

Provincial Government Program Implementation: Basis for a Proposed Action Plan of a Local Government Unit

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Abstract –*The study aimed to assess a Provincial Government Program implementation in one Municipality of Batangas, Philippines. More specifically the study described the profile of the respondents; assessed the effectiveness of the program; determined the impact of the program implementation; identified the problems encountered in the implementation; tested the significant difference in the effectiveness, impact and the problems encountered in the implementation of the programs and proposed an action plan. The study utilized the descriptive method of research with 85 resident-respondents. Findings revealed that majority of the respondents belong to the 39-48 year old age bracket, female, married, high school graduates, and has a monthly income of Php 1,000-10,000, the Provincial Government program in one Municipality in Batangas is considered effective, the impact of the program in the first cluster of the municipality is of great extent, problems are sometimes encountered in the implementation. The proposed action plan focuses on allocation or more budget necessary to sustain programs for education, agriculture, tourism and security.*

Keywords – *Batangas, Local Government Unit, Government Program,*

INTRODUCTION

Governance goes beyond the term government. It involves three key players in society – the state or government, the private sector and organized groups or civil society. Good governance principles are best practiced at the local level small enough to involve the people in the initiation of policy, implementation of such programs and monitoring. Such principles are those of democracy, participation, transparency, accountability and efficiency. People at the local level are better able to act as policy critics and advocates when they are closer observers of policy process [1].

“The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all” [2].

There is no doubt that Batangas is an A-1 Province, but still, despite its charm, geophysical attributes and abundant natural resources, excellent investment opportunities, there still remain some parts that needs structural intensification for the full development of all its component sectors [3].

Realizing the urgency of addressing poverty, health, and illiteracy problems, the Provincial Government of Batangas adopted measures to effectively combat illiteracy, fight malnutrition, provide health and medical interventions, and wage war against extreme poverty. It is the hope of the administration of Governor Vilma Santos-Recto to further facilitate the transformation of the province of Batangas and raise the people’s standards of living through investing government resources and mobilizing private resources on areas where there is a pressing and vital need for them.

The flagship program of the former Governor Vilma Santos-Recto embodied by the program H.E.A.R.T.S. where H stands for health; E for education, employment, and environment; A for agriculture; R for roads and infrastructure; T for tourism and technology; and S for shelter and security is not just a plan but a virtual map of what the administration intends to do for the Batangueños, providing concrete gains that can be genuinely felt by the public [4].

However, the successful implementation of a program requires the involvement of everyone who lives and works in the neighborhood [5]. The province should provide citizens the opportunity to participate in the program at all stages.

The Municipality is composed of 25 Barangays with a population of 49,270. It has a great aesthetic value that can be used for promoting Tourism Industry and has a possibility to attract and gain more tourists [6].

The goal of provincial government is to address concerns of business and industrial sectors on the establishment of good roads conducive to business and economic activities from which the municipality benefits since this LGU thrives on promoting tourism thru its prime hotels and resorts.

It is in this context that the researcher, as a public administration student would like to assess the impact of the flagship program of the Provincial Government. Through this study, the LGU under study may be able to identify what programs and projects still need improvement to uplift the quality of life of the Batangueños.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study aimed to assess the effectiveness of the Program implementation of the Provincial Government of Batangas to a specific local government unit. More specifically, the study aims to describe the profile of the respondents; the effectiveness of the program implementation; determine the impact of the program implemented by the provincial government; to identify the problems encountered in the implementation; to test the significant difference in the implementation, impact and problems encountered in the implementation of the programs and propose an action plan to enhance the implementation.

METHODS

Research Design

The study utilized the descriptive method of research in order to assess the effectiveness and impact of the Provincial Government Program in one municipality of Batangas. Descriptive type of research was used in the study.

Participants

The respondents of the study were composed of 85 residents from Cluster One of the municipality under study. They were selected using 10% margin of error and 90% confidence level.

Instrument

In order to obtain information regarding the effectiveness and determine the impact of the

Program, also the problems encountered while implementing the program, a self-made questionnaire patterned from the records available at the Batangas Provincial Capitol. Part I of the questionnaire discussed the profile of the respondents. Part II tackled the effectiveness of the Program. The answer could either be very effective, effective, less effective and not effective. Part III discussed the impact of the Program answered by a very great extent, great extent, least extent and not at all. Part IV talked about the problems encountered in the implementation of Program. The answers could either be always, often, sometimes and never.

Procedure

To know the number of the total respondents needed, the researcher requested the Municipal Mayor, through the Municipal Planning and Development Officer for the copies of the population of the identified barangay total populations to be presented to the statistician, to render computation of the total respondents and gave the formula using the statistical tools.

After the questionnaire has been approved, the researcher sought the permission of the Office of the Local Chief Executive for the conduct of survey in the municipality through the distribution of survey forms to thirteen barangays of the locality. The researcher gave the respondents brief orientation about the purpose of the study and questionnaires retrieved for immediate tabulation. After the retrieval, the data were tallied, tabulated, statistically analyzed and interpreted.

Data Analysis

The data gathered were tallied and interpreted using descriptive and inferential statistics. Frequency, Percentage, Weighted mean were used to assess the effectiveness and impact as well as the problems encountered in the implementation of the Program. ANOVA was utilized to determine the difference in the effectiveness, impact, and problems encountered. All data were computed using PASW version to further analyze the results. The given scale was used to interpret the result of the study: 3.50 – 4.00 – Very Effective (VE); 2.50 – 3.49 – Effective (E); 1.50 – 2.49 – Less Effective (LE); 1.00 – 1.49 – Not Effective (NE) while for the problems encountered, the given scale was used: 3.50 – 4.00 – Always (A); 2.50 – 3.49 – Often (O); 1.50 – 2.49 – Sometimes (S); 1.00 – 1.49 – Never (N).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents According to Profile (N = 87)

		f	%	Rank
Age	58 & above	7	8.00	5.5
	49 - 58	10	11.50	4
	39 - 48	24	27.60	1
	29 - 38	20	23.00	2
	18 - 28	19	21.80	3
	17years old & below	7	8.00	5.5
Gender	Male	20	23.00	2
	Female	67	77.00	1
Civil Status	Single	24	27.60	2
	Married	50	57.50	1
	Separated	7	8.00	3
	Widow/Widower	6	6.90	4
Educational Attainment	Doctorate Degree	0	0.00	5
	Masteral Degree	1	1.10	4
	College Degree	21	24.10	2
	High School	63	72.40	1
	Elementary		2.30	3
Socio-Economic Status/Monthly Income	PhP 1,000 – PhP10,000	67	77.0	1
	PhP 11,000 – 20,000	14	16.10	2
	PhP 21,000 – 30,000	1	1.10	5
	PhP 31,000 – 40,000	3	3.40	3
	PhP 41,000 & above	2	2.30	4

