



**Bangsamoro
Development
Agency**
BDA
Building people who will build the nation

*Continuing service to
Bangsamoro
within and beyond BARMM*



Community Development

*in the
Camps*



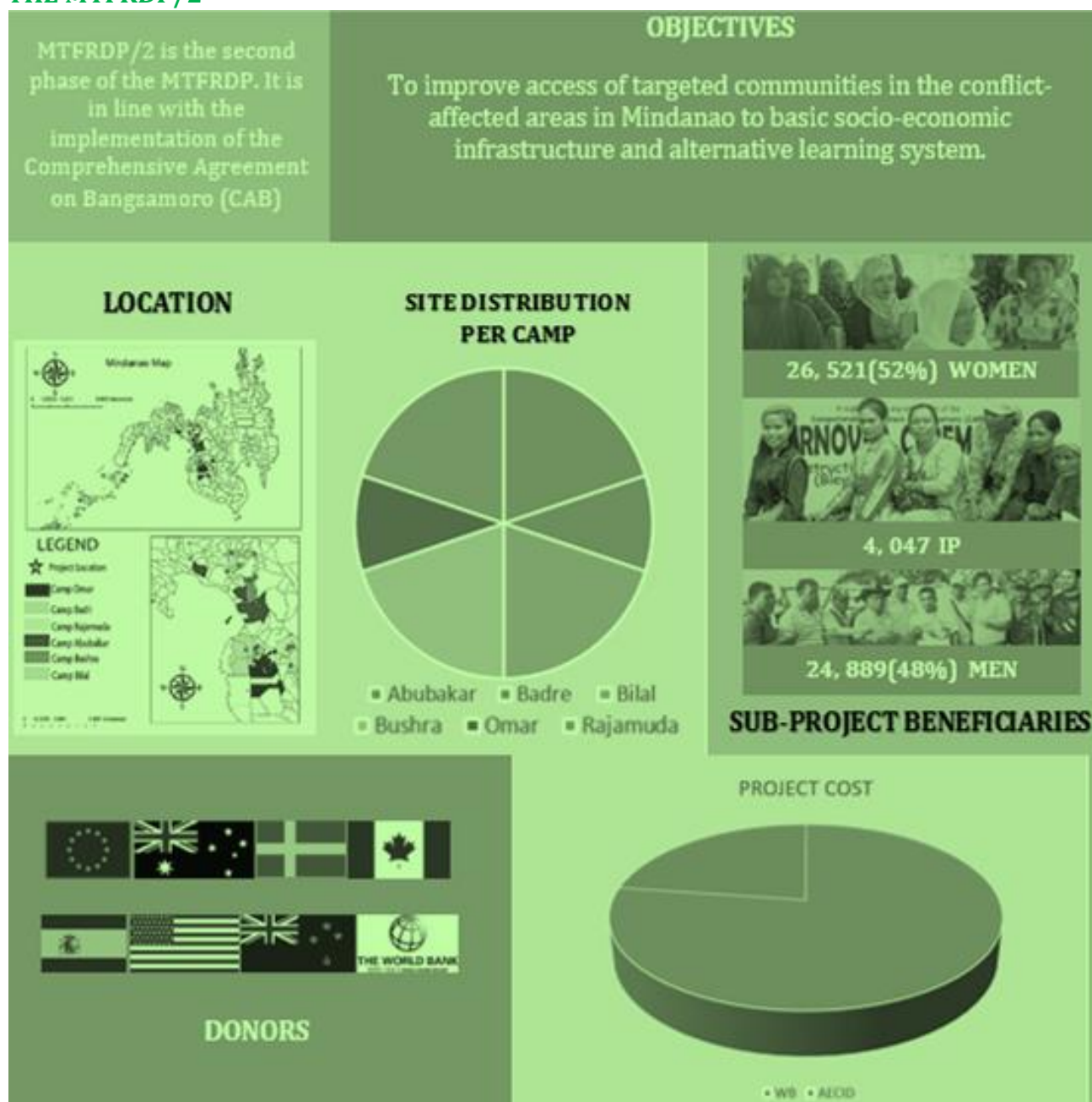
Community development in the camps means living the life of the people, learning their language, understanding and respecting their culture, appreciating their local cuisines, and protecting their homes. It is about building awareness about life opportunities, enlightenment and empowerment. It is about learning together. These are the stories of moving on from conflict, to a journey **towards a peaceful and productive Bangsamoro community.**

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro (CAB) was signed by the GPH and the MILF, which served as final peace agreement of both parties. Under this document is the Normalization that refers to the socio-economic component intended for the transformation of conflict communities into peaceful and productive communities.

