
**A BASELINE SURVEY OF BARANGAYS COVERED BY
THE BULABOG PUTI-AN NATIONAL PARK**

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to determine the present needs and problems of the nine barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique which are covered by the Bulabog Puti-an National Park and to establish baseline data as basis for implementation of the outreach program of the University in these areas. Descriptive analysis was employed and utilized the one shot survey design. From a total of 1,886 households, a sample of 319 was obtained using the sampling formula cited in Parel, et.al. (1985) with a margin of error of 0.05. The survey questionnaire served as the main tool for data collection. Results of the study showed that the respondents are generally male, married, in their middle ages, either elementary or high school educated, engaged in farming and earning a relatively low level of income per month. The regular food eaten by the households are primarily rice, fish and vegetables during breakfast, lunch and dinner. Cultural, organizational and political participation of household members is relatively low. Their houses are made of semi-permanent materials and they use electricity for lighting and firewood for cooking. There is a functional road, school, health center and recreation facility in their respective barangays. Majority of the respondents are aware that the Bulabog Puti-an is a national park but do not have activities involving it while gathering/cutting trees for firewood/charcoal and lumber is the main activity for those who have. The respondents have identified major problems and needs confronting their households, barangays in general, and the men, women, youth and children in their barangays.

INTRODUCTION

The Bulabog Puti-an National Park is a protected rainforest area in the province of Iloilo. It was established as a national park in 1961 and is under the protection of the Department of Tourism. It includes five barangays of Dingle, namely: Caguyuman, Camambugan, Lincud, Moroboro and Tulatula-an and four barangays of San Enrique namely: Compo, Lip-ac, Palje and Rumagayray. As a national eco-tourism park filled with natural attractions such as various forms of wildlife and more than 30 caves, it is being visited by local and foreign tourists (from <http://www.exploreiloilo.com/blabog-putian-national-park.html>). Partnerships with different government organizations (GOs) and non-government organizations (NGOs) are being forged in order to protect and improve the environment. A partnership with Central Philippine University, a private higher education institution, was established through its outreach arm, the University Outreach Center with the College of Agriculture and the High School Department, acting as the lead units. As a starting point, initial talks with the key officials of the barangays covered by the park were conducted to ascertain the needs of the stakeholders. This was followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the barangays and the University Outreach Center.

Literatures cited by Dusaran (2006) pointed out that outreach programs should be based on the needs of the people and are decided upon by the people. He further added that before any intervention can be implemented in the barangays covered by the park, the development process requires a needs assessment as basis for the programs to be implemented. It is for this reason, that this baseline survey was conducted in these areas. As a baseline study, the findings will be helpful in assessing what the extension/outreach areas really need. These assessed needs will serve as the basis for planning programs to be implemented to help develop these areas. The baseline data will also serve as a basis of comparison in the evaluation of the impact of the extension/outreach programs implemented in these areas. The study will also provide the necessary evidence in support of the extension/outreach program of the University. Moreover, this study can be used as a basis for doing similar studies in the other proposed communities of the extension/outreach program of the University.

The general objective of this baseline survey was to determine the present needs and problems of the barangays covered by the Bulabog-Putian National Park and to establish baseline data as basis for implementation of the outreach program of the University in these areas. Specifically, this

baseline study aimed to determine the personal profile of the respondents in terms of their age, sex, civil status, educational attainment, occupation and monthly income; the socio-cultural profile of the household members; the economic profile of the household members; the organization and political-involvements of the household members; the housing characteristics of the households and community infrastructures of the barangays; the health, sanitation and environmental practices of the households; the households' activities involving the Bulabog Puti-an National Park; and, the priority needs and problems of the barangays.

METHODOLOGY

The “one shot survey” design was used in this study. Out of the total number of households in the nine barangays covered by the study, the sample size of 319 was determined using the sampling formula:
$$n = \frac{N \cdot Z^2 \cdot p(1-p)}{N(d^2) + Z^2 \cdot P(1-p)}$$

as cited in Parel, et. al. (1985) with a 0.05 sampling error

The respondents of the study were the fathers or mothers, or any responsible adult who is knowledgeable about the household and the community. The sample households in each barangay were drawn using systematic sampling with a random start and identification of the target households was done from the list of households in each barangay. To make provisions for refusals or inavailability of respondents, substitutes were randomly picked from each barangay, consisting of at least 5 % of the sample size after three attempts to reach a respondent had failed.

