

COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT PROFILE

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Project Title

Integrated Agricultural Development Project for Poverty Alleviation

2. Project Type

The project is both Capital Forming and Technical Assistance type of project.

3. Project Components

- a. Capability Building
- b. Technical and Financial Assistance for Sustainability
- c. Resource Management and Mobilization
- d. Training and Services for Cassava Massive Production, Hog Dispersal and fattening, Backyard Gardening, Vermi Culture Production, and other crops.

- d. 1 Cassava Massive Planting
- d. 2 Banana Planting
- d. 3 Vermi Culture Production
- d. 4 Hog Dispersal
- d. 5 Hog Fattening
- d. 6 Root Crops Production
- d. 7 Backyard Gardening
- d. 8 Establishment of Barangay Demo-Farm
- d. 9 Requisition of Processing Materials
- d. 10 Requisition of Shredding Machine

4. Project Location

The Integrated Agricultural Development Project will be implemented in not less than twenty two (22) barangays within the Municipality of Loay, Bohol Province.

II. PROJECT STATUS

The project and its sub-components is a proposed undertaking aimed at improving the quality of life of the farmers and making them economically stable. No formal studies have yet been made prior to the conception of the project but the proposal was inspired thru the poverty alleviation program of

the provincial leadership where surveys conducted show that more than 50% of households in Loay are living below the poverty line. The project package supports the development thrust of Loay and a number of its components had been integrated in the municipality's Local Development Plan. The Municipal Government will provide a counterpart fund for the project, to augment the financial resources offered by funding donor organizations.

III. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. Project Background

The inception of said project came as a result of the surveys conducted in 2005 thru the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP). The survey showed that 1,723 (57.13%) of the total 3,106 households are living below the income threshold. Moreover, 1,218 (40.38%) out of the 3,016 households, each with an average of five (5) members, are living below the food threshold level. The same survey also revealed that 7.98% of the total working-age population are unemployed.

The town of Loay is an agricultural base municipality with a total land area of 4,685 hectares. Despite a large number of agricultural lands, these remain idle although these can be utilized for agricultural production. Furthermore, there are sizeable areas of barren lands suitable for massive planting of cassava, banana and root crops and some other crops that can be utilized for feeds for livestock consumption.

The two (2) major industries of Loay are farming and fishing and are considered as primary sources of livelihood of people. However, it has been observed that farmers have not maximized the agricultural potentials of the area and their production levels are limited. Identified reasons for this less agricultural production include inadequate knowledge on modern farming techniques, insufficient training, preference on traditional methods of farming and lack of financial capital.

This proposal has been hatched for the formation of a farmer leaders' organization for every barangay that will serve as the nucleus in agricultural development at barangay level. A total of 264 farmer leaders will be continuously trained on methods of modern agriculture where they will be establishing a demo-farm. The demo-farm will be the venue for showcasing the application of modern farming technology and this will tend to encourage more household participation and impel them in developing their idle lands into productive ones. The farmers will also get to acquire the new farming technology on vermin culture which will augment the production of more vigorous vegetable varieties using the organic fertilizers. Furthermore, livestock development will be integrated in the project. Farmer beneficiaries will be given the opportunity to engage in hog fattening through the hog dispersal component of the project. With these initiatives, it is expected that farmers will have the chance to increase their incomes/ cash inflows that would eventually help them improve their lives.

2. Project Linkages

The project complements the agriculture enhancement initiatives of the Municipal Government of Loay. It is in line with the implementation of the Bohol Agriculture Master Plan (BAMP) particularly in the development of Sustainable Integrated Agribusiness and Building Support Services and Facilities. It also supports the Swine Development component of Livestock Integration for Food and Enterprise (LIFE) Program of BAMP.

3. Project Objectives

- a. To enable farmer leaders acquire more knowledge and skills in farming
- b. To increase production of cassava, banana, and rootcrops in Loay
- c. To improve the conditions of farmers who are living below the poverty threshold
- d. To provide all farmer leaders with innovative skills in farming for self-reliance and sufficiency
- e. To provide farmers with monitoring mechanism in the implementation of projects

4. Sectoral Objectives

The project supports the drive towards food sufficiency and security in the Province of Bohol. It contributes in pushing towards agricultural productivity through maximized utilization of land.

The empowerment of farmer leaders through upgrading of farming skills will bring about a sense of identity and self-image among them. Leadership skills acquired by farmers will be put to use with the application of modern farming technology which will lead to agricultural productivity enhancement.

The showcasing effect of capability training applications of farmers on their new farming techniques will eventually cause the transformation of the "wait-and-see" attitude type of individuals into productive and self-reliant ones.

