

The Devolution of Basic Services: An
Evaluation on the Implementation and its
Impact on Municipal Development

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By

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Chapter I

Introduction

Different forms of underdevelopment are evident in a poverty-stricken nation like the Philippines. For the past decades, several development models were applied in order to minimize the problem of underdevelopment. In the early 60s, the development paradigms were focused on the capital formation and technology transfer rather than improving labor and agriculture. In terms of policy and decision-making, the powers were vested on the highly trained technocrats and were implemented by rationally organized bureaucracies (Okamura, 1986:9). However, such models did not create remarkable change and did not massively improve the quality of life of the people.

The failure of such paradigms paved way for the emergence of another development model that aims to incorporate the participation of the people in the community and the government, the development agency. This model is the participatory development paradigm in which the initiatives of the people and the development agencies are combined in order to attain development. The article "Towards a Strategy for Participation in Development", states that the decentralization of authority, restructuring the bureaucracy and advocacy of participation are the strategies that are used by development agencies to facilitate participatory development model (Okamura, 1986:222).

In the Philippines, participatory development paradigm is adopted through the enactment of Republic Act 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of

1991 which started a change in the Philippine governance. It generally authorizes the decentralization of authorities, responsibilities and powers from national to local government units (LGU) for the realization of their full potential as self-reliant communities, and thus becoming a dynamic partner in achieving national development objective. In addition, the devolution of the basic services embodied in this Code is considered to as a revolutionary process and at the same time a mechanism to help achieve the national goal.

With this, the study hopes to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the devolution process in the municipal level.

Statement of the Problem

In pursuance of the vision of development, The Local Government Code of 1991 which transfers powers, functions and responsibility from the national to local government has been initially implemented in 1992. The implementation of the Local Government Code is characterized by the devolution of basic services for the LGU to attain local development and in the long run, contributes in the over-all national development.

The Code was fully implemented in Claveria in 1993. Eight years after the devolution has been fully implemented, no research has been conducted to evaluate the devolution process and its impact in municipal development. Thus, the researcher, as a citizen of Claveria, evaluates the performance of the municipality in terms of the devolution of basic services and its effects in the municipal development, as a contribution in the local governance.

In this connection, several questions come to mind. Is the implementation in the delivery of the devolved services effective in the Municipality of Claveria? Does the devolution of the basic services such as agriculture, health and social welfare contribute to municipal development?

Research Objectives

This paper focuses on the implementation of the devolved services and its impact in the municipal development. Hence, it primarily hopes to assess the effectiveness of the devolution process in the municipality of Claveria.

Specifically, it aims:

1. To validate if effective delivery of the devolved basic services will result to municipal development;
2. to determine the accomplishments of the municipality in line with programs created under the devolution of basic services;
3. to know the improvements and developments in the agriculture, health and social welfare sector after the implementation of the Local Government Code;
4. to determine the accessibility of the people on the devolved services;
and
5. to point out the problems encountered in the devolution of the services.

Hypothesis

Null: It is assumed that the implementation of devolution of basic services is not effective, thus it does not help in attaining municipal development.

Alternative: It is assumed that the devolution of basic services is effective, thus it helps in attaining municipal development.

Scope and Limitation

This study covers the implementation of the basic services devolved to the municipalities as mandated by the Local Government Code. The site of the research study is limited in Claveria, a municipality within the province of Cagayan.

Due to time constraint and the remoteness of the area under study, the researcher limits her study on the delivery of three basic services: agriculture, health and social welfare services from 1997-1999.

Moreover, the result of the study does not necessary reflect a general conclusion on the effectiveness of the devolution process and the municipal development in the whole municipality since data gathering is limited to interviews with municipal heads. The researcher also utilized selected municipal documents pertinent in the study. In addition, respondents for the survey questionnaire are determined through a nonprobability sampling method.

Review of Related Literature

Development is a term defined in different ways. In a traditional definition, development would simply mean an increase in the annual gross national product of the country. On the other hand, in the 70s, development is defined in terms of the reduction or elimination of poverty, inequality and unemployment within the context of a growing economy (Todaro, 1989:87). Essentially, development represents the extent of change by which the people in the society, particularly the marginalized, move towards a better life. Moreover, Todaro pointed three (3) core values of development which includes: life sustenance or the ability to provide basic needs, self-esteem or the condition wherein a person is not being used as a tool and freedom or the emancipation from alienating material conditions of life and from social servitude to nature.

In Brilliantes' work entitled *Development Administration in the Philippines*, it mentioned that in order for development to take place, essential support system must be present. This includes physical structure such as extensive road network, adequate telecommunications and transport system. Social infrastructure that would assist the delivery of basic services must likewise be in place. More importantly, the basic health and social services must be made accessible to those who need them (Brilliantes, 1995:143).

In the goal of attaining development, several strategies have been utilized to answer the problem of underdevelopment in the global scale. The participatory development approach is one of the models formulated. A study on participatory development model asserted that decentralization is a method to eliminate structural obstacles to popular participation in development (Okamura, 1986:235). The study also

stressed that decentralization in participatory development paradigm is perceived similarly with the devolution of authority.

In a more elaborated view, *Decentralization and Rural Development: An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Development Programs* (Briones and Pantaleon, 1995:247) defined decentralization as the transfer of power, authority, resources, responsibilities and accountabilities from the central government to the local government units to enable them to respond to certain local needs and perform specific functions. The political decentralization or the delegation of authorities and power from the national government to the local government units is referred to as devolution.

The rationale behind this decentralization is that local governments together with the constituents are in the best position to address the needs and problems of their own communities. Different communities have distinct needs, thus, program designs that can be adapted to the specific requirements of the communities are necessary (Okamura, 1986:235).

In the Philippine setting, the enactment of the Local Government Code of 1991 made a breakthrough in public administration through decentralization. The Code declares that “the state shall enjoy genuine and meaningful autonomy to enable them to attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities and make them more effective partners in the attainment of national goals”.

Attainment of development goal of the government can be achieve through the following mechanisms: (1) devolution, as an alternative form of service delivery, (2) initiative of the government to encourage people’s participation (3) increasing government revenue through local taxation and (4) increase authority and accountability

of local officials (Sajo et al., 1998:91). Under these mechanisms, the devolution of basic services, which is the subject of the paper, is considered to be the most revolutionary.

By 1994 local communities and local governments are becoming increasingly enthusiastic about the opportunities created by the Code. As early as 1996, poorer local governments showed series of effective development programs (Rood, 1997:6). One of the most notable accomplishments under the devolution of services was the "Partnership for Community Health Development" a joint program of the municipality of Sulat Eastern Samar and a NGO (Brilliantes, 1997:101). In another study conducted in Vintar, Ilocos Norte (Gamiao, 1998:40), the devolution process was rated fairly, in terms of success on implementation.

Different authors provide some of the indicators to assess the effectiveness of implementation in the delivery of basic services, which lead to development. These are the following: (1) accessibility of the people (Brilliantes, 1995:143), (2) positive socioeconomic contribution which is characterized by the improvement in the quality of life in the community (Brilliantes, 1997:93) (3) accomplishments of projects and programs created under devolution and (4) the efficiency of the government agency in responding to the basic needs of the people (Bautista, 1995:172).

In the Philippines, there are already visible developments in the local units. Among these local units with effective development programs are the Municipality of Tuguegarao in Cagayan, Daraga in Albay and Puerto Princesa City in Palawan (Rood,1997:7). Despite these individual accomplishments Rood concluded in his study that, "five years after the formal implementation of the Code, debate continues about the success with which the Code has been implemented and its impact on local governance."

Significance of the Study

In a developing country like the Philippines, solutions concerning development is considered necessary. The enactment of the Local Government Code of 1991 is one of the solutions considered to combat poverty through the delivery of basic services in Philippine municipalities. However, the effectiveness of the Local Government Code is dependent on the proper implementation of the devolution process. So to speak, the achievement of development as anticipated by the authors of the Local Government Code of 1991 is largely dependent on the correct execution in the lower level.

Thus, this paper will be beneficial to the municipality particularly to the different municipal offices involved in the delivery of the basic services. Through this study, the various municipal offices would be able to determine the weaknesses and strengths of the programs they created and of course, the municipal offices would be able to know what aspect of the delivery of basic services needs improvement.

The conclusions and recommendations in this study will serve as foundations of future development projects the local government wishes to create.

Lastly, this study may also be used as baseline for future researches in public administration particularly in the aspect of devolution and development.

Theoretical Framework

In evaluating the effectiveness of the devolution of basic services as a strategy in attaining development in the municipal level, several theories and principles are gathered through the extensive review of literature.

The participatory model illustrates how participation at the lower level affects the over-all governance through a pyramid. According to this model, people in the lower level (barangay or even neighborhood associations) would elect delegates to take their concerns to a higher level (municipality or province). This is a kind of hierarchy wherein the officials at the lower level are given enough power, responsibility and accountability in decision-making (Jacobs, 1997:22-25). In this system, there is a common goal, for example- development, that is both pursued by the local government (lower part of the pyramid) and the central government (peak of the pyramid).

The same principle is applied in terms of achievement of development. By giving local units autonomy, they can attain self-sufficiency and self-reliance. Thus, development is inevitably attained. Consequently, developments in the lower level will contribute to the improvement of the whole country, as well. In this paper, the focus of study is the lower level- the municipality.

Okamura (1986:235) provided a more specific illustration on the role of devolution in the attainment of development through the participatory development paradigm. This can be implemented through various mechanisms such as decentralization. It should be noted that in participatory development paradigm the terms, decentralization and devolution, are used and defined in the same manner.

The main point of this paradigm is that local governments together with the constituents are in the best position to address the needs and problems of their own communities. Different communities have distinct needs; thus different programs and plans must be applied in order to address specific problems.

The enactment of the Local Government Code of 1991, which is characterized by decentralization/devolution, is a mechanism of the government to attain national development goals. As pointed out in the Aquino administration, development is attained by correct execution of the devolution process (Sarino, 1992:72-74).

Indicators of appropriate execution of development process are the following: accessibility of the devolved services by the people, accomplishments of projects in line with the devolution of services, socio-economic contribution of the devolved services, and the efficiency of the local government in delivering services. Accessibility of the devolved services is characterized by the availability of programs that answer the needs of the people.

Accomplishment of projects in line with devolution of basic services is described as the fulfillment of the target projects and programs of the three municipal offices. Basically, it asks whether the three municipal offices have completed the planned activities, programs and projects involved in the delivery of services.

The socio-economic contribution is measured in terms of the productivity of the municipality upon the implementation of the devolution. Basically it answers the query: After the implementation of the devolution process, did the income of the people increase?

