

Institutionalizing a Local Monitoring System for Better Governance

A legislator is faced with the basic problem of balancing between resources vis-à-vis the need, priority against capacity, thus the demand for an accurate mechanism of determining the allocation of meager resources as against the priority needs that we have identified for our people."

This was how Palawan Vice-Governor David A. Ponce de Leon emphasized the importance of a mechanism like the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) in planning and targeting programs for the poor during his opening address to the delegates of the National Conference on Community-Based Monitoring System held in Puerto Princesa, Palawan on November 19-21, 2002.

De Leon noted how the recent provincial administration of Palawan led by Governor Joel Reyes has greatly acknowledged the importance of accurate and timely information in introducing and targeting appropriate interventions to communities that are in direst need. Thus, it has provided full support

to the province-wide adoption of a CBMS that was formally initiated by former Governor Salvador Socrates in 1999.¹ In this regard, Governor Reyes has issued Executive Order No. 3, series of 2002 mandating three policy actions, namely: (a) use of CBMS data as basis for planning, (b) synchronization of the time frame of planning activities, and (c) allocation of 20 percent of the province's development fund to CBMS-based plans.

The CBMS-Palawan experience was presented in detail during the conference attended by key representatives from national government agencies (NGAs), the donor community and other local government units (LGUs). Leading the delegates were Deputy Director-General Gilberto M. Llanto of

the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Undersecretary Veronica Fenix-Villavicencio of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), Undersecretary Rhoda F. Yap of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and Undersecretary Benito R. Catindig of the Department of Interior and Local Governments (DILG).

Responses from NGAs and ULAP

In response to the CBMS experience presented by the Palawan provincial government, the conference delegates representing selected NGAs and representatives from the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) each gave his/her view of the usefulness

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¹See related articles in the December 2000 issue of the MIMAP Project Updates.

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CBMS Data Validation Exercises in Narra and Aborlan

The process involved in the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) consists of various steps at the local level. The initial step involves the collection and processing of data. Preliminary processing and consolidation of data, part of which is the validation of survey results, is done at the barangay level. After the data are validated, they are fed as inputs in the preparation of the annual development plan of the barangay. The barangay data and the plan are then submitted to the municipal planning and development coordinator for further processing and validation. They likewise serve as inputs in the preparation of the annual investment plan of the municipality.

In their recent trip to two municipalities in Palawan—Narra and Aborlan—where the implementation of the second CBMS survey is ongoing, the staff of the MIMAP-Philippines Project Management Office (PMO) were able to attend and observe such activities.

The Narra exercise

The MIMAP-PMO, composed of Dr. Celia Reyes, Ms. Bernadette Mandap, Mr. Kenneth Ilarde and Ms. Jasmina Asiro, were invited to attend a one-day data validation exercise in the Municipality of Narra on October 17, 2002. The activity was organized by the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) of Narra led by its coordi-

nator, Engineer Ronaldo Fellizar. Also invited were Ms. Josephine Escano and Ms. Riza Flores of the Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) of Palawan. Fifty barangay officials, including the barangay nutrition scholars and barangay health workers of 17 barangays of Narra, participated in the exercise.

During the said activity, the barangay representatives presented and validated the results of the latest CBMS survey. The participants were asked to compare and explain percentage changes between the recent results and the baseline data of 2000.

Among the highlights of the results are the improvements in the access to safe water by households in eight barangays with the installation of new safe water sources and improvement of existing water sources. However, not all barangays registered improvements since a few others noted a decline in the access due to faulty water systems. In terms of access to sanitary toilet facility, meanwhile, most barangays experienced improvements as a result of the campaign programs and barangay ordinances on cleanliness and proper sanitation.

Participation in the elementary and secondary school levels was also one indicator that exhibited quite a pronounced movement. For instance,

data in selected barangays show a decline in the participation rates in both levels which was attributed by the barangay leaders to poverty and inadequate incomes of households. This forced the latter to stop sending their children to school. Meanwhile, marked improvements in secondary school participation rate in other barangays were attributed by the community leaders to the establishment of new secondary school buildings in the area.

After the validation exercise, the coordinator, Engineer Fellizar, recommended the conduct of follow-up validation exercises at the barangay level to further validate the data before they are finally inputted in the planning process.

