aimed to achieve "rapid, sustained, and inclusive growth" through improved transparency, economic reform, and investment in human capital. In contrast, the Philippine Development Plan (2017–2022) under President Duterte adopted the vision of "AmBisyon Natin 2040", a long-term goal of achieving a "matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay para sa lahat." The Duterte PDP focused on infrastructure development, peace and security, rural and regional development, and economic resilience. The Senate's legislative agenda during this period was largely responsive to these priorities, especially through the enactment of economic liberalization laws and measures to improve government efficiency.

The study concluded that while both administrations had distinct priorities, the Senate's role in national development remained indispensable. The Senate acted as both a policy-making and oversight body, ensuring that national programs were supported by appropriate legislation. However, the researchers observed that greater alignment and coordination between the Senate and the executive branch are necessary to ensure that legislative measures are effectively translated into development outcomes.

From the findings, several recommendations were made. First, senators must closely monitor and evaluate the implementation of the laws and programs they pass to ensure alignment with the national development agenda. Legislative oversight should be strengthened, particularly in evaluating the impact of laws on economic growth, social welfare, and governance reforms. Second, there should be increased participation of women in legislative processes to ensure more inclusive decision-making. Promoting gender equality and representation in the Senate will contribute to more balanced and comprehensive policymaking. Third, the Senate could benefit from developing a performance measurement system not only for accountability but also as a management tool to improve institutional efficiency. Such a system would enable the Senate to assess the effectiveness of its outputs in contributing to national goals. Lastly, the study recommends that future researchers delve deeper into identifying the primary authors and proponents of significant laws and resolutions, as well as the challenges encountered in achieving the objectives of the National Development Plan.

In summary, this research underscores that the Philippine Senate plays a pivotal role in shaping the direction of the country's development through its legislative functions. The study highlights the importance of aligning legislative priorities with the national development agenda, ensuring gender inclusivity, and enhancing institutional accountability. By strengthening these areas, the Senate can further its mission of serving as a vital instrument in achieving the long-term vision of national progress and inclusive growth envisioned in the country's development plans.



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