Meanwhile, the efficiency of the local government depicts the manner of delivering the services. It answers the question: Does local government immediately respond to the needs of the people?

The appropriate execution of the Code, as indicated earlier, is a tool that will help the local governments and the whole country, in general, to achieve development goals.

Conceptual Framework

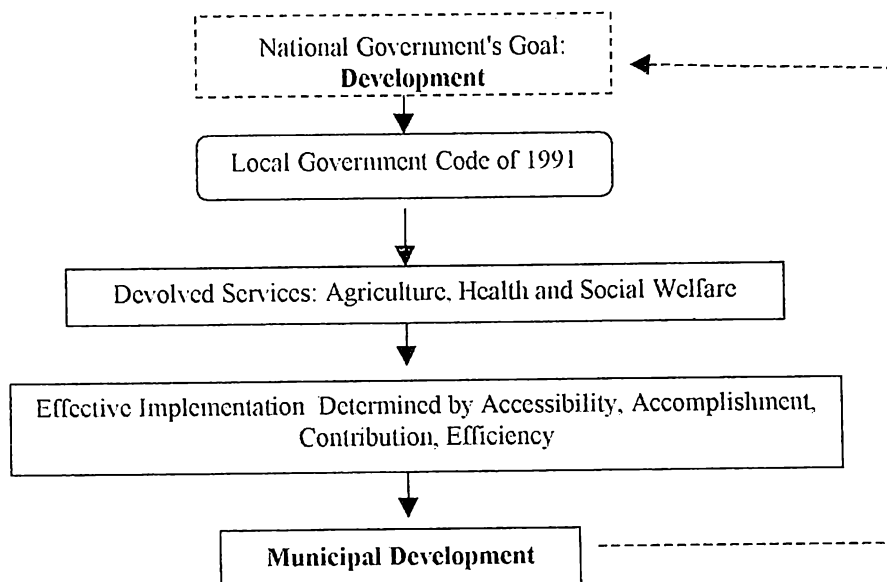


Figure 1.1

The diagram shows the conceptual framework devised by the researcher on the study of the effectiveness of the implementation in the devolution process and its impact in municipal development. This paradigm is both used in data gathering and data analysis.

Development has something to do with a better quality of life for the citizen. As defined by Todaro development is the extent of change of the entire society towards the improvement of the quality of life characterized by the following values: life-sustenance, self-esteem and freedom. This study will focus on the first core value of development- life-sustenance, which basically tackles the ability of the government to provide basic needs to the people (Todaro, 1989:87).

Figure 1.1 is a result of integration of principles and theories accumulated in the review of related literature and theoretical framework.

Primarily, the national government is aspiring for development; thus it created the Local Government Code of 1991. The Code gives certain powers, accountabilities and responsibilities to local units, in this study-the municipality, through the decentralization or devolution process.

In effect, the said process will lead the local communities to become more self-sufficient and self-reliant communities because the municipalities have already the power to decide on their own.

Specifically, the delivery of basic services such as health, agriculture and social welfare are some of the services devolved in the municipality. These basic services are the focus of the research for the following reasons: health is one of the “life sustaining” basic human needs (Todaro, 1989:89), agriculture is the major source of livelihood in the municipality of Claveria and social welfare and social development is the department in the municipality which essentially caters the needs of the marginalized.

The proper execution of the devolution process, which is measured in terms of accessibility of basic services, accomplishments of projects and programs in line with the devolution process, socio-economic contribution and the efficiency of delivering devolved services, will eventually lead to municipal development. In essence, the researcher perceived that municipal development is dependent on the implementation of the devolution process.

The following concepts are also utilized in this study:

1. Local Government Code of 1991- legal basis of the decentralization of powers, accountabilities, functions and responsibilities from the national

government to the local government for local units to attain self-reliance, self-sufficiency and development

2. Basic Services-in this study, this term is defined as the health, social welfare and agricultural needs of the people
3. Effective implementation- this is the independent variable which is measured in terms of the following:
 - a. accessibility of the devolved services by the people;
 - b. accomplishments of projects in line with the devolution of services;
 - c. socio-economic contribution of the devolved services; and
 - d. the efficiency of the local government in delivering services.
4. Municipal development- in this study, this term is defined as the accessibility of basic services, socio-economic improvement, accomplishments of projects and efficiency of the government in delivering basic services which lead to the elimination or reduction of poverty and unemployment
5. Development-elimination or reduction of poverty and unemployment which will give a better quality of life (Todaro, 1989:89)
6. Municipality- has at least a contiguous territory of 50 square kilometer, a population of 25,000. Its purpose is for the coordination and delivery of basic, regular and direct services and effective governance of the inhabitants within territorial jurisdiction.

Research Design

This study uses the descriptive method to assess the implementation of the devolved services and the impact on the development of the municipality.

Locale of the Study

The research study was conducted at the Municipality Claveria, which has a population of more than 25,000 and consists of 41 barangays.

Data gathering

In data gathering, the researcher utilized different materials. First, the researcher used books, theses and articles in accumulating secondary data in forming the related review of literature. Also, the researcher utilized the Internet to accumulate articles related to the study.

The researcher also used municipal documents pertinent to the study such as the list of projects and programs accomplishments per year. Interviews with the three department heads concerned with the delivery of basic services were likewise conducted.

Survey questionnaire was utilized to determine the sentiments and opinions of the people in the delivery of basic services.

Research Instrument

The researcher made use of a questionnaire, translated in the local dialect. This was particularly useful in determining the accessibility of the devolved services to the people.

Sampling Method

The municipality of Claveria has a population of 25,363 according to the 1999 Municipal Annual Report. Due to time constraints and the large population, the researcher surveyed 100 from the total population as the sample size. Respondents were selected through nonprobability sampling and of course, the respondents came from the different barangays of the municipality.

Data Analysis

The descriptive method is used in analyzing the soundness of devolution of basic services and its impact on the municipality through the data gathered.

In analyzing the accessibility of the devolved services and the efficiency of the municipality in the delivery of the services, the researcher made use of descriptive statistics, particularly the use tables. The tables show whether people have access or at least aware that others have access to some basic services enumerated in the Code and how many of them are very satisfied, satisfied and not satisfied (needs improvement) in the delivery of the basic services.

Organization of the Paper

In evaluating the implementation of the devolution of services and its impact in municipal development in Claveria, the paper is organized as follows:

Chapter One gives an over all background on the study. It includes the problem, objectives, hypothesis, scope and limitation, significance of the study, review of related

literature, theoretical framework, and conceptual framework as well as the research design.

Chapter Two provides a more elaborate presentation on the local government and the devolution of the delivery of basic services.

The data are presented in Chapter Three.

Chapter Four deals with the analysis of the data.

The final chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations of the study.

Chapter II

Devolution Process and the Municipality

The history of the Philippines shows that a strong centralized government had characterized the country's governance starting from the time of colonization up to the early part of the Aquino administration.

The Spanish colonizers created a central government headed by the governor general, who occupied various positions. The colonizers also established different central departments in-charged of governmental functions. However, these central departments can not act freely without the approval of the governor-general.

The extreme central structure of the government and the concentration of power on the Office of the Governor-General resulted to poor delivery of services to the civil population (Garcia, 1984:7).

The same system prevailed during the American period. In the period of American colonialism, there were efforts to decentralize the system. Decentralization took place when the principal local and provincial positions were made elective. However, such operation did not result to the development of a real local autonomy (Stene, 1956:52) because the primary functions of the government such as the delivery of basic services were still organized and planned by the central government. Consequently, there were delays in decision-making and delivery of services.

Because of the inconveniences, there were also some attempts to give the local government units more autonomy by means of legislation. Among those legislation

include: The Local Autonomy Act (R.A. 2264) which gave local government units free hand in local zoning and planning, the Barrio Charter and the Revised Barrio Charter (R.A. 2390) which gave due recognition to village governments. These laws were decreed during the time of Marcos; however, the local governments were extremely limited in their ability to raise their own revenues. In addition, locally based national government field personnel were the ones implementing the local development programs without any accountability on the local units they are assigned in.

The decentralization attempts of the previous administrations did not actually materialize because the local governments remained under the control of the central government; self-reliance and self-sufficiency of the local government units were not attained. During the time of Aquino, a radical change in governance took place.

The 1987 Constitution proclaims several provisions authorizing the creation of local governments. Article X of the Constitution mentions the following: territorial and political subdivisions shall enjoy local autonomy, local governments shall have the power to create its own resources and levy taxes, fees and other charges and local units shall have a just share, as determined by law, in the national taxes which shall be automatically released.

Likewise, the enactment of the Local Government Code of 1991 further elaborates Article X of the 1987 Constitution; and thus grants more autonomy to the local units. Section 17 of the Code enumerates the services that shall be devolved to the local units- the barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces. Moreover, the same section also identifies the sources of funds of the local units. Paragraph G states that the basic services and facilities would be funded from the assistance of the national government-

called internal revenue allotment, national and local taxes and other local sources the local government unit can generate.

The Municipality and the Devolved Basis Services

The local government unit has the following features: it is political subdivision of a nation or a state; it is constituted by law; it has governing body which is locally selected, which undertakes rule-making activities and performs services within its jurisdiction. Through the 1987 Constitution, province, city, municipality and barangay are created.

The municipality, as one of the political subdivisions and a local government unit, also enjoys autonomy as provided by the Constitution and the Code. Specifically, the Code devolves the delivery of basic services such as agriculture, health, social works, environment and natural resources and public works services to the municipality. However, this paper focused only on agriculture, health and social welfare and development services.

Section 17, paragraph B (2) of the Code enumerates the duties and responsibilities that are devolved to the municipalities. The duties and responsibilities are the following:

For Agriculture

The Philippines is basically an agriculture country; therefore, agriculture plays a vital role in the development of the country. In most municipalities, the main source of income of the people lies in agriculture. Perhaps, this may be the reason why the Code

devolves the delivery of this service to the municipality in order to encourage agricultural development in the local level.

The Code requires the municipality to perform the following:

1. Extension and on-site research services and facilities related to agriculture and fishery activities which include: dispersal of livestock and poultry, fingerlings, and other seeding materials for aquaculture, palay, corn and vegetable seed farms, medicinal plant gardens, fruit tree, coconut and other kinds of seedlings nurseries;
2. demonstration farms;
3. quality control of copra and improvement and development of local distribution channels, preferably through cooperatives;
4. interbarangay irrigation systems;
5. water and soil utilization and conservation projects; and
6. enforcement of fishery laws in municipal waters including the conservation of mangroves.