Table 1 shows that majority of the respondents are between 39 to 48 (27.60%) years of age. This was followed by 29 to 38 (23%) and 18 to 28 years age bracket comprising 21.80% of the respondents. Majority are female (77%) followed by male (23%), married (57.50%) followed by single (27.60%). Respondents are high school graduates (72.40%) followed by college graduates (24.10%). Their average monthly income is PhP 1,000 to PhP 10,000 (77%) followed by PhP 11,000 to 20,000 (16.10%).

Results show that most of the respondents belong to the economically active population or the working age population (15 to 64 year age group) indicative of the Philippine Statistics Authority.

In terms of gender, the majority of the respondents are female (67%) followed by male (20%). This means that during the survey there are more female respondents than male. But it does not mean that there are really more female than male because based on the 2010 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) in Batangas by the Philippine Statistics Authority there are more male (1,190,429) than female (1,183,898) and the sex ratio (number of males for every 100 females is 101).

With regards to civil status, most of the respondents are married (50%) followed by Single (24%). This means that married respondents are more than single respondents. In terms of Educational Attainment, most of the Respondents are High School Graduate (63%) followed by College Graduate (21%).

In terms of socio economic status, majority of the respondents earned from 1,000-10,000 (67%) followed by P11,000-20,000 (14%). Only 2% of the respondents earned from 41,000 & above. This means that the majority of the respondents are low earner.

Table 2. Effectiveness of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Health

Public Health Services	WM	VI	Rank
1. Nutrition (VSR-Rehabilitation of Malnourished Children	3.15	E	4
2. Expanded Program on Immunization	3.09	E	8
3. Newborn Screening	3.34	E	1
4. Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses	2.99	E	11.5
5. Maternal & other Adult Health Projects	3.11	E	6
6. Reproductive Health& Family Planning	3.06	E	9
7. STI/HIV-AIDS Prevention & Control (Gram Staining)	2.47	LE	23
8. Voluntary Blood Services	3.24	E	3
9. Tuberculosis Prevention & Control	3.32	E	2
10. Healthy Lifestyle	3.05	E	10
11. Renal Disease Control	2.75	E	16
12. Leprosy Control Services	2.52	E	21
13. Rabies Prevention & Control Services	2.98	E	13
14. Health Education & Promotion	3.14	E	5
15. Oral Health Services	3.10	E	7
16. Disease & Surveillance Response	2.99	E	11.5
17. Health Emergency Preparedness Response	2.70	E	17
18. Environmental Health & Sanitation Services	2.91	E	14
19. Vector Prevention & Control	2.48	LE	22
20. Medical Emergency Response Services	2.66	E	18.5
21. Annual Medical Check-up	2.76	E	15
22. Health Financing	2.43	LE	24
23. Health Information System	2.61	E	20
24. Capability Building	2.66	E	18.5
Composite Mean	2.90	E	
Health Facilities Development Program			
1. Improvement of Hospital Services	2.94	E	1
2. Modernization of Provincial& District Hospitals	2.72	E	2
3. Procurement of various hospital equipments	2.67	E	3
Composite Mean	2.78	E	
Overall Composite Mean	2.84	E	

Table 2 shows that the HEARTS Program in terms of Health ranked 1st in Effectiveness in the first cluster of Calatagan obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.84 . In terms of public health services, New Born Screening got the highest weighted mean score of 3.34. It was followed by Tuberculosis Prevention and Control (3.32), Voluntary Blood Services (3.24), Nutrition (VSR Rehabilitation of Malnourished Children) (3.15) and Health Education and Promotion (3.14). On the other hand, the lowest weighted mean obtained is Health Financing (2.43), followed by STD/HIV-AIDS Prevention and Control (Gram Staining) (2.47) and Vector Prevention and Control (2.48) rendering them Less Effective.

Results show that the Governor’s priorities are anchored on the preventive aspect of health care as proven by the Newborn Screening (NBS) gaining the highest weighted mean in effectivity.

In terms of Health Facilities Development Program Improvement of Hospital Services got the highest weighted mean score of 2.94 followed by Modernization of Provincial and District Hospitals (2.72) and Procurement of Various Hospital Equipment (2.67).

An interview with the Batangas Provincial Engineer revealed that in 2011, the Provincial Government allotted P 55,372,032 for the Construction of Calatagan Medicare Hospital in Brgy 2 Poblacion. Followed by the Construction of the Hospital’s Sewerage Treatment Plant in 2013 amounting to 4,128,740.86. A Build-up Signage for Calatagan Medicare Hospital was also allotted a budget of P 159,361.07. For this year 2015, an on-going Construction of Additional Facilities at Calatagan Medicare Hospital is being allotted a budget of P 7,032,509.

Table 3 shows that the HEARTS Program in terms of Education ranked 3rd in Effectiveness in the first cluster of Calatagan obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.76. Teachers Day Recognition got the highest weighted mean score of 3.17. The Governor recognizes outstanding teachers and school heads by heading the province’s annual celebration of Teachers’ Day, incorporating in it symbolic and monetary awards. This was followed by Scouting Activities (3.10), Scholarship Projects (2.99), Educational Training Program (2.99) and Educational Support Services Project (2.91).

