

Peace Building and Development Needs



Since 2011, the Conflict Sensitive Resource and Asset Management (COSERAM) Program supports an integrated approach of poverty reduction and peacebuilding in the region of Caraga and other conflict-affected areas in the Philippines. The COSERAM Program is a joint undertaking of the Philippine and German Governments, implemented by GIZ and partner agencies. The core process on Peacebuilding and Development Needs (PBDN) of the technical cooperation Module 1 of COSERAM brings together mainstreaming of culture and conflict sensitivity in development programming and peacebuilding approaches. The core process focuses in strengthening of governance structures and institutions and building the capacity of the state and non-state multi-stakeholder bodies for peacebuilding.

LEAD EXECUTING PARTNERS: Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)

OTHER DRIVERS OF THE PROCESS: All government agencies that are members of the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) including the civil society organizations (CSOs) represented by Caraga Council for Peace and Development (CCPD)

TARGET GROUPS: Marginalized population especially the Indigenous Peoples and barangay folks

DURATION: January 2011 – December 2018

Context

Caraga, with 2.6 million inhabitants, is rich in natural resources, yet, one of the poorest regions in the Philippines.

- Decades of conflict between armed groups and government forces, as well as conflicts over access to natural resources and land, have significantly hampered Caraga's development. Marginalized groups, i.e. Indigenous Peoples (IPs), women and youth, remain locked in a cycle of poverty. IPs continue to clamor for their Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) over lands the government declared as their ancestral domain.
- Deforestation, excessive and environmentally-harmful mining activities, and large scale monoculture of cash crops worsen the situation and threaten peoples' livelihoods. Large agri-industrial or multi-national companies' investments worsen conflicts on land ownership and use.
- So far, government interventions to the different challenges it faces, including disaster risk management, climate change, and conflict resolution, do not result in the envisioned goals of reducing conflicts and crime, of fostering inclusive economic growth alongside environment protection, and of ensuring protection of human rights.
- Northern Mindanao region (Region 10) is continuously threatened by insurgency. Though the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro has been signed, the region remains confronted with security concerns. Conflicts in Region 10 have been primarily wrought about by the declining availability of resources and the growing marginalization of the rural and indigenous communities from the reach of government services. Sustaining peace remains a volatile situation.



- Issues on persistent poverty, disadvantaged and isolated poor communities, horizontal conflicts over access, control and utilization of land and other natural resources, and displacement of communities due to armed conflict are prevalent in the two regions.
- Mainstreaming concerns for peace, therefore, becomes a necessity as it ensures a comprehensive and concerted action in addressing the pervasive threats to public safety and security. A comprehensive and concerted multi-stakeholders action is urgently needed to address the prevailing socio-economic, cultural, and structural inequities, generally believed to be the root causes of the conflict in the regions.

Approach

To foster dialogue in the cooperation for a more inclusive, sustainable and peaceful development, the PBDN core process supports existing multi-stakeholder platforms, such as the Peace and Order Councils (POCs) and other convergence mechanisms, to develop joint peacebuilding approaches. Emphasis is put on promoting peacebuilding and development needs in a local context. Based on thorough situational analyses, contextualized peace agenda are formulated and implemented on regional and provincial levels. This process includes facilitation of spaces for inter-regional and multi-stakeholder dialogues as well as targeted capacity building measures.

The PBDN core process highlights the inter-connectivity and complex nature of conflicts, which require coordination among a variety of stakeholders, both horizontally (e.g. between POCs and development councils) and vertically (between national, regional, provincial, and city or municipal level). Therefore, the mainstreaming

of peacebuilding and conflict-transformative approaches is facilitated on national level through technical and policy advice. Exchange between national policy-making partners and regional experiences is facilitated in order to upscale and replicate good practices and learnings on conflict-sensitive planning and peacebuilding.

The support to the Caraga Roadmap for Peace (which provides peace and conflict orientation for the peace and development initiatives in the region) will be sustained in Region 13, while the Regional Peace and Order Council in Region 10 will be supported in developing a peace-oriented development framework that addresses peace challenges in the region. Additionally, technical support will be provided to the formulation and roll-out of Peace and Order and Public Safety (POPS) Plans with selected partners, in order to align it with the regional and/or provincial peace agendas by addressing identified peacebuilding and development needs.

Anticipated Results

- Paradigm shift among stakeholders (esp. POCs & RDCs) from confrontation to collaboration, and from individual to harmonized and convergent peacebuilding and development approaches.
- Increased participation of IPs, civil society and private sector in government bodies and platforms for a more inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable development in the target regions.
- Stakeholders on different levels are capacitated in the use and application of participatory approaches for conflict transformation.
- More aligned planning regimes (e.g. comprehensive development plans, POPS Plans, regional development plans, etc.) will address identified context-based peacebuilding and development needs.
- Strengthened capacities of government and non-state partners to analyze, understand, and address root causes of conflicts, therefore contributing to more peaceful and sustainable development.

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