A Macroeconomic Analysis of Selected Economic Development Indicators in the Local Government Units in Specific Regions in the Philippines

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The development concerns affected by economic indicators and being addressed are not new; they are in fact common to most Local Government Units (LGUs). The practices they employ, likewise, do not involve mostly on rising scale use of science but are instead inspired in reproduction of such factors that will confront and effectively address "problems" with the basic tools. These basic tools are accompanied by a vision that requires a collective commitment and cooperation of the entire level of the Philippine society that started as early as the 1980s, where the need to view economic growth was stressed.

To do this, the strategies are built around wherein the basic philosophy of these strategies points toward that economic activity initiated mainly by business firms in their different kinds of productive and innovative assembly. Some of these carry out their core activity that offers to include the following: improved productivity, reduced costs, savings in resources, access to new markets, new technologies, workforce and suppliers, increased power in negotiations, in purchasing, and in trade situations, improved access to information and better access to government institutions and programs. These may serve as local-based economic development indicators that sit within an emerged national development agenda.

Following the bigger picture, these development indicators often struggle to articulate clearly what development means in relation to the local municipality's programs, and how they will measure progress towards this, where future orientation, development goals and targets, and linkages among different dimensions are made explicit.

Thus, the researcher made a macroeconomic analysis to the respective economic indicators in specific five regions in the Philippines and how the factors manifested to LGU's development status based on the current economic indicators manifested. The end goal of the researcher is a proposed set of programs that can practically relate to the remarks based on the current available data and the possible outcomes that can influence the business environment.

There are related studies highlighting the theories and findings pertaining generally to the economic plans that are utilized and used as instrument for local development. In the economic sustainable system, studies show that employment growth is less responsive to output growth done previously (Felipe, Hasan and Kapsos 2006). Because the poor's main asset is generally their labor, fewer new

jobs tend to imply less poverty reduction. Underemployment, while difficult to define and harder still to measure consistently, is an even bigger issue. The segmentation of labor markets between urban and rural areas, as well as between the formal and informal sectors, also constrains growth and perpetuates inequalities. It hampers the adjustment to changes in global demand and crimps the emergence of new sectors. Excessive labor-market regulations that have been introduced in several countries to provide social protection— such as minimum wages set above the market-clearing wage and restrictions on hiring and firing employees—often gum up the labor market. Because they mainly relate to workers in the organized sector, they leave workers in the large unorganized sector unprotected. The use of "inappropriate" capital-intensive techniques may also reduce labor use. Such new jobs are created disproportionately for skilled workers. Outsourcing, foreign direct investment, skills-biased technical change, competition from imports and quality upgrading to meet the demands of exporting on global markets have all boosted the demand for skilled workers.

In the informal sector, De Soto (2000) has famously argued that propertyrights systems require reform to enable the informal sector to tap formal sources of financing, since untitled assets cannot be used as collateral for loans. Improved access to technology and training would also boost the productivity of workers in the informal sector. Making the formal labor market more flexible and reducing the burden of labor market regulations would also reduce the incentive to operate informally.

In the African context, it can involve the way business is done, production organized, a supply chain structured, financial resources distributed, or essential services provided. It is more a process than a product and stems from both traditional knowledge and the application of modern science and technology. At the grass-roots level, it often involves local communities, utilizing locally-owned knowledge to create innovations which can then be disseminated to other communities and transferred to other activities. Ideally, local development initiatives can engender learning processes that go well beyond the projects themselves, pointing the way to solutions of national or regional significance. They can act as exemplars that, if successful, may be scaled-up and replicated. They will then generate externalities which benefit many while addressing needs which cash-and capacity constrained governments have often found it difficult to meet.

Implementation of localized performance and development indicators may be sustained by providing incentives for LGU's proper compliance, as well as favorable development ratings. The existing indicators, which are externally generated, are in line with the principles of sustainable development as they are able to assess the state of development of local government units. In addition, the current indicators fall short of the LGUs' expectations on indicator usage since existing externally generated indicators still need to lessen cost implication, simplify the data requirements, and generate appropriate indicators. This was entirely

presented in the paper of Rashel Yasmin Z. Pardo in June 2005 at the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning entitled, "Assessment of Local Government Unit Disparities and Localization of Performance and Development Indicators Towards Achievement of Sustainable Development".

