

INTEGRATED SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATABASE DEVELOPMENT (ISEDD) PROJECT

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. PROJECT TITLE:

Integrated Socio-Economic Database Development (ISEDD) Project

2. PROJECT TYPE

This project is both a technical assistance and capital-forming type of initiative. It builds capacities of Local Government Units (LGU) in database management through appropriate training and actual in-house on the job learning. At the same time, the project will involve the procurement of Information Technology (IT) equipment, if appropriate, to build and jumpstart the database system, network and connectivity of socio-economic database within the concerned LGUs and the Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD) Cluster 3.

3. PROJECT COMPONENTS

The project will have the following components:

- a. **LGU and BIAD-based Assessment:** This will include LGU/BIAD-level Database/Statistical Needs Assessment and determining human, hardware and software capability structure. Further, the project will also look into the detailed assessment on existing data sources and identification of data range (ex. Geographic, demographic, socio-economic, governance and fiscal management)
- b. **Designing and Development:** This involves the designing and development of an Integrated Database platform/ program and articulating the operational details for the creation and management of a database
- c. **Training and Capability-Building:** This component will involve the provision of modular training program to build capacities of Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators (MPDCs), operators, direct users and database manager. Training may included but not limited to Basic Database concept, Socio-economic profiling/ Data sourcing, Database development/management/ utilization and access
- d. **Hardware/ Network Development:** This will cover, if appropriate, the procurement of needed IT equipment support for LGU and BIAD-based database system

- e. Data sourcing/ Gathering and Database build-up: This will involve the actual gathering of required baseline data to be placed and used in the database. This will also include data verification and review.

4. PROJECT LOCATION

The project will be implemented in the following Municipalities of the Province of Bohol, Philippines within the Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD) 3 Development Cluster:

1. Alicia
2. Bien Unido
3. Mabini
4. Pres. Garcia
5. San Miguel
6. Talibon
7. Trinidad
8. Ubay

Appropriately, the project will be lodged at the Municipal Hall of each mentioned municipality to ensure that the database system will be utilized and maximized. There is also a need to protect and manage the entire database system.

II. PROJECT STATUS

1. STATUS OF PROJECT

The project is still at the proposal stage and is presented for assistance by any appropriate local or foreign donor/ funding agency. A concept paper/ project profile is available. However, the detailed assessment and design will be part of the project components.

The investment requirement of the proposed project is designed and structured in such a way that participating municipalities of the BIAD cluster will provide counterpart funding to facilitate its early initiation and sustainable operation.

It is emphasized that supporting requirements of funding/ donor agencies will be complied with by the participating Local Governments.

III. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Province of Bohol is an island province of the Philippines and is the 10th largest among the country's 7,100 islands. It has a total land area of 411,726 hectares with a population of 1.230 Million in 2007. Its annual growth rate is estimated at 1.10%.

Bohol is composed of one city and 47 municipalities with Tagbilaran City serving as its capital. These municipalities and city are further divided into 1,109 "barangays" or villages.

Bohol envisions to become a prime eco-cultural tourist destination and a strong agro-industry-based province in the country. It has been consistently pursuing its tourism and agriculture development program with an end view of alleviating the socio-economic conditions of its people. In year 2000, the Province was among the 20 poorest provinces in the Philippines based on the survey conducted by the National Statistical Coordinating Board (NSCB). This has prompted the Provincial and Municipal Governments to shift its thrusts towards reducing poverty incidence and promoting equitable economic growth throughout the province. With this concerted efforts, Bohol has successfully implemented its Program Framework for Poverty Reduction which has cohesively responded to the poverty situation in the Province. Through this, latest poverty ranking of Bohol has improved significantly, placing it in the 52nd place in the country.

The poverty-reduction and economic development initiatives in the province are not only implemented by the local government units but also by the private sector, non-government organizations, national government agencies and various donor/ funding agencies. These development partners have been working closely with the Provincial and Municipal Governments through continuing collaboration and development of projects that strategically address various levels of deprivation.