On the other hand, the lowest weighted mean obtained is Hatid Sundo Project (2.10) though an effective program of the Provincial Government for students who get free boat ride from Sitio Pulo at the

foot of Taal Volcano, said program is not visible in Calatagan, Batangas. This was followed by Mobile Reading Program (Project Vi) (2.47), Internet Access and Computer Literacy Project (2.47), Other Structural Projects (2.67) and Hiring of Provincial School Board Teachers (2.69) rendering them Less Effective.

Table 3. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Education

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Hiring of Provincial School Board Teachers	2.69	E	8
2. Scholarship Projects	2.99	E	3.5
3. Promotion of Physical Education Project	2.70	E	7
4. Educational Training Competition	2.99	E	3.5
5. Mobile Reading Program (Project Vi)	2.47	LE	10.5
6. HatidSundo Project	2.10	LE	12
7. Teachers Day Recognition	3.17	E	1
8. Educational Support Services Project	2.91	E	5
9. School Building Project	2.82	E	6
10. Internet Access & computer literacy project	2.47	LE	10.5
11. Scouting Activities	3.10	E	2
12. Other structural Projects	2.67	E	9
Composite Mean	2.76	E	

Table 3 shows that the Program in terms of Education ranked 3rd in Effectiveness obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.76. Teachers Day Recognition got the highest weighted mean score of 3.17. The Governor recognizes outstanding teachers and school heads by heading the province’s annual celebration of Teachers’ Day, incorporating in it symbolic and monetary awards. This was followed by Scouting Activities (3.10), Scholarship Projects (2.99), Educational Training Program (2.99) and Educational Support Services Project (2.91).

On the other hand, the lowest weighted mean obtained is Hatid Sundo Project (2.10) though an effective program of the Provincial Government for students who get free boat ride from Sitio Pulo at the foot of Taal Volcano, said program is not visible in Calatagan, Batangas. This was followed by Mobile Reading Program (Project Vi) (2.47), Internet Access and Computer Literacy Project (2.47), Other Structural Projects (2.67) and Hiring of Provincial School Board Teachers (2.69) rendering them Less Effective.

Though rendered less effective, in 2014, the Provincial Government caused the installation of satellite dish antenna for internet connectivity at Carlota Elementary School, Balibago Elementary School and Enrique Zobel Elementary School (Brgy. Real) in Calatagan. A similar ongoing project for this year is being installed at Luya Elementary School. Upon interview with the Provincial Engineering Office, a total of P 850,935.99 was allotted for the Computer Literacy Project.

Table 4. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Environment and Natural Resources Management Program– Water and Air Quality Monitoring Project (Bats.Envnt. Laboratory)

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Forest Management Project	2.66	E	1
2. Waste Management Project	2.62	E	2
3. Mines & Geo sciences Regulation (PMRB)	2.47	LE	3
Composite Mean	2.58	E	

Table 4 shows that the Program in terms of Environment ranked 6th in Effectiveness obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.58. Forest Management Project got the highest weighted mean score of 2.66. It was followed by Waste Management Project (2.62).

Forest Management ranked highest in the effectiveness program since the Municipality has a Mangrove Forest Conservation Park locally known as “AngPulo” which is a 7.5 hectares marine protected area in on barangay in the Municipality declared as a municipal nature park through Sangguniang Bayan Resolution No. 76 on September of 2008. Moreover, several years of joint mangrove rehabilitation project has been partnered by the Philippine Coast Guard, Provincial Government of Batangas, Municipal Government of Calatagan, Batangas, USAID and Conservation International Philippine to restore mangrove forest “Ang Pulo”[7]. Mangroves play an important role in the dynamics of the marine ecosystem. A total of nine species of mangroves are found in the mangrove conservation park and seven species found in the rehabilitation area in Calatagan, Batangas [8].

Also, the Provincial Government allotted a budget amounting to Php984,266.73 in 2014 for the rehabilitation and improvement of slope protection at Barangay Balibago, Calatagan. The Mines and Geo-Sciences Regulation (PMRB) got a weighted mean average of 2.47 rendering it Less Effective which

could be attributed to the presence of Basalt Quarrying in Barangay Lucsuhin, Calatagan. In general, the said programs and services are Effective based on the composite mean of 2.58.

Table 5. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Agriculture and Aquaculture Program

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Agricultural & Aquaculture Production	2.71	E	8
2. Intensification & Diversification Program	2.54	E	9
3. Rice Production Assistance	2.85	E	3
4. Corn Production Assistance	2.86	E	2
5. Vegetable Production Assistance	2.82	E	4
6. Fisheries Production Assistance	2.91	E	1
7. Development of Provincial Nursery	2.80	E	5.5
8. Organic Farming	2.80	E	5.5
9. Agricultural Extension Services for the improvement of crop production, crop quality and local product development.	2.72	E	7
Composite Mean	2.78	E	

Table 5 shows that the Program in terms of Agriculture and Aquaculture ranked 2nd in the Effectiveness obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.78. Fisheries Production Assistance got the highest weighted mean score of 2.91. Around 417.25 hectares are swamps, fishponds and bodies of water. The municipal water supplies the province of Batangas an estimated 25 percent of the total fish produce of the province. But as in many coastal areas in the Philippines, the municipal waters of Calatagan are under an open-access regime that threatens its sustainable productivity [9].

It was followed by Corn Production Assistance (2.86), Rice Production Assistance (2.85), Vegetable Production Assistance and Development of Provincial Nursery and Organic Farming both garnering a weighted mean score of 2.8. Although rated effective, the program which got the lowest mean score is the Intensification and Diversification Program (2.54), followed by Agriculture and Aquaculture Production (2.71) and Agricultural Extension Services for the Improvement of Crop Production, Crop Quality and Local Product Development (2.72).

