Socio-Economic Status of Barangay Saguma: Basis for Needs Assessment in Identifying Specific Project for Extension Program

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Abstract

The present work had been carried out to assess the socio-economic status of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City in order to generate empirical data and information on the socio-economic condition of the barangay to determine what specific extension program will be addressed to the concerned barangay. The study was descriptive in nature and the researchers used survey questionnaires in gathering data. A total of 209 household heads were interviewed during the study. 94.74 percent of the house heads in the barangay are males under the age bracket of 41-50 years old. Farming is the most important livelihood in the barangay, and most of the respondents' monthly range from ₱5000 to less than ₱10,000 pesos only. The results of the study also reveal that households are large family with insufficient income to support the basic needs of the family, common skills acquired by the residents were gardening, livestock raising and driving. Access to safe drinking water, primary health care, livelihood programs or livelihood assistance, education and literacy assistance are the major areas of concerns identified, thus, the mentioned areas of concern are also the priority needs of the community of Barangay Saguma. The researchers therefore suggest that there should be an implementation of livelihood projects to complement the capability developed among the residents and to give assistance and funding for scholarship to improve the educational status of the residents in the barangay.

Key terms: Household; Household head; Socio-economic status; Brgy. Saguma

Introduction: A family`s socio-economic status can be based on family income, parental education level, parental occupation, and social status in the community. Socio-economic status of the family can also describe the socio-economic condition of the whole community; thus, can signify the life condition and mode of living of the entire population that inhabits within that community. According to Abdrabo and Hassaan (2003), socio-economic status can be ascribed to a diverse variables and aspects which involve a combination of social and economic factors.

Currently, there are a lot of government projects that has been launched in order to mount the economic condition of its citizen. One of these is the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program which aims to aid the poverty that every Filipino is facing nowadays.

The community of Saguma is just one of several communities that benefit the aforementioned government project, nevertheless, inadequate to uplift the socio-economic condition of the entire community. In addition, an insufficient job opportunity within Barangay Saguma and even in the

neighboring barangay which leads to the scarcity of family revenue is still one of the current problems that the community is facing today. Thus, affects the economic and even social condition of every family that resides within that community.

This study aimed to assess the socio-economic profile of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City to generate empirical data and baseline information on the socio-economic condition of the barangay and in order to determine the most essential needs of the said barangay that will guide future action to be addressed through certain extension program.

In addition, this study aimed to be effective in convincing the government and non-government organizations to support and give accurate solutions to the existing problems of the community of Saguma to augment the socio-economic condition of the whole community.

Significance of the Study: There were only few published studies focusing on socio-economic status and needs assessment in Agusan del Sur particularly in Bayugan City. This study was conducted to know the socio-economic status and identify the specific needs based on socio-economic profile of the community.

In addition, the results of this study will provide additional information and give better understanding to the populace and local government of Barangay Saguma on the current status specifically on socio-economic aspects of their community, thus, encouraging the local government, private sectors and the entire community to create programs or projects that need to be vigilantly addressed for the planning of future development.

Furthermore, this study will also serve as baseline information on the future studies about needs assessment and socio-economic profile of Baranngay Saguma, Bayugan City.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study: This study focuses only in determining the socio-economic profile of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City in order to assess the needs of the community. Socio-economic profile assessment only includes the social aspects, economic, environmental and education or literacy aspects. Furthermore, this study covered only the households that are found within the vicinity of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City.

Conceptual Framework: This study used the concept of age to identify the age bracket; the number of children for the composition of household members; educational status for the classification of what level of literacy that comprise the community; health and environmental condition for the assessment of the perceived needs of the community regarding with these aspects; and livelihood and employment status as the basis of the source of income.

