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Building Safe
and Secure
Communities

Building Safe and Secure Communities

The quality of shelter and the kind of communities where people live can be both a source of vulnerability and a means to enhance development opportunities and improve human development outcomes. The government recognizes the importance of building and expanding people's access to safe and secure shelter in well-planned communities. Housing has become even more significant given that, based on the results of a national survey for AmBisyon Natin 2040, it is among the aspirations of most Filipinos. Moreover, housing and urban development become increasingly important as the economy grows, attracting people to urban areas where the opportunities are found. If not managed well, urbanization can pose risks to health, life, and property and compound natural hazards that cause disasters.

Resiliency refers to the ability of a person or families to “bounce back” from a difficult situation. Resiliency may be viewed in two ways: ability to cope with deprivation due to poverty and ability to return to normal condition after a disaster (man-made and natural disaster). Developing resiliency among individuals and families means providing ways of caring for themselves and be able to cope with the effects of painful and difficult situations arising from poverty. This also means rebuilding the community after a disaster and go through the process of recovery.

Assessment

Shelter Security

As of 2015, the twenty-four (24) projects implemented were carried over from the previous years. The Resettlement Assistance Program to LGUs (RAP-LGU) in Caledan, Tacurong City and one (1) Indigenous Peoples' Housing Project in Magpet, Cotabato were new projects in 2015. Efforts to provide decent housing for the poor and the homeless remain a big challenge for the sector. The demand remains unmet particularly for those who have no access to low-cost housing through financing or credit. The implementation of housing, land and shelter development programs and strategies as indicated in the Urban Development and Housing Act has not been fully realized in the region. The long and tedious process of public

bidding is one cause of the delay in the implementation of the projects under the National Housing Authority (NHA) particularly the Resettlement Assistance to Local Government Units.

One of the programs for the indigenous peoples implemented in 2013 was the “Murang Pabahay sa Katutubo” Program in coordination with the National Housing Authority where 850 housing units were constructed. However in 2014, due to the delay in the submission of the required validation and documentary reports and the change of the housing site, said project was not pursued.

In 2015, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) reported that it has conducted

workshops on the formulation of the local shelter plans (LSPs) in eleven (11) local government units of South Cotabato, nine (8) municipalities and Kidapawan City in Cotabato Province and seven municipalities in Sarangani. Some of these LGUs are still in the process of revalidating and updating their respective LSPs for finalization and approval. For Sultan Kudarat Province, the formulation of their LSPs shall be done within the coming year.

One issue confronting most LGUs in the formulation of Local shelter plans is the lack or absence of personnel and housing committee to focus on housing concerns. Some LGUs have not officially created their respective local housing committees. In support of this concern, the Regional Development Council XII and passed a resolution (No. 138 s. 2014, No. 58 s. 2016) encouraging all LGUs in the region to create/ designate a position that will handle housing concerns in their localities.

Under the end-user financing program of the Housing Development Mutual Fund (HDMF), a total of 730.06 million pesos was recorded in 2013 which decreased by 29.18 percent in 2014 and had a shortfall from its target by more than 29 percent. A low turn-out of applicants for housing

loan was noted during the period. With the foregoing results, there is a need to strengthen the implementation of housing and shelter development programs among the local government units. Local Shelter Boards or committees need to be organized to look into housing concerns of local government units. The increasing demand and need for decent housing for the poor and the homeless must be addressed by the LGUs to avoid the increase of “squatters” who build their shanties in dangerous areas such as river banks and along the road right of ways.

