

COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT PROFILE

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 1. Project Title** : **Carabao Dispersal Initiative for Poor Households**
- 2. Project Type** : This is both a capital-forming and technical assistance type of project involving capacity-building of beneficiaries on proper methods of carabao-raising and insemination, as well as the provision of female stocks of carabao to beneficiaries following the pass-on distribution scheme.

3. Project Components :

The project has the following components:

- Community preparation and consultation
- Beneficiary selection
- Land Preparation / Forage Areas (51,000 sq. m. or 5.1 hectares)
- Procurement and distribution of planting materials of improved grasses
- Construction of 51 carabao sheds
- Capability-building for livestock farmers
- Procurement and distribution of 51 carabao
- Insemination of carabao
- Marketing initiatives

- 4. Project Location** : All 17 Barangays in the Municipality of Baclayon, Bohol Province

II. PROJECT STATUS

The project is still at the proposal stage. A project profile is available as prepared by the Municipal Agriculture Office/ DA-LGU staff. Preliminary technical and design analysis for the project have already been conducted. This proposal is ready for funding by any local and foreign donor organizations. The Municipal Government of Baclayon has considered this project a priority, in support to the livestock development thrust of the Municipality. With this, the government has committed to provide the necessary financial and manpower counterpart for the project.

III. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. Project Background

The Municipality of Baclayon is an agricultural area, located 7 kilometers from Tagbilaran City, Bohol's capital. This 5th class municipality, in terms of income classification, has agricultural and fishery resources, which have been the source of food and income for most of its people. However, approximately 54% of Baclayon's households depend on marginal lands (arable and non-arable soil) which they own or lease for subsistence farming. On the other hand, fisherfolks who are living in coastal areas and island barangays are mostly involved in small-scale fishing only.

A significant number of people in Baclayon have been experiencing certain levels of socio-economic hardships. As found out in the initial poverty survey conducted in 2006, about 1,214 households in the municipality are living below the income threshold. The survey also showed that 1,389 working-age persons in the municipality are unemployed. It further revealed that about 945 households in the surveyed barangays are living below the minimum food threshold.

To address these poverty problems, the Municipal Government has been initiating projects that would improve the income levels of heavily deprived households. The most appropriate strategy for this is enhancing agricultural production on both crops and livestock, especially for the marginal farmers and livestock-raisers.

It is on this motive that this proposal is conceptualized. Through the technical and stock assistance of this project, it would provide the farmer-beneficiaries with the appropriate capacity to effectively raise carabaos. This will also open opportunities for farmers to have their own stock with very minimal financial burden. It is a fact that carabao-raising will not used up the farmer's total working hours in a day, much more that these animals can subsist mainly on pure grass and legumes.

With this, beneficiaries can make use of the opportunity to increase or establish their stocks, utilize them to support land preparation and crop production, and eventually increase their incomes. This will also facilitate in the upgrading of native livestock in all barangays of the municipality.

The project essentially involves the procurement and sustained distribution of carabaos in all barangays of Baclayon. Considering the high cost of purchasing carabao stocks, the project will only involve the procurement of 51 heads for its initial dispersal.

At the outset, community preparation and consultation will be conducted to allow the people in the barangays to understand and appreciate the project. Three months before the actual procurement of the animals, the Office of the Municipal Agriculture, in coordination with the Barangay Captains, will select prospective farmer-recipients in 17 barangay who has idle lands (can be open or with coconut trees) that can be plowed and has a minimum area of 1,000 square meters. This land is necessary in order to ensure that proper open space is available for the shed and feeding requirement of these carabaos.

To assure the sustainability of providing better quality feeds, each farmer recipient will be provided planting materials to be planted in their 1,000 sq. meter lot. These planting materials can be taken from Ubay Stock Farm in the Municipality of Ubay. Planting will be under the supervision of the DA Technician and will be inspected at the end of the 3rd month after the time of planting. This will be the basis of granting or not the female carabao to the recipient. During the land development, carabao sheds also needs to be constructed by the recipient farmers.

As soon as the 51 beneficiaries have been properly determined after consideration of the mentioned requisites, they will undergo seminars/ training on the proper management and methods of carabao-raising. This technical assistance shall be conducted by the Provincial Veterinarian's Office (OPV) in collaboration with the MAO/ LGU-DA Staff.

Series of activities will also follow as soon as the procurement of the livestock is completed. Upon arrival of the 51 carabaos, OPV personnel (A.T. technicians) shall palpate each animal to determine the productivity or non-productivity of the said animals. Then, the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC) will come in to cover (insurance) the mentioned animals in favor of the LGU. Branding will follow, to show the mark of the municipality, and subsequently, the issuance of the Certificate of Ownership of Large Carabao of the LGU will be made. This will be facilitated by the Municipal Treasurer's Office. Simultaneously

with the branding will be the ear notching to identify these animals as government property and to facilitate recording. After all the mentioned activities are made, distribution of the 51 carabaos to the proper farmer-beneficiaries will be made.