After the information were gathered, the survey was supplemented with program of action based on the results of the needs assessment through the socio-economic status of the surveyed community concerning on their perceived needs. After the implementation of the project, evaluation was done to come up with the guidelines for sustainable development.
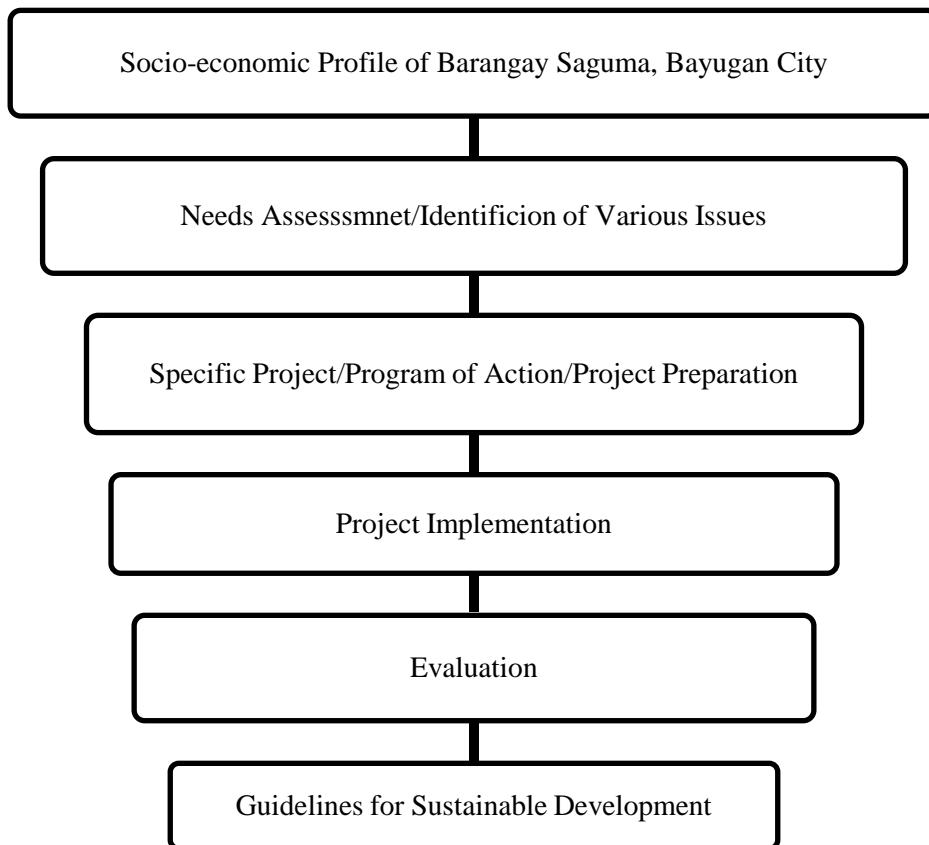
Figure-1: Schematic Diagram of the Conceptual Framework.

Statement of the Problem: This research study would determine the socio-economic status of Barangay Saguma.

Specifically it sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the profile of the household/household members in terms of:

       1.1 sex;

       1.2 age;

       1.3 number of children; and

       1.4 residential building types?

2. What is the status of the respondents in terms of:

       2.1 livelihood/occupation;

       2.2 income;

       2.3 educational attainment;

       2.4 ethnicity;

       2.5 health;

       2.6 religious affiliation; and

       2.7 dialect spoken?

3. What are the perceived needs of the respondents in terms of socio-economic aspects?

4. Based on the findings, what proposed extension program/s is/are recommended to improve the living condition of the respondents?

5. What program/s of action is/are needed to solve the existing problem/s on socio-economic status of the respondents?

Research Methodology

Research Locale: This study was conducted in Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City which is bounded in the north by Barangay Gamao; Barangay Cagbas to the east; Barangay Poblacion to the south; and at the west is Barangay Bucac as shown in figure 2. Barangay Saguma is just five kilometers away from the center of Bayugan City.