In 2018, the BDA as development arm of the MILF carrying on with the primary mandate of rehabilitation and development in the conflict-affected areas in Mindanao (CAAM) together with the development partners joined hands towards the Normalization in the Bangsamoro. BDA signed the Program Partnership Agreement (PPA) for the Mindanao Trust Fund- Reconstruction and Development Project Phase II (MTRFRDP/2) with the Community and Family Services International (CFSI) on April 2018, and again inked the amended agreement in September 2019.

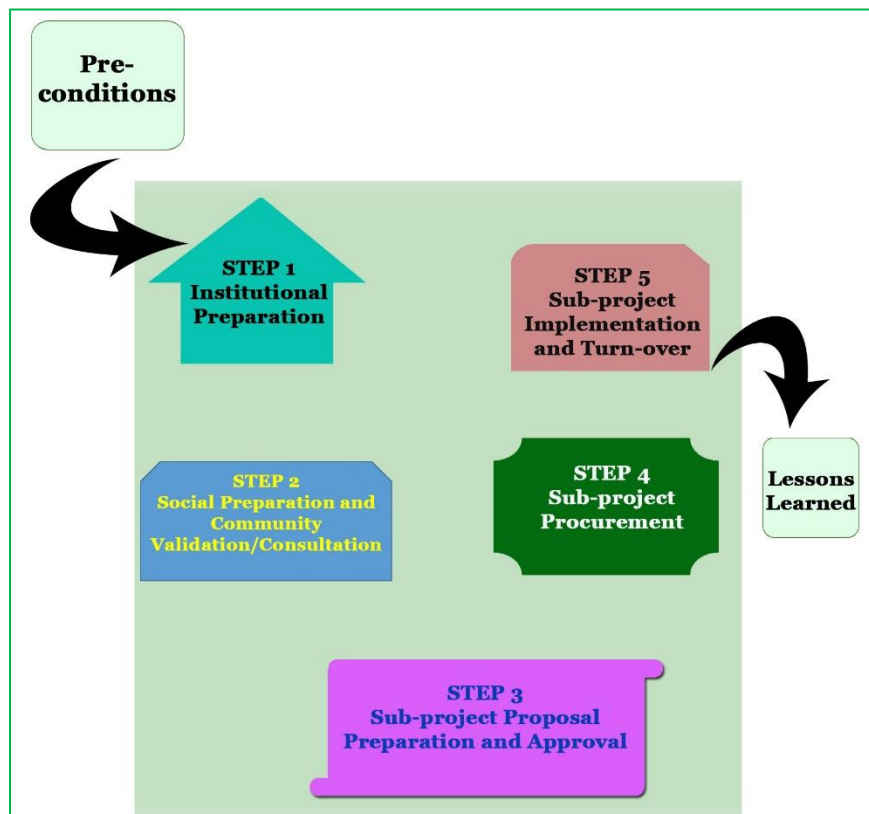
THE MTRFRDP/2





IMPLEMENTATION

Originating from the context of MTFRDP Phase I, the implementation of the MTFRDP/2 employed the community-driven development (CDD), a program strategy that promotes inclusivity and encourages participation of all stakeholders and all sectors in the community.



Step 1 on institutional preparation, Step 2 for the beginning of the works at the community level, Step 3 for the preparation of the sub-project proposals, Step 4 for the procurement process, and Step 5 for the implementation of the sub-projects up until the completion of the overall implementation.

Living the life of the community. Community development in the camps requires almost a day-to-day call for field works, with the people in the area. In doing so, a community worker may not notice at first that eventually, he/she is living the life of the people. Knowing their daily activities, understanding their language, way of life and among others- that are relevant information in coming up with strategic approach towards the success of the project implementation.