From the above-mentioned literature and studies, the researcher thought that at given levels of development indicators, an analysis will be done to understand how the outcome of to be proposed economic programs can hopefully bring about progress and development to the five LGUs in different regions in the Philippines and at the same time, how such factor influences the business environment.

The five municipalities from specific regions included in the study are the following: The Municipality of Nagtipunan, Quirino in Region II, The Municipality of Hermosa, Bataan in Region III, The Municipality of Catanauan, Quezon in Region IV. The Municipality of Catbalogan, Samar in Region VIII and The Municipality of Kapalong, Davao del Norte in Region XI. These municipalities were chosen from among other fifteen municipalities in the entire Philippines according to the characteristics and issues unique to each individual LGU, taking into account the varying capacities, limitations, and needs of the localities. The dynamic process involves the interaction among economic, social, and political factors wherein the result of such process is growth that is visible and tangible like the business establishments or factories, houses, crops, schools, hospitals, and other social and These were expected to be gathered from those economic infrastructures. municipalities to at least cover the factors of local development with commonality based on the secondary data that can be accessed and available to use in this study, and the analysis of these data are subsequently limited to the abovementioned five municipalities.

However, not all other programs developed by national government and other institutions are applicable to the varying characteristics of LGUs in the different regions. The study only answered the two key problems stated in the statement of the problem. Correspondingly, findings, conclusions, and recommendations were derived after statistical analysis were done using the gathered data, and review of conceptual approaches and practices relevant to the study.

This research attempted to look into the economic development indicators in the Local Government Units resulting in the design and formulation of proposed programs for these LGUs. The macroeconomic analyses to be made will also be reflected in the vision, goals, and targets of any local economic development project. Specifically, this research paper sought to answer the following problems:

1. What are the economic indicators reflected in the towns of the different regions in terms of:

- 1.1 Local and Type of Occupation
- 1.2 Employed Population
- 1.3 House Structure
- 1.4 Financial Institutions
- 1.5 Business Establishments
- 1.6 Farming facilities and equipment
- 1.7 Agricultural Productivity?
- 2. What programs can be proposed to help bring about development and progress in the LGUs?

Method

The study employed descriptive research design in describing the situation as it existed at the time of the study. The economic dimensions of development reflect the situation and characteristics of the LGUs through gathered documentary materials that are already existing and accessible.

Secondary data from years 2006 to 2009 were taken from different LGUs from selected Regions, namely: Region II, Region III, Region IV, Region VIII, and Region XI. These were chosen according to the characteristics and issues, taking into account the varying capacities, limitations, and needs of their respective localities. Other data were taken from the government agencies like National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the National Statistics Office (NSO) that will give light to the relationship of variables contributing a minor or major development to the LGU in different regions across the country. This information was also apparently described in the literature on local government available in their respective websites and some municipal records that were directly gathered in different LGU's department in partnership with the provincial's NSOs, Schools, and Provincial and Local Health Offices. The data were tallied, coming up with the assets and capacities tabulated summary for further concentration and refinement of the economic dimensions.

In the analysis of the research data, **Percentages** were used to determine the distribution of the respondent's profile. It shows the relationship between two magnitudes of the relationship of a part per hundred of its sample.

Ranking follows the items and are presented in tabular form whereby the greatest number of item or variables in the questionnaire can be equated to the valuable item that renders informative facts representing the subject of the study. The largest frequency is ranked 1 and the next largest frequency ranks 2 and so on.

Results and Discussions
Local and Type of Occupation

The goal of generating the kind of welfare that ensures a decent standard of living of the citizen is proportional and related to economic factors such as occupation, house structure, and to the sustainability of the operation of both agricultural and business establishments in a competitive environment. The following economic factors were used in the creation of the possible economic programs.

Occupation is generally linked to the economic success of businesses. The question of which products and services are produced in a particular municipality has considerable impact on the quality of the local environment.