The Code, Article 12 Section 482, also presents a set of guidelines in appointing a municipal agriculturist. Duties and responsibilities of the municipal agriculturist are also explicitly discussed.

For Health

A healthy constituent is one of the basic foundations of a strong government. The labor force, which is composed of the people, needs strong and healthy bodies in order to carry out their functions and duties efficiently and effectively. Thus, in the Local

Government Code of 1991, the delivery of health services is devolved to local government units.

For the health services, the Code tasks the municipality to perform different health related services that include:

1. the implementation of programs and projects on health care, maternal and child care, and communicable and non-communicable disease control services;
2. access of secondary and tertiary health services; and
3. purchase of medicines, medical supplies, and equipment needed to carry out the services.

The Code also enumerates the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of a municipal health officer in Article 8, Section 478 of the Local Government Code.

For Social Welfare and Development

For a poverty-stricken nation or municipality, the presence of a social welfare and development office is very significant. This office primarily grants services to the marginalized sector of the society. Thus, delivery of such kind of service is also devolved to the municipality for easier access to those in need. The Code obliges the municipality to discharge social welfare services that include:

1. programs and projects on child and youth welfare, family and community welfare, women's welfare, welfare of the elderly and disabled person;
2. community-based rehabilitation programs for vagrant, beggar, street children, scavengers, juvenile delinquents, and victims of drug abuse;

3. livelihood and other pro-poor projects; and
4. family planning services.

Also, the Code provides the qualifications, functions and duties of the municipal social welfare and development officer.

With the abrupt change in the public administration, the national and the local governments has to adapt to the modification in public administration. The local government units, which are most affected, need to go through some phases. These are the three phases in the devolution process:

Phase 1. Changeover Phase (1992-1993) that involved the transfer of local government units of devolved functions with corresponding assets and personnel

Phase 2. Transition Phase (1994-1996) wherein the national government agencies (NGAs) and local government units institutionalized their adjustments to the decentralized schemes introduced by the Code

Phase 3. Stabilization Phase (1997 onwards) by this time, it is assumed that the LGUs will have built adequate capacities in managing local affairs and the NGAs will provide constant support and technical assistance to LGUs (Brilliantes, 1997:92).

The early phase of the implementation process manifested a degree of skepticism. First, many observers were doubtful about the ability of both side- the national and the local government- in handling the complex process of the devolved function. In addition, local executives did not believe that the internal revenue allotment (IRA) would be given to financially weak municipalities.

The skepticism of the local executive regarding the release of the IRA was gradually eliminated when the first IRA was released but the slow release of the IRA became the main problem.

Slowly, as local units have adapted to the present system, more and more localities have been achieving local autonomy and development. However, it is not easy to make a general conclusion that the decentralization/devolution of some functions, responsibilities and powers resulted to the attainment of development basing from the results of other municipalities. It must be noted that different municipalities have achieved different results with regards to the devolution process. Thus, the research focuses its study on one municipality- the Municipality of Claveria- to determine what the municipality has achieved upon the implementation of the Code or in particular the devolution of basic services.

The Municipality of Claveria: Up Close

History

As indicated in the Town Fiesta Program (1991:1), the history of Claveria began as thrifty and industrious Ilocanos led by Feliciano Valdez, Joaquin Nebab, Jacinto Semana, Gaspar Rumbaoa, Dionisio de Peralta and Leon Agra from the Ilocos Region, particularly from the towns of Vintar and Pasuquin, migrated to an unknown but a paradise-like place. It was a place with vast resources- river and creeks teeming with fish, abundant land for agriculture and big area of land covered with forest but suitable for a new settlement.

The journey of those brave and sturdy Ilocanos to this town started in the early nineteenth century. They took risk in crossing the Caraballo Mountain Ranges (popularly known as Calvario because of the dangers posed by its winding, precipitous roads) in search for a better life and greener pasture. Mindless of the dangers of wild animals and

some uncivilized headhunting mountain tribes, they proceeded northwest until they found the place with extensive resources.

They settled near the riverbanks for easy access of food. The river was abundant of water lilies locally called “bakungs”; thus, their community was named after the lilies. “Kabikungan” was the known name of the new community; it literally means where the “bakungs” are.

There was a move to transfer the community to the seashore since the people were fishermen. However, the Spanish missionaries objected because at that time the stone church was being constructed near the river. The missionaries wanted the people to stay near the church.

The desire of the people was not realized until the coming of the marauding pirates from the South Seas called “tirongs”. They plundered the place, burned some of their dwellings and destroyed the church, which was later completely ruined by a strong earthquake and inequities of time and weather. The site of the church was later called “Nagsimbaanan”, and now called Pontoon. (At present, the church is located in the poblacion.)

Governor General Narciso Claveria, after his successful campaign against the pirates in the South Seas wherein he was conferred as the “Grand Cross of San Fernando” by the Queen of Spain, finally ended the adventure of the pirates in the community.

“Kabikungan” finally became a town on June 5, 1865, later renamed “CLAVERIA” in honor of Gov. General Narciso Claveria y Zaldua, who saved the people of Kabikungan against the pirates.

General Information

Claveria, a town located on the northwestern side of the Province of Cagayan, has an approximate distance of 613 kilometers from Manila via Ilocos Region. The boundaries are the following: Babuyan Channel on the north, Municipality of Sanchez Mira on the east side, Municipality of Sta. Praxedes on the west and the Province of Kalinga on the south.

The total land area of Claveria is 19,400 hectares. Out of the 19,000 hectares, agricultural lands covered 46.67%, residential lands took 32.38% of the land area, commercial lands have a percentage of .22% while institutions such as school buildings covered .28% of the total land area. Forest lands, on the other hand comprises the 19.45% of the land area.

The municipality is composed of 41 barangays. Eight is situated at the center of the municipality while 33 barangays are located on the rural areas.

There are two experienced climates in the municipality, moderately hot and moderately cold. Dry season is from March to early part of August while wet season is from September to early March.

Demographic Profile

The Municipality of Claveria has a total population of 25,363; this is according to the 1999 Annual Report of the Municipality (Municipal Annual Report, 1999:16). Of these 25,363 people, there are 12,884 males and 12,519 females. Children under the age group five to nine years have the highest number in the population (12.50%) while the age group- 85 and over have the lowest population in the municipality with 0.47% of the

total population. One percent is the recorded growth rate of the municipality every year. The population density per square kilometer is 130 persons.

There are three ethnic groups in the municipality: the Ilocanos (97.7% of the total population), Tagalog (0.8%) and Ybanag (0.2%). Other ethnic groups, such as the Isneg, comprised of 1.22% of the population.

According to the 1999 Annual Report of the Municipality, the labor force is composed of 14,373. There are 7,259 males and 7,114 female in the labor force. Out of these 14,373 people, majority of them is engaged to agricultural works (4,213) while 2,372 people are into construction and 2,950 people are into commerce (buying and selling, grocery owners). In manufacturing, there are 992 workers involved while there are 2,951 workers in service sector. The remaining 895 people (labor force) are involved in other kinds of works.

The resources (both natural and human) play different roles in the development of the municipality. However, the focus of this paper is more on the government side- that is, the devolution process and its effect in the development of the municipality.

Chapter III

The Delivery of Devolved Services in the Municipality of Claveria

This chapter presents the data accumulated by the researcher through observations, interview and municipal documents. In addition, the result of the simple survey is also presented in the latter part of this chapter.

Basically, the documents that are presented in this chapter are dated 1997, 1998 and 1999. These documents include the Annual Reports of the Municipal Offices namely: Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Municipal Health Office (MHO), Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), Office of the Municipal Treasurer, Office of the Municipal Assessor and Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDC).

The financial condition of a municipality shows how much a municipality can support the needs of its constituencies; thus, the researcher also includes the brief financial situationer of the Municipality of Claveria in the past three years (1997-1999).

As provided in the Constitution and the Local Government Code, the local units are given the power to create their own sources of income to finance the devolution process. Based on the Statement of Income and Expenditures of the municipality there are two main sources of the municipality's income. The primary source of income is from the revenue taxation that includes the real property tax, local business taxes and other

non-tax revenue such as the receipts from economic enterprises, fees and charges, miscellaneous charges and other receipts. The second source of income is from aids and allotment. The Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA), which comes from the national government, is another source of fund that assists the municipality in supporting local governance.

On the other hand, the expenses of the municipality include the personal services, maintenance and other operating expenses and capital outlay.

In 1997, the municipality estimated an income of P17, 824,206.00 but the actual income for that year was only P16,892,135.89 with a total expenditure of P15,313,398.63. According to the report of the budget officer, the projected income was not realized because out of the 25 revenue sources only seven items were over collected while the others were way below the projected estimated projections. However, despite this problem, it was in 1997 that the Municipality of Claveria was re-classified from a fifth class municipality to a fourth class municipality in pursuant to Department of Finance, Bureau of Local Government Finance, Memorandum Circular Number 97-3.

Like in 1997, the year 1998 experienced the same problem- projected income was not realized. That year, the municipality estimated a P20,689,131.00 income but only attained P18,715,098.75. In 1999, the estimated income was P22,912,269.20. The actual income was P22,981,731.30 with an expenditure amounting to P19,330,126.34.

It is reflected that in 1997 and 1998 the target incomes were not attained but still the municipality had surplus. In 1999, the actual income was not only attained because it was over the estimated value.

Devolution and the Municipal Offices

The Municipality of Claveria, empowered by the Local Government Code, shares the nation's vision - a better quality of life to every Filipino. Through the different municipal offices in charge of the delivery of devolved services, the municipality creates and implements various programs and projects that gears towards the attainment of the national vision and objective.

Agriculture

In the Municipality of Claveria, the majority of the people are farmers; thus, the municipality, through the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist plays a vital role in the development of the said sector. The municipality is able to carry out its functions as mandated in the Code through the various programs and projects.

To be able to come up with a sound development plan in farming sector, the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist had identified several problems. Among these problems were the following: prevalence of poverty, which is dominant in farming and fishery sectors, the low agricultural productivity due to lack of irrigation facilities, and lack of technology.

Equipped with vast agricultural land, large bodies of water, high literacy rate, service-oriented personnel and advance knowledge of the problem within the area, the municipality had come up with projects and development plans that would uplift the farmers' and fisherfolks' productivity and profitability.

For the past three years, the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist was able to deliver and implement various programs in line with the vision of attaining a better quality of life. These programs include the following: crops, livestock, fisheries and institutional development programs.

For Crop Development Program

In the past three years, the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist was able to serve farmers through consultations, training and follow-ups. In 1997, the Office of the Agriculturist was able to serve 2,500 farmers. There were 3,052 farmers who were able to access different services from the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist in 1998 while in 1999 the number of farmers served totaled to 3,250.

