

BIAD 2 Municipalities Comprehensive Project Proposal # 8

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Title : **Agri-Business Management Information Center**

Project Type : Knowledge Information and Promotion

Project Components:

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1. Data gathering and analysis
2. Establishment of Network System in BIAD 2
3. Capability Building
4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Project Location : BIAD – 2 Cluster Municipalities

II. PROJECT STATUS : Proposed Project with Project Idea

III. PROJECT CONCEPT :

Project Background

Local Government Units play an important role in the national development. This role has been recognized in the Local Government Code of 1991 otherwise known as the Republic Act 7160, which embodies the real meaning of local autonomy by giving them more power, authority and responsibilities in their respective jurisdiction. Such circumstances will very much challenge the LGUs to be more creative in generating revenues in order to respond the increasing demand of their constituents.

To ensure a cohesive response to the poverty situation in the province, Bohol has formulated the Bohol Program Framework for Poverty Reduction as a center-piece for development in the province. The framework provides assistance to the less fortunate people through programs and projects and the stimulation of economic growth to sustain poverty reduction initiatives.

Currently, the Agri-business Information System in the Provincial Government of Bohol is now on the process of developing its system. This project is intended to enhance the capacity of the Provincial Government of Bohol, particularly in the comprehensive database information for crops and livestock in Bohol.

In line with the thrust of the Provincial Government of Bohol, the BIAD 2 cluster municipalities had conceptualized a new proposed project related to agriculture which focuses on the data banking and networking system. It is in

this context that the Agri-business Management Information System becomes crucial as it provides a focal point for convergence of efforts of local and national planners, decision makers, politicians, NGOs, private sectors, farmers, stakeholders and other development partners and implementers.

The project is divided into four (4) inter-related phases, namely: 1) data gathering, consolidation and analysis by using the tools prepared by the system analyst; 2) establishment of the network-wherein an expert system will performs the most essential part of the program; 3) capability building for the system users; and 4) monitoring and evaluation for project sustainability. The system technology will become a core part of the nine ((9) BIAD municipalities operation and will continue to develop, maintained and sustained by the trained and competent staff. Such ideal project is envisioned to be applied BIAD-wide in order to ensure effective and efficient product and service delivery for good governance.

Once the system will be materialized and put in place, there will be a big opportunities to streamline many activities in the local government units through a maximize use of the new information technology system. This can even provide the benefit of producing visual products/maps which can assist the planners, decision-makers and politicians in clarifying complex problems. The speed which the information products such as reports and maps can be produced should increase significantly once all the baseline data and information has been collected and stored with quality data and output design.

Eventually the project will improve the responsiveness of government to community and stakeholders demand and the provision of basic services and increase investor's confidence in BIAD 2 LGUs. Information products and maps could even be sold commercially to increase LGU revenues and provide additional finance for materials and maintenance of the facility for self-sustaining BIAD LGU in the future.

Project Linkages

- Provincial Government of Bohol the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist and Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, Human Resource Management Office thru its IT Department
- 9 Municipalities of BIAD 2
- Funding Agencies for International Development

Project Objectives:

- Develop, validate and promote modalities to facilitate technology promotion, utilization and promotion
- Strengthen links among BIAD 2 Cluster municipalities among the technology generators, service providers and users
- Complement efforts of BIAD 2 LGU's and Rural-based organizations (RBO's) in agricultural extension services
- To contribute in making a better project for the BIAD 2 LGUs and marketing linkage to other partners in development

- To efficiently and accurately manage and monitor databanking related to agribusiness and allows fast exchange of data from one sector to another thru the BIAD clusters approach
- To make LGUs less dependent on the national government revenue allocation e.g. IRA dependent
- To produce a GIS-database of Agri-business for crops and livestock in 9-Municipalities in BIAD 2

Regional and National Objectives

The project will support to 10 in 2010 agenda for the Provincial and National Government which emphasizes on performance and results, instead of activities and outputs; install and maintain computerized systems to improve LGU operations (e-NGAS, FMIS, RPTIS, HRIS, GIS and eTRACS); expand revenue base to fund development programs/ initiatives; adopt Value-for-Money Principles, transparency and accountability in the use of public funds and enhance service delivery to clients and ensure positive satisfaction rating in Bohol Poll.

IV. PROJECT FINANCING

Funds Needed : PHP 3,000,000.00

Project Component	Amount
Data generation and analysis	1,000,000.00
Purchase of Necessary Equipment and software	1,500,000.00
Maintenance (spare parts replacement)	200,000.00
Capability Building (Training and Seminars for the MLGUs to use the system)	300,000.00
TOTAL	3,000,000.00

Project Financing:

The nine BIAD 2 municipalities are open for counterpart contribution with the donor.

