Lessons Learnt of Livelihood Restoration in JICA’s Project

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I. Outline of the Project
Outline

Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project, Phase III

Country: Republic of the Philippines
Loan Agreement: 30 March 2012    Loan Amount: 11,836 million yen

Objective
● To mitigate flood damage in Metro Manila caused by channel overflow of the Pasig-Marikina River

Implemented Construction Works
● Revetment Work with Steel Sheet Piles
● Concrete River Wall or Repair
● Drainage Outlet

Executing Agency: Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
From junction with Napindan River to Mangahan Floodway, 7.2km
Facts about resettlement

- In the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) updated in October 2013, **95 households, 452 people** were identified within the Right of Way in the city of Manila.
- All families were **informal settlers**, and were included in resettlement program through the Manila Local Interagency Committee (LIAC) in coordination with the National Housing Authority (NHA) and DPWH in the RAP.
- Out of 95 HH, **54 HH** were resettled to **NHA resettlement sites** while others did not opt for NHA resettlement sites or were disqualified for that resettlement program.
- In the RAP, **livelihood concern was not a problem**, referring to a positive feedback from residents in the planned resettlement site.
- Available livelihood restoration program listed in the RAP were **employment and job referral, enterprise development, skills training and other support programs such as access to micro-credit**. Php 3.8 million was estimated as a total cost of livelihood restoration program to be covered by ‘the lead agency’ NHA and others.
II. Considerations required under JICA Guidelines
JICA’s Safeguard Policy

“Involuntary Resettlement”

2. People who must be resettled involuntarily and people whose means of livelihood will be hindered or lost must be sufficiently compensated and supported by project proponents etc. in a timely manner.

Host countries must make efforts to enable people affected by projects to improve their standard of living, income opportunities, and production levels, or at least to restore these to pre-project levels.

“JICA Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations” (2010)
Effective since July 2010
Appendix 1. Environmental and Social Considerations Required for Intended Projects

<Involuntary Resettlement>
2. People who must be resettled involuntarily and people whose means of livelihood will be hindered or lost must be sufficiently compensated and supported by project proponents etc. in a timely manner.

Host countries must make efforts to enable people affected by projects to improve their standard of living, income opportunities, and production levels, or at least to restore these to pre-project levels.
III. Monitoring Findings presented by External Monitoring Agency
Livelihood Restoration for Families Affected by the Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project Phase III (PMRCIP III)

Anna Marie A. Karaos, PhD
21 February 2017
Outline of the Presentation

- Background of the resettlement project
- Residency and livelihood status of relocated families
- Changes in Income
- Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance
- Feedback from Project-affected residents
- Some findings
Method and Limitations of external monitoring

- **Method**
  - Seven monitoring periods over 4 years
  - Household interviews; key informant interviews; focus group discussion with children
  - Individualized tracking of households on their residency status and livelihood assistance received

- **Limitations**
  - Composition of baseline data households is different from households actually relocated.
  - Not all households relocated have baseline household income data.
  - The results presented are limited to PAFs who remained and were available for the interview at resettlement sites during the visit by the interviewers of EMA.
  - Gross income data presented are not adjusted for inflation.
Punta Sta. Ana, Manila
Balagtas Heights
Barangay Santol, Balagtas
APPROX. 42 KM FROM PUNTA STA ANA
RELOCATION DATES: 20 FEBRUARY 2014 AND 1 APRIL 2014
19 families

Balagtas Heights
Barangay Santol, Balagtas
APPROX. 42 KM FROM PUNTA STA ANA
RELOCATION DATES: 20 FEBRUARY 2014 AND 1 APRIL 2014
19 families

San Jose del Monte Heights
Barangay Muzon, San Jose del Monte
APPROX. 42 KM FROM PUNTA STA ANA
RELOCATION DATE: 11 OCTOBER 2013
20 families

Towerville 6-G
Barangay Gaya-Gaya, San Jose del Monte
APPROX. 40 KM FROM PUNTA STA ANA
RELOCATION DATE: 12 NOVEMBER 2014
13 families

Pandi Residences
Barangay Mapulang Lupa, Pandi
APPROX. 48 KM FROM PUNTA STA ANA
RELOCATION DATE: 8 OCTOBER 2015
2 families

54 project-affected families relocated in Bulacan
Relocated Families

Residency Status as of December 2016
N= 54 families; Earliest relocation date = October 2013

Permanent Residents
20 families (37%)

Sold their units
19 families (35%)

- Transient residents
  1 family

-Absentee awardee
  7 families

- Pawned/rents out unit
  3 families

- Substituted
  1 family

- No information
  3 families
Employment and Livelihoods

Where adults worked or earned a living in October 2016

NCR
- Call center agent
- Cashier
- Helper
- Boatman
- Clerk
- Dishwasher
- Messenger
- Taxi driver
- Porter
- Pedicab driver

Bulacan
- Food vendor
- Laundrywoman
- Saleslady/cashier
- Seamstress
- Sari-sari store owner
- Factory worker
- Construction worker
- Repairman
- Computer shop operator
- Online freelancer

Unemployed

- 4
- 9
- 7
- 6
## Household Monthly Gross Incomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>September 2014 (n=17)</th>
<th>October 2015 (n=21)</th>
<th>October 2016 (n=17)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean</strong></td>
<td>₱ 11,901</td>
<td>₱ 9,513</td>
<td>₱ 9,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median</strong></td>
<td>₱ 11,100</td>
<td>₱ 7,000</td>
<td>₱ 6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum</strong></td>
<td>₱ 37,000</td>
<td>₱ 30,000</td>
<td>₱ 37,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum</strong></td>
<td>₱ 1,200</td>
<td>₱ 500</td>
<td>₱ 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**
1/ VALID N VARIES PER ITEM AND RELOCATION PHASE
2/ DATA FROM TOWERVILLE 6-G WERE INCLUDED STARTING OCTOBER 2015
Increase/Decrease in Gross Incomes (%)

