Travails of Vulnerable People in Accretion Site of Tagum City

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ABSTRACT

The effort of the local government to answer the call for modernity and globalization in their respective locality gains investors' and capitalists' interest. It turns vast of lands into plantations (banana, palm oil, and pineapple) and subsequently changes the life of the people. The study aimed to explore the following: determine the demographic profile of the settlers in accretion site, and design an enhancement program. The study used an in-depth interview using a semi-structured questionnaire to gather data, using descriptive survey aided with researcher-made questionnaire employed to all 43 family settlers in accretion site. Results showed that most of the respondents are Christians, married, less educated, doing menial jobs to support their family and children, and have experienced colds, cough, fever, skin diseases, and dehydration. Moreover, the family respondents significantly showed interest in participating livelihood programs, to know about the prevention of communicable diseases, birth control, and raising children with good nutrition. This investigation concludes therefore that people become vulnerable in places where development happened due to less

educational attainment, and they move to dangerous places to feed and earn a living for their families and children. But if given the chance people are willing to engage in activities that would help elevate their economic condition.

Keywords — Social Science, Vulnerable People, include accretion site Descriptive survey, Philippines

INTRODUCTION

The movement of globalization has adversely affected human activity like livelihood, education, health, communication, and culture. Countries have several issuances, and acumen favorable to international standard has put into law to get greater heights in attracting global market and in protecting the economic stability of a country. Many vulnerable individuals have lost jobs, livelihood and identify in embracing globalization. Kiggundu (2002) stipulated that vulnerable countries on globalization contribute the highest number of immigrants and refugees; hence, human and intellectual capital moves out due to an unsafe environment. Africa, Russia, and the Middle East suffer from a brain drain in favor of Western Europe, USA, Canada, and Australia. Furthermore, culture and spirituality are important ingredients on the implementation of globalization with established mechanism and traditions of valuing diverse population. A multicultural country without established standard cannot exist in globalization.

In Asia, Frenckel and Kuruvilla (2002) reported that the uneven level status of Employment Relation (ER) could be a potential cause of troubles in the implementation of a borderless market of employment. It is evident in the nation's economic strategy, the intensity of globalization, government responsiveness to workers' expectations, labor market features and union strength. The following countries exhibited different ER patterns: India is regulated protected, China is constrained competitive, Philippine is deregulated competitive and Malaysia is protective competitive.

The impact of globalization in the Philippines, using the data on aggregate and sub-industry level of manufacturing is very much positive. It displayed an increasing openness of economy due to ratio's increase in export and import over the years. Added to the feature is the increase of female participation in employment (Orbita, 2002). In Mindanao, Medina (2015) revealed that Tagum City leads in Local Sustainability Development Index (LSDI) regarding social impact among the six cities in Southern Mindanao. These include health and

nutrition, and quality education. It also showed enough score on economic (puberty reduction and infrastructure services) and ecological (forest protection and solid waste management) indicators.

Vulnerable communities and groups are given assistance through different approaches, but among them, increasing literacy is found to be more efficacious in Tagum City. The *Palengkeskwela* or school in the market program is for out of school youth to learn values education and health awareness campaigns, financial literacy and management, and peace education. The said program garnered an award as a hall of fame in the National Literacy and bronze medal under the King Sejong Prize of UNESCO for 2011.

The LGU is always doing everything to answering the need of the community. Most often the intervention activities are on skills acquisition, empowerment and lifelong learning skills. However, in job market, those who obtain a degree gets hired, but those who have no education were displaced in their territory and live a nomadic life. In the accretion site of Pandapan, Tagum City is one of the destinations of this group coming from the nearby municipalities and provinces. The area is an accretion quarry, and as the years go by, the number of settlers is increasing; hence, the researcher conducted an assessment. The objectives of the study are to draw the family demographic profile of the respondents, evaluate the livelihood activity, health and common illness they experience, and design an enhancement program.

FRAMEWORK

This study utilizes the Community Development Framework (CDF) which proven successful in uplifting the lives of the poor and vulnerable groups in several communities. It always aims at providing programs or activities to alleviate the problematic condition of the community based on the current experiences, resources and favored undertakings of the community members. The principles of community development lolled in the foundation of shaping the future by connected efforts and getting pair-share of responsibility among individual community members, organisations, and government institutions.