Data were collected through personal interview using the baseline survey instrument made by the University Outreach Center. Interviewers were trained by the researcher and were closely supervised. Interviews were conducted in the homes of the respondents. The conduct of interviews were closely monitored and supervised by a team leader who collected and reviewed the completed instruments at the end of the day.

The data were computer-processed using the SPSS PC + Version 11. The data were analyzed using appropriate statistical tools such as frequency count and percentages.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Personal Profile of the Respondents

There are a little more male than female respondents belonging to the middle-aged group, predominantly married, either elementary or high school educated, engaged in farming, and having households with one to five members (Table 1).

Table 1. Distribution of the Respondents According to Sex, Age, Civil Status, Educational Attainment, Major Occupation, and Household Size

Profile/Categories	f	%
Sex		
Male	180	56.4
Female	139	43.6
Total	319	100.0
Age		
30 years old and below	29	9.1
31 to 40 years old	68	21.3
41 to 50 years old	82	25.7
51 to 60 years old	75	23.5
61 years old and above	65	20.4
Total	319	100.0
Mean Age = 48.89 years old		
Civil Status		
Single	18	5.6
Married	247	77.4
Widowed	49	15.4
Separated	3	0.9
Live-in	2	0.6
Total	319	100.0
Educational Attainment		
No formal schooling	4	1.3
Primary (grades 1-4)	28	8.8
Elementary (grades 1-6)	106	33.2
Secondary (HS 1-4)	118	37.0
College level	25	7.8
Voc/Tech graduate	15	4.7
College graduate	21	6.6
Others	2	0.6
Total	319	100.0
Number of Household Members		
None	19	6.0
1 member	42	13.1
2-3 members	110	34.5
4-5 members	96	30.1
6-7 members	40	12.5
8-9 members	12	3.8
Total	319	100.0
Mean = 2.76		

Economic Profile of the Respondents

Most of the households have very minimal monthly or yearly expenses for education, medical, food, clothing, recreation, utilities and emergency needs of the family (Table 2). Less than the majority of the households are engaged in small-scale farming of either rice, corn, sugarcane or vegetable farming with a majority of them having only more or less a hectare of land for it. They use either organic or inorganic fertilizer for their crops; chemicals, pesticides/ fungicides to control pests and diseases in their crops; and herbicides and handpulling to control weeds (Table 3). Majority of the households depend solely in the rain for their source of water in their farm, and just drain the excess water in the neighboring farm and make use of the compost pit as a means of waste disposal (Table 4). Only a few of the respondents' households are engaged in fishing which is meant for their consumption only and make use either of the hook and line or gill net and fish cage (Table 5).

The respondents' households eat carbohydrates, primarily rice, protein, primarily fish; and vegetables during breakfast, lunch and dinner and take some forms of beverages especially during breakfast (Table 6).

Health, Sanitation and Environmental Practices of the Households

They have pumps/artesian wells and piped-in water as their source of water for drinking and cooking. They have either a water sealed or antipolo type of toilet. They either use a septic tank or an open drainage for their water disposal while they either burn or use a garbage pit for the disposal of their solid wastes. As for common illnesses experienced by household members, it is mostly a combination of cough, colds and fever (Table 7).

Socio-Cultural Profile of the Household Members

Almost the same number of respondents are both knowledgeable and not knowledgeable of the presence of cultural activities being conducted in their barangays such as fiesta and fiesta-related activities like Benefit Dance, Super Nanay Contest and Basketball League as well as Family Day and Daigon Contest. The purposes of these cultural activities are for fund raising; fun; and, community/family bonding and fellowship and for the preservation of religious and cultural values.