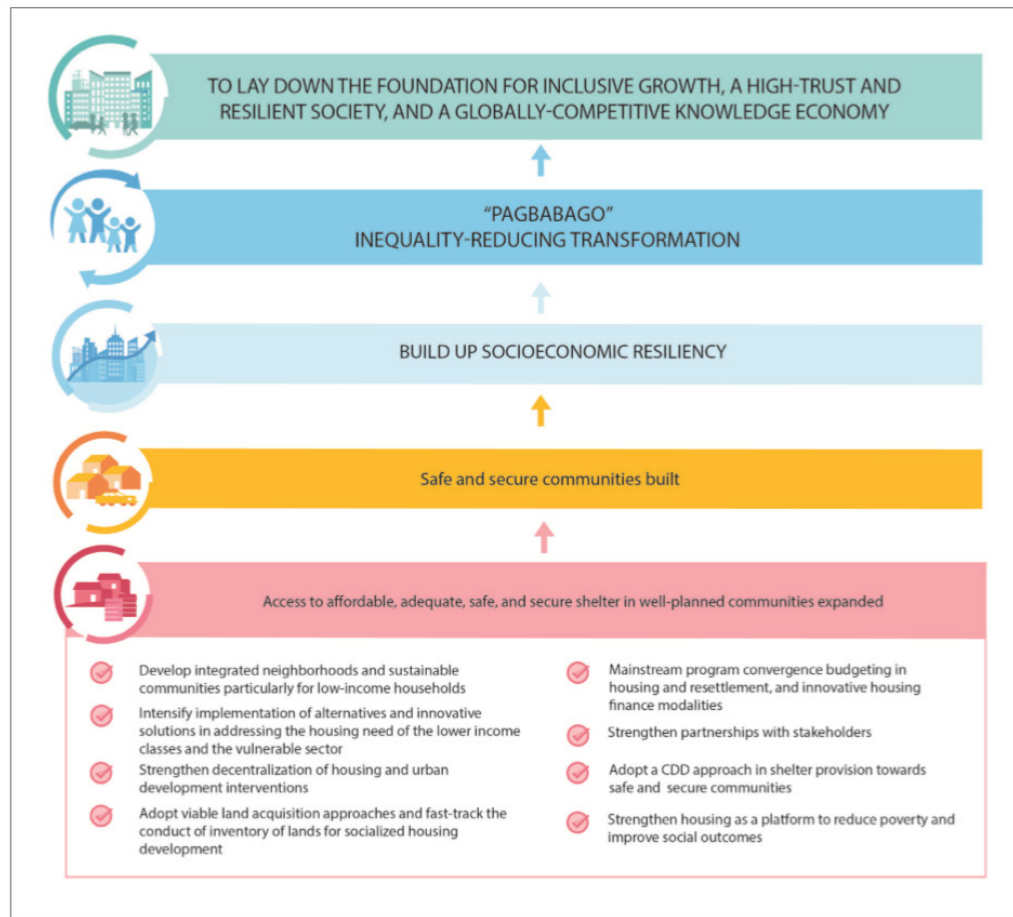
Sustaining Safety

Region XII is prone to different types of disasters: hydrometeorologic (flood, rain-induced landslide, storm surge) and geologic (earthquake, earthquake-induced landslide, liquefaction, tsunami, volcanic eruption). The region is also vulnerable to climate change particularly extreme drought. While DRRM/CCA activities have been mainstreamed in development planning activities to institutionalize the readiness and safety of the people, there is still a need to continue the advocacy of DRRM/CCA to prepare the population in the event of the calamities.

Challenges

- Lack of data on housing (backlogs) from local government units
- Need to formulate/update local shelter plans consistent with the comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs)
- Weak coordination of disaster risk reduction management (DRRM) mechanisms to address disasters

Figure 17: Strategic Framework to Build Safe and Secure Communities, 2017-2022



Priority Strategy

- Intensifying housing and shelter construction to reduce and eventually eradicate housing backlogs based on existing and accurate data on housing backlogs.
- Implementing housing program for the relocation of informal settlers.
- Continuing provision of technical assistance by HLURB to LGUs in the preparation of their enhanced CLUPs to aid in the preparation of their Local Shelter Plans.
- Utilizing existing disaster risk reduction management (DRRM) mechanisms and structures mandated by law and avoid creation of task forces and other temporary structures in leading emergency response and recovery for both slow and rapid onset disasters.
- Institutionalizing and localizing the Incident Command System (ICS) and other standard operating procedures in managing disaster risk reduction and responding to disasters.
- Increasing government investments in DRRM and climate change adaptation and mitigation and improving disaster preparedness and capacity communities and families to respond to calamities

Legislative Agenda

- Enactment of the National Land Use Act
- Support the Comprehensive and Integrated Shelter Finance Act
- Institutionalizing the incident command system at the local levels
- Enactment by local government units of an ordinance penalizing squatting

Results Matrix

By building safe and secure communities, the region aims to enhance its socioeconomic resilience by expanding access to safe, adequate, affordable and well-planned communities, together with the assistance of its Local Government Units (LGUs)

The housing sector in the region targets to deliver direct housing assistance to a total of 6,981 households by 2022, through the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) to Local Government Units (LGU) of the NHA.

Table 37: Results Matrix for the National Shelter Program Direct Housing Assistance, 2017-2022

INDICATOR	BASELINE		ANNUAL PLAN TARGETS					
	YEAR	VALUE	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Societal Goal: To lay down the foundation for inclusive growth, a high-trust and resilient society, and a globally-competitive knowledge economy								
Intermediate Outcome: Inequality in economic opportunities reduced								
Sector Outcome B: Access to economic opportunities in Industry and Service for MSMEs, cooperatives, and overseas Filipinos increased								
Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP)- Local Government Units (LGU) and Indigenous Peoples (IP) Housing Units	2016	552	681	1,650	1,700	1,050	1,000	900

Source of data: NHA XII

Table 38: Housing Targets, 2017-2022

INDICATORS	TARGETS					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Resettlement Assistance to Local Government Units (RAP-LGU)						
Production Target (units/lots)	481	850	1,100	650	400	400
Project Cost (Php Million)	36	84	108	60	48	48
Indigenous People Housing						
Production Target (units/lots)	200	800	600	400	600	500
Project Cost (Php Million)	20	80	60	40	60	50

Source of data: NHA XII