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USAID Safe Water QUARTERLY REPORT

Third Quarter (Year 3: Apr – Jun 2022)

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BMRB	Buayan-Malungon River Basin
CENRO	City Environment and Natural Resources Office(r)
CMS	Central Management System
COVID	Coronavirus Disease
DBM	Department of Budget and Management
DBP	Development Bank of the Philippines
DENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	Department of Interior and Local Government
DOH	Department of Health
DPWH	Department of Public Works and Highways
DWR	Department of Water Resources
ELCAC	End Local Communist Armed Conflict
EO	Executive Order
EPF	Environmental Protection Fee
FALGU	Financial Assistance to LGUs
FMB	Forest Management Bureau
GAD	Gender and Development
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GFI	Geoscience Foundation, Inc.
GFI	Government Financing Institution
GFPS	GAD Focal Point System
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GPB	GAD Planning and Budgeting
IP	Indigenous Peoples
IWMP	Integrated Watershed Management Plan
LGU	Local Government Unit
LWUA	Local Water Utilities Administration
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MENRO	Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office(r)
MFI	Microfinance Institution
MO	Manila Observatory
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MUAD	Multi-stakeholder Alliance for Development
NEDA	National Economic and Development Authority
NG	National Government
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRW	Non-Revenue Water
NWRB	National Water Resources Board
OBA-BF	Output-based Aid Blended Finance
PAWD	Philippine Association of Water Districts
PBSP	Philippine Business for Social Progress
PCSD	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PDRF	Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation
PENRO	Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office(r)

PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PFFWR	Palawan Flora and Fauna Watershed Reserve
PGP	Provincial Government of Palawan
PGNO	Provincial Government of Negros Occidental
PhiWC	Philippine Water Challenge
PIIWSF	Provincial Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework
PIWSP	Provincial Integrated Water Security Plans
PNSDW	Philippine National Standard for Drinking Water
PLGU	Provincial Local Government Unit
PO	People's Organization
POW	Program of Work
PPC	Puerto Princesa City
PPCWD	Puerto Princesa City Water District
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PWSSMP	Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
Safe Water	Safe Water/ Safe Water Project
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
TWG	Technical Working Group
URAF	Unified Resource Allocation Framework
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WD	Water District
WDM	Water Demand Management
WHO	World Health Organization
WMC	Watershed Management Council
WRC	Water Regulatory Commission
WRM	Water Resource Management
WSP	Water Service Provider
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation

PREFACE

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Mission in the Philippines, has contracted DAI Global, LLC (DAI) as the implementing partner for the Safe Water Activity under Contract No. 72049220D00002. The effective date of the contract is December 2, 2019 to December 1, 2024. DAI partners with five organizations—Orient Integrated Development Consultants, Inc., Lutheran World Relief, Manila Observatory, Geoscience Foundation Inc., and CEST Inc.

This report describes the accomplishments of the Safe Water project from April to June 2022, the 3rd Quarter of its third year of implementation. It also provides a summary of the planned activities for the 4th Quarter ending on September 30, 2022.

COVER STORY

TAKING ACTION TO BETTER MANAGE WATER RESOURCES

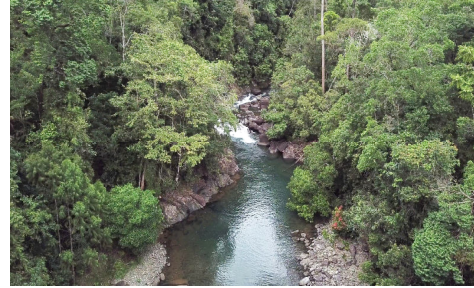
THE MONTIBLE INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

On May 31, 2022, the Board of Directors of the Puerto Princesa City Water District (PPCWD) approved the Montible Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP). The approval and eventual implementation of the watershed management plan is a significant step towards ensuring long-term water security for Puerto Princesa City. The Montible IWMP aims to protect water resources and ensure the quantity and quality of drinking water, to achieve the universal access target the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) by 2030.

The Montible watershed is an important water source. The watershed covers an expanse of 23,302 hectares (10.62% of the total land area of Puerto Princesa City), courses through seven barangays (or 5.5% of the city's population), and holds various river systems - two of which, the Montible River and Lapu-Lapu River, serve as the new major freshwater sources for the city. The Montible watershed has been tapped as water source by the Puerto Princesa City Water District to augment the supply coming from Irawan Watershed and to meet current water demand of the city, especially during dry season.

The Montible watershed is a critical watershed. It has been delineated and prioritized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for conservation. In addition to freshwater provision, the Montible watershed performs multiple roles such as:

- hazard mitigation - its forests act as a protective cushion against natural calamities such as typhoons, floods and droughts
- ecosystem regulation - its forests are crucial in maintaining ecological stability through carbon sequestration and streamflow regulation
- biodiversity conservation - its forests are home to countless plant and animal species, some of



An important water source for the city. The Puerto Princesa City Water District taps the Montible Watershed to augment the supply coming from Irawan Watershed and to meet the current demand of the city, especially during dry season.

which are endemic to Puerto Princesa. The Montible watershed is also part of terrestrial and marine key biodiversity areas

- livelihood provision - its forests are a source of food and livelihood for the indigenous cultural communities (such as the Tagbanua, Batak, Palawan, Cuyunon, Cagayanen, and Agutaynen) and other locals within the vicinity of the watershed, providing livelihood opportunities such as farming, honey gathering, and almaciga resin tapping

The Montible Watershed should be protected. The hydrologic study conducted by Safe Water on surface water and groundwater recharge of Montible Watershed projects a decrease in surface water and groundwater recharge in the near future. Taking into consideration anticipated climate change impacts (i.e., reduced rainfall and higher temperatures), the dependable flow of Montible River will decrease by 4% to 9% under the 2020 and 2050 climate change scenario. The availability of water resources will be aggravated by various factors - increasing population, rapid urbanization, expanding economic activities, deforestation, and low investment in water resource management (WRM) activities.

Although Montible’s water resources are not yet threatened, water conservation and protection measures must be put in place immediately to mitigate the impact of climate change on water supplies.

THE MONTIBLE IWMP

Recognizing the importance of the watershed to Puerto Princesa City, the Montible IWMP was formulated to guide the management of the entire watershed - its water, forest, and other natural resources. It outlines strategies and actions for the protection, management, and development of the watershed to be undertaken by implementing authorities and other watershed stakeholders. The watershed conservation and restoration measures will ensure continuous provision of clean, safe, and abundant water as well as sustain other ecosystem services for the people of Puerto Princesa City.

The implementation of the Montible IWMP also contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through forest protection and restoration. Forest protection by strengthening the Lawin patrol system will result in maintenance of the forest cover, while restoration will re-vegetate degraded or denuded areas.

The watershed management actions contained in the Montible IWMP are expected to benefit not only the communities inside the watershed but the entire population of the Puerto Princesa City. These are cross-cutting activities that may be implemented even outside the boundaries of the watershed. Considering that watersheds transcend boundaries, the beneficiaries of the watershed management plan implementation will not only include residents living inside the watershed but also the water consumers and people served by PPCWD, among other users of ecosystem goods and services of the watershed.

BOX I. WHAT IS IN THE MONTIBLE IWMP?

The **Montible IWMP** contains management strategies and programs as well as institutional arrangement and implementation structure of the plan to achieve five goals:

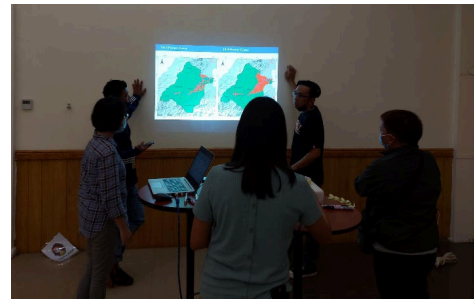
- securing water resources and other ecosystem services;
- improving the socio-economic conditions of the indigenous and local communities;
- building capacities of stakeholders and ecosystems to adapt and respond to impacts of climate change and hazards;
- intensifying participation of the public in watershed stewardship and management activities; and
- institutionalizing watershed management to coordinate activities and harmonize various watershed uses.

KEY ASPECTS OF THE PLANNING PROCESS AND SAFE WATER'S ROLE

A participatory approach to watershed management planning. A participatory and consultative process was used to develop and complete the Montible IWMP. Safe Water brought together stakeholders from various organizations - both public and private sector - in a series of conceptualization, consultation and validation workshops. This approach helped build consensus to balance the interests of multiple watershed stakeholders and create a platform for concerted and collective action toward local water resource management.

The use of science and evidence. The formulation of the IWMP was informed by the hydrologic study done by Safe Water for the Montible Watershed. In addition, Safe Water conducted workshops guiding watershed stakeholders in techniques such as watershed mapping and characterization, use of thematic maps, and interpretation of watershed data. The planning process also drew from both local and scientific knowledge on Montible Watershed.

By employing a participatory approach to watershed management planning coupled with the use of science and evidence, this ensures that the strategies and programs identified in the Montible IWMP are grounded on science and based on community needs and stakeholders' capacity and resources to manage the Watershed.



Managing watersheds better with science and evidence. (Top) Stakeholders identify major uses, and strategic and management activities for each of the three Montible sub-watersheds of to prioritize conservation activities. (Bottom) Participants discuss forest cover data (2010, 2015, and 2019) and identify observed forest changes and drivers of change.

BOX 2.

WHO WAS INVOLVED IN DRAFTING THE MONTIBLE IWMP?

Planning workshops, conducted in partnership with **USAID** involved **watershed communities and various stakeholders** such as: indigenous peoples' representatives; barangay officials; the PPCWD; city government offices (planning, environment, disaster risk reduction), national government agencies (DENR, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, and Bureau of Corrections); academic institutions (Palawan State University and Western Philippines University); and NGOs (Katala Foundation, Inc.).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the accomplishments of the Safe Water Project for the 3rd Quarter (April to June 2022) of its 3rd Year of implementation. It also provides a summary of the planned activities for the 4th Quarter of Year 3 (July to September 2022).

Safe Water is the flagship project of USAID in the Philippines for water and sanitation sector development. It is an [REDACTED] initiative over a five-year implementation period, from December 2019 to December 2024.

The primary purpose of Safe Water is to improve water security of water-stressed communities in the Philippines. Water security is characterized by: i) increased access of underserved or unserved communities to safe water supply and sanitation services; and ii) more sustainable water management of surface and groundwater resources to meet human, economic and ecosystem needs.

The project has three inter-related objectives: increased access to resilient water supply and sanitation services; improved water resource management; and strengthened water sector governance.

It operates through offices in Manila and in three focal sites, namely: Puerto Princesa City and Palawan Province, Bacolod City and Negros Occidental Province, and General Santos City and Sarangani Province.

During this reporting period the Safe Water Team (the Team) undertook the following activities, summarized in Table I.

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF YEAR 3 3RD QUARTER KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITIES
<p>Objective 1: Increased access to resilient water and sanitation services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project development assistance to water service providers (WSPs), such as improvement or expansion of water systems and surface water bulk supply development; improvement of water treatment plants and septage treatment plants; and addressing the sedimentation problem of Montible Dam in Puerto Princesa City; • Assistance in water quality assurance and service improvement through adoption of standard protocols on chlorination, and pressure management Capacity building for WSPs on water system design, operations and maintenance (O&M), Program of Work (POW) preparation for service improvement or expansion, strategic business planning, water safety planning, and water quality monitoring, well drilling and septage management; • Assistance to the Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council Technical Working Group (PIWSC-TWG) in the finalization of their draft Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan presented to the PIWSC; assistance to the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental in the conduct of 2nd Provincial Water Summit where highlights of their draft Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan (PIWSP) were presented; • Assistance to the municipalities of Alabel and Malapatan in drafting ordinances creating their respective Municipal Water Enterprise (MWE) for submission to their respective Sanggunian Bayan; • Refining the Central Management System (CMS) for Water Supply Guidebook; • Preparatory work for assistance to typhoon-damaged areas in Palawan in preparation for possible CLIN-2 implementation; and • Implementation of a joint work plan with Water.org to expand assistance to partner microfinance institutions for scaling Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) loans to households.
<p>Objective 2: Improved sustainable management of water resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued assistance in the formulation of integrated IWMPs and Local Government Unit (LGU) watershed conservation and rehabilitation plans across all project sites, including formation of planning teams and Technical Working Groups (TWGs), drafting Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) and Executive Orders (EOs); holding orientation and action planning workshops as well as stakeholder consultations;

OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of the Montible IWMP; • Capacity building for watershed management councils (WMCs) through trainings on management planning and watershed characterization; • Completion of all 60 additional hydrologic studies for the remaining watersheds in Safe Water sites; • Execution of new partnership agreements with Seoil Foundation, Association of Negros Producers and Ecumenical Churches Foundation or ECLOF Philippines; • Formation of new partnerships (i.e., PhilCAFE) and continued negotiations for prospective partnerships with private sector companies (i.e., Globe Telecom, Pilipinas Shell, and Forest Foundation) to support WRM and sustainable livelihoods; • Implementation of WRM and sustainable livelihoods activities such as ube farming (purple yam) and organic vegetable farming in Palawan, spring rehabilitation in Negros Occidental, and Lawin Forest Protection System and Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT) in Sarangani; • Completion of cost-based valuation and cost-revenue analysis for Irawan and Montible watersheds in Palawan, and conduct PES Orientation for the Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council (PIWSC); and • Conduct water demand management or Water Demand Management (WDM) 101 Training for National Water Resources Board (NWRB) staff (this is in relation to Safe Water’s technical assistance to NWRB to prepare a national policy for WDM); documentation of WDM practices of Ayala Mall Capitol Central (AMCC) in Bacolod City to establish evidence of WDM best practices.
Objective 3: Strengthened water sector governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and facilitating access to National and LGU budget allocation for Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) investments (i.e., Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) budget allocation for septage management projects in Mandamus areas, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Basic Infrastructure Program and Local Government Support Fund); • Mobilizing WASH loans for WSS services through collaboration with Water.org and its partner microfinance institutions (MFIs); • Support for the implementation of the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan (PWSSMP) and the operationalization of the Unified Resource Allocation Framework (URAF); • Roll out of the Output-based Aid Blended Finance (OBA-BF) in new areas in the project sites after the successful pilot implementation in Alabel and Sagay; • Technical assistance to NWRB in the development and implementation of a national WDM policy; completion of a presentation of Safe Water’s desk review on international experiences on WDM policy and program formulation; and • Finalization of knowledge products such as: OBA-BF Pilot Documentation, WDM Desk Review and Updated Ring-Fencing Guide for LGU-run water utilities.
Cross-cutting Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on Gender and Development (GAD) Planning and Budgeting (GPB) for LGU-run water utilities in Palawan and Association of Negros Occidental Water Districts (ANOWD); • Mobilization of GAD experts from the academe in GPB trainings in Negros Occidental; • Integration of gender equality and women’s empowerment (GEWE) in Safe Water communication products; • Communication of project activities to partners and stakeholders and promotion of key project milestones (i.e., activities in line with OBA-BF, WDM, Safe Water Partnerships, Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning and Water Summits) through weekly highlights, monthly newsletter, press releases, videos and other collaterals; • Development of WSS report card templates to complement Safe Water’s assistance to National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) for the promotion of the implementation of the PWSSMP; • Conduct Team workshop to assess project implementation against the Theory of Change and Key Learning Questions; • Development of a system to track MFI contributions to WASH indicators; and • Preparations for the 2nd Philippine Water Challenge (i.e., identification of challenge theme, organization of key activities and pitches for sponsorship).

Contributions to project targets this quarter are shown in Table 2 (the cumulative achievement on targets is shown in Table 20).

