

**JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT), PHILIPPINES**

**THE STUDY ON
ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NORTHERN PALAWAN
IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Supplemental Report No. 3

Results of Focused Group Discussions

March 1997

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ENRO	- Environment and Natural Resources Office
OSCC	- Office of Southern Cultural Communities
ONCC	- Office of Northern Cultural Communities
MAO	- Municipal Agricultural Officer
RHU	- Regional Health Unit
CTO	- City Tourism Office
TDC	- Tourism Development Council
NPI	- Northern Palawan Institute
PSU	- Palawan State University
ALAYKA	- Alay sa Kalusugan ng Palawan
SB	- Sangguniang Bayan
SK	- Sangguniang Kabataan
ENFI	- El Nido Foundation Inc.
PALECO	- Palawan Electric Company
SEP	- Strategic Environmental Plan
PCSD	- Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
ECAN	- Ecologically Criminal Area Network
ENMR	- Environment and Natural Marine Resources
MPDO	- Municipal Planning Development Office

MSWDO	- Municipal Social Welfare Development Office
DOT	- Department of Tourism
DENR	- Department of Environment and Natural Resources
FNRI	- Food and Nutrition Research Institute
DECS	- Department of Education, Culture and Sports
DOH	- Department of Health
DOTC	- Department of Transportation and Communications
DPWH	- Department of Public Works and Highways
PNP	- Philippine National Police
PCG	- Philippine Coast Guard
COMELEC	- Commission on Elections
DSWD	- Department of Social Welfare & Development
DILG	- Department of Interior and Local Government
DA	- Department of Agriculture
BAS	- Bureau of Agricultural Statistics
PASO	- Provincial Agricultural Statistical Officer

1. Coverage and Methodology

This report summarizes the findings of focused group discussions (FGDs) conducted by the Philippine Statistical Association, Inc. in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Study Team and the Department of Tourism, as part of the study entitled Environmentally Sustainable Tourism Development Plan being undertaken by the latter two organizations. The FGDs were conducted in the capital city of Puerto Princesa and ten municipalities in Northern Palawan, namely, Araceli, Busuanga, Coron, Culion, Dumarán, El Nido, Linapacan, Roxas, San Vicente, and Taytay.

The focused group discussions were conducted in the session halls of the respective municipalities one day before the end of the household survey operation in each area. The PSA representative acted as moderator, while the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator served as rapporteur. Representatives from the JICA and DOT participated in the discussions mainly as resource persons. Participants in the discussions were selected by the MPDCs from the leading citizens of the areas representing the government and private sectors. A typical array of participants included representatives from the local government units, national line agencies in the areas, non-governmental organizations, the religious sector, and private business, including those active in the tourism business. A total of participants contributed to the discussions, as shown in Table 1 below. Appendix I shows the list of participants by municipality/ city.

Table 1-1 Participants in Focused Group Discussions, by Sex, by Sector

City/ Municipality	Total	Sex		Type of Organization	
		Female	Male	Government	Private
Total	137	82	55	43	94
Puerto Princesa City	9	4	5	3	6
Araceli	13	7	6	6	7
Busuanga	14	7	7	2	12
Coron	10	8	2	1	9
Culion	14	7	7	4	10
Dumarán	12	9	3	3	9
El Nido	9	4	5	4	5
Linapacan	12	6	6	3	9
Roxas	13	10	3	3	10
San Vicente	14	10	4	7	7
Taytay	17	10	7	7	10

The FGDs used a set of structured guide questions covering four main topics: Economy, Community Services, Tourism, and Environment. Majority of the questions focused on awareness of and attitudes towards certain developments and problems in their areas, recommendations for improving the situation, and other observations regarding the aforementioned topics. Appendix II shows the guide questions used in the FGDs. The responses reflected in this report are based on the consensus reported by the groups both in narrative and tabulated forms. The results show comparisons among the eleven areas.

Some of the narrative reports lacked detail that would otherwise have explained the answers in the tabulation sheets.

2. Discussions On the Economy

The major industries in most of the municipalities are fishing and farming. Their principal products include fish, both fresh and dried, seaweed, other marine products, coconut in copra and other forms, cashew, and other agricultural products. Table 2-1 below shows the major products by municipality.

Table 2-1 Major Products

Puerto Princesa City	Fish, coconut, cashew and other traditional agri products
Araceli	Dried and fresh fish
Busuanga	Fresh fish, seaweed, rattan products, bamboo, cashew nuts
Coron	Fish
Culion	Pearl products, Rattan products
Dumaran	Fish, copra, cashew
El Nido	Fish, palay, copra, other crops
Linapacan	Fish, seaweed, cashew, copra
Roxas	Fish, seaweed, cashew, copra
San Vicente	Fish and rice
Taytay	Fish (dried and fresh), rice

Table 2 shows the products sold to places outside the province, excluding El Nido, which did not report any. The group in San Vicente reported that their products are all shipped to Puerto Princesa City; they are not aware of the ultimate destination of their products. The Coron group identified Batangas province as their principal market for dried fish, while the group from Dumaran reported that their fish are shipped to Mindoro. The other groups did not identify their principal markets outside the province.

Table 2-2 Products Shipped Outside The Province

Puerto Princesa City	Corn, coconut, fish
Araceli	Dried and fresh fish, cashew nuts and copra
Busuanga	Fresh fish, cashew nuts, sawali, seaweed (agar-agar)
Coron	Dried fish
Culion	Rattan products
Dumaran	Copra, cashew, fish
Roxas	Fish, agricultural crops such as cashew and copra, marine products
San Vicente	Fresh fish, dried fish, copra, dried squid (pusit)
Taytay	Rice and corn

Most groups identified Manila as their principal market for products shipped outside Region IV. As Table 2-3 shows, these products include coconut, fish, both fresh and dried, and cashew.

Table 2-3 Products Shipped Outside The Region

Puerto Princesa City	Corn, coconut, fish
Araceli	Dried and fresh fish, cashew nuts and copra
Busuanga	Rattan products
Coron	Dried fish
Dumaran	Fish, copra, cashew
Linapacan	Dried fish
Roxas	Fish, copra, cashew

The principal exports of Northern Palawan were reported as copra, fish, cashew, and marine products such as pearls, seaweed, and lobster. The Coron group reported that their principal foreign markets for their fish were Hong Kong, Japan and Taiwan. On the other hand, the Dumaran exported their fish, copra, and cashew to Taiwan and Korea. The other groups did not report their major foreign markets.

Table 2-4 Products Shipped Outside the Country

Puerto Princesa City	Corn, coconut, fish
Araceli	Sea weeds
Busuanga	Cashew nuts (brittle, toasted)
Coron	Live fish
Culion	Pearl products
Dumaran	Fish, copra, cashew
Roxas	Fish, copra, cashew
Taytay:	Live fish, anchovy (dilis), labong labong, lobster

2.1. Employment Situation

Participants in the capital and in five municipalities assessed the employment situation in their localities as fair. Other responses ranged from good to bad. Responses were qualified by providing possible reasons why the situation was such. Participants gave their perception of the extent of the unemployment problem with perceived unemployment rate ranging from 5 to 30 percent, except in Culion, which reported a rate of 95 percent. This corroborated their perception that the employment situation in the municipality was bad. Table 2-5 below shows the responses by municipality/ city.

Table 2-5 Employment Situation

City/Municipality	Rating	Explanation	Perceived Unemployment Rate
Puerto Princesa City	Fair	Although there is prevalent underemployment, most could be considered gainfully employed	20
Araceli	Fair	There are less job opportunities	30
Busuanga	Fair	There is no growth in business that creates employment opportunities for the residents of the municipality. There is also lack of transportation and communication.	30
Coron	Fair	All qualified workers are given the opportunity to work for a decent salary.	20
Culion	Bad	Majority are self-employed. There is no assistance from the government.	95
Dumaran	Bad	Majority of populace are unemployed.	30-40
El Nido	Good	Employees for resorts operation are hired locally, but undergraduates, especially in high school, could not easily find jobs.	20
Linapacan	Fair	All graduates could get jobs, with either permanent or temporary status.	20
Roxas	Good	People are employed in agriculture, usually self-employment	15
San Vicente	Fair	Many are employed in government agencies but most are self-employed. The income is meager and not enough.	30
Taytay	Fair	There is a lack of investors. Income is minimal.	10

The major occupations reported by the groups were farming, fishing, and employment in government and private service sectors.