For breeding purposes, artificial insemination will be conducted to the 51 female carabaos in appropriate time. Recipients of the 51 female carabaos can benefit from the project from the offspring that will be produced from these carabaos. These offspring will now be owned by the beneficiaries. Through pass-on schemes, the original 51 female carabaos will then be given to another batch of beneficiaries for another cycle of breeding.

The project also covers the extension of assistance to sell the offspring carabao. Establishment of market linkages will be facilitated through agreements with local carabao buyers and livestock auction centers in other municipalities of the province.

This carabao dispersal program will provide opportunities to poor beneficiaries to engage in livestock activities that potentially offer them economic returns. This also builds livestock-raisers' capability to care and produce good quality carabaos.

2. Project Linkages

The project complements existing livestock development initiatives in the Municipality. Currently, the Municipal Government of Baclayon is implementing its goat dispersal project. Also, the Barangay Livestock Aide (BALA) Program is undertaking its hog dispersal in the municipality. These initiatives, which improve the livestock industry in the municipality, are implemented through the collaborative efforts of the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian (OPV), the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Municipal Government. Correspondingly, the Municipal Government is also pushing for the implementation of the cattle dispersal program in Baclayon, which will also provide better economic opportunities to selected beneficiaries.

3. Project Objectives

This carabao dispersal initiative aims to:

- Build appropriate capacities and know-how of poor livestock raisers on proper methods of carabao-raising;
- Provide avenues for poor households to raise and own their carabao through very minimal capital requirement;
- Improve and upgrade native livestock in the municipality and neighboring areas;
- Increase household incomes through better livestock production, improved market linkages, and greater opportunities for entrepreneurial activities

4. Sectoral Objectives

The project will contribute to the attainment of the Municipality's goal of enhancing agricultural and livestock production. It empowers and capacitates livestock farmers to proper carabao-raising methodologies and technologies. It supports the achievement of food sufficiency in the municipality as well as the growth of complementary livestock based enterprises.

5. National Objectives

The project supports the National Government's thrust of reducing poverty. It is also in line with the pursuit towards food security in the country.

IV. PROJECT FINANCING

1. Funds Needed

The total funding requirement for this project is One Million Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Twenty-One pesos and Seventy-Five Centavos (**P1,013,121.75**). These funds will be used for the following:

ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1. Procurement of Stock	P18,000.00/Head	P 918,000.00
2. Drugs and Biologics	P400.00/ head	20,400.00
3. Training/Seminar:		
a) Materials	P20.00/ head	1,020.00
b) Meals (Participants)	P100.00/ head	5,100.00
c) Incentive for 3 speakers at 2 hours each	P100.00/ hour/ head	600.00
d) Meals for 3 speakers plus DA personnel.	P100.00/ head	700.00
4. Incentive for one A.I. Technician from the OPV for the palpation	P25.00/hd	1,275.00
5. Transportation expenses (50 liters Crude Oil)	P38.00/liters	1,900.00
6. Labor for 4 hired persons cut planting materials at Ubay Stock Farm	P250.00/hr	1,000.00
7. Insurance for 51 heads carabao (PCIC)	1,145.75/ animal	58,433.75
8. Transfer of animal ownership and branding	43.00/hd	2,193.00
9. Miscellaneous	-	2,500.00
TOTAL		P1,013,121.75

Farmer-Beneficiaries will provide for their own carabao sheds as well as the required 5.1 hectares forage area. Technical assistance for the operation and management of the project will be provided by the Municipal Agriculture Office/ DA-LGU staff in collaboration with the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian (OPV), Department of Agriculture (DA) and other concerned government organizations.

2. Funding Source

The project is proposed for financial assistance from local and foreign donor organizations, National and Provincial Government Agencies, Congressmen, Non-Government Organizations.

3. Counter Funding

The Municipal Government of Baclayon is committed to provide counterpart funds for the project in the amount equivalent to 10% of the project cost or P101,312.00. Personnel support and technical assistance will also be extended in the implementation and management of the project.

4. Financial Viability

The project is expected to provide financial opportunities to beneficiaries at a very minimal cost/ cash outflows. No repayment for the carabao is required with the pass-on/ roll-over scheme of the project. The project will allow the farmer-beneficiaries to raise and own the carabao with the offspring given to them when appropriate time comes. The mother carabao/ original carabao will then be transferred to another beneficiary for another cycle of insemination and breeding. The project will also provide assistance to beneficiaries in establishment of market linkages within the municipality and in external setting such as in Catigbian Livestock Auction Center. The project is financially viable in the sense that it can be sustained at less cost but at greater return for the livestock-raisers. Carabaos can also be used to support agricultural production, enhancing crop productivity and cash inflows.

V. PROJECT BENEFITS AND COSTS

1. Beneficiaries

The project will directly benefit the 51 farmer/ livestock-raisers and their families in 17 barangays of the municipality. This is at least for the initial operation of the project. It can be assumed that more poor livestock farmers will be benefited from this project through its pass-on/ roll-over scheme. Other livestock-raisers, even those who are not covered by the project, can still benefit from the project, by learning the technology and methods used for raising the carabaos, as well as through cross-breedings for better quality livestock.