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE QUARTER

INDICATOR	TARGET IN YEAR 3	CONTRIBUTION FROM ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER
Objective 1: Increased access to resilient water supply and sanitation services		
F-Indicator	Outcome 1.1: Number of people gaining access to basic or safely managed drinking water services as a result of U.S. Government (USG) assistance	30,000 23,548 people , of which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21,749 gaining access to basic drinking water services as a result of Safe Water technical assistance to water service providers on the preparation of design, POW, material specification; construction supervision; and O&M of Level 2 water supply systems in various sites; - 1,799 gaining access to safe drinking water services through loans accessed by households from various MFIs under Safe Water's partnership with Water.org; and - Additional service connections from Quezon and El Nido waterworks in Palawan and Alabel and Glan in Sarangani due to increased water pressure and availability as a result of adopting Safe Water recommendation on the installation of pressure gauges and repair of leaks.
F-Indicator	Outcome 1.2: Number of people receiving improved service quality from an existing basic or safely managed drinking water service as a result of USG assistance	100,000 109,001 people , of which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 108,545 are accessing improved water quality that meets Philippine National Standards for Drinking Water (PNSDW) standard as a result of regular and proper chlorination done by various WSPs through the technical assistance from Safe Water; and - 456 people through loans accessed by households from various MFIs used for improvements of their existing water supply systems.
F-Indicator	Outcome 1.3: Number of people gaining access to limited or basic or safely managed sanitation services as a result of USG assistance	40,000 3,547 people gaining access to basic sanitation facilities through loans accessed by households from various MFIs for the construction of basic sanitation facilities.
F-Indicator	Outcome 1.4: Number of people receiving improved sanitation services quality from an existing "limited" or "basic" service as a result of USG assistance	60,000 3,233 people gaining access to improved basic sanitation facilities through loans accessed by households from various MFIs to improve their existing basic sanitation facilities or to shift from limited to basic sanitation facilities.
Custom	IR 1.1: Number of WSPs with increased operational, technical, and financial management capacity through Safe Water activities	5 13 WSPs , of which seven (7) have become compliant with the PNSDW and six (6) have developed and implemented sound O&M practices through Safe Water technical assistance.
Custom	IR 1.2: Number of coordination mechanisms institutionalized at the local, watershed, and regional levels through Safe Water activities	4 Two coordination mechanisms: creation/ institutionalization of management councils for Buayan Malungon River Basin (BMRB) and Siguel Watershed.
F-Indicator	IR 1.3: Value of new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors (in US\$)	[REDACTED] comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [REDACTED] grant funds from LWUA for septage management projects in the Mandamus areas; - [REDACTED] from the LGU 2021 and 2022 20% Development and General Funds in Palawan for WSS expansion and improvement projects in seven municipalities;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ██████████ in Sarangani from Provincial Local Government Unit (PLGU) 20% Development Funds for WSS expansion and improvement projects in seven municipalities - ██████████ in Negros Occidental from DPWH Basic Infrastructure Program for public water supply projects; and - ██████████ loans accessed by HHs from Water.org in support of expansion and improvement of access to WSS services in Safe Water sites.
	IR 1.4: Number of feasibility studies, programs of work, and detailed designs developed that enable water supply and sanitation service expansion or improvement as a result of USG assistance	10	Five (5) , of which four (4) are POWs and designs for additional water sources and expansion of service areas in El Nido, San Vicente, Dumaran and Aborlan; and one (1) POW in Sarangani for the proposed WSS expansion and improvement project of SAVESEGROW Multi-Purpose Cooperative.
Objective 2: Improved Sustainable Management of Water Resources			
F-Indicator	Outcome 2.1: Amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduced or avoided (Metric Tons)	225,000	76,296 MT of CO2 GHG emission prevented in Narra watershed, Bago watershed, and BMRB through: (i) implementation of Lawin Forest Protection System; (ii) Agro-forestry; (iii) livelihood projects (i.e., ube farming / production, organic farming; community green farming, coffee farming); (iv) allocation of budgets for WRM through the PES; and (v) establishment of bamboo dikes, among others.
F-Indicator	Outcome 2.2: Number of people benefiting from adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resources management as a result of USG assistance	125,000	22,813 people comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10,933 people from various POs in the project sites gaining access to additional livelihood opportunities or sources of income through community green farming, establishment of ube demonstration farms, organic farming, and etc., which form part of the measures facilitated by Safe Water for forest protection; - 8,840 people gaining access to safe drinking water from Puerto Princesa Water District that access Montible Watershed as one of its sources (with forest protection/landscape activities spearheaded by Safe Water); - 620 people receiving additional household income through the allowances for forest patrollers; and - 2,420 people from POs adopting Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT) farming.
F-Indicator	Outcome 2.3: Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) associated with USG sustainable landscapes activities	35,000	13,973 people comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10,933 people from various POs in the project sites gaining access to additional livelihood opportunities or sources of income through community green farming, establishment of ube demonstration farms, organic farming, and etc., which form part of the measures facilitated by Safe Water for forest protection; - 620 people receiving additional household income through the allowances for forest patrollers; and - 2,420 people from POs adopting SALT farming.
Custom	IR 2.1: Number of hectares under improved watershed management through Safe Water activities	90,000	Safe Water accounted for 22,031 hectares under improved watershed management comprised of 19,726 hectares in Montible Watershed and 2,755 hectares Lake Manguao in Palawan. The achievement

			is attributed to the following activities with Safe Water technical assistance: (i) watershed management plans approved; (ii) watershed management councils established; (iii) POs undertaking WRM and livelihood activities; and (iv) budget allocation for implementation of WRM activities.
Custom	IR 2.2: Number of LGU, WSPs, and watershed stakeholders with improved capacity to plan, manage and monitor water and forest resources sustainably, using data and innovative technologies	17	Three institutions: Silay and Talisay Cities in Negros Occidental gained improved capacities on forest protection by adopting the Lawin system; and Hinobaan Municipality that obtained knowledge and skills in the conduct of Groundwater recharge analysis that is crucial to support more strategic and science-based reforestation activities.
F-Indicator	IR 2.3: Amount of in US\$ equivalent) for sustainable landscapes, as supported by USG assistance	██████████	Mobilized ██████████ for sustainable landscape activities in Negros Occidental – including in LGUs (Victorias, Silay and Talisay) - in the conduct of training People’s Organizations (POs) on the Lawin system, and budgets allocated by the LGUs for forest patrol, among others.
Custom	IR 2.4 Number of people who apply improved conservation law enforcement practices as a result of USG assistance	400	722 people , of which 238, are forest patrollers implementing the Lawin system in Talisay City and Silay City Negros Occidental; and the rest in the Municipality of Roxas (Palawan); and 484 individuals in the municipality of Alabel adopting the Lawin Forest Protection System and SALT---a farming technique being introduced to upland farmers as part of Safe Water's technical assistance to protect and conserve the watersheds and natural resources.
Objective 3: Strengthened Water Sector Governance			
Custom	Outcome 3.1: Number of policies or plans developed, enhanced, or implemented to promote water security	10	Three Executive Orders (EOs) issued creating Watershed Management Councils and their TWGs for the municipalities of Dumaran, Quezon, and Roxas Palawan.
F-Indicator	Outcome 3.2: Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance	10	Ten WSPs have improved water quality through the regular and proper chlorination recommended by Safe Water. The WSPs consist of Quezon, El Nido, San Vicente, Narra and Rizal Water Works in Palawan; Kabankalan City Water District (WD) and Talisay City WD in Negros Occidental; VEWASA, Katangawan and VIRWASA, Calumpang in General Santos City; and Alabel Level III Water Service in Sarangani.
Custom	IR 3.1: Number of major reform initiatives supported	0	Four reform initiatives supported, comprised of 1) support to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Water Regulatory Commission (WRC) (technical notes prepared in Y2 and Y3 Q1 used by NEDA to continue advocacy for its passage with the new administration and the 19th Congress); 2) development of WDM policy for municipal water supply (ongoing technical and capacity development support to National Water Resources Board (NWRB) to review related water regulatory functions and policies and identify options to address gaps); 3) promotion of the URAF (support to NEDA in addressing concerns on the draft EO adopting the approach, and in operationalizing the URAF programs); 4) support to the localization of the PWSSMP through the Safe Water Provincial Water Security Planning Framework and report card

			template on local WRM, WSS access and financing requirements.
Custom	IR 3.2: Number of mechanisms developed and/or enhanced for exchanging knowledge on water security	4	Two mechanisms established: 1 st Provincial Water Summit in Negros Occidental and the Convergence Forum and Water Summit celebrating Earth Day by promoting water demand and water resource management in General Santos City.
Cross-cutting			
Custom	CCI: Number of tools, technologies, or measures implemented (WRM and WSS)	9	Five tools / measures of which four (4) are adopted in Palawan consisting of EPANET for hydraulic analysis with water service providers, risk assessment tool used in water safety planning with PPCWD, Detailed Unit Price Analysis (DUPA) - standard for preparation of POW for DPWH, and Well drilling technology for various WSPs; and the Systematic Operation of Existing Septage Treatment Plans for the six coastal LGUs in Sarangani.
Custom	CC2: Number of partnerships developed and/or institutionalized (WRM and WSS)	2	One partnership forged between Safe Water and ACDI/VOCA PhilCAFE that will promote good agricultural practices in coffee production among Safe Water target communities in Sarangani Province.
Custom	CC4: Number of persons trained with USG assistance for advancing gender equality or female empowerment through their roles in public or private sector institutions or organizations	400	867 persons representing various institutions and stakeholder groups trained on various modules aimed at promoting gender equality or empowerment of women in advancing various WSS / WRM improvement initiatives i.e., Gender and Development Plan and Budgeting, integrated sessions on GEWE in livelihood/ forest protection activities and other events.
Custom	CC5: Proportion of female participants in USG assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income, employment).	50%	Women accounted for roughly 55% of the people (7,685 out of 13,973) enjoying monetary and non-monetary benefits from various livelihood activities developed or supported by partnerships between Safe Water and various institutions during the quarter.

Note: Table only reflects Safe Water indicators that have achievements for the quarter

Among the major activities planned for the 4th Quarter of Year 3 Work Plan are:

OBJECTIVE I: INCREASED ACCESS TO RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES

1. Continue proactive execution and preparations to scale Water Quality Assurance and Pressure Management activities in coordination with water utilities in the project sites.
2. Continue assisting the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental in securing NWRB water rights for both Malogo and Imbang Rivers for the proposed surface bulk water supply project, and in pursuing the full feasibility study under its partnership with the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center.
3. Continue mentoring the Puerto Princesa Water District to update its Water Safety Plan, including restoring to full capacity the Montible teruvian dam affected by sedimentation after Typhoon Odette in December 2021.
4. Conduct O&M follow-up activities for WSPs in Palawan's Calamianes group of islands to continually improve their services.
5. Continue capacity building for WSPs, focusing on water safety planning, ring-fencing and Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction.

6. Train LGU staff who will handle the Municipal Water Enterprise in Alabel, Sarangani; begin assistance to pilot CMS in Narra, Palawan; and carry out introductory training for other LGUs in the project sites that are interested in CMS.
7. Continue assisting the provincial governments of Negros Occidental and Sarangani to complete their respective Provincial Integrated Water Security Plans. Start activities for the formulation of the Water Security Plan of Puerto Princesa City.
8. Monitor implementation of action plans for the systematic community-wide septage management programs of the coastal LGUs of Sarangani; review and recommend improvements to the design of the septage treatment facility of Sipalay City, Negros Occidental.
9. Finalize the WASH Training Modules and conduct training for Water.org and MFI partners; continue working with them on household water connections and toilet facilities.
10. Prepare proposal for CLIN-2 for the repair of water supply facilities damaged by Typhoon Odette in the identified priority sites in Palawan.

OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1. Continue assistance in establishing Payment for Ecosystem Services in Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani provinces.
2. Assist in LGU Watershed Conservation and Rehabilitation Plan formulation (LWCRP) for target LGUs in Palawan, Sarangani and Negros Occidental.
3. Continue training and implementation of Lawin Forest Protection System in priority watersheds
4. Facilitate the formulation of IWMPs for Western Sarangani Watersheds, Siguel watershed and BMRB.
5. Assist in strengthening the organizational capacities of BMRB, Siguel, Palawan Flora and Fauna Watershed Reserve (PFFWR) Interim Management Committee, the BMRB Management Council, and the Siguel and Bago WMCs.
6. Continue to conduct trainings on SALT, pest management and control, establishment of community savings associations (COMSCA), and other sustainable landscape initiatives with partners such as Multi-stakeholder Alliance for Development (MUAD) Negros, Kasilak Foundation, Conrado Ladislawa Alcantara Foundation Inc. (CLAFI), ECLOF, and Sunlight Foods Corp. (SFC), among others.
7. Organize Water Monitoring Teams and establish monitoring sites.
8. Conduct study on vulnerability and climate risk assessment of priority watersheds.
9. Continue WDM advocacy and roll-out activities in project sites.
10. Pursue prospective partnership opportunities with: Globe Telecoms, Shell Foundation and second grant funding from Coca-Cola.

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHENED WATER SECTOR GOVERNANCE

MOBILIZING FUNDS TO IMPROVE WSS ACCESS AND SERVICE DELIVERY AND WRM

1. Continue assistance to mobilize utilization of National Government grants i.e., from LWUA, Financial Assistance for LGUs (FALGU), National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), and LGU budgets for identified and eligible water supply and sanitation projects, and promote and facilitate access to other funding sources i.e., National Sewerage and Septage Management Program (NSSMP), People's Survival Fund (PSF) and Grant Assistance For Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) and commercial loans.
2. Assist LGUs to integrate priority WSS and WRM programs, projects and activities in their PIWSPs, Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plans (PDPFPs), Comprehensive Development Plans

(CDPs), Annual Investment Programs (AIPs) and budgets for 2023 and help identify potential funding sources.

3. Promote adoption of the OBA-BF scheme with LGUs and the private sector; finalize the OBA-BF implementing guide, including templates of local ordinances and MOAs with MFIs, for ease of replication by LGUs.
4. Assist LGUs in the institutionalization of PES for sustainable financing for watershed protection and conservation.

SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PWSSMP AND URAF

5. Continue technical support to NEDA and key implementing agencies (NWRB, DILG and LWUA) in the implementation of PWSSMP key reform agenda, WDM policy, development of a national WDM policy, implementation of the National Water Security Roadmap and promotion of water utility governance reforms.
6. Provide technical secretariat support in the conduct of the Delphi Session with Water Experts and with WSS Network meetings.
7. Finalize knowledge products in the pipeline such as the CMS Guidebook, WRM Financing Framework and Water.org WASH Training modules.
8. Continue discussions with academic institutions to formalize knowledge exchange initiatives in Safe Water sites.
9. Provide support in the establishment of a Local Water Alliance in General Santos City.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

1. Conduct GAD Planning and Budget Training for the GAD Focal Point System (GFPS)¹ members of PPCWD, followed by GAD agenda-setting.
2. Support Cadiz City Water District in the formation of its GFPS.
3. Conduct follow-up activities with Glan and Maasim Water Districts to build on their GAD Plans for 2022.
4. Support the finalization and approval of the GAD Plans and Budgets of the LGU-managed water utilities in Palawan and ANOWD members.
5. Conduct a forum with gender, water and human resource practitioners on the promotion of women leadership in the sector.

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

1. Inform and update partners and stakeholders on project activities through Weekly Highlights, Monthly Newsletters and other social media submissions.
2. Develop and share success stories and promote key milestones such as Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning, OBA-BF, and PWSSMP.
3. Translate knowledge products into communication products.
4. Continue implementation of the communications plan to support the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan.
5. Implement awareness campaigns tied to the messaging of #SafeWaterPH, #WaterSecureFuturePH, and USAID's 60th anniversary, as well as other international or national celebrations.