On 2010 census, it has a total population of 1,937 individuals (NSO, 2010) that occupy almost two percent of the entire population of Bayugan City. On the same year, it has a total number of 436 households. Saguma is one of the 43 Barangays of Bayugan City where growing crops is the major source of income.

Figure-2: Location map of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City.

Research Design: This study was descriptive in nature or uses the descriptive research design to obtain information concerning the current socio-economic status of Barangay Saguma and to describe the program of action to be taken with respect to the perceived needs of the said barangay.

Research Instrument: The researchers used survey questionnaires as the key instruments in gathering the principal data. Survey questionnaires were developed in line with the objectives and research questions, it includes all items of information that are needed in order to determine the socio-economic profile of the respondents such as age, sex, number of children, educational background, income, occupation and others.

Enabling for the survey questionnaires to be more effective, Pre-survey or Pilot Testing was done first, and questionnaires were finalized through validating and revising the questionnaires based on the results of the pre-survey conducted.

Sample Size: Barangay Saguma has 9 Puroks and has a total number of 436 household. To obtain the figure of sample size, Slovin`s formula was employed with five percent margin of error.

Sample size was obtained using the formula:

$$n=\frac{N}{(1+N\cdot e^2)}$$

Where: n = number of samples
N = Total Population
E = Error of Tolerance

$$n = \frac{436}{\left(1+436(0.05)^2\right)}$$

$$= \frac{436}{(1+1.09)}$$

$$n = 209$$

Data Gathering Procedure: This research used the survey questionnaires accompanied with personal interviews. The survey was conducted on December 2014 in which enumerator or interviewer conducted interviews in all puroks of the barangay, this ensured that all parts of the barangay were included in the survey.

Data Analysis: Quantitative data were tabulated and recorded. Frequency and Percentage were determined in order to describe the distribution pattern of the different socio-economic aspects. If necessary, Statistical Packages for Social Sciences software was used to quantify the results of the tabulated data.

Presentation, Interpretation and Analysis of Data: The succeeding tables and figures show the results of the analysis of the data obtained from the two hundred nine household respondents from the different puroks of Barangay Saguma, Bayugan City.

Table-1: Household heads` profile

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	198	94.74
Female	11	5.26
Total	**209**	**100**
Age (Yrs. Old)		
18-30	28	13.4
31-40	45	21.53
41-50	52	24.88
51-60	47	22.49
61 Up	37	17.7
Total	**209**	**100**
Yrs. of residency in the area		
1-10	36	17.22
11-20	37	17.7
21-30	38	18.18
31-40	32	15.31
41-Up	66	31.59
Total	**209**	**100**

The results for the profile of the respondents (household head) in terms of sex, age and number of years in the area are shown in Table 1. The data reveal that the majority of the household heads in the barangay are males (94.74%), of age bracket 41-50 years old (24.88%) and have been staying in the barangay for more than 40 years (31.59 %). It can be deduced from the results that males are the primary provider and responsible for the organization of the household. According to Medina (1991), in the traditional Filipino family, headship is always vested in the oldest male member who is usually the husband or father.

On the other hand, the data show that only 5.26 percent constitutes for the female household head, this could be due to the fact that during data collection, females in Barangay Saguma were observed as plain housewives only and spend most of their time at home. In addition, in the study of Torres (1993), she stated that males are often ascribed in the headship position though females have potentials for the said position.

Table-2: Number of children

Number of Children	Frequency	Percentage
1 to 3	79	37.8
4 to 6	106	50.72
7 to 9	19	9.09
10 above	5	2.39
Total	**209**	**100**

Table -2 shows the number of siblings in the family. Majority of the respondents has at least 4-6 siblings in the family. This comprises 50.72 percent of the surveyed population. Table 2 further reveals that the households in Saguma have the sufficient number of family members to be fed and to be sent to school

Table- 3: Residential profile of the respondents

	Frequency	*Percentage*
Distance of the residence from Barangay Hall and other facilities (School, Botika ng Barangay, etc.)		
500m-1km	34	16.27
1km-2km	116	55.5
2km above	59	28.23
Total	**209**	**100**
Description of residential building		
Concrete	41	19.62
Light Materials	144	68.91
Shanty Type	24	11.47
Total	**209**	**100**

The data shown in table 3 are the residential profile of the respondents. It reveals that most of the residences (55.5%) in Barangay Saguma are at most 1km-2km away from the school, Botika ng Barangay and even in the Barangay Hall (since these establishments were located only in one site). This implies that the residents of this barangay can access easily to any programs and services offered by the local government of Saguma.