2.2. Prices and Incomes

Prices of most commodities in Puerto Princesa City were reported as generally higher than in neighboring communities, especially food. However, other items like clothing were cheaper. Similarly, the Busuanga group reported that vegetables coming from other provinces, especially from Mindanao, were more expensive. Rice, fruits, and other similar commodities cost the same as in Coron and Linapacan. On the other hand, there were commodities which are cheaper than neighboring municipalities, e.g., fish, crab, lobster, and shrimp.

Municipalities where prices were reportedly generally higher than in adjacent areas were: Culion, Dumarán, El Nido, Linapacan, San Vicente, and Taytay. The El Nido group specified the more expensive commodities as vegetables, rice, oil products (gasoline). The group from Taytay further reported that those were products from the cities, vegetables, sugar, and other commodities. The Linapacan group estimated that the price difference was about 13-20 per cent compared to other municipalities; basic commodities were sourced from Coron or Taytay. Perhaps, the underlying reason for the higher prices in these communities was best articulated by the San Vicente group: that prices were higher because of high transport cost.

On the other hand, prices were reported as generally cheaper in Coron and Roxas. The Coron group explained that its area is self-sufficient in basic commodities. Moreover, since the seaport is located in Coron, it is the center for commercial distribution of goods going to neighboring municipalities such as Culion, Linapacan, Busuanga.

Only the Araceli group reported that prices of commodities, especially rice, were the same as in neighboring municipalities.

The groups were asked to comment whether there are too many rich people, too many poor people, or equal number of rich and poor people. All groups reported that there are too many poor people in their communities. The Puerto Princesa City group further estimated that about 80 percent of its population would be classified as poor. The Linapacan group ascribed the situation to the fact that most people were self employed and that cashew farming and fishing were seasonal. In San Vicente, there are reportedly too many poor people because they are not gainfully employed and earnings were not sufficient for family needs. The group from El Nido reported that the situation is the same for its area and that this is due to in-migrants and the landless.

2.3. Expansion of Business During Past Year

Despite the perceived poverty in their areas, most groups claimed that there was an expansion of business during the past year. Only the groups in Culion and Dumarán reported that there was no expansion. The latter group said that the on-going construction of the Sta. Teresita Highway prevented the inflow of investments although they expect that once the highway is finished, business would get better. The fields where business expanded are shown in Table 2-6 below.

Table 2-6 Fields Where Business Expanded

Puerto Princesa City	Banking sector and tourism-related businesses
Araceli	Fishing and farming business
Busuanga	Fishing and marketing
Coron	Fishing, tourism, transportation, banking, communication, pearl farming
El Nido	Restaurants and cottages (but seasonal)
Linapacan	Seaweed farm, cashew farming, fishing
Roxas	Business establishment, lending institutions, pawnshop, banking cooperatives, more tourists coming to the municipality (local, foreigners and government visitors)
San Vicente	Buy and sell business or trading of marine and agricultural products
Taytay	Tourism, merchandising

2.4. Prospects Of Business This Year

Seven out of the eleven groups reported that the prospects of business this year were good: Puerto Princesa City, Araceli, Coron, Dumarán, Roxas, San Vicente, and Taytay. The influx of businessmen in Coron was expected to continue, increasing commercial activities. The completion of Sta. Teresita Highway is expected to improve economic activities in Dumarán. Taytay attributed the good prospects to increasing number of tourists and visitors. The Roxas group cited the improved communications facilities as positive indications.

The groups from Busuanga, Culion, and Linapacan were less optimistic; they opined that prospects were fair. The Linapacan group expected that the growth rate of fishing and sea weeds, cashew, coconut farming would be maintained. Busuanga, however, recognized the booming business opportunities, especially in fishing.

Only the El Nido group said that prospects were bad. Prices of inputs were increasing, while outputs remained the same, or even lower. Moreover, there was insufficient production of cashew and squid products.

The groups discussed the developments in the area which they perceived would significantly affect business/income. Majority of the groups cited infrastructure projects, including the construction of strategic buildings and development of highways seaports, and airports. It was thought that improved infrastructure would facilitate tourism development as well as the movement of products to markets. Some groups opined that better communication facilities and the provision of continuous supply of electricity and potable water would attract investors to set up business their localities. Others cited other developments such as lower prices of commodities and better health services. Table 2-7 below shows the responses by city/ municipality.

Table 2-7 Developments That Will Significantly Affect Business/Income

Puerto Princesa City	Opening of the environmental estate, convention center, Popularity of the city in the country
Araceli	Having potable water supply, putting up an ice plant, and continuous services of electricity which may encourage investors to put up a business in the municipality
Busuanga	Investors - fishing will improve because of investors coming from outside Busuanga municipality
Coron	Port development, airport development, road
Culion	Electricity, water supply
Dumaran	Ports, roads,
El Nido	Electricity supply
Linapacan	Better health services
Roxas	Highway development affects business
San Vicente	Road construction for their products to reach the market increase of prices of the agricultural and fishery products. Improved residential houses Expansion of business in the area
Taytay	Communication, fax machine, telephone, telegraphs Cooperatives
	Tourism development projects in the northern part of San Vicente, Barangays Sto. Nino, New Agutaya, Binga and Barangay. Port Barton in the Southern part of San Vicente
	Prices of commodities lower Airport will help business

3. Discussions On Community Services

The participants were asked to rate the community services in their areas, on a scale of very poor, poor, fair, and good. They were also asked to recommend means of improving the services. Major problems of the community as a whole and of indigenous communities were also discussed.

3.1. Transportation Services

The terrain of mainland Northern Palawan is characterized by a combination of mountainous land and shoreline. The area also includes number of populated islands. Hence, people and goods move from place to place using land and water transport facilities. The main means of public land transport between municipalities are jeepneys and to a less extent, buses. Travel within municipalities is done by tricycles; motorcycles fitted with sidecars for passengers. Intra-province travel is done via pumpboats, while bigger vessels are available for travel to other provinces. There are also daily flights to and from Puerto Princesa as well as some island municipalities in the north. The groups rated land and water transport services, and road conditions.

Land transport was rated "fair" in Dumaran's mainland barangays, but "poor" in its island barangays. Water transport was likewise reported as "fair," but it was noted that

there are no regular trips going to the capital or to other barangays. Although the roads were rated as "fair," the road linking Dumarán to Araceli was rated "poor."

In El Nido, land and water transportation were rated as "very poor," especially during the rainy season. Pumpboats and jeepneys from Puerto Princesa and Taytay could not easily reach El Nido because of the poor road conditions and irregular scheduling of boat trips. A trip from El Nido to Manila was estimated to take 32 hours; boats would make only 3 to 4 such trips a month.

The group in Linapacan attributed the "very poor" land transport services to bad roads, there being only one kilometer of concrete road in the municipality, located in the poblacion. The group also observed that there was only one tricycle available for public transport in the barangays. Although water transport was rated as "fair," unreliable service was reported to affect school attendance of students from island barangays, especially during bad weather. There was only one pumpboat with regular trips.

Land and water transport in Roxas was rated as "good" despite the fact that road condition was "very poor," being slippery during rainy season, and dusty during dry season.

In Taytay, on the other hand, land trips were regular but road conditions were "very poor" during rainy season, when soil erosion and mud would prevent travel to other places as well as delivery of basic services.. Water transportation was rated "poor" due to lack of port facilities.

Recommendations for improving land transport services emphasized the need for funds to improve roads to all barangays. As shown in Table 3-1 below, none of the groups rated the road conditions as "good"; majority of the ratings ranged from "poor" to "very poor." The groups further suggested that the funds could be provided by government, both national and local, or private investors. Local governments should acquire its own heavy equipment for maintaining the roads, according to the Araceli group. The Taytay group further recommended the lowering of transportation fare.

The groups' recommendations for improving water transport focused on the need for additional pumpboats and better port facilities.

Table 3-1 Rating: Land Transport Services

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Cullion El Nido Linapacan	Busuanga Dumarán ^{1/}	Puerto Princesa City Araceli Coron San Vicente Taytay	Dumarán ^{1/} Roxas

^{1/} Good in mainland barangays; poor in island barangays

Table 3-2 Rating: Water Transport Services

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Coron	San Vicente	Puerto Princesa City	Busuanga
Culion El Nido	Taytay	Araceli Linapacan	Dumaran Roxas

Table 3-3 Rating: Road Condition

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Culion	Puerto Princesa City	Araceli	
El Nido ^{''} Linapacan Roxas Taytay	Busuanga Coron San Vicente	Dumaran El Nido ^{''}	

^{''}North-fair, South-very poor

3.2. Water Supply and Electricity Service

The groups reported that there was limited supply of water and electricity. None of the groups rated their water supply as "good." The Araceli group reported that with the installation of water supply III projects, their water supply improved, although they still rated the service as "fair." They recommended the completion of level three water work system and level II water system in all barangays. On the other hand, there was a reported lack of potable water during the dry season in Busuanga, Dumaran, Roxas, and Taytay. The El Nido group reported that only one of every two barangays owned a potable water supply; the rest had to fetch water from nearby springs and wells.

