



People’s Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao: A multi-stakeholder platform approach to tackling risks in an urban setting; Mandaue City, Cebu Province Philippines

Location:

Jagobiao,
Mandaue City
Cebu Province,
Philippines

Partners:

People’s Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao (PARJ),
Partners for Resilience

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Anat Prag, Cordaid



People’s Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao meeting with City and Provincial stakeholders *Photo credits: Cordaid*



The People’s Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao (PARJ)

The People’s Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao or PARJ is a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder network deeply committed to strengthening resilience in Jagobiao and surrounding villages in Mandaue City. The network was launched in April 2018 following a community, church and Government led assessment of risks in Jagobiao village. PARJ incorporates the active participation of organizations and agencies representing Jagobiao village, Mandaue City and Cebu province. The Local Government Units (LGUs) at City and Provincial level gave mandate to PARJ to enable multi-stakeholder cooperation for enhanced resilience in 2018. *We are now one year old and we have achieved so much in that year!*

We are duty bearers

Our network reflects the passion of Jagobiao, Mandaue and Cebu actors to protect and enhance the natural and built environment of Jagobiao and surrounding villages to minimize disaster and climate change risks. The demands that we also protect and improve development to enable this to be achieved.

Our membership

The PARJ membership represents a diverse spectrum ranging from the urban poor, farmers, fisherfolk, the elderly, people with disabilities, civil society organizations (CSOs), the church, Government to private sector groups. We have 27 member organizations including LGUs, National Government Agencies (NGAs), the Church, private sector, communities, CSO/NGOs and people’s organizations operating within the PARJ platform.

“Peoples hearts are pumping. People are active. What happened in Jagobiao is an act of cooperation. It was an act of collaboration. While we government collaborate with various stakeholders, there is a need to pollical, election and climate proof our programs. We need to institutionalize what we are experiencing in Jagobiao.”

BALTazar “BALTZ” TRIBUNALO JR.
Head, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office
CEBU PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT





We wanted to see how they were able to manage their waste before it goes to our river system. So, those things we've seen being done in Jagobiao with the help of Jagobiao Brgy Council and the Pastoral Council in the rest (of the barangays) because it's the only way we can help ourselves. Otherwise, we going to be flooded in 50 years. Sad to say our City Hall is going to be flooded in 50 years. So, let's start doing something now.

The way that the community is so involved and so passionate in helping themselves is something that we are hoping to replicate and have it multiplied in the rest of the City.

GENEE LOU NUÑEZ

**DEPARTMENT
HEAD- OFFICE OF
THE STRATEGY
MANAGEMENT
MANDAUE CITY**

Through an Integrated Risk Assessment we have a shared understanding that

- Jagobiao Eversley is a community of 961 households (13,807 people),
- The village is situated in the lower portion of the City's water catchment.
- The community, many of whom are descendants of the former leprosy sanatorium in the village, were an isolated and marginalized community that has grown in the past 30 years as rural economic migrants settled.
- Jagobiao faces pressures from rapid population growth, poverty, unplanned development and environmental planning, water source contamination, poor sanitation, inadequate livelihood opportunities and economic alternatives, poor drainage facilities and system causing flooding, exposure to climate, disaster, environmental and health risks.

Most at risk: through exposure to flood and contaminated water include:

- 1,072 children, 393 0-5 years old and 679 6-12 year olds
- 800 registered elderly and 180 registered People With Disabilities, many suffering from symptoms of leprosy
- 559 households in poor and basic housing conditions, without septic tanks or toilets in the lowest lying parts of the villages

Village and church groups decided to act together and bring other actors to collaborate in strategy building and applying Integrated Risk management. The People's Alliance for a Resilient Jagobiao was established.

Our mission

"Barangay Jagobiao is a resilient, productive, unified, God fearing and organized barangay in Mandaue City; guided by our mission, new ordinances and actions that ensure an environmentally safe and healthy community, well informed and pro-active constituents who are involved in productive and safe livelihoods programs."

Integrated Risk Management (IRM)

We promote **Integrated Risk Management (IRM)** as a key approach to resilience-building. IRM is the systematic integration of **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)**, **Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)** and **Ecosystems Management and Restoration (EMR)** and is founded on the analysis that risks are evolving causing increased disaster frequency and magnitude as climate change exacerbates hazards as do unabated ecosystem degradation.