It can be observed in Table 1 that farming has a huge number in terms of type and occupational status of 27.86 percent in the respondent towns of different regions followed by professional employment which is 25.67 percent at large mainly in Region VIII and Region XI.

Defining the status of certain localities is in the interest of issues on its physical structure that is emerging, as well as complex employment patterns. As the locality grows, this surrounding area changes in character to the extent that the location of such facilities and productive enterprises is building up in the midst of continuing intensive agriculture and variations in employment array

Local and Type of Occupation in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Occupation	Nagtipunan	Bermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
Staff in							
Municipal	1 57	40	3.5	28	36	296	0.69%
Office	225755345	ISSUE.		50.754	10,700		annomentens
Farmers	3,519	1,044	4,126	2,206	1,098	11,993	27.86%
Livestock and Dairy Farmers	2	2	4	2	2	12	0.03%
Aqua Farm Cultivators	17	6	3	8	4	38	0.09%
Water Fishermen	81	23	43	54	29	230	0.53%
School Teacher	38	95	606	56	39	834	1.94%
Private Medical Practitioner	11	8	6	5	9	39	0.09%
Professional s/ Employment	25	4	45	6,788	4,186	11,048	25.67%
Fisherman	56	209	48	2,282	35	2,630	6.11%
Skilled Workers	1 54	579	213	230	433	1,609	3.74%
Dressmaker/ Tailoring	321	164	235	211	213	1,144	2.66%
Domestic Helper	87	144	442	134	93	900	2.09%
Driver	96	874	2,671	57	487	4,089	9.50%
Store Owner	781	198	1,868	522	864	4,233	9.83%
Vendor (different goods)	214	173	3 5 9	219	201	1,166	2.71%
Hairdresser/ Barber	311	53	287	308	340	1,299	3.02%
Home Industry	4 52	196	438	217	178	1,481	3.44%
Total	6,322	3,812	11,429	13,327	8,247	43,041	100.00%

Employed Population

Table 2 shows the number of employed population in the different towns from selected regions with 55 percent comprising of male and 45 percent female as manifested through their productivity skills, professional skills, and livelihood development that provides opportunities for men and women acquiring gainful occupation and livelihood through practical skills development, basic business management skills and provision of capital assistance.

Table 2
Employed Population in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

NO. OF WORKERS	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Cathalogan	Kapalong	TOTAL
MALE	10,256	12,424	83,435	77,968	17,367	201,450
FEMALE	8,973	12,098	62,152	73,792	7,814	164,829

With that, the total work force may be employed in consumer and service-oriented businesses, manufacturing firms, and cottage industries. However, the towns in Regions IV and XI have a great difference in the number of employed males over the females. This is an implication that some of its industries were underperformed by the female population that are supposed to stimulate local economic growth.

House Structure

Table 3
House Structure of the Household in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Household House Structure	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
Concrete		4,231	11,768	3,785		19,784	29.09%
Semi							
Concrete		2,712	3,211	3,671		9,594	14.11%
Light		1,323	1,902	1,039		4,264	6.27%
Single	19,336				13,379	32,715	48.10%
Duplex	926				190	1,116	1.64%
Multi-Unit Residential	97			126	134	357	0.52%
Wooden				184		184	0.27%
Total	20,359	8,266	16,881	8,805	13,703	68,014	100.00%

Wealth is characterized and perceived by good housing. The impact of this income measures on housing characteristic must be permanent and adequate enough to protect its inhabitants.

In Table 3, most of the houses in the towns from different regions are made of durable materials that are reflected in the kind of construction materials and their structure of either concrete or semi-concrete. However some of these houses are situated closely to the river or in crowded place, alongside the road or lowly farm area, in which some of them maybe prone to fire or to flooding. The cost of housing is generally reflected by its single and concrete structure with 48.10 percent and 29.09 percent respectively enabling affordable and decent housing which is needed not to be literally or figuratively cheap. These structures of the houses of the respondents from different regions can relate to how wealth can be characterized and perceived by good housing. The impact of this income measures on housing characteristic must be permanent and adequate enough to protect its inhabitants.