Coron was the only municipality that rated its electricity supply "as good." In Dumaran, electricity supply was available due to a newly-installed municipal generator. Only residents of the poblacion in Roxas were being supplied 24 hours with electricity. El Nido gets its electricity supply from National Power Corporation (NAPOCOR) and Palawan Electric Company (PALECO). However, this was limited to only four barangays within the poblacion for six hours daily, from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. A similar observation was made by the group in Linapacan, where electricity was also available only from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Similarly, in Taytay, investors and businessmen were discouraged from putting up establishments because of the limited electricity supply. In Busuanga, availability of electricity was dependent on the weather condition. Puerto Princesa City considered the inadequate electricity supply as its most pressing problem; particularly because its power barge broke down at the time of the FGD.

The groups underscored the necessity of a continuous supply of these two services. They decried the fact that power interruptions adversely affected business activities. Their recommendation, therefore, was to put up facilities that would increase the supply of both water and electricity.

Table 3-4 Rating: Water Supply

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Culion El Nido	Busuanga Dumaran Linapacan Roxas Taytay	Puerto Princesa City Araceli Coron San Vicente	

Table 3-5 Rating: Electricity Supply

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Puerto Princesa City Culion	Araceli: Dumaran El Nido Linapacan Taytay	Busuanga Roxas San Vicente	Coron

3.3. Communications Facilities

The capital city had access to all means of communication. However, this was not so for the municipalities.

Telegram and postal service were the only means of communication between El Nido and the other places in the country. It has an existing telephone system (PILTEL), but its operation is disrupted during rainy days, since it uses solar energy. The local government unit installed a base and handset radios for the barangays, but some barangays could not transmit nor receive messages due to the absence of a repeater.

The means of communication in Roxas were reported as telephone, telegraph, postal service, and single-side band radio.

Tables 3-6 to 3-8 below show the ratings given to telephone, telegraph, and postal services, respectively. It is interesting to note that none of these facilities were rated as "very poor."

Majority of the groups rated the telephone service in their localities as "poor." In Araceli, which rated the service as "fair," it was recommended that the telephone facility should have its own separate building to ensure privacy of telephone communications. On the other hand, the Dumaran group considered the service as "good" or "poor," depending on where one lived - it was said to benefit only those living in the poblacion.

The Linapacan group explained why they rated their postal service as "poor." Letters and packages were delivered only once a month. Sometimes, there were added delays due to unfavorable weather conditions, or due to misrouting of letters and packages.

Table 3-6 Rating: Telephone Service

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City	Coron:
	Culion	Araceli	Dumaran ^{1/}
	El Nido	Roxas	
	Linapacan		
	San Vicente		
	Taytay		

^{1/} benefits only the people in the town center (poblacion)

Table 3-7 Rating: Telegraph Service^{1/}

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City	Coron
	Culion	Araceli	El Nido
	Linapacan	Dumaran	
	San Vicente	Roxas	

^{1/} No response for Taytay

Table 3-8 Rating: Postal Service

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City	Coron
	Culion	Araceli	El Nido
	Linapacan	Roxas	
	San Vicente		

^{1/} No response for Dumaran and Taytay

3.4. Health and Nutrition Services

Health and nutrition services are among those that were devolved to the local government in the early nineties. Tables 3-9 and 3-10 show the ratings for health and nutrition services, respectively.

The ratings given by the groups showed that the capital city, where a full range of services and facilities were available, was the only group that rated its health and nutrition services as "good." At the other end of the scale, the El Nido group rated its health and nutrition services as "very poor." The group decried the lack of facilities; they claimed that some patients had to go to the neighboring municipality of Taytay for treatment.

Majority of the groups echoed the need for adequate health facilities and personnel. The groups in Araceli, Coron, Culion, Dumaran, El Nido, San Vicente, and Taytay considered the situation serious enough to be cited as one of their municipalities' major problems. The Taytay group, for example, cited the lack of health stations, medicines and vehicles for delivery of services to far-flung barangays. The group also attributed the lack of outreach to limited transport services and bad road conditions.

The Linapacan group specified the need for medicines for malaria, flu, dysentery, and other diseases. On the other hand, the Araceli group recommended that there must be established at least a ten-bed hospital to provide health services. Other groups also setting up laboratory facilities for better diagnosis of ailments.

The Araceli group also recommended the institutionalization of all barangay health workers and barangay nutrition scholar and providing them with higher incentive fee. For all these recommendations, funds were deemed necessary by the discussion groups.

Table 3-9 Rating: Health Services

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
El Nido	Dumaran Linapacan San Vicente Taytay	Araceli Busuanga Coron Culion Roxas	Puerto Princesa City

Table 3-10 Rating: Nutrition Services:

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Culion El Nido	Dumaran Linapacan San Vicente	Araceli Busuanga Coron Roxas Taytay	Puerto Princesa City

3.5. Education services

The groups associated their ratings, shown in Table 3-11 below, with the availability of facilities and accessibility to education. Puerto Princesa City and Araceli rated their education service as "good." On the other hand, El Nido, which gave a rating of "very poor," cited the problems of lack of school facilities, supplies and teachers resulting in a pupil-teacher ratio of 62:1. The other groups also looked into the distance of schools from the homes of pupils; they attributed the accessibility problem to lack of transportation and roads. San Vicente and Taytay considered the lack of education facilities as one of their major problems.

Filipinos, Palawenos included, put a high value on education. They consider it as an important means for improving their lives. Their recommendations reflect this thinking. For example, the Araceli group recommended complete 4-year courses at the tertiary level. Coron recommended that more courses be offered aside from the limited courses such B.S. Fishery (3 years. only) which were currently available. The Dumaran group was more modest; they recommended the setting up of secondary schools.

The Araceli group recommended the provision of functional school buildings for every barangay. Dumarán, San Vicente, and Taytay cited the need for construction/repair of school buildings and facilities. The San Vicente group also recommended the acquisition of more books for the students. The groups further said that the national government should provide more funds for improving education services.

Table 3-11 Rating: Education services

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
El Nido	Culion	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City
	San Vicente Taytay	Coron Dumarán Linapacan Roxas	Araceli

3.6. Housing services

Majority of the groups rated housing services as "poor" to "very poor," as shown in Table 3-12 below. Only the Dumarán group had a rating of "good"; they attributed this to the availability of construction materials. The recommendation given by the Araceli group probably sums up the sentiments of the other groups; that is, to provide low cost housing to the homeless and housing loans to the people from the poblacion.

Table 3-12 Rating: Housing services

Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good
Araceli	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City	Dumarán
Coron Culion El Nido	Dumarán Linapacan San Vicente Taytay	Roxas	

3.7. Other services

Four areas, Puerto Princesa City, Araceli, Culion and El Nido, considered the peace and order situation. Participants in the capital city and in Culion rated the situation as fair. On the other hand, Araceli recommended the intensification of seaborne patrol to protect the municipal water and provision of radio transceivers to officials responsible in the maintenance of peace and order.

Infrastructure facilities such as airports and seaports were also rated. The seaport in Coron was reported as very poor, while Linapacan recommended the construction of a wharf. The airport in Coron was rated as poor because it was not cemented.

The lack of agricultural machinery was cited by both Dumarán and El Nido participants as a problem that needed attention.

Population services were rated in Roxas as fair, while the lack of such services was noted in San Vicente. Cooperatives in Araceli were rated as very poor.

3.8. Major Problems And Proposed Solutions

Each group identified the most serious problems in their community. They analyzed the causes and possible solutions to these problems. Tables 3-13a to 3-13k below show the results of the discussions in each area. Problems were ranked, with the most serious ranked as number 1. Corresponding causes and proposed solutions are also presented.