One of the bases of development in agriculture sector is the growth of crop production in the municipality. As reflected in the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist's Annual Reports for the past three years, there was a decrease in rice production in 1998, from the average rice production of 3.77 MT/ha in 1997 to 3.25 MT/ha in 1998. According to the said office, the decrease in production was due to the El Nino Phenomenon. However, in 1999, rice production in the municipality was able to cope up when the average rice production increased to 3.9 MT/ha.

Table 1.1. Crop Production for CY 1997-1999

Calendar Year	Average Rice Production
1997	3.77 MT/ha
1998	3.25 MT/ha
1999	3.9 MT/ha

Source: 1997, 1998 and 1999 Municipal Annual Reports, Claveria Cagayan

One of the responsibilities of the municipality, as indicated in the Code is the distribution of different types of seeds. In compliance thereof, the Office of the Agriculturist distributed 585 cavans of rice in 1998 and 349 cavans of rice in 1999; this is in support of the program "Plant Now Pay Later." Also in 1999, there were 550 farmer-beneficiaries of vegetable seeds distributed by the office.

It must be noted that the increase in crop production is also dependent on the presence of support services. Acknowledging the importance of support services, the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist conducted rice techno-demo farms and training related to agriculture, and constructed agricultural infrastructure like solar driers, irrigation canals, shallow tube wells and rehabilitated small water impounding project. Moreover, agricultural tools such as hand tractors and threshers were also given to the farmers.

Fisheries Development

The Code tasks the municipality for the protection of aquatic resources and the development fish industry. As a result, the municipality worked for the protection of the seas, rivers, creeks and other bodies of water through seminars (Anti-dynamite fishing, rules and regulations). Simultaneously, the said office helped the fisherfolks to increase their income through fingerling dispersal. In 1997, the office distributed 100,000 pieces of tilapia, 220,000 in 1998 and 205,000 pieces of tilapia in 1999.

Livestock Development

For livestock development, the Office of the Agriculturist was able to implement different programs and rendered different services. Generally, the activities of the said

office for livestock growth were the following: dispersal, vaccination, castration, follow-up check ups and animal treatment. In particular, the office distributed a total of 10 hogs and 10 hog breeders in 1997, 43 swine and seven piglets, two goats and one carabao in 1998 while in 1999, the office distributed 9 goats, 67 swine, 2 cattle, and 2 carabaos. There were total of 2,585 animals that were vaccinated excluding the 2,485 birds vaccinated while in 1999 there were a total of 2,479 animals vaccinated.

Institutional Development

Other agricultural related task of the Office of the Agriculturist includes rendering agricultural knowledge to out of school youths. Education is provided through the formation of a club for the youth; the club is called 4-H Club. For the past three years, the members of this club were given seeds to plant and livestock to raise. In 1997 and 1998, there were 10 barangays who had active participation in the organization. As a result of the strong participation, one barangay was dubbed as Most Outstanding Young Farmer Organization twice in the Regional Competition and became a finalist in the national competition. The Office of the Municipal Agriculturist also supervised Rural Improvement Club (RIC) within the municipality. The majority of the members of the RIC are females. The RICs in different barangays were organized and had actively participated in various agricultural and fishery development programs. Like the 4-H Club, the RIC also attained some accomplishments - RIC of Centro 7 in particular bagged the Most Outstanding RIC in the Region and second place in the national competition.

Equally important, the municipality through the initiative of the Office of Agriculturist was able to establish different cooperatives in the barangays. These

cooperatives cater to the farmers' needs through financial credits and maintenance of the irrigation facilities and structures.

Despite these accomplishments, the Office of the Agriculturist, for the past three years, also faced several problems. The El Nino phenomenon in 1998 was considered to be the greatest problem encountered so far; the phenomenon was said to be the cause of the decrease in rice production for that calendar year. In addition, the decrease in the livestock production was attributed to the beneficiaries' stubbornness- some beneficiaries who sold the dispersed livestock without the knowledge of the agricultural technicians.

The Office of the Municipal Agriculturist claimed that the activities of the municipalities, as mentioned, help the people in improving their lives by means of increasing profitability and productivity; thus, increasing the purchasing power of the people.

Health

As indicated in Chapter 2, the municipalities also absorb the delivery of health services through the Code. In this legislation, the responsibilities of the municipalities, in terms of the health services, is explicitly itemized. In compliance thereof, the Municipality of Claveria through the Municipal Health Office created various programs in line with the general services outlined in the Code.

Maternal and Child Welfare Program

For maternal and childcare services, the municipality provides the children the following services: expanded program on immunization, family planning programs and

nutrition programs for children while expectant mothers are provided with three check-ups (pre-natal, delivery and post-natal). Also, expectant and lactating mothers are given iron and Vitamin A.

In 1997, there was a recorded 586 live births in the municipality. For 1998, the total live birth was 525; this was 50% of the estimated 959 births. According to MHO, the Family Planning Services have greatly affected the number of births. On the other hand, total live births decreased to 509 in 1999. Trained "hilots" and midwives attended the deliveries; most of these were home deliveries.

The health and nutritional conditions of the children were also closely monitored and treated through the following activities: operation timbang, rehabilitation of underweight children and treatment/rehabilitation of children with iron deficiency disorders. In addition, under the Expanded Program on Immunization, the MHO vaccinated children against polio, measles, Hepatitis B. Children, for the past three years, were also given tetanus toxoid, BCG and DPT vaccines.

Diarrheal Diseases Control and Prevention Program

The municipality through the MHO also provides services that control diarrheal diseases. Cases of loose bowel movement, for the past three years, were given ORESOL. Activities to prevent diarrheal diseases also include the use of oral re-hydration salts and increased fluids plus continued feeding.

Dental Health Program

Dental Health Program is also provided by the MHO. For the past three years, the people were able to access different dental services. There were 1,395 people who were

given oral prophylaxis and fluoride utilization (preventive aspect) while 3,697 were provided with permanent filling, extraction and temporary filling (curative aspect) in 1997. There were 1,415 Claverianos who were given treatment to prevent cavity decay in 1998 and 1,794 people in 1999 while 5,194 and 5,924 people with different dental problems were treated in 1998 and 1999 respectively.

Malaria and Dengue Control Program

To be able to lessen the cases of dengue and malaria, the MHO consistently launched house spraying, construction of bio-ponds stream seeding and bed net treatment in the municipality; these activities are under the Malaria Control Program. In 1997, there were 715 clinically diagnosed cases. In 1998 there was Malaria outbreak in the municipality wherein 1,372 people were infected. Luckily, the municipality did not experience another malaria outbreak in 1999. The negative case of dengue for the past three years and the absence of Malaria outbreak in 1999 are indicators that preventive measures were disseminated properly and practiced appropriately.

Pneumonia and Tuberculosis Control and Preventive Program

The MHO also has program on Acute Respiratory Infection (Pneumonia). In 1998, there was 12 cases found out with pneumonia while in 1999 there was 14 cases. The people assessed with this infection were treated mostly in private clinics. More so, the MHO also conducted several tests (sputum microscopy and chest x-ray) for the people who were suspected to have tuberculosis. The findings were as follows: for 1997 there were 29 people inflicted, 26 in 1998 and 22 in 1999. All these people discovered

with TB were undergoing treatment. Favorably, within the period of three years, no death caused by TB was recorded.

Leprosy Control Program

For Leprosy Control Program, the MHO identified four suspected leprosy cases and two new cases of multibacillary type (MB) and 13 cases of MB were given medication in 1997. The same year there were five people who completed the treatment. In 1998, MHO found one new case while in 1999 there were five cases discovered. The leprosy clients were given treatment.

Environmental Health Program

The MHO also created Environmental Health Program to make sure that the environment is healthy. Activities under this program include: water quality surveillance (inspection of water supply and disinfection of water supply sources, toilet construction and food sanitation (inspection of food establishment, issuance of sanitary permit, de-worming of cooks and workers and issuance of health certificates).

In terms of the delivery of health services, community involvement is very evident. For every "sitio" (zone), there is a voluntary health worker who is in charge of disseminating information.

The MHO in cooperation with other offices in the municipal government also found way to augment the scarce allocation of budget on TB program by launching "Alay Lakad para sa Tibay Baga".

Rabies control program and cardiovascular disease control program are also created.

For the past three years, the MHO was able to carry out its functions properly. However, there were also some obstacles in fulfilling their responsibilities. Obstacles involved the following: lack of funds to finance other programs and the uncooperative attitude of the people, particularly the expectant mothers who oftentimes neglect the three necessary check ups.

Social Welfare Services and Development

"To be able to reach out and assist needy communities, individuals and families", guided with this general objective, the municipality through the MSWDO created different programs catering to the needs of the less fortunate people.

Family and Community Welfare Program

Basically there were several major programs under the MSWDO. The first program is the Family and Community Welfare Program. The actions undertaken by the said office under the family welfare program are the following: parent effectiveness service, marriage counseling, responsible parenthood and family participating in social services. In 1998, there were 490 individuals who underwent to this kind of service compared with the 357 old clients. For the welfare of the community, the MSWDO organized seminar workshops regarding the responsibilities of the people in building a progressive community. Through the MSWDO, the following structures have been

strengthened- Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council, Barangay Council for the Protection of Children, Women Group, Youth Group, Elderly and Disabled Group.

Child and Youth Welfare Program

Another program is the Child and Youth Welfare Program. Through this program, the MSWD in cooperation with the barangays and the local units have been establishing Day Care Centers in different barangays. The total numbers of Day Care Centers in Claveria as of 1999 was 35 catering to 589 pre-school children. The MSWDO also sends youths to attend symposia regarding illegal drugs to increase their level of awareness on the effects of drugs. Moreover, the MSWDO also helps the young people in organizing youth groups.

Program on the Welfare of the Women

MSWDO has just initiated a program for the welfare of the women in 1997. This program aims to provide women with temporary shelter, provide psychosocial intervention and providing training skills. In 1998, there were 30 women who were provided with training skills, one was provided with temporary shelter and one was also given psychosocial intervention. There was an increase in the number of women who benefited from this new program in 1999, from 32 beneficiaries to 59 beneficiaries.

Technical Skills and Self-Employment Assistance Program

In line with the general objective is the aim of the MSWDO to provide technical skills to client for possible employment and job placement. To be able to fulfill this

objective, the MSWDO formed the Self-employment Assistance Program. The actions undertaken in this particular program involve the different practical skills and development activities such as dressmaking, food processing, fish processing, rattan craft and providing electrician courses in the different barangays.