¹ GFPS is an inter-acting and inter-dependent group of people in all government agencies tasked with catalyzing gender mainstreaming. As an affirmative action, GFPS can include in the agency budget activities for gender development.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

1. Continue development of an online system for tracking contributions of MFI WASH loans to access to WSS services.
2. Continue documentation of evidence of achievements against indicators.

I. INTRODUCTION

USAID designed the Safe Water project to assist the Philippine Government to sustain gains made in the water supply and sanitation (WSS) sector, address sector gaps, capitalize on the efforts of predecessor water and sanitation-related projects, and expand the scope to include resource management for sustainability of supply—in terms of both quantity and quality. Safe Water will contribute solutions to the following challenges:

1. **Access to Water Supply and Sanitation Services.** Approximately 12.4 million people in the Philippines still lack access to safe drinking water. Throughout the Philippines, there are still 332 waterless municipalities. In each municipality more than 50 percent of households are still in need of access to clean drinking water. According to the 2017 Field Health Service Information System of the Department of Health (DOH), 85.09 percent of the population has access to basic sanitation services, but data is not yet available for the percentage of the population with safely managed sanitation services (this definition includes having properly designed septic tanks and wastewater management services). In a preliminary assessment, the DOH, working with the World Health Organization (WHO), estimated that less than 20 percent of the population has access to safely managed sanitation services. This is a consequence of poorly designed septic tanks and lack of wastewater management services. Many low-income households still rely on shared or unsanitary toilets (e.g., open pit, drop/hang system); and more than four million people still practice open defecation. Even among those households that have access to improved sanitation, few are connected to sewerage or septage treatment facilities. Existing sewage collection/treatment systems serve only three to five percent of the population. Consequently, a large volume of untreated household wastewater contaminates ground and surface water resources, creating serious public health concerns.
2. **Water Resource Management.** The Philippines has 18 major river basins, 142 critical watersheds and about 24 percent forest cover. While the Philippines has an apparent abundance of water resources, these resources are unevenly distributed and face multiple threats to their ability to supply water on a long-term basis. These threats include the continued degradation of watersheds, poor water resources governance and allocation, and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events caused by climate change.

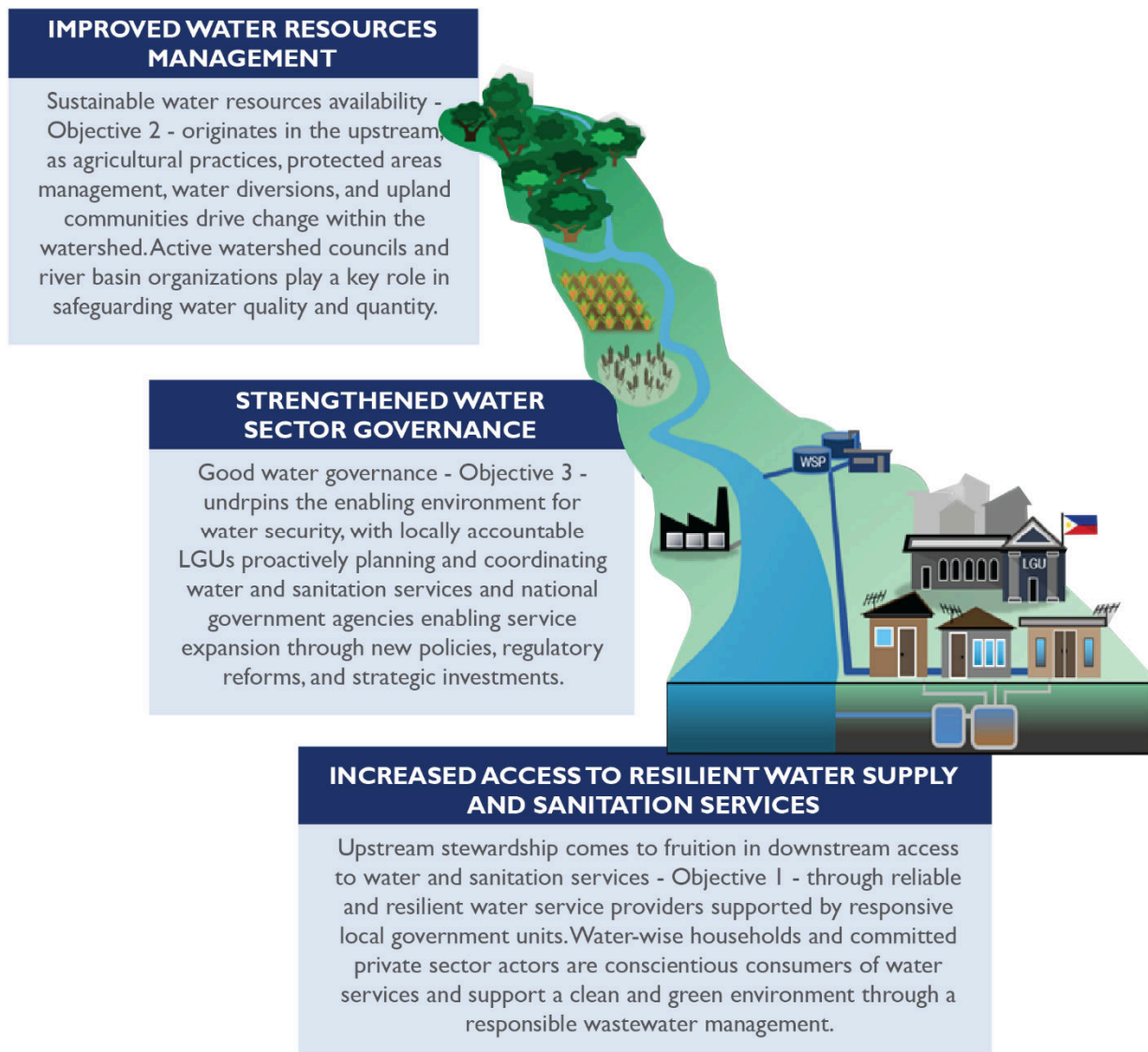
The deteriorating condition of the country's forests and watersheds has exacerbated drought and flood conditions, which now occur with greater frequency, and there is increased competition among agriculture, energy and other sectors for ever-scarcer surface water resources. In response, cities, municipalities and industries have expanded their reliance on groundwater, which is accelerating the depletion of groundwater resources. In many coastal zones, this has led to saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.

3. **Enabling Environment.** The Philippines' water and sanitation sector is highly fragmented with no apex body. Multiple national and local government institutions are involved in WASH governance and service delivery. Economic regulation (license to operate and tariff setting) is also fragmented and ineffective given conflicts of interest within regulatory bodies due to other mandates. LGU-run utilities are not regulated and hence are not held accountable for standards of service. The financing requirements needed to meet the SDG targets for of universal coverage for water supply and sanitation services by 2030 is in the magnitude of PHP 1.3 trillion, 25 times more than historical public investments.

I.1 ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

The primary purpose of Safe Water is to improve water security of water-stressed communities in the Philippines. Water security is characterized by: i) increased access of underserved or unserved communities to Safe Water supply and sanitation services; and ii) more sustainable water management of surface and groundwater resources to meet human, economic and ecosystem needs.

FIGURE I. SAFE WATER INTEGRATED AND INCLUSIVE WATER SECURITY FRAMEWORK



The Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework (Figure I) underpins the implementation plan of the project, which revolves around three objectives, as follows: 1) increased access to safe and resilient water supply and sanitation services, thereby contributing to the SDG target of universal coverage by 2030; 2) improved water resources management focusing on protection and conservation of resources, and efficient use of water resources; and 3) strengthened water sector governance, primarily supporting

the enactment of policies, regulatory reforms and strategic investments at the national and local government levels.

Safe Water is working in three geographic sites to implement activities related to Objectives 1 and 2. However, the project will move beyond the prioritized areas as successful models and approaches are scaled and sustained through collaboration and communication with water and sanitation service policy makers and service providers, as well as thought leaders at the basin, regional and national levels.

Objective 3 activities are being led from the Manila office of the project. The focus is supporting NEDA’s efforts to lead the implementation of the PWSSMP, which covers eight key reform areas including institutional strengthening and regulatory reforms, and the new financing policy for the sector embodied in the URAF.

I.2 TARGET SITES

Safe Water field activities focus on the following cities and provinces (Figure 2): Puerto Princesa City and Palawan Province; Bacolod City and Negros Occidental Province; and General Santos City and Sarangani Province.

The Team identified the following LGUs (Table 3) and watersheds (Table 4) in the focal sites to be the priority areas in the project’s Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Work Plans. The prioritization was based on access gaps, number of people who will benefit, and economic significance of the LGUs. The Team confirmed the prioritization with stakeholders in various consultations

TABLE 3. SAFE WATER TARGET CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES FOR YEARS 1, 2 AND 3

YEAR	PUERTO PRINCESA CITY AND PALAWAN	BACOLOD CITY AND NEGROS OCCIDENTAL	GENERAL SANTOS CITY AND SARANGANI
Year 1	Four: Puerto Princesa City, Coron, Dumaran and Taytay	Nine: Bacolod City, Bago, Candoni, Isabela, Murcia, San Carlos, Silay, Talisay and Salvador Benedicto	Five: General Santos City (South Cotabato), Alabel, Kiamba, Maasim and Malungon
Year 2	Six: Aborlan, Busuanga, El Nido, Narra, Roxas and San Vicente	Nine: Cadiz, Calatrava, Enrique B. Magalona, Escalante, Manapla, Pulpandan, Sagay, Toboso and Victorias	Two: Glan and Malapatan
Year 3	Fourteen: Agutaya, Araceli, Balabac, Bataraza, Brooke’s Point, Cagayancillo, Cullion, Cuyo, Kalayaan, Linacapan, Magsaysay, Quezon, Rizal, and Sofronio Espanola.	Fourteen: Binalbagan, Cauayan, Himamaylan, Hinigaran, Hinobaan, Ilog, Kabankalan, La Carlota, La Castellana, Moises Padilla, Pontevedra, San Enrique, Sipalay and Valladolid.	One: Maitum

Table covers all cities and municipalities in Safe Water provinces.

FIGURE 2. SAFE WATER PROJECT SITES

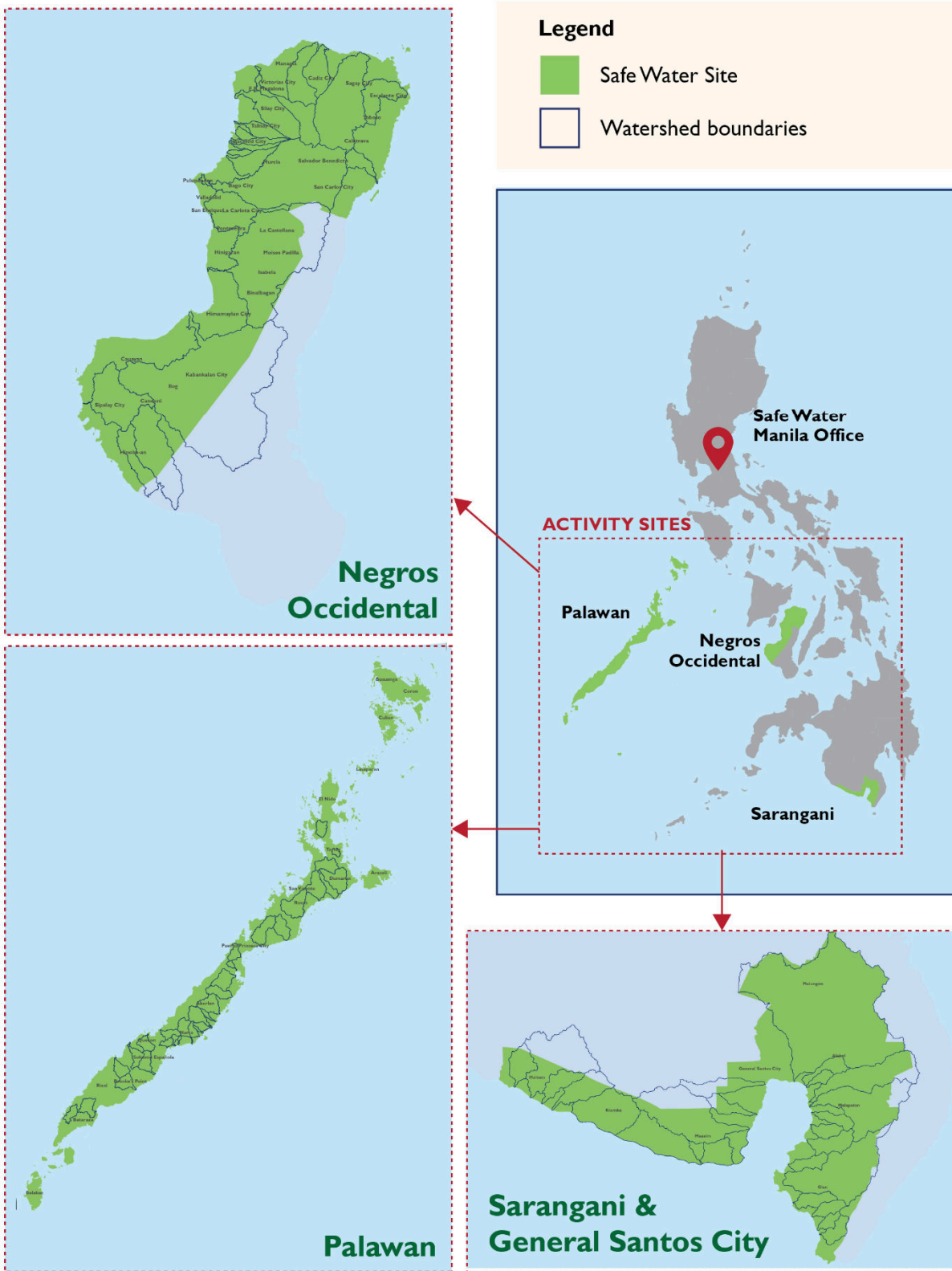


TABLE 4. SAFE WATER TARGET WATERSHEDS FOR YEARS 1, 2 AND 3

YEAR	PALAWAN	NEGROS OCCIDENTAL	SARANGANI
Year 1	Irawan Montible Itangil* Abongan* Lake Manguao*	Bago Malogo Binalbagan*	Buayan-Malungon River Basin Siguel Pange*
Year 2	Aborlan Catchment Busuanga Cataban Malasgao Baton Sandoval Buayan	Sicaba Himugaan Grande	Lun Padidu Lun Masla Glan
Year 3	Quezon Itangil** Aborlan** Lake Manguao**	Ilog-Hilabangan Imbang Himugaan** Binalbagan**	Kalaong Lun Masla** Glan**

*Watersheds that were not previously included as priority for Year 1.

** Spillover from Years 1 and 2 due to COVID-related constraints.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS ANALYSIS BY OBJECTIVE

This section presents the key activities and accomplishments of the Safe Water Project in the 3rd Quarter of Year 3 (April 1 to June 30, 2022).

2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS BY OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASED ACCESS TO RESILIENT WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

FIGURE 3. DESCRIPTION OF WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION ACTIVITIES



Project development assistance to water service providers

Includes technical assistance to LGUs and WSPs on project development covering pre-/feasibility studies and assessments, technical advice, POWs and access to financing and procurement support.



Water quality assurance

Includes residual chlorine readings, PNSDW evaluation for compliance, assessment of chlorination practices, and implementation of recommendations to correct operational deficiencies.



Pressure improvement

Includes pressure readings to supplement water quality assurance activities to ensure PNSDW compliance.



