



INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Visayas State University Visca, Baybay City, Leyte PHILIPPINES Phone/Fax: +63 563 7695 Email: isrds@vsu.edu.ph Website: www.vsu.edu.ph

VSU EXTENSION PROJECT ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

CY 2023

I. Basic Information

1. Program/Project Title: Leadership for Resilient Local Government Units (LRLGU) Program/Project Leader: Maria Aurora Teresita W. Tabada

2. Project Component (s):

Component 1: Leadership and Governance

Name: Maria Aurora Teresita W. Tabada, Gina A. Delima, Merry Jean A. Caparas

Designation: Specialists in Leadership and Governance Component

Unit/Office: ISRDS

Contact Number: +63 53 565-0600 local 1051

Email Address: tess.tabada@vsu.edu.ph, gina.delima@vsu.edu.ph,

merry.caparas@vsu.edu.ph

Component 2: Science and Technolohu

Names: Dennis P. Peque; Moises Neil V. Seriño; Jannet C. Bencure Designation: Specialists in Science and Technology component

Unit/Office: CFES, DoE, CoE

Contact Number: +63 (53) 565-0600 local 1095

Email Address: dppeque@vsu.edu.ph, moisesneil.serino@vsu.edu.ph,

jannet.bencure@vsu.edu.ph

Staff Involved:

Name: John Carlo L. Betoy

Nature of Involvement: Research Aide

Unit/Office: ISRDS. VSU

Contact Number:

Email Address: john.betoy@vsu.edu.ph

- 3. Implementing Unit: Institute for Strategic Research and Development Studies
- 4. Cooperating Agencies: College of Forestry and Environmental Science, College of Engineering, College of Management and Economics
- 5. Program/Project Sites: Ormoc City
- 6. Duration
 - a. Date Started: 2020
 - b. Expected date of completion:
- 7. Financial report for the year under review

a. Total approved budget: 51,200b. Actual released budget: 51,200

- c. External support or counterpart funds from cooperating agencies: 150,000 (covered Ormoc City LGU for the training)
- d. Actual expenditures:

II. Technical Report (not more than 25 pages including the tables and charts)

A. Executive Summary (1 to 2 pages only)

The National Resilience Council (NRC), a private-public partnership launched in 2017 based in Manila implements a nationwide project named the Leadership for Resilient Local Government Unit (LRLGU). It aims to strengthen the dynamic collaboration between the public and private sectors in advancing science and technology-based solutions to the multiple challenges of disaster resilience. NRC has partnered with several major cities in the country including Ormoc City. NRC also envisions building the resilience of cities through the strengthening of the leadership capacity of the Local Government Units since they are at the forefront of disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation. NRC is mainly involved in providing its partner LGUs and Academic Partners (APs) with capacity-building activities like leadership training and facilitation of private-public linkage and partnerships.

In this undertaking, VSU was invited by NRC in 2018 to be the AP of Ormoc City. As an academic partner, VSU is expected to provide capacity-strengthening assistance for the resilience building of the Ormoc City LGU, specifically those related to Leadership and Governance, and Science and Technology. NRC also recognizes that the Academic Partners need support to strengthen its capacity to be able to effectively assist its partner LGU. Therefore, VSU is both a capacity-building provider and a recipient. It provides capacity-building support to Ormoc LGU and, at the same time, is a recipient of similar support from the NRC.

Since the LGU needs support for Leadership and Governance, and Science and Technology, VSU pooled team members from different disciplines such as socio-economics, environmental science and spatial science. The team now is composed of six faculty members namely, Prof. Maria. Aurora Teresita A.W. Tabada (the project leader), Dr. Moises Neil Seriño, Dr. Dennis Peque, Dr. Janet Bencure, Ms. Gina Delima, and Ms. Caparaas.