Moreover, Table 3 also reveals that 68.91% of the respondents` residential buildings were made of light materials which imply that the community of Barangay Saguma reflects a typical rural area.

Table- 4: Social profile of the respondents

Ethnic Group	*Frequency*	*Percentage*
Higaoonon	1	0.49
Cebuano	105	50.24
Ilonggo	39	18.66
Ilocano	36	17.22
Manobo	16	7.65
Others	12	5.74
Total	**209**	**100**
Spoken Dialect		
Visayan	105	50.24
Tagalog	67	32.06

English	37	17.7
Total	**209**	**100**
Religious Affiliation		
Catholic	138	66.04
SDA	17	8.14
INC	29	13.86
Others	25	11.96
Total	**209**	**100**

On the other hand, Table 4 shows the social profile of the respondents in terms of spoken dialect, ethnic grouping they belong and religious affiliation. Table 4 reveals that the majority of the respondents are Cebuanos (50.24%) which comprises more than half of the surveyed population, and who affiliates in Catholic religion (66.04%). In addition, majority of the respondents can speak or use Visayan dialect (50.24%) in communicating with family and community members though some of them belong to other ethnic groups (Ilocano, Ilongo and Manobo). It can also be noted that aside from Cebuano there are also some ethnic or tribal groups in the community such as Ilocano, Ilongo and Manobo.

The Bayugan City Planning Office based on the CBMS 2012 of Barangay Saguma recorded that 63 percent of the entire population of the barangay are Cebuano followed by Ilongo, and majority of the population are Catholic which constitute 85.4%, followed by Iglesia ni Cristo and Seventh Day Adventist Church. Based on the data of the City Planning Office and from the data gathered in this study, it reveals that the community of Saguma has mixed ethnic groupings with different religious affiliation. But, as a whole it can be figured out from the data that the Saguma community is a Cebuano community with Catholic religious affiliation.
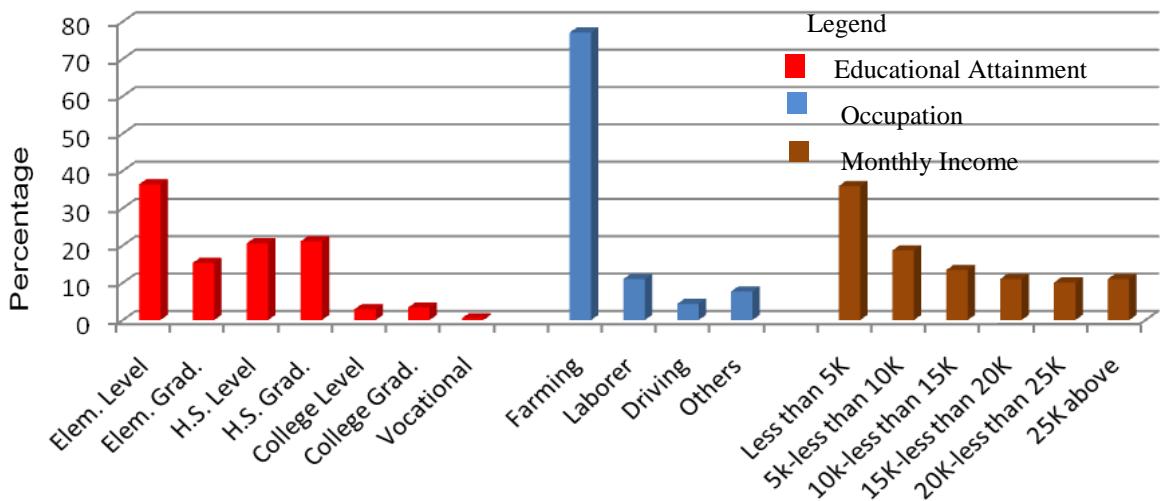

Figure-3: Percentage of respondents` profile in terms of educational attainment, occupation and monthly income.