This combination of different disciplines enables an innovative approach that:

- Puts people who are at risk center-stage, building on local and traditional resources and knowledge.
- Links humanitarian and development domains by focusing on livelihoods.
- Addresses risk at a landscape level.
- Manages and restore ecosystems.
- Works on different timescales to ensure adaptive planning.
- Links local realities with global processes.
- Integrates disciplines and approaches to encompass different risks.
- Partners with communities, CSOs, governments, knowledge institutes, the private sector and the media.

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Our work

PARJ efforts include developing plans, crafting of policies, implementing projects, advocacy and sharing of information both within and beyond Jagobiao and Mandaue City, whilst strengthening our membership organizations. These efforts are based on a shared commitment to effectively managing disaster and climate change risks being faced today and in the future through joint plans and actions. Recent priority actions include

- Community wide integrated risk assessment
- Stakeholder mapping, Strategy building, development of a Resilience Action Plan and Resource mobilization
- Mobilizing support from Government, CSO and Private Sector to address the Jagobiao resilience action plan
- Formalizing our Multi-stakeholder Platform for Resilience
- Capacity Building, Community Consultation and Community Education Campaign
- Community Resilience Actions
 - Jagobiao village clean up drives
 - Urban farming pilot initiated with 115 households in cooperation with East West Seeds Philippines
 - Waste bank groups established in 12 clusters
 - A large nursery and vermiculture bed were converted from established village infrastructure in the Barangay Village Office under the Management for the use of the village and local groups. The vermiculture and nursery management is under the Sacred Heart Producers Cooperative through Jagobiao Urban Farmers Association and Vermi-Composting Management team
 - Developed the Barangay Development plan for Jagobiao with Integrated risk Management based on risk assessment
 - 4 Businesses enhanced: waste collectors, urban farming, vermi-composting and tailoring
 - Integrated waste management systems established in 9 most at-risk locations (from flooding, open defecation and water contamination) in Jagobiao and Socorro; 9 communal septic tanks and of 1 communal toilet facilities
 - Water-electrolysis units provided to 151 most at risk households (from flooding, open defecation and water contamination)
 - Urban farming- 115 farmers engaged in urban farming for household food security. Organized the Jagobiao urban farmers association (JUFA) with 80 members,
 - Urban Festival engaging were 300 participants from Jagobiao, Socorro and neighboring villages, City and Provincial stakeholders including government, NGOs, private sector and the church. Used as a learning moment between communities and actors.
 - Drainage solutions include installation of waste trap in 4 flooded sitios implemented and managed each sitio.
 - Local drainage management plans developed by the community and approved by Jagobiao Local Government Unit
- Learning Exchanges and Advocacy with villages and cities throughout the Philippines

The Integrated Risk Management framework is used by the JUR as a reference to help us describe the integrated nature of hazards, vulnerabilities and risks based on local context and capacities.



Integrated Risk Management engages all sectors of the community to protect able to protect and enhance development

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2018 Community and Youth groups in Jagobiao engage in Resilience Actions, *Photo credits: Cordaid*

Plans lead to action

Since the PARJ was established we have focused on:

- Enhancing Integrated Risk Management through multi-stakeholder cooperation in Jagobiao and surrounding village
- Linking with key stakeholders, Government Departments of Mandaue City, Private Sector actors to support the efforts in Jagobiao
- Sharing and exchange with other Villages, Cities, Provinces and National actors in the Philippines
- Working with Mandaue City to engage communities in drainage assessment to support development of the Mandaue City drainage master plan and drainage infrastructure improvements in Jagobiao

Looking ahead

2019 and 2020 will be a busy time for our network, providing the opportunity to accelerate our efforts in order to demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of our strategies. We plan to focus on strengthening our organization, creating a resource mobilization plan, working with Mandaue City Planning Department to support the development of an Integrated Risk Management Drainage Management Plan and Mangrove Environmental Restoration. Please wish us luck.

The Partners for Resilience

PARJ is supported by local and global commitments. The Partners for Resilience (PfR) is an alliance of 5 Netherlands-based NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations) working in 13 countries in Central America, Africa and South and South East Asia. PfR contributes to the resilience of communities by integrating climate change adaptation (CCA) and ecosystem management and restoration (EMR) into Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). With this Integrated Risk Management (IRM) approach, communities are supported to strengthen their capacities to reduce the impact of disasters. The PfR also believe a community approach will be strengthened if the institutional environment can be made more conducive to climate and ecosystem-based DRR, and engage with civil society and government actors to apply a combined approach. The Partners for Resilience is supported by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs until 2020. PfR's organizational and financial support have been one of the key elements in the success to date of the Jagobiao Urban Resilience.

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The Network



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