In the case of the Municipality of Calatagan, the LGU encourages the development of aquaculture as a poverty alleviation program. To mitigate the decrease in fish catch and offer alternative jobs to displaced or

marginalized fisherfolks, local governments from past to present spearheaded policies that promote the development of aquaculture [9].

Table 6 shows that the HEARTS Program in terms of Roads and Infrastructures ranked 8th in assessment of effectiveness obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.51. Concreting of Roads at Various Cities and Municipalities got the highest weighted mean score of 2.91. It was followed by Improvement of Land Rehabilitation/Expansion/Improvement of Facilities of Provincial and Various District Hospitals (2.80), Construction and Improvement of Daycare Centers at Various Municipalities (2.72), Construction of Waiting Sheds at Various Municipalities (2.69) and Construction/Rehabilitation/Improvement of Schools and Buildings / Gymnasium at Various Municipalities (2.68).

Since former Governor Recto took her office in 2007 up to present, a total amount of P 124,817,535.46 infrastructure projects were allocated solely for the concreting / rehabilitation / improvement of various provincial, municipal and barangay roads in Calatagan, Batangas. Moreover, a total of P 10,935,779.86 was allotted by the Provincial Government for the construction and improvement of water system in Calatagan, Batangas including construction of submersible pumps, elevated water tanks and artesian wells. Likewise, according to the Accomplishment Report of the Provincial Engineering Office, an amount of P 1,076,654.19 was utilized for the construction of comfort rooms for the various barangays of the Municipality.

The program which got the lowest mean score rendering it less effective is the Construction of Pedestrian Overpass at Various Municipalities (2.15). Provision of elevated pedestrian walkways or underpasses is applied to separate people from road traffic. Oftentimes, these facilities have direct access to respective developments (DPWH Road Safety Design Manual). Pedestrian overpass is not yet a requirement in the Municipality since it has a good road network and the locality is not highly populated.

This was followed by Rehabilitation of Seawall at Various Municipalities (2.18), Construction of Boundary Archs at Various Municipalities (2.21), Construction/ Improvement/ Rehabilitation of Government building and Facilities (2.29), followed by Electrification at Various Municipalities (2.15) also rated as Less Effective.

Table 6. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Roads/ Infrastructure Development Program

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Improvement of Land and Rehab/ Expansion/Improvement of Facilities of Provincial and Various District Hospitals	2.80	E	2
2. Water & Sanitation Facilities	2.56	E	8
3. Roads at Various Cities & Municipalities	2.91	E	1
4. Improvement of Slope Protection & Grouted Riprap of Eroded and Flash Flood Prone Areas at Various Municipalities	2.63	E	6
5. Rehabilitation of Bridges at Various Municipalities	2.62	E	7
6. Improvement of Day Care Centers at Various Municipalities	2.72	E	3
7. Improvement/Rehab of Govt. Buildings and Facilities	2.29	LE	14
8. Electrification at Various Municipalities	2.36	LE	13
9. Pedestrian Overpass at Various Municipalities	2.15	LE	17
10. Barangay Halls at Various Municipalities	2.53	E	9.5
11. Waiting Sheds at Various Municipalities	2.69	E	4
12. Drainage System / Covered Canal at Various Municipalities	2.39	LE	12
13. Multi-Purpose Building at Various Municipalities	2.53	E	9.5
14. Covered Courts at Various Municipalities	2.47	LE	11
15. Boundary Archs at Various Municipalities	2.21	LE	15
16. Rehab/Improvement of Schools and Buildings / Gymnasium at Various Municipalities	2.68	E	5
17. Rehabilitation of Seawall at Various Municipalities	2.18	LE	16
Composite Mean	2.51	E	

Table 7 shows that the HEARTS Program in terms of Tourism ranked 7th in Effectiveness in the first cluster of Calatagan. Tourism Development Program got the highest weighted mean score of 3.00. Tourism being one of the top priorities of the provincial government as it is seen to provide employment both skilled/unskilled, increased income and governmental revenues [10]. It was followed by Eco-Tourism (2.71), Product Promotion (2.56), and Destination Development (2.51) The program which got the lowest mean score is the Domestic Tourism Tour Package Promotion (2.16) and Tourism Information Services (2.41) rendering them Less Effective.

Table 7. Effectiveness of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Tourism

	Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1.	Tourism Development Program	3.00	E	1
2.	Product Promotion	2.56	E	3
3.	Tourism Information Services	2.41	LE	5
4.	Domestic Tourism Tour Package Promotion	2.16	LE	6
5.	Eco Tourism	2.71	E	2
6.	Destination Development	2.51	E	4
Composite Mean		2.56	E	

According to Mr. Jessie de los Reyes of CAP-Ocean, a local based organization in Calatagan, there exists a total of 20 beach resorts in Calatagan located in Barangays BagongSilang, Baha, Balibago and Sambungan. Prominent beach resorts and hotels in Calatagan are Playa Calatagan Village, Nacua’s Sea Park and Fishing Resort, Baluarte Estates Calatagan, Stilts Resort, Villa Agustina Beach Resort and Lago de Oro. Calatagan also has its Calatagan Golf and Polo Club built by Don Enrique Zobel and Robert Trent Jones, Jr. [9]. In general, respondents perceived that programs and services in terms of tourism is Effective based on the 2.56 composite mean.

