

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) as a Local Planning Tool: Results from the PIDS-DILG Baseline Study on Policy and Governance Gaps for the Local Government Support Fund Assistance to Municipalities (LGSF-AM) Program

*Charlotte Justine Diokno-Sicat, Catharine E. Adaro,
and Ricxie B. Maddawin*



The PIDS Discussion Paper Series constitutes studies that are preliminary and subject to further revisions. They are being circulated in a limited number of copies only for purposes of soliciting comments and suggestions for further refinements. The studies under the Series are unedited and unreviewed. The views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. Not for quotation without permission from the author(s) and the Institute.

CONTACT US:

RESEARCH INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
Philippine Institute for Development Studies

18th Floor, Three Cyberpod Centris - North Tower
EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines

publications@mail.pids.gov.ph
(+632) 8877-4000

<https://www.pids.gov.ph>

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) as a Local
Planning Tool: Results from the PIDS-DILG Baseline Study on
Policy and Governance Gaps for the Local Government
Support Fund Assistance to Municipalities (LGSF-AM) Program

Charlotte Justine Diokno-Sicat
Catharine E. Adaro
Ricxie B. Maddawin

PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

March 2020

Abstract

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is a data collection system designed to methodically process and integrate local government data for monitoring both micro impacts of macroeconomic shocks and multidimensional poverty (Partnership for Economic Policy 2018). It aims to address existing data gaps in diagnosing the extent of poverty at the local level, to aid determination of the causes of poverty, formulation of appropriate policies and program, identification of eligible beneficiaries and assessing impact of policies and programs. It also supports the decentralization process by capacitating LGUs to collect, analyze and use data in local planning and program implementation.

The main objective of this study is to examine if and how CBMS is used in the drafting the local Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). By understanding the current planning process, areas for improvement could be identified to improve the quality of local development planning and lead to more efficient use of scarce public resources. How has the CBMS been used and implemented in recent local government development planning? What are possible areas of improvement? To answer these questions, a nationwide survey was conducted for 1,373 municipalities.

The results show that majority of municipalities use CBMS, not just for, ecological profiling in development planning but also for LGU budget preparations and priority setting. Local governments allocate funds for CBMS data collection (primarily to hire data enumerators), but not regularly so. Furthermore, there was evidence that there could be improved utilization of existing CBMS data and indicators. These results seem to suggest that municipal development planning practices generally follow DILG-prescribed development planning and recognizes the importance of this being evidence-based. At the same time, there are some areas of improvement such as reorientation of local planners with the CBMS, available indicators and utilization of these as well recognizing the need for regularly updating information for more relevant and impactful development policies.

Keywords: Governance, Ecological Profile, Development Planning, Sub-national / Local governments

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Objectives	2
3. Scope and Methodology	3
4. The PIDS LGSF-AM Baseline Study on Policy and Governance Gaps	3
5. An Overview of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS).....	3
6. Partnership of DILG and CBMS	8
7. The Comprehensive Development Plan Formulation Process	5
8. The CBMS in the process of the CDP Formulation	7
9. Focus on the LGUs using the CBMS in the preparation of their EP.....	8
9.1 Frequency of conduct of the CBMS.....	9
9.2 Conduct of and resource allocation for the CBMS.....	10
9.3 LGU focal person for the conduct of CBMS.....	10
9.4 CBMS Data Collection, Processing and Analysis.....	11
9.5 CBMS Data Utilization.....	13
10. Summary of Findings and Recommendations	16
11. References.....	17
12. Appendix.....	19
Appendix A. Community Based Monitoring System Law	19
Appendix B. Community Based Monitoring System (Primer).....	24

List of Tables

Table 1. Dataset development tool/s utilized by LGUs as the primary source for the preparation/updating of your ecological profile	8
Table 2. Sources of budget for the conduct of the CBMS, various years	10
Table 3. Focal person identified in the implementation of the CBMS	11
Table 4. LGU opinion on data items that are still needed in formulating their CDP .	15

List of Figures

Figure 1. The Enhanced Comprehensive Development Planning Cycle	6
Figure 2. Number of LGUs that started utilizing CBMS as a planning tool per year, 2000-2019	9
Figure 3. Frequency of LGU data collection of CBMS, 2000 to 2019	9
Figure 4. Personnel who collected CBMS data for the LGUs	11
Figure 5. Personnel who processed CBMS data	12
Figure 6. Personnel who analyzed CBMS Data	13
Figure 7. Data items from CBMS utilized by LGUs in preparing/updating their ecological profile and in decision-making or policy-making process	14
Figure 8. Priority sectors identified through the use of CBMS data	14
Figure 9. Occasions when CBMS data is used in the planning activities of LGUs ...	15

**The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) as a local planning tool:
Results from the PIDS-DILG baseline study on policy and governance gaps
for the Local Government Support Fund Assistance to Municipalities
(LGSF-AM) Program***

***Charlotte Justine Diokno-Sicat, Catharine E. Adaro,
and Ricxie B. Maddawin†***

1. Introduction

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is a local government level data collection system designed to methodically process and integrate data for monitoring both micro impacts of macroeconomic shocks as well as multidimensional poverty (Partnership for Economic Policy 2018). It promotes evidence-based policy-making and program implementation completely empowering communities to participate in the process.

The CBMS tries to address the existing data gaps in diagnosing the extent of poverty at the local level to aid determination of the causes of poverty, formulation of appropriate policies and program, identification of eligible beneficiaries and assessing impact of policies and programs. It also supports the decentralization process by capacitating LGUs to collect, analyze and use data in local planning and program implementation.

Specifically, the uses and applications of the CBMS are that it:

1. builds the capabilities of LGUs and communities;
2. creates databases at the local level;
3. provides useful information for poverty reduction programs and other development initiatives at the national level;
4. serves as inputs in poverty mapping;
5. serves as inputs for the preparation of development profiles;
6. facilitates resource allocation;
7. information aids the design, targeting, and impact monitoring of social services and development programs;
8. can be used as a tool in localizing the MDGs (SDGs); and
9. data can be used as inputs for profiling the extent of vulnerability of communities to risks of impacts of climate change.

The CBMS was first pilot-tested in 1995 (Reyes, et al. 2014) and adopted as a tool for local planning by the Provincial Government of Palawan in 1999 (Reyes, et al. 2014). In July 2017, the DILG issued an advisory (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017) stating that the CBMS has been adopted as poverty diagnosis and monitoring tool for evidence –based planning and budgeting in 24, 676 or 95.88% of the total number of barangays in the country. These barangays are within the jurisdiction of 903 municipalities, 79 cities and 77 provinces.

* This study is part of the joint research project of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), called the Baseline Study on Policy and Governance Gaps for the Local Government Support Fund – Assistance to Municipalities (LGSF-AM).

† Research Fellow, former Supervising Research Specialist, and Research Analyst at PIDS, respectively. Diokno-Sicat is also assistant professor at the University of the Philippines Diliman and currently on secondment at PIDS.

By 2019, the CBMS website reported that 1,091 municipalities, covering 30,827 barangays used the CBMS (Partnership for Economic Policy 2019).

How has the CBMS been used and implemented in recent local government development planning? What are possible areas of improvement, especially given the recently passed Community-Based Monitoring System Act (Congress of the Philippines 2018)?

2. Objectives

The general objective of this study is to establish and examine how CBMS is used in the local planning process, particularly in drafting the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). By understanding the current planning process, areas for improvement could be identified to improve the quality of local development planning and lead to more efficient use of scarce public resources.

The Core Indicators of the CBMS capture the multidimensional aspects of poverty as captured in these output and outcome indicators such as:¹

1. Health
 - Proportion of children under 5 years old who died
 - Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy-related causes
2. Nutrition
 - Proportion of children age 0-5 years old are malnourished
3. Housing
 - Proportion of households living in makeshift housing
 - Proportion of household who are informal settlers
4. Water and Sanitation
 - Proportion of households without access to safe water supply
 - Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities
5. Education
 - Proportion of children aged 6-11 years old who are not attending elementary school
 - Proportion of children aged 12-15 years old who are not attending secondary school
 - Proportion of children aged 6-15 years old who are not attending school
6. Income
 - Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold
 - Proportion of household with income below the food (subsistence) threshold
 - Proportion of households who experienced hunger due to food shortage
7. Employment
 - Proportion of persons in the labor force who are unemployed
8. Peace and Order
 - Proportion of persons who are victims of crimes

¹ Department of the Interior and Local Government – Community-Based Monitoring System Portal, *CBMS Core Indicators*, (Quezon City, 2016).

Understanding how these indicators are used in the CDP process of LGUs could reveal to how to improve the planning process with CBMS. This study will contribute to the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2020 goal of Enhancing the Social Fabric (“Malasakit”) of Ensuring People-Centered, Clean and Efficient Governance.

3. Scope and Methodology

In achieving the objectives of the study, data from the PIDS DILG LGSF-AM “Baseline Study on Policy and Governance Gaps for the LGSF-AM Program” was used. One component of the said study was primary data collection which generated information on current municipal local planning practices of the Municipal Planning Team (MPT) in the development and/or updating of the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). As will be discussed in the succeeding sections of this report, the CBMS was one of the data collection tools claimed to be utilized by these LGUs. For this report, responses of the LGUs on sections relating to CBMS were highlighted.

4. The PIDS LGSF-AM Baseline Study on Policy and Governance Gaps

In 2018, The Philippine Institute for Development Studies and the DILG embarked on a baseline study that aimed to identify policy and governance gaps. Examining policy gaps entailed the review and systematically analysis of current LGU performance measures and systems used in the implementation of the LGSF-AM. These include, (i) the Local Development Council functionality; (2) the quality of the Local Development Investment Plan (LDIP); and, (3) vertical and horizontal linkages of LDIPs to national and sectoral plans and commitments.

The governance gap for this baseline study focused on gaps in the conduct of local government planning. Primary data collection activity was conducted and administered to LGU and CSO representatives. The information obtained from the interviews intended to assess the LGU compliance to the DILG-recommended process of drafting/updating of the CDP, and consequently in the preparation of the LDIP and the AIP, and/or to identify other mechanisms that are utilized for the planning process.