Table 2. Distribution of the Households' Expenditure for Education of Children, Medical Expenses, Food, Clothing, Recreation, Utilities and Other Expenses

Profile/Categories	Monthly		Yearly	
	f	%	f	%
Education of children (P)				
None	120	37.6	137	42.9
500 and below	79	24.8	33	10.3
501 to 1000	58	18.2	39	12.3
1001 to 5000	57	17.9	50	15.7
5001 and above	5	1.5	60	18.8
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P855.56			Mean = P8,531.95	
Medical Expenses (P)				
None	89	27.9	73	22.9
500 and below	178	55.8	131	41.1
501 to 1000	22	6.9	24	7.5
1001 to 5000	30	9.4	45	14.1
5001 and above	0	0.0	46	14.4
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P444.48			Mean = P5,212.31	
Food (P)				
None	8	2.5	45	14.1
500 and below	38	11.9	24	7.5
501 to 1000	61	19.1	11	3.4
1001 to 5000	201	63.1	29	9.1
5001 and above	11	3.4	210	65.8
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P2,080.40			Mean = P20,415.18	
Clothing (P)				
None	206	64.6	162	50.8
500 and below	89	27.9	86	27.0
501 to 1000	16	5.0	10	3.1
1001 to 5000	8	2.5	41	12.8
5001 and above	0	0.0	20	6.3
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P205.85			Mean = P2,414.42	
Recreation (P)				
None	296	92.8	297	93.1
500 and below	18	5.6	6	1.9
501 to 1000	2	0.6	8	2.5
1001 to 5000	3	1.0	5	1.6
5001 and above			3	0.9
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P58.62			Mean = P648.28	
Utilities (P)				
None	46	14.4	78	24.5
500 and below	220	69.0	139	43.6
501 to 1000	35	11.0	35	11.0
1001 to 5000	17	5.3	41	12.9
5001 and above	1	0.3	26	8.2
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P373.32			Mean = P3,403.71	
Others (P)				
None	268	84.0	279	87.5
500 and below	34	10.7	30	9.4
501 to 1000	4	1.3	0	0.0
1001 to 5000	10	3.1	1	0.3
5001 and above	3	0.9	9	2.8
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0
Mean = P188.06			Mean = P1159.69	

Table 3. Distribution of Respondents According to Kind of Farming Engaged in, Area Allotted to a Particular Crop and Cultural Management Practiced

Profile/Categories	f	%
If Member of Household is engaged in Farming		
Yes	154	48.3
No	165	51.7
Total	319	100.0
Type of Farming and Area Allotted		
Rice Farming		
None	249	78.1
1 hectare and below	62	19.4
1.01 to 2 hectares	7	2.2
2.01 hectares and above	1	0.3
Total	319	100.0
Corn Farming		
None	311	97.5
1 hectare and below	8	2.5
Total	319	100.0
Sugarcane Farming		
None	308	96.6
1 hectare and below	5	1.6
1.01 to 2 hectares	2	0.6
2.01 hectares and above	4	1.2
Total	319	100.0
Vegetable Farming		
None	293	91.8
1 hectare and below	26	8.2
Total	319	100.0
Mean = 0.0251		
Others		
None	299	93.7
1 hectare and below	19	8.2
> 1 hectare	1	0.3
Total	319	100.0
Mean = 0.0667		
Fertilized Used in Crops		
None	203	63.6
Organic	36	11.3
Inorganic	39	12.2
Foliar	13	4.1
Combination	28	8.8
Total	319	100.0
Method Used to control Pests and Disease in Crops		
None	215	67.4
Use chemicals, pesticides/fungicides	77	24.1
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	5	1.6
Others	2	0.6
Combination	20	6.3
Total	319	100.0
Methods Used to Control Weeds		
None	193	60.5
Herbicides	46	14.4
Handpulling	43	13.5
Rotary weeder	4	1.3
Others	3	0.9
Combination	30	9.4
Total	319	100.0

Table 4. Distribution of Respondents According to Source of Irrigation, Drainage of Excess Field Water and Waste Disposal