Capacity building for water service providers

Includes trainings and/ or orientations as well as application of learnings on water supply system design, operations & maintenance, construction supervision, water safety planning, septage management program, and strategic business planning.



Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning

Serves as the roadmap for cities and municipalities of provinces in providing adequate and good quality water and sanitation services and sustainable water resource use and in ensuring a coherence of local policies, plans, and investment programs.



Pilot implementation of the Central Management System

Establishes City or Municipal Water Enterprises (C/MWEs) as part of the adoption of the Central Management System to address the fragmented water sector.



Other activities

For this quarter, includes CLIN 02 preparatory work, commissioning of the PPCWD water supply improvement project phase II, and groundwater analysis.

A. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO WATER SERVICE PROVIDERS

Safe Water is carrying out technical assistance to LGUs and WSPs on project development covering pre-/feasibility studies and assessments, technical advice, POWs and access to financing and procurement support. The technical assistance provided in each target site is discussed the sections below.

PALAWAN

Project proposal preparation assistance to Indigenous Peoples in Puerto Princesa City. On May 25, Safe Water facilitated a focus group discussion (FGD) and small workshop with SIMBANAP, an indigenous peoples' organization in Puerto Princesa City, to assist them on a project proposal for a Level 2 water supply system for funding support from Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). SIMBANAP is acronym for the three west coast barangays of Puerto Princesa City, namely, Simpocan, Bagong Bayan and Napsan mainly inhabited by indigenous peoples. However, in an FGD with SIMBANAP, the conflict of the Indigenous People's (IP) group and the barangay on the ownership of the existing system and the right-of-way for the water source became apparent. SIMBANAP was advised to settle the conflict with the barangay before finalizing the proposal, considering that the preferred proponents of GGP are LGUs. Once settled, the proposal can be submitted in February 2023, which is the next project call (project calls are scheduled in February and June every year).

POW review for Rizal water supply project. Rizal has an ongoing water supply project in Barangay Candawaga worth [REDACTED] that will provide about 2,000 connections. However, the project is held in abeyance due to a lack of consultation with the IP communities and the absence of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). While Rizal Waterworks is working on the requirements of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples for the FPIC, Safe Water is reviewing the plans and POW to facilitate the implementation of the project when all approvals are received.

Technical assessment of Quezon water supply project. On June 15, Safe Water inspected an ongoing well source development project in Barangay Pinaglabanan, Quezon.



Empowering indigenous peoples on water security. The SIMBANAP is an indigenous peoples' organization in Puerto Princesa City that now apply the Lawin Forest Protection system in their watersheds. This quarter, Safe Water partnered to assist them on a project proposal for a Level 2 water supply system for funding support from Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The Team observed that the well source will be prone to fecal contamination due to its proximity to septic tanks – likely with open bottoms (less than 25-meter distance). The Team then recommended relocation of the well to another available site and to increase the pump capacity (from 3 to 5 horsepower) to meet the demand.

Mentoring assistance for El Nido water expansion project. On June 27-28, Safe Water met with El Nido Water Supply System (ENWSS) to follow up on mentoring assistance on well drilling, among other activities. Together with the Municipal Economic Enterprise Development Office (MEEDO), the Team inspected the well site and the rotary type drilling machine (with a 100-meter depth capacity) used by ENWSS. To augment the current supply of water to El Nido town proper, ENWSS drilled a well with a depth of 42 meters where a 5-hp submersible pump will be installed. In the inspection, Safe Water pointed out deficiencies in the construction. Hence, ENWSS decided to stop the drilling activity due to lack of technical capacity of the machine operators. As recommended by Safe Water, ENWSS will hire a more experienced machine operator and Safe Water will guide the operator on casing installation and pumping tests to determine the well capacity. Safe Water also advised ENWSS to undertake a municipal-wide surface water assessment and geo-resistivity surveys to identify future water sources.

Hydraulic analysis for San Vicente water supply project. San Vicente Waterworks, managed and operated by the MEEDO, has a proposed PHP 5.5 million spring development 4 kilometers from the town proper to augment existing water sources. Safe Water will assist in the hydraulic analysis and finalization of the POW of this project.

Review of POW for Aborlan water supply expansion. Safe Water reviewed the POW for the proposed water resource development and service area expansion of Aborlan Waterworks. Safe Water recommended rerouting the pipeline to avoid elevated areas to maintain pressure at the targeted areas. The LGU updated the POW and allocated an additional budget of [REDACTED] for this project to include the improvements recommended by Safe Water.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Proposed bulk water supply from Malogo and Imbang Rivers. The Provincial Government of Negros Occidental was granted a Certificate of Water Availability by NWRB for Malogo River on April 26, in relation to its proposed Malogo Bulk Water Supply. Key activities related to this initiative are as follows:

1. Compliance with water permit application requirements, led by the newly appointed Provincial PPP focal person;
2. Submission of the draft project concept note to the PPP Center as an attachment to the on-going ADB grant proposal for capacity development of the Provincial Government;
3. Creation of the provincial-level PPP Technical Working Group through an Executive Order;
4. Hiring of a consultant by the Provincial Government to conduct environment compliance certificate (ECC) of the proposed project;
5. Presentation of Safe Water’s high-level studies on the bulk water supply schemes in a meeting with the Provincial Government Officials and the Bacolod City Mayor and in the consultation with potential off-takers, consisting of five water districts and one municipality. The presentations and consultation presented Malogo and Imbang River as potential sources; and
6. Preparation of the draft letter of intent for the off takers.

Safe Water completed high-level studies for both Malogo and Imbang Rivers to supply bulk water to several cities and municipalities of Negros Occidental. Safe Water made use of the completed hydrologic

studies of the two rivers in estimating the dependable flows. The schemes cover Bacolod City, Talisay City, Silay City, E.B. Magalona, Victorias City and Manapla which are all located downstream of the two rivers. The most advantageous scheme turned out to be Imbang River supplying Bacolod and Talisay Cities because of the relative shorter distance between them, high demand, and in the case of Bacolod, absence of groundwater options. In view thereof, the Province will also apply for the water permit for Imbang River.

On June 27-28, Safe Water carried out consultations with stakeholders following a series of presentations of various technical schemes and results of the high-level studies to Governor Lacson and his staff, Congressman Benitez, Mayor Benitez of Bacolod City and to the potential off-takers.

Coincidentally, among the off takers, the water districts of Bacolod and Talisay Cities expressed interest in the PPP project led by the Provincial Government. The PPP Center is currently reviewing the high-level studies prepared by Safe Water to inform the next stage of project preparation, which is the full feasibility study, proposed for ADB funding. The PPP Center also recently conducted capacity building training in handling PPP projects for the provincial staff.

SARANGANI

Improvement of operational capacity of Maasim Water District. During the quarter, Safe Water facilitated a meeting between the Municipal Government of Maasim and Maasim WD and secured the mayor's support to turn-over the water system in Barangay Kablacan to the water district which will increase production capacity and serve about 600-700 more households. The Mayor instructed the Municipal Planning and Development Office to assist the water district to process the needed documents to facilitate the turn-over. The water district water district expects the turn-over next quarter.

In the next quarter, Safe Water will continue to assist Maasim WD on their expansion plans, particularly, through technical review of the POW and geo-resistivity survey results, including validating the exact location of the proposed well.



Public-private partnerships for water.

Negros Occidental Governor Bong Lacson said that to ensure the availability of a safe, clean, and potable water, the Provincial Government will take the lead in the development of a Bulk-Water Supply under a PPP arrangement. USAID Safe Water team led by COR Joanne Dulce (right side of Gov) and Chief of Party Alma Porciuncula (left side of Gov) joined the off takers consultation on bulk water supply development.



Demonstration of residual chlorine readings. (Top) Engr. Juan A. Arquero Jr. (right), Engineering Services Department Manager of Puerto Princesa City Water District (PPCWD), demonstrates how PPCWD manages their chlorination through a turbidity and chlorine analyzer device during the study tour of LGUs to PPCWD facilities on May 19, 2022. The study tour is part of the USAID training on water quality and pressure management for LGU-run water utilities. (Bottom) Mr. Robespierre P. Cajita, Laboratory Technician A of Puerto Princesa City Water District (PPCWD), demonstrates to participants the procedure for getting chlorine residual level of water samples during USAID's three-day training on water quality and pressure management.

POW preparation and hydraulic analysis for Savesegrow water supply project. Safe Water assisted Savesegrow Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MPC) to prepare the POW for their proposed water supply project. The proposed project will augment pressure at the Población area of Barangay Malandag in Malungon and will serve an additional 1,400 households. Safe Water carried out a hydraulic analysis using EPANET, identified the ideal location for the water supply fittings and prepared supporting documents to facilitate the processing of their [REDACTED] loan application with Land Bank of the Philippines.

B. WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT

PALAWAN

Palawan Mainland Municipalities. On May 18-20, Safe Water in collaboration with PPCWD and Puerto Princesa City Health Office, provided practical training on water quality and pressure management for LGU-run water utilities to address the issue of compliance with water quality standards. A total of 57 personnel from 15 organizations, including municipal waterworks and Municipal Health Offices from all municipalities in mainland Palawan, learned about water sampling and analysis, system chlorination, and water pressure management in accordance with national standards. During the training, participating WSPs prepared their plans of action for the implementation of water quality and pressure management. Safe Water also linked participating municipal water utilities with the PPCWD for technical assistance and donation of the latter's reconditioned flow meters as most of the municipal WSPs lack production measuring devices to account for system losses.

Rizal Water Supply System. On June 16 and 17, Safe Water mentored waterworks personnel of Rizal Water Supply System (RWSS) on chlorine residual measurement and monitoring, including the protocols and correct dosing of chlorine. Safe Water demonstrated chlorine residual monitoring at strategic points of the water system. The participants applied their learnings in chlorine residual monitoring to their water systems in Barangays Punta Baja and Irawan. RWSS is now regularly monitoring chlorine residual and recorded measurements now past the PNSDW standards. As a result, a total of 2,009

households (the number of active water connections as of June 2022), now benefit from improved water quality.

Narra Water Supply System. Narra Water Supply System (NWSS) participated in the training on water quality and pressure management as ordered by the LGU of Narra. During the training, waterworks personnel drafted a plan of action on water quality assurance with a corresponding budget allocation. As a result of this plan, the NWSS purchased additional chlorine, pressure gauges, and conducted microbiological, physical, and chemical testing. It now does daily monitoring of chlorine residual at all identified points, including at the farthest points recorded, and maintains the standard 0.3-1.5 ppm (parts per million) chlorine residual level. NWSS also completed the as-built drawing of the system showing installation points of the pressure gauges. As a result of the technical assistance, about 5,632 households now enjoy improved water quality that meets the chlorine residual standards of PNSDW.

Quezon Water Supply System. On June 14-15, Safe Water conducted mentoring on water quality and pressure management for Quezon Water Supply System (QWSS). The Team demonstrated chlorine residual monitoring and helped the waterworks identify and establish the intermediate and farthest points for monitoring chlorine residual. The Team recommended adding chlorine dosing at the source to ensure that chlorine residual at distribution lines are within the standard level. With this, 298 households (the number of connections as of January 2022) benefited from improved water quality.

Safe Water also helped QWSS establish pressure monitoring points for its biggest water system with Ybayen Falls as the source. The waterworks allocated PHP 4 million for maintenance, leak repair and installation of new connections. Following Safe Water's recommendation on the installation of pressure gauges in various points of the distribution system, QWSS was able to monitor pressure, locate possible sources of leakages and eventually repair them. Due to increased water pressure attributed to the repair of leaks in the distribution mains, the waterworks was able to connect 824 more households in a span of five months.

El Nido Water Supply System. On June 27-28, Safe Water carried out follow-on activities with El Nido Water Supply System (ENWSS) on water quality and pressure improvement. ENWSS has been monitoring its



Learning from one another through knowledge exchange. (Top) The participants to the three-day Water Quality and Pressure Management Training for LGU-run Water Utilities which was attended by 13 Palawan municipalities and Puerto Princesa City. (Bottom) Mr. Walter J. Laurel (rightmost), General Manager of Puerto Princesa City Water District, donates and hands over 6-inch diameter flow meter to Engr. Eduardo B. Orquista Jr. (2nd from right), Waterworks Superintendent of El Nido Waterworks Supply System, during the training on water quality and pressure management for LGU-run water utilities on May 20, 2022.



Sedimentation threatening water sources. USAID Safe Water team led by Chief of Party Alma Porciuncula joins PPCWD staff in inspecting sedimentation at the teruvian dam in Montible River. Bottom photo, courtesy to PPCWD.

chlorine residual, but the practice was improved after Safe Water’s training. ENWSS is now able to maintain chlorine residual (as free chlorine) level between 0.3 to 1.5 ppm and chlorine dioxide residual between 0.2 to 0.4 ppm. The improved water quality of the system is now being enjoyed by 571 households. Other follow-on activities by ENWSS include adoption of its water quality assurance plan and installation of additional pressure gauges to monitor system pressure as recommended by Safe Water.

ENWSS has requested Safe Water assistance in developing a Water Safety Plan. The waterworks will start the preparation of its Water Safety Plan upon reactivation of the Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee through an Executive Order (EO) issued by their local chief executive.

San Vicente Water Supply System. Safe Water carried out monitoring activities in San Vicente after the training on chlorine residual monitoring and management. The waterworks now performs regular monitoring of chlorine residual to meet PNSDW standards, and as a result, about 3,277 households are benefiting from improved water quality.

Sedimentation problem in Montible Dam. During the Safe Water meeting with PPCWD General Manager Walter Laurel on May 25, GM Laurel requested Safe Water assistance to address the sedimentation problem at the teruvian dam in Montible River, which is one of the main sources of water for PPCWD. The sedimentation problem has been mainly attributed to Typhoon Odette which devastated parts of the province in December 2021. The Team, led by its Hydrologist Dr. CP David, conducted a site inspection on June 2. The Team recommended dredging the river within the general vicinity of the dam and exposing and clearing the intake pipe and screens of sediments so that additional improvements can be devised as needed. The PPCWD may need to carry out dredging works until all the sediments flow down. However, they were assured by Dr. David that the sedimentation problem is likely only due to Typhoon Odette, and a typhoon of this magnitude occurs every 78 years. Still Safe Water requested aerial photographs of the river upstream, to identify any areas that may need reforestation to avoid soil erosion.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Water Quality Assurance Monitoring. Implementation activities to improve water quality are focused on ten WSPs comprised of six water districts and four LGU-run water systems. The table shows the results after two rounds of WQA tests or measurements:

TABLE 5. WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS

NO.	WATER SERVICE PROVIDER	NO. OF ACTIVE SERVICE CONNECTIONS	NO. OF SERVICE CONNECTIONS WITH IMPROVED WATER QUALITY	ESTIMATED NO. OF PERSONS BENEFITTING
1	Murcia WD	5,086	1,526	7,630
2	Talisay City WD	8,044	2,057	10,285
3	Kabankalan City WD	8,599	2,838	14,190
4	EB Magalona Waterworks	500	500	2,500
	TOTAL	22,229	6,921	34,605

Safe Water performed chlorine residual testing in nine of the ten target WSPs (excluding La Carlota WD). The first round of tests in EB Magalona Waterworks was held at the Poblacion pumping station on April 28 and the results showed non-compliance with the PNSDW requirement. Upon further investigation, Safe Water found out that the chlorinator was leaking. Safe Water demonstrated how to troubleshoot, including adjustment of the chlorinator stroke rate, to the waterworks personnel. Testing after 2 hours of the repair revealed an increase in residual chlorine in the water system from 0.09 to 0.71 mg/L, or improved water quality compliant with PNSDW standards.