To heighten the Province's momentum of pursuing economic growth and further reduction of poverty, the Provincial Government, with direct cooperation of the Municipal Governments, has revived its Integrated Area Development (IAD) approach in dealing with the various socio-economic problems as well as opportunities in the province. In the late 2006, the Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD) clusters have been formed, which basically grouped the 48 city/ municipalities into 5 BIAD Clusters. This clustering has been based on the municipalities' contiguous geographical location, commonalities of agriculture/ tourism and socio-economic potentials and constraints and similarities on development thrusts being pursued. These BIAD clusters, although still informally organized, have started to gain support by its member municipalities as they recognized the need of working collectively and pooling together resources to address common local problems. This approach is seen to be not just financially and tactically

desirable, but also administratively appealing as it strengthens partnerships between local governments particularly in pursuing their common development thrusts.

In support to the current development strategy of implementing poverty-alleviating and economy-stimulating programs and projects, the BIAD Cluster 3, has identified, among its various priority agenda, the development of an integrated database system that will facilitate the consolidation, generation, assimilation and utilization of socio-economic data. The member Local Governments of the BIAD 3 recognize the need for a reliable and updated socio-economic database that can facilitate the efficient operation of local governments. This database is also very useful in assessing socio-economic conditions which is necessary to prioritize development programs and projects. With the current trend of counter-parting arrangements and alliance building, having a ready socio-economic database facilitates the packaging of project proposals as well as in accessing funding and assistance for project implementation.

While each municipality has a certain level of socio-economic profile, these data and information, however, are generally fragmented and not integrated. Socio-economic profiles are maintained manually and few municipalities have put them up into the web for easy access. There is also a concern on the dissimilarity of data, data sources and date/frequency of data gathering process which make it difficult for inter-municipal consolidation and comparison. Considering the mentioned situation, the BIAD Cluster 3 conceived this Database development project.

The proposed project will pave the way for the development, maintenance and computerization of a database system that will serve as information resource for LGUs and the BIAD cluster. It will be significantly useful for the following:

Municipal and BIAD-based Planning Exercises

The project seeks to improve the formulation of tactical, strategic and long-term plans for the development of infrastructure, social services, economic environment, managing the natural resources and enhancing local governance. The presence of a well-updated and maintained database can also facilitate the formulation of tourism marketing strategies, biodiversity framework and the development of local policies and agenda.

Tool for Local Administrative Operation

The database system would facilitate the prompt provision of practical information to local officials and working staff of the Municipal Government which would be essential for them to make informed decisions on operational and strategic matters for all sectors of the municipality. Mayors, other local elected officials, the planning officer and other municipal heads and employees can benefit from accessing information like demography, tourism,

revenue and expenditure trends, road length and network, number and location of social services and facilities.

A Mechanism to Track Socio-Economic Development Trends

The proposed integrated database is a useful tool to track economic and social trends and status of the LGU and the BIAD cluster. The database will be designed to present time series data, which is needed to support socio-economic forecasting models, assessment of potential socio-economic impact of policies and planning decisions, as well as in the evaluation of plan use/zoning and urban development policies and controls.

A System of Providing Information to Residents, Businesses and Researchers

The project will develop a publicly available database system which will provide any user, may it be through the LGU-station or through the internet, access to public/ non-sensitive information like socio-economic profiles, demographic features, environmental quality status, development plans and employment statistics. Having this database accessible to the public promotes accountability and transparency of the local government's administration and operation.

The Database will also be a very important resource for entrepreneurs who would want to develop business plans for possible investments to the Municipality. Having a database would help entice investors to consider placement of their investment in the municipality or BIAD, as it will facilitate the provision of relevant economic information like available crops and raw materials, available land, skills of labor force, available support infrastructures and growth of local markets.

The implementation of the project will also provide public access to students, researchers and visitors on detailed basic information of the municipality and the BIAD cluster in general. This will also free municipal or even provincial staff from dealing with repeated requests for data inquiries.