The Aborlan experience

On October 18, 2002, the MIMAP-PMO and PPDO also attended a barangay planning workshop in the Municipality of Aborlan through the invitation of its MPDC, Mr. Winston Adier. The activity was one of a series of cluster meetings among the 19 barangays of Aborlan. Participants in the activity, numbering about 30, include the barangay captains and other officials from Barangays Iraan, Isaub, Poblacion, Sagpangan and San Juan.

Part of the planning workshop was the validation of the CBMS results for 2002. The results were presented and compared with the results of the CBMS conducted in 2000. From these, the barangay officials were able to assess the welfare conditions of their own barangay and then used the CBMS results in drafting their

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Advocating CBMS Outside of Palawan

New Initiative in Camarines Norte

The Palawan experience on the implementation of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) has been showcased in various fora at both the national and local levels. Spearheading the sharing of Palawan's experience is its Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) led by Mr. Nelson Devanadera.

Two of the major workshops, where the CBMS-Palawan experience was presented, were held in Manila and Davao City. In Manila, Ms. Josephine Escaño, Chief of the Research and Evaluation Division of the PPDO, presented the CBMS implementation in Palawan in a seminar work-

shop on "Local Government Initiatives for Poverty Reduction" held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on August 8, 2002. The workshop was participated in by local government units (LGUs) from Luzon and the National Capital Region (NCR) areas such as the staffs of the City Planning and Development Office of Quezon City and the municipality of Labo, Camarines Norte.

In Davao City, meanwhile, a similar workshop was held at the Royal Mandaya Hotel on September 19, 2002 with staff members from the LGUs of the southern part of the Philippines like Davao and Mandaue in attendance.

At the aftermath of the two workshops, the various LGU representatives who attended communicated directly with Palawan and the MIMAP-Philippines Project Management Office (PMO) to inquire further on the implementation of the CBMS and the possibility of replicating it in their own localities.

On October 25, 2002, local officials of the municipality of Labo, Camarines Norte led by the Honorable Mayor Winifredo Balce Oco, visited the MIMAP-Philippines PMO in Manila to discuss the possible adoption of CBMS in Labo. With the mayor was his Executive Assistant, Mr. Diogenes Camino, and Municipal Poverty Reduction Action Officer, Mr. Ramon Lagatuz.

During the said meeting, Dr. Celia Reyes, Project Director of MIMAP-

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Initiatives in Other LGUs

In order to give a more detailed and onsite experience of how CBMS was implemented in Palawan, local government representatives from Labo, Camarines Norte; Quezon City; Mandaue City; and Davao City were recently invited to a national conference on the CBMS. The feedback received in turn from the attendees was very positive.

Ms. Sol Angkaw and Ms. Remedios Furiscal from the City Planning and Development Office of Quezon City, for instance, indicated their plan to implement the CBMS in sentinel areas in the city and acknowledged the significant number

of constituents in their place. Similarly, the City Administrator of Mandaue City, Mr. Serafin Blanco, also expressed his desire to bring the system to Mandaue City. In fact, he requested for copies of the questionnaires and manuals of the CBMS so that they can translate the materials into the local dialect. Pilot testing, according to him, may be done next year in the city.

Meanwhile, the City Planning and Development Office of Davao City was not able to send any representative to the conference. Nevertheless, its head, Mr. Mario Luis Jacinto, wrote an intent letter to MIMAP

citing the city's interest in the CBMS since it is very relevant in their continuing efforts to serve their constituents better. Mr. Jacinto said that they would like to adopt the CBMS and come up with parallel data and statistics as well as their own version of the *Human Development Report* for Davao City.

In sum, there are four new LGUs that had expressed interest in the CBMS and sought technical assistance from the MIMAP-Philippines in the CBMS implementation in their respective localities. These activities are being planned to be conducted next year, in addition to the ongoing assistance to the province of Palawan which is well on its second phase of the CBMS. JPA 

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respective barangay development investment plans for 2003-2005.

Apart from assessing their respective welfare status on the basis of the CBMS results, barangay officials were also able to gauge their barangay's welfare situation vis-à-vis other barangays. They were also able to identify concerns that needed immediate interventions such as the decline in the access to sanitary toilet facilities by households in

Barangays Isaub, Poblacion and San Juan, and the observed rise of unemployment in Barangays Poblacion, Sagpangan and San Juan.