Learning their language. A community organizer during the implementation of the camp development shared that one memorable experience for him that he would always carry is the language learned from performing his tasks. This happened in the case where the project

recipients are indigenous people. He shared that to be able to get into the context of the beneficiaries, he shall learn their language. “By learning their language, I am touching their lives”, he stated.

Respecting their culture. Every culture has its history and story. The Bangsamoro, for instance, carries its unique identity and culture that dictates their way of life as people. This aspect includes understanding the system of living in the community, asking them what they wanted as community that complements to their needs, and does not go against their manner of living. It is about recognizing their ideas, listening to their stories, and understanding their beliefs.

Enjoying their foods. Communities in remote areas are usually hospitable. Local foods, colorful yet locally set up venues are not surprising when you come to visit their places. This is part of the community experience one would have in the camps. People would feed and serve locally made foods that would fill one’s tummy enough to counter the fatigue of community service- that one can’t just resist.

Crossing the rivers, climbing mountains. Camps communities are located in almost far flung areas- either at the mountains or across the rivers and lakes. Reaching out to these communities is only possible by the strong will and determination of a project staff committed to undertake the mission of the project implementation.

Protecting their homes. This comes with the intention to protect the lives of the people while taking the steps for the development of the whole community towards better life. This comes along with specific mechanisms to ensure that the project to be implemented will not be a threat to the lives of the people or other living creatures in the site e.g. do not require relocation, does not harm animals or the environment, others.





Volunteerism. In implementing development projects in camp communities, volunteerism is found in the heart of the people. This is manifested by voluntary works that lessen the load of works by the contracted laborers for the project construction.

This volunteerism is inspired by the good leadership of both the local government, community leaders and the Camp JTFCT of each respective camp. Volunteerism is one factor that contributes to the successful implementation of development projects in camp communities.



Unity. In every project, unity and support of all stakeholders is vital for its successful implementation. In Brgy. Nabalawag, Barira, Maguindanao, the people chose to be united to rise and move on towards becoming a productive and peaceful community. When a project came to their place, they willingly accepted this development for they knew it will lead towards better life.

Same story is documented also in Brgy. Tabuan, Kapatagan, Lanao del Sur. JTFCT of Camp Abubakar spoke of the unity, cooperation and support of everyone in the community that made the project successful.



Dedication and Commitment. For camp development projects, third-party service providers are contracted to construct the sub-projects. In Camp Badre, JTFCT members commend dedication of contractors in completing the construction works accordingly.

“This is for the people, thus we must do our job properly, most of all in faith of Allah”, a contractor stated.

In another camp- Bushra, the commitment of the contractor is also recognized. Born in the said community, the contractor is determined to finish the project, understanding the needs of the residents in the place.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Improving access to basic-socio economic infrastructure

The 21 socio-economic infrastructure projects (SEI) implemented under the MTFRDP/2 were significant in improving the access of communities in remote areas in terms of time, distance and cost. 99% (around 11% are IPs) or 42, 321 beneficiaries reported to have improved access to SEIs that helped them uplift their living conditions.



Solar panel project lightens IP community in Maguindanao

(FEBRUARY 2019) For the past years, nights were darker in the remote areas of Brgy. Datalpandan, Guindulungan, Maguindanao. Now that the community received solar panel project, better and safer nights are possible.

“We are thankful for this project given to us, the indigenous people (IP) community”, Sanny Sevio said. He is the president of the IP group in the barangay.

Another IP member told “there have been laws for the IPs but we never felt the essence, only through this project on solar panel that we feel, we belong”.

The IP community formally received the said light-electricity project on February 11, 2019 where various stakeholders of the project attended the ceremonial turnover.

Each of the thirty units of solar panel was distributed to each of the thirty IP households of the barangay.

The device will not only provide light to the beneficiaries but can also be a source of electricity that is deemed useful for a remote community.



Accessible clean water flows for camp communities in Maguindanao

AUGUST 2, 2019. For a flood-prone communities like Brgy. Buliok, Pikit, North Cotabato and Brgy. Kudal in Pagalungan, Maguindanao, water is not a problem only that it is not potable for drinking. People have to buy water to ensure safety for their health, which is quite expensive.