Table 8. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Social Services

	Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1.	Emergency Assistance Services	2.97	E	1
2.	Children Welfare Services	2.67	E	3
3.	Family & Community Welfare Services	2.72	E	2
4.	Enhancement of Cultural Services	2.44	LE	4
Composite Mean		2.70	E	

Table 8 shows that the HEARTS Program in terms of Social Services ranked 4th in Effectiveness in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.70. Emergency Assistance Services got the highest weighted mean score of 2.97. It manifest the capability of the local government unit to respond to the immediate needs of the people especially during emergencies. It was followed by Family and Community Welfare Services Eco-Tourism (2.72), Children Welfare Services (2.67) and Enhancement of Cultural Services (2.44). To address the issue on the enhancement of cultural services which obtained the lowest weighted mean score, a committee in-charge in promoting and restoring the

culture of Calatagan has to be establish. As Calatagan is one of the tourist destination in the province, cultural tourism may help attract tourist to visit the municipality

Table 9. Effectiveness of the Programs and Services in terms of Security

	Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1.	Intelligence and Investigation Personnel	2.67	E	2
2.	Task Force Taal	2.40	LE	3
3.	Task Force LikasYaman	2.36	LE	4
4.	Disaster Risk Management Program	2.98	E	1
Composite Mean		2.60	E	

Table 9 shows that the Program in terms of Security ranked 5th in the Effectiveness in the 13 Barangays of the Municipality obtaining an overall composite mean of 2.60. Disaster Risk Management Program got the highest weighted mean score of 2.98 followed by Intelligence and Investigation Personnel (2.67). The program which got the lowest mean score is the Task Force Likas Yaman (2.36) and Task Force Taal (2.40) rendering it Less Effective.

The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council is active in its pursuit to support local government units with technical knowledge and provide information pertaining to risk reduction and disaster management, financial support and disaster equipment. It works jointly with the Batangas Provincial Police office through meetings, seminars and orientations. The Municipality is also providing updated information through its Facebook account. Regularly uploaded are the LGU’s activities and announcements.

Table 10. Summary Table of the Effectiveness of the Programs and Services

	Program	WM	VI	Rank
	Health	2.84	E	1
	Education and Environment	2.76	E	3
	Environment and Natural Resources Management Program – Water and Air Quality Monitoring Project	2.58	E	6
	Agriculture and Aquaculture Program	2.78	E	2
	Roads/Infrastructure Development Program	2.51	E	8
	Tourism	2.56	E	7
	Social Services	2.70	E	4
	Security	2.60	E	5
Overall Composite Mean		2.67	E	

Table 11. Overall Impact of the Program

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Health consciousness among the people manifested in their enrollment and participation in the various health programs of the province.	2.91	GE	10.5
2. Regular consultation among pregnant women lessened infant and maternal mortality rate.	2.99	GE	4
3. Healthy lifestyle was developed among the people.	2.98	GE	6.6
4. Prevention & Control of highly contagious diseases	2.77	GE	20
5. Increased in the number of voluntary blood donors.	3.30	GE	1
6. Botikang Barangay provided access of quality medicines to the people thereby encouraging e regular consultation at the health centers and other health care facility.	3.10	GE	2
7. Exercise among the people the promotive& preventive aspect of healthcare.	2.78	GE	19
8. Better health practices & Healthy habits among the people resulted to lesser morbidity & mortality rate in the province.	2.79	GE	17.5
9. Efficient and effective hospital services lead to patient satisfaction among hospital clients.	2.54	GE	38
10. Better opportunities for students who were able to avail the scholarship program/projects.	2.92	GE	9
11. Increased literacy rate among the marginalized sector in the province.	2.59	GE	34
12. Better school facilities encouraged parents to enrol their children in public schools.	2.87	GE	12
13. Increase in the teacher-student ratio motivated both teachers & students to perform better in school.	2.72	GE	22
14. Activities/programs conducted helped in the holistic development of students.	2.84	GE	15
15. The nutrition program activities taught mothers to prepare nutritious food and balance diet.	2.82	GE	16
16. Peoples' awareness & compliance in the solid waste management practices.	2.63	GE	30.5
17. Improved peoples' participation in the waste management program of the local governments.	2.66	GE	27
18. Peoples' participation in environment protection and preservation.	2.66	GE	27
19. Peoples' adherence to the Batangas Province Environment Code of 2012.	2.70	GE	23
20. Improved farming/fishing practices augmented the income of poor farmers and fishers.	2.66	GE	26
21. Better crop production lead to the self-sufficiency in rice and other crops.	2.91	GE	10.5
22. Better income for poor farmers/fishers, hog raisers helped improved the quality of their life.	2.69	GE	24
23. Better roads accelerated the economic activity in the province, thereby providing better income for the people.	2.85	GE	13.5
24. The development in infrastructure motivated the people to engage in business thereby providing employment to people in the community.	2.63	GE	30.5
25. Poor farmers/fishers/hog raisers were able to bring their products to the market on time because of better roads	2.63	GE	30.5
26. Less travel time for the people because of better roads and improved traffic condition.	2.57	GE	35
27. The growth in tourism created more jobs for the people.	2.61	GE	33
28. The economic development brought about by tourism improved the quality of life of the people.	2.67	GE	27
29. The development of tourist destination in the province encouraged and motivated community members to get involve in barangay tourism activities.	2.56	GE	36
30. The need for tourist products and souvenirs motivated the community members to engage in small scale business.	2.34	LE	40
31. The promotion of Batangas as a premier tourist destination was supported by the people.	2.49	LE	39
32. Timely and appropriate assistance alleviated the condition/situation of displaced/distressed individuals and victims of calamities.	2.55	GE	37
33. Mothers felt their children's rights are protected.	2.93	GE	8
34. Children were given the opportunity for growth.	2.85	GE	13.5
35. Welfare services for children enabled them to engaged in worthwhile activities.	2.74	GE	21
36. The Phil Health Card awarded to deserving indigent families improve the plight of poor families with sick members,	2.99	GE	4
37. The feeding program helped the mothers to develop the habit of cooking nutritious foods for their children.	3.09	GE	3
38. The social services provided helped improved the quality of life of the program recipients.	2.98	GE	6.5
39. People feel secure because of the improved peace and order situation in the province.	2.63	GE	30.5
40. An activated and well manned PDRRMC provides a feeling of safety & security to the people that in case of disasters, the government will be able to respond and manage.	2.79	GE	17.5
Composite Mean	2.77	GE	

Table 10 shows the Summary of the Effectiveness of the HEARTS Programs and Services in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan. Health Program got the highest weighted mean score of 2.84 followed by Agriculture and Aquaculture Program (2.78),

Education (2.76), Social Services (2.70), Security (2.60), Environment and Natural Resources Management Program – Water and Air Quality Monitoring Project (2.58), Tourism (2.56) and Roads & Infrastructure Development Program (2.51). The

result showed good promotion of health programs in the municipality of Calatagan that people in the community are able to avail of the different health services.

