

CCDP-B Bulletin

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Mindanao's conflict-affected areas receive BTC-JICA's Quick Impact Projects



The QIP ground breaking ceremony held at Brgy. Kibleg, Upi, Maguindanao on March 7, 2015. (L-R) Dr Mohammad S. Yacob, BDA Executive Director; Upi, Maguindanao Vice Mayor Alexis D. Platon ; The Angkat Construction & Supplies; JICA Vice President Toshiyuki Kuroyanagi; Chairman Mohagher Iqbal of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission and Mr Juru Chikaraishi. JICA Philippine Office .

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has intensified its support to Bangsamoro communities that were heavily affected by wars. The JICA in partnership with the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) and Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) had implemented Quick Impact Projects (QIP) like multi-purpose halls, school buildings, and solar dryers in Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Lanao areas, Davao Region, Sarangani, Zamboanga Sibugay, Basilan, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi.

“There are twenty infrastructure projects that will be constructed in the conflict-affected areas including IP communities,” Nomaire Mustapha, Project Coordinator for Public Service Delivery component of BTC-JICA, said. *Cont.p2 QIP*

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QIP...from p1

During the QIP ground breaking ceremony held in Kibleg, Upi, Maguindanao on March 7, BTC Chairman Mohagher Iqbal explained that these projects are only pilot testing and that more projects will be implemented in Bangsamoro communities once the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) replaces the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) as well as during the regular Bangsamoro government.

Mustapha also said that the BDA will closely monitor the implementation of the project along with Philkoei. Philkoei is a consultant firm for construction and social preparation.


MILF political committee Roy Lopez based in Davao region emphasized in his inspirational message during the ground breaking program on March 10 in Sitio Libuac, Taragona, Davao Oriental that these QIP's are a manifestation and commitment of the MILF towards peace. "The leadership of MILF took this project to show our commitment for peace and care for our constituents and other peace stakeholders," he said. "The success of this project will depend on the people's organization and the Bangsamoro community concerned," he added.

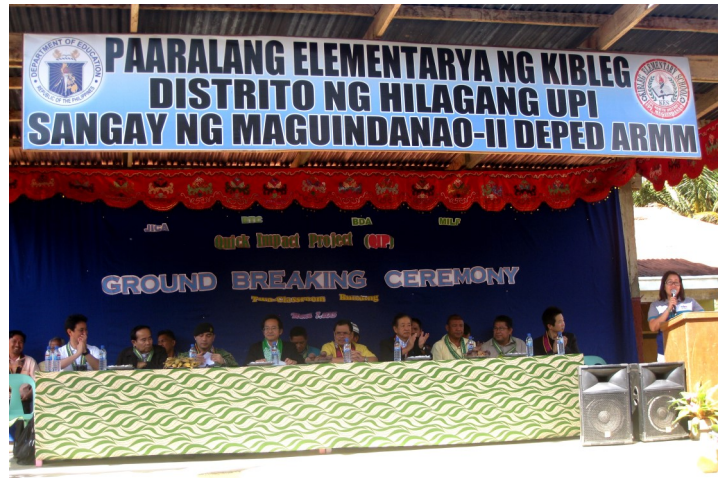
The municipality of Targona Mayor Nestor Uy said "It is a product of peace being provided for the people of Taragona, and of course with the commitment and generosity of our partners within and outside of our countries like the JICA and other donors."

He also said that if there is peace—peace within self, family and community, progress will be observed in community as manifested in the ground breaking ceremony for the Quick Impact Project.

The contractor for Taragona, Davao Oriental and Laak, Compostela Valley BJRN and Associates Construction Corp. said that they really want the project because they are Bangsamoro and the beneficiaries are also Bangsamoro.


Other contractors assigned in other regions to construct the quick impact projects are Minrock Multi-Builders, Angkat Construction & Supplies, Dawing Construction and FM4 Builders.

The projects are results of a meeting between JICA President Akihiro Tanaka and MILF Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim after the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) in Malacañan Palace, Manila on March 2014. 



BDP...from p3

ment Plan – Phase 2 (BDP-Phase 2). This is the continuation of the BDP-Phase 1, which aims to further make the plan responsive to the needs of the people in the region. Unlike BDP-Phase 1 which is primarily intended for the short-term projects, BDP-Phase 2 deals with the mid-term interventions.

Accordingly, the e-copy of the BDP Integrative Report is now at finger tips, the hard copy is on the brink to put it in print. BDP Road show will follow after the publicity of the report. 

Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP) updates

After the official launching of the Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP) on November 2, 2014 and its presentation to the public through the Philippines Development Forum on Bangsamoro on November 5-6 of the same year, people have been asking the possibility of testing the menu of the plan. It is known to all that a plan will be futile without implementation.

To ensure the smooth and proper implementation of the BDP and its workability, a workshop on BDP Project Prioritization or Shortlisting Activity was held at World Bank Office, Taguig, on January 21-22, 2015. In this workshop, top priority deliverable interventions within the year 2015 were determined. Most of which are short-term interventions/quick-impact projects.