Improvements in the water quality of the water districts of Murcia, Talisay and Kabankalan are results of their implementation of Safe Water's detailed recommendations during the first round of chlorine residual and pressure monitoring activities with their respective pump operators. As shown in the table above, a total of 6,921 households are benefitting from improved service quality from existing safely managed drinking water services. While there are WSPs showing improvements, it can be observed that the total number of connections benefitting from the activities is a mere fraction of the entire number of service connections of the 10 target WSPs. The Team will continue to conduct WQAs to ensure improved water quality and increase the number of households benefitting from this measure.

SARANGANI AND GENERAL SANTOS CITY

Safe Water in coordination with the General Santos City Mayor's Office-Integrated Barangay Affairs initially identified 17 Rural Waterworks and Sanitation Associations (RWSAs) with hypo chlorinators to be visited, inspected, and mentored on chlorine dosing and pressure monitoring. Safe Water learned that out of the 17 RWSAs, only 10 have chlorinators, but the majority are not functioning due to defective components. Meanwhile, those with functioning chlorinators do not perform chlorination according to protocols and do not monitor compliance with standards.

In Sarangani, the Team visited Glan WD and found that chlorine residual at the midpoint of the sampling site within the Poblacion area is at 0.78 mg/L (milligram per liter) - passing residual chlorine requirements - but zero at the farthest point. The Team is helping the WD determine the best location where additional chlorine will be fed into the system.

Maasim WD started chlorinating its system last quarter, but the chlorine residual was below the required level. This quarter, Safe Water observed the presence of chlorine residual in the entire water system of Maasim WD. Chlorine residual chlorine at source is 2.5 mg/L which meets the standards. However, it is still below the standard (but higher than the previous level) at the farthest point. The Team will continue to monitor the residual chlorine of Maasim WD in the next quarter and will recommend measures to ensure they comply with the standard.

Safe Water took samples from five points in Alabel Level 3 water system and out of the five sampling points, only one passed the residual chlorine requirement. The Team advised the head of the water system to adjust the dosage of chlorine and check the expiry dates of their high test hypochlorite (HTH) chlorine.

For this quarter, a total of 5,052 service connections benefitted from improved water quality following Safe Water assistance on proper chlorination and residual chlorine monitoring.

TABLE 6. LIST OF WATER SERVICE PROVIDERS BENEFITING FROM SAFE WATER WQA AND PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT

NO.	WATER SERVICE PROVIDER	NO. OF ACTIVE SERVICE CONNECTIONS	NO. OF SERVICE CONNECTIONS WITH IMPROVED WATER QUALITY	ESTIMATED NO. OF PERSONS BENEFITTING
1	VEWASA, Katangawan	60	60	294
2	VIRWASA, Calumpang	63	63	309
3	Alabel Level 3 Water System	3,200	2,500	12,500
4	Glan Water District	1,750	1,350	5,265
5	Maasim Water District	1,438	1,079	5,719
	TOTAL	6,511	5,052	24,087

Safe Water is scheduled to do onsite coaching on residual chlorine and pressure monitoring for 32 additional RWSAs in General Santos City in July. The selection of these 32 RWSAs was done in coordination with the City Mayor’s Office – Integrated Barangay Affairs (CMO-IBA) personnel.

C. BUILDING CAPACITY OF WATER SERVICE PROVIDERS

PALAWAN

Training on basic water system design and O&M for the Calamianes Group of Islands. Safe Water conducted a training workshop on basic water system design and proper operation and maintenance of water supply systems for the Calamianes Group of Islands composed of Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan. The training will help the various LGUs and WSPs manage the newly completed projects turned over by the Province. The participants were trained on the fundamentals of water supply system design, water quality monitoring and management, and operation and maintenance of water systems from water source to treatment and distribution facilities. The training enabled participants to craft their respective Operations and Maintenance Plan which they commit to integrating into their respective annual performance improvement and investment plans to ensure budget allocation and ground implementation. The training workshop was held on April 20-22, coinciding with Earth Day and a visit to one of the water systems completed by the provincial government in Barangay Decalachao in Coron as shown in the photo, in the next page.

Training on well drilling supervision for Rizal Waterworks. On June 16-17, Safe Water mentored the technical staff of Rizal Waterworks and the Municipal Engineering Office on well drilling. Rizal Waterworks requested the training because of its past experience of drilling six wells that were unable to yield water. Safe Water and the participants visited the well drilling sites and the Team recommended the waterworks to first conduct a geo-resistivity survey to accurately identify viable well sites and then to closely monitor drilling procedures - specifically, the installation of casing pipes, filter screen, gravel pack, backfill, water level indicator, gravel filling pipe, grout, and apron protection.

Follow-up activities on training on O&M and WSS technical design in El Nido. ENWSS was previously trained and mentored by Safe Water on O&M and WSS design planning including pressure and leak management. Because of these training sessions, ENWSS personnel have improved their knowledge and capacity to regularly monitor system pressure. Pressure gauges were installed to monitor pressure and identify the location of leakages. Leaking pipelines were repaired and as a result, NRW has been reduced and availability of water has increased at both ends of the distribution system. In addition, households are now encouraged to connect to the waterworks. Based on ENWSS records, service connections increased from 571 to 755 from February to June 2022, or 184 new household connections.

Updating of the PPCWD Water Safety Plan. Safe Water is facilitating a series of training/workshop sessions with key PPCWD personnel to update the water district's Water Safety Plan. The plan identifies strategic measures that will ensure that water quality is compliant with national drinking water standards and that water systems are protected and resilient to impacts of climate change and disasters. The implementation of the Water Safety Plan is expected to keep services running in times of emergency, prevent damage to facilities, and reduce maintenance costs. As of December 31, 2021, the water district has a total of 49,340 connections (48,208 residential units, 144 government institutions and 988 commercial and industrial establishments) serving close to 200,000 people in 48 barangays. PPCWD supplies water for general consumption from domestic to industrial use. It observes PNSDW 2017 standards for its water quality management.



W is for Water. (Top) Mr. John Edgar, Environment Office Chief of USAID Philippines, joins participants to the three-day training on operations and management (O & M) of water supply facilities on April 21, 2022, as part of Earth Day celebrations in Coron. (Bottom) Ms. Alma Porciuncula, Chief of Party of USAID Safe Water, joins participants to the water supply operations and management (O & M) training during the site visit to Coron municipality's solar-powered deep well pump and chlorination system in Barangay Decalachao.



Water safety planning for operational and financial efficiency. (Top) Engr. Cesar Gavilan (left), Production Division Manager of PPCWD, points out to Engr. Rene Capiz, Water Supply and Sanitation Advisor of USAID Safe Water, the original location of the weir of Irawan water treatment plant that was damaged by flash floods due to Typhoon Odette in December 2021. (Bottom) The Water Safety Plan Team of PPCWD checks the source of leaks with the existing clustered water meters located at seaside areas of Barangay Tagumpay, Puerto Princesa City.

Session 1 (May 25-26) covered Modules 1 and 2 of a Water Safety Plan where PNSDW and Water Safety Plan procedures were discussed as a refresher for new members of the PPCWD Water Safety Plan Team (WSP Team).

The WSP Team were divided into groups and given corresponding tasks to review, update and implement the plan. The skills of every member were identified which determined their respective responsibilities. The WSP Team was divided into six groups, namely: (1) Watershed/Source Group; (2) Monitoring, Verification, and Communication Group; (3) Water Quality Assurance Group; (4) Water Treatment Group; (5) Reservoir/Facilities Group; and (6) Transmission/Distribution Group. Each group has distinct functions but are interdependent.

The WSP Team defined their system from sources to the household water meters, identified intended uses and users, and system of water quality management. Participants were guided in drawing schematic and process flow diagrams of all the systems from water sources, transmission, treatment facilities, reservoirs, distributions, and covered areas.

Session 2 (June 7-9) tackled risk assessment and identification of control measures. Field assessments and workshops were conducted to identify various hazards and risks existing in the system starting from the source down to the consumer's tap. The identified hazardous events or causes of contamination due to Typhoon Odette were properly assessed, including the prioritization of risks that should be mitigated. Discoloration, change in odor and/or taste of water sources, and the significant increase in turbidity levels are some of the most common experiences of PPCWD with its surface water sources and considered high risks. A total of 33 high risk areas were identified, mostly found at source and distribution mains. All 33 high risks and 223 moderate risks were prioritized with proposed control measures.

After the risk assessment of the identified hazardous events, critical limits were established. A critical limit indicates whether the existing control measure is functioning as planned. Having identified critical limits and the monitoring indicator, the WSP Team then listed corrective measures. Corrective measures are important components in operational monitoring to ensure that

timely steps are taken to prevent distribution of unsafe drinking water whenever there is a breach in the control measure.

Session 3 (June 21-22) covered Modules 5-11 where the WSP Team developed an improvement plan with a budget estimate of [REDACTED]. Monitoring and verification of control measures, effectiveness of the Water Safety Plan, standard operating procedures, and supporting programs were formulated during the training.

The PPCWD Water Safety Plan will be subjected to annual review to ensure it is implemented as planned. The review considers timely revisions so that the plan can sustain effective risk management through constant evaluation of the water system as a whole. An annual report on the performance, analyses, and recommendations of the Water Safety Plan will be submitted by the WSP Team to the management at the end of the year.

The last session of the training, a writeshop to finalize, approve, and adopt the Water Safety Plan, is scheduled on July 14-15.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

DPWH-funded water supply projects. Safe Water is assisting various DPWH district engineering offices (DEOs) to build their capacity to implement their water supply projects by reviewing and critiquing POWs, validating proposed water sources, recommending material specifications and standards, and conducting O&M training for water system operators to ensure sustainability of the water supply projects. The description of the projects and the estimated number of beneficiaries are as follows:

- Lone DEO (Bacolod City): Construction of Levels 2 and 3 water supply projects in four barangays, namely: Banago, Cabug, Tangub and Alijis. These projects are substantially complete except for the installation of pumps and motors, electrification and rehabilitation of distribution pipelines. A total of 800 households will gain access to safe and potable water supply, 350 for Level 3 and 450 for Level 2. Further, there are 90 households receiving improved water service in Barangay Taculing and Barangay 16. The 90 households are currently connected to BACIWA system but experience intermittent supply due to unstable water pressure daily. In which case, they fetch water from the newly completed and operational Level 2 water system in the area.
- 1st DEO (Talisay City): Five of the seven Level 2 water systems have been completed and are operational, providing access to basic drinking water service to 1,075 households located in Barangay Celestino Villacin in Cadiz City, Barangays Guimbalaon, Patag and Kapitan Ramon in Silay City, Barangay Tanza in EB Magalona, and Barangay Cabatangan in Talisay City;
- 2nd DEO (Binalbagan City): Improvement of existing water system in Barangay Bulad, Municipality of Isabela is on-going. The well source and water tank have been completed, while laying of distribution pipelines and repairs of leaking pipes are on-going.
- 4th DEO (Bago City): Three newly constructed and operational Level 2 water systems located in Barangay Ara-al, La Carlota City, and Barangays Don Jorge Araneta and Tabunan in Bago City are providing basic drinking water service to 900 households.



Planning for septage management.

(Top) Safe Water presented the importance and features of a septage management program to local officials and WSPs in Cadiz and Bago Cities. (Bottom) The Safe Water Team visited one of the existing treatment plants located in Maasim to observe the plant's condition.

Orientation on septage management program in Cadiz and Bago Cities. Safe Water presented the importance and features of a septage management program to local officials and WSPs in Cadiz and Bago Cities, on April 5 and 6 respectively. Both cities intend to prepare their respective septage management program feasibility studies with the guidance of the Safe Water Team. During the launch of the Provincial Water Security Plan on April 7, the City Environment and Natural Resources Office(r) (CENRO) of Victorias City also expressed the city's desire to prepare a feasibility study. The Team will guide and assist the three cities in completing their feasibility studies.

SARANGANI AND GENERAL SANTOS CITY

Optimization of the existing septage treatment plants in Sarangani.

Safe Water conducted a training workshop for water works staff of six coastal LGUs of Sarangani on June 22-23 to help them prepare a systematic and community wide septage management program, to optimize the use of existing septage treatment plants (SpTPs). The SpTPs were funded through a JICA-grant and constructed using a natural pond system about ten years ago. The treatment plants are all operating far below their capacities (Alabel at 60 m³/day; Malapatan at 25 m³/day, and 20 m³/day for the other four LGUs) due to the lack of a community-wide desludging program. Most of the pipes connecting the ponds are clogged and their effluents dry up even before reaching the outlets. Alabel has two 5 m³ vacuum trucks while the five LGUs have one each. Septage collection is not done regularly, only on-demand.

Safe Water introduced its toolkit to participants to assess the capacities of the existing treatment plants and vacuum trucks in relation to the demand for the community wide service and to prepare their action plans. The Team is currently assisting the LGUs finalize the results of the assessment and monitoring the implementation of the action plans. The Team will also assist the LGUs develop septage tariff setting and adjustment strategy.

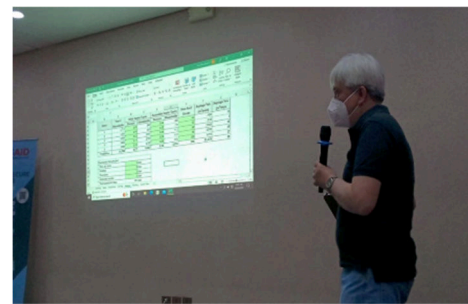
Policy reforms, infrastructure investments and behavioral change campaigns on wastewater management are also needed to improve sanitation conditions in Sarangani.

To address this concern, Safe Water trained the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officers (MENROs) and rural sanitary inspectors (RSIs) of the six municipalities of Sarangani on systematic septage management program, highlighting the zoning of households and recurrent scheduling - of five-year intervals at most - for desludging services to households. During the training, the MENROs and RSIs revisited their existing operations and determined the need to update their Municipal Septage Ordinance and prepare a zoning and desludging operating plan. The updating of the Municipal Septage Ordinance is among the priority policies outlined in the PIWSP of Sarangani.

Aside from updating the sanitation ordinance, the MENRO of Alabel intends to conduct a municipal-wide inventory of septic tanks to ascertain the septage volume that will be processed by the municipality's existing treatment plant. This is critical information in establishing and implementing the systematic and community-wide septage management program—both operationally and financially. The LGU of Alabel is aware that its biggest customer, General Santos City, will be constructing its own septage treatment plant and this will lead to a significant reduction in their operation and revenue stream. Safe Water will also help them factor this into their business plan.

Strategic Business Planning. Safe Water has assisted four water utilities in Sarangani on Strategic Business Planning, namely, Alabel Level 3 Water System, Glan Water District, Maasim Water District and Savesegrow Multi-Purpose Cooperative. Of the four, Glan WD and Alabel Level 3 Water System have completed their business plans. During this quarter, Safe Water continued to coach and mentor Maasim WD and Savesegrow MPC in completing their respective business plans. Savesegrow MPC is finalizing its business plan based on the updated POW prepared by Safe Water for their proposed water supply expansion, while the update of Maasim WD's business plan is stalled pending resolution of the turn-over of the water source from the LGU to the water district.