In Ottawa, Canada, CDF is used in identifying local community issues and strengths, deciding on the changes the community wants to make and set goals and in building on neighborhood strengths, and developing skills and support to make the changes happen. Added to this the State of Western Australia also adopted CDF with the following priorities: safeguarding, developing and

transmitting Noongar culture, providing capacity building and leadership, housing, youth, health and education for five years (Noongar Negotiation Team and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, 2013). Furthermore, according to Greater Shepparton City Council (2010), CDF is implemented in their community program with the following focus: people, place, participation, and partnership. Nevertheless in the Philippines, Luna (2009), strongly suggests that CDF is utilized as an approach to reducing risk among flash-flood affected families in Albay, whereas; Yap and Cabalfin (2008) stipulated that governments have to prioritize the social services like education, health, and sanitation in developing better communities.

METHODOLOGY

The study employed the descriptive survey method of research which is designed to gather data and information necessary to the study. This method was used to describe the community as the target of the inquiry. The researcher explores the experiences of the community in accretion site of Pandapan, Tagum City.

The conduct of the survey lasted for 6 months. Interviews and collection of the data were in the month of January to March 2013. The study used an in-depth interview using a semi-structured questionnaire to gather data needed for the study. Its method emulated that of the study conducted by Bartilet, and Estoque (2007), and Retome, Estrella, Sarvida, Yaoyao, Garcia, and Granada (2012).

The instrument has three parts. The first part asked about the family demographic profile of the settlers with three item questions. The second part inquired about the livelihood of the respondents with three-item questions and the third part inquiries about the health-related experiences in the previous year.

All head of the families residing in the community of accretion site of Tagum City participated in this probe, which totaled to 43 families; four of which are headed by single parents. The majority of the respondents are members of the Indigenous People (IPs) and are Christian. Most of them are coming from Laak, Compostela Valley, a municipality in the next province about 85 km in the distance from Tagum City.

The activity of the study started with asking permission to conduct the research in the site from the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Tagum City, as well as to the Chieftain of Pandapan. Upon approval,

the researcher personally asked permission to each settler's head of the family that they will be included as informants. They gave their verbal consent after being provided with adequate information. Data were tabulated and organized using frequency and percentage. Moreover, enhancement program was formulated based on the collected information.

All participants provided the written informed consent before questionnaires were administered to them. As for the illiterate informants, they verbally bestowed consent right after a substantial orientation and after some clarification of concerns regarding the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The information gathered in the conduct of the study was treated properly, organized and transliterated. The following are the results of the investigation.

Parents in Education. Results of the study revealed that of the husbands (29 or 70.73%) and wives (33 or 80.49%) have reached elementary level. None of them has finished college but two husbands reached college and one wife reached vocational education. It is noted that seven (17.07%) husbands and five (12.20%) wives have no education at all. They cannot even recognize letters or numbers.

All countries over the world keep on targeting of 100% literacy rate but sad to note that there are communities whose member have not able to step in school for formal education. Results of the study have affirmed the report of Hall and Patrinos (2004) that the school participation of minority groups all over the world is quite minimal. In India, almost 60% of non-Scheduled Tribes attended secondary level, only 40% of the scheduled tribes do a gap that has held pretty constantly since 1945. In Africa and Taiwan, some women have not attended schooling than men, and it is increasing. According to Malin, & Maidment (2003), the factors on education participation among vulnerable people include the standard of living, health, housing, and employment. These factors continuously dominate to impede personal growth and life improvement aligned with education. Dhir, (2015) conveyed that many vulnerable groups are engaging in trades with outsiders, working as laborers in some commercial agricultural industries with a very minimal salary, while fighting for instances of discrimination, lack of education and opportunity. They are being hired to a company and not given a chance to be promoted because of the level of education they have.

Number of Children. In terms of the number of children, it was discovered most of the family has two children (10 or 24.39%) and second highest with one child (9 or 21.95%) followed by three children with 7 (17.07%) while only one family who has 1 (2.44%) child. Furthermore, the average number of children the 41 families was 3.15. It also shows that all families who settle in the accretion site have offspring. Furthermore, the age of 126 children age reached over 20 years old. Most of the children lie within the age of above 20 years old with 16.67% followed by age range of 5-6 and 7-8 years old both with 18 or 14.29% and by age ranged 3-4 years old with 14 or 11.11%.