For the study, primary data collection was conducted in two levels: (i) a group interview of selected members of the Municipal Planning Team (MPT) with the purpose of assessing the LGU’s conformance to the DILG-recommended guidelines in the development/updating of the CDP, among others; and (ii) individual interviews with the same set of respondents (i.e. members of the MPT) with the aim of eliciting individual perceptions on various aspects of local development planning of the LGU. All the LGUs, except for ARMM, was successfully enumerated for the study. In particular, the survey team interviewed a total of 1,373 municipalities, covering 4,030 LGU representatives/personnel consisting of 1,346 MPDCs, 1,343 Municipal Engineers, 1,341 Municipal Budget Officers/Accountants and 1,323 CSO representatives.

5. An Overview of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS)

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is a diagnostic tool to assess poverty in the barangay, municipal, city and provincial level developed in the early 1990s under the Micro

Impacts of Macroeconomic Adjustments Policies (MIMAP) Project – Philippines. It aims to provide policymakers and program implementers a good information base for tracking the impacts of macroeconomic reforms and various policy shocks (Partnership for Economic Policy 2019). The CBMS generates disaggregated data and indicators relating to: income and livelihood; education; health and nutrition; housing; access to basic services and facilities; access to programs; political and community participation; migration; climate change; disaster preparedness; security and peace and order; and other community-specific indicators.

The initial design of the CBMS in the Philippines used the traditional pen and paper method in household census operations, paper tally sheets for data encoding and paper spot maps (in areas without access to computers and GIS), and used automated tools such as MS Excel for data processing. In 2013, responding to the demands of technology and innovation, the CBMS Network Team of the Angelo King Institute (AKI) of the De La Salle University (DLSU) Manila created the CBMS Accelerated Poverty Profiling (CBMS APP). The CBMS APP uses information communication technology (ICT) tools such as tablets for standard CBMS instruments and software e.g. CBMS SCAN (for data collection), CBMS StatSIM (for data processing), QGIS (for poverty mapping) and data management tools (CBMS DLSU 2016).

6. Partnership of DILG and CBMS

In 2003, the DILG partnered with the CBMS Network Team of the Angelo Institute (AKI) of the De La Salle University (DLSU) Manila for the promotion, advocacy and technical assistance in LGU implementation and adoption of the CBMS (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2016). The adoption of the CBMS aimed to supplement LGU data needs for poverty diagnosis, disaster risk reduction management and climate change adaptation, and for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) now the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among other thematic concerns.

At present, the CBMS is implemented through a structured and standard set of instruments and training modules developed and shared by the CBMS Network of DLSU to LGUs in collaboration with the DILG through its pool of accredited CBMS trainers at the national, regional and local levels. The number of activities that needs to be carried out in the implementation of CBMS depends on the CBMS track it chooses. The CBMS instruments, and modules on data collection, data processing for generation of standard indicators, tables and digitized poverty maps, and use of CBMS data for the preparation of socio-economic profiles and development plans are provided to the LGUs free of charge by the CBMS International Coordinating Team (INCT). Technical assistance on the implementation and use of these CBMS tools are also being provided for free by trained CBMS accredited trainers from the DILG and CBMS NICT. Lastly, the computerized processing system software are also being provided for free to partner LGUs (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2019).

In 2014, the DILG recorded at least 300 LGUs that were using the CBMS upgraded to implement the CBMS Accelerated Poverty Profiling (CBMS-APP). The CBMS-APP is part of the continuing research work of the CBMS Network and was developed for the use of the LGUs that are adopting the CBMS in their jurisdictions. The CBMS APP enhances data collection through the use of android tablets which was found to result to a more efficient in terms of the administrative and operational management of data collection (CBMS Network 2014).

Recognizing its significance in providing inputs to evidence-based planning, the CBMS was included in the menu of projects eligible for FY 2016 Bottom-up Budgeting Financing.² As of February 27, 2019, the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) reported that the CBMS has a coverage of 1,091 municipalities nationwide.

7. The Comprehensive Development Plan Formulation Process

Section 6 of the 1991 Local Government Code mandates each municipality to prepare a comprehensive multi-sectoral development plan initiated by its Local Development Council (LDC) and approved by its *Sanggunian*. In 2008, the DILG issued Memorandum Circular No. 2008-156, that provides a guide to CDP preparation for LGUs (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2008). Given its extensive coverage and highly technical nature, the DILG came out with an Illustrative Guide in 2017. These guides offer procedures, tools and techniques along each step of the CDP planning cycle, which is divided into four major parts: 1) Organizing and Mobilizing the Planning Team; 2) Preparing the CDP; 3) Implementing the CDP; and 4) Plan monitoring and evaluation.

As defined, the CDP is the document that contains the multi-sectoral plan formulated at the city or municipal level, which embodies the vision, sectoral goals, objectives, development strategies and policies within terms of LGU officials and the medium-term (DILG 2019).

Figure 1 summarizes the process of formulating the CDP. The organization and mobilization of the Municipal Planning Team (MPT) initiates the process. In order to facilitate this, the Municipal Mayor issues an Executive Order identifying the members of the (MPT) tasked to prepare and/or update the municipalities' CDP. Once members are identified and organized, the preparation of the CDP is started. Figure 1 below illustrates the process of the Enhanced Comprehensive Development Planning Cycle. Step 1 in Figure 1 refers to the setting or revisiting of existing plans as well as the review of the responsiveness of the vision of the municipality. Once realized that the vision of the municipality is no longer responsive to its current need, the MPT will formulate a new vision based from the determination of current realities that are existing in the municipality.

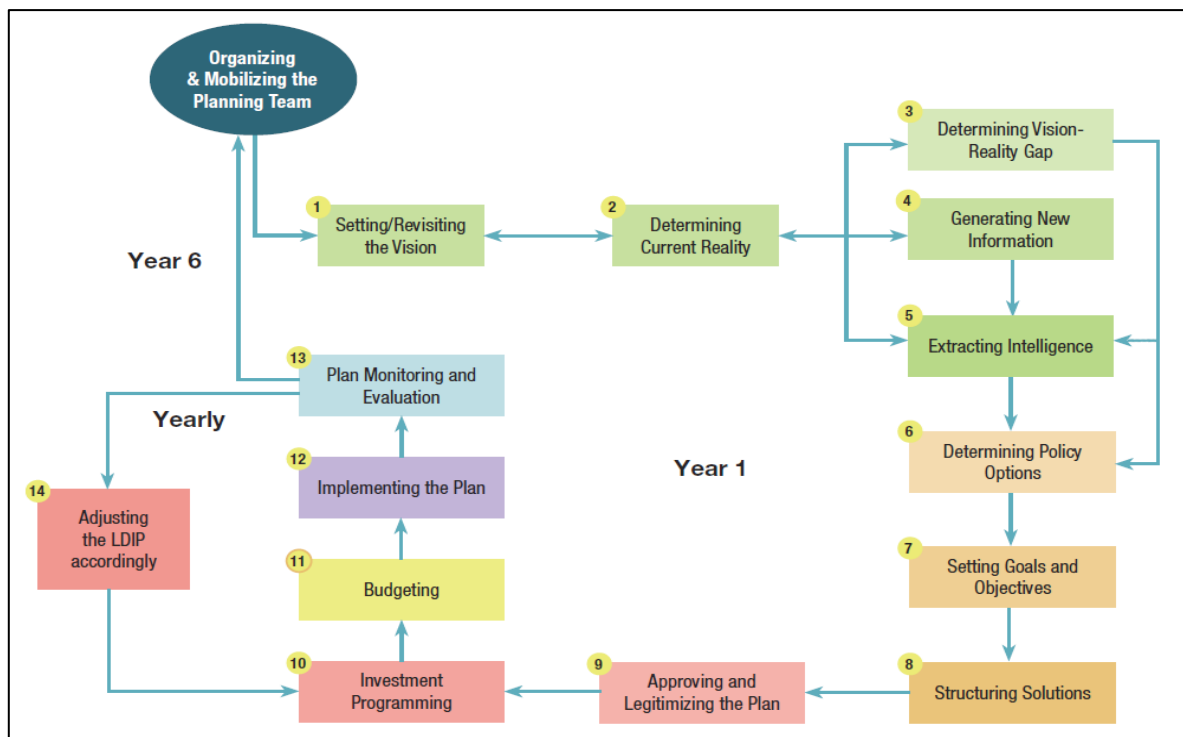
Meanwhile, Steps 2-8 of the CDP Planning Cycle corresponds to the preparation of Ecological Profile and Structured List of PPAs. More than half of the preparation of the CDP is dedicated to the Ecological Profiling and the identification of issues and the interventions to address them as contained in the Structured List of PPAs. This is where consultations with all stakeholders are of primary importance. Their participation should be prioritized to ensure that their concerns are made known and addressed (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017).

From a “readily usable” Ecological Profile, the Long List of PPAs from the five development sectors is prepared. This list will be the main source of PPAs prioritized for implementation, the Structured List of PPAs. Steps 9- 10 in Figure 1 describes the formulation of the LDIP. The

² Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB) was the nationwide participatory budgeting program initiated by the Benigno Aquino III administration running from 2012 to 2016 (Aceron 2019). The BUB initiative was to “make the planning and budgeting processes of both local and national governments more participatory through the avenues for people’s participation in local planning and budgeting through the genuine involvement of grassroots organizations and communities” (DBM-DILG-DSWD-NAPC 2012).

PPAs included in the LDIP is further trimmed down according to priority and will generate the Ranked List of PPAs. These PPAs are contained in the LDIP and are given their corresponding resource requirements such as funding and manpower. The list of PPAs will then be cross matched with available resources identified by the Local Finance Committee (LFC), manpower and period of implementation. The Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 1 Series of 2007 issued by the DILG, NEDA, DBMS and DOF states that the LDC shall cull out the AIP from the current slice of the LDIP, which upon approval of the *Sanggunian*, shall serve as the basis for the preparation of the Executive Budget (DILG, NEDA, DBM, DOF 2007). The LDC shall endorse the AIP to the local budget officer for the budget preparation and in determining the annual budgetary allocations for PPAs. These activities correspond to Step 11 in Figure 1 (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017).