For the past two years, VSU's RLGUP project has already provided significant contributions to Ormoc City's resilience-building. In 2020, VSU entered a tripartite MOU with Ormoc LGU and NRC. The expenses in 2020 were initially covered by the Gender Resource Center. For 2021-2022, the activities were conducted mostly through online platforms, thus, very minimal costs were incurred.

The RLGU Project is aimed at

- providing support in the form of research, science-based advice coaching and mentoring, training, and other forms of capacity-strengthening activities to assist the LGU Ormoc City Resilience Council to take the lead in resilience building of their city;
- support NRC-led activities that would enhance the resilience leadership of Ormoc City LGU, and
- 3. strengthen the capacity of VSU faculty in the gender, disaster, and climate resilience field through extension activities.

B. Rationale

As an academic institution, VSU has the mandate to provide research and extension services. By doing these, VSU also ensures continual learning which can spill over benefits to its instruction mandate. As such, invitations and requests for capacity-building support, especially for government institutions and civil society organizations, are most welcome.

Apart from this mandate-driven motivation, the project is one way to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and in circumventing the worsening situation brought about by climate change. As an academic partner, it is our role to our immediate communities to equip local leaders and LGUs with the knowledge and skills to ensure the building of climate-resilient and sustainable communities.

The Resilient Local Government Unit Program (RLGUP) responds to the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) priority, particularly on the urgent need for collaboration among government, scientists, civil society, and the private sector to jointly take initiative to reduce disaster risks. Additionally, SDG 17 also emphasizes partnership as a means to achieve all the SDGs.

This project is an initiative of the National Resilience Council (NRC), a private-public partnership council launched in 2017 based in Manila that implements a nationwide project - the Resilient Local Government Unit Program (RLGFUP). The NRC aims to strengthen the dynamic collaboration between the public and private sectors in advancing science and technology-based solutions to the multiple challenges of disaster resilience.

Presented in the image below the Resilience Framework of the National Resilience Council. The Leadership and Governance of the LGU, through Leadership and Commitment and Competencies, Empowered Stakeholders, and Integrated Development Planning, Implementation and Evaluation would result in resilient development pillars - Human Development, Local Economy, Infrastructure, and Environment. In turn, the Local Government Systems become resilient, there will be a reduction in the severity of the impact of disaster risks (deaths, damage to properties, infrastructure, and agriculture) and development continuity.

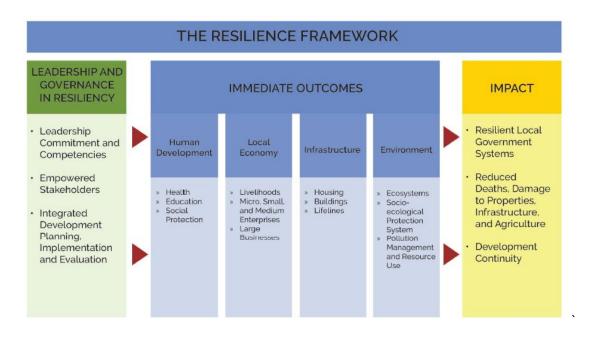


Figure 1. The Resilience Framework developed by NRC

In the implementation of the Resilience Framework, 3 major phases were developed and followed by NRC. First is the Prepare Phase, followed by the Adapt Phase, and the third is the Transform Phase. In each phase, different activities will be undertaken geared toward the enhancement of Human Development, Local Economy, Infrastructure, and Environment Pillars. In monitoring and gauging the outcomes, NRC has developed a scorecard that will be used as a basis for evaluating each pillar. There is a specific scorecard in for each pillar for every phase. The Prepare Phase activities were implemented in 2020, the Adapt Phase activities were implemented in 2021 and the Transform Activities are being implemented this year. However, there are organizational challenges that affect the implementation of the planned activities of NRC.

THREE-YEAR RUNWAY

PREPARE ADAPT TRANSFORM (Institutionalize) (Baseline) (Implement) Co-Ownership Co-Creation Ownership How can we minimize loss How can we improve How can we change of lives and assets? existing systems to reduce existing systems to achieve risks and vulnerability sustainable resilience? to hazardous events?

