

## **D. Social Assessment**

### **1.1 Project Beneficiaries**

The subproject beneficiaries are the constituents of barangays Paraiso and Daig particularly its farming community. Barangay Paraiso is inhabited mostly of Cebuanos. An estimated 99.3% of the barangay population is Cebuanos and only 0.7% belongs to different ethnic groups such as Ilonggo, Ilocano and Boholano. On the other hand, Barangay Daig is composed of mostly Cebuanos and Ilonggos with few indigenous people known as B'laan.

The Local Government Unit through the Barangay Government of Barangay Paraiso and Daig have conducted a joint consultative meeting for the clustered barangays (Paraiso, Daig and Magbok) last January 29, 2011, 9:00 in the morning at the Barangay Hall of Barangay Paraiso, Tulunan, Cotabato. It was attended by the officials and constituents of the three (3) clustered barangays. The meeting was participated by the different sectors of the community. An estimated 35% of the participants of the meeting are women coming from the Barangay Paraiso and Daig. In totality, the consultative meeting generated a positive outcome and that the constituents of the affected barangays are enthusiastic about the implementation of the project since they have understood that the project would bring about a holistic development in their community. Even members of the indigenous people living in the barangay have acceded with the project implementation.

### **1.2 Road Right-of-Way**

The identified project is not located inside an ancestral domain though it will benefit an extant community of Sitio Dapok, Daig, Tulunan, Cotabato that is inhabited by Indigenous People known as "B'laan". The Chieftain of the said tribal community and some of the members of the community have attended the consultative meeting and that they have acceded with the project implementation

considering that the said project would bring about social and economic development.

The subproject is an existing farm to market road. The mountainous terrain of the barangay has diverted the road to the private lots and not on the proper lots roads. Though the subject road lies on the private lands, the allocation of its right of way is secured considering that a Road Right of Way Agreement between the land owners and the barangay government of Paraiso and Daig stipulating the perpetual use of the land as farm to market road was made. The subproject Rehabilitation of the Paraiso-Daig Farm to Market Road has a total length of 8,600 meters with a width of 6 meters. The total land area that will be affected by the subproject is 51,600 square meters. The existing land use of lands to be traversed by the subproject is an agricultural land.

### **1.3 Damage to Standing Crops, Houses, and/or Properties**

The construction of the subproject will not result to any crop or property damage considering that it is an existing farm to market road and that the said road section has already been cleared from crops, trees and properties such as houses and other vertical structures. Consequently, the subproject would not result to house or other structure relocations that therefore imply that there are no physical and economic displacements and that during the duration of the project implementation it could not promote health hazards considering the distance of the houses residents is not close enough to the proposed project.

Recognizing the demand for improving agricultural productivity and the potential area to contribute in gaining food security, barangay residents had expressed string support, interest, willingness and commitment that they are keen to be organized and coordinate all efforts required for the success of the project and likewise to sustain project management and monitoring evaluation.

## **E. Environmental Considerations/Environmental Management Plan**

### **7.1 Environmental Study/Program (see attached Environmental Management Plan)**

The rehabilitation of the Paraiso to Daig Farm to Market Road is located in the upper portion of the municipality. It is an 8.60-kilometer farm to market road located at Barangay Paraiso and Daig, Tulunan, Cotabato. The proposed road traverses on both sides vast area of agricultural land. The area is mostly planted with rubber, banana, coconut and corn being the major products of the both Barangay Paraiso and Daig. There is no presence of water ecosystems, endangered species and other important species in the area and it has not been officially declared or proposed as protected area of natural habitat.

The proposed subproject could not affect any structure, monuments or physical cultural resources that have historical significance and it has not been a part of an important natural feature or landscape. There is also no identified potential archeological site that could be affected in the project.

The topography of the proposed subproject site is generally a hilly terrain where its soil is classified as clay loam and is not generally too loose. Rainfall in the area is generally heavy with which eventually becomes muddy during rainy days. The road terrain has slopes ranging from 9.5% to 17.5%, which was identified in the design to be concreted pavement. The road passes through a relatively benign terrain where cuts will be minimal.

During the construction stage, construction activities may not result to any destruction of any sensitive vegetation and will not disturb wildlife. Considering that the subproject is a rehabilitation of Paraiso-Daig Road, it implies that there is an existing road network and that the area has already been cleared of vegetation. There will be no potential contamination of surface and groundwater with oil/grease from the equipment.

The proposed rehabilitation of the Paraiso-Daig Road may be able to provide or generate employment to the local residents and that hiring priority shall be given to qualified local residents. Since workers are mostly local and are expected to go home to their respective houses after work, there would be less potential contamination of human wastes considering that most likely there will be no temporary shelter or base camps. If ever there would be temporary shelters or base camps, the contractors shall be advised to set up adequate latrine/toilet facility at the base camp.

The subproject might cause a potential disruption of traffic flow, considering that the identified road network serves as the only access road of the barangay, hence, it is the rehabilitation is considered as vital to the daily activities of the residents and needs to be kept open to traffic during construction. Contractors will be advised to keep the road open to traffic flow and to minimize disruptions along the access road/or construction area and to provide adequate warning signs and traffic personnel when necessary.

Considering that the rehabilitation works does not pass through a populated area and that it is away from the residential area, noise from the construction would not be able to disturb the residents in the area.

The LGU together BLGU and residents' beneficiaries and other line agencies including the Civil Society Organization are supportive of the governments program on environment. In fact, several environmental related program and projects were already implemented specifically the RA 9003 or Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000. Hence, contractors are advised to observe proper waste disposal by providing temporary waste disposal facilities to minimize the amount of site litter.

The health and safety of the workers and the public may also be stake due to the activities and physical hazards present at site. Hence, contractors for these

projects are advised to strictly observe safety and mitigation measures and comply with existing labor laws and standards. Therefore, standard construction safety protocols must be properly observed.

Conceivably, LGU encourages development through infrastructure projects and other farm-support facilities, which are environment friendly and at the same time able to address the need of the target beneficiaries. The agency also ensure that during project implementation it abides with the guidelines set by DENR-EMB regarding infrastructure project implementation.

## **7.2 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures**

Mitigation and enhancement measures have been employed to immunize the negative effect of the activities to the people

## **7.3 Contingency Plan**

In case of emergencies like accidents, the contractor and the LGU are held liable on all the cost that will be incurred.

## **7.4 Monitoring Plan**

Monitoring of construction activities shall be done before, during and after each activity phases through the help of the Municipal Engineering Office, Municipal Project Monitoring Committee, Municipal Project Monitoring and Implementing Unit and the MRDP Monitoring Team.

## **7.5 Institutional Responsibility and Agreements**

It is the responsibility of both LGU and contractor on the smooth implementation of the project following strictly the plans, programs and specifications and the ECC conditions of the project.