Figure 1. The Enhanced Comprehensive Development Planning Cycle



Source: Local Planning Illustrative Guide, DILG 2017

Steps 12-13 of Figure 1 corresponds to the preparation of needed implementation instruments such as the Capacity Development Program and monitoring and evaluation strategies. The formulation of a Capacity Development Program for the CDP shall aid to the provision of required competencies and institutional arrangements that should be present in the municipality so that the CDP is implemented effectively. Meanwhile, the monitoring and evaluation serves as the link between one planning cycle to another as it determines the changes attributed to planned and unplanned developments in terms of social and economic wellbeing of inhabitants; quality and quantity of the physical environment; and institutional capabilities for local governance (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017). Finally, Step 14 of Figure 1 corresponds to the CDP Review Process, which assesses the compliance of the municipality's CDP to the policy-based budgeting principles embodied in the CDP guidelines and provide a basis for improvements of the CDP.

8. The CBMS in the process of the CDP Formulation

One of the most crucial steps to ensuring efficiency in government spending is supplying public goods and services needed by its constituents. In Philippine local development planning, ecological profiling (EP) is an effort in that direction since it aligns the CDP to the current realities facing the LGU (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017). The EP is a more comprehensive alternative than the usual socio-economic profile, which gives equal coverage to the physical, biological, socio-economic, cultural and built environments. Ecological profiling is important in an LGU's planning since it aids in the determination of: 1) the current level of services provided to its' constituents; 2) available resources; and 3) environmental factors which will affect policy and to which policy is expected to bring changes.

As the LGU's Ecological Profile identifies the issues, concerns and probable interventions for these issues, more than half of the workplan for the preparation of the CDP is dedicated primarily to Ecological Profiling. Accurately determining the current reality faced by the LGU require gathering of scrupulous data and information. The gathered data must then be validated through consultations and comparisons with the data from higher or lower-level LGUs.

In the preparation of the Ecological Profile, the CDP guidelines suggest the utilization of the Local Development Indicator System (LDIS), which is the set of data or list of indicators used for identifying issues based on an LGU's vision. The existing LDIS is perceived as a long and rigid list of 156 indicators that the LGUs must able to gather as part of their CDP. However, the inability of the LGUs to complete the data requirements necessary to complete the LDIS oftentimes become the reason for the delays, or in worst cases, discontinuation of the process of the LGU's CDP formulation. Misinterpretation of results reflect waste of government resources and gathering data just for compliance were also found to put the LDIS at a disadvantage (Department of the Interior and Local Government 2017).

This difficulty in complying with the LDIS data requirements gave way to the development of the Rationalized Planning Indicator and Data Set (RaPIDS)³. RaPIDS is a tool that aims to guide local planners in identifying development indicators that specifically applies to their LGU's needs and characteristics. RaPIDS prescribes a minimum data set applicable to all LGU types and prescribes additional data set unique to specific LGUs. If an LGU does not have the capacity or resources to complete the data requirements in the LDIS list, they may opt to use the RaPIDS as their starter data set instead. However, since the RaPIDS does not provide an analysis as comprehensive as the LDIS if LGUs will not opt to add additional indicators to the basic minimum data set.

The CBMS is among the other data sources used by LGUs in the preparation/updating of their Ecological Profile. Surprisingly, the PIDS LGSF-AM Baseline Study revealed that majority (57.0%) out of the 1,373 municipalities indicated the CBMS is utilized as the primary tool for gathering data for the preparation/updating of their LGU's Ecological Profile. However, only 1,190 of these LGUs had available CDPs during the study, of which only 717 (60.25%) claim to have used the CBMS as the primary data source.

³ The Rationalized Planning Indicator and Data Set (RaPIDS) is a tool developed by the DILG with the assistance of the European Union thru the LGU PFM 2 Project. The RaPIDS still follow the principles of LDIS which is based on the LGU's Vision and success indicators. RaPIDS updated the LDIS indicators to make them consistent with those required and accepted by NGAs and international institutions.

The LDIS and RaPIDS are still used by some municipalities, while others formulate their own tools in gathering LGU data for the preparation of the CDP. For instance, there were municipalities that claimed using a mix of RaPIDS and CBMS, which was coined as the RaPIDS-CBMS. This type of tool accounted for 4.7% of the total number of municipalities. It should also be noted that some LGUs that do not use any tool in gathering data in formulating their EP for their CDP preparation (7.8%). Others (17.6%), on the other hand, refer to data from the PSA or available sectoral data. Even before local governments were mandated to prepare the CDP, as early as 1985, some municipalities claim to have used data collection tools in aid of planning.

Table 1. Dataset development tool/s utilized by LGUs as the primary source for the preparation/updating of your ecological profile

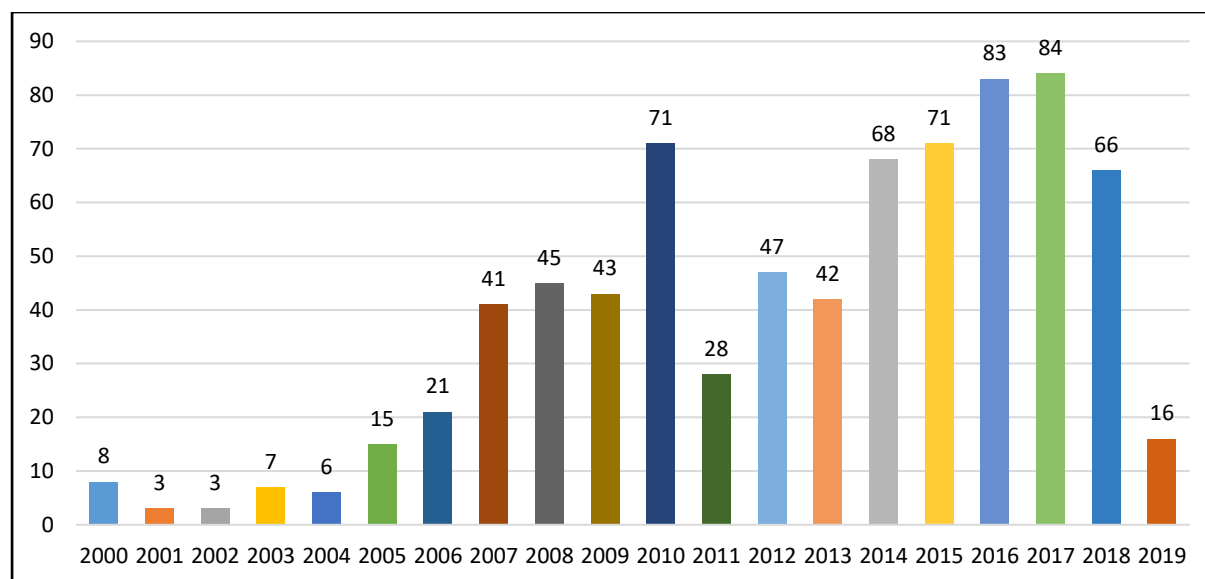
Dataset Development Tools	Percentage Share
Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS)	57.0%
Local Development Indicator System (LDIS)	7.1%
Rationalized Planning Indicator and Data Set (RaPIDS)	5.8%
Rapid Community-Based Monitoring System (RCBMS)	4.7%
None	7.8%
Others	17.6%

N= 1,373

9. Focus on the LGUs using the CBMS in the preparation of their EP

As mentioned in the preceding section, more than half (or 782) of the municipalities covered in the PIDS LGSF AM Baseline Study survey claimed to use the CBMS as the major data source in the preparation of their LGU's most recent Ecological Profile. From 2000 to 2017, the number of municipalities that adopted CBMS in Ecological Profiling increased (Figure 2).

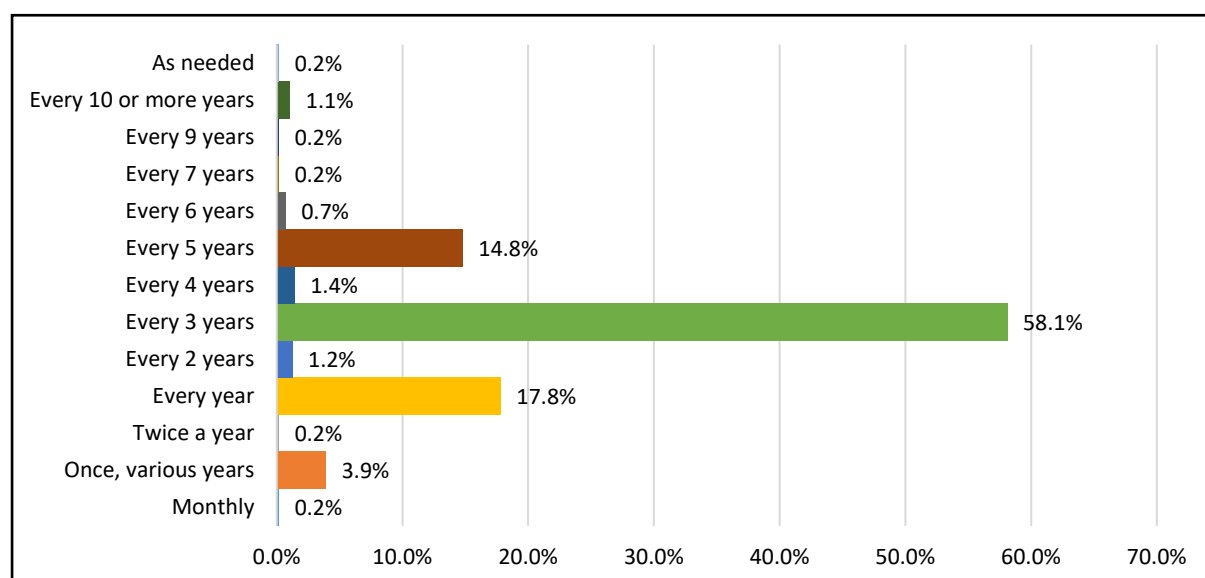
Figure 2. Number of LGUs that started utilizing CBMS as a planning tool per year, 2000-2019



9.1 Frequency of conduct of the CBMS

In terms of the frequency of data collection, majority (58.1%) of the LGUs that use CBMS claim to collect data every three years (Figure 3). Others claim to conduct CBMS data collection every year others every five years with shares of 17.8% and 14.8%, respectively. Only a small proportion (3.9%) report to have conducted CBMS only once. Furthermore, the bulk of LGUs that claim to collect CBMS data regularly started using it from 2015 to 2018. It should be noted that the evident irregularity in collecting data can be expected since there is no mandated frequency in the conduct of the CBMS (or any dataset development tool), such an activity depends entirely on the LGU officials perceived need for such.