BAWASA Formation and Orientation Trainings. The Municipality of Glan sought assistance of Safe Water



Optimizing Septage Management in Alabel. (Top) Engr. Ariel Lapus, Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist presented to the participants a user friendly Toolkit for the Systematic Operation of a Municipal Septage Treatment Facility. (Bottom) Serving as the advisory and regulatory arm of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Concerns in the Province, Engr. Ruben Pelones of the Provincial Health Office, opened up the session with a presentation of the Provincial Sanitary Situationer



Planning for water scarcity in General Santos city. (Top) City ENRO Allan Marcilla led the redefining of committee functions. (Middle) CPDC Nael Crusperero presenting the city’s water issues and concerns. (Bottom) LDWQMC Members with USAID SWA WSS Managers

on the formation of a Barangay Water and Sanitation Association (BAWASA) and orientation training for the beneficiaries of a Level 2 water system in Barangay Pangyan. Glan accessed funds from the Local Government Support Fund (LGSF) of the National Government to finance this Level 2 water system. On May 30, the Team oriented the members of the beneficiary community on the rationale of organizing a BAWASA, its roles and responsibilities in the operation and maintenance of a water system, the conduct of regular water quality testing, and salient features of the national policies governing safe water service provision. The association has filed for accreditation with the Department of Labor and Employment as a rural waterworks association.

In the next quarter, Safe Water will assist Alabel in the formation of BAWASA and orientation training for several NTF-ELCAC Level 2 water system projects (of the 25 water supply projects funded under NTF-ELCAC, 14 are in Alabel). NTF-ELCAC is a grant program of the national government to selected barangays with insurgency issues.

Strengthening the capacity of Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee of General Santos City. General Santos City has a Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee (LDWQMC) created by virtue of Executive Order 21, series of 2018 - but this Committee has not been active for some time now. Safe Water supported the reactivation of the LDWQMC and presented thereto the City’s water supply situation, emphasizing its absolute water scarce situation as well as the challenges of unregulated RWSAs, concerns on water quality, and deteriorating water resources.

The members of the LDWQMC revisited EO 21 and decided to streamline its membership, redefine Committee and TWG roles and responsibilities, and harmonize water resources and sanitation programs with national policies. The LDWQMC will present its proposal to the newly-elected local chief executive to facilitate its reconstitution and determine the status of the City Mayor’s Office – Integrated Barangay Affairs (CMO-IBA) whether the supervision over the RWSAs will remain a function of the former or placed under the CENRO.

The LDWQMC organized a Water Convergence Forum, on the occasion of Earth Day, to build awareness on the current water supply and sanitation situation of General Santos City, promote water demand management and create interest in forging a water alliance among stakeholders to harmonize efforts of different sectors. The multi-stakeholder forum was attended by an estimated 60 representatives from government, civil society organizations, academia, the business sector (including owners/operators of hotels and malls), the fishing industry, RWSAs and other interest groups. During the Forum, Maynilad Water Academy Executive Director Rodora N. Gamboa explained how a local water alliance can be a key factor in achieving a water secure future for General Santos City. In the next quarter, Safe Water will facilitate discussion with potential host institutions and the crafting of a local water alliance agreement.



Application of learnings from training workshops on water system design, construction supervision and O&M. In Year 2, Safe Water trained engineers of the Provincial Government of Sarangani and municipal governments of Alabel, Glan, Malapatan, Maasim and Malungon on water system design. Last quarter, trained engineers from the Provincial Engineering Office (PEO) applied their learnings through the preparation of technical designs for 25 water system projects funded under the LGSF-SBDP (NTF-ELCAC). This quarter, the PEO engineers prepared designs for 16 water supply projects funded under the 2021 20% CDF of the province, amounting to [REDACTED]. Of the 16 water supply projects, four completed projects benefited a total of 1,775 households in Glan (480), Maitum (670) and Malapatan (625).

Promoting Water Demand Management during Earth Day. (Top) EMB I2 Senior Environmental Management Specialist (SEMS) Willie V. Loyola presents the state of water of General Santos City. (Bottom) Maynilad Water Academy Executive Director Rodora N. Gamboa explains how a local water alliance can be a key factor in achieving a water secure future for General Santos City

The Alabel LGU-run utility and Glan WD were trained in Year 2 on Operations and Maintenance of water systems. Both water utilities applied these learnings by improving their pumping stations and pipelines, and regularly monitoring their operations, which resulted in improved water service and new connections. For this quarter, there were a total of 113 new connections - 60 in Alabel and 53 in Glan.



Applying learnings from the trainings on residual chlorine readings. Following demonstrations done on residual chlorine testing done last quarter, technical personnel of Malapatan and Malungon now do their own readings. Photos courtesy to KCC Mall of Gensan.

In the next quarter, Safe Water will continue to monitor the progress of water system projects, improvements in WD operations, visit PEO Sarangani and municipal engineering offices of Alabel, Maasim, Malapatan and Kiamba to determine the status of the implementation of NTF-ELCAC water system projects, and Glan for the locally funded projects.

Application of learnings from training workshops for community health workers on assessing and monitoring water quality. In the second quarter, Safe Water trained community health workers, sanitary inspectors (SIs) and technical personnel of Malapatan and Malungon on water quality monitoring and risk assessment. In a follow-up meeting with trained SIs of Malapatan and Malungon, they said they have started requiring BAWASAs to submit potability test certificates from the Municipal Health Office to ensure compliance with water quality standards. It is expected that the community health workers and sanitary inspectors will undertake regular water quality testing and monitoring using standard equipment and methods to prevent the occurrence of water-borne diseases.

D. PREPARATION OF PROVINCIAL INTEGRATED WATER SECURITY PLANS/ PROVINCIAL INTEGRATED WATER SECURITY PLANNING

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

On April 7, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental, with the support of USAID Safe Water, held its second provincial Water Summit with a theme of achieving a water-secure future for the province. The one-day activity served as a venue to present the highlights of the PIWSP and seek comments and gain commitment from the 200 stakeholders. The Water Summit aimed to increase awareness among the participants on the current gaps in access to water supply and sanitation, and conditions of the 15 watersheds and rivers in the province. Four learning hubs were set up during the summit to showcase and encourage discussion on the following: (i) financing sources and innovative financing schemes; (ii) hydrologic studies and other WRM strategies; (iii) surface water bulk supply and septage

management services; and (iv) partnerships and gender development. These discussion points are in line with Safe Water's key interventions in the province.

Another highlight of the Water Summit was the signing of a MOA between the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental (PGNO) and PPP Center which provides a framework for cooperation and coordination between both parties. The goal of the MOA is to develop a robust pipeline of PPP projects in the province beginning with the PGNO's initiative to develop surface water bulk supply utilizing either Malogo or Imbang Rivers to diversify future sources of water for the province.

SARANGANI

During the quarter, the Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council Technical Working Group (PIWSC-TWG) - composed of municipal and provincial officials and representatives of key national line agencies - enhanced the initial draft of their PIWSP by integrating inputs gathered during the municipal consultations and the Water Summit.

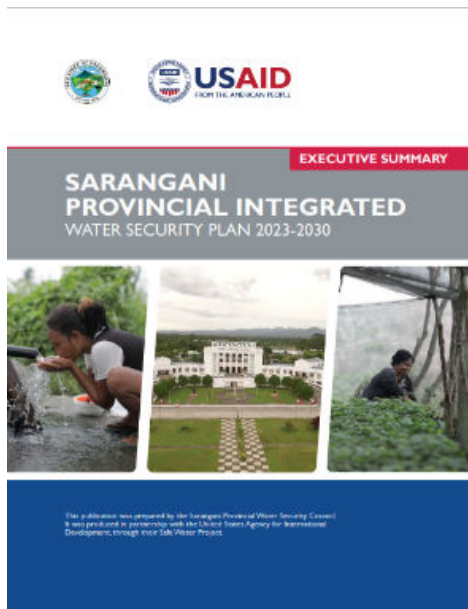
On April 19-21, Safe Water organized a writeshop in Lake Sebu, South Cotabato where 14 core members of the PIWSC-TWG revisited and refined strategies and determined immediate WSS and WRM interventions; developed an institutional mechanism for PIWSP implementation and sustainability; identified critical watersheds, major rivers and springs for regular monitoring to determine changes in streamflow and wells/spring discharge; and finalized the results-based framework.

Among the priority WSS and WRM interventions identified for implementation in 2023 and 2024 are: 1) inventory of water users and usage in terms of quantity and quality; and 2) enactment of key policies and guidelines on:

1. Institutionalization of Integrated Water Security Planning as a program in Sarangani
2. Protection of groundwater recharge areas and establishment of PES
3. Updating septage management ordinances



Committing to a water-secure future for Negros Occidental. (Top) Negros Occidental Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson sign the pledge to a water-secure future to commit full support to the USAID-supported Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan. (Bottom; L-R) PPP Center Director III for Project Development Service John Dominic Z. Zafe, USAID Safe Water Chief of Party Alma Porciuncula, PPP Center Executive Director Ferdinand Pecson, Negros Occidental Governor Eugenio Jose Lacson, and c signed the memorandum of agreement between the Negros Occidental provincial government and the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center for the implementation and development of a bulk water supply project in the province.



Committing to a water-secure future for Sarangani. The Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan is a joint effort and collaborative development through the PIWSC and TWG along with other stakeholders from National Line Agencies and Water Districts. (Bottom) The PIWSC proudly presents the Sarangani PIWSP Executive Summary after its successful adoption of the council.

4. Regulating the operations of community based WSPs with KPIs
5. Institutionalization of Provincial Task Force Kalikasan
6. Declaration of Mt. Busa as a local conservation area
7. Institutionalization of province wide WQM
8. Designation of pollution officers in all municipalities
9. Adoption of Provincial Green Building Code
10. Promotion and adoption of Rainwater Harvesting

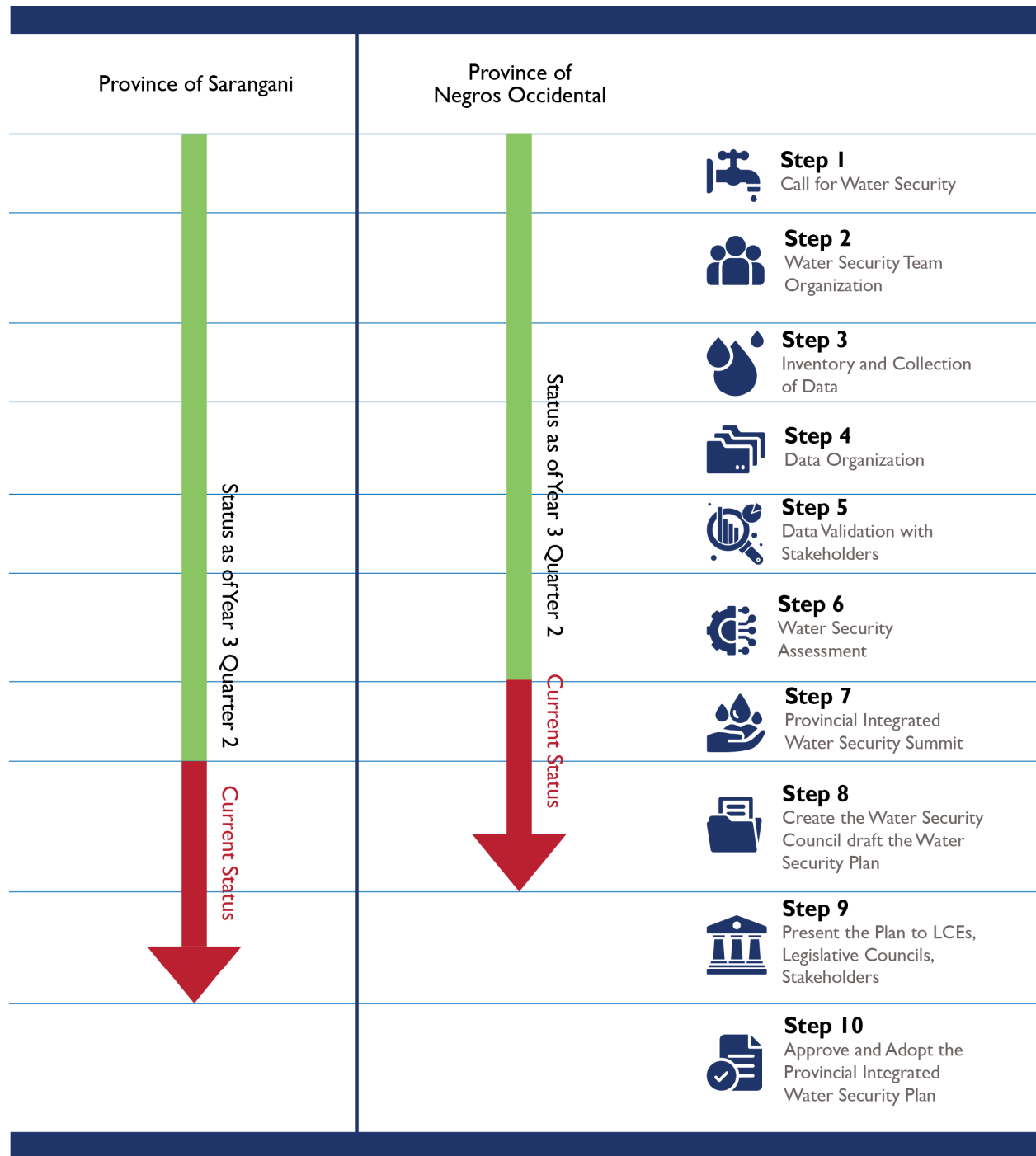
Safe Water organized a final review workshop on May 24-25 where the PIWSC-TWG together with the four WDs firmed up the results-based framework and priority activities and prepared a final draft PIWSP to be presented to the PIWSC.

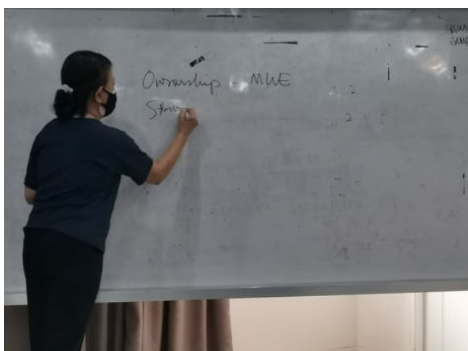
On June 14, the PIWSC approved the PIWSP prepared by PIWSC-TWG and endorsed it to the Provincial Development Council and *Sangguniang Panlalawigan* for final approval and adoption.

Board Member and Chairman of the SP Committee on Environment and Health, Irish Arnado, who presided over the PIWSC meeting recognized the efforts of the PIWSC-TWG and the technical assistance of Safe Water in coming up with Sarangani's 1st PIWSP and stressed the need for the municipalities to fully support the PIWSP's implementation.

The PIWSP is the first province-wide water security plan in Mindanao and it will serve as the roadmap in the preparation of coherent policies, plans and investment programs for water supply and sanitation services, and watershed conservation and rehabilitation.

FIGURE 4. STATUS OF PROVINCIAL INTEGRATED WATER SECURITY PLANS





Establishing a municipal water enterprise. (Top) USAID Safe Water Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist Ariel Lapus leads the discussion with stakeholders on finalizing the SB resolution in establishing a municipal water enterprise. (Bottom) Chief of Party Alma Porciuncula underlines the value of ownership with the creation of a municipal water enterprise in the municipality of Alabel.

E. PILOT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

SARANGANI

In the second quarter of Year 3, Safe Water assisted the Municipalities of Alabel and Malapatan draft ordinances creating their respective Municipal Water Enterprises (MWE) following the workshop on the formulation of an ordinance for the establishment of an MWE. This quarter, both municipalities enhanced their draft ordinances and submitted this to their respective *Sanggunian Bayan*. Safe Water will review the ring-fencing of Alabel's waterworks accounts, a critical first step in the set-up of an autonomous MWE; and it will assist Malapatan in strengthening its Municipal Water and Sanitation Committee.