Consequently, the barangay officials were able to identify programs to address these problems. Some of the programs adopted in the plans of the five barangays were the construction of deep wells and artesian wells, building of public toilets, installation of community drug-stores and satellite clinics, and setting up of supplemental feeding and livelihood programs. *KCI*

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Philippines, briefed the Labo officials on the nature and objectives of the MIMAP Project and on what the CBMS is all about. Afterwards,

Mr. Kenneth Ilarde, Senior Research Analyst of MIMAP-Philippines, presented the steps in the implementation of the CBMS and its actual conduct in the province of Palawan. Mayor Oco, Mr. Lagatuz and Mr. Camino, in turn, presented what their municipality is doing at

this time and how they see this system as a tool for change and development in their locality. During the meeting, too, Mayor Oco did an on-the-spot live broadcast from the MIMAP office in Manila via the local radio station in Camarines Norte to share his enthusiasm about the CBMS to his constituents.

Dr. Celia Reyes (left), Project Director of MIMAP-Philippines and CBMS International Network Leader, explains the benefits of implementing the CBMS in LGUs to Mayor Winifredo Oco of Labo, Camarines Norte and his officials at the MIMAP office in Manila.



Towards the end of the meeting, the two parties agreed that MIMAP-Philippines would provide technical assistance for the implementation of CBMS in Labo, Camarines Norte while the municipality of Labo will commit itself to the CBMS work.

As of this writing, a memorandum of agreement has already been drafted to formalize the collaboration. A timetable was also initially drafted for the activities to be done early next year. *JPA* **MIMAP**

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of CBMS as a complementary tool for planning and monitoring in the national and local levels, respectively.

Deputy Director-General Llanto, for one, encourages the use of CBMS for better planning, budgeting and execution of projects. He cited, in particular, the importance of CBMS information in the formulation of policies and design of projects by local governments. Dr. Llanto pointed out that CBMS would likewise be a good tool for planning, programming and budgeting at the national government, its great strength being its focus on poor households and vulnerable groups. He commended the efforts of the provincial government of Palawan in its implementation of CBMS, noting that even if at first glance, one might view the activity as a costly undertaking (P100,000/municipality) to pay for information, the province had, however, reaped dividends in terms of more informed decisionmaking and crafting of intervention measures. The next crucial step thereafter, he said, is to further develop local research capacity and policy analysis.

Undersecretary Villavicencio, meanwhile, specifically related the challenge faced by the provincial government of Palawan in developing a good information database for local planning to the key challenges faced by NAPC. She cited that among the major concerns of NAPC—the oversight agency for all poverty reduction efforts at the na-

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tional level—are the definition of the problem or diagnosis and effective targeting. "How do you know where to deliver services and how can you tell if the strategies are working?" she noted.

The NAPC, which is under the Office of the President, consists of 13 NGAs and LGUs. Aside from developing poverty reduction strategies and ensuring the continuous delivery of basic services, NAPC is faced with the challenge of locating, geographically and sectorally, programs that will effectively respond to the problem of poverty. As such, there is a need for information from LGUs—from provincial level down to the barangay level—that would identify areas which lack access to specific needs, and vulnerable groups who need specific interventions. It is in this light that she sees the value of a CBMS that has an established and systematic mechanism of collecting, providing and utilizing necessary data from the barangay level up to the provincial level. A distinguishing feature of the CBMS from other systems, she noted, is the extent of disaggregation of information that it can generate.

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government agencies would have a powerful way of channeling—not only directing—resources properly to LGUs that exhibit real commitment to poverty reduction through "real" programs that benefit the poor.

DSWD Assistant Secretary for Planning Rhoda F. Yap likewise expressed appreciation for the implementation of a CBMS. She said that the department has also been doing similar initiatives through its Comprehensive Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDSS) and Rapid Poverty Mapping program. She cited the active involvement of barangays and the utilization of CBMS data in actual local planning exercises as very significant features of the CBMS experience in Palawan.

Finally, ULAP National President, Governor Rodolfo del Rosario, in his message which was read to the participants, observed that the CBMS has led to a paradigm shift in the brand of public service in the province of Palawan. He pointed out that the system is obviously a development management tool that must be adopted by LGUs to meet the needs of their constituents and foster community participation and empowerment. "By engaging our

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people to participate actively in decisionmaking and setting of targets for basic service delivery, we shall see and feel significant changes even in the most remote and far-flung areas of each province," he professed.