Figure 3. Frequency of LGU data collection of CBMS, 2000 to 2019



9.2 Conduct of and resource allocation for the CBMS

Most (93.9%) of the LGUs that claimed to have conducted CBMS at least once reported to have allocated a budget for it (Table 2). There is a declining trend between the number of times a budget was allocated for data collection activities and number of municipalities that conducted the CBMS. That is, there are fewer municipalities that allocate a budget more frequently for data collection. For example, 93.8% of the respondents say they allocated a budget for CBMS once, 87.1% twice, 20.7% thrice and 8.7% four times. The “other” top three sources of financing of CBMS data collection was the five percent LDRRM Fund, 20 percent LDF and the Provincial Fund (Table 2).

The intergovernmental fiscal transfer, called the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA), was identified as the main financing source of regardless of the frequency of data collection. This was followed by funding from locally generated revenues, grant-type funding from NGAs and others. It should be noted that LGUs do not necessarily conduct data collection, and therefore, allocate a budget for, in consecutive years.

Table 2. Sources of budget for the conduct of the CBMS, various years

Times of Budget Allocation	IRA (Excluding LDF)	Locally-generated revenues	Grant-type funding from NGAs	Other
Once	355	290	84	177
Twice	170	141	49	107
Thrice	97	71	19	49
Four times	37	30	10	20

Majority of the respondents (82.2%) identified the MPDC as the focal person responsible for the conduct of data gathering in the LGU. Meanwhile, the staff of the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) was identified by majority of the respondents to do the processing (62.8%) and analysis (61.2%) of the collected data. This was followed by head of Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) with shares of 34.7% and 44.1% for processing and analysis, respectively. It is worth noting that one-third of the total number of respondents claimed that they neither process (16.5%) nor analyze (17.0%) the data that is collected from their municipalities.

9.3 LGU focal person for the conduct of CBMS

For the majority of LGUs, the MPDC was identified as the focal person for implementing the activities of the CBMS. Other identified focal persons include staff the MPDO and from other offices in the LGU such as the MDRRMO, MLGOO and MSWDO, among others.

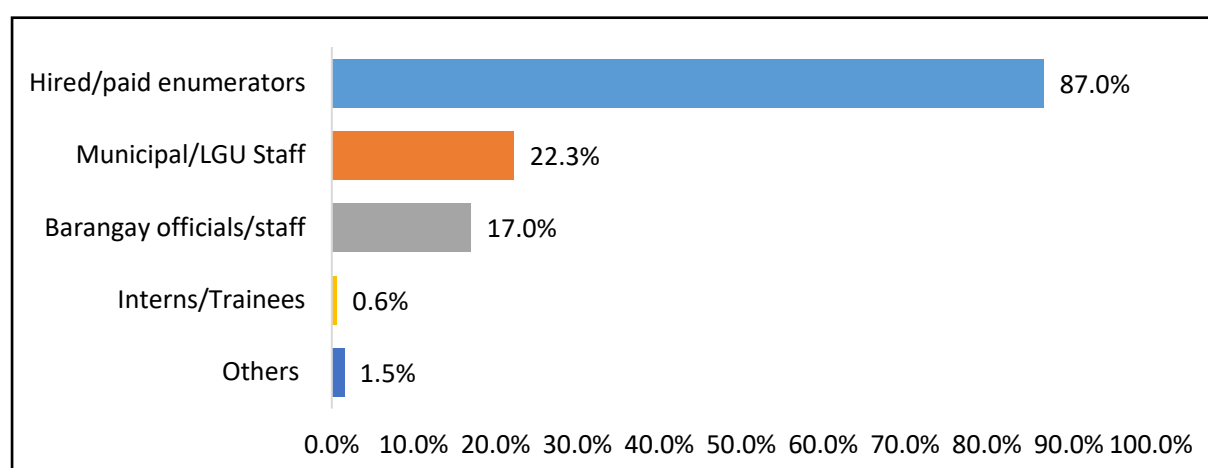
Table 3. Focal person identified in the implementation of the CBMS

Focal Person	Percent Share
Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator	84.4%
MPDO Staff	4.1%
Head or Staff from Other Offices	2.8%
MDRRMO Head or Staff	1.8%
MLGOO/ DILG staff	1.7%
Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer	1.4%
None	1.0%
LGU Administrator	0.9%
Administrative Staff	0.6%
MPT	0.5%
Mayor and staff	0.3%
MSWDO Staff	0.1%
TWG and other ad-hoc teams	0.1%
CBMS Focal Person	0.1%
MEO Head or Staff	0.1%

N = 660

9.4 CBMS Data Collection, Processing and Analysis

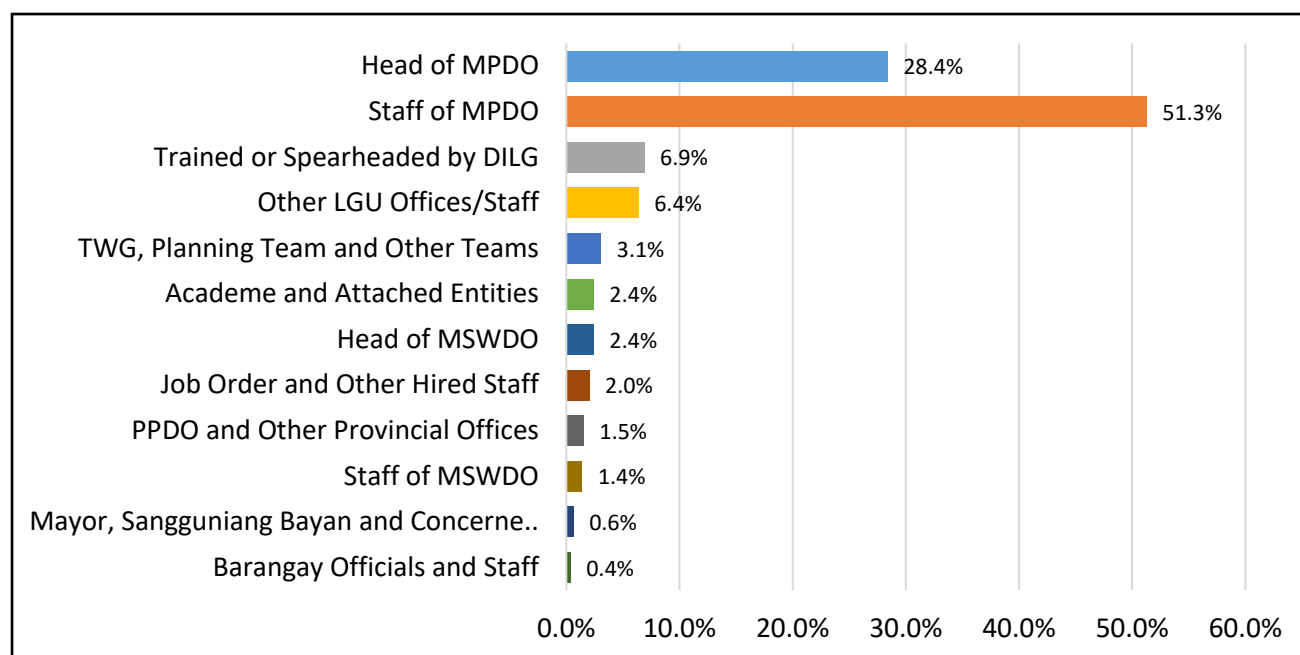
The municipal government takes the lead in the data collection and processing of CBMS data. Enumerators and field editors are usually recruited locally and trained to correctly and accurately conduct the survey in the barangays. Most (87%) of the LGUs covered in the PIDS LGSF AM study hired enumerators for CBMS data collection. A fifth of the total number of LGUs covered, on the other hand, claimed to seek assistance from the staff of the LGUs. Some (17.0%) hired barangay personnel while a small proportion also claimed to be assisted by interns (0.6%).

Figure 4. Personnel who collected CBMS data for the LGUs

In terms of processing the data for CBMS, computerized processing software, such as the CBMS Encoding System Statistics Simulator and the CBMS- Natural Resource Database (NRDB), are provided for free to partner LGUs (CBMS Network n.d.). Half (51%) of the LGUs

covered in the study identified the staff of MPDO to lead in the processing of CBMS data. A quarter of the total number of respondents, on the other hand, identified the head of the MPDO to perform CBMS data processing. Other LGUs, on the other hand, mentioned personnel trained by the DILG, or other LGU staff. Small proportions of the respondents also mentioned a technical working group (TWG), academe or attached agencies or other entities to do the data processing for CBMS.

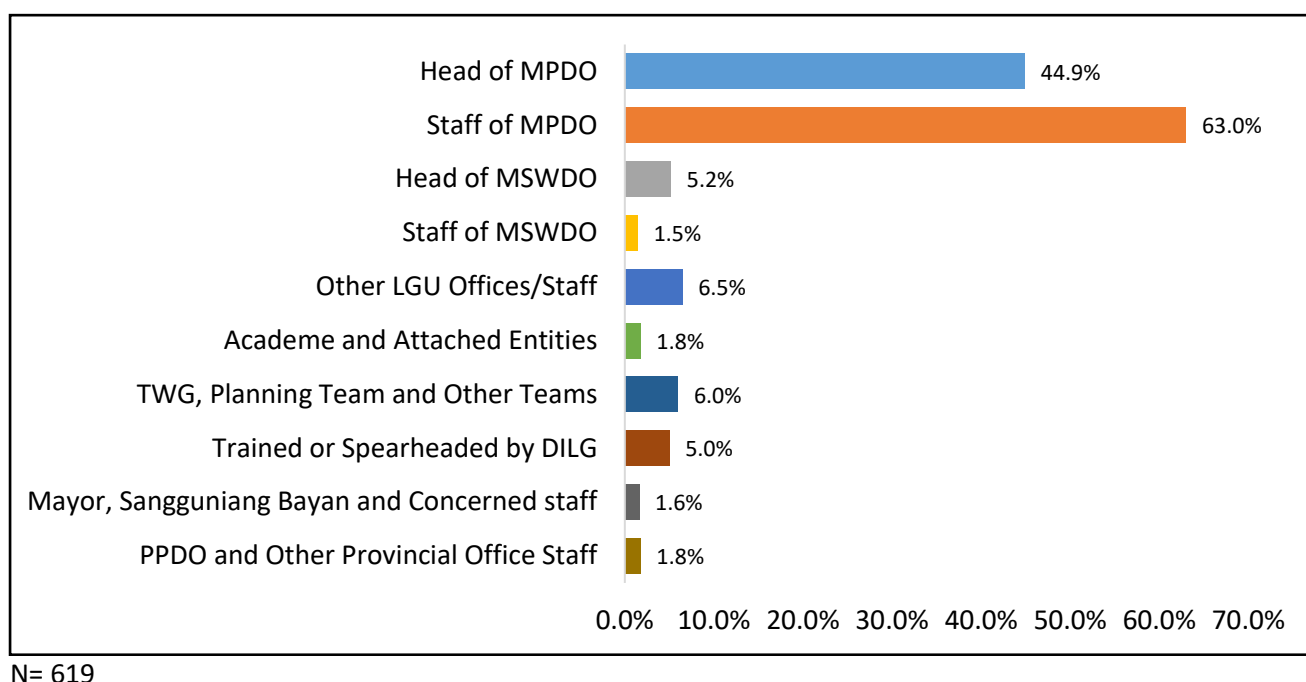
Figure 5. Personnel who processed CBMS data