Figure-3 shows the data of the educational attainment, occupation and annual income of the respondents. As presented by the figure, it can be noticed that the majority of the respondents attended only elementary level (36.36%) whose occupation is farming (77.03%), with monthly income of less than ₱5000 (35.89%).

Farming (77.03%) ranks number 1 as the major occupation or source of income since Saguma is known to be as an agricultural barangay, however it can be noticed that most of the respondents has an income level of less than ₱5000 (35.89%) per month, which can be considered as below poverty income. According to the National Statistical Coordination Board (2011), Filipino families consisting of five (5) members should be earning on the average of a combined monthly income of ₱ 7,017 in order to meet their most basic food and non-food needs.

However, it can be observed in table 2 that majority of the respondents have more or less five (5) family members, and majority of them have only one family member that contributes financially to the household revenue. From these data, it can be presumed that the revenue of the respondents is insufficient to meet the basic needs of the family members for the whole month.

The National Statistical Coordination Board (2011) on their latest statistic released on February 8, 2011 reported that in terms of the magnitude of poor families in the Philippines, there was an increase of about 185, 000 poor families, from 3.67 million in 2006 increases up to 3.86 million in 2009, and the province of Agusan del Sur is one of the poorest provinces during this year in terms of poverty incidence among families. They also added that during 2006, farmers rank second (next to fishermen) as the poorest sector with poverty incidences among population in the country. This possibly explains the result of the data presented in Figure 3 in terms of the respondents` annual income.

On the other hand, the Bayugan City Planning Office based on the CBMS 2012 recorded that, Barnagay Saguma has a magnitude of 163 households that has below poverty income and 5 of these households experienced food shortage. This might be due to the fact that the respondents, though they are farmers, the reality is that most of them do not have their own land to till, they don`t even considered their selves as tenant of that land. Some of them were just laborers, and can have an enormous income during harvest and planting period only. But, it can observed during survey period that almost of the households in the community have their own gardens on their front or back yard planted with different vegetables in which according to them is a great help as a source for their daily food.
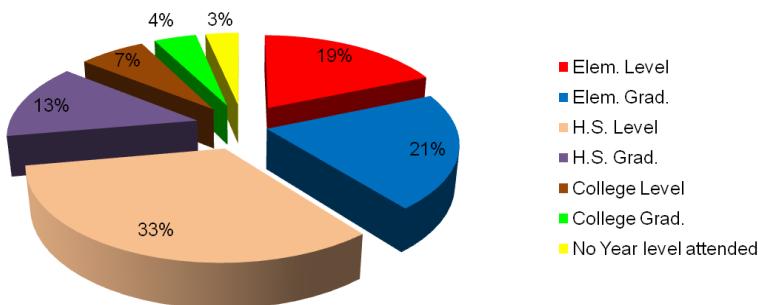

Figure-4: Educational attainment of the respondents` spouse.

Figure -4 shows the educational attainment of the respondents` spouse`s. It can be viewed from this figure that majority of them have attended High school (33%), 21 percent of them completed elementary, 19 percent just attended elementary and 13 percent are high school graduate. Only 7 percent have attended college and 4 percent are college graduate.

These data imply that most of the respondents` spouses have higher educational attainment compared to the respondents in which most of them have just attended elementary level (Figure 3).