PALAWAN

On June 22, Water.org and Safe Water held an orientation on ring-fencing and the establishment of a municipal water enterprise (DILG interchangeably uses the term Local Economic Enterprise) for six water supply systems managed by the Provincial Government unit (Palawan Water) in the municipalities of Roxas, El Nido, Balabac, Linapacan, Magsaysay and Cagayancillo. The orientation aimed to help water utilities maximize revenue generation leading to improved WSS service improvement. A total of 24 participants representing the PEEDO, Palawan Water, Provincial Administrator, Provincial Treasurer, Provincial Legal Office, and Provincial Accountant Office attended the training. Highlights of the training are as follows:

- PEEDO and Palawan Water designated staff in charge of accounts restructuring, ring-fencing, and business plan development;
- Palawan Water drafted an EO for the adoption and implementation of the Business Plan; and
- The group set target completion of Business Plans for the water systems and septage facilities on September 2022.

Safe Water, Water.org and Palawan Water agreed to collaborate on a training for LGU-run water utilities on demand generation in the last week of July 2022.

G. OTHER ACTIVITIES

PALAWAN

Preparatory work for the recovery of typhoon-damaged areas in Palawan, under CLIN 02. During the quarter, Safe Water updated the status of damage on water supply facilities wrought by Typhoon Odette and the temporary repair work carried out by the WSPs. The Team gathered POWs, including budgetary estimates, from the LGUs and WSPs to restore or build back better the damaged facilities. The Team inspected a number of sites on June 1- and saw that most of the damages were on the intake structures and transmission mains, which were swept by flashfloods and/or struck by fallen trees. The Team prepared preliminary cost estimates for the technical assistance and reduced the list of sites that will be assisted by prioritizing the affected water supply systems of Narra, Aborlan and Roxas. Safe Water also worked on completing the Environmental Review Checklist. Once USAID issues the TOR for CLIN 02, Safe Water will work on the proposal for recovery assistance.

Commissioning of PPCWD Water Supply Improvement Project Phase II. On June 2, PPCWD commissioned Phase II of its Water Supply Improvement Project (WSIP II), which developed surface water sources from the Montible and Lapu-Lapu Rivers. Now fully operational, the project delivers an additional water supply of 30 million liters per day (MLD) to more than 48,000 consumers, addressing the perennial water shortages experienced in previous years. During the course of its construction, the WSIP II project was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the damages to the water district's facilities caused by Typhoon Odette in December 2021.

Safe Water entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the PPCWD last January 2021 to cooperate on activities that will improve the water security of water-stressed communities in Puerto Princesa City. To date, the partnership led to the formulation of the Montible IWMP, which contains watershed conservation and restoration measures to ensure continuous supply of clean, safe, and abundant water and sustain other ecosystem services for the City's



Building back better water infrastructure. A water worker from the Municipality of Narra in Palawan showed the Safe Water team the broken pipelines, the temporary solutions, and the river that stretched to what was once a road adjacent to the municipality's water treatment facility - an aftermath of Typhoon Odette.



rapidly growing population. The completion of an IWMP, which has been approved by the water district’s Board of Directors, involved the participation of multiple stakeholders from various organizations and sectors in several conceptualization, consultation, and validation workshops.

GENERAL SANTOS CITY

Groundwater analysis for General Santos City. On June 22, Safe Water assisted USAID and US Embassy representatives in presenting to the LGU and WD the proposed assistance on groundwater analysis that will be provided under the Ambassador’s Water Experts Program. This program will procure the services of a water expert from the United States to conduct trainings on how to establish a system for groundwater monitoring and analysis.

From PWRF to Safe Water. USAID assistance to the PPCWD Water Supply Improvement Project Phase II could be traced back to the Philippine Water Revolving Fund (PWRF) Project of USAID. The first surface water plant was funded by PWRF, and the Water District adopted the same co-financing scheme between the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Bank of Philippine Islands for the Montible and Lapu-Lapu treatment plants.

FIGURE 5. WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION ACTIVITIES IN PALAWAN



Legend









-  Project development assistance to water service providers
-  Watershed boundaries
-  Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning
-  Water quality assurance
-  Capacity building for water service providers
-  Pilot implementation of the Central Management System
-  Pressure improvement
-  Other activities

FIGURE 6. WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION ACTIVITIES IN NEGROS OCCIDENTAL



Legend









-  Project development assistance to water service providers
-  Watershed boundaries
-  Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning
-  Water quality assurance
-  Capacity building for water service providers
-  Pilot implementation of the Central Management System
-  Pressure improvement
-  Other activities

FIGURE 7. WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION ACTIVITIES IN SARANGANI AND GSC



USAID Safe Water - Water Supply and Sanitation Activities

Legend

- Project development assistance to water service providers
- Water quality assurance
- Pressure improvement
- Watershed boundaries
- Capacity building for water service providers
- Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning
- Pilot implementation of the Central Management System
- Other activities

OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

FIGURE 8. DESCRIPTION OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Watershed management plan formulation

Includes the formulation of Integrated Watershed Management Plans and LGU Watershed Conservation and Rehabilitation Plans.



Creation and strengthening of watershed management councils

Includes the creation of new and strengthening of existing watershed management bodies to oversee watershed management activities.



Conduct of hydrologic studies and training on computational hydrology

Includes the use of and capacity building on hydrologic analyses to provide conclusive information necessary for water security policy formulation and planning.



Developing local stakeholders' capacity for climate and hydrologic risk assessment

Includes the call for proposal and evaluation of respective bids to conduct vulnerability and climate risk assessment of selected watersheds.



Scaling payment for ecosystem services

Includes the step-by-step process for implementing and expanding of PES with local government units.



Strengthening partnerships to support water resource management and sustainable livelihoods

Includes implementation of partnerships with the private sector, civil society organizations, and people organizations to support water resource management and sustainable livelihood activities.



Capacity building for WDM

Includes training, roll-out, documentation, and advocacy activities on Water Demand Management.

A. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN FORMULATION

Safe Water, in coordination with DENR, continued assistance to LGUs and watershed stakeholders in the formulation of IWMPs and LWCRPs. These plans are essential guides to protect and rehabilitate watersheds and to minimize, if not prevent, impacts of climate change and extreme weather events on water resources, as the watersheds are sources of local water supply.

PALAWAN

The Palawan Field Team is closely working with the Municipality of Dumarán and other partner organizations to protect local water sources by developing its LWCRP. On April 5-7, Safe Water and the Dumarán municipal government, together with the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and the DENR, facilitated workshops on watershed and threats mapping, institutional and stakeholder analysis, livelihood identification, hazard impact mapping, and plan visioning. A total of 36 participants from various sectors produced a comprehensive assessment of watershed condition enriched by local knowledge, which will be the basis for drafting a sound and socially acceptable municipal watershed plan.

Representatives from key LGU offices of Quezon, Palawan and members of the proposed WMC and its TWG also convened on May 17-19 for a three-day orientation on the LWCRP formulation process and on integrated watershed management plan principles, watershed characterization and assessment of watershed condition, including data and map requirements. A total of 35 members of the Quezon WMC and its TWG attended the orientation and participated in stakeholder analysis, an institutional assessment, identification of threats, challenges and opportunities in watershed management, mapping of resources, uses and users, drivers of forest change, identification of livelihood activities, and potential impacts of hazards on key sectors. The workshop participants drafted the vision, mission, goals, and objectives (VMGO) statements for the Quezon LWCRP including proposed management actions and strategies to address identified threats, challenges, and issues.

On May 5, Safe Water held implementation and investment planning for the PFFWR IWMP. The planning team, composed of representatives from DENR Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) Palawan, DENR CENRO Puerto Princesa, PCSD, CENRO, and PPCWD, convened to review and finalize the draft VMGO statements and the implementation and investment plan with indicative budgetary requirements. The PFFWR TWG and barangay



Drafting a sound and socially acceptable municipal watershed plan. (Top) The USAID Safe Water Team, together with Engr. Edwin Caabay (the one pointing his finger up) (Dumarán Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer) and barangay government representatives from Barangay Itangil, visited the Lanitga Falls, the water source that is within Ilian watershed and that supplies water to residents of Sitio Impatian in Barangay Itangil. An old concrete water tank can be seen in the right side of the photo. (Mid-bottom) Participants identify the major stakeholders, institutions, threats, and opportunities in the four Dumarán watersheds during the three-day Local Watershed Conservation and Restoration Planning workshop held in Dumarán Municipal Hall - Sub-Office in Barangay Danleg.



LGU representatives also conducted field validation in Barangay Bacungan to verify tenured area (titled land) in the barangay. These activities are essential in developing appropriate management actions and strategies for the watershed reserve.

The Municipal Government of Roxas convened the multi-sectoral members of the Roxas Watershed Management Council for a community watershed planning workshop on June 7-9. The workshop sessions, attended by 72 individuals from various stakeholder groups with 41 coming from barangay local governments, served as the venue to delineate the boundaries of its eight community watersheds totaling 104,000 hectares, identify drivers of forest cover change and other threats and analyze actual and potential hazard impacts on local sectors.

SARANGANI



The Sarangani Field Team facilitated a 2-day workshop on June 1-2 to capacitate the IWMP Planning Team of Western Sarangani Watersheds on SWOT analysis, Problem and Objective Tree analysis and VMGO formulation. The planning team (composed of personnel from DENR CENRO Kiamba, provincial and municipal ENROs and civil society representatives) identified drivers of deforestation, drew up a SWOT matrix, and developed a problem tree with root causes leading to the core problems affecting the watersheds. A series of municipal consultations were also undertaken from June 7 to 9 to orient municipal participants on the state of their watersheds including forest cover change, surface water discharge and groundwater recharge based on the hydrologic studies prepared by Geosciences Foundation, Inc. (GFI). The planning team facilitated community planning mapping where participants plotted existing assets and threats affecting the watersheds.

Mapping out threats in Western Sarangani watersheds. PENRO Tuballes with CSO representative mapping out threats and drivers of deforestation in Western Sarangani Watersheds (WSW).

Safe Water continued to assist General Santos City and the municipalities of Sarangani province in formulating their respective LWCRPs. The LWCRPs cover the entire set of watersheds within each municipality and will mainstream watershed conservation activities in the LGU's annual investment plan. These LWCRPs affect the implementation of the IWMP strategies as well as the PIWSP. With guidance from the Project's Water

Resource Management Officers, the LGU planning teams are now drafting their LWCRPs which are expected to be completed and presented to their respective Municipal/City Environment and Natural Resources Council (MENRC) in the next quarter.

B. CREATION AND STRENGTHENING OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

PALAWAN

The Palawan Field Team held consultation meetings with the LGUs of Roxas, Dumarán and Quezon on the importance of organizing watershed management bodies to oversee watershed management activities in their municipalities. As a result, Executive Orders (EOs) were issued by the Local Chief Executives (LCEs) of these LGUs, creating their respective Watershed Management Councils and TWGs for the formulation and implementation of their watershed management plan, as follows:

- Roxas: EO No. 163 “Creating the Roxas Watershed Management Council (RWMC) and Its Technical Working Group (TWG) Defining Their Composition and Functions” issued on April 29, 2022
- Dumarán: EO No. 010 “Creating the Dumarán Watershed Management Council and Its Technical Working Group and Providing Their Functionalities Thereof” issued on May 11, 2022
- Quezon: EO No. 015 “Creating the Quezon Watershed Management Council and Its Technical Working Group and Providing Their Functionalities Thereof” issued on May 17, 2022

SARANGANI

On June 24, Safe Water assisted DENR CENRO Kiamba in organizing a meeting to discuss the creation of the WMC for Western Sarangani Watersheds with participants from DENR 12, DENR PENRO Sarangani, DENR-CENRO Kiamba, the Provincial Governments of Sarangani and South Cotabato, and municipalities of Maasim, Kiamba and Maitum. During the meeting, the group identified the members of the interim TWG tasked



Local stakeholders taking the lead in managing watersheds. (Top) Ms. Noralyn Cuadrante (left), staff from Dumarán Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office, and Police Corporal Mark Louie Bagona (bottom), representative from Philippine National Police, present the threats and opportunities in the watersheds identified by their group.

with preliminary activities leading to the creation of the WMC such as the preparation of briefing materials on the creation of the WMC and its functions including formulation of IWMP, drafting the Memorandum of Agreement creating the WMC for Western Sarangani Watersheds and facilitating its review and signing by the members.

C. CONDUCT OF HYDROLOGIC STUDIES FOR ADDITIONAL WATERSHEDS AND TRAINING ON COMPUTATIONAL HYDROLOGY

Safe Water’s partner GFI finalized the hydrologic study reports for all 60 additional target watersheds in the provinces of Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani based on Safe Water’s review and comments on the draft reports. Results of the studies were presented during the provincial integrated water security planning activities in Negros Occidental and Sarangani. The findings and recommendations will be factored into the preparation of their respective PIWSPs. The significant information that these hydrologic studies provide include total potential available surface water and groundwater recharge volume at baseline period and under the 2020 and 2050 climate change scenarios (for RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5). Other key information provided by the reports includes the locations of high recharge zones within each watershed that should be deliberately protected and preserved to optimize the recharge of groundwater during rainfall.

TABLE 7. ADDITIONAL WATERSHEDS COVERED BY HYDROLOGIC STUDIES

PALAWAN	NEGROS OCCIDENTAL	SARANGANI
1. Abongan	24. Bacolod	37. Bales-Kamanga
2. Aborlan	25. Binalbagan	38. Baliton
3. Aramaywan	26. Danao	39. Banwalan
4. Aramaywan 2	27. Grande	40. Bialong
5. Babuyan	28. Himugaan	41. Big Margus
6. Bacungan	29. Ilog-Hilabangan	42. Blisong-Tampat
7. Batang	30. Imbang	43. Calminda
8. Buayan	31. Pagatban	44. Glan
9. Calategas	32. San Enrique	45. Glan Padidu
10. Caraniogan	33. Sicaba	46. Kablalan
11. Cataban	34. Sipalay	47. Kalaong
12. Inagauan	35. Talave	48. Lasang
13. Irawan	36. Tyabanan	49. Lumoyon-Daliao
14. Itangil		50. Lun Masla
15. Iwahig		51. Lun Padidu
16. Lake Manguao		52. Makar
17. Langogan		53. Pange
18. Malatgao		54. Pangyan
19. Malinao		55. Sapu Masla
20. Manaile		56. Saub
21. Sandoval		57. Small Margus
22. Tuas		58. Tambilil
23. Tumabong – Antonio		59. Ticulab
		60. Tuyan

In the second quarter of Year 3, Safe Water and GFI completed the Training of Trainers (ToT) on Computational Hydrology and Water Resource Management. In April 2022, applying the lessons from the training, participants presented the findings for the hydrologic study of their assigned watersheds (Table 8). The presentations demonstrated that the ToT helped build the capacity of agencies such as the NWRB, the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) of the DENR as well as representatives from provincial governments and academic institutions of Palawan, Negro Occidental and Sarangani, in conducting hydrologic studies.

TABLE 8. TOT ASSIGNED WATERSHEDS

AGENCY	ASSIGNED WATERSHED	PROVINCE
NWRB	Imus	Cavite
NWRB	Maragondon	Cavite
DENR MIMAROPA	Mag-asawang Tubig and Catuiran-Bucayao	Oriental Mindoro
PSU & WPU (Palawan)	Tigaplan	Palawan (Brookes Point)
MSU-GSC Campus, Mahintana, GenSan ENRO	Silway	South Cotabato
USLS, PEMO & PENRO (Negros Occidental)	Bingig	Negros Occidental

D. DEVELOPING LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS' CAPACITY FOR CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGIC RISK ASSESSMENT

After Manila Observatory (MO) confirmed they were unable to conduct the vulnerability and climate risk assessment of selected watersheds due to limited personnel, Safe Water invited other organizations to conduct the aforementioned work. Potential bidders were invited to respond to the scope of work, that includes mentoring LGUs, WSPs and local communities in formulating climate change adaptation options for WSS and WRM, which will facilitate WSPs designing their water system/infrastructures and to Safe Water partner LGUs in informing their plans such as the Comprehensive and Forest Land Use Plans, Local Climate Change Action Plan and Emergency Response Plans, among others. Three bidders responded to the call for proposal and their respective bids have been evaluated. The Project is currently negotiating with the top-ranked bidder. The study will commence in the next quarter.