N = 640

The data collected from the CBMS are used by the LGUs as inputs in the formulation of development plans, particularly, the CDP. The MPDO is the main office in the LGUs facilitating the updating and development of the CDP. It is expected that the personnel in this office, with the assistance of the MPT, is instrumental in performing data analysis and transforming it into information.

Figure 6. Personnel who analyzed CBMS Data

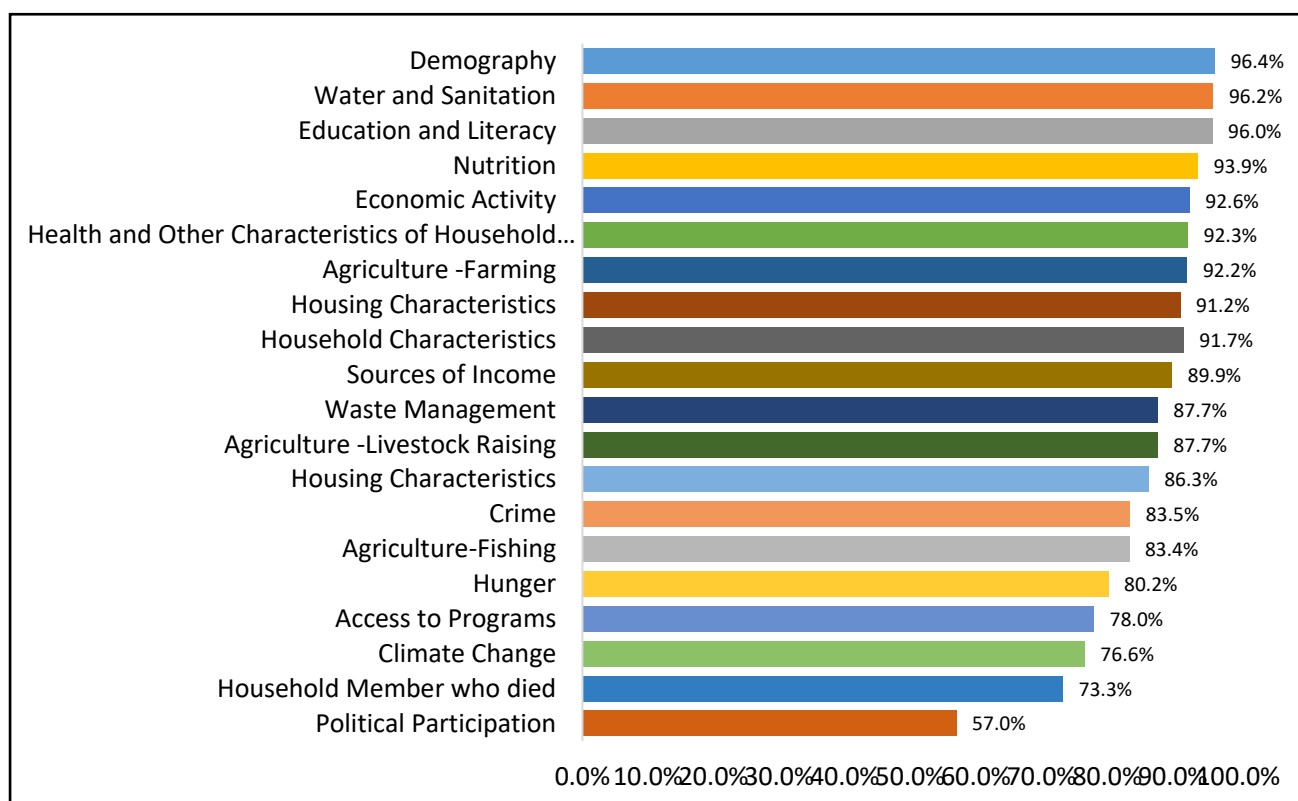


9.5 CBMS Data Utilization

For the study, the LGUs were also asked which data in the CBMS is used to develop their Ecological Profile. Although the utilization of certain data items may vary depending upon the focus of the vision and development of the LGUs, most of the data provided by the CBMS are cross cutting, thus all are useful for analysis, project formulation and identification.

Interestingly, most of the CBMS data items are reported to be highly utilized by the LGUs. Particularly, data on demography (96.4%), water and sanitation (96.2%), and education and literacy (96.0%) are the top three data items in the CBMS that are “mostly used” by the LGUs (Figure 7). On the other hand, data on access to programs (78.0%), climate change (76.6%), household member who died (73.3%) and political participation (57.0%) were the least used categories.

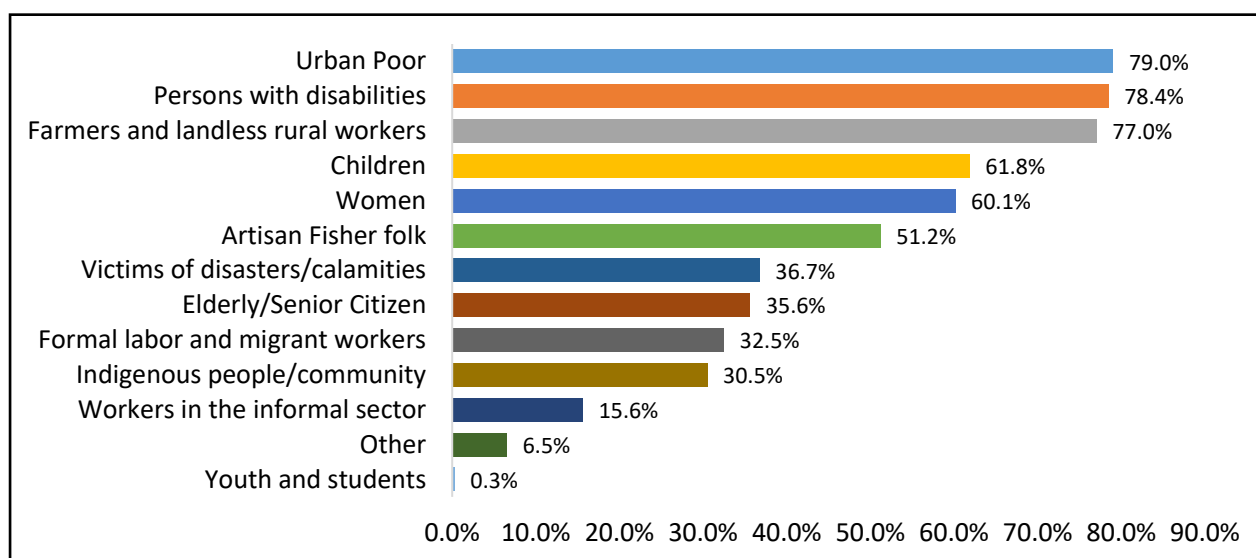
Figure 7. Data items from CBMS utilized by LGUs in preparing/updating their ecological profile and in decision-making or policy-making process



N= 782

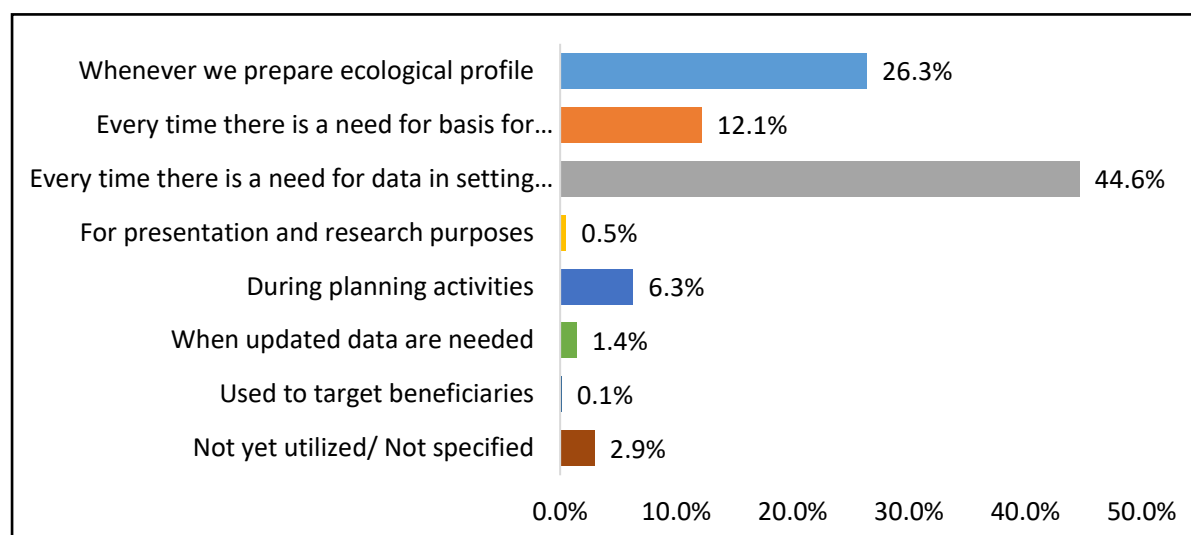
Majority (90.4%) of the respondents claimed that utilizing the data collected enabled them to identify priority sectors in their LGUs. Such sectors include: urban poor (79.0%); persons with disabilities (78.5%); farmers and landless rural workers (77.0%); children (61.8%) and women (60.1%) (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Priority sectors identified through the use of CBMS data



LGUs also related that they use CBMS data for purposes other than in preparing the Ecological Profile. Most of the LGUs utilize the CBMS data every time there is a need for setting priority areas/sectors (44.6%) and every time there is a need for basis for budgeting (44.6%) (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Occasions when CBMS data is used in the planning activities of LGUs



N=705

While there are existing data generating tools, such as the DILG- recommended LDIS and RaPIDS, the CBMS and other agency and sector-specific generated data, some municipalities identified additional data items believe to be needed in ecological profiling and planning. The interesting result is that though there are some data items that may need to be established for LGUs, such as for climate change, geo-tagging, maps, and data on ICT, there are other identified data items that are already readily available (Table 4). Examples of the latter include demographic data and economic characteristics that are already present in the CBMS. This indicates the need perhaps of reorientation of the LGUs with data items available with the CBMS.

