

SPUP COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICES: DEGREE OF IMPACT AND NEEDS SATISFACTION ASSESSMENT

The Community Development Center (CDC)

ABSTRACT

St. Paul University Philippines-Community Extension Services (SPUP-CES) has already established a community development program that coordinates all extension and outreach activities and ensures the proper and efficient implementation of programs in partner barangays. Since its inception, it has actively assisted thirty-seven (37) barangays in Cagayan Province. Previous research entitled "Impact of SPUP-CES on the Living Conditions of Some Selected Adopted Communities" was initially conducted. The present study; "SPUP-CES: Degree of Impact and Needs Satisfaction Assessment" seeks to determine the extent of impact and needs satisfaction on the lives of the beneficiaries specifically on the five training programs, namely: Personal Values and Spiritual Formation; Economic Development; Political Development; Socio-Cultural Development and Ecological Development. The instrument used in the conduct of the evaluation was a revised version of the tool used in the 2005 study. Part of the revision was the inclusion of activities and services corresponding to the five training programs for development. The tool was translated in the Ilocano dialect for better understanding and was floated in the eighteen (18) partner barangays. The result showed that the training programs and the accompanying activities and services had been rated "very good" in six barangays; "good" in ten other barangays, while "Needs Improvement" in Two. All of the five training programs namely 1) Personal Values and Spiritual Formation, 2) Economic Development 3) Political Development 4) Socio-cultural Development and 5) Ecological Development were described as "Very Good." It is significant to note that the Economic Development Program had the least mean of 2.72. In general, SPUP-CES is rated "Very Good" in the degree of impact and needs satisfaction on the eighteen (18) barangays. Moreover, the training programs and all accompanying activities and services need continual improvement to bring about more empowered communities which are self-reliant, self-sustaining and self-governing.

Keywords:

INTRODUCTION

Evaluation is a planned process that determines whether or not a program or activity has accomplished what had been hoped for or intended. It reviews what have been done to achieve goals and objectives desired. It looks at what did not work, or what could be improved for future programs and activities.

Evaluation should be a natural part of extension programs and should take place during its different phases. The bottom line of evaluation is to show that there are "making a difference" in our program or activity that provides a positive impact or benefit to the stakeholders. There are many methods and techniques available to evaluate extension programs. They may involve social science research methodologies (surveys, case studies). Others may focus on collecting quantitative (narrative) data. Additionally, the process may be a very formal, statistically-oriented process, or an informal, anecdotal process. There is no one approach or technique in program evaluation. It

depends on the audience, program being conducted, as well as the resources that are available to conduct the evaluation.

In 2005, Research on the Impact of the Community Extension Services of St. Paul University Philippines' Community Development Center on the Living Conditions of Some Selected Adopted Communities was conducted particularly in Cataggaman Viejo, Larion Bajo, Tuguegarao, City, Camasi, Peñablanca, Cagayan and Lannig, Solana, Cagayan. Among the recommendations were 1) that the Community Development Center conducts a parallel study involving other partner barangays not included in the research. 2) that the Community Development Center considers the results of the study as bases for further improving the delivery of the extension services and for making strategic or development plans for the center. Also, highly recommended is that there should be more evaluation to be made to assess the programs and services of the Community Development Center.

Statement of the Problem

This study entitled “SPUP COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICE: DEGREE OF IMPACT AND NEEDS SATISFACTION ASSESSMENT” seeks to determine the extent of impact and needs satisfaction effected by the Community Extension Services of St. Paul University Philippines, on the lives of the beneficiaries coming from partner communities.

Specifically, it seeks to answer the following questions:

1. What is the overall degree of impact and needs satisfaction made on the lives of the beneficiaries coming from the 18 partner communities of the: Five (5) Training Programs of the SPUP Community Extension Service? Activities and services of each of the training programs?
2. What is the overall degree of impact and needs satisfaction of the five (5) training programs and its corresponding activities and resources on each of the eighteen partner communities?
3. What are the training programs, of the SPUP Community Extension Service that needs to be reinforced in the different partner communities?
4. What are the activities, services, and programs that need to be reinforced in the different partner communities?

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the research design, sampling technique, sample size, respondents, the locale of the study, data gathering tools, data gathering procedures and the statistical treatment of data.