Recent initiatives at the national level

In the meantime, side by side with the CBMS being undertaken at the local level, are there new initiatives being developed at the national level?

According to Undersecretary Villavicencio, there are several. For instance, the NAPC, through an inter-agency committee, is currently in the process of developing a monitoring system that is both practical and workable, and can be institutionalized. The development of the said system took off from the lessons learned from the experiences in implementing various monitoring systems and programs in the country such as the CBMS, Integrated Rural Accessibility Project (IRAP), and Community-Based Poverty Integrated Monitoring Systems (CBPIMS), among others. The said system shall aid the

national government in implementing its Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAHI) program, putting programs and interventions in place, and seeing to it that these programs get to the appropriate beneficiaries.

Undersecretary Villavicencio added that what NAPC can offer is the provision of better guidance and direction on what indicators will be meaningful at the local level. In this regard, the Commission is about to recommend to the Cabinet that line agencies should look into a core set of indicators similar to what is collected from the barangay, municipal and provincial levels through the CBMS.

On the part of the DILG, on the other hand, Assistant Secretary for Plans and Programs, Benito Catindig, said that the department has long recognized the need to develop a system of baseline data gathering at the barangay level as well as monitoring of performance indicators. This recognition is continuously being manifested in its ongoing programs. For instance, the department is now in the process of gathering data to measure government performance standard as part of its planning tool. In addition, it would soon be institutionalizing the "Gabay sa Mamamayan

Action Center" in every barangay that would serve as a mechanism for immediately accessing baseline data at the barangay level. He noted that through the establishment of said program, monitoring systems such as the CBMS would be replicated in the soonest possible time.

Key areas for success of CBMS implementation

Highlighted during the conference are the key areas for LGUs to consider in reaping further benefits from the implementation of the CBMS. These are the strong commitment on the part of LGUs to make CBMS work, and the development and/or further enhancement of local research capacity and policy analysis.

In this connection, Undersecretary Villavicencio also posed a challenge to the NGAs for them to pool their resources together and consider a mechanism that would influence the way government works, especially in the way it targets and allocates resources. Through such mechanism, hopefully, the monitoring of strategies employed by both NGAs and LGUs may be made possible and easier so that one can determine if such strategies and programs are working for the benefit of the poor.

Other insightful comments and suggestions from participants representing other LGUs, donor community and nongovernment organizations were likewise offered during the plenary session in order to maximize the benefits that may be gained from the institutionalization of CBMS in the country.

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Among these are:

- * NGAs should at least consider giving policy incentives to the LGUs that would use their development funds for projects for monitoring.
- * CBMS should be made more relevant by using the data, particularly those with gender disaggregation, to make corresponding policy recommendations. In this regard, proper analysis of data would be crucial. Thus, data need to be validated and consulted with the local people before interventions can be made. Validation at the local level would also be a venue for validating national trends.
- * CBMS would also be a potential tool for allocating congressional funds.
- * CBMS data should also be made available to local academic researchers so as to promote interactions between LGUs and local researchers in analyzing the data and coming up with possible interventions.
- * A national repository of CBMS information which can be accessed by researchers should be established.

Next steps and policy directions

Based on the usefulness of the CBMS as acknowledged by the conference delegates, what is the next

step now that will ensure its integration in the planning process?

In the province of Palawan, the CBMS will continue to be one of the provincial government's strong mechanisms being used for resource allocation and project impact monitoring. The issuance of CBMS-related directives by the Governor as mentioned earlier is proof of this. Strong support to this initiative has likewise been manifested by the new administration of Puerto Princesa City, with the recent approval of the expansion of the implementation of the CBMS in its barangays from 12 to an additional 27 in year 2003.

The CBMS experience of Palawan has also drawn the interest of other LGUs in implementing and utilizing the said monitoring system in their respective localities. Among those who have formally expressed the interest to adopt the said system is Mayor Winifredo Oco of Labo, Camarines Norte. Similarly, the local government of Mandaue City, represented during the conference by City Administrator Serafin Blanco, is considering the possible implementation of CBMS in their locality. Hopefully, such interest from other LGUs may facilitate the institutionalization of the CBMS.

