



URBANPARTNER

Canada & Western Visayas:

Pursuing good urban governance



The Government of Canada will continue to support good urban governance in Metropolitan Iloilo and Guimaras province through a five-year local government capacity development program, "International Partnership Program for Good Urban Governance", the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI)'s Philippine Manager Francis Gentoral, announced recently. The new program was launched in a good urban governance conference held on July 13, 2001 at the Amigo Terrace Hotel, Iloilo City.

The program promotes the effective delivery of local social, economic and environmental services in order to contribute to poverty reduction. Funded by the

CUI Executive Director Tibor Frank and Iloilo

Business Club Chair Marissa Segovia present Certificate of Appreciation to CIDA Philippines Head of Aid, Vivien Escott during the Good Governance Program Launch .

Canadian International Development Agency, three capacity development projects will be implemented —Metropolitan Iloilo Initiative, Guimaras Economic Initiative and Local Social Service Delivery Enhancement Project.

Canada supports the development of the region, which has distinguished itself as the country's agriculture, fishery and tourism center. CUI believes that Metropolitan Iloilo, being the core of the region, should take the lead in promoting good governance and private sector development in Western Visayas.

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Urban Partner

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Partnerships for Metro Iloilo, Guimaras & Malay started

Metropolitan Iloilo Initiative (MII)

The Metropolitan Iloilo Initiative (MII) involves the building of the capacity of Iloilo City Government and the Municipalities of Leganes, Pavia, Oton and San Miguel (Province of Iloilo) in operationalizing a new metropolitan governance arrangement. Assistance is directed towards: participatory strategy development and implementation, capacity development and institutional strengthening to initiate demonstration projects on economic promotion, environmental protection, heritage conservation and basic service delivery and developing and implementing a communication and dissemination strategy to share project experiences and lessons.

Guimaras Economic Initiative (GEI)

The Province of Guimaras and the 5 municipalities are developing the capacities of the provincial and municipal governments to promote sustainable economic development and environmental protection.

The GEI aims to continue capacity development assistance to the provincial and 5 municipal governments in economic strategy development and implementation of demonstration projects such as heritage tourism and agri-based enterprises, capacity development and institutional strengthening to initiate an inter-local government cooperation in local economic promotion and developing and implementing a communication and dissemination strategy to share project experiences and lessons



Local Social Service Delivery Enhancement Initiative (LSSDEI) in Malay

Urbanization and growth of tourism sector in the Western Visayas region of the Philippines are placing huge pressures on the social fabric of region. Social development is not keeping pace with economic growth. There is an urgent need to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, equity of and access to locally delivered social services and facilities. A number of international development agencies have been implementing targeted, big-budget social development programs in health, education, child protection and women in development with local governments in the region. Most of these programs require a system of interfacing with multiple stakeholders, large counterpart funds and a high level of capacity among responsible local government staff. This raises large questions about the sustainability of these targeted social development interventions. These concerns have been identified as sources of inefficiency and poor quality of social service delivery by local governments.

A Local Social Service Delivery Enhancement Initiative is implemented to assist the Municipality of Malay in Aklan Province and other interested local governments to allow them to improve the coordination and sustain the quality of the delivery of social services.

“Good urban governance is key to tackling poverty and urbanization”-

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements

CPPPGUG Accomplishments (as of September 30, 2001)

- .. Revalidated project work plans following mid-2001 local elections; launched the project in an event jointly organized with CIDA-Manila and our partner local governments; established local project management and steering committees; and hired locally-engaged staff.
- .. Commenced preparation of baseline assessments and capacity development plans for all three initiatives, which will set the foundation for performance measurement of the projects.
- .. Raised the capacity of our local government partners and civil society participants on good urban governance through the following activities: 1) a regional (Western Visayas) conference on good urban governance and service delivery enhancement, 2) technical assistance to the organization of the Iloilo City Tourism Summit, 3) a learning exchange program on metropolitan governance that involved a study tour to several local jurisdictions in the Philippines by 17 key local government officials, administrative staff and civil society reps, 4) a 'how-to' workshop on project design and development; 5) compilation of Philippines good/best practices in inter-local government cooperation and economic development, and 6) capacity development support to various smaller economic, environmental and partnership building activities.
- .. Advanced the institutional strengthening of the Province of Guimaras through preparation of a proposal for the creation of the Guimaras Provincial Economic Development Office, which will spearhead the implementation of the province's new economic development and tourism development strategies.

Project Steering Committees Organized

A total of eight (8) Project Steering Committees (PSC) composed of representatives from local government partners, as well as representatives from national agencies, civil society, the private sector and academic institutions were formed that will be directly involved in project activities of the Canada-Philippines Partnership Program for Good Urban Government (CPPPGUG).