Figure 2. The Three Implementation Phases of the Leadership for Resilient LGU project.

Apart from NRC-led activities, there were also other capacity-building and mentoring activities that were carried out by Ormoc LGU and VSU together outside the NRC project. An example is the support provided by VSU during the crafting of the project proposal of LGU to the People's Survival Fund (PSF) in 2021-2022. The Oscar M. Lopez Center (OMLC) took the facilitation in the preparation of the Ormoc City project proposal for PSF funding with the support of VSU.

✓ Identify and discuss the specific needs/problems to be addressed

The project envisions building the resilience of cities and communities through the strengthening of the leadership capacity of the Local Government Units since they are at the forefront of disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation.

Currently, the Ormoc City LGU has an MOA as a partner of VSU for its resilience-building initiatives. The project also welcomes requests for support from other LGUs and communities. As an academic partner of Ormoc City LGU, VSU is expected to provide capacity-strengthening assistance in relation to resilience building of the Ormoc City LGU, specifically those related to Leadership and Governance, and Science and Technology.

This undertaking will assist Ormoc City and other LGUs (upon request) in accessing technical advice and expertise from the experts of VSU in the fields that are relevant to gender, climate change, and disaster risk and resilience.

This project will capacitate both the LGUs and VSU. LGUs will receive capacity-building support while VSU will gain hands-on experience. In addition, NRC also provides training and linkage support to VSU and Ormoc City LGU as their partners.

C. Logical Framework

Narrative Summary	Objectively Verifiable	Means of Verification	Important
	Indicator		Assumptions
Goal/Impact Resilient Local Government Unit	The project aims to capacitate the Ormoc-LGU staff, especially those involved in disaster planning and natural resources management, on using GIS data and software in databased planning and decision making.	- Monitoring and Evaluation reports	The partnership between the VSU team and LGU Ormoc City is functional and each is willing to provide documents needed for the monitoring and evaluation.
Purpose/ Outcome			
Enhance the capacity of LGUs with evidence-informed risk governance and highlevel collaboration between LGUs and academia in implementing resilience programs.			Validation of resilience score cards result done by external evaluator.
Output			

 VSU, Ormoc LGU, and other partners attend relevant trainings VSU provided support to climate and resilient activities of LGU 	Number of trainings attended by VSU Number of support activities provided to Ormoc City LGU	Attendance Sheet Meeting proceedings List of attended trainings List of coaching and mentoring activities provided by VSU to Ormoc LGU	Schedule of training and mentoring activities coincide with the availability of the team. VSU has the technical capacities needed by Ormoc City, LGU
Activities Develop of GIS training manual for LGU Facilitate River Rehabilitation Planning Workshop	Date September - November 2023		Proponents MJ Caparas, J Bencure

D. Methodologies Employed

This extension project uses different approaches to meet its objectives. These include

- 1. participation in the planning activities of Ormoc City,
- 2. face-to-face coaching and mentoring during meetings and training,
- 3. remote coaching and mentoring through online conferences or mobile phone calls,
- 4. participation in the training provided by NRC, and
- 5. provision of research services as requested by the partners.

E. Results/Accomplishments

Date	Activities	Attended by	Outputs
VSU regular month	ly meeting		
Monthly	Discussed matters related to the project that need to be addressed	VSU Team members	Identified activities to support Ormoc City, LGU Collectively prepared recommendations for the LGU
Partners' meetings			
	Preparation for the GIS training for the staff of Ormoc Environment and Natural Resources Department	Prof. Tabada, Dr. Bencure, Ms. Caparas	
Workshops			
March 7-10, 2023	Planning workshop	Prof. Tabada	Workshop output – Draft of

	on Panilahan River Rehabilitation VSU serves as the Workshop Facilitators and Speaker	Dr. Peque Dr. Bencure Ms. Caparas Ms. Delima	Plan for River Rehabilitation
October – November 2023	Preparation for the GIS Training Modules	Dr. Bencure Ms. Caparas	Training Design and Modules for the GIS training
Others			
April-June 2023	Review of the draft Rehabilitation Plan of Panilahan River in Ormoc City	Prof. Tabada	Shared comments to Ormoc ENRO Office