Financial Institutions

Table 4
Financial Institutions in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Financial Institutions	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
Rural Bank	1	1	1	1	1	- 5	3.85%
Savings Bank	1	1	2	1	1	6	4.62%
Commercial Bank	1			2	1	4	3.08%
DB P	1			Į.		1	0.77%
Land Bank	1			1	1.	3	2.31%
Cooperative	12	11	10	8	7	48	36.92%
Finance Institution	1	3	1	1	3	5	3.85%
Private Lenders	17	7	12	1	2	9	6.92%
Pawnshop	5	7	15	14	8	4 9	37.69%
Total	40	30	41	29	24	130	100%

Financial Institutions can be functional and efficiently help the social and economic needs of the towns, meeting the demands of the society and stimulating the development and growth of the community. Table 4 shows that the major source of funds of the different towns is mostly from cooperatives. A cooperative is organized by a group of society improving the social and economic conditions of the low earners. These are the small farmers, small fishermen, the factory workers, and the ordinary employees. Pawnshops and private lenders are next additional source of credit of most of the towns that are intended to small borrowers who are not qualified to obtain small loans from other financial institutions.

Business Establishments

Table 5
Business Establishments in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Business Establishments	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
Market	1		1	1	2	5	0.19%
Talipapa Stalls	2	3	1	1	1	8	0.31%
Stores	128	168	186	394	210	1,086	41.69%
Agricultural Supply Store	1	1	2	1	1	6	0.23%
Restaurants	6	34	170	60	26	296	11.36%
Carinderia	2	40	8	12	9	71	2.73%
Barbershop/ Parlors	43	4	23	20	38	128	4.91%
Tailoring/Dresssh ops	1	3	4	10	8	26	1.00%
Construction/ Elecrical Supplies and Hardwares	8	7	12	17	12	56	2.15%
Agriculture, Poultry and Piggery Supplies	17	4	8	13	11	53	2.03%
Gasoline Stations	4	4	6	4	3	21	0.81%
Bar	1	1	35	38	16	91	3.49%
Amusement	1	1	100	2	1	105	4.03%
Auto Repair Shop	5	5	2	9	5	26	1.00%
Fishpen	12	8	60	3	77	160	6.14%
Exporter	1	1	3	1	6	12	0.46%
Dealership	11	8	112	41	1	173	6.64%
Lessor	1	1	41	2	1	46	1.77%
Manufacturing/Pro ducer	10	9	179	2	2	202	7.75%
Resorts	1	4	14	14	1	34	1.31%
Total	256	306	967	645	431	2,605	100.00%

In Table 5, it can be generally recognized that the business establishments in the towns of selected regions are small to medium enterprises, comprising of variety of stores with 41.66 percent, restaurants, amusement, and bars with 11.35 percent, and 4.03 percent respectively, barber shops and parlors with 4.91 percent., This shows that most of the people living in a certain locality want to own a business. Some business establishments are engaged in manufacturing with 7.75 percent, dealership with 6.64 percent, and fish pen with 6.14 percent. The rest are more of service enterprises. However, there were only few market establishments which are considered one of the most important social infrastructures.

Farming Facilities and Equipment

Table 6

Farming Facilities and Equipment in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Farming Facilities and Equipment	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
Irrigation	14	24	20	10	2	70	13.21%
Communal Irrigation							
System	3	4	4	3	8	22	4.15%
Irrigation Pumps	1	1	3	1	3	9	1.70%
Ricemill	5	13	42	5	7	72	13.58%
Solar Dryer	26	14	1	1	1	43	8.11%
Corn/rice tresher	23	1	21	1	1	47	8.87%
Mechanical Dryer	1	2	1	1	2	7	1.32%
Storeroom	1	46	2	1	4	5 4	10.19%
Hand Tractor	9	25	78	1	7	120	22.64%
Water Pump	5	4	60	5	5	79	14.91%
Reaper	1	2	1	1	2	7	1.32%
Total	89	136	233	30	42	530	100.00%

Table 6 shows how farming tends to be just one of the diverse survival strategies employed by many of the rural poor in the different towns in selected regions and the absence of these farming equipment and structures may cost loss of livelihood of the petople. The irrigation system also points to questions of efficiency in resource allocation and possible investment, into one asset area. Concentrating on few significant efforts and the adequacy of the use of other post harvest facilities such as hand tractors, water pumps, rice mill and corn/rice thresher may affect the promotion of productive activities.