IV. PROJECT FINANCING

1. Financing Requirements

Total estimated amount required for the proposed project is P3,100,000.00.

2. Project Financing

The project will be financed through counterpart funding from interested funding donor/agency and from the municipal and barangay funds.

Counterpart such as labor, transportation, land allocation and monitoring during project implementation will be provided by the Municipal Government of Loay, supported by NGOs and concerned farmers.

3. Funding Source

The project will be funded by any interested funding organizations, may it be local or foreign agencies or non-government organizations.

4. Counterpart Funding

The Municipal Government of Loay will provide counterpart funds for the project in the amount of P310,000.00 equivalent to 10% of the total project cost. This will be sourced from its 20% Development Fund.

5. Financial Viability

The project's financial requirements, if provided, will translate to project implementation that will enhance farmer's capacities to produce more crops and raise livestock inventories that will increase their income. In the long run, the investments made for this project will provide greater financial returns for the beneficiaries in the municipality.

V. PROJECT BENEFITS AND COSTS

1. Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the project are the farmers who will be provided technical assistance that will build their capacities to increase productivity, encourage agricultural diversity, and to engage in integrated hog production. These will facilitate the increase of their income levels and improve living conditions of their families.

Land owners and tenants of agricultural lands will also benefit from this project, as they will be provided information on what suitable crops to grow in their lands and the appropriate technologies that would maximize crop production and land utilization.

2. Economic Benefit

The direct economic benefit of this project would be the increased incomes of farmer-beneficiaries. It will also provide opportunities or encouragement for the unemployed or underemployed to engaged in agricultural activities where they can earn their living. This integrated approach to agricultural development will stimulate economic growth in the municipality, improving production and trade on crops as well as on swine.

3. Social Benefit

The integrated farming project will uplift the living conditions of the farmers in the community in such a way that they will have opportunities to be entrepreneurs. It will also enhance the social capital of farmers, as they organize themselves into groups for more advantageous economic activities. It will also facilitate the utilization of available labor force, making them productive members of society. Increased incomes would allow farmer beneficiaries to access better health and education facilities for their families.

4. Social Cost

There are no actual or foreseen negative impacts of the project to the society.

5. Economic Cost

There is no harmful effect of the project to the economy. It conversely stimulates productivity and economic growth in the area.

VI. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1. Responsible Agencies

- a. Municipal Government of Loay
 - Office of the Mayor
 - Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO)
 - Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (MPDC)
 - Sangguniang Panglungsod (SP)
- b. Department of Agriculture (DA)
- c. Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA)
- d. Office of the Provincial Veterinarian (OPV)
- e. Barangay Farmer Leaders of the 24 barangays (BFL)
- f. Duly organized Barangay Development Council (BDC)
- g. Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)

2. Implementation Schedule

Project Component	Project Cost	Time Frame	Responsible Agencies	Counterparting Scheme		
				Municipal Govt. of Loay	Farmer Leaders	NGO/ OPA/OPV/ DA
1. Fund-Sourcing		Oct-Dec. 2006	Office of the Mayor, MPDC, MAO			
2. Finalization of Assistance		Jan. 2007	Office of the Mayor, MPDC, MAO, SP, Funding Agencies			
3. Barangay Organization / Community Preparation	P 200,000.00	Feb. 2007	MAO, MPDC, Office of the Mayor, BDC	20,000.00	Farmer Leaders Participation	Technical Assistance
4. Capability Building: Training on crop production, vermin culture, hog dispersal and fattening, cassava and banana planting	100,000.00	Mar. - May 2007	MAO, OPV, OPA, DA, BFL, NGOs	10,000.00	Farmer Leaders Participation	Technical Assistance
5. Implementation of Sub-component projects:	2,700,000.00	June 2007 – June 2008	MAO, OPV, OPA, DA, BFL, NGOs	270,000.00	Labor	Technical assistance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cassava Massive Planting b. Banana Planting c. Vermi Culture Production d. Hog Dispersal e. Hog Fattening f. Root Crops Production g. Backyard Gardening h. Establishment of Barangay Demo-Farm i. Requisition of Proceeding Materials j. Requisition of shredding Machine 		After project, the initiative will exist on its own				
6. Monitoring and Evaluation	100,000.00	Monitoring From start of project to end	MPDC, MAO, Municipal Mayor	10,000.00	Cooperation and Assistance	
TOTAL	3,100,000.00			310,000.00		

3. Legal and Political Feasibility

There are no actual or foreseen legal and political opposition to the project.

4. Environment Clearance

Certificate of non-coverage will be secured.

5. Social Acceptability

There are no direct or expressed opposition on the project from the community. People, particularly the farmers, are looking forward for the implementation of this project.