Research Design

The descriptive research design was used in this study. The said design was chosen since the study sought to make an assessment of how the different programs and services are given by the Community Development Center of St. Paul University Philippines were implemented in some selected adopted communities. The assessment will ultimately describe the quality of extension services that the Center had

given from the perspective of the beneficiaries, the barangay officials, and the residents.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The study made use of the purposive convenient sampling. Only the active members of the different programs of CDC, barangay officials and some residents from the eighteen communities who have knowledge of the different programs implemented in their communities were selected as sample.

Participants of the Study

This study consists of 2 sets of respondents:

1. The Focused group or immediate beneficiaries of the SPUP-CES in the partner barangays.
2. The Barangay Officials and the Community Health Officers (CHO) who are in the know and are supportive of the SPUP-CES in the community.

Data Gathering Instruments

Questionnaire. A non-standardized questionnaire was used to collect the needed data for this research. Two sets of questionnaires were prepared, one for the beneficiary of the program and the other questionnaire was intended for the residents and barangay officials.

Interview. An informal interview was used to validate some of the data collected from the use of the questionnaire. Residents who are unable to read and write were interviewed using the vernacular dialect of the community to solicit their assessment as to the extent to which the different programs of the CDC has contributed to the improvement of the beneficiaries and their community in general.

Data Gathering Procedure

The instrument used by the researchers in the conduct of the assessment was a revised version of the tool used in the study “Impact of the Community Extension Services of St. Paul University Philippines’ Community Development Center on the Living Conditions of Some Selected Adopted Communities. Part of the revision was the inclusion of activities and

services corresponding to the five training programs for development. The tool was translated into the Ilocano dialect for the greater understanding of the respondents and was floated in the eighteen (18) partner barangays.

Statistical Treatment of Data

To analyze the data collected from the use of the questionnaire, the following statistical tools were used:

1. Frequency count was used in counting/tallying the individual responses of the respondents.
2. The Mean was used in the statement of the problem numbers 1 and 2.
3. To interpret the Mean response obtained from the use of the questionnaire, the 4-Point Likert Scale was used:

Range of Values	Qualitative Description
3.26 – 4.00	Excellent
2.51 – 3.25	Very Good
1.76 – 2.50	Good
1.00 – 1.75	Needs Improvement

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Participants’ Assessment of the different training programs of the Community Development Center of St. Paul University Philippines from the eighteen partner barangays

The different training programs and services implemented by the Community Development Center of St. Paul University Philippines in the eighteen partner barangays. In this table, it is shown that all services that the CDC provides had a qualitative category mean of 2.89 described as “very good.” It is also reflected in this table that the spiritual services implemented by the CDC have a qualitative mean of 3.02 described as “very good.” Compared to the other services that the CDC provided, spiritual activities has the highest mean, and the least is the economic services which have a qualitative mean of 2.72 which is described as “very good.” This implies that the CDC has a strong spiritual program and likewise successful in responding to the economic, socio-cultural, health and the political needs of its beneficiaries.

Participants’ Mean Assessment of the activities and services on the Five Training Programs implemented by the SPUP Community Extension Services on the eighteen partner barangays

The activities under the different training program components implemented by the Community Development Center of St. Paul University Philippines in the eighteen partner barangays. In this table, it is shown that all activities that the CDC provides had a qualitative category mean of 2.87 described as “very good.” It is also reflected in this table that the activities under political program component implemented by the CDC have a qualitative mean of 2.92 described as “very good.” Compared to the other activities that the CDC provided, political activities has the highest mean, and the least is the economic services which have a qualitative mean of 2.64 which is described as “very good.” This implies that the CDC has strong activities under the political program and likewise successful in responding to the economic, socio-cultural, health and the political needs of its beneficiaries.

CONCLUSIONS

In general, SPUP-CES is rated “very good” in the degree of impact and needs satisfaction on the eighteen (18) barangays. Moreover, the training programs and all accompanying activities and services need continual improvement to bring about more empowered communities which are self-reliant, self-sustaining and self-governing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the summary of findings and conclusions reached, the researchers hereby recommend the following:

1. The Economic development training program and accompanying activities and services should have a priority place in CES program implementation without being less holistic in approach.
2. Impact Evaluation at the end of a program implementation should always be preceded by a pre-evaluation to determine to what extent target objectives have been attained.
3. Research should go hand in hand with the developmental growth of partner communities to

justify interventions and response measures.

4. Collaboration and linkaging with different “expertise” of GO’s and NGO’s should be present in community development for maximization of resources
5. Consider comments and suggestions of community members in developing CES Programs that involved their communities.

References