Profile/Categories	f	%
Source of Irrigation Water		
None	171	53.6
Rainfed	78	24.5
NIA Irrigation	20	6.3
Communal Irrigation System	9	2.8
Tube well pump	30	9.4
Combination	11	3.4
Total	319	100.0
Drainage		
None	202	63.3
Neighboring farm	74	23.2
Own farm reservoir	12	3.8
Nearby Jalaur river	22	6.9
Others	9	2.8
Total	319	100.0
If Household Produce Waste Water in Livestock Production		
Yes	23	7.2
None	296	92.8
Total	319	100.0
Drainage of Waste Water		
None	282	88.4
Neighboring farm	15	4.7
Own farm reservoir	9	2.8
Nearby river (Jalaur)	7	2.2
Others	6	1.9
Total	319	100.0
Manner of Animal Waste/Manure Disposal		
None	200	62.7
Compost pit	76	23.8
Septic tank	26	8.2
Dump anywhere	8	2.5
Collected by neighbors	2	0.6
Others	7	2.0
Total	319	100.0

Table 5. Distribution of Respondents According to Fishing - Related Information

Profile/Categories	f		%			
Household or Household Member Engaged in Fishing						
Yes	8		2.5			
No	311		97.5			
Total	319		100.0			
Methods Used in Catching Fish						
	Hook and Line		Gill Net		Fish Cage	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Fish Species Caught						
None	317	99.4	317	99.4	317	99.4
Carp	2	0.6	1	0.3		
Tilapia			1	0.3		
Mixed					2	0.6
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Volume of Catch (kgs)						
0	317	99.4	316	99.1	317	99.4
1	1	0.3				
2						
3			1	0.3	1	0.3
4			1	0.3	1	0.3
5			1	0.3		
> 10	1	0.3				
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Value of Catch (P)						
0	318	99.7	315	98.8	317	99.4
80	1	0.3				
150			1	0.3		
200					1	0.3
250			1	0.3		
350			1	0.3		
500			1	0.3		
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Years Engaged in Fishing						
	f		%			
0	313		98.1			
20 years	1		0.3			
23 years	1		0.3			
30 years	3		1.0			
32 years	1		0.3			
Total	319		100.0			
Assessment in Number of Fish Species						
None	296		92.7			
Increased	1		0.3			
Decreased	11		3.5			
Remains the same	11		3.5			
Total	319		100.0			
Assessment in Fish Caught						
None	304		95.3			
Increased	1		0.3			
Decreased	8		2.5			
Remains the same	6		1.9			
Total	319		100.0			

Table 6. Distribution of the Food Regularly Eaten by the Respondents' Households during Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Food Frequently Eaten	Breakfast		Lunch		Dinner	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Carbohydrates (rice, banana, etc.)						
Yes	317	99.4	317	99.4	316	99.1
No	2	0.6	2	0.6	3	0.9
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Protein (meat, fish, eggs, etc.)						
Yes	304	95.3	261	81.8	280	87.8
No	15	4.7	58	18.2	39	12.2
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Vegetables						
Yes	193	60.5	299	93.7	181	56.7
No	126	39.5	20	6.3	138	43.3
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Fruits						
Yes	179	56.1	159	49.8	101	31.7
No	140	43.9	160	50.2	218	68.3
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Beverage						
Yes	289	90.6	100	31.3	76	23.8
No	30	9.4	219	68.7	243	76.2
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0
Others						
Yes	13	4.1	7	2.2	7	2.2
No	306	95.9	312	97.8	312	97.8
Total	319	100.0	319	100.0	319	100.0

Organization and Political Involvement of the Household Members

They are aware of the presence of organizations in their respective barangays; most common of these organizations are the Parent-Teacher Community Association, Senior Citizen's group, barangay tanod, barangay council and women's group (Table 8). As to their political involvement in their barangays, majority of the respondents had voted in the last election and a few of them had launched their candidacy either in the barangay level or municipal level. Almost all of the respondents are aware that a regular meeting is being held in their barangay at least twice a year. The households as represented by the respondents are aware of the ordinances passed in their barangays namely: curfew for the minors, peace and order, closing of stores and videokes, anti-littering and solicitation for any assistance for any assistants for bereavement (Table 9).