Disabled and Elderly Program

The disabled and the elderly are also given the necessary attention in the municipality through the Disabled and Elderly Welfare Program. For this particular program, the MSWD aims to promote the rehabilitation of the physically, socially and emotionally disabled person and the elderly. Specifically, the people with the age 60 and above automatically become member of the Federation of the Senior Citizens. The elderly also conducted regular monthly meetings initiated by the MSWD. Despite their age, the elderly are also encouraged to participate in community building such as the tree planting activities, cleaning of surroundings and beautification. In 1999, it was evaluated that Senior Citizens, Claveria Chapter with a total of 1186 members, is one of the active groups in developmental affairs. More so, the senior citizens have undergone medical check-ups including cataract operations.

On the other hand, persons with disability are also provided with technical device and support services. In 1999, a person with disability was given a wheelchair and medical assistance.

Emergency Assistance Program

The MSWDO extends assistance to the victims of calamities through the Emergency Assistance Program. The objectives of this program are as follows: to

provide rehabilitation services to disaster victims and to provide assistance to families who are in crisis situation and the victims of man-made and natural disasters. In 1998, 22 persons were granted with financial assistance, 1215 families were furnished with disaster relief assistance and 1803 families were provided food and cash. In 1999, the Philippine National Red Cross served 200 families in the emergency relief operation immediately after the visit of a strong typhoon. In like manner, the Provincial Social welfare and Development Office extended relief to 300 families. Likewise, the municipality also gave food to 268 individuals.

Some less fortunate families in crisis situation were also extended free cash assistance to augment if not to meet their particular needs. Similarly, the National Voluntary Blood Service Program gave material gifts to 10 families while the remaining 358 families were served by the LGU.

In addition to these kinds of services, the MSWDO also referred 39 clients to different hospitals for medical assistance. In cooperation with the MHO, the MSWDO was able to implement supplemental feeding activity to 227 preschool children. Among them, 86 increased in nutritional level and 77 are rehabilitated.

There were so many accomplishments of the MSWDO in line with the delivery of social welfare services for the past years. It's quite unbelievable that only three personnel remarkably implemented the above-mentioned programs and services. According to the office, coordination with the other municipal offices, government organizations and non-government organizations is one of the important factors in attaining a successful and quality output.

The Survey: Accessibility of the Services

To be able to determine whether the people have access to the services mentioned in the Code and to determine the perception of the people on the over-all performance of the three offices in charged of delivering services, the researcher conducted a simple survey.

The researcher had a total of 100 respondents who were selected through nonprobability sampling. The findings are discussed below.

The respondents came from 20 barangays out of the 41 barangays in the municipality. Nine barangays, which include Centro 1, Centro 2, Centro 3, Centro 4, Centro 5, Centro 6, Centro 7, Taggat Sur and Taggat Norte are situated in the urban/coastal areas while 11 barangays namely: Centro 8, Sta. Maria, Dibalio, Union, Magdalena, Lablabig, Santiago, Pata East, Pata West, Nagsabaran and Cadcadir are situated in rural/agricultural areas. Using the two geographical locations as basis, the survey shows the distribution of respondents according to geographical location.

Table 1.2 Distribution of Respondents According to Geographical Location

Location	Frequency distribution
Urban/coastal areas	57
Rural/agricultural areas	43

The result of the survey also shows that 21% of the respondents is of age between 19-21, 24% between 29-38, 23% between 39-48, 15% between 49-58 and 17% is of age between 59-68.

The respondents were also asked whether they received or are aware of the basic services provided by the municipality. In here, they are asked to identify services, nine each from the Office of Municipal Agriculturist, Municipal Health Office and Municipal

Social Welfare and Development Office. Using the ordinal scale to measure the level of awareness (those who identified/checked 7-9 services are considered very aware, 4-6 are aware, 1-3 are not quite aware and 0 not aware of the services provided by the municipality). The following are the results.

Table 1.3. Respondents' Level of Awareness on the Agricultural Services

Level of Awareness	Frequency
Very Aware	51
Aware	25
Not Quite Aware	24
Not Aware	0
Total	100

Table 1.4. Respondents' Level of Awareness on the Health Services

Level of Awareness	Frequency
Very Aware	32
Aware	56
Not quite Aware	12
Not Aware	0
Total	100

Table 1.5. Respondents' Level of Awareness on the Social Welfare and Development Services

Level of Awareness	Frequency
Very Aware	38
Aware	44
Not Quite aware	18
Not Aware	0
Total	100

The three tables reflect that the majority of the people are aware of the services provided by the three municipal offices while no one in the municipality is aware of any of the services. It is assumed that being aware of the services provided by the municipality is a sign that the people have access to the different services offered by the local unit.

The respondents were also asked to rank the over all performance of the three municipal offices. For the Office of Municipal Agriculturist, 39 of the respondents said that the performance of the said office is very satisfactory, 55 of them said it's satisfactory while 6 mentioned that the over-all performance of the said office is fair. No one mentioned that the over-all performance needs improvement.

The results of the evaluation on the performance of the Municipal Health Office are as follows: 35 respondents are very satisfied, 58 respondents are satisfied, 7 respondents rated the performance of the said office to be fair and no one answered/checked the item which says needs improvement.

The findings in the assessment for the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office show that 37 respondents are very satisfied with the MSWDO's performance, 53 evaluated it as satisfactory while 10 respondents says the performance of the said office is fair. Like in the two municipal offices, no one checked or gave the rating "needs improvement."

With respect to the evaluation on the performance of the municipal offices, the majority of the respondents said that all three municipal offices gave satisfactory performances.

The respondents also mentioned that the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist is doing their job well. The agricultural technicians frequently visit the field depending on their schedules. Furthermore, the said office replies immediately to the needs of the farmers. However, other agricultural technicians sometimes neglect to collect the payment of dispersal.

Meanwhile, the respondents said that the Municipal Health Office readily responds to the needs of the people. Follow-up check ups were done even in the far-flung areas. However, the respondents mentioned that not all the vaccines are given for free because the health office asks for donations.

On the other hand, the MSWDO is said to coordinate well with the different barangays. The scarcity of the number of personnel is not a hindrance to its objectives.

Chapter IV

An Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Delivery of Devolved Services

The participatory development model and the theories behind decentralization mentioned that giving autonomy in the lower level could lead to development and that development in the whole country would take place provided that there is correct execution of the devolution process. Effective implementation is attained when the devolved services are accessible to the people, the municipal offices accomplish their projects and programs, the municipal offices are efficient in carrying out their responsibilities and the programs and projects of the municipal offices improve the socio-economic condition of the people.

Using these indicators of effective implementation, this chapter presents the researchers' analysis on the information gathered regarding the delivery of basic services in the municipality of Claveria.

The devolution of agricultural services is very important in the municipality because the majority of the people are dependent on the products of the lands. Fortunately, the said office performs the duties and responsibilities devolved to the municipality quite remarkably.

Though the office doesn't keep a record of the target accomplishment per annum against the actual accomplishments, the efficiency of the office is gauged in terms of the continuity of the services the office is rendering. The office was able to perform incessantly the duties given to them by creating various programs and projects. Moreover, field visits and check ups on various barangays by agricultural technicians

were done to determine the recent problems of the farmers. Besides the regular meeting conducted in every barangay, the Office of the Municipal Agriculturists is also open to people for consultation on agricultural matters. These problems would be taken action by agricultural technicians.

As a result of efficiency, the records of the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist exhibit various accomplishments. First, the responsibilities and functions, devolved to the municipality, are being implemented through the programs and projects created with the exception of copra development program because of the fact that copra production technology is not yet introduced. The existing crops development programs, livestock development programs, fisheries development programs and institutional development programs prove also prove the efficiency of the said office. Furthermore, there was an increase in crop production from 1998 to 1999. Though the 1998 record shows that there was a decline in crop production in that calendar year, such decline was attributed on the natural phenomenon (El Niño) and not because of the neglect or inefficiency of the said office.

Second, the number of farmers being served is constantly increasing per annum. In 1997, there were 2,500 farmers who were extended with help while in 1998 there were about 3,052 who were given services and assistance. In the 1999 Annual Report, the municipality recorded 4,213 people who were engaged in farming. Out of these farmers, a majority of 3,250 were recorded to have asked and given assistance. It is expected that in the next few years the office would be able to extend its help to all farmers.

Another accomplishment of the said office is its ability to involve young people in agricultural development in the municipality. The office was able to do this through its

assistance on the formation of youth organization (4-H Club in every barangay). This organization allows the youth to be productive by giving animal and seed dispersal. In the same manner, the RIC of Claveria also received award. RIC of Centro 7 bagged the Most Outstanding RIC in the region and second place in the national competition. These citations in the municipality were made possible through the joint effort of the people and the municipality particularly on the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist and MSWDO.

The programs and services created by the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist definitely help the people to attain a better quality of life. Through the agricultural services, the farmers' production is increased; consequently, there's also an increase in the income of the farmers. This condition would increase the purchasing power of the farmers. In addition, sufficient income of the farmers would allow them to buy their basic needs. The dispersal programs of the municipality also augment the people's low income.

As for the accessibility of the people on the services provided by the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, the survey shows that the majority of the people (51%) are very aware of the agricultural services. Although, respondents may not necessarily be the beneficiaries of the said programs and services, their knowledge on the programs and services indicates that agricultural services are really present and are extended to the people in the municipality.

Furthermore, the respondents also rated the over-all performance of the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist as satisfactory. This goes to show that the said office is doing their responsibilities very well.

The Municipal Health Office plays a vital role in the municipality because the said office is in charge of the health condition of the people within the municipality. The devolution of services in the municipal office is done smoothly.

The MHO for the past years was very efficient. The proofs were on its exemplary more than 100% accomplishments in its targeted projects. For example, in 1997, the target clients for family planning programs were 530 but accomplished 575 clients, the target children to be given with Vitamin A was 2,417 but the office was able to give Vitamin A to 3,104 children, the planned clients to be provided with oral preventives were 1,339 but there were 1,395 clients who were given the said dental service while there were 3,697 clients who were treated with curative dental services against the 2,866 targeted clients. For environmental health services, malaria control program, immunization programs with the exemption of the hepatitis vaccine the target plans were also accomplished. The next two years also followed the same trend.

The achievements of the MHO for the past years were summarized as follows: the presence of different programs such as maternal and child care programs, family planning programs, diarrheal control programs, dental care program, pneumonia and tuberculosis control program, environmental control program, leprosy control program and malaria control program. The efficiency of the MHO in the implementation of these programs is already considered an achievement.