Agricultural Productivity

 ${\tt Table}\ 7$ Agricultural Productivity (in metric tons) in the Respondent Towns in Respective Regions

Crops	Nagtipunan	Hermosa	Catanauan	Catbalogan	Kapalong	Total	Percentage
							U.S.
Corn	39,610.00	132.00	180.00	135.00	724.80	40,781.80	28.63%
Rice							00.000
Irrigated	8,370.00	23,523.26	812.46	7794.07	2086.37	42,586.16	29.89%
Rain fed	504.00	20.71	643.94	1049.00	985.00	3,202.65	2.25%
Root Crops	1,023.00	712.60	270.00	296.77	206.00	2,508.37	1.76%
Beans	39.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39.20	0.03%
Mango	20.00	4,850.00	285.00	355.50	248.00	5,758.50	4.04%
Pineapple	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	0.06%
Citrus	11.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.00	0.01%
Banana	32,605.52	426.90	90.45	223.13	7428.00	40,774.00	28.62%
Vegetable	1,166.40	242.00	823.00	740.80	1520.00	4,492.20	3.15%
Coconut	0.00	0.00	296.60	1478.09	0.00	1,774.69	1.25%
Other Fruits	8.10	10.20	14.20	5.90	325.80	364.20	0.26%
Legumes	0.00	20.71	63.00	0.00	0.00	83.71	0.06%
Total	83,447.22	29,938.38	3,478.65	12,078.26	13,523.97	142,466.48	100.00%

Table 7 shows that the primary agricultural products of the towns in different regions are rice, corn, banana, mango, variety of vegetables and other fruits, root crops, and coconut. Any surplus or deficiencies of these agricultural products are depending on the post-harvest facilities being used, the topography, and the availability of the agricultural lands intended solely for agricultural purposes. The competitiveness in the market of these agricultural crops also depends on the financial assistance extended to the farmers by the LGUs to sustain a continuing growth in the said industry

Practical and Theoretical Implications

The structure of employment may be found significantly related to the income of the people and the presence of various skills, encouraged by local businesses and small-scale agriculture that create employment. The proportional relation of the owned house to the materials and structure used, with a decent standard of living is perceived to be implemented to ensure the welfare of the people living in the area. The LGUs utilize a favorable business environment and skilled labor market by encouraging these economic units to be more competitive and innovative by simply handing out funds to enterprises, existing businesses, and even the smallest sectors of the town with the support of different financial institutions in the locality. Agriculture is sufficient for economic development of the municipality, and this finding implies that LGUs are required exploration of alternative drivers for development.

The review of the indicators drawn together from five municipalities in selected regions helped the researcher to understand more clearly what economic programs could be proposed and the possible outcomes that it could bring in and influence the business environment. The changes in the capacity of the businesses to achieve its objectives such as profitability and growth, productivity, and maintaining consumer satisfaction are all dependent and vary on the performance of both their internal environment and external environment. These are all taking place as part of functional variables that should also be the concern of the LGUs in planning their economic development programs because at the end, it's the latter that will benefit in return

It's good to say that Local Government Units serve as catalyst towards development of the entire Philippines. That's why their economic development programs must be linked and effectively articulated to their vision and goals. These programs should be all in line with their development objectives in which the activities will support the desired outcome based on their socio-economic goals. These results must be measured through constant monitoring and evaluation. The outcome of the data from the LGUs and its effect to business sectors will be the basis for improvement of its target. However, the LGUs must promote collective effort with these businesses that will contribute significantly to the welfare and economic development like an increase in local investment that will maximize the generation of employment and eventually would result in an increase in savings and resources as well as revenues to LGUs. The local governments can develop enterprises and channel business profits to social expenditures.