Table 7. Distribution of the Respondents According to Their Health and Sanitation Practices

Profile/Categories	f	%
Source of Water for Drinking/Cooking		
Piped-in Water	122	38.2
Pump/artesian well	146	45.8
Open well	23	7.2
Stream/river	7	2.2
Others	21	6.6
Total	319	100.0
Kind of Toilet Used		
None	6	1.9
Water Sealed	224	70.2
Antipolo	63	19.7
Open Pit	26	8.2
Total	319	100.0
Waste/Water Disposal		
None	14	4.4
Open Drainage	122	38.2
Septic Tank	129	40.5
Blind Drainage	53	16.6
Others	1	0.3
Total	319	100.0
Solid Waste Disposal		
Garbage pit	107	33.5
Garbage truck	1	0.3
Burning	130	40.8
Thrown away	20	6.3
Others	3	0.9
Multiple answer	58	18.2
Total	319	100.0
Common Illness Experienced by Household Members		
Cough	32	10.1
Colds	3	0.9
Fever	4	1.3
Amoebiasis	1	0.3
Others	2	0.6
Combination of these Illnesses	277	86.8
Total	319	100.0

Housing Characteristics of the Households and Community Infrastructures of the Barangays

Most of their houses are made of semi-permanent materials. They have electricity, and kerosene lamp as their means of lighting and make use of firewood and charcoal as their fuel for cooking. The sources of these firewood or charcoal, are either homegrown or taken within the Bulabog Puti-an National Park area (Table 10).

All of them agreed that there is a functional road in their barangays made mostly of plain sand and gravel only. As for the drainage system in their

barangays, it is an open drainage system. Their barangays have schools which are mainly a combination of a pre-school and an elementary school or an elementary school only. There is a functional health center in their barangays, however, its availability to serve the community depends solely upon the availability of the personnel in-charge of it. For recreational facilities available in their barangays, the basketball court is the most common. These infrastructures mentioned by the respondents can really be seen in their community as observed by the researcher (Table 11).

Table 8. Distribution of the Respondents According to Their Knowledge of Presence of Organizations Existing in Their Barangay and Involvement in These Organizations

Profile/Categories	f	%
If the community has any organizations		
Yes	193	60.5
No	126	39.5
Total	319	100.0
Membership in any Organization		
Yes	65	20.4
No	254	79.6
Total	319	100.0
Membership in an Organization (multiple response)		
Yes	61	18.7
No	266	81.3
Total	319	100.0
Status of Membership (multiple response)		
Yes	75	22.9
No	252	77.1
Total	327	100.0
If the Household Member is an Officer in an Organization (multiple response)		
Yes	17	5.2
No	210	94.8
Total	327	100.0
If the Membership Status is Inactive (multiple response)		
Yes	3	0.9
No	324	99.1
Total	327	100.0
Name of Organizations (multiple response)		
None	247	75.5
PTCA	11	3.4
Women's Club	8	2.4
DGWCC	1	0.3
Senior Citizen	11	3.4
DMPC	1	0.3
Brgy. Health Worker	5	1.5
Religious Organization	4	1.2
Brgy. Tanod	9	2.8
BSV	1	0.3
Brgy. Human Rights Organization	1	0.3
Brgy. Council	9	2.8
Rural Improvement Club	3	0.9
Sitio Lulwangang Youth & Parent Assoc.	2	0.6
Farmer's Association	3	0.9
TSKI-NGO	1	0.3
Kalipi (DSWD)	2	0.6
CORE Group	3	0.9
KKK	2	0.6
Sangguniang Kabataan	2	0.6
RARBA	1	0.3
Total	327	100.0

Table 9. Distribution of the Respondents According to Their Political Involvement in Their Barangay and Their Knowledge on the Presence of Ordinances in The Barangay