In addition, the decline of the live birth rate as a result of the family planning programs, the zero death rate of people with TB and pneumonia as a consequence of the municipality's active monitoring and the absence of malaria and dengue outbreak as an outcome of the municipality's campaign against mosquito born diseases were some of the

achievements of the municipality through the MHO. Another notable accomplishment of the said office was its ability to raise fund by means of organizing "Alay Lakad" (walk-for-a-cause). The proceeds of such projects were used for medicine purchase and for lung disease treatment.

In terms of accessibility of the people, the findings indicate that the majority of them (56%) are aware of the services given to the people. This signifies the respondents' awareness on the services given to other people if not for themselves. The ratings given by the respondent to the over-all performance of the MHO is satisfactory. Thus, this validates the notion that the MHO is efficient and provides accessible services to the people.

Primarily, the contribution of the health offices to the lives of the constituencies is its role to guard health conditions. Through the services provided, the people would have a better health; thus, they become more productive in their lines of work.

The devolution of services as far as the MHO is concerned is doing well because it satisfies the four indicators previously mentioned.

The MSWDO, like the two municipal offices, also performed well as far as the delivery of devolved services is concerned. This assertion is based on the four categories: efficiency, achievement, accessibility and socio-economic contribution on the lives of the people. The continuity of the programs such as family and community welfare program, child and youth welfare program, program on the welfare of the women, technical skills and self-employment assistance program, disabled and elderly program and emergency assistance program, which are created based on the Code show the compliance and efficiency of the MSWDO. Based on the records and on

observations, the MSWDO immediately responds to people's needs most especially during calamities. Barangay monitoring are usually conducted by the personnel of the said office in order to determine the conditions of the people in every barangay.

The MSWDO, for the past three years, was able to render the following achievements: they reached out to the elderly and disabled, provided the barangays with Day Care Centers, gave assistance to the needy and victims of calamities, imparted several family consultations and assisted the youth for the formation of youth organizations and activities. Another notable accomplishment of the MSWDO was its success in the launching of a program exclusively for the empowerment of the women in 1997. The programs, which are earlier mentioned, are still being implemented up to the present.

In analyzing the performance of the MSWDO in the implementation of the devolved social welfare services, the researcher conducted a survey to determine the accessibility of the people of such services. It was found out that the majority (44%) of the 100 respondents is aware of the services rendered by the MSWDO. This proves the validity of MSWDO's claim of rendering various accomplishments. Likewise, the majority of the respondents also assessed the over-all performance of the MSWDO to be satisfactory.

The services of the MSWDO are undoubtedly beneficial to the constituents, particularly to those belonging to the marginalized sector of the society. First, the said office provides financial assistance to meager family in order to meet their daily needs. Second, they furnished the people with necessary skills and knowledge for future employment. Third, the office encouraged the women to participate in community

building through seminars. Fourth, the livelihood projects of the MSWDO aid the people to meet their daily needs.

Based on the indicators, the three municipal offices, for the past three years, were able to implement effectively the programs and services devolved by the Code. As far as the services of the three municipal offices, the three municipal offices' performances are satisfactory as far as the 100 respondents are concerned.

Substantially, the status of the municipality was also raised to a higher level, five years after the implementation. The power given to the municipalities to look for its own sources of income enables the municipality of Claveria to become a fourth class municipality from a fifth class municipality. This indicates that the economy of the said municipality has increased.

Another factor that shows that the municipality is achieving development is the presence of telecommunication facilities. Unlike its neighboring towns, the people of Claveria excluding those in the far-flung barangays have access to cable television provided by the Claveria Agri-based Cooperative. According to the Municipal Profile, Claveria Agri-based Cooperative Cable Television has been servicing to 3,950 out of 6,017 households as of 1999. The capability of these households to access cable television shows that these households have more than enough income to sustain their basic needs. It is expected that the number of households will increase when the cable television provider will expand its market. In addition, long distance telephone services are also present in the municipality.

The leaderships of the municipal mayor and the municipal heads played major roles in the success of the implementation of the devolution process as well as the

attainment of development. Definitely, the strong leadership of the Lady Chief Executive, Mayor Celia T. Layus, brought Claveria into the limelight. Under her three consecutive terms, the regional and national level recognized the exemplary attainments of Claveria. Among the awards were the following: Region's Most Outstanding Municipality, Cleanest and Greenest Municipality in the Region and Best LGU in Environmental Initiated Projects (see Appendix B for other awards received by the municipality). As far as the delivery of basic services is concerned, the Provincial Level awarded the municipality in December 8, 1999 as the *Best LGU in the Delivery of Basic Services, Development Planning and Community Mobilization*.

Furthermore, the Layus administration has been recognized by the Progressive Alliance of Citizens for Democracy (PACD), Awards Committee for the progress being enjoyed by the people of Claveria particularly in the area of community development and the social and economic well being of the whole constituency (Municipal Annual Report, 1997).

The strong leadership of the lady mayor is further enhanced by her participation on the Governance in Local Democracy (GOLD), a program that gives technological assistance in order for the municipalities to attain self-reliance and self-sufficiency. More so, Mayor Layus, were one of the few Local Chief Executives who were invited to participate in the seminar-workshop on legislative issues and processes for local government units held in Washington D.C.

Among the most visible infrastructures that were constructed under her terms are the local roads, landscaping of the Municipal Park, ports rehabilitation and improvements, and the 2-storey public market worth 14.2 million pesos. Other than the

local budget, the funding of these projects came from non-government organizations, like the Claverianos Association of the United States (CAUSA) and other fund drives initiated by the municipality. Claveria Hong Kong Overseas Workers, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and Management Council (FARMC) and the two municipal cooperatives- Claveria Grassroots and Claveria-Agri-based Cooperative also finance other municipal projects.

The consistent awards received by Mayor Celia T. Layus as the Most Outstanding Chief Executive in the Region reflects her competency and capability in leading the people to attain development. More so, the people trusted her so much that in the last three elections she gathered the majority vote of the people despite some of the negative accusations charged against her.

The municipal offices also garnered some awards, which signify the leadership abilities and competencies of the personnel. The Head of the Municipal Agricultural Office, Mr. Hilario Somera, was cited as the Most Outstanding Head in the regional level in 1994 and again bagged the same citation in the Golden Plow Award 1994 (national level) for the following attainments: "for successfully raising the average productivity per hectare of the rice farmers through technical expertise and persuasive skills honed by constant exposure to farmers; for encouraging the productivity among small farmer groups in his area of jurisdiction, thus, helping to raise the number of business undertakings by the cooperatives and other farmer groups, for successfully promoting agricultural development in the LGU, which released P200,000.00 for agricultural livelihood projects and for nurturing outstanding farm groups such as the Claveria Agri-based Multi-Purpose Cooperative, which was voted the most outstanding cooperative

nationwide in 1993" (Golden Plow Award, Plaque of Recognition, 1994). Another citation was given to Ms. Marilyn Estorquia, an agricultural technician, as the Most Outstanding Agricultural Technician in the whole nation.

The Municipal Health Office as previously discussed also attained various accomplishments. In 1995, Department of Health Region 02 presented a Plaque of Appreciation to the Local Health Board for its dedication in the delivery of health services. These accomplishments are made possible under the competent leadership of Dr. Arnold Layus.

Despite the absence of MSWDO Head, the MSWDO still managed to effectively deliver the social services to the people. This is made possible through the leadership of the Officer-in-Charge, Mrs. Juliet Atiagan. Under her leadership, several social services programs were spearheaded. Through the help of the said office, youth and women organizations were also recognized for their notable accomplishments.

The participation of the people also helped the local government in the process of devolution and attainment of development. Besides the barangay officials, the municipality also gave non-elected individuals some responsibilities in the process of devolution, that is, for disseminating information. Cooperatives, on the other hand, assist farmers in maintaining water system in agricultural lands and also sponsor some livelihood projects in the municipality. In addition, cooperatives, particularly the Claveria Agri-based Cooperative, provide the people with necessary telecommunication facilities.

Indeed, devolution process is a mechanism to attain development provided that there is a strong and goal oriented leadership in the lower level of administration. Of

course, the participation of people is also one of the contributory factors that lead the municipality to develop.

Chapter V

Conclusions and Recommendations

Primarily, devolution would allow development in the country by means of developing agency involve in the delivery of services in the lower level. The principle behind this is that the lower administrations such as the municipality are more knowledgeable in the condition of the constituents in the municipality and thus they are more effective in solving the problems within the area of jurisdiction. As developments in the lower levels are attained, the national development is likely to follow.

In the Municipality of Claveria, the devolution process is correctly executed particularly in the delivery of services-agriculture, health and social welfare. As a result, municipal development is evident in the municipality. It must be noted that in this context, the elimination or reduction of poverty and unemployment determines development. The municipal developments and improvements are visible on the following instances:

1. The municipality became a fourth class municipality from a fifth class municipality five years after the implementation of the Code because of the power given by the Code to create its own source of income.
2. Through the different offices, the municipality was able to create programs and projects that respond to the needs and made accessible to the people through the powers and responsibilities vested to them by the Code.

3. The services, which are itemized in the Code, were efficiently implemented and accomplished by the municipality through palpable programs and projects created by the three municipal offices
4. The Office of the Municipal Agriculturist was able to create programs that uplift the meager conditions of farmers and out of school youth through dispersal of livestock, fingerlings and seeds.
5. The Municipal Health Office was able to monitor and treat the health condition of the people and create its own source of income through different means.
6. The MSWDO was able to reduce the number of unemployed by providing different programs such as the skills and development seminars that eventually improve the scanty condition of some families.
7. The people have access to cable television and telephone services; this signifies the development of telecommunications in the municipality.
8. Infrastructures such as roads, slaughterhouse, ports, public market and parks as well as the presence of shopping centers indicate infrastructure development.

These developments are attained through the proper implementation of the devolution process as well as the cooperation of people and several organizations. The correct implementation was based on the efficiency of the municipality in fulfilling the services indicated in the code, the accomplishments of the municipal offices, the accessibility of the people on the services and the impact of such services to the socio-

economic condition of the people. In so far as the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, MHO and MSWDO are concerned, such indicators were fulfilled for the past three years. The conclusion that the three municipal offices were effective agencies in delivering basic services was also strengthened by the admission of the majority of the 100 respondents in the survey who gave the three offices a satisfactory grade in the over-all performance.

The experience of Claveria in the devolution process, for the past three years was satisfactory. Thus, in this municipality, the devolution process is effective. In the long run, this condition would eventually affect the over-all national development. This assumption is based on the bottom-up model, wherein it mentioned that development could be attained through the development in the lower level of administration.