2. PROJECT LINKAGES

The project directly supports one of the development thrusts of the Province particularly in maintaining and strengthening computerized systems to improve LGU operations. It complements existing computerization efforts of the provincial government on Electronic New Government Accounting System (e-NGAS), Financial Management Information System (FMIS), Enhance Tax Revenue and Collection System (ETRACS), Real Property Tax Information System (RPTIS), Geographic Information System (GIS) and other Database development for agriculture, engineering and water resources. It enhances the development of connectivity among local governments through web-based shared database.

Furthermore, the project is aligned with the government's thrust on promoting Value-for-Money principles of governance and in fostering transparency and accountability of government operations.

Services to clients, in the field of research, studies and data-gathering, will be improved and thereby increasing client satisfaction. This can be achieved through the project's accessibility through the internet.

Development of a socio-economic database system will also facilitate the enhancement of working relationships and ties between government agencies, the private sector and local/ foreign funding organizations, through data sharing and other complementary information-based services.

3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project has the following overall and specific objectives:

Overall Objective:

To develop an effective, accessible and integrated socio-economic database system within the LGU and BIAD Clusters that will be useful for decision-makers to make sound and appropriate decisions for socio-economic development.

Specific Objectives:

- To build and/or enhance the in-house data-banking capacities of LGUs/ BIAD (on human, soft and hardware components of a database system);
- To promote the need for and importance of an integrated socio-economic database for a common means of assessing and verifying socio-economic conditions of LGUs and BIAD Cluster;
- To strengthen ties between LGUs within the BIAD through data/ information sharing which can also be appropriately used for project development and packaging to address BIAD-wide development concerns or in pursuing a common development thrust;
- To build/develop a database system/ platform that can be expanded and upgraded to cater to other data coverage like finance, poverty, human resource and other applicable data/ information;
- To improve accessibility of wide-array and updated socio-economic data to facilitate research and development studies

4. SECTORAL OBJECTIVES

The project will directly support the attainment of BIAD 3 Cluster development thrust of improving governance and quality of services for the general public.

While the project only covers the municipalities within the BIAD 3 Cluster, it can be expanded to other municipalities in the province, to make it a provincewide application. This will eventually create a uniform and common database platform, which is more useful and effective in assessing provincewide socio-economic conditions.

Considering that the project involves training on database management and socio-economic build-up, it significantly supports the human resource development of local governments, building capacities for a more efficient and effective delivery of related services.

5. REGIONAL and NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The development, utilization and accessibility of a socio-economic database for the BIAD 3 Clusters and the province, in general, directly supports the National Government's thrust for the promotion of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the country.

The use of web-based services by local government units in the Province will also promote for the attractiveness of putting new IT-based services in Bohol, which is in line with the national agenda of reducing cost for connectivity. This eventually will also promote market competition in the ICT-related services, through the private sector participation.

The project will also contribute in reducing the digital divide within the country as this will provide greater public access to useful socio-economic information.

Furthermore, the project can also be linked with other National-driven database and monitoring system like with the Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) pursued by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

IV. PROJECT FINANCING

1. FUNDS NEEDED

The project, which will run for 1 year for its assessment and development stages, will require an estimated cost of **P 2,645,000.00**. Details for this are as follows:

Component	Estimated Component Costs
LGU and BIAD-based Assessment (LGU/BIAD-level Database/Statistical Needs Assessment and determining human, hardware and software capability structure, assessment on existing data sources and identification of data range)	P 240,000.00
Designing and Development of the Socio-economic Database (Designing and development of an Integrated Database platform/ program and articulating the operational details for the creation and management of a database. Includes procurement of necessary software and development of customized database program to be provided to LGUs/BIAD)	P 500,000.00
Training and Capability-Building (Modular training programs to build capacities of Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators (MPDCs), operators, direct users and database controller, may included but not limited to Basic Database concept, Socio-economic profiling/ Data sourcing, Database development/management/ utilization and access)	P 200,000.00
Hardware/ Network Development (Procurement of needed IT-based equipment support for LGU and BIAD-based database system)	P 630,000.00
Data sourcing/ Gathering and Database build-up (Actual gathering, validation and compilation of required baseline data)	P 225,000.00
Database operation and management (1 year operation, including salaries of database controller, internet-based service fees, maintenance costs for 8 LGUs,)	P 850,000.00
TOTAL COST	P 2,645,000.00

It is emphasized that the costs presented are estimates and may be changes after detailed assessment and study of the details/ structures are conducted.