Profile/Categories	f	%
If household member have been voted in the last election		
Yes	284	89.0
No	35	11.0
Total	319	100.0
If household have been a candidate for any elective position		
Yes	33	10.3
No	286	89.7
Total	319	100.0
Level of Candidacy		
None	283	88.7
Barangay	34	10.7
Municipal	2	0.6
Total	319	100.0
Regular Assembly Meeting in the Barangay		
Yes	311	97.5
No	8	2.5
Total	327	100.0
Frequency of Conducting the Brgy. Assembly Meeting		
None	5	1.6
Monthly	13	4.1
Quarterly	2	6.9
Twice a Year	186	58.3
Once a Year	93	29.1
Total	319	100.0
If the Barangay has any Ordinance		
Yes	277	86.8
No	42	13.2
Total	319	100.0
Barangay Ordinances		
None	42	13.2
Could not name the ordinance	46	14.4
Curfew for minors	52	16.3
Closure of stores and videokes	3	0.9
Clean and green	30	9.4
Solicitation of any kind of bereavement	22	6.9
Peace and order	54	16.9
Business permits/Store taxes	19	6.0
Illegal fishing is prohibited	5	1.6
Multiple answers (Closure of stores Anti-littering, curfew, solicitation)	46	14.4
Total	319	100.0

Table 10. Distribution of the Respondents according to their Housing Characteristics

Profile/Categories	f	%
Housing Materials		
Permanent	73	22.9
Semi-Permanent	139	43.6
Temporary	107	33.5
Total	319	100.0
Source of Lighting		
Electricity	232	72.7
Air Pressure	1	0.3
Kerosene	74	23.2
Candles	10	3.2
Others	2	0.6
Total	319	100.0
Kind of fuel used for cooking		
Firewood	215	67.4
Charcoal	44	13.8
LPG	1	0.3
Electricity	1	0.3
Combination	58	18.2
Total	319	100.0
Source of firewood or charcoal		
Homegrown	136	42.6
Bought Outside	46	14.4
Taken within the area	93	29.2
Others	2	0.6
Combination	42	13.2
Total	319	100.0

Table 11. Distribution of the Respondents According to Their Knowledge of Infrastructures in Their Barangay

Profile/Categories	f	%
If there's a functional road in the barangay		
Yes	319	100.0
Total	319	100.0
Type of road in the barangay		
Plain sand and gravel only	271	85.0
Concrete	33	10.3
Combination	15	4.7
Total	319	100.0
If the barangay has a functional drainage		
Yes	130	40.8
No	189	59.2
Total	319	100.0
Type of drainage in the barangay		
None	189	59.2
Open drainage	130	40.8
Total	319	100.0
If there is a school in the barangay		
Yes	319	100.0
Total	319	100.0
Type of school present		
Pre-school	58	18.2
Elementary	129	40.4
Both Pre-school and Elementary	132	41.4
Total	319	100.0

Table 11 Continued

If there is a functional health center		
Yes	221	69.3
No	98	30.7
Total	319	100.0
Availability of Health Center Present		
None	91	28.5
Daily	54	16.9
Twice a Week	6	1.9
Once a Week	21	6.6
Others	147	46.1
Total	319	100.0
Recreational Facilities in the Barangay		
None	28	8.8
Basketball Court	258	80.9
Volleyball Court	1	0.3
Senior Citizens	1	0.3
Presence of more than 2 facilities	28	8.8
Others	3	0.9
Total	319	100.0

Households' Activities Involving Bulabog Puti-an National Park

Majority of the respondents are not involved in any activities in the Bulabog Puti-an National Park and only a few of them have activities such as gathering/cutting trees for firewood/charcoal and cutting trees for lumber. As for their awareness of Bulabog Puti-an as a national park, majority of them are aware but not affected by it. For those who are affected, their reasons are: private land was changed to timberland and not favorable to the land owners. When asked as to their opinion on the declaration of the Bulabog Puti-an as a national park, majority of the respondents have no comment and said it is good, will promote tourism and will preserve wild life and forest trees. Majority of the respondents are in favor of its declaration as a national park and some of their reasons include the following: to protect and preserve natural resources; to attract tourists; and, to eliminate illegal loggers (Table 12).

