

CCDP-B Bulletin

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JICA-Cotabato Project Office sponsors CD-CAAM projects' fieldtrip in Lanao Del Norte



The farmers member of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) coming from Camp Abubakar on their actual farm visit study at the Project for Capacity Building for Community Development in Conflict-Affected Areas in Mindanao (CD-CAAM) project site in Matungao, Lanao del Norte.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency-Cotabato Project Office (JICA-CPO) sponsored a fieldtrip visit of farmers belonging to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) from Camp Abubakar together with officials of Bangsamoro Transition Commission Socio-Economic Office (BTC-SEO) staff, and the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) on January 26, 2016 at Matungao, Lanao Del Norte.

There were twelve farmers that participated in the site visit.

Engr. Aida Silongan, CD-CAAM Program Management Officer of the BDA said the project started in 2012 comprising three sectors- Agriculture, Fishery and Infrastructure. *Cont.p2,CD-CAAM*

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“The CD-CAAM project have three phases, the first phase includes formulation of basic policy of the project, selection of target municipalities, social preparation and among others,” said Silongan.

“The second phase is the implementation process from November 2013 until 2014; and the third phase was the compilation phase (November 2014-March 2015) that covers ex-post assessment, formulation of community guidelines and operational manual of pilot projects,” she added.

“It is good that the duration of the projects was extended from May 2015 to July 2016 with six pillars as basic operational guidelines,” Silongan disclosed.

“The CD-CAAM pillars is inclusive; this is why it is expanded in Lanao del Norte wherein non-Moro communities are among the recipients,” said Silongan.

Other pillars are balancing development needs and potential, farmer to farmer extension, mobilization and networking with local resources, strong partnership with LGUs, and comprehensive management process.

Currently, the project site areas are Sultan Mastura, Maguindanao; Panglima Sugala, Tawi-tawi and in Matungao municipality of Lanao del Norte.

After a courtesy call to Matungao Vice Mayor Abdul Aziz Liwalug, the team proceeded to Barangay Pasayanon and visited the fish cage culture pilot project. The project beneficiaries briefed and orientated the team on Tilapia fish culture and management.

On the same day, the team also visited a goat production project site in Barangay Somiorang and a vegetable production farm in Barangays Matampay and Puntod.

In a short program held at Barangay Puntod, the Moro farmers said that their exposures provided them essential knowledge that maybe used in their respective communities when they return home. They however urged JICA to put similar projects in their areas.

“A beginning for our farmers...”

Naoyuki Ochiai, Head and Chief Leader of the JICA-CPO said during the evening closing program that JICA will continue its assistance to the Moro people.




“...Because we understand that (Moro) people in the ground cannot wait until something is happening in their communities, I am telling you that today is not the end, this is a beginning for our farmers and I hope to see you again in your communities,” told Ochiai.

Basir Calim, of the Joint Normalization Committee (JNC) MILF Coordinator extended his appreciation to the initiatives of the JICA and other sectors. He also said that the activity is consonant to the sacrifices of the Moro people and the MILF combatants for their more than 4-decades of struggle in finding lasting peace, economic development and sustainability.

Nomaire Mustapha, Project Coordinator for Public Service Delivery of the Comprehensive Capacity Development Project for the Bangsamoro emphasized the need to solve the Bangsamoro question and end Mindanao conflict.

Mustapha said that this is the reason on why Moro people in the conflict affected-areas become unproductive because oftentimes they are displaced. “They cannot engage in farm activities like planting vegetables because every time arm encounters transpire, they are forced to evacuate from their communities,” he lamented.

The team who visited CD-CAAM project sites in Matungao, Lanao del Norte was composed of BDA -Central Management Office, BDA-Ranao Regional Management Office, IC Net Limited, BTC-SEO, JICA -CPO and Philippine Office, JNC staff and MILF farmers, International Development Journal, Matungao LGU, and members of the Philippine National Police.

Last year in December, JICA organized similar activity for MILF farmers in six municipalities at the former Camp Abubakar under the JNC program and visited PhilRice Midsayap in Barangay Gayonga, Northern Kabuntalan; the demo-farm in Barangay Kuden, Talitay and in Barangay Bugawas, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. 

Tawi-Tawi receives BTC-JICA's Quick Impact Projects

The province of Tawi-tawi are among the recipients of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) implemented through the Comprehensive Capacity Development Project for the Bangsamoro (CCDP-B), a confidence building program of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission Socio-Economic Office (BTC-SEO) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for Bangsamoro communities.

Its implementation has been closely monitored by the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA), the development agency of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and a local consultant Philkoei International, Inc. based in Makati City.

Last January 20, a solar dryer with warehouse was turned-over to Pasiagan, Bongao, and the following day, January 21, a multipurpose hall building was also awarded to the community of Baldatal Islam, Sapa-Sapa, Tawi-Tawi.