On the other hand, the lowest in the age range of 17-20 years old. Results of the study exhibit that the concentration of children is within the age range of 1-10 years old. From one year onward an increasing number of children as the age go up is so obvious.

For the settlers of the accretion site, children are treasures for the couple. The number of children a family has, the more advantage they will get; hence it will help the family to earn a living, defend the family on any dispute and maintain the respectable name of parents. Among them, family planning is not into practice. Some of these settlers get married or get a partner as young as 14 years old and have delivered a baby with the same age. Accordingly, the settlers of the accretion site also enunciated that having children today is very expensive even if babies will be feed on rice porridge.

The outcome of the study aligns with the report of Patrinos, & Psacharopoulos (1996) stated that indigenous people are among the vulnerable group, but they treat their children as wealth and source of happiness. It shows that the age structure of children is significant in doing livelihood activities. Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (2007) added that the Aboriginal people have a strong extended family value system. Children in the communities are also the concern of the extended family and not only by the biological parents. Moreover, they are after with raising, nurturing, educating, and training the children. Cuizon (2007) even reported that the Sama tribe of the Philippines raised children and taught them that there is one creator who protects the environment. This group also believes of not owning property but instead sharing of food, resources and services were among the practices.

Children Education Level. Another result of the study underscores that most of the children have no education with 43 or 34.13%; followed by grade 1-2 with 36 or 28.57%, while the highest stage is the only high school with 1 or 0.79% followed by high school level 1-2 with 2 or 1.59%. Although there

were a lot of children ages 16 years old and above, only three have experienced high school education. Another point is that there are 43 children who don't have the education, yet only 23 are under 6 years old. Despite the national and international awards garnered by Tagum City on literacy, this small community had disclosed the majority of children do not have a formal education yet. Community member informants also underscored that most of their children had stopped schooling even at the lower grade level. Hence, in times of no planting and harvesting of bamboos or every end of the harvest season, they need to move to other places to earn a living bringing their whole family and children. This situation causes attrition of children in school. Furthermore, children are requested to help their parents in doing livelihood activities as early as eight years old.

This fact corroborates to the report of Patrinos & Psacharopoulo (2001) that among vulnerable people having a greater number of younger siblings implies more age-grade distortion and a higher probability for child labor. This practice is evident until now, both for practical reason and traditional credence. De Felício, Terra, and Zoghbi (2012) also stated that children who live with their parents, with a small family and enjoying better socioeconomic status are performing better in school compared to disadvantaged children. Moreover, mothers' level of education determines also the performance of children in school.

In addition to that, Verola (2009) reported that in 1970s vulnerable children including IP students had shown major deficiencies in the reading, mathematics, and language among the elementary graduates in the Philippines. Moreover, this poor performance reflected in the 2007-2008 National Achievement Test (NAT) result of Compostela Valley IP schools. Also, in 2010's NAT result for Grade Six in which most schools including IP schools did not reach 75%. These students often leave school due to poor academic performance, bullying and familial obligations.

Although, this accretion site in Tagum City have shown data of none access to education the Philippine government millennium goal was set to eliminate illiteracy by providing Filipino greater access to education with the program Education For All (EFA). Several legal bases were implemented to support this goal. It started with the 1987 constitutions which assure equal opportunity for all Filipino learners. The RA 10533 known as enhanced basic education program which defines the current K to 12 program of DepEd which also allows five years old as the entrant student in kindergarten.

Several modalities adopted to attract participation of children include the 4Ps program of Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), which gives Php 300 educational assistance for a maximum of three children, and PHP 500 health grant per household, and DepEd (2016) has awarded voucher privilege for those students who will enroll in private institution in Grade 11 and 12 levels. The government also provided options such as Out of School Youth (OSY), Alternative Learning System (ALS) under Executive order no. 356, and Formal Curriculum for Indigenous People (IPs) through RA no. 8371. There are government scholarships in the tertiary level which can be availed by the poor but deserving students (like the RA 10648) for top graduates of high school who wish to enroll in SUC and RA 10687 (UniFast) a comprehensive and unified student assistance system for tertiary education. The Philippine government never stops in providing support and bringing children into school.