Table 11 shows the Impact of the Programs and Services in the 13 Barangays of the Municipality. The increase in the number of voluntary blood donors got the highest weighted mean score of 3.30. It was followed by provision of quality medicines through Botikang Barangay thereby encouraging the regular consultation at the health centers and other health care facility (3.10). It was followed by Feeding Program helped mothers develop the habit of cooking nutritious foods for their children (3.09), Philhealth Card awarded to deserving indigent families improve the plight of poor families with sick members (2.99) and Regular consultation among pregnant women lessened infant and maternal mortality rate (2.99). The impact is a result of good program implementation. The people of Calatagan are aware of the health programs implemented by the Provincial Government since it got the highest impact.

The impact which got the lowest mean score is the Need for tourist products and souvenirs motivated the community members to engage in small scale business (2.34) and the promotion of Batangas as a premier tourist destination was supported by the people (2.49). Despite the campaign in tourism, it can hardly be felt by the people as shown in the result. Tourism means more job for the people. The study conducted[10] claimed that tourism provided employment both skilled/unskilled, increased income and governmental revenues, provided tourist and recreational facilities which may be used by local population and created an impressive worldwide image of Palawan as tourist destination.

Table 12 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Health Programs ranked 2nd in the first cluster of Calatagan. Among the top observed problems are the understaffed government hospitals with the highest weighted mean score of 2.79, followed by insufficient funds to sustain health programs (2.72), insufficient medical supplies and medicines (2.69), lack of medical specialist in district hospitals (2.68) and weak information and dissemination campaign of health programs (2.63).

Allocating sufficient amount of fund for health programs to be effective and efficient must be the top priority. Also, the provincial government may consider creating a plantilla for district hospital medical specialist so that indigent patients may avail

free services of professional doctors. Moreover, additional funding for logistics must be considered for information and dissemination campaign so that people not only of Calatagan but of the whole province as well be aware of the provincial government’s health programs.

Table 12. Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs in terms of Health

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Insufficient funds to sustain the health programs	2.72	Often	2
2. Weak information dissemination campaign of the health programs	2.63	Often	5
3. Lack of financial support from the municipal government.	2.49	Sometimes	7
4. Lack of training of BNS & BHW	2.18	Sometimes	11
5. Non-enforcement of local ordinances re: health & sanitation	2.36	Sometimes	10
6. Resistance of beneficiaries to participate/enrol and adopt the health services/programs	2.55	Often	6
7. Insufficient Medical supplies and medicines	2.69	Often	3
8. Government hospitals are understaffed	2.79	Often	1
9. Insufficient government subsidies in health programs, e.g. Newborn Screening	2.41	Sometimes	9
10. Patients infected with infectious/communicable diseases refusal to submit themselves for medical attention.	2.46	Sometimes	8
11. Lack of medical specialist in district hospitals	2.68	Often	4
Composite Mean	2.54	Often	

The problem which got the lowest mean score and is sometimes encountered is the lack of training of BNS and BHW (2.18) followed by Non-enforcement of local ordinances re: health and sanitation (2.36), Insufficient government subsidies in health programs, e.g. newborn screening (2.41), Patients infected with infectious/communicable diseases refusal to submit themselves for medical attention (2.46) and lack of financial support from the municipal government (2.49).

Table 13. Problems Encountered in the in terms of Education

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Insufficiency of funds to sustain the programs e.g. the building of classrooms, hiring of more teachers	2.54	O	3
2. Limited supply of learning materials	2.49	S	4
3. Lack of modern facilities and equipment	2.31	S	5
4. Insufficient student-teacher ratio.	2.68	O	1
5. Scholarship program is not sufficient for all deserving students to avail.	2.64	O	2
Composite Mean	2.53	O	

Legend: 3.50 – 4.00 – Always (A); 2.50 – 3.49 – Often (O); 1.50 – 2.49 – Sometimes (S); 1.00 – 1.49 – Never (N)

Table 13 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs and Services in terms of Education Programs ranked 3rd in the first cluster of Calatagan. Insufficient student-teacher ratio got the highest weighted mean score of 2.68 and is often encountered. It was followed by Scholarship program not sufficient for all deserving students to avail (2.64) and Insufficiency of e.g. the building of classrooms, hiring of more teachers (2.54). It is the level of education that helps people earn respect and recognition. It is essential that the provincial government augment its budget on scholarship and hiring of additional teachers to fully support the education sector of Batangas province.

The problem which got the lowest mean score and is sometimes encountered is the lack of modern facilities and equipment (2.31) and limited supply of learning materials (2.49). It was perceived to be less a problem since Governor Vilma Santos provides for educational materials such as notebooks and bags for grade one pupils of the province at the start of every school year. Likewise, since 2008 up to present, Calatagan has allotted a budget of P 35,182,726.77 for the construction and improvement of educational facilities and P 850,935.99 for the installation of communication and internet system.

Table 14 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Environment ranked 5th in the first cluster of Calatagan. Lack of political will to implement environmental laws and ordinances got the highest weighted mean score of 2.60. It was followed by weak implementation of solid waste management program (2.57), lack of fund to sustain the

implementation of waste management program (2.55), solid waste management program is non-existent in some municipalities (2.52) and Continuous existence of illegal fish cages in Taal Lake (2.46).