2. PROJECT FINANCING AND COUNTERPART FUNDING

The project will be funded through counterpart arrangements between the participating municipalities of the BIAD 3 Cluster and the assisting local or foreign donor agencies.

Based on the estimated cost of the project, the 8 Local Municipal Governments will provide for the **32%** of the total project cost, representing the related cost for the database operation and management. The assisting funding agency will be responsible for the remaining **68%** of the project.

While it is notable that the funding agency will provide for the greater share of the project cost, due consideration should also be given to the LGUs proposed contribution, which is the yearly cost of operating the system. The operation and management of the database is a continuing and going-concern process, and therefore entails yearly costs for its maintenance and other related expenses.

The Provincial Government can also provide assistance and support, in form management and coordination, in order to ensure that the Project can proceed smoothly. Arrangements for Provincewide application and implementation can also be facilitated.

V. PROJECT BENEFITS and COSTS

1. BENEFICIARIES

The project will directly benefit the users of the socio-economic database of LGUs and BIAD 3 Cluster. Basically, the municipal local governments will primarily have the advantage of having a functional and updated database which is very useful to aid local planning, decision-making and monitoring. Local governments can also assess their socio-economic performance and compare the same with the other municipalities to promote better governance and operational efficiency. The web-based database can also facilitate transfer of learning between municipalities through sharing of best practices and experiences, with due reference to its socio-economic indicators.

Other levels of government can also benefit from the project. The Provincial Government, for example, can make use of the municipal/ BIAD database to develop and assess the overall condition of the province in terms of demography, physical infrastructures, agriculture, social services and other key sectors. The database will also be a facilitating tool to package provincewide programs as well as evaluate impacts for implemented programs/ projects. This database will also provide national government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector necessary information which is necessary to prioritize development interventions or determine the economic stability and potentials of a certain municipality.

In totality, the general public will take advantage of this project, giving them the ease of accessing relevant information and other socio-economic data for their personal, education, research and study use.

2. SOCIAL BENEFITS

While the project focuses on building the socio-economic database of municipalities and the BIAD 3 Cluster in general, it also provides indirect support for the enhancement of social services to the people. Through the database, implementing government agencies, NGOs, supporting institutions can prioritize and strategically provide development interventions to areas where support is necessary.

With the available information, institutions can implement programs and projects that will really benefit the poor or other priority groups in the province. Having a BIAD-based profile can also provide opportunities for implementing BIAD-wide programs that will address common inter-municipal development issues like unemployment, environmental exploitation, and limited infrastructure support and health services.

3. ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The project has no direct economic benefits. However, it will facilitate the entry of investments to the municipalities through the provision of accessible, relevant and updated economic indicators/ information to businesses and entrepreneurs.

Information is very important for any business organization to venture into establishing an economic enterprise. Having a ready socio-economic database will not only inform entrepreneurs on the economic potentials of municipalities, but also entice them to pour-in their investments in the BIAD 3 Clusters or in a specific municipality. A database which allows comparison of municipal agri-based potentials would be very helpful for investors in their decision for business placement, consolidation of farm resource, and market research.

Attracting businesses in the municipalities would eventually mean generation of employment, increasing of government revenues through taxes and fees, promoting competition and generally stimulating economic growth in the locality.

4. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COSTS

There are no foreseen social and economic costs of the project. The project only provides positive outcomes and benefits to the people of the participating municipalities and the general public. It promotes better governance and public services, facilitates research and studies, and enhances economic opportunities of municipalities.

VI. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1. RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

The names and roles of the proponent, endorsing, and executing, implementing and coordinating agencies must be indicated.