Table 4. LGU opinion on data items that are still needed in formulating their CDP

Data Items	Percent Share
Demographic data (e.g. population, education of HH member, income, sex, religion, housing, health, migration, crime)	32.6%
Data on Climate Change/Disaster Risks/Hazard Prone Areas (CDRA, DRRM, PAGASA, etc.)	18.9%
Economic characteristics (e.g. employment, poverty level, economic data etc.)	10.0%
Data about the environment/ecosystem/natural resources (e.g. biodiversity, forestry, marine resources)	8.4%
Data about Land (use, ownership, boundary, topography, zoning classification)	6.2%
Data on road networks/ infrastructures	5.4%
Geo-tagging and Maps (GIS data/map, Thematic, Cadastral, Hazard, etc)	5.4%

Data Items	Percent Share
Data on Agriculture (Farming, Fishing, Livestock)	5.1%
Dataset Development Tools (e.g. CBMS, RCBM, RaPIDS, LDIS)	2.7%
Data on tourism	2.4%
Data on ICT	1.9%
Energy/Power	1.1%

N=371

10. Summary of Findings and Recommendations

Crucial to the success of policy interventions is the manner by which the program or guideline is implemented. In a study examining development planning practices of municipalities, the evidence showed that though local government planning guidelines are generally followed, some steps of the planning process can be enhanced or should be revisited:

- Dataset tool for ecological profiling. Contrary to the DILG planning guidelines prescribing the use of the LDIS and RaPIDS for ecological profiling, the CBMS is the most frequently used dataset tool. Furthermore, the CBMS data is used not just for ecological profiling but also for budget preparations and priority setting.
- Regularity of data collection. To be responsive to the needs of the local government, the collection of data and ecological profiling must be timely but at the same time, balanced with the returns on the investment in data collection.

The results showing irregular data collection reflect the fact that there is no prescribed regular schedule for economic profiling. Furthermore, the evidence shows that fewer municipalities allocate a budget for data collection regularly and, for those that do, a large portion of the allocation is devoted to hiring personnel for the conduct of the CBMS.

The recently passed Community-Based Monitoring System Act will hopefully address both these concerns by mandating: (1) regular LGU data collection to every three (3) years (Congress of the Philippines 2019, Sec. 5); and, (2) that financial and technical assistance to local governments be provided by the relevant national government agencies prioritizing 4th to 6th class municipalities for collection every 3 years (Congress of the Philippines 2019, Sec. 5 and 11).

- There is a need for the clear delineation of roles in data processing and analysis. An interesting result is that a small proportion of municipalities claimed to neither process (16.5%) nor analyze (17.0%) the data collected from their municipalities. Though the survey did not probe beyond this response, the anecdotal evidence suggests that not knowing how to proceed with collected data, the LGUs send the data to the DLSU AKI CBMS Network for processing without any follow up afterwards.

Moving forward, it is crucial that the collected data be used in evidence-based development planning.

- LGUs must be reoriented in the CBMS, especially with its institutionalization by the CBMS Law.

The respondent municipalities in the LGSF-AM Baseline Survey still identified data items that they think are needed for the development and/or updating of their CDPs. However, some identified data items are already available in existing dataset tools and sources. The responses may therefore reflect not just the unavailability of some data but a lack access or information how to access them. The current form (i.e., disaggregation, level) of the available data may also be different from what the LGUs' needs that is why they are not able to use them.

- Finally, it must be highlighted that the CBMS is a development tool. Whether or not policymakers would like to use the CBMS for other programs like targeting, its' role as a local government dataset tool for local development planning must remain.

11. References

Aceron, Joy. 2019. *Pitfalls of Aiming to Empower the Bottom from the Top: The Case of Philippine Participitao*. Working Paper, Washington, DC: Accountability Research Centre.

2016. *CBMS DLSU*. Accessed September 18, 2019. <http://cbms.dlsu.edu.ph/>.

CBMS Network. 2014. "CBMS Accelerated Poverty Profiling (APP)." *CBMS Handbook*. CBMS Network. <https://www.pep-net.org/cbms-philippines>.

—. n.d. "Community-Based Monitoring System." *CBMS FAQ*. PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team.

Congress of the Philippines. 2019. *Community Based Monitoring Law*. April 17.

—. 2018. "Republic Act No. 11315." *An Act Establishing a Community-Based Monitoring System and Appropriating Funds Therefor*. July 23.

DBM-DILG-DSWD-NAPC . 2012. "Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2012." *Policy Guidelines and Procedures in the Implementation of Bottom-up Planning and Budgeting for the FY 2013 Budget Preparation*. Manila: DBM-DILG-DSWD-NAPC , March 28.

Department of the Interior and Local Government . 2019. *DILG CBMS*. Accessed September 21, 2019. <https://cbms.dilg.gov.ph/faq/index>.

Department of the Interior and Local Government. 2017. *Local Planning Illustrative Guide - Preparing and Updating the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP)*. Quezon City: DILG.

- . 2008. "Memorandum Circular No. 2008-156." *Guide to Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) Preparation for Local Government Unit*. Quezon City: DILG, October 22.
- . 2016. "Memorandum Circular No. 2016-69." *Guidelines for the implementation of Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) and Other DILG-Administered Capacity Development Subprojects on Gender and Development (GAD) and DRR-CCA under the Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB)-DILG Fund FY2016*. Quezon City: DILG, May 23.
- . 2017. "Over 25,000 LGUs benefit from DILG-CBMS project nationwide." *Department of the Interior and Local Government*. July 5. Accessed July 29, 2019. <https://www.dilg.gov.ph/news/Over-25000-LGUs-benefit-from-DILG-CBMS-project-nationwide/NC-2017-1146>.
- DILG. 2019. *Clarificatory Guidelines on the Formulation of the Executive-Legislative Agenda (ELA)*. Quezon City , July 18.
- DILG, NEDA, DBM, DOF. 2007. *Joint Memorandum Circular No.1 Series of 2007: Guidelines on the Harmonization of Local Planning, Investment Programming, Revenue Administration, Budgeting and Expenditure Management*. Quezon City , March 8.
- Partnership for Economic Policy. 2018. *PEP NET*. June. Accessed July 2, 2018. https://www.pep-net.org/sites/pep-net.org/files/typo3doc/pdf/promotionnal_material/CBMS/CBMS_Brochure_12_Pages_Ver.pdf.
- . 2019. *CBMS Philippines*. Accessed September 18, 2019. <https://www.pep-net.org/cbms-philippines>.
- Reyes, Celia , Anne Bernadette Mandap, Joel Bancolita , Marsmath Baris, Novee Lor Leyso, and Steffie Joi Calubayan. 2014. *CBMS Handbook*. Handbook, Manila: De La Salle UNiversity Publishing House for the CBMS International Network Coordinating Team.

12. Appendix

Appendix A. Community Based Monitoring System Law

S. No. 2172
H. No. 8217

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress

Third Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-third day of July, two thousand eighteen.

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. **11315**]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY-BASED
MONITORING SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Community-Based Monitoring System Act”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, deliver a rising standard of living, promote full employment, and make available an improved quality of life for all.

Pursuant to this policy, the State recognizes the need to adopt focused and specific measures that will ensure poverty reduction wherein citizens have access to social protection and

welfare programs that address their minimum basic needs. The State further recognizes that a system of public spending that warrants government allocation on areas and populace that are most wanting is necessary in lifting people out of poverty.

Towards this end, the State shall adopt a community-based monitoring system which generates updated and disaggregated data necessary in targeting beneficiaries, conducting more comprehensive poverty analysis and needs prioritization, designing appropriate policies and interventions, and monitoring impact over time.

This data collection system shall respect the fundamental human right of privacy, ensure data quality, and uphold data protection principles of legitimate purpose transparency, and proportionality.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

(a) *Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS)* refers to an organized technology-based system of collecting, processing and validating necessary disaggregated data that may be used for planning, program implementation and impact monitoring at the local level while empowering communities to participate in the process. It involves the generation of data at the local level which serves as basis in targeting households in the planning, budgeting and implementation of government programs geared towards poverty alleviation and economic development. This system merges the methodologies used in data collection activities of all national agencies, geo-tagging, and the CBMS implemented by local government units (LGUs). It entails a census of households undertaken by the LGUs with the participation of the community using accelerated poverty profiling system in the data collection, processing, mapping and analysis of data;

(b) *Geo-tagging* refers to the process of adding metadata about government projects to various media and of uploading to a web-based application. This enables the mapping of all areas in the Philippines and allows the government, the citizenry, and other stakeholders to check the progress of projects in real time;

(c) *Data* refers to the information to be generated by the CBMS which includes the compendium of localized facts, figures, and maps on the different dimensions of poverty such as health, nutrition, water, sanitation, shelter, education, income, employment, security, and participation;

(d) *Repository* refers to the agency tasked with receiving, storing, and managing socioeconomic data; and

(e) *Respondent* refers to any citizen who participates as a data-source in the surveys conducted under the CBMS.

SEC. 4. *Data Collection.* – A CBMS is hereby established and instituted in every city and municipality as an economic and social tool towards the formulation and implementation of poverty alleviation and development programs which are specific, targeted and responsive to the basic needs of each sector of the community. The CBMS shall have the appropriate security measures for data protection.