At the national level, the institutionalization of a local poverty monitoring system, a mechanism for

targeting poor communities and assessing the impact of poverty reduction programs, has been proposed during the NAPC en banc meeting last November 21. The design of the proposed system² and the list of core indicators to be considered, which was based on an extensive evaluation of existing monitoring systems in the country, was initially presented by Dr. Celia Reyes to the MBN Technical Working Group headed by NAPC last June 2002 for review. The proposed system will soon be presented to an expanded MBN Technical Working Group that will include representatives from the leagues of local authorities and basic sectors.

During the en banc meeting of the NAPC, Undersecretary Villavicencio noted that the use of such system should be encouraged among LGUs since it would not constitute a large investment. For this reason, a meeting with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and donor agencies is being scheduled to discuss the resource requirements in setting up the system. A joint NAPC-DILG memorandum circular will likewise be developed to indicate the responses to institutional issues and arrangements among key stakeholders. This is to be followed by the presentation of the proposed system in another en banc meeting of the NAPC in early 2003 for possible adoption. Once adopted, the Secretariat will proceed to institutionalize the system. *BEM* 

²Based on the paper entitled "Diagnosing Poverty at the Local Level" prepared by Dr. Celia M. Reyes, CBMS International Network Leader and MIMAP-Philippines Project Director.

Housing Status in the Philippines: Pinpointing Some Critical Concerns

Shelter is one of man's basic necessities. In the Philippines, every administration that has governed, crafted several programs that would provide housing, especially for the poor. Still, the number of people who do not have the security of shelter or who are living in makeshift dwellings continues to swell.

Under the present administration, a bill creating the Department of Housing has been proposed to Congress in the hope of mitigating the continuing rise in the housing problems in the country. The creation of the new department also seeks to streamline the operations of five government-owned and -controlled corporations involved in housing projects. Hopefully, this will pave the way for the eventual success of the government's housing program.

As outlined in the latest *Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan*, the policies and programs of the

government on housing "will be mainly directed at the bottom 40 percent of households because of their inability to access the formal housing markets." To help in the provision of housing for this bottom 40 percent in the country, it will be useful to present an overview of the housing situation in the Philippines from 1991-2000 and see where the problem really lies.

This will hopefully help in the targeting of deserving but limited number of beneficiaries and in evaluating past housing policies and programs to see if they were able to alleviate the identified problem(s).

Tenure status

Security of tenure is one of the most coveted goals of any household in the Philippines. But due to the unaffordable costs of housing, especially to poor families, this has become an elusive goal for some of our countrymen. The viable option left for them is to rent or, at worse, to squat. This has led to mounting problems for the government as the

number of informal settlers continues to rise. Informal settlers may be defined as those households who live in owned house, rent-free lot or those who have rent-free house and lot, both without the consent of the owner. The increase or decrease in their number is one indicator of the housing situation.

Table 1 shows the increase in the number and proportion of households living as informal settlers during the period 1991-2000. From 2.3 percent of households living as informal settlers in 1991, the proportion increased to 3.1 percent in 2000. In terms of magnitude for the same period, a 70.6 percent growth was recorded.

There were more households in urban areas living as informal settlers as compared in rural areas. The period from 1994-1997 saw a large increase of urban informal settlers, registering an addition of 1.4 percentage points. In the rural areas, on the other hand, a slight decrease of informal settlers was noted from 1994-1997 although the figure rose again in 2000.

In terms of regional distribution, Figure 1 shows that disparities in tenure status exist across regions. Although CARAGA registered the highest proportion of informal settlers at 4.9 percent, the National Capital Region (NCR), however,

Table 1. Number and proportion of households living as informal settlers, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Year	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion
1991	167,859	2.8	113,141	1.9	281,000	2.3
1994	201,901	3.2	142,220	2.2	344,121	2.7
1997	309,260	4.6	139,673	1.9	448,933	3.2
2000	297,777	4.0	181,748	2.3	479,525	3.1

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000. MIMAP-CBMS

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recorded the highest number in terms of magnitude, with 95,033 households, representing a 19.8 percent share of the total number of informal settlers. The Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), meanwhile, registered the lowest in terms of both proportion and magnitude at 0.1 percent and 372 households, respectively. Region I followed closely with a proportion of 0.7 percent and a magnitude of 5,496 households.