Source of income. Results of the survey revealed that the majority of husband respondents (37 or 90.24%) are engaged in cutting and planting bamboos, and most wives (46.34) assist with their husband in the bamboo plantation. Aside from working in the bamboo plantation husband displayed also working as a habal-habal driver and as a laborer in the factory, banana plantation, and construction and animal raising both with 11 or 26.83%. Moreover, wives also work helping their husband.

Most of the households (husbands and wives) are working with two or more blue collars jobs with menial pay. The majority of the wives perform an economic role in helping their husbands at the same time performing reproductive and familial obligations. As the mothers go to work, she is bringing her small toddlers. Children are introduced to work at a very young age but absent in formal schooling. This scenario is one of the pictures why the cycle of illiteracy goes on and on. This information somehow corroborates with the women in Equador as articulated by de Marco, Larrauri, Neira, and Montiel, (2016) that it is customary that peasant women submit to their husband or to a male member of the family in using economic resources of the family. These women also have engaged menial work to gain personal funds while in education, labor, rights and health services equal rights are afforded to them. Gaps occur only in areas of specific needs and transportation.

Nevertheless, the turning of lands from the forest into plantations of banana, palm oil, Falcata trees and pineapple in Laak municipality (where they are from) and the lack of opportunity to be hired in companies due to no education have compelled these people to settle on the site temporarily. The settlers stay on the

site and engage in bamboo planting and other menial jobs for factories found in nearby areas of accretion site since they lack the opportunity to be hired in companies and the turning of lands from. About three years ago there are five households, but now the considerable rate of the population can be observed in the accretion site.

This picture is part of the big collage of Lumads and indigenous people in the Philippines. Several Government programs and laws are not religiously implemented. Some of these programs are the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS), Mining Act of 1995, IPRA, and Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA). Government agencies like DENR, NCIP and the local bureaucrats serve as implementers of such policies of a development program. Mining activities, operations of logging companies, banana plantations, palm oil plantations, sugarcane and rubber plantations, and conversion of land for infrastructure projects and tourism have affected the vast of the land of the Lumads and indigenous people.

Furthermore, these households have the same circumstances with displaced native people in Malaysia particularly in Kampung Selingkong, and Kampung Meranti due to the development of their home place. The conversion of forest to agricultural land and logging activities until 2000 has brought alternation of their livelihood (Harun et al., 2010). In Borneo, the expansion of the logging industry into the interior of the island has similarly destroyed traditional life patterns. These activities have changed the farming system and have lowered the value of farmer services (Rainforest Conservation Fund, 2011).

More so, Devitt, Tsey, & Hall (2001) declared that education is the factor associated with the current problems of establishing stable work. Hence, those who obtain long-term and full-time employment are those who finished their education from primary to a college degree as one of the major requirement.

Monthly Income. The monthly income of the community members of the settlers of the accretion site, Barangay Pandapan, Tagum City is also exposed in this study. Results of the study displayed that a considerable number of family declared a monthly income of one thousand pesos with 18 or 43.90% and followed by income 1,001-2,500 pesos with 14 or 34.15%. Only two families declared earning above 7,500 pesos.

Results of the study revealed a very minimal family monthly income of households of settlers of accretion site. Indeed, these families experience hardship in their lives. Such hardship also contributed to the poor participation rate of the children to school. With the small amount they earn every month they just

prioritized the rice or corn grits, while viand comes in veggies grown from their backyard, dried fish and bagoong were among others. Family entertainment is in the form of viewing television with neighbors and playing basketball during spare time. They even consider going to the city as already a luxury since the fare is 15 pesos from a *habal-habal* (single bicycle motor).

Serińo (2014) reported total inequality in Eastern Visayas. Wage income is prevalent in the Philippines. The spike in income from agriculture sector reduces inequality while the increase in wage income will tend to exacerbate inequality. While in other parts of the world, vulnerable people have seemed to be the losing group especially those who are engaged in agriculture. Plant (2002) described Mexico disparity in income among households showed indigenous more than three times than non-indigenous households. Incomes of indigenous come mostly from planting and wage of contractual jobs. While in Vietnam, Hall & Patrinos, (2012) stated that the social and economic situation of vulnerable ethnic minorities has improved over the last decade, but the standard of living is still low. These people engaged in agricultural but paid less during the selling of their produce.