Now, the long-awaited moment for both barangays has finally come when they received solar-powered water system project (level II) that respond to one of their basic needs in their communities.

In Brgy. Buliok, the community formally received the project on August 3, 2019 through a ceremonial turn-over organized for this event. The project was funded by various donors (through the Mindanao Trust Fund) such as the European Union, the government of Sweden, Australia, Canada, United States, New Zealand and the World Bank, which also serves as Trust Fund Administrator and Secretariat.

In Brgy. Kudal, the turnover of the project was on Aug. 2, 2019 witnessed by various stakeholders in the community like municipal and local government units, people's organization, community members, women, youth, and the elderlies.

Woman-board member of the Kudal Farmers and Fisher Folks Association, believes that the water system project is very significant for the development of their community.

In Brgy. Sadangen, GSKP, Maguindanao, the people organization formally received the project that was solar-powered water system level II during the turnover ceremony on August 18, 2019.

PO vice-president expressed thanks to project partners for helping them develop their community.

"We now have access to water, which we are sure that it is clean", he said.

In Brgy. Dungguan, Datu Montawal, Maguindanao, women residents expressed that the water project is indeed helpful for them in doing daily chores e.g. washing clothes and fetching water wherein, before, during flood, the deep well as source of water is affected.

FEBRUARY 2019. After long years of fetching water from the mountain, community members of Brgy. Datalpandan in Guindulungan, Maguindanao will no longer need to climb higher to get clean water for drinking now that project on water system was completed and formally turned over to them on February 11, 2019.

"We are indeed thankful for this project; people cannot believe that there is this kind of project up here in the mountain."



Post-harvest facilities improve agri processes of farmers in camp communities

In the above photo, sacks of crops are stored outside the warehouse before the official turnover of the facility, a project under the MTRFRDP/2. Farming communities were really excited to finally have the warehouse to have better storage for quality and safe products in market. Majority of the residents in Brgy. Lalapung in Lumbatan, Lanao del Sur rely on farming for living.

The coming of MTRFRDP/2-AECID is a blessing for the barangay of Tamparan in Munai, Lanao del Norte. The village received agricultural facility that is helpful in improving the processing of the local crops in this community.

Through the solar dryer, farmers have better ways of drying their crops compare to the simple method using local alternatives (along the roads and others).

One farmer in Maguindanao said that, before, it took them a number of days to process their products and it was costly. Now with the post-harvest facility provided to them, they can mill and dry their crops for few minutes or hours, thus they can sell immediately to sustain for their family's needs.

Recipients of post-harvest facility in camp communities were Brgy. Mataya in Buldon, Brgy. Kinebeka, DOS, Brgy. Tuayan in Datu Hoffer all in the province of Maguindanao. Communities in Brgy. Malimono in Marawi City also received solar dryer with warehouse.





Teduray communities in Maguindanao rejoice for tribal justice hall

Teduray communities in Brgy. Saniag, Ampatuan and in Brgy. Tuayan, Datu Hoffer both in the province of Maguindanao, rejoiced today as they formally received the project of Tribal Justice Hall from the Mindanao Trust Fund Reconstruction and Development Project Phase II (MTFRDP/2) - a project being implemented in support to the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB).

PO President expressed deep gratitude to the MTFRDP/2 and partners saying that “without you, we can never have this project for us indigenous people. We are enlivened as a tribe because of this.”

“We are very happy because it is a dream come true for us, we can now have formal venue for various occasions like tribal meetings, weddings, and other gatherings”, he said.

The turn-over ceremony of the project was attended by various stakeholders and partners from the local government unit, the Task Force on Camp Transformation (TFCT), MILF Political Committee, Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA) and Community and Family Services International (CFSI).

In Brgy. Saniag, Minister Melanio Ulama of the Ministry of Indigenous People’s Affairs (MIPA) of the BARMM attended the event that made the occasion more significant.

Minister Ulama spoke of the decade-long struggle of the Bangsamoro which fruit includes this establishment of the tribal justice hall for the IP community in Saniag.

