

Title: Climate change, poverty and livelihoods: adaptation assessment of the marginalized agri-fishery communities along Bicol River Basin in Camarines Sur, Philippines

Ricky P. Laureta and Ric Ryan H. Regalado
Partido State University, Goa, Camarines Sur 4422, Philippines
*Correspondence: da5.bicolriverproject@parsu.edu.ph

Effects of climate change tend to be more severe where people rely on weather dependent rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods. This paper provided brief assessment of the current status of selected agricultural farmlands along the Bicol River Basin (BRB) in Camarines Sur, Philippines. Six communities from initially validated vulnerable municipalities were assessed on their respective community's resources and vulnerability status. Two villages from each town namely Baao, Canaman and Minalabac, were targeted as participating sites. Participatory social research methods in the six (6) study sites such as Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Key Informant's Interview (KII) and participant observation were applied in the study. Accordingly, three (3) Participatory Rural Approach (PRA) tools were also employed namely: (i) problem tree analysis, (II) SWOT analysis and (iii) resource mapping. Results revealed that agri-fishery communities situated along the BRB with limited livelihood options manifested an adaptive capacity that is low due to limited information, poor access to services, inequitable access to productive assets and facilities and ultimately, exposure to the ill-effects of meteorological and climate-related hazards.

Keywords: Bicol River Basin, agri-fishery communities, livelihoods, participatory rural approach, adaptive capacity, Philippines

Biography

Dr. Ricky P. Laureta is the concurrent Campus Dean of Caramoan Campus and the Business Affairs Director of Partido State University in Camarines Sur, Philippines. His engagement in research and areas of expertise include local governance, economics, agri-fisheries and climate change.

Ric Ryan Regalado is currently involved in an Agrometeorology funded research by the Philippine Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 5. He just graduated last April 2018 from the Department of Biology at Bicol University College of Science. His engagement in research while in undergrad include marine fungal microbiology, cell cytotoxicity and little on cancer biology. Currently, he is the Science Research Assistant of Dr. Laureta.

Presenting author details
Full name: Ricky P. Laureta
Contact number: +63 998 885 3220
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