In terms of regional distribution by urbanity, Region XI has the highest proportion of households living as informal settlers in urban areas with 7.5 percent, as shown in Table 2,

followed closely by CARAGA with 6.9 percent. As to the magnitude, NCR once again got the highest proportion with 31.9 percent share to total number of informal settlers in urban areas. Meanwhile, in rural areas, the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) recorded the highest proportion with 4.5 percent while Region V has the highest magnitude with 29,873 households.

In both urban and rural areas, CAR recorded the least proportion and magnitude. Region X and ARMM, meanwhile, are the only regions which registered higher proportions in rural areas, indicating that the

government perhaps needs to focus their policies and programs on housing in these localities.

Informal settlers and access to basic services

With the proliferation of informal settlers, it will be interesting to look into the situation of their access to basic services.

The figures in Table 3 reveal that in 1991, 65.8 percent of the informal settlers had access to safe water. This number increased in large proportion in 2000 at 71.5 percent. For the magnitude, an 85.3 percent growth of households having access was posted from 1991 to 2000.

Access of informal settlers to sanitary toilet also seems to be improv-

Figure 1. Number and proportion of households living as informal settlers by region, Philippines, 2000

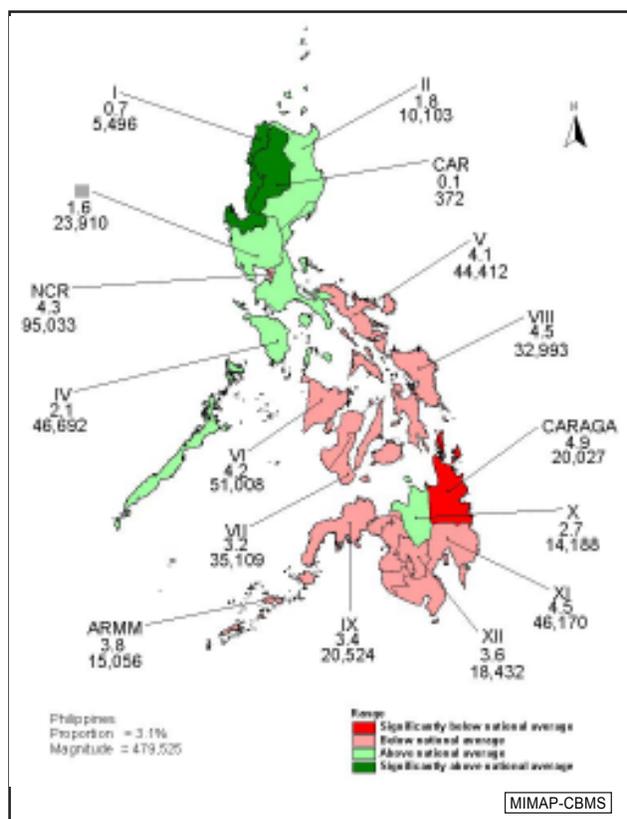


Table 2. Number and proportion of households living as informal settlers by region, urban and rural, 2000

Region	Urban		Rural	
	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion
Philippines	297,777	4.0	181,748	2.3
NCR	95,033	4.3	-	-
Region I	1,948	0.8	3,548	0.6
Region II	7,082	5.9	3,021	0.7
Region III	16,167	1.9	7,743	1.1
Region IV	27,936	2.1	18,756	1.9
Region V	14,538	5.1	29,873	3.7
Region VI	29,277	6.3	21,731	2.9
Region VII	30,094	6.2	5,015	0.8
Region VIII	9,483	4.6	23,510	4.4
Region IX	11,246	6.0	9,279	2.2
Region X	4,909	2.0	9,279	3.1
Region XI	31,632	7.5	14,538	2.4
Region XII	6,910	4.2	11,521	3.3
CAR	154	0.2	219	0.1
ARMM	1,194	1.4	13,862	4.5
CARAGA	10,174	6.9	9,853	3.8

Source of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 2000.

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ing as gleaned from Table 4. There is an increasing trend in the proportion from 1991 to 2000. Improvements were also recorded in both urban and rural areas during the same period, with the former exhibiting a much faster growth.

Makeshift housing

Durability of housing materials, particularly roof and walls, is another indicator of the housing status. If the materials used in the roof and walls are makeshift, then the housing is considered makeshift.

Table 5 shows that there is a declining trend in the proportion of households with makeshift housing, except in 1994. From a 2.9 percent of the total households in the Philippines living in makeshift housing, the number went down to 2.0 percent in 2000.