Each city and municipality is the primary data collecting authority within its locality. For this purpose, each city and municipality shall have a statistician, whose primary function is data collection, preservation and safekeeping of the data retained at the city or municipal level. Further, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) shall create additional positions for statisticians at the provincial level to monitor and manage enumeration activities of LGUs under their jurisdiction.

SEC. 5. *Periodicity of Data Collection.* – Regular and synchronized data collection shall be conducted by every city and municipality every three (3) years. In the conduct of data collection, the LGU shall receive financial and technical assistance from the appropriate national government agencies.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, all cities and municipalities are enjoined to collect data at shorter intervals and at their own expense for purposes peculiarly useful to them.

Further, the implementing rules and regulations as provided under Section 15 of this Act may provide for a separate period for data collection depending on the needs of

national government agencies whose data-collecting functions have been consolidated with the CBMS.

SEC. 6. *Lead Agency.* – The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) shall serve as the lead agency in the implementation of the CBMS. It shall have the following functions:

- (a) Set standards, develop and review data collection forms utilizing as base of existing CBMS forms used by LGUs;
- (b) Capacitate the cities and municipalities in the collection of poverty data at the local level through the Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute, in collaboration with state universities and colleges and in coordination with other government agencies;
- (c) Conduct cross-posting as follow-up capacity building of the cities and municipalities;
- (d) Monitor the data collection by cities and municipalities to ensure adherence to official concepts, definitions, and standards of poverty statistics;
- (e) Act as the national repository of all poverty data collected by the cities and municipalities;
- (f) Process the poverty data generated and submitted by the cities and municipalities;
- (g) Generate poverty statistics at higher levels that will complement and supplement the local level data; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Information Dissemination.* – The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) is tasked to develop institutional arrangements on data-sharing. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) is tasked to regularly disseminate information relating to activities of the CBMS. The National Statistician of the PSA is tasked to submit an annual accomplishment report to the

President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives containing collective poverty statistics generated by the CBMS, where identities of respondents, cities and municipalities are kept confidential.

SEC. 8. *Storage and Access of Data.* – The cities and municipalities are allowed to maintain their own CBMS database for use in local level planning and program implementation. The PSA shall receive and store all aggregated data gathered by the cities and municipalities to create a national CBMS databank of collated information. It shall undertake measures to ensure the integrity and safety of the gathered information against unnecessary leakage and access by unauthorized persons.

Provinces shall have access to their respective local and territory-specific data.

SEC. 9. *Prioritizing Social Protection Programs.* – The appropriate national government agencies shall use the data generated by the CBMS in prioritizing timely, relevant and much-needed social protection programs of government in areas identified to have the highest incidence of poverty.

SEC. 10. *Confidentiality of Information.* – The right to privacy of every respondent remains inviolable. The citizen participating in the data collection shall be fully informed of the nature and extent of processing intended for his or her personal data. Participation in all data collection activities is purely voluntary. Notwithstanding Section 4 of this Act, respondents may refuse to answer any question or reveal any information at any point, or terminate data collection activities with no further action needed. The person conducting the data collection shall ask the respondents whether they would like to make an explicit waiver to authorize the city and municipality to disclose their identity and other relevant information about their household to the government agency which provides social protection programs for them.

SEC. 11. *Prioritization of Assistance.* – The income class of cities and municipalities shall be considered in prioritizing the allocation of financial assistance to implement the provisions of this Act. Fourth, fifth and sixth class cities and

municipalities shall be given assistance in the first three (3) years of implementation of this Act. Thereafter, other cities and municipalities shall progressively be given assistance to ensure the full implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.* – Upon the effectivity of this Act, a Congressional Oversight Committee, hereafter referred to as the CBMS Oversight Committee, is hereby constituted. This Committee shall set the overall framework to review the implementation of this Act. It shall likewise determine inherent weaknesses in the law and recommend necessary remedial legislation or executive measures. The CBMS Oversight Committee shall be composed of fourteen (14) members with the Chairpersons of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development of the Senate as Co-chairpersons; and six (6) members from each House, to be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate President, respectively. For purposes of determining remedial legislation, the CBMS Oversight Committee shall, within two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act, conduct a systematic evaluation of the impact of this Act, accomplishments of the system, and the performance of the cities and municipalities on data collection, and of the PSA on its functions as the lead agency.

SEC. 13. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 14. *CBMS Council.* – For purposes of achieving secure and efficient data sharing arrangements between and among concerned cities and municipalities and national government agencies to be used for their particular social protection and welfare programs and projects, there is hereby created a CBMS Council composed of the PSA, DILG and DICT, to be headed by the PSA. The implementing rules and regulations shall define other appropriate functions of the CBMS Council.

SEC. 15. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the National Statistician of the PSA, in consultation with the DILG, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Education, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Anti-Poverty Commission, National Privacy Commission, DICT, Philippine Institute for Development Studies, Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute, CBMS Network, League of Provinces of the Philippines, League of Cities of the Philippines and League of Municipalities of the Philippines, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act. The PSA shall work in consultation with the appropriate government offices and other stakeholders from both the private and public sectors in the relevant fields to be covered by the data collection initiative.

SEC. 16. *Transitory Provision.* – The national government agencies which currently collect poverty data for purposes of targeting deserving beneficiaries to their respective social protection programs shall continue to perform their duties and responsibilities in a holdover capacity for a period of one (1) year from the effectivity of the implementing rules and regulations, or for such period as may be determined by the PSA to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Act.

SEC. 17. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 18. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.


SEC. 19. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.


Approved,


GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
*Speaker of the House
of Representatives*


VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President of the Senate

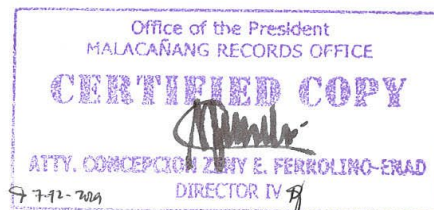
This Act was passed by the Senate of the Philippines as Senate Bill No. 2172 on February 4, 2019 and adopted by the House of Representatives as an amendment to House Bill No. 8217 on February 7, 2019.


DANTE ROBERTO P. MALING
*Acting Secretary General
House of Representatives*


MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate

Approved: APR 17 2019


RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President of the Philippines



Appendix B. Community Based Monitoring System (Primer)

The support of these organizations bodes well for the continuous expansion of CBMS in the country and hopefully achieves the target of 100% CBMS coverage by 2010 as envisioned by the *Working Group on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Social Progress* of the Philippines Development Forum (PDF). Chaired by the Philippine government and the World Bank, the PDF is the primary mechanism of the government for facilitating substantive dialogue among stakeholders on the country's development agenda.

How can LGUs and other organizations get technical assistance from the CBMS Network Coordinating Team?

The CBMS Network Coordinating Team and its partners provide free technical assistance to local government units (LGUs) and other organizations in the implementation and full-scale institutionalization of a CBMS.

Interested local government units and other organizations may contact the CBMS Network Coordinating Team at the following address:

PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team
Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies
Room I-1016 10th Flr. Angelo King International Center
Estrada Cor. Arellano Ave., Malate, Manila, Philippines
Tel: (632) 5262067; (632) 5245333
Fax: (632) 5262067; 524-5347
E-mail: reyes@dlscsb.edu.ph; mimap@dlscsb.edu.ph
Web-site: www.pep-net.org



Community-Based Monitoring System



What is CBMS?

The Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) is an organized process of data collection and processing at the local level and of integration of data in local planning, program implementation and impact-monitoring. It is a system that promotes evidence-based policymaking and program implementation while empowering communities to participate in the process. It was developed in the early 1990s under the Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Adjustment Policies (MIMAP) Project-Philippines to provide policymakers and program implementers with a good information base for tracking the impacts of macroeconomic reforms and various policy shocks. Currently, coordination on CBMS work is being handled by the CBMS Network Coordinating Team.⁴

What is the rationale for CBMS?

Standard poverty monitoring systems (PMS) in the Philippines generally rely on surveys such as Income-Expenditure surveys, Health surveys, Censuses, etc. However these national censuses and surveys:

- Are too costly to be replicated frequently;
- Are conducted at different time periods making it impossible to get a comprehensive profile of the different socio-demographic groups of interest at a specific point in time; and
- Have sampling designs that do not usually correspond to the geographical disaggregation needed by local governments.

In addition, the implementation of decentralization policy, which devolves the delivery of basic services to local governments, creates greater demand for data at the local level.

CBMS seeks to address the existing data gaps at the local level for diagnosing extent of poverty at the local level in determining the causes of poverty, formulating appropriate policies and program,

➤ LMP Memorandum Circular 027-2006

Issued in June 2006, enjoining all CBMS-implementing municipalities to adopt/sustain the adoption of the CBMS as a tool for local poverty diagnosis and ensure the incorporation of the MDG targets and utilization of CBMS data in the formulation of local development plans.

➤ SDC Resolution No. 3, Series of 2006

Issued on July 19, 2006, the resolution adopts the CBMS as the prescribed monitoring tool for the generation of the Core Local Poverty Indicator Database. It further enjoined the NAPC, DILG, other government agencies and LGUs to coordinate with the CBMS Network Coordinating Team towards the fast-tracking and full implementation of the CBMS.

Partnerships

The CBMS Network Coordinating Team have partnered with a number of agencies to scale up the implementation of the CBMS.

- Department of the Interior and Local Government – lead agency in providing capacity building to local government units and other government agencies. Trainings on the CBMS Modules have been provided to selected staff of Bureau of Local Government Development and to some of their regional offices.
- National Anti-Poverty Commission – have been active in advocating CBMS especially in Mindanao. Selected staff have also been trained on the CBMS Modules.
- League of Municipalities of the Philippines – lead advocates of the CBMS in the municipalities.
- National Economic and Development Authority – in particular Region IVA has collaborated with the CBMS Team for the implementation of CBMS in their localities.
- NGOs – such as Institute for Democratic Participation and Governance (IDPG) and Social Watch are also actively advocating for the implementation of CBMS in their sites. On the other hand, Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) has been providing resources to finance poverty interventions identified through the CBMS.
- Donor agencies – Development partners, e.g., UNDP, World Bank and UNFPA, have also been actively supporting the implementation of CBMS.