F. Problems Met and Recommendations

Although the partnership has its advantages, there are also challenges especially in implementing target activities. For instance, the training on GIS for the Ormoc City ENRO staff was already set to be implemented in the 2nd week of November 2023. However, the Ormoc City LGU has big activities in the whole month of November. They were compelled to cancel the planned GIS training to focus on their activity.

The NRC is undergoing an adjustment period because of the changes in the management and personnel. Fewer NRC-led activities were implemented this year as compared to the previous years. There might also be

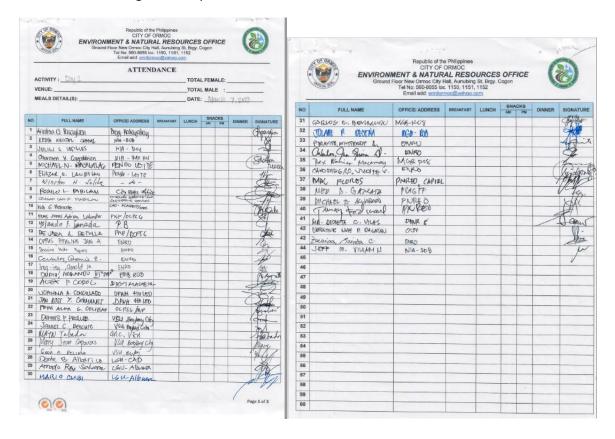
G. Plans and Target for the next year (if continuing program/projects)

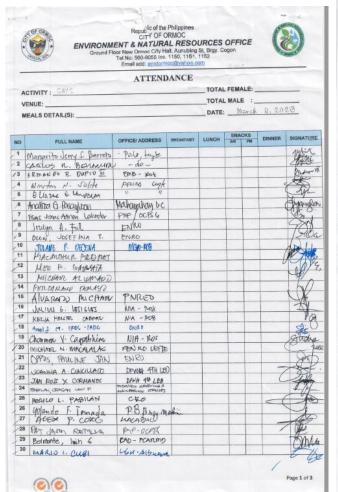
The team will focus next year (2024) on the documentation of the resilience partnership, planning for the introduction of this project to other cities and municipalities in Leyte, and continuing to support the activities of Ormoc City and NRC as partners.

Annexes

Annex 1. Attendance Sheets

March 7-10 Planning Workshop

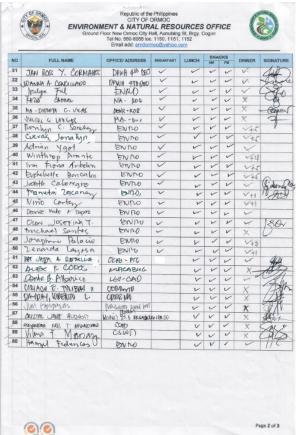






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Annex 2. Photos

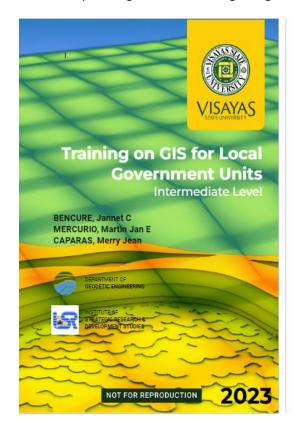


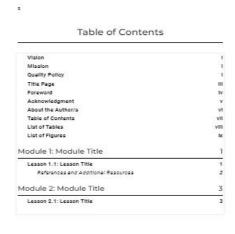






Annex 3. Sample Images of GIS Training Design and GIS Module





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