“We agree that this is just a small project and just a beginning of more development for you”, he added.

He urged the community members to take care of the project in honor of the blood and life of those slain by the war in Mindanao and for the next generation to benefit from it.

In Brgy. Tuayan, stakeholders shared common belief and history of their origin recalling the story of Tabunaway and Mamalu- that they should respect one another regardless of ethnicity and religion.

The tribal justice hall project is in line with inclusive principle of the MTFRDP/2 that includes a component for IP support.

The project is expected to benefit not only the Teduray populace in the barangay but also other members of the community.



Building roads, building communities

In Brgy. Tuayan, Datu Hoffer, Maguindanao, the construction of one-lane concrete road resulted to building of communities where more residents were building their homes to the residential lots once vacant and hard to reach. Accordingly, people came to build their houses in the area since access has become easier and so as transport of materials.

In Brgy. Tabuan, Kapatagan, Lanao del sur, a mother expressed thanks to the project for the better road provided to their village. She spoke of the benefits of the project to the women going to the market to buy daily commodities, and to their children going to school.

In Brgy. Datalpandan, Guindulungan, Maguindanao, residents are grateful for the road project made the long distance became short and nearer. A farmer and father says that whether with carriage or none, the transport to their village was very difficult. He said that many people are benefiting from the project- both for economic activities and emergency situations.

In Brgy. Nabalawag, Barira, Maguindanao, women beneficiaries were thankful of the road project, because they do not know where they can get support to have such road. For them, the project is very beneficial especially for pregnant women.

In Brgy. Barit, Balindong, Lanao del Sur, a BIAF member and farmer expressed thanks for the construction of road in their barangay. Accordingly, the project was very helpful-farmers increased their income since transport of goods to marker are easier. He shared that the community and stakeholders really worked together for the completion of the project because it has been their dream for the long time.

Other villages were also grateful for similar road projects from MTFRDP/2 like Brgy. Madamba in Balintad, Lanao del Sur and Brgy. Saniag in Ampatuan, Maguindanao- saying that they can now easily transport their local products to the nearest market for daily income.



Building capacities for community empowerment

Community trainings for project management and sustainability. The people's organizations (POs) that were formed in each community-recipient takes responsibility of the operation and management of the sub-projects implemented and turned over to them. To ensure that they have the enough knowledge and skills, various capacity building activities were organized for them such as values training, procurement training, leadership, sub-project management, operation and maintenance, financial literacy and management, and among others.

Education in camps. On the journey towards peaceful and productive Bangsamoro community, education is the key to enlighten the people of the opportunities that will lead them for better tomorrow, help them rise from the effect of conflict and will give them knowledge and wisdom they can use as weapons to move on and transform.



Education in camps through the implementation of the Alternative Learning System (ALS) as one sub-component of the MTFRDP/2 touched the lives of many in the communities.

ALS aims to cater education needs of vulnerable groups, particularly out of school youth, women, orphans and indigenous people.

Children, mothers, women, youth, fathers, elderlies, person with the disabilities (PWDs), and the IPs who all have stories of disappointment to formal schooling speak highly of the ALS as to its great impact to their lives. The opportunity to attend school, meet and learn the ABCs, count numbers, being able to read basic words, write their names, are great achievements for the learners.

EDUCATE US TO FIGHT EXTREMISM



"I never set foot in any formal school all my life. I have Islamic education though at Madrasah (Islamic school) or at home. All my life, it seems that we are vulnerable to war and unemployment. We hope that this program will continue because we still want to learn further even if my kids are my classmates. We ask that you continue this program to help people from being ignorant and prevent them from the influence of violent extremism."

Kadiguia Malugayak, 51
Brgy. Dungguan, Datu Montawal, Maguindanao
CAMP RAJAMUDA, 2019

MY FAMILY, MY CLASSMATE



“We are one family, father, and mother with our nine children. We are all learners and now completers of this ALS program. We are thankful of this program. At my age, I still wanted to learn with my children, my wife and my family as my classmates.”