JICA-TAF...from p4

Atty. Datu Michael Mastura elaborated in his message "...that issues have moved into the new generation, now it involved conflict resolutions, commonalities in transitional justice... there is common threat, the session contribute to the normalization and the broad components transitional justice, by moving towards transformative settlement of Bangsamoro. Move forward to transformative settlement of grievances, which is recognized by MILF. And addressing grievances of Bangsamoro, means to pursue justice."

Other reactors, Ms. Myla Leguro's emphasized that "Land is not only an economic good, financial good or economic asset, land is about identity and relationship... part of the complexity is the unsolved story of land grievances, related to land and natural resources."

"It is also about insecurity of land tenure and uncertainty of land rights... it also about the quality of land governance, how it relates to the complexity of dispute resolution..." she clarified.

"Land conflict is also about politics. It is very much affected by the over-all issue of conflict in Mindanao," she added.

The organizer said that the forum's goal is to explore how to use the best of the learning experiences from the researches and studies and to attempt to apply them to resolve land conflict today and in the future Bangsamoro government. 

In support of finding suitable ways to facilitate the sustainable development on Bangsamoro, JICA has created the Japan Study Team (JST), mandated to study middle to long term socio-economic framework for Bangsamoro regional development. This includes the study of the existing socio-economy of the Philippines and Bangsamoro which entails the population and employment, GDP/GRDP and productivity, projection of the Bangsamoro socio-economy, et al.

The team focuses on the certain BDP thematic areas such as infrastructure, agriculture and power. To enhance understanding on every thematic area, BDA-JST Joint Weekly Meeting is held to have a collaborative group discussions on every topic/issue presented. For instance, in several meetings jointly conducted by BDA and JST, they were able to discussed topics such as: Socio-economic Profile and Projection & Cargo Demand Forecast, Logistic Planning of Ports, Agriculture Report, Airport Report and the likes.


The Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) with technical assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has started its initial works in the preparation of Bangsamoro Develop-

Cont.p2 BDP

Institutional and Organizational Building (IOB) updates

Dr Ismael Abdullah, a Bangsamoro researcher was dispatched to Japan on January 18, 2015 to study the good practices of the Japanese on administration and management. Dr Abdullah completed his activity on February 28.

His findings were presented to BTC Chairman Mohagher Iqbal on March 12 at BTC Office, Cotabato City. The Institutional and Organizational Building (IOB) component is also planning to send another batch of researchers to Japan to complete the study.

The objectives of study are to have reference on drafting admin code, electoral code and local government code for legislation of laws for the Bangsamoro Transition Authority. 

JICA-TAF joins efforts on a Forum on Confronting Land and Property Problems

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and The Asia Foundation (TAF) organized a forum on 'Confronting Land and Property Problems' held at Al-Nor Convention Center, Cotabato City on February 13, 2015.

Around 70 participants consisting of experts, peacekeeping professionals, land policy specialists, land administrators, information-managers, donors, non-governmental organizations, officials and politicians from different areas of Mindanao participated during the event.

The discussion in "Confronting Land and Property Problems" centered on land disputes that have caused armed conflicts and violence involving the following factors: opposing economic interests, clan conflicts, disputed boundaries, expansion actions. These conflicts brought multitude of deaths, destruction of buildings and other physical infrastructures, damage of public records, and forced grabbing of land and other properties, among others.

Some provinces in Mindanao are observed as the country's least developed in the region. The uneven distribution of land and natural resources, discrimination against large impoverished sectors and ethnicity of the population, and factors on peace tenacities, contribute to the countless violent conflicts.

The forum consisted of paper presentation from Japanese scholars and one Filipino scholar from Mindanao.

The Japanese presenters are Dr. Sinichi Takeuchi, Deputy Director – General, Senior Research Fellow of Institute of Developing Economies; IDE-JETRO. Dr. Kiyoko Furusawa, Professor, Dept. of Economics, Tokyo Women's Christian University, and Dr. Mari Katayanagi, Associate Professor of Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation, Hiroshima University.

Prof. Badrudin Abdul is a Bangsamoro-Filipino Muslim from Mindanao State University, Graduate School, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao.

The forum was blessed to have think-tank panel of discussants, like: Atty. Datu Michael Mastura, Writer/Author, Negotiator, Lawyer, and Combatant for



Peace; Datu Tungko Saikol, Regional Director DENR-ARMM, Region 12; Ms. Myla Leguro, Program Officer of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Mindanao; and Dir. Fatima Kanakan, Executive Director, Office for Southern Cultural Communities-Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (OSCC-ARMM).

The purpose of the papers presented was to gain good practice, experience and knowledge on the issue of land problems within conflict and post-conflict areas giving sufficient knowledge based on the past events and research studies. **Cont.p3 JICA-TAF**

The Editorial Staff:

Engr. Mohajirin T. Ali.....CCDP-B Project Director

Prof. Norodin T. Salam....CCDP-B Project Manager

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