Table 14. Problems Encountered in terms of Environment

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Weak implementation of Solid Waste Management Program	2.57	O	2
2. Solid waste management program is non-existent in some municipalities	2.52	O	4
3. Pollution of coastal areas due to informal settlers in the area.	2.34	S	7
4. Continuous existence of illegal fish cages in Taal lake.	2.46	S	5
5. Lack of political will to implement environmental laws/ordinances.	2.60	O	1
6. Lack of fund to sustain the implementation of waste management program.	2.55	O	3
7. Lack of information-education campaign on proper waste segregation.	2.41	S	6
8. Lack of funding for information & education campaign and formulation of IEC materials.	2.32	S	8
Composite Mean	2.47	S	

The problem which got the lowest mean score is the lack of funding for information and education campaign and formulation of IEC Materials (2.32), followed by pollution of coastal areas due to informal settlers (2.34), lack of information-education campaign on proper waste segregation (2.41) and Continuous existence of illegal fish cages in Taal Lake (2.46).

Table 15. Problems Encountered in terms of Agriculture

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Lack of fund to sustain the support given to farmers	2.52	O	2
2. Lack of skills training for farmers	2.14	S	8
3. Limited supply of seeds and seedlings given to farmers.	2.33	S	6.5
4. Slow adaptation to new farming technologies	2.33	S	6.5
5. Some agricultural programs are not fully implemented	2.49	S	4
6. Illegal fishing activities	2.51	O	3
7. Land conversion problems	2.46	S	5
8. Lack of budgetary allocation for agricultural services	2.56	O	1
Composite Mean	2.42	S	

Table 15 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs and Services in terms of Agriculture ranked 7.5 in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan. Lack of budgetary allocation for agricultural services got the highest weighted mean score of 2.56. It was followed by Lack of funds to sustain the support given to farmers (2.52) and Illegal fishing activities (2.51).

The problem which got the lowest mean score is the lack of skills training for farmers (2.14) followed by Slow adaptation to new farming technologies (2.33) and Limited supply of seeds and seedlings given to farmers (2.33), land conversion problems (2.46) and some agricultural programs are not fully implemented (2.49).

Table 16. Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs in terms of Roads

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Lack of funds to maintain and sustain all the programs related to roads and other infrastructure projects.	2.44	S	4
2. Lack of political will to implement the programs.	2.13	S	5
3. Conflict of interest of among people implementing the programs	2.56	O	1
4. Conflicting political of political leaders.	2.49	S	2
5. Graft & corruption in government.	2.48	S	3
Composite Mean	2.42	S	

Table 16 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Roads ranked 7.5 in the first cluster of Calatagan with an overall composite mean score of 2.42. Conflict of interest among people implementing the program got the highest weighted mean score of 2.56. The problem which got the lowest mean score is the lack of political will to implement the programs (2.13) followed by lack of funds to maintain and sustain all the programs related to roads and other infrastructure projects (2.44), graft and corruption in government (2.48) and conflicting political leaders (2.49).

Table 17 shows the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Tourism ranked 6th in the 13 Barangays of the Municipality earning an overall composite mean of 2.44.

Table 17. Problems Encountered in terms of Tourism

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Lack of professionals to plan and implement tourism programs in the province.	2.59	O	2
2. Lack of support from local chief executives.	2.47	S	3
3. Lack of hotels and accommodation for tourists.	2.23	S	7
4. Insufficient promotion of tourist attractions/destinations in the province.	2.43	S	5
5. Shortage and unavailability of Batangas products and other souvenir items for tourists.	2.60	O	1
6. Tourism signages with international standards are lacking in major roads and highways of the province.	2.31	S	6
7. Lack of international marketing & promotion for attractions like Taal Volcano, Taal Lake, heritage sites etc.	2.46	S	4
Composite Mean	2.44	S	

Shortage and unavailability of Batangas Products and other souvenir items for tourists got a weighted mean of 2.60 followed by lack of professionals to plan and implement tourism programs in the province (2.59). The problem which got the lowest mean score is the lack of hotel accommodation for tourists (2.23), tourism signages with international standards are lacking in major roads and highways in the province (2.31), insufficient promotion of tourist attractions/destinations in the province (2.43), lack international marketing and promotion for attractions like Taal Volcano, Taal Lake, heritage sites, (2.46) and lack of support from the local chief executive (2.47).

Table 18. Problems Encountered in terms of Social Services

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Not enough budget to accommodate the requests of all clients.	2.74	O	2
2. Not all poor household in the province are covered by Philhealth.	2.83	O	1
3. Lack of day care program materials	2.72	O	3
4. Most of the day care centers are not accredited.	2.01	S	5
5. Lack of skills of ECCD service providers & day care workers	2.32	S	4
Composite Mean	2.52	O	

Table 18 shows that the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the HEARTS Programs and Services in terms of Social services ranked 4th in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan earning an overall composite mean of 2.52. Not all poor household in the province are covered by Philhealth earning a weighted mean score of 2.83. Followed by not enough budget to accommodate the requests of all clients (2.74) and Lack of daycare program materials (2.72). The problem which got the lowest mean score is that most day care centers are not accredited (2.01) and Lack of skills of ECCd service providers and daycare workers (2.32).

Table 19. Problems Encountered in terms of Security

Indicator	WM	VI	Rank
1. Lack of training and development program for law enforcers to enable them to function efficiently and effectively.	2.61	O	4
2. Lack of modern equipment for law enforcers to provide them the capability & confidence to fight criminality and to boost their morale.	2.64	O	3
3. Lack of support from the national government	2.41	S	6
4. Lack of Police to provide peace and order in the province	2.57	O	5
5. Lack of coordination among concerned PRRMC member agencies.	2.28	S	8
6. Lack of training and capability among PRRMC member agencies.	2.29	S	7
7. Lack of supplies, materials and equipment needed for strengthening, 24/7 activation and manning of PRRMC.	2.78	O	2
8. Lack of fund to sustain the operation of the projects.	2.82	O	1
Composite Mean	2.55	O	

Table 19 shows the summary of the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs and Services in terms of Security ranked 1st in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan earning an overall composite mean of 2.55. Lack of fund to sustain the operation of the projects got a weighted mean of 2.82 followed by lack of supplies, materials and equipment needed for strengthening 24/7 activation and manning of PDRRMC (2.78), lack of modern equipment for law

enforcers to provide them the capability and confidence to fight criminality and to boost their morale (2.64), lack of training and development program for law enforcers to enable them to function efficiently and effectively (2.61) and lack of police to provide peace and order in the province (2.57).