No matter how successful the implementation of the devolved services in the municipality, there were also some problems encountered. These problems include the following: natural phenomenon, inability to monitor assignments to some government personnel, the impulsive behavior of the constituents (e.g. selling dispersal without the knowledge of government personnel and inability to attend check-ups) and lack of personnel. Though, these problems were only considered as minor problems by the municipality, corrective actions must be taken into consideration for a more effective delivery of basic services.

Like any government agencies, the main problem that hindered the municipality in rendering its responsibilities is the slow release if not inadequacy of funds.

For a better delivery of basic services, the following are likewise recommended:

1. The release of funds must be a priority particularly to Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, MSWDO and MHO because the said offices contribute to the development of the constituents.
2. Constant monitoring must be institutionalized to far-flung areas in order to determine and resolve new problems.
3. The Office of the Municipal Agriculturist must have contingency plans on uncontrollable events such as La Niña and El Niño by providing alternative crop programs suitable in the said events.
4. MHO must also design fund raising projects in collaboration with the other municipal offices for the immunization programs such as hepatitis immunization programs in order to ease the low budget and thus, the target plans for immunization programs would be realized.
5. The few numbers of personnel in the MSWDO must be increased for them to monitor the conditions of the barangays. If the municipality would not allow this due to lack of funds, then the said office must strengthen its coordination to the different barangays. Coordination to the barangays would help the said office in extending necessary services.
6. Computerization of the municipal offices must be a priority of the municipality for a more organized and systematic delivery of services.

Through the devolution of services, it is expected that in the next few years the municipal offices would serve to the great satisfaction of the people. Furthermore, the

annual income of the municipality is also projected to increase and thus, municipality would become a third or a second class and eventually a first class municipality.

Meanwhile, the better quality of life of the constituents lies on the satisfactory implementation of the devolution process. Without the competent personnel of the government and the benevolent help of the people, the attainment of development of the municipality would be impossible. The experience of Claveria proves the assumption that effective implementation of the devolution process would affect the municipal development in positive manner because the municipal programs and projects ease the condition of the people in all status.

Since the study is limited on the delivery of devolved basic services, another important area in the Local Government Code of 1991 such as the fiscal administration in the municipality is not discussed explicitly. The fiscal administration in the municipalities particularly on the collection of taxes is one of the contributory factors in the development of the municipalities because appropriation necessary in carrying out the municipal programs comes from the collection of taxes. Thus, for further studies, it is recommended to assess the effectiveness of fiscal administration of municipalities, particularly the process of tax collection, and its impact on municipal development.

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Appendix A

MUNICIPALITY OF CLAVERIA

SPECIAL INFORMATION

Municipality	:	Claveria
Province	:	Cagayan
Region	:	Region 2, Northern Luzon
Area	:	194.0 sq. km.
Date Founded	:	June 5, 1865
Founder	:	Gov. Gen. Narciso Claveria
Official Flower	:	Rose

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. Physical Profile

Location:

Claveria lies on the northwestern portion of the Province of Cagayan with an approximate distance of 185.3 kilometers from Tuguegarao, Cagayan and 613.0 kilometer from Manila via Ilocos Region.

Boundaries:

North	:	Babuyan Channel
East	:	Municipality of Sanchez Mira
West	:	Municipality of Sta. Praxedes
South	:	Province of Apayao

Land Area **19,400 hectares**

(in percentage)

Agricultural lands : 46.67%

Residential lands : 32.38%

Commercial lands	:	.22%
Institutions	:	.28%
Forest lands	:	19.45%
Number of barangays		41
Urban	:	8
Rural	:	33
Climate		Moderately hot and moderately cold
Dry season	:	March to early part of August
Wet season	:	September to early March

II. Demographic Profile

Total Population		25,363 (as of 1999)
Male	:	12,884
Female	:	12,519

Age Structure

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>% to population</i>	<i>Total Population</i>
Under 1	2.56%	649
1-4 yrs.	9.64%	2,446
5-9 yrs.	12.50 %	3,171
10-14 yrs.	12.41%	3,147
15-19 yrs.	8.55%	2,168
20-24 yrs.	7.07%	1,793
25-29 yrs.	7.93%	2,012
30-34 yrs.	7.35%	1,865
35-39 yrs.	6.35%	1,610
40-44 yrs.	4.77%	1,210
45-49 yrs.	4.36%	1,106
50-54 yrs.	3.77%	957
55-59 yrs.	3.63%	921
60-64 yrs	2.88%	731

65-69 yrs.	2.12%	537
70-74 yrs.	1.69%	428
75-79 yrs.	1.21%	306
80-84 yrs.	0.73%	186
85 and over	0.47%	120

Population Density/Sq. Km 130 persons/sq. km

Population Growth Rate 1.0%

Population by Ethnic Group

Ilocanos	:	97.7%
Tagalog	:	0.8%
Ybanag	:	0.2%
Others (Isneg)	:	1.22%

Religions

Roman Catholic	:	91.72%
Protestants	:	1.64%
Iglesia ni Kristo	:	1.23%
Jehova's Witnesses	:	1.63%
Fi. Inndiependiente	:	2.53%
Others	:	1.25%

Labor Force 14, 373

Male	:	7,259
Female	:	7,114
a. agricultural workers	:	4,213
b. construction	:	2,372
c. manufacturing	:	992
d. commerce	:	2,950
e. services	:	2,951

f. others : 895

III. Commerce and Industry

Key agricultural Areas

Irrigated Lands : 2,848.5 has.

Rainfed : 288.0 has.

Number of lending Institutions 3

Rural bank of Claveria

Claveria Grassroots, MPCFI

Claveria Agri-Based, MPCFI

Number of Retailers/Wholesalers

Hardware : 6

Gen. Merchandise : 378

Butchers : 18

Bakeries : 12

Tailoring Shops : 7

Dressmaking Shops : 6

Watch Repairers : 5

Refreshments/Rest. : 9

Beauty Parlor : 12

Rice Millers : 108

Billiard Hall : 1

Lodging Houses : 14

Ice Plant : 1

Ice Cream House : 1

Pawn Shop : 2

Photo studio : 3

Jewelry Shop : 4

Funeral Services : 2

Construction Firms : 3

Welding Iron Works	:	6
Vegetable Vendors	:	60
Fish Vendors/Dealers	:	60

Cottage Industries

Furniture Shops	:	37
Food Processing	:	2
Other Crafts	:	2

Market Facilities

Public Market	:	1
Slaughterhouse	:	1
Tilapia	:	1
Bagsakan	:	1

IV. Infrastructure Facilities

Transportation

Road Networks

Barangay Roads	:	386.15 kms.
Municipal Roads	:	34.8 kms.
National Road	:	39.1 kms.
Provincial Roads	:	22.8 kms.

Bridges

18 Wooden Bridges	:	152.5 meters
21 Culverts	:	164.0 meters
15 Concrete type Box	:	112.4 meters

Facilities

Land Transportation

a. Number of Utility Bus

Claveria-Tuguegarao Route 10

Claveria-Laoag-Vigan Route 18

Claveria-Manila Route

Franco B. Trans	:	1 trip daily
Farinas	:	1 trip daily
RCJ	:	3 trips daily
Rajan	:	2 trips daily

b. Number of Public Utility Vehicles	52
c. Number of Private Utility Vehicles	85
d. Number of cargo trucks	37
e. Number of motorcycles	275
f. Number of Tricycles	650

Water Transportation

a. Pump Boats	33 units (fishing boats and cargo boats to Calayan and Camuigin Islands)
b. Fishing Ports	3 (located at Centro 3, Taggat Norte and Centro 5)

Air Transportation

One Airway previously owned by Taggat Industries, Inc. for private aircraft and helicopters

V. Water

Potable Water Supply

8 poblacion barangays	serviced by Level II Water System (Claveria Water District)
17 barangays	using Level II Water System (Spring Development as source)

16 barangays using open dug well and other sources

Irrigation

87 Communal Irrigation System	2,752/5 has.
14 Small water Impounding Project and Diversion Dams	125 has.
70 Small farm Reservoirs	35 has.
28 PISOS	104 has.

VI. Power

Source of Electric

PowerCagayan Electric Cooperative II

Service Duration of Power 24-hour service

Area Covered by Electricity 41 barangays

Number of Service Consumers

Residentials 15,463

Commercial 5,187

VII. Communication and Media, Telephone and Telegraph, Radio, Press and Publication

Telegraph Services 2 (DOTC and RCPI)

Telephone Services 3 (Bayantel, Agri-Based and on-going construction telephone lines by DOTC under the Zero-backlog Program)

Two-Way Radio Communication all 41 Barangays, PNP, BFP, REACT Philippines, Pugadlawin

Postal services 1 postal station w/ 10 personnel

Newspapers Philippine daily Inquirer, Philippine Star, Bulletin Today, Tempo, Balita and others

Cable television System servicing 3,950 households

VIII. Social Services

Education

Elementary	:	29
Secondary	:	4
Tertiary (2-yr. Tech. School)	:	1

	Students	teachers	classroom	Stud./teacher Ratio
Elementary	3,805	150	136	1:27
Secondary				
CRVS	349	20	12	1:29
CSAT	1,313	48	37	1:36
ASJ	619	15	12	1:52
Nat'l High	34	2	2	1:17

Total # of elementary schools	:	29
Total # of secondary schools	:	4
Total # of enrolment (00-01)	:	6,120
Total # of elem. Teachers	:	150
Total # of teachers/employees	:	112

Housing

Total # of Residential Houses	:	6,547
Total # of Institutional Buildings	:	150
Total # of commercial Buildings	:	242

Health

Total # of Health Centers/clinics	:	6
Total # of private clinics	:	4
Total # of hospital	:	1
Total # of dental Clinics	:	3
Total # of optical clinics	:	2

Prospective Services

Number of Police Stations 1 with 2 sub-station with 20 police force

of Fire Protective Services 1 Fire Station with 8 firefighters

Total number of facilities and equipment

1 fire truck

1 patrol car

2 motor cycle

VIX. Tourism

Tourist Spots

Lakay-Lakay and Baket-Baket Point

Claveria Cove and sand Beach resort

Pata Light House and Camping Site

Sentinela Caves and Ubing-ubing Point

Taggat Lagoon

Mabnang Falls

Taggat Roadside

Tourism Amenities Available

Villa Aurora	P500-800/day
Claveria Tourist Lodge	P50/day
Casa Grand Inn	P100-500/day
Lakay-lakay Lodge	P300-500/day
Bay View Inn	P500-1,000/day
Kabikungan Inn	P500/day
Agri-Based MPCFI	P50-100/day
Grassroots, MPCFI	

