

Water Connection Project Pualas, Philippines (2022) Case Study

Period of Performance: MAR 2022



Practice Area: Community Development

Location: Pualas

Surveys: 758

Project Objectives

In early 2022, Representatives from the Philippine Army recommended the Barangays in Pualas as an ideal location for datamapping and subsequent programming. Due to the lingering ISIS presence in remote areas of the region, impoverished villagers are at an increased risk to recruitment. By assessing the needs of the local community, IMPL. can conduct programming to target the drivers of instability before more insidious organizations attempt to take advantage of the area's vulnerabilities for their own causes.

- **Project Objective 1:** *Conduct datamapping in Pualas and the surrounding Barangays to determine the chief grievances facing the citizens.*
- **Project Objective 2:** *Develop bespoke programming recommendations to not only tackle the issues facing the locals, but also strengthen their ability to resist recruitment from VEOs.*

Key Findings

The team conducted data collection in Pualas to assess their needs and how to resolve these needs. The team covered 6 barangays out of the 23 total barangays in the municipality: Dapao, Yaran, Purog, Tuka, Linuk, and Danugan.

The team gathered 758 responses, with a majority citing the lack of potable water as one of their chief concerns. In addition, 30% of the respondents said they were unemployed due to the increased operating costs of farming.

Methodology

- **Community Perception Surveys:**

A team of enumerators surveyed the citizens of Pualas using QuickTapSurvey on phones or tablets. Questions included demographics, as well as questions regarding the respondent's most dire needs. This data was then collated and assessed using state-of-the-art analytical tools.

- **Vet Systematic Causes:**

Since the majority of respondents identified the lack of potable water and livelihoods due to being priced out of agriculture as their main issues, the team could start to determine the most effective programming recommendations to suit the needs of the citizens of Pualas.

- **Establish Baselines:**

With a sufficient number of surveys completed, the team was able to establish a baseline, or starting point, from which all future interventions and potential solutions could be measured against.

Programming Recommendations

Water Connection Project: The area has a water supply but not enough to sustain the community's needs for potable water, specifically in Sitio Apo Dapao. Moreover, the community has an existing water reservoir but needs additional water reservoirs for the entire community. This project would require 30,000 meters of piping, as well as several reservoirs. This would be enough potable water for the residents of Pualas and to keep their fish ponds full.

Community Fishpond: Due to increased fertilizer costs, agriculture as a livelihood is fast becoming unsustainable. As a result of this, many individuals mentioned expanding their Barangay's fish ponds in order to cultivate a fish farming economy. After extending the capacity of the existing fishpond and purchasing fingerlings, the village would be able to raise up to 40,000 tilapia.