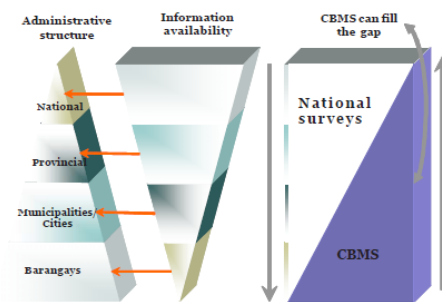
⁴The CBMS Network, which is under the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies of De La Salle University-Manila, is part of the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Research Network with fund support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)-Ottawa, Canada. IDRC has also provided support to the MIMAP-Philippines Project.

What is the level of government support for CBMS?

Memorandum circulars and policy issuances have been prepared by key national government agencies supporting the use of CBMS:

- **DILG Memorandum Circular 2001-105**
Issued in August 2001, the circular enjoins all local chief executives to undertake local programs on poverty reduction and economic transformation and emphasized the need to designate Local Poverty Reduction Action Officers (LPRAOs) and to formulate a Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP).
- **NAPC En Banc Resolution No. 7**
Issued in March 2003, the resolution directs LGUs to adopt the 13 core local poverty indicators as the minimum set of community-based information for poverty diagnosis and planning at the local levels and integrate such information in their local poverty monitoring system and local level action plans and program.
- **DILG Memorandum Circular 2003-92**
Issued in April 2003, it provides policy guidelines for the adoption of the 13 core local poverty indicators for planning. The guidelines shall aid the LGUs in assessing and understanding poverty and its dimensions at the barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces with the end view of formulating an LPRAP and implementing the plans and programs to reduce poverty.
- **DILG Memorandum Circular 2004-152**
Issued in November 2004, the circular encourages LGUs to intensify efforts in implementing programs, projects and activities towards the achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs).
- **NSCB Resolution No. 6, Series of 2005**
Issued in January 24, 2005, the resolution recognizes and enjoins support to the community-based monitoring system as a tool to strengthen the statistical system at the local level. It resolved further that the NSCB Technical Staff should initiate and coordinate an advocacy program for the adoption of the CBMS by the LGUs, through the RSCCs, the technical arm of the NSCB Executive Board in the regions.

CBMS can address the demand for local level data brought about by decentralization



identifying eligible beneficiaries and assessing impact of policies and programs. It also supports the decentralization process by capacitating LGUs to collect, analyze and use data in local planning and program implementation.

What are the key features of CBMS?

The CBMS has several features that enhance the capacity of local governments in detecting and reducing poverty: (a) LGU-based while promoting community participation; (b) taps existing LGU personnel and community volunteers as monitors; (c) has a core set of indicators; (d) involves complete enumeration of all households; and (e) establish databanks at all geopolitical levels.



Community involvement in the CBMS implementation makes the system closer to the people.

LEVEL	DATA SOURCES	DATA PROCESSING/ DATA BANK	DATA USERS
National	National Government Agencies	NAPC, NEDA or DILG (NCSB-Overnight)	NAPC-DILG, NEDA/PSO (D)NGOs Other Data Users
Regional	Line Agencies, NSO,NGOs	CRIMS Regional Monitors (RDOs)	Program Implementers Other Data Users
Provincial	Line Agencies, NSO,NGOs	CRIMS Provincial Monitors (PPOs)	PPDO Program Implementers Other Data Users
City/ Municipal	Line Agencies, NSO District Offices, NGOs	CRIMS City/Municipal Monitors (CPOs/MPPOs)	CPO/MPPO Program Implementers Other Data Users
Barangay	CRIMS Enumerators, NGOs, POs	CRIMS Barangay Monitors (BDOs)	BDO Program Implementers Other Data Users

Once a local government unit decides to adopt the CBMS, a number of activities (as seen in Figure 2) are needed to be carried out. Technical assistance is being provided for free by the CBMS Team and its partner agencies. These include provision of technical support in the conduct of training workshops on data collection, computerized data processing, data validation and preparation of socioeconomic profiles and development plans using CBMS data.

The screenshot displays three overlapping windows from the CEMS software. The background window is the 'Compositional Statistics System' with a tree view on the left and a data table. The middle window is titled 'Statistics' and features a compass rose logo; it has tabs for 'Statistics', 'Plots', and 'Tables', with 'Statistics' currently selected. The foreground window on the right shows a map of a coastal region with various colored polygons representing different land use or administrative areas.

- ### How many LGUs in the country are currently implementing CBMS?

As of September 15, 2007, 35 provinces, 16 of which is province-wide, 371 municipalities and 24 cities covering 9,547 barangays (Figure 3) have already joined the CBMS bandwagon and are at varying stages in implementing the CBMS. The costs of implementation have been borne largely by the local government units, indicating that they see the usefulness of the system. This bodes well for the sustainability of the system. In some cases, NGOs, donor agencies and other stakeholders have contributed to the implementation.

Map of the Philippines showing 17 administrative regions color-coded by climate zone. The map includes Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. A legend on the right lists the regions and their corresponding climate zones.

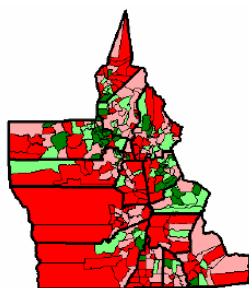
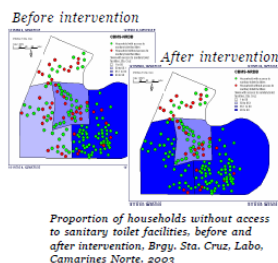
Legend:

- Region I (Cagayan Valley) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region II (Cebu) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region III (Iloilo) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region IV (Zamboanga del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region V (Davao del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region VI (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region VII (Davao Occidental) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region VIII (Davao Oriental) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region IX (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region X (Davao del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XI (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XII (Davao del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XIII (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XIV (Davao del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XV (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XVI (Davao del Sur) - Tropical Monsoon Climate
- Region XVII (Davao del Norte) - Tropical Monsoon Climate



- *Serve as inputs for preparation of development profiles*
CBMS data also provide vital baseline information for the preparation of barangay, municipal/city, and provincial socioeconomic profiles, annual investment plans, land use plans, infrastructure project proposals, and other related development reports.

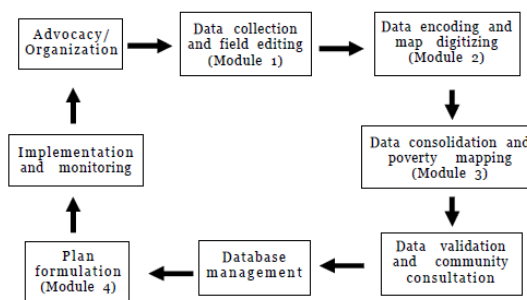
- *Aid the design, targeting and impact monitoring of social services and development programs*
CBMS provides disaggregated information that reveal the community's needs based on the CBMS household survey and corresponding explanations for such deficiencies as gathered during the validation forum and supplemented by information gathered from the barangay profile questionnaire.



Proportion of households without access to safe water supply by barangay, Agusan del Sur, 2005

- *Serve as inputs in poverty mapping*
CBMS, through poverty mapping, aids in identifying the location of municipalities, cities, barangays and even households which are in dire need of basic services. It has also been found that the local policymakers and the communities' understanding of the poverty situation in their localities was greatly facilitated by the use of maps.

Figure 2. General activities in Implementing CBMS



What kind of statistics/data that the CBMS can generate?

Although the CBMS can generate a wide range of LGU-specific indicators, at the very minimum there are 14 core indicators (Table 1) that are being measured to determine the welfare status of the population. These indicators capture the multidimensional aspects of poverty and have been confined to output and impact indicators.

Other information that can also be generated from the CBMS are the following: migration, community/political participation and access to programs, among others.

All household level data from the CBMS can be disaggregated by purok, barangay and municipality/city while all individual level data can be disaggregated by sex.

Table 1. CBMS Core Indicators

BASIC NEEDS	CORE INDICATORS
A. Health	1. Proportion of children's deaths (0-5 years old) 2. Proportion of women deaths due to pregnancy-related causes
B. Nutrition	3. Proportion of children 0-5 years old who are malnourished
C. Housing	4. Proportion of households living in makeshift housing 5. Proportion of households that are squatters
D. Water and Sanitation	6. Proportion of households without access to safe water supply 7. Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities
E. Basic Education	8. Proportion of children aged 6-12 years old who are not in elementary school 9. Proportion of children aged 13-16 years old who are not in secondary school
F. Income	10. Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold 11. Proportion of households with income below the food threshold 12. Proportion of households that experienced food shortage
G. Employment	13. Proportion of persons who are unemployed
H. Peace and Order	14. Proportion of persons who were victims of crime

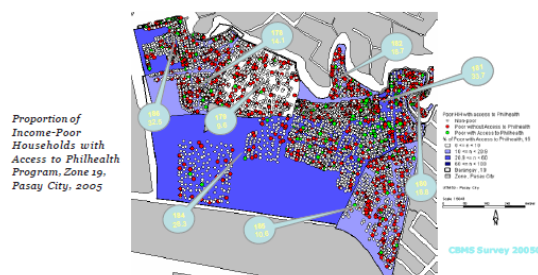
What are the uses of CBMS data?

CBMS has a number of potential concrete uses particularly in the areas of local governance and poverty monitoring. Specifically, data gathered from CBMS can:

- *Build the capacities of LGUs and communities*
CBMS can be used to further nourish if not build the capacities of local government units as well as members of communities in addressing the needs of their respective localities by maximizing the use of their existing resources.

- *Facilitate resource allocation*

One the most common dilemmas among local chief executives is how to efficiently and effectively use and manage the meager financial resources of the local government unit given the many competing projects and programs that need to be delivered in their localities. CBMS tries to address this issue by providing the necessary information that would reveal to decisionmakers an up-to-date development situation of communities in terms of core areas of welfare.



- *Enrich existing databases*

CBMS can complement existing databases by providing a regular source of information on socioeconomic attributes of communities to further enrich the contents and usefulness of existing databases. A number of local government units were able to get funding support from international organizations in the past for setting up databanks containing information on children, environment and the like. CBMS can help enrich these databases by providing a complete set of household, barangay, municipal/city and provincial level information.