Table 3-13a Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Puerto Princesa City

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Bad roads and accessibility	City has a wide area	More government investments in infrastructure
2	Inadequate power supply	Broken down power barge	Newer power source
3	Livelihood	Poor transfer of technology	Better government livelihood program

Table 3-13b Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Araceli

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Health Services		Must have a hospital and permanent physician.
2	Food supply and rice shortage	Underproduction and lack of irrigation system	Provide agricultural support and services
3	Poverty		Increase agricultural production through scientific farming and provide livelihood activities

Table 3-13c Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Busuanga

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Inadequate water supply	shortage during dry season	LGU support
2	Illegal logging, leading to denudation of forest		Work hand in hand against kaingin system
3	Dynamite fishing and cyanide fishing	destruction of marine life and aquatic resources	continuous surveillance by proper authorities (PCG, PNP & local folks)

Table 3-13d Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Coron

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Poor water transport services	Dilapidated port	Construction/improvement of Coron port
2	Poor health Services	Lack of supplies, facilities, manpower, equipment	1) employ health workers; 2) funding appropriation for supplies, facilities, equipment
3	Sea Pollution	Foreshore occupancy	1)Socialized housing project; 2)Foreshore reclamation

Table 3-13e Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Culion

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Illegal fishing	Destruction of marine products	Seek assistance from the agency concerned
2	Lack of infrastructure facilities	poor economic development of municipality	Make funds available for infrastructure
3	lack of health services	malnutrition	sufficient health services

Table 3-13f Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Dumarán

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Unfinished construction of road; transportation	Lack of funds	Construction of passable roads; pumpboats.
2	Agriculture machinery; water supply		
3	Electrical system, lighting system	Lack of funds	Construction of electrical facilities
4	Health	Health education	Encourage them to plan agriculture products

Table 3-13g Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: El Nido

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Lack of Potable water	Shortage of funds	Additional consumer, road network
2	Power supply	Insufficient consumer	
3	Health	No hospital	

Table 3-13h Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Linapacan

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Transportation	Scarcity	Need investors on transportation and improvement of wharf Additional development of water reservoir Need financial support and provide technology investment
2	Water system	Limited	
3	Livelihood	Lack of financial assistance and technology through loans	

Table 3-13i Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Roxas

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Insufficient supply of potable water	No funds for improvement and no funds for the transmission line	Funding for transmission line
2	Bad road conditions	Under developed roads	Funding assistance
3	Illegal activities (fishing & logging)	Low income, lack of livelihood projects "Get quick rich" mentality	Campaign on values formation and provide more livelihood projects

Table 3-13j Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: San Vicente

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Health services	Lack of financial support	Financial support from local, provincial and national funds
2	Dilapidated road condition, especially during rainy season	Lack of financial support	Funds for repair and maintenance
3	Education	Lack of building, books, etc.	Support from the agency concerned

Table 3-13k Problems, Causes and Proposed Solutions: Taytay

Rank	Problem	Cause	Solution
1	Roads	Lack of funds	National government must intervene
2	Education	Building, facilities, politics	National government must do their part
3	Health	Facilities and building	Purchase of modern facilities, construction of building

3.9. Problems of Indigenous Communities

The groups were asked what problems, if any, the indigenous communities faced in their locality. Only the Araceli group reported that there were no problems, as there

were reportedly no indigenous communities there. The other groups cited problems related to survival of the communities and their unique cultures.

Table 3-14 Problems of Indigenous Communities

Puerto Princesa City	Land tenure problems, Acculturation as a result of tourism, Inappropriate education, Vanishing culture; e.g. songs, prayer
Busuanga	Poor living condition Lack of attention No compensation in their efforts within the district Territorial conflict
Coron	In need of government assistance for their primary needs like education, food, clothing and medicine
Culion	Possible loss of ancestral land if no protection is given by the government
Dumaran	Lack of hospital, lack of medicines, lack of medical facilities Lack of transportation
El Nido	Communication, transportation, Culture, Livelihood, Ancestral domain, Health, population
Linapacan	Primary needs (food, clothing, education and medicines)
Roxas	Ancestral land are sold for farm lands due to poverty and ignorance Hesitant to accept new techniques Far from barangay especially health services, hence inability to deliver basic services
San Vicente	No fixed source of living for indigenous communities They feel threatened if lands they till are taken away They are frightened away by rude people Lack of livelihood program in the community
Taytay	Displacement, Kaingin, Migration

4. Discussions On Tourism

The discussion on tourism assessed the situation in each area in terms of activities, presence of certain policy instruments, awareness of existing tourist attractions. The groups also discussed the possible effects of tourism, and tourism development.

4.1. The Current Tourism Situation

The groups were asked to rate the tourism activity in their areas on a scale of "good," to "fair" to "bad." Among those that gave a rating of "bad," Linapacan claimed that their tourist spots were not yet developed. The Dumaran group rated its tourism activity as "bad" to "fair." On the other hand, the Taytay group reported that investors were coming in, and gave a rating of "good." Table 4-1 below shows the ratings given by the groups.

Table 4-1 Assessment of Tourism Activity

Bad	Fair	Good
Culion	Busuanga	Puerto Princesa City
Dumaran	Coron	El Nido ^{1/}
El Nido ^{1/}	Dumaran	Taytay
Linapacan	Roxas	
	San Vicente	

^{1/} Good in terms of tourist arrivals; bad in terms of illegally operated restaurants and pumpboats, unaccredited cottages, and lack of bank operations

Only Puerto Princesa City, Coron, El Nido, and San Vicente reported the presence of a tourism council in their community. In San Vicente, the tourism council covered only Port Barton. On the other hand, only Puerto Princesa City claimed to have a tourism master plan. However, even this was not yet legalized.

The groups identified their tourist attractions, and the present condition and marketability of each one. Tables 4-2a to 4-2k below show listings of these attractions and the condition and marketable features of each one. It should be noted that a number of tourist attractions still needed to be developed.

Table 4-2a Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Puerto Princesa City

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1.Underground River	Good	Pristine natural environment; well-preserved environment, unique flora and fauna
2.Honda Bay	Good	Pristine surroundings; coral reefs, white sand, variety of fish, proximity to the city
3 City tour	Good	Very educational; varied interesting places and clean environment

Table 4-2b Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Araceli

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1.Tininimtonan beach	Good	White sand, crystal clear water
2. Marikit island	Good	Diving spot
3. San Jose de Oro beach	Good	Sand
4. Casiran birds sanctuary	Fair	Scuba diving
5. Mantulale island	Good	Scuba diving
6. Languy island	Good	Scuba diving
7.Cambari island	Good	Scuba diving

Table 4-2c Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Busuanga

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. beaches	Good	(under construction)
2. San Pedro Port	Fair	
3. Immaculate Conception Church together with the lighthouse	Good	white sand, clean
4. Calamit Island with zoo		

Table 4-2d Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Coron

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Club Paradise	Good	White sand, clear water, intact corrals Clear water Hot spring, water good treatment for rheumatism Forest park Beaches
2. CYC-Coron Youth Club	Good	
3. Kayangan Lake	Good	
4. Makinit Hot Spring	Fair	
5. Mabatangan Forest Park	Good	
6. Coron Island	Good	
7. Cabugao Mountain Lake	Good	
8. Debatok Island	Good	
9. Ditaytayan Island	Good	
10. Dinaran Island	Good	

Table 4-2e Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Culion

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Calawit Wildlife Sanctuary	Fair	Edible bird nests white sand
2. Las Hamacas Beach Resort	Fair	
3. Calumbuyan Island Adventure (CIA)	Fair	
4. Black Island		
5. Pamalican Island		

Table 4-2f Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Dumaran

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Island beaches of Dumaran channel	Good ¹¹	White sand, clear water, dam water
2. Under water diving spot	Good ¹¹	Clear water and dam water, beautiful corrals
3. Cayacan Falls	Good ¹¹	Clear and clean water, picnic ground
4. Maraneg beach	Good ¹¹	Beautiful scenery

¹¹needs development

Table 4-2g Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: El Nido

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Mihilok Resort 2. El Nido Resort 3. Pangalasian Resort		Small lagoon, hot springs, falls, caves, cliffs unusual, unique

Table 4-2h Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Linapacan

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Beaches 2. Eli Cave Island 3. Casiledan Spanish Fort 4. Live corals 5. Virgin Forests	Good ^{1/} Good ^{1/} Good ^{1/} Good ^{1/} Good ^{1/}	Natural beauty Natural beauty, stones with assorted colors Historic Treasure hunting, war ship, different wild animals and birds

^{1/}needs development

Table 4-2i Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Roxas

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Coco-Loco Beach Resort 2. New Rizal Waterfalls 3. Tabon Egg (Stanlake Is.)	Fair Good	Serene environment Rare, found only in Roxas White beach area

Table 4-2j Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: San Vicente

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Port Barton beaches 2. Caparii Dive Camp 3. Long Sandy White beach	Fair Good ^{1/}	Clean white beach, many lodging houses & rest. Diving lessons with lodging & rest. Awaiting development from private investors

^{1/}needs development

Table 4-2k Tourist Attractions, Conditions and Selling Points: Taytay

Tourist Attraction	Condition	Selling Points
1. Club Noah	Good	
2. Lake Danao	Good	
3. Fort Isabelle	Bad	
4. Malampaya Sound	Good	
5. Flowen Island	Fair	

4.2. Ecotourism

All the groups said that they had heard of "ecotourism." The San Vicente group admitted, however, that they were not quite familiar with the term. Further, all the groups said that the tourist attractions in their municipality would qualify as "ecotourist spots." The Puerto Princesa City group cited as examples the Underground River and Honda Bay, Calawit Wildlife Sanctuary, Calumbuyan Island Adventure, and Las Hamacas Beach Resort in Culion were likewise mentioned as "ecotourist spots." On the other hand, the Roxas opined that their tourist attractions would be considered as such if there is sustainable development and ecological balance. This was echoed by the Taytay group, who emphasized the need to develop and preserve the forests and corrals in their community.