The problem which got the lowest mean score is the lack of coordination among concerned PRRMC Member agencies (2.28), lack of training and capability among PRRMC member agencies (2.29) and lack of support from the national government (2.41).

Table 20. Summary Table of Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs and Services

Program	WM	VI	Rank
Health	2.54	Often	2
Education	2.53	Often	3
Environment	2.47	Sometimes	5
Agriculture	2.42	Sometimes	7.5
Roads	2.42	Sometimes	7.5
Tourism	2.44	Sometimes	6
Social Services	2.52	Often	4
Security	2.55	Often	1
Overall Composite Mean	2.47	Sometimes	

Legend: 3.50 – 4.00 – Always (A); 2.50 – 3.49 – Often (O); 1.50 – 2.49 – Sometimes (S); 1.00 – 1.49 – Never (N)

Table 20 shows the Summary of Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs and Services. Security ranked 1st in the 13 Barangays of Calatagan obtaining a composite mean of 2.55 followed by Health (2.54), Education (2.53), Social Services (2.52) Environment (2.47), Tourism (2.44) Agriculture and Roads both earning weighted mean score of 7.5

Security is very important to the people that is why the poor implementation of the programs on security is highly noticeable. There can be no economic progress without security. The lack of budget to increase the number of police personnel to provide peace and order in the area, the lack of equipment's needed by the local risk reduction management council to respond to emergencies and calamities are only a few of the problems in security.

Based from Table 21, the computed F – values of the profile variables were all less than the critical value and the resulted p-values were all greater than 0.05 level of significance, thus the null hypothesis of no significant difference on the effectiveness of the program and services when grouped according to profile variables is accepted.

Table 21. Difference on the Effectiveness of the Programs and Services When Grouped According to Profile Variables ($\alpha = 0.05$)

Profile Variables	F _c	p-value	Interpretation
Age	1.982	0.090	Not Significant
Sex	0.057	0.813	Not Significant
Civil Status	2.031	0.116	Not Significant
Educational Attainment	0.182	0.908	Not Significant
Socio–Economic/Monthly Income	1.576	0.188	Not Significant

Legend: Significant at p-value < 0.05; HS – Highly Significant; S – Significant; NS – Not Significant

This means that no significant differences exist and that respondents have assessed the effectiveness of program and services in terms of the given profile variables to be same. This means that respondents, young or old; male or female; single, married, widow/widower or separated; with different educational background and monthly family income have seen the effectiveness of the program in the same level of perspectives.

Table 22. Difference on the Impact of the Program and Services When Grouped According to Profile Variables ($\alpha = 0.05$)

Profile Variables	F _c	p-value	Interpretation
Age	1.252	0.293	Not Significant
Sex	3.943	0.050	Significant
Civil Status	0.745	0.528	Not Significant
Educational Attainment	1.022	0.387	Not Significant
Socio–Economic/Monthly Income	0.414	0.798	Not Significant

Legend: Significant at p-value < 0.05; HS – Highly Significant; S – Significant; NS – Not Significant

As seen from the result of Table 22, profile variable sex shows significant difference on the impact of the program since the obtained p-values is less than 0.05 alpha level. Thus, the null hypothesis of no significant difference on the impact of HEARTS program when grouped according to the mentioned variable is rejected. It only implies that respondents, whether male or female have unique assessment on the impact of the program.

Table 23 reveals that profile variable age shows significant difference on the problems encountered in the implementation of the HEARTS program since the obtained p-value is less than 0.05 alpha level. Thus, the null hypothesis of no significant difference on the

problems encountered in the implementation of HEARTS program when grouped according to profile variable age is rejected.

Table 23. Difference on the Problems Encountered in the Implementation of the Programs when Grouped According to Profile Variables ($\alpha = 0.05$)

Profile Variables	F _c	p-value	Interpretation
Age	2.358	0.047	Significant
Sex	0.642	0.425	Not Significant
Civil Status	1.515	0.217	Not Significant
Educational Attainment	1.619	0.191	Not Significant
Socio–Economic/Monthly Income	2.081	0.091	Not Significant

Legend: Significant at p-value < 0.05; HS – Highly Significant; S – Significant; NS – Not Significant

It only implies that respondents, young or old have different assessment on the problems that they encountered in the implementation of the program.

Proposed Plan of Action

The action plan to Enhance the Implementation of the Program aims to allocate budget necessary to sustain programs for education, agriculture, tourism and security; to source funding assistance from national agencies, non-government organizations and private entities; to implement RA 9003 or the Solid Waste Management Act; to strictly implement RA 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act and RA 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees; to hire tourism professionals to plan, market and promote souvenir items for tourists; and to provide more Philhealth cards to indigent members of the community

CONCLUSION

Majority of the respondents belong to the 39-48-year-old age bracket, female, married, high school graduates, and has a monthly income of Php 1,000-10,000. The Provincial Government program in the Municipality of Calatagan is effective. The impact of the HEARTS program in the first cluster of Calatagan is of great extent. Problems are sometimes encountered in the implementation of the HEARTS program in the Municipality of Calatagan. A proposed plan of action is recommended to enhance the implementation of the HEARTS program in the Municipality of Calatagan.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Department through Sanguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Calatagan may increase the funds allocated for the HEARTS program to sustain its implementation specifically in education, agriculture, tourism and security. The Local Government Unit of Calatagan, Batangas may strictly implement RA 9003 or the Solid Waste Management Act. The Provincial and Local Government may create plantilla items for Tourism Officers. The Local Government of Calatagan, Batangas may increase the number of Philhealth cards provided to indigent families in the municipality. The Local Government Unit of Calatagan may strictly implement RA 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act and RA 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees to promote transparency in government transactions. The propose plan of action may be implemented and evaluated.

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