Urban areas tend to have more makeshift dwellings than the rural areas as evidenced by a higher proportion (3.2 percent vs. 2.5 for rural areas) in 1991. In 2000, declines were registered for both areas. The urban areas, however, again exhibited a higher proportion of makeshift dwellings.

In terms of regional distribution, Figure 2 shows that Region X has the highest proportion recorded with 2.9 percent, followed by Region IX with 2.8 percent. CAR recorded the least proportion with 0.7 percent followed by Region VIII with 0.8 percent. In terms of magnitude, NCR again got the biggest

Table 3. Number and proportion of households living as informal settlers with access to safe water, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Squatter	Sanitary Water					
	Urban		Rural		Total	
1991	121,062	72.1	63,939	56.5	185,001	65.8
1994	162,078	80.3	113,820	80.0	275,898	80.2
1997	240,263	77.7	88,558	63.4	328,821	73.2
2000	236,842	79.5	105,944	58.3	342,786	71.5

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000. MIMAP-CBMS

Table 4. Number and proportion of households living as informal settlers with access to sanitary toilet, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Squatter	Sanitary Toilet					
	Urban		Rural		Total	
1991	99,475	59.3	48,393	42.8	147,868	52.6
1994	140,986	69.8	75,169	52.9	216,155	62.8
1997	219,797	71.1	83,384	59.7	303,181	67.5
2000	238,870	80.2	108,023	59.4	346,893	72.3

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000. MIMAP-CBMS

Table 5. Number and proportion of households with makeshift housing, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Year	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion
1991	188,569	3.2	153,177	2.5	341,747	2.9
1994	212,538	3.3	169,441	2.6	381,979	3.0
1997	201,181	3.0	110,308	1.5	311,489	2.2
2000	171,419	2.3	140,450	1.8	311,869	2.0

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000. MIMAP-CBMS

share with 56,665 households living in makeshift housing, followed closely by Region IV with 41,114. CAR, on the other hand, had the least number of households living in makeshift housing (2,053 households), followed by Region VIII with 5,551.

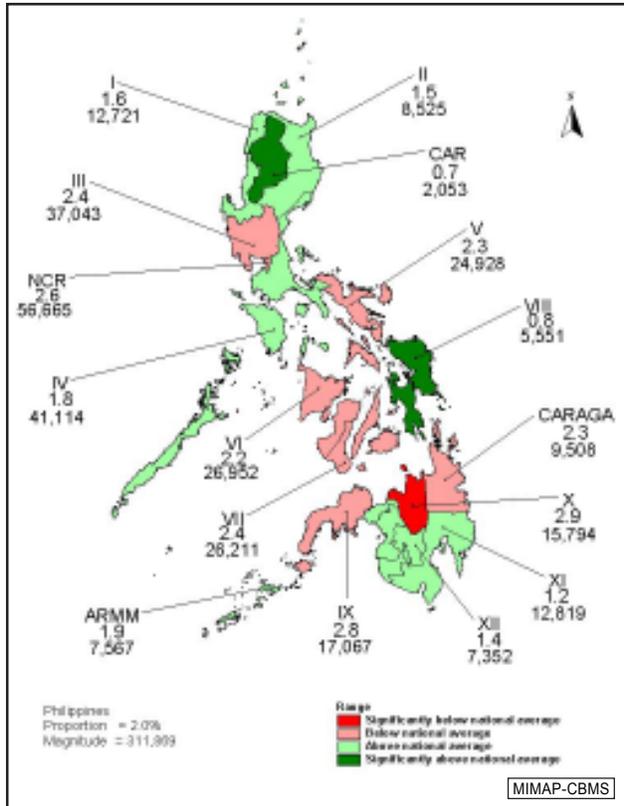
Table 6 further reinforces the data in Figure 2 as highly urbanized regions are shown to have the

higher number of households in makeshift housing, particularly the NCR and Region IV (Southern Tagalog). In Region IV, out of the total 41,114 households living in makeshift housing, 27,929 are located in urban areas while only 13,185 are found in the more rural areas.

Meanwhile, four regions have higher proportions of households

INDICATORS

Figure 2. Number and proportion of households with makeshift housing by region, Philippines, 2000



with makeshift dwellings in rural areas than in urban. These are Regions II, III, IX and ARMM. Again, this may imply that even in the rural areas in these regions, lack of housing is a critical problem. As such, government's programs on housing should target these localities.