(Brgy. Lower Datalpandan, Talayan, Maguindanao)
CAMP BADRE, 2019

FAMILY REUNION, THRU ALS



“We were never convened in any occasion or event until this ALS program. We are relatives but we rarely see or meet each other even though we are in one community. This ALS program not only gave us education but also brought us closer to each other as one family, one clan.”

Brgy. Tuayan, Datu Hoffer, Maguindanao
CAMP OMAR, 2019

BRIDGING THE GAP



“Before, people here are divided due to different choice of political candidates. Neighbors are not even talking. When they join the ALS program, they started communicating. ALS bridged the gap between this community.”

Brgy. Mataya, Buldon, Maguindanao
CAMP ABUBAKAR, 2019

READY TO MINGLE



“All my life, this is the first time I got the chance to attend class. We hope that you will continue this program on education like the ALS– for us to be educated and not ignorant anymore. Before, we indigenous people rarely go down from our home at the mountain– only to sell our products because we are afraid. With the ALS, we are now educated and have the confidence to go down and mingle.”

Brgy. Tuayan, Datu Hoffer, Maguindanao
CAMP OMAR, 2019



Abdani Ontong (holding certificate), a PWD in Camp Bilal is one of the completers of ALS. His condition did not hamper him to avail the program, to be able to read and write. Abdani was thankful that thru ALS, he was able to experience schooling, which he was not able to do due to his disability.



“This project made us feel important. You are moving towards development and we are not left behind. We felt that we belong in development. Through the ALS, our elderlies have met the ABCs for the first time in their life. They are thankful that they learned to write their names.

Indigenous People
Camp Omar, 2019



FROM BATTLEFIELD TO LEARNING GROUND. Years, ago these men would gather to plan together in the context of war, but now, they are convened to discuss development matters for their communities. The photos shown features the members of the TFCT and of the BIAF of MILF during the priority listing of projects conducted to identify development assistance that will respond to the needs of communities in the six major camps of the MILF- on the road towards a productive and peaceful Bangsamoro community.



One of the components of the camp development project through the MTFRDP/2, is capacity and institutional building, wherein among the objectives is to provide assistance to the Task Forces on Camp Transformation (TFCT) of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) who would be capacitated for, among others, project development and management, community organizing and monitoring and evaluation of projects.

Over the past months, said objective was successfully achieved through facilitation of various trainings for the TFCT members that gradually developed their understanding and capacities as agents of development in the respective camps.

Members of the Camp TFCT, who were former combatants of the MILF, selected to undergo capacity building trainings to become productive member of the community in transformation from conflict to peace, shared stories of transformation by their experiences from the implementation of the MTFRDP/2-AECID.

**CAMP
BADR**

“Before, we are used to the word ‘operation’ as synonymous to war, but now we do operation in terms of development.”

2019

**CAMP
OMAR**

“As a rebel, I am transforming to be a responsible citizen. Before, I cannot walk alone by myself even in this community because of the situation those days where you cannot entrust yourself to anyone. Because of this development, we will forget the past, but still we will continue our struggle for genuine peace.”

2019

**CAMP
ABUBAKAR**

“During the early phase of this project, I was saying that I’d rather go armed fighting than speak in front of many people or facilitate activities. We embraced our responsibility as TFCT members as part of our contribution to the Bangsamoro struggle. Even in little ways, we can help in delivering assistance to the community.

CAMP
RAJAMUDA

“To my fellows in this community, we should preserve this project. We should be thankful. This a fruit of our jihad. This is result of the blood and sweat of our brothers. Like carpentry, before we don't have tools but now BDA gave us complete tools by means of all the topics BDA provided to us.”

2019

CAMP
BILAL

Through the years, we have shared a lot of things that are vital to the success of the peace process, we have learned actual implementation of project and acquired knowledge on the processes of procurement and monitoring, and we became aware and capacitated on project preparation, actual implementation and monitoring. Again, thank you and continue to journey with us.

2019

CAMP
BUSHRA

The effect of the implementation of the projects by the CFSI, BDA and TFCT is that, it helps the farmers in the municipalities where the projects were implemented. It reduces the burden in transporting their agricultural products to the market and lessen their production cost. Said projects will help a lot in the economic growth of the community.