4.3. Types of Tourists

The groups identified the types of tourists that visit their areas. Only Palawenos visited the tourist spots in Araceli. On the other hand, it was reported that only foreigners visited Busuanga, El Nido, and Taytay. The other areas (Puerto Princesa City, Coron, Culion, Dumaran, Linapacan, Roxas, and San Vicente) reported that tourists were foreigners, Filipinos outside Palawan, and Palawenos. In Puerto Princesa City, foreign tourists were identified as mostly Europeans; Filipinos were mostly Manila-based, and Palawenos were from all over the province, it being the capital of the province.

4.4. Effects of Tourism on the People

Tourism could be said to have an effect on people if, in the course of being exposed to and interacting with visitors from divergent cultures and economic standing, the local people adopt the visitors' ways, or fall victim to undesirable elements, or share in the economic benefits, or otherwise modify their behavior as a result of the visitors' different ways. The groups discussed the possible effects, if any, on three groups of people: the people in the locality, the indigenous communities, and the FGD participants themselves.

The groups in six municipalities reported that tourism had no effects on the people in the locality: Araceli, Culion, Linapacan, Roxas, Dumaran, and Taytay. In the case of

Araceli, there was no exposure to other ways of living, since the group reported that only locals visited their tourist areas. The Dumaran group explained that people were aware of their lifestyle and could easily adopt to their environment. On the other hand, the Taytay group predicted that in later years tourism will change the lifestyle of the people. Table 4-3 below shows the perceived economic, cultural, and behavioral effects of tourism on the people of the other areas.

The groups also discussed the effects of tourism, if any, on the indigenous communities in their areas. Araceli, Coron, and Cullion reported that there was no effect on the indigenous communities in their areas. The other groups cited both positive and negative effects on the economic, cultural, and behavioral aspects of the lives of the communities, as shown in Table 4-4 below..

All the groups reported that tourism had a direct effect on the FGD participants themselves. Among the groups, only Puerto Princesa gave a detailed description of these effects. The others appear to have placed themselves in the shoes of the other people in their respective communities, or reported very brief responses to the question, as shown in Table 4-5 below.

Table 4-3 Effects of Tourism on the People in the Locality

Puerto Princesa City	Morals and values have changed; Prices of commodities have been affected.
Busuanga	Land- related conflicts (land grabbing) have occurred. Some pedophiles (foreigners) have entered the area.
Coron	Lifestyle has changed for those living near the tourist spots.
El Nido	Way of living, personality (within the poblacion), modernized living
San Vicente	There was a positive change of attitudes and values. The people particularly in Barangay Port Barton, became conscious of cleanliness of their surroundings, and they became ambitious, thus motivated to work harder to improve their standard of living.

Table 4-4 Effects of Tourism on Indigenous Communities

Puerto Princesa City	Increasing market for their craft. Medicine and food commodities reach their place as form of "pasalubong," or presents from visitors.
Busuanga	Disposition of land (land grabbing), besides the sea and residential area.
Dumaran	Tourism increased their income and changed their lifestyle. Tourists use their bancas for island hopping.
El Nido	Tourism increased their income and changed their lifestyle. Tourists use their bancas for island hopping.
Linapacan	Because of education and change of lifestyle.
Roxas	They are exploited. They are always included in project documents but are not given opportunity to participate in the actual projects..
San Vicente	These people feel inferior and insecure to mingle with other people especially tourists (not necessarily foreign tourists). They feel they are being looked down and treated very low.
Taytay	There has been a change in culture and values

Table 4-5 Direct Effects of Tourism on FGD Participants

Area	Positive Effects	Negative Effects
<p>Puerto Princesa City:</p>	<p>NGOs: have organized working groups to propose policies in tourism. Church: has organized Commission on Migration and Tourism. Tourism Office: more hard work. Education: incorporated tourism in the classroom. Environment sector: busy with site protection, carrying capacity computations. City planning: heavy orientation towards tourism-related projects.</p>	
<p>Busuanga: Coron Culion</p>	<p>Promulgate laws on tourism Increase in income of the people Employment, business opportunities, increase in income, learn about other cultures</p>	<p>Child prostitution, drugs syndicate, communicable diseases like AIDS</p>
<p>Dumaran El Nido</p>	<p>Better living conditions Additional income for the LGU and job opportunities for the people</p>	<p>Drugs, prostitution and buying of lands from Filipinos, Competition in business</p>
<p>Linapacan Roxas</p>	<p>Improved livelihood Help in environmental protection, conservation campaign</p>	<p>None at present.</p>
<p>San Vicente</p>	<p>Some good hearted tourists offer financial assistance to poor, sick people and even sponsor students. Tourism generates income and employment, and provides opportunities to learn about other cultures.</p>	<p>In some beaches when foreign tourists sunbathe naked or in nude, it contradicts Filipino and Christian values. These tourists could also bring in strange diseases. Some fishermen when caught in strong, big waves at sea, are deprived of chance to rest on islands occupied by foreigners. In some religious services, when tourists are present whose attire is unbecoming, it distracts the solemnity of the said services.</p>
<p>Taytay</p>	<p>Income, Exposure to other people</p>	

4.5. Tourism development in the City/ Municipality

All the groups were in favor of developing the tourism industry in their localities. The Puerto Princesa City group qualified their statement as "Yes to responsible, sustainable and job generating tourism." Table 4-6 below shows the perceived benefits of tourism development to their areas, as reported by the groups. Most groups cited economic benefits such as increased incomes, better business opportunities, and increase in employment. The El Nido group also mentioned environmental preservation as a positive outcome of tourism development.

Table 4-7 shows the perceived role of the municipal government, which all groups agreed should be involved in tourism development. They opined that the municipal government should maintain an atmosphere conducive to tourism development through construction of good infrastructure, enforcement of laws, protection of the environment, and education. The municipal government could also to attract tourists through information dissemination and promotion of the tourism industry.

Table 4-6 below shows the groups' perception of the Primary needs of the community for tourism development. Most recommendations centered on infrastructure facilities that would provide accessibility to tourist attractions and basic services for making the stay of tourists safe and comfortable. Some groups said that people should be trained for the tourism industry, while others cited the need for livelihood projects for locals. An underlying need, which some groups articulated, was funds for setting up the facilities and services, which could be provided by government or private investors.

Table 4-6 Perceived Benefits of Tourism Development

Puerto Princesa City	^{1/}
Araceli	Increase in employment/business opportunities Increase in income for the municipality Opportunity to learn other culture Improvement of land and water transportation facilities
Busuanga	Increase in incomes
Coron	^{2/}
Culion	^{2/}
Dumaran	Increase employment, income opportunity, learn
El Nido	Economic: employment, increased income, farming, local producer of goods; preservation of environment
Linapacan	Increase in employment/business opportunities. Opportunity to know about culture
Roxas:	It can form economic activities, provided it is regulated Increase in employment Additional income for the municipality
San Vicente	It will provide business opportunities, income and employment to people
Taytay	Employment, income, revenue

^{1/} in favor of responsible, sustainable and job generating tourism

^{2/} no benefits cited

Table 4-7 Perceived Role of Municipal Government in Tourism Development

Puerto Princesa City	Construct infrastructure which are supportive of tourism; convention center; Promotions. Education; Taxes and policy decisions
Araceli	Maintain the peace and order Information/dissemination Advertisement and promotion
Busuanga	Enforcement of laws against illegal activities
Coron	Construction of circumferential/coastal road for accessibility to different tourist spots
Culion	Enforce laws against illegal activities be responsible for protection and conservation of environment
Dumaran	Cooperate in some activities, involvement in some tourism development
El Nido	Information dissemination, awareness about environment, people participation, common effort
Linapacan	prioritize the delineation of ecologically Critical Areas Network (ECAN). Enforce and implement policies/guidelines affecting tourism. Adopt municipal zoning ordinance consistent with the approved land use plan
Roxas:	Identification of the tourists spots destination Direct development of tourists spots
San Vicente	Through information dissemination, by extending and supporting efficient tourist services and activities
Taytay	Planning, regulation/policies; promotion

