



Participatory Community Planning in Barangay Topas Sogod, Nabua, Camarines Sur

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ABSTRACT – A participatory community planning was done in Topas Sogod, Nabua, Camarines Sur, to address some of the issues and problems that were being experienced by members of the community. The specific objectives of the study were: 1) to identify the resources available within the community; 2) to discuss the existing issues and concerns in the community; and 3) to formulate possible solutions for the existing issues and concerns .

The Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) method was used in order to identify and map out the resources available in the community. Along with the use of the problem tree, focus group discussion (FGD), and SWOT analysis, the PRA method was also used to identify and analyze the priority issues and concerns in the community.

Results showed that there were six categories of resources available within the community: 1) human resources, 2) agricultural products, 3) livestock, 4) natural resources, 5) economic resources, and 6) physical resources. On the other hand, the top six issues that were identified through the FGD were 1) lack of unity, 2) drug addiction, 3) absence of irrigation systems, 4) absence of cooperative programs, 5) absence of livelihood programs for women, and 6) lack of budget for road construction. It was therefore concluded that strategic planning is necessary in conducting community work. Also, recognizing and using the power of linkages ensures successful implementation of programs or projects in the community.

Keywords: participatory planning, Participatory Rural Appraisal, focus group discussion (FGD), problem prioritization



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