Figure-5A: Percentage of siblings 7-13 years old who are attending primary school.
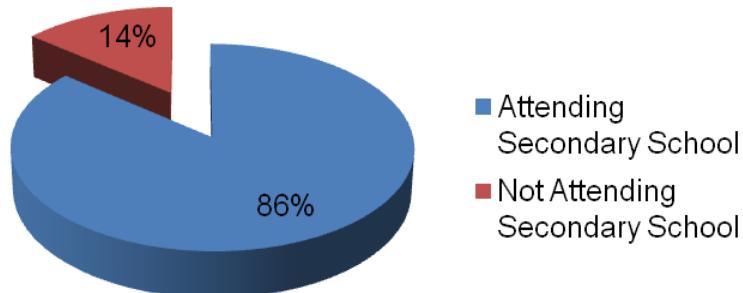

Figure -5B: Percentage of siblings 14-20 years old who are attending secondary school.

On the other hand, Figure 5A shows the percentage of respondents` siblings' ages ranging from 7-13 years old who are attending primary school, likewise Figure 5B also shows the respondents` siblings ages ranging from 14-20 years old who are attending secondary school.

The two figures reveal that most of the siblings from these ages have attended both primary and secondary. It can be viewed in table 3 that 28.23 percent of the residences are situated 2 km above from the primary school found in the barangay. It can be presumed that this 92 percent of children who are attending primary school also include proportion of those children whose residences are situated distantly from the school. From these data, it can be figured out that these children are eager to study, so as the parents have fervor for this matter enabling their children to be educated despite of the distance of the school and despite of the poverty that we are facing today.

However, it can be noted in figure 5B that the percentage of the siblings who are attending secondary school slightly decreases. This could be due to the fact that there is no secondary or high school being established in the barangay.
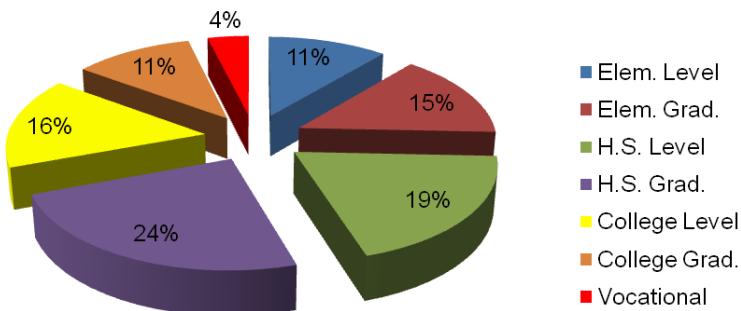
Figure-6: Educational attainment of the siblings 20 years old and above.

 Figure-6 show the educational attainment of the siblings whose age is 20 years old and above. It can be viewed from this figure that only 11% of them have graduated college. 19% were high school level or attending high school, 16% have attended college or attending college.

 Figures 3, 4 and 6 respectively further reveal that the educational attainment of these siblings has the same pattern with their parents. Large proportion of both parents and siblings under this age range has just attended high school and elementary. It can be deduced from these data that those children coming from family with low socioeconomic status often lack financial and educational supports from their parents. According to Ramey and Ramey (1994), a parent with low socioeconomic status faces major challenges when it comes to providing optimal care and education for their children, and when basic necessities are lacking, parents must place top priority on housing, food, clothing, and health care, and therefore education and educational materials will be less prioritized.
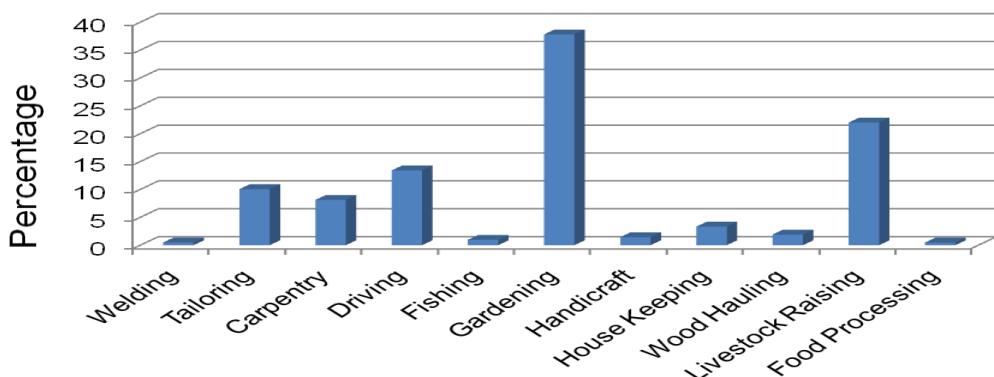