Funding Assistance Sources:

Additional funds for the capability building and outsourcing of the system software company is proposed for funding to any funding institutions.

V. PROJECT BENEFITS AND COSTS

Beneficiaries

The project will benefit to the nine municipalities in BIAD 2 clusters and would indirectly benefit to 4-BIAD clusters in the province of Bohol.

Social and Environmental Benefits

- Convenience on both the part of the client and the relevant offices in the overall management and flow of the new system
- Streamline LGUs operations
- Fast and accurate report generation
- Reduce opportunities for red tape

Economic Benefits

- The project is efficient and accurate management and monitoring of agri-related business and activities
- Increase in customer's satisfaction in service delivery
- Increase in local revenue

VI. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Responsible Agencies

The nine BIAD 2 municipalities thru the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators, Municipal Agriculture Offices and Municipal Assessors Office shall be responsible in the implementation of the project.

Coordinating Office : Office of the Provincial Agriculturist
Office of the Provincial Veterinarian
HRMO-IT Department (Province)

Administrative Feasibility

The BIAD 2 cluster LGUs shall establish a Core GIS/IT Technical Management Team who is responsible in the operation, performance and maintenance of the system. The Team will prepare and implement the plans of the project, making and recommend necessary revisions and upgrade the equipment to ensure the optimum performance and outputs. A clear management scheme and mechanism shall be defined by the member BIAD 2 LGUs to implement fully the project.

Legal and Political Feasibility

The project has no legal implication.

Social Acceptability

This project is considered to acquire positive acceptance most especially from the relevant offices that may benefit from the convenience that the system will offer to their regular functions.

Project Sustainability

The project will facilitate in the development of a clear and realistic sustainability plan in maintaining the viability of the LGU participation. A series of consultation workshops will be done to define the financial and physical requirements in the operation of the monitoring

mechanism and identifying strategies on how to sustain the BIAD 2 LGUs interest and support, legal mandates, availability of appropriate technologies and credibility including the benefits that can be derived from the project and the possible effects on the tasks of the respective departments. Support services such as technical, administrative, materials and monitoring and evaluation mechanism are very necessary for the success and sustainability of the project.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The Provincial Government of Bohol thru the Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator in coordination with the project implementers in BIAD 2 municipalities has the biggest role in implementing the monitoring and evaluation procedures as mandated under RA 7160 through Executive Orders No. 376 and 93 to develop a framework for monitoring and evaluation and determine appropriate methods and mechanisms to operationalize the framework in province and municipalities and it should be supported by legal instrument and resources in order to perform and execute fully on the activities formulated in the project plan. For a good project management it is essential to ensure a periodic review and assessment of the progress, outcomes and impact of the project in the local government unit. A monitoring mechanism and plan shall be established and formulated

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WHY Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD)?

The clustering of municipalities in BIAD started way back in the 1980's when a team of experts from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) undertook a Master Plan Study of the Bohol Integrated Area Development Project. The bases for the clustering were practical considerations such as geographic proximity to each other, shared natural and agricultural resource base, and local economy and industry, among others.

It was recognized that through an inter-LGU mechanism, such as the BIAD, every municipality can stand to benefit from such clustering. Specifically, the BIAD grouping will generate the following advantages:

- economies of scale from pooling of resources;
- more effective environmental management;
- stronger lobbying power especially for Official Development Assistance (ODA) and National Government Agency (NGA) support;
- inter-LGU exchange and cooperation (i.e., personnel and institutional development, etc);
- enhanced planning systems (i.e., urban development, transportation, etc.);
- enhanced revenue and investment generation;
- sound policy reform as a result of LGU collaboration; and,
- collaborative tourism development efforts.

Objectives of the BIAD System

The BIAD System serves as the structural and operational umbrella from which priority, high impact projects for the Bohol Province are identified.

Municipalities in the BIAD System

The BIAD cluster that was initially identified in the 1980's remains to this day. The following table shown below lists the BIAD composite municipalities.

- BIAD 1** Alburquerque, Antequera, Baclayon, Balilihan, Corella, Cortes, Dausi, Lila, Loay, Loboc, Maribojoc, Panglao, Sevilla, Sikatuna and Tagbilaran City
- BIAD 2** Loon, Calape, Tubigon, Clarin, Inabanga, Buenavista, Getafe, San Isidro and Catigbian
- BIAD 3** Alicia, Bien Unido, Mabini, Pres. Garcia, San Miguel, Talibon, Trinidad and Ubay
- BIAD 4** Anda, Candijay, Dimiao, Duero, Garcia-Hernandez, Guindulman, Jagna and Valencia
- BIAD 5** Batuan, Bilar, Carmen, Dagohoy, Danao, Pilar, Sagbayan and Sierra Bullones

