

Bohol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (BCCI)
Coordinating Road Investments for Local Economic Development (CRID)
and Poverty Reduction in Bohol Province
Grant No. 31638-310-26-55003

Monthly Report
June, 2013

I. REFORM GOAL

CRID-Bohol intends to optimize the economic benefit of available funds for road investments in Bohol province. Specifically, it aims to:

- 1) Facilitate the identification of priority road network and roads within the networks of roads in the province;
- 2) Mobilize support and resources for identified priority road network and priority roads; and
- 3) Sustain innovations in decision-making and implementation in roads development.

II. PROGRESS

1. Approval of the Provincial Development Council Resolution Creating the Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB)

The Provincial Development Council (PDC) Resolution creating the Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB) which shall serve as the clearing house of all the road investments in the province and the recommendatory body that shall endorse strategic road links was approved in the PDC meeting last June 15, 2013 presided by the Governor of the province of Bohol, Atty. Edgar M. Chatto, at the Bohol Tropics Resort, Tagbilaran City. The approved Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB) shall also serve as the monitoring body that shall assist the LGUs in prioritizing strategic links and a coordinating body that shall mobilize support and resources for priority roads. Further, the board shall promote the creation and maintenance of a database of public roads which shall serve as the official reference for road investments planning in the province; promote the application of a set criteria and the development of roads applying the set criteria.

The proposal was presented to the council by the focal person of the CRID project, Argeo Melisimo. There were questions asked by the council after the presentation such as on how the board will work with the Road Sector Committee dealing closely with the Provincial Road Management Facility (PRMF) that looks after provincial roads and on the selection process and criteria of the pilot LGUs.

The team clarified that the PRMF takes care of provincial roads only and that this works closely with the Road Sector Committee. The Road Sector Committee reports to the Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB) which purview shall be beyond provincial roads.

They further explained that in choosing the pilot LGUs, the consideration includes one representation per Integrated Area of Development (IAD). They also identified which of the 47 municipalities are Economic Growth Areas and which needs for pump priming. Lastly, that the LGU has a close to complete roads database and the presence of a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) operator.

The members of the board are the following offices;

- Governor's office;
- Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO);
- Provincial Engineering Office(PEO);
- Provincial Budget and Management Office (PBMO);
- Socio-economic and Environment Management–Bohol Information and Communication Unit (BICTU);
- Congresspersons of the First, Second and Third Congressional Districts;
- Department of Interior and Local Government;
- Provincial Tourism Office;
- Department of Public Works and Highways (First, Second and Third) Engineering Districts;
- Department of Agrarian Reform;
- Department of Agriculture;
- National Irrigation Administration; Department of Trade and Industry;
- Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- Department of Tourism;
- Land Transportation Office;
- Air Transportation Office;
- Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines;
- Philippine Ports Authority;
- National Grid Corporation of the Philippines;
- City Government of Tagbilaran;
- Civil Society Organization;
- Liga ng mga Mayor sa Pilipinas- Bohol;
- League of Municipal Planning Coordinators President;
- Bohol Civil Engineers Foundation;
- BCCI President and
- Private Sector Representative.

The approval of the creation of the Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB) is a key turning point, a significant milestone of the project that went through tedious discussions and reflections by the project team. From the concept of an Executive Order Creating the Road Sector Committee to a Bohol Road Investments Coordinating Council (BRICC) that later on, was elevated to a Provincial Development Council Resolution Creating the Bohol Road Investments Board (BRIB). This salient win of the project calls for further hurdles to surmount which may

include gathering the members and giving them the orientation and rationale of the project and the created board; convincing them of the significant role they will play being members of the board and as a board; and guiding them in the first few meetings to facilitate seamless coordination.

2. Geographic Information System (GIS) Maps

Having undergone the Geographic Information Systems Training last April and May, the pilot LGUs of Albuquerque, Alicia, Batuan, Buenavista, Tubigon and Jagna came up with the Quantum GIS-rendered maps. These maps shall be the reference of the road investments of their municipalities.

3. Post-election and Coordinative Meetings with pilot LGUS, Preparation for the Grand Launching of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

In response to the current situation where one of the mayors of the six pilot LGUs lost during the recent elections, the project team conducted a transition meeting with the outgoing and incoming mayors of LGU Tubigon in the presence of the Municipal Planning Coordinator. The team was welcomed and given the assurance by the mayor-elect of his support to the project. Aware of the challenge that LGU Tubigon was selected as a leader of the pilot LGUs, he further shared that he shall continue the good works that the outgoing mayor has done and that he will build on the strong foundation he has put in place especially on road investments planning and road resource generating mechanism in the municipality.

Another round of coordinative and consultative meetings with the LGUs shall be organized to prepare for the grand launching of the Memorandum of Understanding between the BCCI and the six pilot LGUs. The second round of meetings took off with LGU Buenavista.

The meeting with the Local Chief Executive of LGU Buenavista, Hon. Ronald Lowell Tirol last June 17, 2013 affirmed the readiness of the project to formalize the partnership and level up the Letter of Intent (LOI) to a Memorandum of Understanding.