**Table 4-8 Primary Needs of the Community for
Tourism Development: Puerto Princesa City**

1	Roads
2	Accommodations
3	Development of tourism sites
4	Alternative materials for construction, in lieu of wood

**Table 4-9 Primary Needs of the Community
for Tourism Development: Araceli**

1	Accommodations
2	Funds
3	Land and water transportation
4	Good and continuous power and water supply
5	Tourism management
6	Titling of land

**Table 4-10 Primary Needs of the Community
for Tourism Development: Busuanga**

1	Airport
2	Road network improvement
3	Environmental laws enforcement

**Table 4-11 Primary Needs of the Community for
Tourism Development: Coron**

1	Improvement of port
2	Improvement of airport
3	Improvement of roads
4	Investors are needed

Table 4-12 Primary Needs of the Community
for Tourism Development: Culion

1	Infrastructure projects
2	Health services
3	Transfer of technology
4	Livelihood projects
5	Improvement and construction of new roads to give way to expected guest or to number of tourists
6	Improvement of water and medical facilities
7	Medical assistance
8	Construction of airport and promotion program about tourism
9	Roads (all weather)
10	Agri. Tech. facilities
11	market demand
11	development of social/infra projects
12	investors must be involved to improve tourist spots
13	expansion of road construction
14	Funding
15	Information dissemination
16	Promotions
17	Road condition
18	Transportation facilities (both land and water transport)
19	Sanitation
20	Communication facilities
21	Water supply
22	Light services
23	Educational training
24	Hotels
25	Roads
26	Air/sea port
27	Communication
28	Livelihood program
29	Health
30	Education

5. Discussions on the Environment

The groups assessed the state of the natural resources in their respective areas. They then identified the activities being practiced in the municipalities that would damage these resources, remedial measures to address environmental problems, and extent of

implementation of the laws concerning the environment. They defined the responsibilities of the municipalities and the participants themselves, as well as their primary needs for carrying out the protection of the environment.

5.1. State of Natural Resources

Three groups: Coron, Linapacan, and San Vicente, reported that their forest, fishing grounds, and mineral deposits were all well-conserved. The San Vicente group reported that apart from the three resources mentioned above, their upland resources were well-conserved. On the other hand, Araceli and Roxas reported that all three resources were slightly deteriorated or on the process of deteriorating. Table 5-1 below shows how the groups rated their natural resources.

Four groups reported that their forest resources were well-conserved: the capital city, Coron, Culion, Linapacan, and San Vicente. The Linapacan group explained that the strict prohibition of kaingin (slash and burn) and illegal logging contributed to the well-conserved state of their forests. However, the Puerto Princesa City group expressed the fear that these resources were very threatened, especially outside the city. On the other hand, the groups in Busuanga and Taytay pointed to illegal loggers as the cause for the deterioration of their forests.

Six groups deplored the deterioration of their fishing grounds. They attributed this to illegal fishing, which according to the Puerto Princesa City and Busuanga groups was being perpetrated by non-resident fishermen. On the other hand, the Linapacan group cited the efforts of Bantay Dagat in minimizing illegal fishing, which contributed to the conservation of their fishing grounds.

Seven groups reported on the state of their mineral deposits. Four of them reported that their mineral deposits were at various stages of deterioration.

Table 5-1 Assessment of the State of the Natural Resources in the Municipality

	Forest	Fishing Grounds	Mineral Deposits
Puerto Princesa City	Well-conserved	Deteriorated	"
Araceli	Slightly deteriorated	Slightly deteriorated	Slightly deteriorated
Busuanga	Deteriorated	Deteriorated	
Coron	Well conserved	Well conserved	Well conserved
Culion	Well conserved	Deteriorated	Deteriorated
Dumaran	Fair	Fair	Fair
El Nido	Controlled	Deteriorated	
Linapacan	Well conserved	Well conserved	Well conserved
Roxas	On the process of deteriorating	On the process of deteriorating	On the process of deteriorating
San Vicente	Well conserved	Well conserved	
Taytay	Deteriorated	Deteriorated	Well conserved

" no operating mining claims

5.2. Environmental Problems and Remedial Measures

Table 31 below shows that dynamite/ cyanide fishing was being practiced in all the areas to the detriment of the environment. As mentioned above, this was being done by non-resident fishers in at least two areas. Kaingin system and illegal logging were also present in most areas. Improper waste disposal, which the capital city had successfully minimized, was a problem in seven areas, while illegal wild life trade was reported in two areas.

Remedial measures to address these problems ranged from law enforcement to community based action such as reforestation and surveillance (Forest Watch or "Bantay Gubat" and Sea Watch or "Bantay Dagat"), as shown in Table 5-2. Improper waste disposal was being addressed by regular collection of waste and land filling. The the local government and the community in the capital city tackled this problem through strict law enforcement, media campaign, education, and provision of sanitary services.

Table 5-2 Environmentally Damaging Activities Being Practiced In The Community

	Dynamite/ cyanide fishing	Illegal logging	Kaingin system	Illegal wild life trade	Improper waste disposal
Puerto Princesa City	■	■	■	■	
Araceli	■	■	■		■
Busuanga	■	■	■	■	■
Coron	■	■	■		■
Culion	■	■	■		
Dumaran	■	■	■		
El Nido	■		■		■
Linapacan	■	■	■		■
Roxas	■	■	■		■
San Vicente	//	//			
Taytay	■	■	■		■

// very minimal

Table 5-3 Remedial Measures For Environmental Problems

Puerto Princesa City	The campaign has not been as intensive as in previous years, but there are still successes in Bantay Puerto, Pista'y ang Kageban, private initiatives and tree planting and other government efforts
Araceli	Apprehension of illegal loggers, kaingeros and dynamite/cyanide fishers, both local folks and outside the municipality
Busuanga	Dynamite/cyanide - PNP Improper waste disposal - PCG - Phil. Coast Guard Illegal logging - ECAN Board - Integrated Criminal Area Network
Coron	Law enforcement
Culion	Reports to higher agencies concerned, monitoring on illegal activities
Dumaran	By imposing environment protection program like reforestation
El Nido	Dynamite/cyanide fishing: Strict implementation of laws Improper waste disposal: land filling
Linapacan Roxas	Law enforcement Bantay Roxas Staff are fielded for surveillance on this environmental problems
San Vicente	Municipal programs like Community Based Resource Management and SEP LSP-Strategic Environmental Plan- San Vicente Council for Sustainable Development
Taytay	Law enforcement Regular collection of waste

5.3. Environmental Protection

The groups admitted that environmental protection laws were not being strictly implemented in some areas. As shown in Table 5-4, this was due to a lack of communications facilities, personnel, and funds on the part of national government agencies. In some cases, personal interests of law enforcers prevented them from carrying out their duties.

Table 5-4 Are environmental protection laws strictly implemented?

	Yes, ways	No, reason
Puerto Princesa City	For those laws devolved to the city	National government agencies are not as committed as the local government
Araceli		Due to lack of communication facilities and additional employees that will be assigned to implement the program
Busuanga	*	
Coron	Through Bantay Palawan, Bantay Dagat, Bantay Gubat By imposing penalties of offenders.	
Culion		Not fully implemented due to lack of facilities/funds
Dumaran		Because sometimes law enforcers neglect their responsibility to do their duties Self interest
El Nido	//	
Linapacan	Through Bantay Dagat and Bantay Gubat	
Roxas		Lack of manpower to apprehend suspects Lack of modern communication equipment No police power
San Vicente	//	

// was not stated

All the groups agreed that everybody should be responsible within their spheres of influence for environmental protection and conservation efforts in their municipality. They expressed this sentiment in several ways, either by identifying the lead and support roles (the people; local folks; community, with moral and financial support from the local government unit; simultaneous action of government and residents in implementing the environment program), or by enumerating specific persons (municipal officials, representatives of national line agencies, non governmental organizations). Among government representatives, they mentioned the Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO), Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer (MENRO), Municipal Agricultural Officer (MAO), representatives of the following agencies: Philippine National Police (PNP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), and Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

The groups also identified the specific roles that they, as leading citizens and municipal officials could play in protecting the environment, as shown in Table 5-5 below.