2019



Members of the TFCT confidently presenting and discussing about their respective camps during the consultation with them by the World Bank in December 2019.

Social Preparation for Confidence Building Project for the Camps

In partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the BDA was tasked to facilitate social preparation activities for the Confidence Building Project- a camp development initiative for the six major camps of the MILF.

Social preparation is the first phase of the implementation cycle for the Capacity Building Project (formerly Quick Response Project) under the partnership of the BDA, Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) and the UNDP.

Under this project phase, Joint Task Forces on Camps Transformation (JTFCT) partner agencies, Local Government Units and community partners are coordinated to set the tone for the confidence-building program to take place in the community.



GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- a. To set the tone for JTFCT programs to take place in the community;
- b. To ensure greater stakeholder / community participation;
- c. To ensure that community beneficiaries are consulted, informed, has ownership of the process, and are willing to engage in the project cycle;
- d. To ensure that the planning process for any project is being done through conflict sensitive and peace promoting approach.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Planning-Workshop
2. Project Orientation with JTFCT
3. Courtesy Calls
4. Community-wide Orientation
5. Formation of Peoples Organizations
6. Preparatory Training for POs



Bangsamoro SOLIDARITY and Bangsamoro ADVANCE (2016-2017)

The Bangsamoro Solidarity was signed between BDA and the Mindanao Land Foundation (Minland) as trust fund recipient of this component. Bangsamoro SOLIDARITY covered the mixed communities outside the MILF Base Camps to ensure that the program sustained its inclusive approach in implementing the projects with the participation of indigenous peoples, Muslims and non-Muslim settlers in the communities.

17,005 beneficiaries	10 barangays	15 sub-projects
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Program Partnership Agreement (PPA) of the Bangsamoro Assistance for Development and Community Empowerment (Bangsamoro ADVANCE) component was signed between the BDA and Community and Family Services International (CFSI). It covered identified communities within the influenced areas of the 25 MILF Base Camps.

142,449 beneficiaries	49 barangays	80 sub-projects
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Program implementation of both the Bangsamoro SOLIDARITY and Bangsamoro ADVANCE was still in accordance with the community-driven development (CDD) approach except that the CCD steps in latter was reduced from six (6) to five (5). Further, most of the community-based sub-projects in the said component was implemented through the third-party service providers. It was the first time for BDA to enter into this mode of sub-project implementation thus, it is considered a level up capacity building to the agency aiming to be a development manager in the Bangsamoro. This gave an opportunity to agency to enhance its Procurement Manual.

Continuing journey to community development in the camps



With the advent of the Bangsamoro Government- long been aspired by the whole Bangsamoro community and of the world, the rise from the upshot of war for the conflict-affected communities, including those in the six major camps, into productive and peaceful society is surely inevitable. Based on the consultations at the community level and with other stakeholders, as reflected in the project reports, there is indeed an urgent need for development assistance in the camp communities. As per project experience, roads, access to potable water, post-harvest facilities, among others are the common needs in these communities to be able to help them improve access to basic services, towards the goal of better place and better life.

As development agency, whose growth and operation transpired in those communities, BDA is determined and committed to implement and complete the community development in the camps, with SEI projects that will improve the access of communities to basic services, through the ALS for basic literacy among target beneficiaries and with technical skills that is hoped to aid the livelihood of the communities. This includes the continuing technical assistance for the TFCT members to develop them into productive members of the society. This, of course is through the support of development partners like Mindanao Trust Fund (MTF), and of others.¹

With the experience and knowledge from this community development in the camps, BDA is ready to share such gains to other partner agencies who will be having similar interventions, under the same vision for the development of camp communities and other conflict-affected areas in Mindanao.

¹ After the completion of the MTFRDP/2 in August 2018, the MTF as trust fund facility agreed for additional funding for the continuing assistance for camp communities. The project is now again being implemented to benefit eight barangays across the six major MILF camps- with the same goal of to improve access of targeted communities in the conflict-affected areas in Mindanao to basic socio-economic infrastructure and alternative learning system; comprised of engaging the communities through a community-driven development and alternative learning system with an end view of making those productive, participative and peaceful communities.