A presentation of the CRID project to the Sangguniang Bayan of LGU Buenavista took place after the meeting with the mayor.

4. Consultative and Coordinative Meetings with the DILG and SEEM Cluster

a. Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)

A follow up meeting to the consultations engaging the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in relation to the lobbying of the proposed inclusion of the road investments plan as one of the criteria on the Seal for Good Housekeeping for LGUs, the team shared to the Provincial Director of the DILG, Ms. Ma. Louisella Lucino the CRID project last June 20, 2013 at the Buzz Café.

The provincial director shared the ongoing initiatives of the agency and affirmed the direction the team is heading to. She also shared the different seals being piloted in some select provinces/ LGUs including the Seal for Disaster Preparedness, the Seal for Business Friendly and Competiveness and Seal of Peace and Order. The Seal for Disaster Preparedness could also be tapped as a venue where the LGUs will be required to have their Roads Plan.

The team also shared the proposal of the team to sit in the Executive and Legislative Agenda(ELA) of the pilot LGUs. The director guaranteed the team to share the schedule of the ELA and even encouraged to fast track the assistance to the LGUs in crafting their CLUP, knowing that there are some which CLUPs are already updated and others are on the making.

b. Socio-economic and Environment Management Coordinator

The meeting with the Socio-Economic and Environment Management (SEEM) Coordinator, Ms. Liza Quirog was a platform created to usher in dialogue between the project team and one of the units of the SEEM, the Bohol Information and Communication Technology Unit (BICTU) to address the issue on data-sharing.

Although during the Provincial Development Council, the Governor ordered BICTU and PEO to facilitate the release of all the necessary data that the project needs; and after the PDC meeting, the team informally talked to the BICTU head and leveled off on data-sharing and communication issues and established an alliance between the BICTU and the BCCI through the project, the team opted to meet with Ms. Quirog to ensure that data-sharing issues no longer surface in the next activities of the project.

The SEEM coordinator also shared inputs on the composition of the BRIB, being part of the BRIB which the team took note of. She shared further the need for a Memorandum of Understanding between the project through BCCI and the Provincial Government of Bohol (PGBh).

5. Project Assessment

To review the project implementation progress, share and examine experiences on implementation and partnership building, reflect on challenges and lessons learned, and draw out recommendations to foster better implementation and partnership, the Project Assessment was successfully organized last June 11, 2013 at the Metrocenter Hotel, Tagbilaran City, participated by the CRID Bohol team composed of the project staff, the consultants, and the BCCI's outgoing and incoming presidents, the Vice President for External Affairs and the focal person of the CRID project, the corporate secretary, and the auditor; The Asia Foundation (TAF) and the Australian Agency for International Development (AUSAID).

The Assessment affirmed the good work the team has been doing and challenged them to continue to champion road reform in the province and broaden coalitions for change.

6. Oath-Taking of New Set of Officers of BCCI

The Bohol Chamber of Commerce and Industry convened last June 6, 2013 and elected a new set of officers for calendar year 2013. The new set of officers took their oath of office last June 18, 2013 at the Bohol Tropics Resort.

The new set of officers is composed of the following:

PRESIDENT	:	ATTY. EMMANUEL ALADIN D. TUMANDA
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT	:	MR. ALBERT M. UY
VICE-PRESIDENT (Internal Affairs)	:	ATTY. LUCAS M. NUNAG
VICE-PRESIDENT (External Affairs)	:	MR. ARGEO J. MELISIMO
SECRETARY	:	MS. MA. PUREZA V. CHATTO
TREASURER	:	MS. HELENA ANTONIETA Y. VELOSO
AUDITOR	:	MR. REGINALD G. ONG

TRUSTEES

ATTY. ANTONIO S. AMORA, JR.	MR. DIOSCORO O. AYAG, JR.
MR. PETER P. DEJARESCO	MR. ED T. ESCALONA
MS. MARIETTA S. GASATAN	MR. STEVEN B. LIM
MR. NORRIS C. OCULAM	MR. LORETO M. PALAPOS
MR. JOHN U. YAP	MR. WARREN U. YAP

III. Conclusion

The project is faring well and with the Theory of Change of the project, the team is more than ready and capable of meeting the target outcomes on time.

IV. Next Steps:

Value Chain Analysis (VCA) with:

- Lead-firms on July 6, 9 and , 2013 (Alturas Group of Companies; Bohol Quality Corporation; Magnolia Foods/Albur Broiler Dressing Plant and AH Shopper's Mart)
- Bohol Association of Hotel, Resort and Restaurant (BAHRR) on July 9
- Bohol Island Tour Guide Association of the Philippines (BITCAP) on July 16
- Kahugpungan sa mga Bol-anong Guide (KABOG) on July 16
- Transportation Groups (BTSMPC, BATFO, BUTSA) on July 17
- Health Sector/ Midwives, BHW on July 17
- Coops on July 20

- PhilStarch and Palm Inc on July 23.
- Team Wrap up Meeting on July 30.

Prepared by:



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