Figure- 7: Livelihood skills of household members.

Figure- 7 shows the different skills of the household members in Barangay Saguma which can be considered as their strength to become a progressive individual in the community. Figure 7 reveals that among the different skills gardening rank first which constitute about 37.8 percent, this could be due to the fact that Barangay Saguma is an agricultural barangay, and it can be assumed that the residents from this barangay have better skills in gardening. Aside from gardening, the skills of the household members were livestock raising (22.01%), driving (13.41%), tailoring (10.05%), carpentry (8.13%) and housekeeping (3.34%).

   This indicates that the residents of Barangay Saguma have interest or have greater inclination for economic development skills which can be helpful for alleviating or in augmenting the economic development of the community. These skills could also serve as basis for government and non-government organizations in providing the community with livelihood projects.
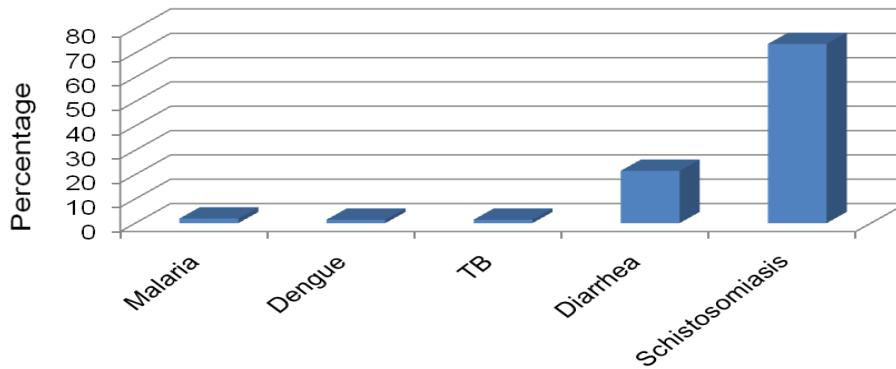

Figure- 8: Common diseases in the barangay.

   Figure-8 shows the different diseases which are common in the barangay. Among the choices given in the survey questionnaire, majority of the respondents chose Schistosomiasis (73.68%) as the common existing disease in the barangay. This occurrence can be ascribed to the fact that Barangay Saguma is an agricultural barangay and it is surrounded with various water systems such as streams and irrigation system of National Irrigation Authority which possibly serves as the habitat for schistosoma species.
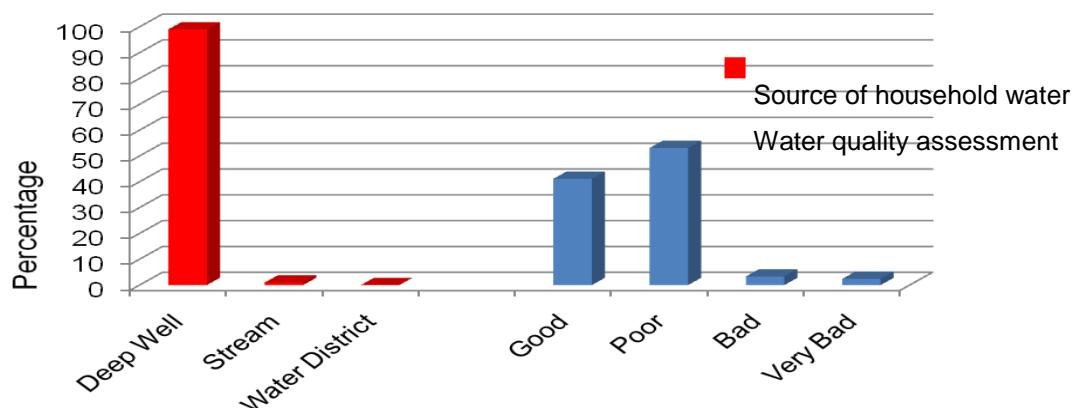