Table 5-5 Role of FGD Participants and the Municipality in Environmental Protection

Puerto Princesa City	Educate the people, control of resource utilization, clear policies. NGOs : advocacy and other private initiatives
Araceli	The municipality should be involved in environmental protection by implementing the laws under local government
Busuanga	Working hand in hand with the proper authorities
Coron	Discipline, Information dissemination
Culion	Conservation of our natural resources
Dumaran	Giving information about the importance of environment
El Nido	Launching of Oplan Linis program, Filing of cases against the illegal activators
Linapacan	Abiding laws for environment protection
Roxas	Environmental protection program campaign, such as tree planting
San Vicente	Preserving our natural resources, Implementing environmental rules and regulations or policies, laws.
Taytay	Being self-reliant Strict implementation of law

Finally, the groups identified the primary needs of the community for environmental protection/conservation, ranked according to priority. Tables 5-6a to 5-6k show the groups' lists for each area. Some groups identified very specific materials needed, while other groups listed their needs in very general terms.

Table 5-6a Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Puerto Princesa City

1	Responsible officials
2	alternative livelihood, technology support
3	materials, funds
4	political will
5	strict forest protection
6	waste management

Table 5-6b Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Araceli

1	communication system
2	coordination with neighboring municipalities
3	bantay-dagat operation
4	alternative projects

Table 5-6c Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Busuanga

1	law enforcement
2	local folks - coordination with LGU
3	ECAN Board law
4	district leaders

Table 5-6d Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Coron

1	strict implementation of laws and ordinance
2	additional trained surveillance personnel
3	info campaign for all concerned citizens

Table 5-6e Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Culion

1	4 patrol boats
2	30 radio hand sets
3	guns

Table 5-6f Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Dumaran

1	Strict implementation of reforestation program and apprehension of illegal fishing activities
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Table 5-6g Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: El Nido

1	Speed boat for illegal fishermen
2	Livelihood project
3	Government support

Table 5-6h Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Linapacan

1	manpower support
2	communication services
3	patrol boat
4	information dissemination

Table 5-6i Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Roxas

1	Technical staff
2	Funding
3	Modern communication equipment

Table 5-6j Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: San Vicente

1	Equipment for patrolling and monitoring the environment
2	Financial assistance in information dissemination of environmental rules for its implementation

Table 5-6k Primary Needs of the Community for Environmental Protection/Conservation: Taytay

1	Information campaign
2	Education
3	Funds
4	Sound analysis

6. Other Remarks And Observations

This section reports verbatim the other remarks and observations given by some of the groups.

6.1. Puerto Princesa City:

What has the City done right?

- Strong political resolve to clean the city and protect the environment,
- Bantay projects,
- Education,
- Community involvement

6.2. Roxas:

As an observation on the Focused Group Discussion, the sustainable development with nature preserved and the ecological biodiversity be maintained. The consensus of the group intent to develop our agricultural capabilities for the attainment of self-sufficiency in food and other basic needs, provide more livelihood projects, utilize our natural resources with value added, support the requirements of tourism, build infrastructure and utilities that afford the comfort and convenience of life, progressive and balance in developments.

It seems that there are some tourist spots destination that can be develop, the only problem is the funding assistance.

6.3. San Vicente:

The municipality of San Vicente welcomes the Department of Tourism and JICA for taking interest on the tourism potential of the municipality. The LGU has provided the study team with relevant information and has provided a good clients for discussion with its varied constituencies.

After the submission of the final report on the tourism framework plan for Northern Palawan, the municipality will be expecting some member of the staff to visit again the LGU to assist in the information and education activities for their successful implementation of the plan.

Hopefully, the study team and the LGU may identify some projects which maybe implemented soonest. The feasibility study and the financial arrangements maybe arrange on any favorable schemes.

Appendix I Participants

Municipality: PUERTO PRINCESA CITY

Date: July 24, 1996

Venue: City Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Ms. Aurora B. Padrones	Life Renewal Center
2.	Msgr. Edgardo S. Juanich	Parish Priest
3.	Ms. Cecille B. Concepcion	Chairperson, Tourism Council
4.	Ms. Imelda M. Yayen	City Tourism Office
5.	Mr. Olegario Cayetano	DECS, Palawan
6.	Mr. Rogelio Dacquer	City ENRO
7.	Atty. Grizelda Mayo-Anda	ELAC
8.	Ms. Belen Magay	City Planning Office
9.	Mr. Rodolfo M. Boronos	BAS

Moderator: Ms. Mercuria Zosa - Team Supervisor

Rapporteur: Mr. Mauro Ordillo, Jr. - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: ARACELI

Date: July 26, 1996

Venue: Municipal Hall, Poblacion Araceli, Palawan

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Armando D. Abid	Municipal Civil Registrar
2.	Emma Molkeno	Government Employee
3.	Myma Descutido	Business Sector
4.	Chelmar Belarmino	Student
5.	Pepito Katon, Jr.	Samahang Kabataan
6.	Mildred Calalin	Student
7.	Pompéyo Besaga	Private Sector
8.	Danilia Vallite	Cooperative
9.	Maricel Navarro	Municipal Agri. Office/Government
10.	Nida Lara	Municipal Agri. Office/Government
11.	Andrew Rosel	Religious Sector
12.	Claudio Uslares	DECS/Government
13.	Gideon Molleno	Dept. of Agriculture/Government

Moderator: Mr. Mario Canilla - Team Supervisor

Rapporteur: Mr. Richard Sibál - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: BUSUANGA
Date: July 19, 1996
Venue: Salvacion, Busuanga, Palawan

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Divina Gracia Dulce	PASWI, Inc.
2.	Vedasto Mago	ECAN Board/Private
3.	Edwardo Quetulio	Regional Health Unit
4.	Rogelio Alili	COMEL.EC/Government
5.	Joseph Lorenzo	DILG
6.	Tantaleon Austria	License Inspector
7.	Fabiola Mayo	Regional Health Unit
8.	Gracita Smith	Peace Corp Volunteer
9.	Má. Ana Dalabagan	DOH
10.	Jesus Abaririg	Barangay Captain
11.	Segundo Cervantes	SB Member
12.	Rene Mayo	SB Member
13.	Resenila Dingson	Treasurer's Office
14.	Annabelle Cabanigan	Treasurer's Office

Moderator: Mr. Macarthur Halun - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Ms. Ailene Dingson - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: CORON
Date: July 27, 1996
Venue: SB Session Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Anacleto Tabale Sr.	Barangay Captain
2.	Richelda Catuiran	ENRO
3.	Annada Neri-Pinoon	DOT
4.	Antonio Mendez	MPDO
5.	Teofe Cadiz	Private
6.	Gorgonio Doblados	DECS
7.	Guadayo Jeron	Regional Health Unit
8.	Sergio Dosong	LGU
9.	Marion Echague	Government
10.	Ruben Echague	MPDO

Modertor: Mr. Timoleo L. Magnaye - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Arnulfo Vicentino - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: CULION
Date: July 26, 1996
Venue: MPDC Office, Culion, Palawan

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Ciriano Gapas	Phil. National Police
2.	Noceja De Pu	Phil. Coast Guard
3.	Candelaria Rigodon	MSWDO-LGU
4.	Hermoso Abrera	District Leader
5.	Esther Reyes	DECS
6.	Roberto Abella	Private
7.	Erwin Bolao	Samahang Bayan
8.	Hena Paloy	MPDC Office
9.	Hilarion Guia	Private
10.	Raul Sidal	Assessors Office
11.	Fe Fernando	Staff Legislative
12.	Joseph Torres	Private
13.	Josefina Zobel	Private
14.	Eleonor Ducay	MPDC Office

Moderator: Mr. Macarthur Halun - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Ms. Ailene Dingson - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: DUMARAN
Date: July 19, 1996
Venue: Dumaran Training Center

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Corazon Llaneta	DECS
2.	Feguracion Carceller	LGU
3.	Jojo Castillo	SK Chairman/Government
4.	Leonardo Oblan	DECS
5.	Ernesto Valero	MPDO
6.	Rodrigo Awalin	Private
7.	Lloyd Lumbana	Alayka (Alay sa Kalusugan ng Palawan)
8.	Celeslino Cena	SB Member
9.	Florentino Vasquez	Mayors' Office
10.	Marianne Borja	Budget Office
11.	Neristo Paalan	Budget Office
12.	Oscar Rombaua	Alayka (Alay sa Kalusugan ng Palawan)