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Households

The general major problems of the households of the municipality of Dingle, as perceived by the respondents with respect to their households include financial or lack of regular employment or income, food shortage/limited food supply and illness and lack of medicine. The barangays

Table 12. Distribution of the Respondents According to Their Knowledge of Activities Involving the Bulabog Puti-an National Park and Their Involvement in These Activities

Profile/Categories	f	%
Activities Involving the Bulabog Puti-an National Park		
None	306	95.9
Gathering/cutting trees for firewood/charcoal	12	3.8
Cutting trees for lumber	1	0.3
Total	319	100.0
Awareness on the Existence of Bulabog Puti-an National Park		
Yes	276	86.5
No	43	13.5
Total	319	100.0
Weather Respondent's Activities Involving Bulabog Puti-an has been Affected		
Yes	29	9.1
No	290	90.9
Total	319	100.0
Reaction to the Declaration of Bulabog Puti-an National Park		
No comment	184	57.7
Way of living is not affected	65	20.4
Far from the are	19	6.0
To save natural resources	17	5.3
Private land damaged to timberland	14	4.4
Not favorable to the land owners	10	3.1
No knowledge about the activities	10	3.1
Total	319	100.0
Opinion on the declaration of the Bulabog Puti-an as a National Park		
No comment	127	39.8
Good	66	20.7
Will promote tourism	70	21.9
Will preserve wild life and forest trees	30	9.4
Not good	14	4.4
Will stop illegal logging	7	2.2
Favorable to all	5	1.6
Total	319	100.0
If the respondent is in favor or not in the declaration		
Yes	243	76.2
No	76	23.8
Total	319	100.0
Respondents' reason if in favor or not in the declaration		
No comment	95	29.8
To protect and preserve natural resources	89	27.9
To attract tourists	67	21.0
To eliminate the illegal loggers	44	13.8
Favorable to the nearby residence	14	4.4
Not favorable to the land owners	10	3.1
Total	319	100.0

of the municipality of San Enrique have food shortage/limited food, financial/lack of regular income and lack of medicines/illness as their 3 major household problems. Given their major problems, the respondents of the barangays of both municipalities have verbalized the following three major needs respectively: food, regular work or income, and medicine/ health care. These three major needs are interrelated or have cause-effect relationship with one another for if a person has an income, it follows that, that person will have enough food and if a person has enough food then, that person will not get sick.

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Barangays

The problems of the barangays of the municipality of Dingle are quite different from those of the barangays of the municipality of San Enrique. However, the respondents were unanimous in their number one problem which is the rough/muddy roads and broken bridges which hold true for each of the nine barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique. In relation to these perceived problems in their barangays, the three major needs of the barangays of the municipality of Dingle as perceived by the respondents are concrete roads and good bridges; provision for utilities such as water and electricity; and, livelihood projects. As for the municipality of San Enrique, the three major needs of their barangays as perceived by the respondents are sports and recreation facilities; livelihood projects; and, maintenance of peace and order.

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Men in the Barangays

The number one and number two problems of the men in the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique as perceived by the respondents are vices such as smoking, drinking, drugs, gambling and even theft; and, unemployment or lack of a stable job. It could be deduced that problems 1 and 2 of these municipalities are interrelated with one another. It appears that the lack of regular employment or income for the men led them into these vices that subsequently, make them forget temporarily their inability to provide the needs of their family. Or having a lot of idle time because of lack of jobs pushes them to engage in these vices in order to waylay their time everyday. As for the perceived needs of the men of the barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique, the respondents said that the number one need of men in their barangays is the need for regular work/income which could be an answer too for all the other problems that they may have.

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Women in the Barangays

Unemployment or lack of regular job or work of the women in their barangays is a concern for all the respondents of the barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique. On the other hand, the number one need of the women as perceived by the respondents from the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique is regular work or income and skills training.

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Youth in the Barangays

The first major problem of the youth as perceived by the respondents of the barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique are the same, that is, lack of education or educational opportunities but they differed in their second and third major problems. Education is the number one need of the youth of the nine barangays of the two municipalities which could be considered as the key answer to all their problems and concerns.