The project will be implemented by the **8 participating municipalities** of the BIAD 3 Cluster of the Province of Bohol. These 8 municipalities will equally be responsible for the following:

- Direct cooperation and assistance for the needs assessment for LGUs/ BIAD for the human, hardware and software requirements
- Provision of personnel support and assistance for the development of a customized database system appropriate for the LGU/ BIAD application
- Assist in the selection of reliable service provider that will directly assist in the development/ management of the database
- Provision of permanent personnel support, which will be composed of, but not limited to, the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, assigned Database Controller, Survey enumerators, and other representatives of LGU-based offices. These personnel will be required to attend the series of modular training courses related to the database build-up, management and utilization.
- Provide facilitation for the design, specification-setting and procurement of necessary support IT equipment
- Directly assist in the conduct of surveys, if necessary, data-gathering activities, data validation, consolidation and database build-up
- Operation, maintenance, security, upgrading, updating of the database system
- Provision of necessary financial/ personnel counterpart for the project

On the other hand, the **funding/ assisting donor agencies** will be responsible for: the provision of necessary financial counterpart for the project, provision of technical assistance for the conduct of the LGU/ BIAD assessment, provision of guidance for the selection of reputable Service Provider, assist in the procurement of necessary support IT equipment, provide technical inputs for the conduct of data gathering and database development.

The **Provincial Government**, through the Provincial Planning and Development Office and the Bohol IT Team, will provide the necessary technical and administrative assistance that will ensure the smooth and effective implementation of the project. Where possible, the Provincial Government will coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the project provincewide.

2. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The implementation of the project will follow the schedule below:

Component	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5
Project Finalization and Agreements					
LGU and BIAD-based Assessment					
Designing and Development of the Socio-economic Database					
Training and Capability-Building					
Hardware Build-up/ Network Development					
Data sourcing/ Gathering and Database build-up					
Database operation and management					

3. ADMINISTRATIVE FEASIBILITY

Considering that the project is BIAD-wide and will involve several municipalities, the following implementation mechanisms will be established and followed:

A **Project Management Committee (PMC)** will be established to be composed of the following: Mayor/ representative of the 8 Participating LGUs, Representative of the Provincial Government, Representative of the Donor/ Funding agency, Representative of the contracted Service Provider, and the Head of the BIAD Technical Working Group. The PMC will be overall policy-making body of the project and will oversee the management and implementation of the project. A Memorandum of Agreement and supporting Joint Executive Orders may be necessary to effect this arrangement.

A **Municipal Technical Working Group (MTWG)** will be organized in each municipality, which will be responsible in carrying out the different activities set on the Terms of Reference/ Memorandum of Agreement/ Contract for the Project. The TWG will be a composite team, composed of selected officials/ employees of each participating LGUs, who are considered essential for the development, management and operation of the database system. A TWG Leader will be designated to supervise the operation of the TWG. This municipal TWG will directly work with the Service Providers for the set activities of the project.

A **BIAD Technical Working Group (BTWG)** will also be organized, which will be composed of the Heads of the MTWG of each participating municipality. It is on this level that common technicalities, detailed project activities, and inter-municipality concerns and issues are raised and discussed. This Group is also necessary to ensure that each participating LGU are in the same pace and direction with the other LGUs. Sharing of strategies will also be effectively made at this level.

The Province of Bohol will also form a **Provincial Support Team (PST)** to provide technical and administrative assistance to the municipalities, where necessary. This team will be composed of representatives from the PPDO, Bohol IT Team, and other appropriate Provincial offices/ units.

4. LEGAL AND POLITICAL FEASIBILITY

There are no identified or foreseen legal or political impediments for the project. Inter-municipal initiatives can be arranged as permitted under the Local Government Code. Leaders of each participating municipality have recognized the need and importance of such database development project.

5. SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY

The project is socially acceptable as it provides benefits to the Boholanos and to all people who have interest for the development of BIAD 3 municipalities and the entire of Bohol.

Prepared by the **Bohol Integrated Area Development (BIAD) Cluster 3**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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