Engineer Mohajirin T. Ali, CCDP-B Project Director and guest speaker during the turnover ceremony in Pasiagan community, said, "In twenty sites of quick impact projects, the Pasiagan community chose this solar dryer and warehouse based on their needs, others have selected two-classroom school building and the rest are multipurpose building according to their necessity."

Engr. Ali added that if this project will be handled and managed properly by residents, the donor agency will not hesitate to provide more development projects.

"More Developments in Bangsamoro Government..."

He said that QIPs implemented in Moro communities is just only a project from the JICA. Projects that will come from the Bangsamoro government once established is another thing. "Once the Bangsamoro government will be established and runs its affairs, it is expected to provide more developments in our communities," Ali pointed out.

For the JICA's message to the two sites in Tawi-tawi, Kasan Usop Jr, QIP project officer read the statement of Naoyuki Ochiai, Head and Chief Leader, JICA-CPO.

JICA is hoping that through the facilities built in the

area; more opportunities will come to contribute socio-economic developments for peacebuilding in the communities.

"In spite of the unknown fate of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), "JICA has been consistent in its commitment to support the Bangsamoro people while the BBL is facing difficulties in the House of Representatives and Senate for its passage", JICA Chief Leader Ochiai said in his statement read by Kasan, Jr.


"Continuous assistance with or without BBL..."

"August 25 of last year, former JICA President Dr Akihiko Tanaka committed to MILF Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim that JICA shall continuously provide its assistance to the Bangsamoro people and the Mindanao region with or without the BBL", Ochiai said in his statement.

BDA Executive Director Dr Mohammad S. Yacob was also present during the ceremony along with his staff. He told to the community residents that the quick impact projects were the results of a conversation between MILF Chieftain Al Haj Murad and Dr Tanaka before the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) on August 27, 2014 at Malacañang Palace to implement a kind of projects where dividends of peace and its positive impact to socio-economic needs of the villagers can be felt immediately by communities.

During the turnover ceremony, officials of local government unit, MILF members, community leaders had extended their thanks to the MILF Central Committee, BTC, JICA, BDA and all stakeholders who have contributed to the success of the projects.

Meanwhile, Nomaire Mustapha, Project Coordinator for Public Service Delivery of the CCDP-B, said that there were 11 quick impact projects already turned-over to the Bangsamoro communities as of this writing.

The remaining 9 QIP sites, he said, that soon to be turned-over to communities from February to March 2016 are in Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat; Glan, Sarangani; Patikul, Talipao and Panglima Estino in Sulu; Masiu and Buadipuso Buntong in Lanao del Sur; Tangkal and Munai for Lanao del Norte. 

BTC appeals for support to JICA road project

A senior officer of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) urged the people of Alamada municipality to support the construction of a farm-to-market (FMR) road which had a formal groundbreaking ceremony led by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) President Shinichi Kitaoka who visited the town on March 1, 2016.

Haron Meling, executive assistant and representative of BTC Chairman Mohagher Iqbal to the event, addressed in the vernacular the Bangsamoros who witnessed the program held at the municipal gymnasium.

“Take care of that project because it would benefit you in many ways,” he stressed. Meling said that inspite of the non-passage of the BBL, socio-economic programs would continue to be implemented.

Emphasizing the several important roles played by JICA and the Japanese government, Meling expressed gratitude to JICA which he described as “true friend” for continuously providing assistance and hope to the peace process.

“Japan supports the Peace Process...”

The latest of such assistance is the P442-million grant aid project which includes the 8.6 kilometer road at Barangay Mapurok of Alamada, Cotabato Province. Other road infrastructures have been started also in Bumbaran, Lanao del Sur and Datu Paglas, Maguindanao. The development assistance are meant to boost economic opportunities in the recipient agricultural municipalities.

“Japan remains steadfast in supporting the Peace Process and development of the Bangsamoro area. Amid triumphs and challenges, JICA’s cooperation activities will continue to support peace building process, inclusive growth and better quality of life for the people of Mindanao,” said JICA President Kitaoka.


Bangsamoro Development Agency Executive Director Mohammad S. Yacob also extended his gratitude and commendation to JICA over the latter’s uninterrupted participation in the GPH-MILF Peace Process. Since 2002, Japan has involved itself in the



Left to Right: Atty. Lanang Ali Jr., BTC Commissioner Hon. Ibrahim Ali, BTC Chair Hon. Mohagher Iqbal, JICA President Sinichi Kitaoka, MILF 1st Vice Chairman Ghadzali Jaafar and some MILF Central Committee members.

negotiations and the various bodies created such as the International Monitoring Team and the International Contact Group where Japan continuous to participate.

Provincial Board Member Kelly Antao, who represented Cotabato Gov. Emmylou Taliño-Mendoza, hailed the project as dividend of the peace agreements between the GPH and MILF. He also said that it is a manifestation of the inclusivity of the future Bangsamoro government.

Alamada, although traditionally dominated by Iranons, is not part of the core territory of the prospective Bangsamoro. 

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