Multi-stakeholder project steering committees are venues for capacity raising of local governments and civil society in participatory service delivery

Iloilo Initiative (MII), Guimaras Economic Initiative (GEI) and Local Social Service Delivery Enhancement Program (LSSDEP).

The Committees will determine annual work plans, assist with detailed design of project activities, provide advice on key issues and constraints; and monitor, evaluate and approve project changes in the course of project implementation.

The PSC meets at least once every two months or as often as may be necessary to oversee the implementation of the three (3) initiatives namely: Metropolitan

Six (6) out of the 8 PSCs are from the City and Province of Iloilo, 1 from the Province of Guimaras and 1 from the Municipality of Malay, Aklan.

MIDC, CUI support Iloilo City's economic initiatives

The Metropolitan Iloilo Development Council (MIDC) and CUI provided technical and management support to the following investment and tourism initiatives of Iloilo City:

- .. Iloilo City Tourism Summit held last September 12, 2001, which generated short-term and long-term actions to promote Iloilo City's cultural, food, festivals and other tourism events;
- .. Iloilo Investment and Tourism Promotion Workshop held last November 24, 2001 to assess the strengths and opportunities and recommended strategies to encourage investments in Iloilo City;

- .. Facilitated discussion on the creation of the proposed Iloilo Investment and Tourism Promotion Board; and
- .. Iloilo Economic Summit organized by the Provincial and City governments of Iloilo and business leaders last December 13 at Amigo Terrace Hotel, Iloilo City to form consensus on the priority economic actions amidst the uncertain economic future of Iloilo.

One of the major accomplishments of the MIDC and CUI support is the creation of the joint Iloilo Investment and Tourism Promotion Board, which will spearhead the implementation of programs to attract and sustain investments.

**Canada-Philippines Partnership
Program for Good Urban Govern-
ance**

2/F Mary Mart Mall
Valeria Street, Iloilo City
5000

Phone: (033)3367827

Fax: (033)3367827

Email: cuiphils@i-
iloilo.com.ph

**CUI Philippines
Project Management
Team**

Francis Gentalor Project Manager

Jay Presaldo, Program Officer

Marichris Garcera,
Project Coordinator

Lymbergh Amen
Project Assistant

W. Mark Hefferton,
Canadian Regional Planning
Coordinator

About Canadian Urban Institute (CUI)

The CUI is one of Canada's leading centres of excellence in urban management and local governance. Incorporated in 1990, the Institute is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation governed by a Board of Directors. It has its head offices in Toronto (Canada), with satellite project offices in Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. In addition to its activities within Canada, the CUI has extensive international experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of local government capacity development programs. These programs are implemented through the CUI's multi-disciplinary staff team and through its pan-Canada and international network of professionals. More information can be obtained from the CUI website located at www.canurb.com.

Our Local Government Partners

City Government of Iloilo (+63 33) 337-3573 (Mayor's Office); (+63 33) 335-0432 (City Planning and Development Office)

Municipal Government of Pavia (+63 33) 329-7229 (Mayor's Office); (+63 33) 320-0039 (Municipal Planning and Development Office)

Municipal Government of Oton (+63 33) 335-1041 (Mayor's Office); (+63 33) 337-8190 (Municipal Planning and Development Office)

Municipal Government of San Miguel : (+63 33) 331-0670 (Mayor's Office)

Municipal Government of Leganes (+63 33) 524-9640 (Mayor's Office); (+63 33) 524-0149 (Municipal Planning and Development Office)

Provincial Government of Guimaras and Municipalities of Jordan, Buenavista, Nueva Valencia, Sibunag and San Lorenzo: (+63 33) 581-3349 (Governor's Office); (+63 33) 581-3350 (Provincial Planning and Development Office)

Municipal Government of Malay, Aklan (+63 36) 260-3040 (Mayor's Office); (+63 36) 260-3039 (Municipal Planning and Development Office)

Upcoming Events (Until March 2002)

GUIMARAS ECONOMIC INITIATIVE

- Review of provincial economic development agenda
- Capacity development planning workshop
- Updating of Guimaras website
- Revision of Guimaras investment profile

METROPOLITAN ILOILO INITIATIVE

- Preparation of Recommendations for Metropolitan Iloilo Regional Framework
- Capacity development planning workshop
- Finalization of MIDC website

MALAY LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICE DELIVERY

ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE

- Health strategy planning workshop
- Capacity development planning workshop

PHOTOFILE



Metro Naga Chair Jesse Robredo shares strategies in forming Metro Naga Development Council with MIDC Mayors during the Metro Governance Learning Exchange Tour held last September 2001