The Priority Needs and Problems of the Children in the Barangays

The number one problem of children in the barangays as perceived by the respondents is malnutrition or lack of food. This problem could be considered as an offshoot of lack of income or financial difficulty which was also the number one problem of the households. It follows that the number one need of the children is nutritious food as perceived by the respondents of the barangays of the municipality of Dingle and of the barangays of the municipality of San Enrique.

DISCUSSION

On the whole, this study establishes the baseline data as to the present needs and problems of the barangays covered by the Bulabog-Putian National Park that could serve as the basis for implementation of the outreach program of the University in these areas. This study has determined the personal, socio-cultural, and economic profile of the respondents; their organizational and political involvements; the housing characteristics of the households and community infrastructures in the community; their health,

the Bulabog Puti-an National Park; and, priority needs and problems of the barangays.

The major problems in general of the households of the municipality of Dingle, as perceived by the respondents with respect to their households include financial or lack of regular employment or income, food shortage/limited food supply and illness and lack of medicine while the barangays of the municipality of San Enrique have food shortage/limited food, financial/lack of regular income and lack of medicines/illness as their 3 major household problems. The respondents were unanimous in saying that the number one problem of the barangays of both municipalities is rough/muddy roads and broken bridges, thus it follow that their number one need is concrete roads and good bridges. The perceived major problems of the men in the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique by the respondents are vices such as smoking, drinking, drugs, gambling and even theft; and, unemployment or lack of a stable job which could be met by the provision of regular employment for them. Unemployment or lack of regular job or work of the women in their barangays is a concern for all the respondents of the barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique which could be answered by providing them with a regular work or income and skills training. The major problem of the youth as perceived by the respondents of the barangays of the municipalities of Dingle and San Enrique is lack of education or educational opportunities which could be considered as the key answer to all their problems and concerns. The major problem of the children in the barangays as perceived by the respondents is malnutrition or lack of food which could be considered as an offshoot of lack of income or financial difficulty which was also the major problem of the households. It follows that the number one need of the children is nutritious food as perceived by the respondents.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions are drawn:

The respondents and their households are primarily engaged in small-scale farming and earn a relatively low income. Majority of them use firewood as fuel for cooking and these firewood or charcoal, were either homegrown or taken within the area.

Majority of the common illnesses experienced by the household members are a combination of cough, colds and fever. Also, the health

centers in the barangays are not open daily to attend to the emergency and common needs of the people in the barangays. Moreover, not all of their children of school age are presently able to go to school.

Cultural participation of household members is relatively low as indicated by their low level of knowledge and participation in these cultural activities in their barangays. Organizational involvement of the households is also generally low as indicated by the low percentages of their membership, officership and active involvement in these said organizations. As to their political involvement, majority of them had voted in the last election and a few of them had launched their candidacy either in the barangay level or municipal level.

The respondents have identified major problems and needs confronting their households, barangays in general, and the men, women, youth and children in their barangays.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions of the study, the following are hereby recommended:

Since the respondents and their households are primarily dependent on farming for their income, it is recommended that steps should be taken in order to improve their farming. Also, that some forms of skills training or income generating projects be introduced in these barangays to augment their income.

Parents must be convinced of the importance of education so that they could send their children to school in spite of their economic condition. Moreover, steps must be taken in order that all children of school age are sent to school.

Efforts must be taken by the barangay officials so that their constituents could participate actively in the activities and organizations in their barangays.

Since the common illnesses experienced by the households such as colds, cough, fever and the like could be prevented, it is suggested that parents, especially the mothers should be taught the proper health care of their children and family. Likewise, since health is of utmost importance, it is

recommended that the health centers in the barangays be opened daily to attend to the emergency and common needs of the people in the barangays.

Since firewood is still the main fuel used for cooking by almost all of the respondents, it is suggested that the households be encouraged to plant trees for fuel or charcoal so as not to destroy the forest in the Bulabog Puti-an National Park.

The identified major problems and needs of the respondents' households, their barangays in general, and the men, women, youth and children in their barangays have to be considered in planning intervention programs for the different barangays covered by the Bulabog Puti-an National Park. These should be the bases of the different outreach programs that the university should implement in these areas.

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