Makeshift housing vs. informal settlers

Were households living in makeshift dwellings also "squatters?" Table 7 notes that in 1991, only 9.2 percent of them were informal settlers. This number further decreased in 1994, only to increase again in 1997. The situation improved, though, in 2000.

The same trends were recorded in both urban and rural areas.

Makeshift dwellings and access to basic services

It is also important to determine if households with makeshift housing have access to basic services such as safe water and sanitary toilet.

As can be seen in Table 8, only 67.2 percent of households with makeshift dwellings had access to safe water in 1991. This increased in 2000 to 70.9 percent. In terms of magnitude, however, the Table shows a

Table 6. Number and proportion of households in makeshift housing by region, urban and rural, 2000

Region	Urban		Rural	
	Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion
Philippines	171,419	2.3	140,450	1.8
NCR	56,665	2.6	-	-
Region I	4,151	1.6	8,570	1.6
Region II	1,069	0.9	7,456	1.7
Region III	19,062	2.3	17,981	2.6
Region IV	27,929	2.1	13,185	1.4
Region V	8,680	3.1	16,248	2.0
Region VI	11,891	2.6	15,060	2.0
Region VII	12,044	2.5	14,167	2.3
Region VIII	2,645	1.3	2,906	0.5
Region IX	2,777	1.5	14,290	3.4
Region X	8,210	3.4	7,584	2.6
Region XI	6,198	1.5	6,621	1.1
Region XII	3,423	2.1	3,929	1.1
CAR	1,835	1.9	218	0.1
ARMM	839	1.0	6,728	2.2
CARAGA	4,001	2.7	5,507	2.1

Source of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey 2000.* MIMAP-CBMS

Table 7. Number and proportion of households with makeshift housing and living as informal settlers, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Makeshift	Squatter		Total			
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural		
1991	24,899	13.2	6,632	4.3	31,530	9.2
1994	19,822	9.3	8,068	4.8	27,890	7.3
1997	35,771	17.8	6,149	5.6	41,921	13.5
2000	17,980	10.5	5,168	3.7	23,148	7.4

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000.* MIMAP-CBMS

decline (from 229,717 households to 221,147 households). Likewise, urban households with makeshift dwellings exhibited a similar trend.

Meanwhile, in terms of access to sanitary toilet facilities by households with makeshift dwellings, there has been an increasing trend from 1991-2000 in both proportion

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Housing Status...(From page 11)

and magnitude (Table 9). Both urban and rural areas also experienced the same situation.

Conclusion

Based on the preceding discussions, it will be noted that security of tenure is more of a problem among people living in urban areas while

makeshift housing is a dilemma of households living not only in urban but also in rural areas. Moreover, access to basic services of informal settlers is lower in proportion and magnitude compared to those who live in makeshift housing.

Hopefully, these data will be able to help direct the focus of the government program on housing and benefit those who are really in need of such services. LEV 

Table 8. Number and proportion of households with makeshift housing and access to safe water, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Makeshift	Sanitary Water					
	Urban		Rural		Total	
1991	141,538	75.1	88,179	57.6	229,717	67.2
1994	152,882	71.9	99,744	58.9	252,625	66.1
1997	156,265	77.7	62,883	57.0	219,148	70.4
2000	132,553	77.3	88,594	63.1	221,147	70.9

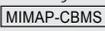
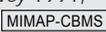
Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000. 

Table 9. Number and proportion of households with makeshift housing and access to sanitary toilet, urban and rural, 1991-2000

Makeshift	Sanitary Toilet					
	Urban		Rural		Total	
1991	94,352	50.0	68,101	44.5	162,453	47.5
1994	117,262	55.2	71,341	42.1	188,602	49.4
1997	134,562	66.9	52,110	47.2	186,672	59.9
2000	122,096	71.2	76,031	54.1	198,127	63.5

Sources of basic data: *Family Income and Expenditures Survey* 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2000. 

Addendum

Sources of data of the article "Malnutrition Situation in the Philippines: An Update" featured in the September 2002 issue of *MIMAP Project Updates* are from the Regional Updating of Nutritional Status of Filipino Children, and National Nutrition Surveys conducted by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology.

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