The Matrix shows the proposed Economic Programs of the researcher that can be a source of reference in the assessment of the economic development indicators and their corresponding outcomes. The programs are composed of four economic development programs namely: (1) Occupational Services Program (2) House Structure Support Program (3) Financial Support Program and (4) Agricultural Support Program. The activities or strategies mentioned will hopefully help the LGUs in achieving their development objectives that will also complement the businesses.

Socio-Economic Contributions of the Business Sectors	Handicraft livelihood program resulting in	increased employment and income for its	residents particularly the women, the out-of-	school youth and farmers	Building or rebuilding market to assist the	displaced vendors and businessmen, that will	lead to a revitalized local economy resulting in	increased volume of local businesses.	Livestock business or assistance that will	increase income generation potential in	livestock rearing leading to a more	sustainable source of income and livelihood	for the community	The investment on bio-dynamic agriculture,	with ,the men to practice organic bio-	dynamic agriculture while women to help	produce alternative medicines in ways that	are both dependent on each other's' inputs	and outputs, wherein the raw materials are	used in alternative medicine production	Real Estate and Subdivision Developer will	help and at same time will create opportunity	for themselves in the Implementation of	condominium and housing projects of the	LGUs to targeted beneficiaries creating
Indicators Influencing the Businesses	Increase number of jobs,	entrepreneurs, and	livelihood		Increase the security and	opportunity rate for	women														Increase the number of	Households security on	local shelter ownership		
Strategies/Activities for Achieving the Objectives	Enhancement of socio-economic	productivity and self-employment through	traditional livelihood programs		Productivity training services for micro,	small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs)	and Barangay Micro Business	Enterprises (BMBEs)		Capability training under livelihood	programs to increase women opportunity	for self-employment		Intensive training and capability building	program to increase women's	opportunity for self-employment under	livelihood programs				House Construction for socialized, low	income, and middle-income housing	through:		
Economic Programs /Objectives	1. Occupational	Services Programs:	Security, Improvement	and Enforcement, of	Business	Development Program			To provide preferential	access to socio-	economic assistance,	social security, and	social safety nets								2. House Structure	Support Program:	Local Housing	Programs	,
Target/Outcome	Maximize job creation	potential with the creation of	sustainable livelihoods		Recognize the need to	encourage local businesses	to remain in the community	and assist them to grow and	create employment		Provide opportunities for the	new roles for women	avoiding negative impacts to	their status and welfare							Provide preferential access to	socio-economic assistance,	social security, and social	safety nets	

	To develop and implement housing programs			comfortable homes and communities for underprivileged residents and reducing squatting problem in the municipality
Extensive access to financial support creating a favorable environment that will be conducive to SMEs and micro entrepreneurs as well as to the farmers and fisher folks	3. Financial Support Programs Program: Provision of credit facilities and expansion of savings	Bayanihan Savings and Loans to micro- enterprises	Increase in the number of financial institutions extending funds and at same time increasing the volume of savings Increase in number of business establishments in the locality	Through relevant capacity building program, financial and technical assistance and by building linkages with Banks, cooperativism will be revived resulting in the sustained growth of viable cooperatives in the locality.
Increase the effectiveness and adequacy of the agricultural sector, logistical support system, and production of both farm inputs and produced agricultural and fishery products	4. Agricultural Support Programs Programs Program: Improvement of Agricultural Production To strengthen the agricultural sector, as well as to protect the farmers who are perceived to have great economic growth potential in the municipality	Construction, advancement, and repair of post-harvest facilities and equipment of the farmers An improved or rehabilitated farm to market roads for efficient and fast distribution of the farmers' agricultural products to market	Increase agricultural productivity rate and income of the farmers	Diversified Organic Farming System addressing the problems of high production costs, poor soil productivity, prevalence of pests and diseases, inadequate post-harvest facilities, unstable market prices of farm products, and the lack or absence of alternative sources of income when the yield falls can help the Agricultural Industry. Investment on developing of new lands for agribusiness in order to create millions of jobs

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