Figure- 9: Sources of household water and respondents` assessment to the water quality.

   Figure- 9 shows the different sources of household water and the assessment of the respondents to the water quality. It can be viewed from this figure that majority of the respondents` water source is deep well and assessed it with poor water quality. According to the respondents, direct access to safe drinking water is one of the major problems of the community. The Bayugan City Planning Office based on the CBMS 2012 of Barangay Saguma recorded that 136 households in the barangay have

no access to safe water; this possibly explains why diarrhea ranks second as most common existing disease in the community.

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

Summary and Conclusion: This study was conducted in order to assess the socio-economic status of Barangay Saguma. The researchers used modified survey questionnaire accompanied with an interview to gather data in the said barangay. The survey was conducted on the month of December 2014 in which enumerator or interviewer conducted interviews in all puroks of the barangay. The findings of the study serve as the basis of the institution on what particular program of extension will be established on the said barangay.

The study reveals that most of the household head in the barangay are males under the age bracket 41-50 years old whose occupation is farming with a monthly income of ₱5000 to less than ₱10, 000 and most of them have just attended elementary. Most of the household units are made of light materials. In terms of the educational attainment of the family members, the researchers found out that most of the respondents` spouse have attended high school and most of the children ages ranging from 7-13 and 14-20 years old are attending elementary and high school respectively, however the educational pattern of the parents and of the children whose age 20 years old above is consistent, in which most of them have just graduated elementary or high school.

Common skills developed by the members of each household are gardening, livestock raising and driving. Deep well is the major source of household water in the barangay and the researchers also found out that schistosomiasis is one of the common existing disease in the barangay.

Based on the results of the study, the conclusions of the researchers are as follows:
1. Households are large family with insufficient income to support the basic needs of the family.
2. Common skills acquired by the residents were gardening, livestock raising, driving, tailoring, carpentry and housekeeping. However, these skills have to be refined and enhanced to be more competitive in establishing livelihood programs for the community.
3. Access to safe drinking water, primary health care, livelihood programs or livelihood assistance, education and literacy assistance are the major areas of concerns identified, thus, the mentioned areas of concern are also the priority needs of the community of Barangay Saguma.

Recommendations: Based on the priority needs of the barangay and the availability of the resources of Agusan del Sur College, Inc., the following are suggested projects to be undertaken by the respective department in the extension program of the institution in Barangay Saguma:

1. Coordination with the Government and Non-government organizations to conduct trainings and seminars concerning on livelihood programs would be carried out by the institution.
2. Health checkups and the like, and feeding activities would be conducted by in order to augment the health status of the people in the barangay.
3. The institution shall devise literacy programs for the children of Saguma, grown-ups, and even for the adults to improve the literacy status of the community.
4. There shall be implementation of livelihood projects/programs to complement the capability developed among the residents.
5. The institution shall also conduct outreach programs such as barangay clean-up and tree planting activities to develop a better relationship between the school and the community. These activities promote environmental awareness amongst the residents of the community.

6. Prioritize the residents of Barangay Saguma particularly the out of school youth in giving scholarships.
7. Craft programs to assist the community of Saguma in sourcing-out sponsors and funding for scholarship and financial assistance to improve the educational status of the residents.

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