Livelihood Activity Choices. When the family respondents were asked if what livelihood activity they wanted to learn, family respondents asserted that they wanted to learn animal raising, food preservation and other livelihood activities.

The respondents chose animal raising with 34 (79.07%) for chicken raising, 29 (67.44%) for hog raising and 23 (53.49%) for goat raising. For food preservation, the following are the responses of the family respondents: sardines with 20 (46.51), chorizo with 19 (44.19%), tocino with 12 (27.91%), candy making with 2 (4.65%) and pickles with 1 (2.33). For other activities the borloloy making ranked highest with 13 or 30.23%, followed by farming with 11 or 25.58%, manicure, and pedicure with 8 or 18.60% and sawing with 2 or 4.65%.

The high response has shown the interest of the tribe to acquire skills that will help them succeed in their quest of uplifting their financial capability through raising of animals and their prior knowledge in doing this activity. Food preservation, on the other hand, also showed comparable votes along with farming, pedicure, manicure and *borloloy* making.

The responses of the households in accretion site have given an impression that they long to improve their current economic condition by empowering themselves with the skills and knowledge in raising animals, food preservation,

farming and other livelihood activities. This response is aligned with the report of Carino (2011) stated the involvement of vulnerable people in natural resource management differs considerably around the globe and invariably involves compound interactions. Aside from chicken raising as the most in-demand choice, they engage in a mix of production systems including farming, settled agriculture, hunting and gathering, livestock raising, fishing and production and trade in local handicrafts.

Involvement of local people is necessary for establishing sustainability, Aryal and Subedi (2011) suggested this on musk deer farming in Nepal, while Bebbington and Bury (2010) found out to be effective in the mining industry; addressing disagreement, adoption of water monitoring, environmental zoning and proper planning on land use. Albeit, Vińas, Pre, Hungria, Cruz, Alinsunurin, Salazar, E. & League (2016) concluded that an extension program would succeed when it is framed with the community development of the place. It would help the beneficiaries and will influence livelihood development positively. Furthermore, Herera (2010) declared that extension programs that are socially responsive and sincere in addressing the needs of the community create a positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries over time.

In conclusion, Shaw and Kristjanson (2014) stated that building of capacity and resilience to people who are agriculture oriented is necessary using the inclusive strategies in implementing livelihood and capability program. It will allow reaching the most vulnerable group of the vulnerable, women, rural farmers, and indigenous people. In addition, it will provide a vast range of learning opportunities from technology transfer, the greater understanding of the program and its limit.

Common Illnesses. Results of the investigation have revealed the number of household members who experienced illnesses in accretion site of Tagum City. Most of the families encountered 5-6 diseases in the previous year with 13 families or 30.23%, followed by 3-4 with 27.91% and the lowest frequency is above eight times with 2 or 4.65%. Furthermore, almost all families have experienced cold with 42 or 97.67%, cough with 41 or 95.35%, and fever with 40 or 93.02, skin diseases with 27 or 62.79% and LBM with 26 or 60.67%. Despite the effort of the Local Government Unit (LGU) to address the health issues of the residents of the city, the household settlers of the accretion site remain to confine their ill members in their homes. That is why the household in the accretion site still experienced these common even though health workers of Barangay have constantly implemented programs of the city.

Results of the study showed that the experiences of the household settlers of accretion site of Tagum City have similar experiences with the aboriginal people of Australia. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS, 2010) stated that aboriginal people are vulnerable to experience ill health than any other group living in Australia. The following were health issues confronting them. This include diet, diseases like cardiovascular disease, diabetes and high blood pressure, stress, drugs, alcohol and poor children's health. Sunday & Eyles (2001) added smoking obesity as the leading contributors to the mortality rate. Added to this, Ring (2003) pronounced that the said people are susceptible to experience different contagious and none communicable diseases. Hence, this group strongly rely on traditional indigenous health practice rather than going to a hospital for proper wellness.