APPENDIX B

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS

AWARDS AND OTHER STERLING FEATURES

1. Region's Most Outstanding Municipality of the Year
 - DILG-ROMY 1999
 - December 21, 1999
2. Agrikulturang Makamasa EXPO 2000 Plaque of Appreciation
 - BNATS, Aparri, Cagayan
 - April 7, 2000
3. Most Outstanding Municipality of Cagayan (Category B)
 - ROMY 1999 Provincial Level
 - December 8, 1999
4. Best LGU in the Delivery of basic Services, Development Planning and Community Mobilization
 - ROMY 1999 Provincial Level
 - December 8, 1999
5. Cleanest and Greenest Municipality of Cagayan
 - DILG Clean and Green Provincial search
 - December 8, 1999
6. Outstanding Municipality of Region 02 (Category B)
 - DILG-ROMY 1998
 - January 22, 1999

7. Cleanest and Greenest Municipality of Region 02

(Category B)

- DILG Clean and Green Regional Search 1998
- January 22, 1999

8. Outstanding Municipality of the Year

- DILG/ROMY 1998 Provincial Search
- January 22, 1999

9. Order of the Fighting Cock Outstanding Municipality

- PACD and DILG
- January 9, 1999

10. Regional Winner: Best Centennial Décor Contest

- The President of the Philippines
- June 27, 1998

11. 3rd Place: National Search for the Best in Centennial Décor

- The President of the Philippines
- June 27, 1998

12. Cleanest and Greenest Municipality of Region 02

(Category B)

- DILG Clean and Green Regional Search 1997
- December 27, 1997

13. Outstanding Municipality of Region 02

- DILG-ROMY 1997
- December 22, 1997

14. Awards of Recognition to the Municipality of Claveria

- Regional search for the Cleanest Inland Body of Water

- December 22, 1997

15. National Winner: Best LGU in Environmental Initiated Project

- DENR

- April 22, 1997

16. Special Citation to the Sangguniang Bayan of Claveria, Cagayan

- search for the Outstanding Local legislature Award

- December 16, 1997

17. Human and Ecological Security Award

- The President of the Philippines

- December 16, 1996

18. Cleanest and Greenest Municipality of Region 02

- DILG

- December 16, 1996

19. Awards of Excellence as National Finalist

- National Search for the Cleanest and Greenest Municipality

- December 18, 1996

20. Awards of Excellence as National Finalist

- National Search for the Cleanest and Greenest Municipality
- December 18, 1995

21. Cleanest and greenest Municipality of Region 02

- DILG
- December 16, 1995

22. Outstanding Municipality of Region 02

- DILG-ROMY
- December 16, 1995

23. Plaque of Appreciation to the Local Health Board

- Department of Health Region 02
- October 11, 1995

24. Awards of Excellence as National Finalist

- National Search for the Cleanest and Greenest Municipality
- December 14, 1994

25. 1994 Cleanest and Greenest Municipality

- DILG
- November 23, 1994

26. National Award of Commendation as Outstanding LGU

- PACD
- January 6, 1995

APPENDIX C

The Survey Questionnaire

Dear Respondents,

Good day!

The undersigned, a student of the University of the Philippines, Manila, is currently conducting a research study on the devolution of basic services and its impact in the municipal development. This study aims to evaluate the performance of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Department of Social Welfare and Development in the delivery of basic services. Your participation on this research is very important.

In connection with this, I am requesting you to answer the prepared questionnaire below. Rest assured that your answers will be held confidential. Thank you very much!

HELEN GRACE SOMERA

Name (Optional) _____
Occupation: _____
Barangay: _____

Age: _____
Sex: _____

Kindly check the box of your choice.

1. Which of the following services are given to you or are you aware of that the municipality is giving to the people through the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Municipal Health Office and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office?

Office of the Municipal Agriculturist

- dispersal of animals such as pigs, cows, carabaos and goats
- vaccination and treatment of animals
- dispersal of fingerlings such as tilapia
- launching of projects for the protection of marine resources such as the use of dynamite for fishing
- field visits
- providing demonstration farms
- providing irrigation system especially in the rural areas (agricultural areas)
- distributing different kinds of seeds
- construction of multi-purpose drying pavements

Municipal Health Office

- Rural Health Unit
- vaccination of children and infants against different types of diseases

- programs against leprosy and tuberculosis
- programs against dengue and malaria
- family planning programs
- Operation Timbang
- Free consultations
- dental check up

Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

- Assisting the different barangays in establishing day care Centers
- Organizing the youth in forming youth organizations
- Information campaign against drug addiction
- Organized seminar workshop such as dressmaking, cooking and food processing
- Providing financial help to marginalized families
- programs for the disabled
- programs for the senior citizens
- supplemental feeding for children
- provide assistance for victims of natural disasters such as flood and storm

2. Through observation, how does the municipal offices extend its services? (check as many as you want)

Office of the Municipal Agriculturist

- they immediately respond to the needs of the constituents
- they don't respond to the needs at all
- they don't show or visit the barangays in the rural areas
- they inform the people about new programs and projects
- they oftentimes visit the different barangays
- they help but one must wait for a while

Other observations, please indicate _____

Municipal Health Office

- they immediately respond to the needs of the people
- they don't respond to the needs at all
- the office has the necessary equipment
- they conducted follow-up check ups in different barangays
- they lack medical equipment
- they disseminate information
- no follow up check ups conducted

Other observations, please indicate _____

Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

- they immediately respond to the needs of the people
- they don't respond to the needs at all
- they don't show to the different barangays
- they disseminate information
- they oftentimes visit the different barangays

Other observations, please indicate _____

3. Through observation, what can you say on the over-all performance of these offices?

a. Office of the Municipal Agriculturist

Very Satisfactory

Satisfactory

Fair

Needs Improvement

b. Municipal Health Office

Very Satisfactory

Satisfactory

Fair

Needs Improvement

c. Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

Very Satisfactory

Satisfactory

Fair

Needs Improvement

Daytoy nagsurat, maysa nga estudyante iti University of the Philippines, Manila ket maduma nga agar-aramid iti reseach maipanggep iti lokal nga gobyerno nangnangruna unay iti panagited iti agriculture, health ken social welfare services. Babaen kadaytoy nga research kayatko nga anumen dagiti serbisyo nga mawawat dagiti tattao iti Claveria. Kayatko pay nga maammuan no kasano iti performance iti Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Municipal Health Office ken Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office iti panagited da kadagiti nadumaduma nga serbisyo.

Tulongandak koma kadaytoy nga research ko babaen iti panangsungbatyo kadagiti questions nga nakasurat. Ikarik nga aminto nga sungbatyo ket "confidential."

Agyamannak la unay ta tulongyo.

HELEN GRACE SOMERA

Nagan (Optional) _____ Sex: () babai () lalaki
Tawen _____ Brgy.: _____ Trabaho: _____

Paki-ikkan iti tsek (✓) iti sungbatyo.

1. Babaen it Office of the Municipal Agriculturist, Municipal Health Office ken Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office, ania kadagitoy nga serbisyo iti ammuyo nga it-itted iti munisipyo kadagiti tattao? (Uray mano iti ikkan iti tsek)

Agriculture

- panagiwaras (dispersal) iti nadumaduma nga animal kas koma baboy, baka ken nuang
- panagkapon ken panag-agas iti animal
- panagiwaras iti fingerlings kas koma iti tilapia
- panagited iti proyekto maipapan iti panagsaluad iti baybay ken karayan kas koma iti panagiparit it panagusar iti dinamita, koriente ken dadduma pay
- panagbisita iti pagtalonan
- panangpakita iti demonstration farms
- proyekto para iti irigasyon iti danum nagruna iti pagtalonan
- panagited iti nadumaduma nga bin-I
- panagaramid iti multi-purpose drying pavement (pagbiladan iti irik)

Health

Rural Health Unit

- Panagbakuna kadagiti u-ubbing ken maladaga kontra iti nadumaduma nga sakit
- Programa kontra leprosy ken tuberculosis
- Programa kontra dengue, malaria
- Family planning programs
- Operation timbang
- Panagited iti libre nga agas
- Libre nga konsultasyon
- Dental check up

Social Welfare and Development

- Panangtulong iti Day care Centers iti nadumaduma nga barangay
- Panag-organize iti grupo para kadagiti agtutubo
- Panagiwaras iti impormasyon para iti pagsayaatan iti agtutubo kas koma anti-drug campaign
- Panag-organize iti seminar workshop kas iti dressmaking, cooking ken food processing
- Panagited iti tulong pinansiyal kadagiti marigriggat nga pamilya
- Programa para iti disabled
- Programa para iti Senior Citizen kas koma iti panangecelebrate iti Senior Citizen Day
- Supplemental feeding para iti u-ubbing
- Tumulong kadagiti biktima it bagyo, layus ken nadumaduma pay nga kalamidad

2. Babaen iti obserbasyon, kasano iti panagitted dagiti municipal offices iti serbisyo? (Uray mano iti ikkan iti tsek)

Office of the Municipal Agriculturist

- No adda kasapulan ket tumulong da nga dagus
- Saan da nga mangikaskaso
- Naisem da nga tumulong
- Saanda nga agpakpakita iti nadumaduma nga barrio
- Agipaka-ammo da no adda baro nga programa para iti umili
- Kanayonda nga bumisita iti nadumaduma nga barrio
- Tumulongda ngem nakabaybayag ka pay lang nga agur-uray
- Dadduma pay nga obserbasyon pakisurat _____

Municipal Health Office

- No adda kasapulan ket tumulong da nga dagus
- Saan da nga nangikaskaso
- Kompleto iti equipment da
- Naisem da nga tumulong
- Ag-check-up da pay iti naduma-duma nga barrio
- Kurang dagiti medical equipment
- Agipaka-ammo da no adda baro nga programa para iti umili
- Awan iti follow up check up iti adda sakitna
- Dadduma pay nga obserbasyon pakisurat _____

Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

- No adda kasapulan ket tumulong da nga dagus
- Saan da nga mangikaskaso
- Naisem da nga tumulong
- Saanda nga agpakpakita iti nadumaduma nga barrio
- Agipaka-ammo da no adda baro nga programa para iti umili
- Kanayonda nga bumisita iti nadumaduma nga barrio
- Dadduma pay nga obserbasyon pakisurat _____

3. Babaen iti obserbasyon, ania iti nakunayo iti over-all performance dagitoy nga municipal offices? (Maysa lang iti ikkan iti tsek)

a. Office of the Municipal Agriculturist

- Very satisfactory
- Satisfactory

Fair

Needs improvement

b. Municipal Health Office

Very satisfactory

Satisfactory

Fair

Needs improvement

c. Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

Very satisfactory

Satisfactory

Fair

Needs improvement

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