Note: October 2015 v October 2016, as reported by 15 households

- From ₱5,500 to ₱0; The main provider lost his job, and PAF relied on small savings and debt.
- From ₱500 to ₱3,500; increase was due to remittance (not regular) from husband who works as a pedicab driver in Manila.
Increase/Decrease in Gross Incomes (Absolute Values)

Note: September 2014 v October 2015 v October 2016, as reported by 9 households

Increase is due to additional household members with regular work in Manila
## Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance

Entitlements for Affected PAFs of Residential Structures on Public Land

### Option 1
- Resettlement
- Food assistance good for 3 days
- Transportation assistance
- Livelihood rehabilitation assistance (equivalent to the amount of ₱15,000 per family)

### Option 2
- Transportation Assistance in Metro Manila

### Option 3
- *Balik Probinsya* Program (transportation assistance to go back to original province)

+ Financial assistance (₱18,000 per family) from DSWD through OPLAN LIKAS

Source: Updated Resettlement Action Plan, October 2013, Table R 6.4.1, page 6.6
Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance

Objectives of Livelihood Restoration

The objective of the Livelihood Rehabilitation Program is to be able to restore to their pre-resettlement level, if not improve, the economic condition of the PAFs after relocation. Specifically, this means re-establishing their former sources of livelihood, if not creating better income earning opportunities for PAFs within and around their new place of residence. Ultimately the goal is to see to it that PAFs are economically better off and that, in particular, the vulnerable groups such as the poorest of the poor and the women-headed households do not become impoverished after resettlement.”

Source: Updated Resettlement Action Plan, October 2013, page 8.2

The lead implementation agency will be the NHA in close coordination and with the assistance of both sending and receiving LGUs and concerned agencies such as the NEDA, TESDA, CDA, and DTI. The private sector will be actively involved in terms of providing employment, fund intermediation and capacity building in social entrepreneurship.”

## Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance

Number of PAFs with members who availed of Livelihood Rehabilitation Assistance from various providers (government and nongovernment)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Assistance</th>
<th>San Jose del Monte Heights</th>
<th>Balagtas Heights</th>
<th>Towerville 6-G</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment and Job Referral</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Readiness, Sub-contracting, Attendance in Job Fair</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Training</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary-making, EcoBag-making, Cellphone Repair, Business Planning</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Development</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Planning Seminars, Food and Nonfood Items for Store, Credit</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Programs</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Coop Membership Seminar</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Uniforms, Construction Materials, Scholarship, Medicine</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of PAFs that have received at least one form of assistance</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feedback from PAFs

- Earning is easier in Manila, which explains why some PAFs have members working in Manila (or somewhere else) who go home on weekends.

- Cannot continue with livelihood/job because of:
  - Lack of capital ("We can survive here if we operate a business but there is none because we do not have capital.")
  - Skills mismatch ("They could have organized a meeting to learn about our former jobs and the skills we have then refer us to whoever could employ or hire us.")
  - Need to attend to children ("I have to take care of our small children. Besides, my husband has work in Marikina.")
  - Reliance on single providers ("Although we could have our own house, the problem is when my husband does not have work, we could barely survive a day. We can no longer give our children allowance in school. In Manila, we know people who can easily lend us a hand.")
  - Very far from their jobs and very expensive fare
Some Findings

- Remaining in the resettlement site is made viable if at least one household member has steady employment.
- Most enterprises providing supplemental income were initiated by the PAFs.
- Few PAFs made use of livelihood options stated in the RAP (job referral, construction, micro-enterprise development, skills training).
- Certain livelihood options stated in the RAP were not provided because they were not feasible nor based on actual skills inventory (employment in BPOs, community-based social enterprise, provision of micro-credit facilities).
- Resettlement projects are handled with PAFs coming from different areas affected by different projects, so PAFs are treated all the same.
- Distinct attention was not given to RAP of the project nor specific livelihood needs of PAFs.
Achievement of livelihood restoration objectives

- High rate of attrition or abandonment of housing units indicates difficulty experienced by PAFs within the first two years in earning incomes sufficient to meet daily needs.

- Income levels were not restored for many families in 2-4 years after resettlement.

- Livelihood options stated in the RAP were formulated based on general information about existing livelihood programs of institutions (e.g. NHA, LGU) and overly optimistic assumptions about the plans and capacities of these institutions.

- Skills and livelihood preferences of the PAFs seemed to favor employment rather than enterprises while livelihood interventions were more focused on developing small enterprises; employment opportunities were highly dependent on external factors or the economy of the area that are beyond the control of the project.

- Institutional constraints of the government agency involved in livelihood assistance hindered the implementation of customized livelihood interventions.
IV. Lessons Learnt
Lessons

Livelihood restoration assistance should be enhanced for future JICA’s projects to enable affected people to restore living conditions, improve and sustain income opportunities in line with the JICA Guidelines.

**Planning**
- Assessment on livelihood strategies should be improved to reflect needs of PAFs.
- Feasibility of Livelihood Restoration Program should be studied at early stage to make LRP more useful and practical for PAFs.

**Institutional Arrangement**
- In cases where responsibility for LRP is unclear, institutional arrangements among governmental agencies should be made to clarify demarcation, with the requisite resources clearly identified and assigned in the responsible agencies.

**Mismatch between the demand and programs**
- Individualized advices should be given to PAFs to help them make use of available programs and adjust the livelihood strategy for surrounding conditions.
Thank you for your attention