In Africa, particularly in Zambia, Anyangwe, Mtonga, and Chirwa (2006) reported that from the year 1990 to 2003 people who move from rural to cities have experience improvement on mortality rates of the infant in varying ages. It is due to the efforts to campaign measles immunization and with the support of partner agencies of the government. Owusu-Ansah, Tagbor, & Togbe (2016) added that the majority of those who moved from Ghana and West African subregion to slum cities have not visited health facility and missed membership on national health insurance. They experience malaria, dehydration, mental illness, HIV and convulsion due to poor sanitation.

Yielded result of the study is not similar to the experience of the Ata-Manobo in the study of Gracey & King (2003. The beliefs, customs and cultural pattern distinct on their own have held them not to practice the latest knowledge on managing illnesses. Health workers rarely reached them. Thus, they could not avail the services offered by the government such as social privileges, and economic services as compared with their other counterparts.

Health Issues. Respondents shared that they would like to experience seminars regarding health issues. Results of the study revealed the following: prevention of communicable diseases with 38 or 88.37%, child rearing with 25 or 58.14%, youth nutrition with 24 or 55.81 and birth control with 12 or 27.91. In the results of the study, it only showed that the tribe longs to empower themselves with the knowledge of preventing, handling and curing illnesses. Knowledge in nurturing children, and birth control were some things they would have in training.

Unlike in over 80% of the world's indigenous peoples live in Asia, Latin America, and Africa, their health status or access to health services is not

given proper attention as stated by Stephens (2005). Vulnerable as they are, access to health care is also poor for the group of people. It is often partly due to their physical isolation and cultural belief. The World Bank (2011) in India and Vietnam, where poverty reduction achievements have been sizeable, vulnerable people are less likely to be covered by health programs or received vital vaccinations against tuberculosis, diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, measles, and polio. Smith (2003) and Gracey and King (2003) added that the cause of poor health of vulnerable people is highly affected by their living condition, spiritual, emotional, mental disconnectedness, and racism.

Table 1. The Enhancement Program

Program	Activities	Expected Outcome
A. Adopt an Early Education and Functional School	1. Establishing of a Functional School Building	Establishment of a functional school building
	2. Training of Early Childhood Teacher	Three to five community members trained to teach Early childhood Education
	2. Involve Pre-Service Teachers and Faculty in Monitoring and Evaluation	Community early childhood education students were diagnosed and improved competencies in reading and numeracy through enhancement activities
B. Livelihood Program	 Training in on Animal raising: hog, chicken and goat Training on Food Preservation: Sardines, Tocino and Chorizo 	 Alleviate the poor economic condition of the community members for about 10-15% increase in their income, All community members families engaged in animals raising,
	3. Training in <i>Borloloy</i> (Fancy accessories) making4. Training in Hair cutting, Manicure and Pedicure5. Goat dispersal	 About 5-10 families ventured in food preservation business, about 3-5 engaged and earned in Cosmetology, and Three family beneficiaries enjoyed goat dispersal project.

C. Health and Nutrition Program	1. Medical Mission	All community members (100%) family beneficiaries improved health conditions and had access to medical services.
	2. Feeding	Reduced the number of wasted children for 50 to 70 %.
	3. Information dissemination on Prevention of Communicable Diseases, Children Nutrition, Child Raising and birth Control	Decreased occurrence of common illnesses for about 70 to 80% in the community.

CONCLUSIONS

The Tagum City accretion site is occupied by vulnerable people who are less educated, no permanent job, most of them are Christian and belongs to Indigenous Peoples (IPs). This picture defines the vulnerable people movement in the places where development happened. Vulnerable people always fall short on the requirements set by the companies in hiring personnel for the workforce they need in their operation. As a result, they migrated to places where they can earn and feed their families and most of the time landed dangerous sites like the accretion of Tagum City. However, this scenario is an opportunity which can be used as avenue to extend expertise for learning institutions or serve as the springboard in improving social services by the government agencies.

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The findings of this investigation could be translated into an extension project which can be collaborated by different stakeholders. The data and the enhancement program can be offered to the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) and to the Tagum City Local Government Unit (LGU), USeP officials can use the results in forging an extension project in support to its degree program offering and take the lead in finding partners in the implementation of the proposed enhancement program for early education, livelihood activities, and health and nutrition program. The Tagum City LGU can also the data as a springboard in providing social services and helping alleviate the problematic economic, education and health condition of the accretion vulnerable settlers.

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