Moderator: Mr. Mario Canilla - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Cristo Magbanua - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: EL NIDO
Date: July 19, 1996
Venue: Session Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Elsa Ardona	Government Employee
2.	Ricardo delos Reyes	Businessman
3.	Selma Timbancaya	Provincial Governors' Office
4.	Maximiano Herrera	PNP
5.	Sotelo Magbanua, Jr.	Baptist Pastor
6.	Julieta Gallos	El Nido Foundation
7.	Carmelita Baron	El Nido Foundation
8.	Elizabeth Baloy	DECS
9.	Celso Sebino	Government Employee

Moderator: Mr. Noel Caabay - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Henry Felizarte - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: LINAPACAN
Date: July 19, 1996
Venue: Linapacan Municipal Session Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Jose Montes	Vice Mayor/LGU
2.	Angelito Agayon	LGU
3.	Rosario Cabuctactac	PNP
4.	Edwin F. Dumlao	LGU
5.	Alejandro Alalabagan	DECS
6.	Renato Palanca	LGU
7.	Gidon Amurao	CDP-PCSDS
8.	Fe Rodriguez	DOH
9.	Elena Llado	LGU
10.	Nelly Garraez	NGO
11.	Carmen Vitares	LGU
12.	Christie Fructuoso	CDP-PCSDS

Moderator: Mr. Timoteo Magnaye - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Claro Aganta - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: ROXAS
Date: July 19, 1996
Venue: Roxas Gymnasium

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Liezl Mariapat	Palawan Bank
2.	Patricio Bonales	Veteran
3.	Pete Aballe	OSCC
4.	Edgar Padul	MAO
5.	Gil Valledor	MENRO
6.	Vicente Rodriguez	OMM
7.	Melvin Yara	RHU
8.	Rodrigo Bernardo	BAFARMCO
9.	Peding Taeklason	OSCC
10.	Maybellene Talanquines	DSWD
11.	Roman Maximo	Mayors Office
12.	Nenita Pacho	MNAO
13.	Gonzalo Gonzales	OMM

Moderator: Ms. Adoracion Garciano - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Ms. Ma. Bega Gatchalian - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: SAN VICENTE
Date: July 26, 1996
Venue: SB Session Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Diego Bigoy	New Agutaya Farmers Assn.
2.	Deeny Fadrilan	Government
3.	Merlinda Guardacasa	Teachers Association
4.	Ricardo Padilla	Samahan ng Katutubong Makatikasan
5.	Honorio Alejano	GFP-SVP
6.	Florencia Cano	Pinagmalucsa Fisherman Inc.
7.	Antonio Rabina, Jr.	LGU
8.	Jose Auditon	MPDO
9.	Lorlyn Parcon	MSWDO/OSCA
10.	Lilibeth Napal	NGO
11.	Manuel Manifain	Private
12.	Jesus Dagillo	Barangay Kagawad
13.	Tito Zabalog, Jr.	Barangay Kagawad
14.	Hector Mallari	RHU

Moderator: Ms. Adoracion Garciano - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Leopoldo Felizarte - Assistant Team Supervisor

Municipality: TAYTAY
Date: July 26, 1996
Venue: Municipal Session Hall

PARTICIPANTS:

	Name	Organization/Sector
1.	Ester Dacuan	Northern Palawan Institute
2.	Rudie Abogado	Northern Palawan Institute
3.	Sosa Devesto	DECS
4.	A. Belbes	Club Noah
5.	Leo Romagueng	Club Noah
6.	Pempe de Luna	Pems Pension Housing
7.	Raul Maximo	PCSDS
8.	Ramil Gavirna	SB Office
9.	Roberto Rodriguez	SB Office
10.	Balot Alcoba	TDC/Government
11.	Lirio Cordova	TDC/Government
12.	Sarah Curran	TDC
13.	Fr. Leony Magbanua	Parish Priest
14.	Recanno Tasolosa	PSU
15.	Arlene Gralil	RHU
16.	Teresa Estrada	Dept. of Tourism
17.	Marilyn Gralil	MPDC Office

Moderator: Mr. Noel Caabay - Team Supervisor
Rapporteur: Mr. Henry Felizarte - Assistant Team Supervisor

Appendix II
GUIDE QUESTIONS FOR THE FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION

1. ECONOMY

1.1 What is the major industry/corresponding major products in the municipality?

1.2 Do you have any products exported?

Outside of the province? Yes ____, specify _____

Outside of the region? Yes ____, specify _____

Outside of the country? Yes ____, specify _____

1.3 a. How would you assess the employment situation in the municipality?

Good ____ Fair ____ Bad ____

b. Please explain your answer _____

c. What do you think is the employment-unemployment ratio in your area?

1.4 What is the major occupation of the people in the municipality?

1.5 How do prices of prime commodities in your municipality compare with those of neighboring municipalities?

Higher ____ Same ____ Cheaper ____

1.6 How would you assess the level of living in your community?

Too many rich people _____

Equal no. of rich & poor people _____

Too many poor people _____

1.7 Was there an expansion of business during the past year?

Yes ____, in what field/area _____

No ____

1.8 What are the prospects of your business for this year?

Good ___ Fair ___ Bad ___

1.9 Do you foresee any developments in the area which will significantly affect your business/income this year/in the future?

No ___

Yes ___, specify: _____

1.10 How would you compare the municipality's economic performance this year to that of past years?

Better ___ Same ___ Worse ___

2 COMMUNITY SERVICES

2.1 a. How would you rate the following:

	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
Land transport services	___	___	___	___
Water transport services	___	___	___	___
Road condition	___	___	___	___
Water supply	___	___	___	___
Electricity supply	___	___	___	___
Communication (e.g. tel., telegraph, postal)	___	___	___	___
Health/nutrition services	___	___	___	___
Education services	___	___	___	___
Housing services	___	___	___	___
Others, specify _____	___	___	___	___

b. In your opinion, how can delivery of the above services be improved?

2.2 What do you think are the three major problems in the community? Cite the causes and possible solutions thereof?

Problem	Cause	Solution
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2.3 Are there problems affecting/facing the indigenous communities in Northern Palawan? If yes, specify.

Yes, specify _____ No _____

3. TOURISM

3.1 How would you assess tourism activity in your municipality?

Good _____ Fair _____ Bad _____

3.2 Do you have the following in your municipality?

	Yes	No
a) tourism council	_____	_____
b) tourism master plan	_____	_____

3.3 Enumerate the existing tourist attractions in your municipality and describe the present condition of each.

Tourist Attraction	Good	Fair	Bad
a) _____	_____	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	_____	_____
c) _____	_____	_____	_____

3.4 Are the tourist attractions above still marketable? If yes, what do you think are the selling points of each?

	Yes/No	Selling Points
a) _____	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	_____
c) _____	_____	_____

3.5 What type of tourists visit your municipality?

Foreigners _____ Filipinos outside Palawan _____ Palawenos _____

3.6 Has the entry of tourism in your area changed the lifestyle/values of people in the locality?

No _____ Yes, explain _____

3.7 Do you think tourism has an effect on the indigenous communities?

No _____ Yes _____, explain _____

3.8 Have you heard of "Ecotourism"? Yes _____ No _____

3.9 Do you think the tourist attractions in your municipality qualify as "ecotourist spots"?

	Yes	No
a) _____	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	_____
c) _____	_____	_____

3.10 Are you directly affected by tourism activities in your municipality?

Yes _____, Positively, specify _____

Adversely, specify _____

No _____

3.11 Are you in favor of developing tourism in your municipality ?

Yes ____ No ____

If yes, what do you think are the benefits that can be derived?

Example: increase in employment /business opportunities; increase in income for the municipality; opportunity to learn other cultures.

If no, why? Example: increase pollution/crime incidence/prices of commodities/violence/prostitution/vices (e.g. drugs, gambling)

3.12 Do you think you/the municipality should be involved in tourism development? In what ways?

3.13 What do you think are the primary needs of your community for tourism development ? Please rank according to priority.

4. ENVIRONMENT

4.1 How would you assess the state of the natural resources (e.g., forests, fishing grounds, mineral deposits) in your municipality?

Well conserved ____

Deteriorated ____

4.2 What environmentally damaging activities are practiced in your community?
Example: dynamite/cyanide fishing; improper waste disposal; illegal logging/kaingin system; illegal wild life trade.

4.3 How are the above environmental problems being addressed?

4.4 Are environmental protection laws strictly implemented?

Yes ____ No ____, why? _____

4.5 Do you think you/the municipality should be involved in environmental protection?

4.6 Who should be responsible for environmental protection and conservation efforts in your municipality?

4.7 What do you think are the primary needs of your community for environmental protection/conservation? Please rank according to priority.