2. Social Benefits

The project will be implemented in such a way that poor households will be given the opportunity to own carabao at the least cost as possible. The selection of beneficiaries shall prioritize those heavily deprived families but who can sustain and act on the responsibilities expected of them, like being committed to properly raise the carabao. In the long run, these beneficiaries shall have the chance to improve their living conditions with the expected economic benefits that their livestock can provide. Increase in income of the family would improve their ability to buy and maintain proper food and diet, access to better education and health facilities.

3. Economic Benefits

This carabao dispersal project, in the long run, would provide livestock farmers with better economic gains as it operates on its own pass-on cycles. This will provide beneficiaries with more stable cash inflows as the transfer of livestock becomes self-sustaining. Increase in incomes would stimulate economic growth in the municipality as this will lead to increased expenditures for goods and services, thereby promoting a healthy economic backward and forward linkages in the municipality. The project will also support in expanding the supply-base of carabao in Baclayon, in support to the food sufficiency thrust of government.

4. Social and Economic Costs

There are no actual or foreseen negative social or economic effects of the project to the community, economy or to the environment. It conversely promotes better welfare to the people and stimulates economic development in the municipality.

VI. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1. Responsible Agencies

The Municipal Government of Baclayon will be responsible in implementing this project, through the Municipal Agriculture Office/ DA-LGU staff. The Municipal Government will supervise as well as coordinate efforts with other concern government offices particularly in the provision of technical assistance to beneficiaries. Essential to these efforts are the support of the Provincial Veterinarian Office (OPV), the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Barangay Livestock Aide (BALA), the Barangay Councils and local communities.

2. Implementation Schedule

ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME	PERSONS/AGENCY. DEPT. RESPONSIBLE
1. Fund-Sourcing	Oct. – Dec. 2006	DA LGU Staff/MAO, MPDC, Office of the Mun. Mayor
2. Finalization of Funding Agreement	Jan. 2007	Funding/ Donor Agencies, Mun. Mayor, Sangguniang Panglungsod, DA-LGU, Barangay Councils
3. Community consultation and preparation in 17 Barangays	Feb. 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, MPDC, Office of the Mun. Mayor, Barangay Councils
4. Selection of 51 qualified beneficiaries/ recipients	Feb. – March 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, MPDC, Office of the Mun. Mayor, Barangay Councils
5. Land preparation for the required lot (1,000 sq. m. each)	March-April, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, Livestock farmers beneficiaries, Barangay Council
6. Procurement of planting materials	March, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, OPV
7. Distribution and planting of improved grasses	April, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, Livestock farmers beneficiaries
8. Construction of carabao sheds	March – April, 2007	Livestock farmers beneficiaries
9. Seminar/ training for beneficiaries	March, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, OPV, DA, Livestock farmers beneficiaries
10. Preparation of Livestock Dispersal Contract	April, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, Livestock farmers beneficiaries
11. Procurement of 51 female carabaos	April-May, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, OPV, Supplier
12. Palpation of reproductive organ	May-June	DA LGU Staff/MAO, OPV
13. Issuance of the insurance policy from the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC)	May-June	DA LGU Staff/MAO, PCIC

ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME	PERSONS/AGENCY. DEPT. RESPONSIBLE
14. Branding, earnotching and issuance of Certificate of Ownership of large carabao	June-July, 2007	MTO-Baclayon/ DA LGU staff
15. Procurement of drugs and biologics	April-May, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, OPV, Supplier
16. Signing and distribution of dispersal contracts	April- May, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, Mun. Mayor, Beneficiaries
17. Distribution of animals to each recipient	April- May, 2007	DA LGU Staff/MAO, Mun. Mayor, Beneficiaries
18. Artificial insemination	May – all year round	OPV/ DA-LGU Staff/ Recipients
19. Inspection, monitoring, evaluation, reporting	From start of project – to end of project life. Periodic monitoring will be conducted after the project ends	DA-LGU Staff/ MAO/ MPDC

3. Administrative Feasibility

The Office of the Mayor will provide the overall supervision of the project. The Municipal Agriculture Office/ DA-LGU Staff will implement the project in coordination with the OPV, DA, the barangay councils and the beneficiaries. During the implementation of the project, the MAO/ DA-LGU will be responsible in ensuring that the terms and arrangements of the assistance are followed, especially the pass-on scheme of the project. Technical support will also be provided to the livestock-raisers to help them raise and market their carabao. Monitoring and evaluation will be conducted by the MPDC, in coordination with MAO to determine the progress as well as the impact of the project to the households/community.

4. Legal and Political Feasibility

The proposed project has no legal and political issues. The municipal officialdom supports for the implementation of this livestock dispersal initiative.

5. Environmental Clearance

The project does not need an environmental clearance.

6. Social Acceptability

The people in the 17 barangays of the municipality, especially the would-be beneficiaries, are looking forward for the implementation of this project. Having clear understanding of the benefits that this project would bring has given hopes for the poor households that someday their living conditions would improve.