E. SCALING PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (PES)

PALAWAN

Safe Water worked with the PES TWG of Puerto Princesa City in the collection of cost and revenue data used to estimate the cost for watershed protection and to generate the watershed protection cost and revenue ratio. The PES' short term technical assistance (STTAs) have completed the cost based valuation (CBV) and cost revenue analysis (CRA) for the Irawan and Montible watersheds. The CBV and CRA results will be presented in a validation workshop in July and will be used as a basis for PES negotiations between the LGU and the water district.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

The Negros Occidental Field Team facilitated the drafting of an Executive Order creating the Ring Fencing TWG in Bago City to identify and isolate the current Environmental Protection Fee (EPF) being collected and to ensure its utilization for watershed protection. The draft EO has been forwarded by the CENRO to the City Legal Officer for review and endorsement to the City Mayor for approval. Safe Water will facilitate a workshop with the LGU in July to define the processes, procedures, and policies in managing the EPF and its reinvestment for watershed programs, projects and activities.

The Field Team also initiated a meeting with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Region VI to support Bago City's request for technical assistance on charcoal briquetting. The city LGU plans to assist small farmers in producing charcoal briquettes from farm waste and small branches from fuelwood plantations using the EPF collections as an environmentally sustainable livelihood option for upland farmers of Barangays Mailum, Ilijan and Binubuhan. Bago City is still waiting for DOST's official response.

SARANGANI

Safe Water organized a 2-day PES Orientation for members of the Provincial Integrated Water Security Council (PIWSC) TWG on June 15-16. The PIWSC TWG and water utilities from the 7 LGUs were oriented on: (i) establishing PES schemes; (ii) valuation of ecosystem services focusing on cost-based valuation approaches including needed data and information; and (iii) the use of the CBV template and CRA workbook tool. The participants identified and validated major water-dependent ENR and livelihood enterprises in Sarangani and tried the CBV template and CRA workbook.

In the next quarter, the TWG will gather the needed data on CBV and CRA of identified priority watersheds in the province, including the BMRB. A follow up hands-on workshop will be conducted in August with the TWG members and representatives from water utilities and other water-dependent enterprises for the preparation and validation of the CBVs and CRAs for the BMRB and priority watersheds.

F. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

NEW AND PROSPECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

PhilCAFE. This quarter, Safe Water entered into a partnership with PhilCAFE for the establishment of sustainable coffee production practices in Sarangani. PhilCAFE is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-supported project in the coffee sector which leverages private and public resources in support of the



Promoting sustainable coffee farming.

USAID through its Safe Water Project established a partnership between PhilCAFE and the Provincial Government of Sarangani to promote sustainable practices and techniques on coffee farming which includes rejuvenation, pest management, selected harvesting and processing, to command good price of their coffee beans.



Leveraging private sector partnerships for watershed protection. Lawin patrollers use mobile phones to access the CyberTracker app to record forest condition, species, and threats in watersheds of Talisay City in Negros Occidental and Alabel and Maasim in Sarangani.

National Coffee Roadmap and promotes the coffee industry throughout the country. The partnership intends to enhance the coffee farmers' capacity, promote good agricultural practices and strengthen collaboration and partnership with coffee industry stakeholders and institutions. This will also include improving the capacity of the newly organized Provincial Coffee Council and develop mentors who will cascade the learnings to other POs in the province.

During the operations planning held during the quarter, both Safe Water and PhilCAFE presented their respective programs including current initiatives on coffee livelihood technical assistance to POs and Safe Water partners. A provincial cupping event is being proposed to showcase Sarangani's coffee products sometime in November this year.

Coca-Cola Foundation. Safe Water presented a concept note for another grant proposal to Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines Inc (CCFPI) during the Water Summit in Negros Occidental last April. From May to June, Safe Water has worked with Negros Economic Development Foundation on a proposal for a three-year integrated watershed management program that includes initiatives on sustainable livelihoods, reforestation, spring rehabilitation, capacity building on forest protection through the Lawin system and engaging sugar mills and industries on WDM. CCFPI has advised Safe Water to proceed with the request with a target approval by the 1st Quarter of Year 4.

Globe Telecoms Inc. Since the second quarter, Safe Water has been discussing a partnership agreement with Globe on the use of its digital solutions for the Project's WSS and WRM activities. Among the areas of proposed partnership are: 1) mobile phone donation to be used by Lawin forest patrollers across all project sites; 2) an early warning system for flooding in Pangil River, Sarangani; and 3) funding for a bamboo dike replication by Kasilak Foundation through GForest Rewards. Safe Water has received a positive response from Globe Telecoms on the request for mobile phones for Lawin Patrol while the other two projects are still being developed.

UPDATES ON CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS

PALAWAN

Safe Water collaborated with SFC to scale up ube (purple yam) demonstration farms for upland and lowland farmers, including Indigenous peoples' and women's groups, in watershed communities of Puerto Princesa City and Southern Palawan. Safe Water brokered contract growing agreements between the farmers and SFC as their market. After distributing 7,500 kilograms of good quality ube planting materials and natural pesticides and fertilizers (i.e., neem oil, fish amino acid, and fermented juices) to farmers' groups, Safe Water and SFC trained a total of 247 individuals (132 women and 115 men) from 32 local groups on organic methods of ube production so that farmers meet the standards required by SFC.

Together with the Institute for the Development of Educational and Ecological Alternatives, Inc. (IDEAS), Safe Water and SFC also trained 24 individuals from three local associations in Quezon on ube processing (washing, cooking, peeling, packaging, and storage) to add value to the raw ube crop.

As a result of all the technical assistance provided (i.e., training, mentoring, actual farm development, free seedling), a total of 2,281 members from 32 people's organizations now have ube farming as an alternative livelihood that could increase household income come harvest time.

On June 28-30, Safe Water, together with ZSL-Philippines and Taytay LGU, organized a workshop on developing a Tilapia Processing Business Plan for 24 members of the Lake Manguao Community and Indigenous People Agriculture Cooperative (LMCIPAC). LMCIPAC members were taught various aspects of enterprise implementation and guided in drafting their Business Plan which will be the basis for the proposed construction of a Tilapia processing facility and the procurement of the needed tools and equipment for tilapia processing, both of which will be funded by ZSL-Philippines and Taytay LGU. Tilapia processing is another sustainable livelihood that can encourage the community to care for the lake and abandon harmful practices affecting its integrity.



Empowering indigenous peoples and women organizations through sustainable ube farming. (1st-2nd) Farmers in Bataraza and Narra Palawan classify the Ube seedlings they receive from USAID and Sunlight Foods Corp. They apply ash to the “wounded” or sliced seedlings to protect the seedlings from fungus infection and prevent “damping off” and rotting.



Strengthening organizations for sustainable livelihoods. (1st) Mr. Glen Loresto from the Office of the Municipal Mayor of San Vicente discusses basic organization management concepts. (2nd) Small group discussion among San Vicente community members during a workshop on organizational leadership. (3rd) Members of Candamia Farmers Association report their workshop output in Sitio Candamia, Barangay Caruray, San Vicente, Palawan.

Safe Water, in partnership with San Vicente LGU, strengthened the management and leadership capacity of 23 POs through a training on basic organizational management, simple bookkeeping, and basic concepts of gender and development. Held on April 18-22 and 25-29 in six barangays of San Vicente, 400 participants participated in the training, most participants were women. The vision, mission, goals of the POs were also developed during the training. After the training, the San Vicente LGU provided livelihood packages to POs for layer poultry farming, pig farming, and mushroom farming.

As a result of the training, the POs are now using record books and following the templates provided for recording and monitoring all their livelihood transactions. The POs have also learned to compile minutes of meetings. The livelihood assistance provided by the LGU, which was facilitated by the Safe Water Field Team, is now providing additional sources of income to 568 PO members or 2,272 individuals, including their family members. Having a stable source of income not only increases their economic productivity but also leads to watershed conservation as local communities become less dependent on forest resources.

On June 20, in celebration of Environmental Month, Safe Water joined community residents, barangay officials, representatives of the Provincial Government of Palawan’s Environment and Natural Resources Office, the Quezon Municipal Government, Palawan State University, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the National Museum, the Department of Education, the military and law enforcement agencies, and other public and private organizations to plant mangroves along the coastal area of Sitio Karamporo in Barangay Tabon. Restoring mangroves in the more than two-hectare plantation is part of Quezon Municipality’s ridge-to-reef strategies identified in its draft LWCRP. Safe Water is currently assisting Quezon Municipality formulate its LWCRP to restore and improve the sustainable management of the municipality’s water resources.

From June 22 to 23, Safe Water conducted a seminar on entrepreneurial mind setting and an orientation on Community-Managed Savings and Credit Association (CoMSCA) for members of the Quezon Local Council of

Women. Twenty-eight women leaders from 14 barangays and 3 personnel from the GAD Office of Quezon participated in the seminar. The two-day seminar enabled participants to internalize entrepreneurial behavior (sets of beliefs, knowledge, and thought processes related to entrepreneurship) and recognize the need for their association to prepare an operational plan and policy to meet their goal of managing a business. The women are currently developing business plans for banana chips processing, hog fattening, dress making, and lending.

Safe Water also organized a tree planting activity in Umalad Watershed in Roxas, Palawan on June 23. Umalad watershed is the water source of Roxas Water District that supplies water to the municipal center of Roxas. Umalad is one of the identified watersheds in the ongoing watershed management plan formulation in the municipality. About 5,000 seedlings of native trees were planted on two hectares of planting site in the headwater of Umalad.

The Palawan Field Team also collaborated with DENR CENROs of Quezon and Roxas in organizing an orientation and hands-on training on the Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System. A total of 114 participants from the municipalities of Quezon (42), Narra (37), and Dumaran (35) attended the training, including LGU personnel, water service providers, NGOs (IDEAS and KFI), POs, women's sector, and barangay LGUs headed by the Barangay Chairpersons. Actual patrolling was conducted in each LGU to familiarize the participants on the observations to be recorded in the cyber tracker application such as forest condition, indicator species, and threats. The participants covered an average of 1.5 kilometers in their patrols and experienced actual recording in the selected patrol route. With the high interest of participants in implementing Lawin patrolling, representatives from barangay LGUs and associations submitted a list of potential Lawin patrollers to protect, conserve, and manage watershed monitoring in their respective areas.



Rehabilitating the Umalad Watershed.
(1st-2nd) Participants plant seedlings of Narra (*Pterocarpus indicus*) during the tree planting activity in Umalad Watershed, Roxas, Palawan.



Rehabilitating natural springs to protect water sources. MUAD farmers, from the Barangay Araal Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Association –BAARBA, planted an additional 500 seedlings to other high-recharge areas of the watershed.

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

The Negros Occidental Field Team continues to work with MUAD Negros to activate POs in implementing the P4Water project supported by CCFPI. As of June 17, POs have been mobilized to raise seedlings of native trees and fruit trees and six people's organizations have planted 4,000 native trees to rehabilitate natural springs, which are water sources of communities in Barangays Bago, Igmayaan and Pandanon, Don Salvador Benedicto and in Barangay Alegria in Murcia, Negros Occidental. During the quarter (April-June), these POs generated additional savings of [REDACTED] bringing the total savings mobilized from January to June 2022 to [REDACTED].

On May 16-20, Safe Water facilitated the technical orientation on sustainable ube production and contract management with SFC. A total of 166 participants from POs, NGOs and LGUs, attended the technical training, where the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) conducted a soil analysis of 47 samples provided by the POs to determine if the proposed areas are suitable for ube production. The OPA also provided the logistics needed for the pick-up of the ube planting materials from the airport, provision of storage facility for the ube planting materials and distribution of farm tools and other inputs to POs.

On June 20-23, 77 representatives from POs, NGOs and LGUs participated, in the orientation on Unilever Sustainable Agricultural Code (ULSAC), including actual training on land preparation, seedling propagation and organic fertilizer preparation. Ten POs and two LGUs volunteered to establish their own demo farms for ube production. The produce will be used as planting materials for the next cycle, which will be the start of the full production.

SARANGANI

Last year, Safe Water in partnership with Kasilak Development Foundation Inc., and in coordination with the Municipality of Malungon, established a kilometer-long bamboo dike at critical sections of Sitio Campo, which is the lowest portion of barangay Lower Mainit, Malungon, Sarangani. The Bamboo Dike is an indigenous technology introduced by Kasilak for riverbank stabilization. Due to the confluence of two rivers upstream, the water current of Malungon River in Lower Mainit becomes stronger, eroding the riverbanks and flooding Sitio Campo when the river overflows its banks, forcing nearby residents to evacuate.

With the establishment of the bamboo dike, seven families living near the bank of Sitio Campo no longer have to evacuate during heavy downpours. Residents noticed that the stream flow slows down at the section of the bamboo dike and there are no longer overflows of the bank, minimizing bank erosion. Realizing the positive environmental effect of bamboo dikes established in Lower Mainit, the municipal government of Malungon has started to replicate this nature-based solution in other areas of the municipality, particularly in barangay Ampon, where almost a kilometer-long bamboo dike was installed.

Last quarter, Safe Water partnered with Seaoil Foundation Inc. (SFI) to introduce water access and water resource management into the Tugon sa Gutom Program of Seaoil. On April 11, Safe Water and SFI formulated an operations plan which defined activities and targets under the partnership. The goal and objectives, including specific activities such as training and application of soil and water conservation measures, organic farming, and agro-forestry, were identified that will lead towards resilient families practicing sustainable food production and livelihoods in Alabel and Maasim, Sarangani.

Safe Water and the Kasilak Foundation trained 30 members from 12 POs on project proposal preparation. Most of the proposals centered on agroforestry activities particularly production of cacao, coffee, and high value fruit trees. A project proposal is required by national line agencies in accessing resources for agricultural production. Next quarter, Safe Water, with the support



Stabilizing riverbanks for resilient coastal communities. Community members install bamboo dikes for riverbank stabilization.



Controlling soil erosion through SALT.

Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT) offers a potentially very valuable method for controlling soil erosion and increasing soil fertility. Participants from Alabel apply their learnings from a series of SALT trainings conducted from April 28-May 6 in Pag-asa and Datal Anggas, Alabel.

of Kasilak, will seek endorsement from OMAG Malungon and Office of the City Agriculturist of General Santos to support the requests of trained POs.

The Sarangani Field Team also works with the LGUs and the local DENR offices in the province in implementing the Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System and SALT. A series of onsite Lawin orientation trainings were held in the upland barangays of Maasim, Alabel and General Santos City, and clustered training for Kiamba, Maitum, Glan and Malapatan. The bantay-gubat members and municipal/city ENROs personnel trained during the quarter reached 175 participants. They were oriented on Lawin patrolling and environmental laws, after which actual forest patrolling was undertaken in their respective forested areas. Participants also prepared forest patrol maps and formulated protocols for reporting patrolling activities during the training.

Agreements reached after the trainings include schedules of joint patrolling activities with DENR Lawin patrollers, enrollment in the DENR Lawin system and deputation of trained bantay-gubat members as forest protection officers.

Safe Water together with the Office of Municipal Agriculture of Alabel is building the capacity of farmers in the upland areas of Barangays Alegria, Datal Anggas, Pag-Asa, Domolok and Bagacay on the application of SALT in their farms. These barangays are all located within the Buayan-Malungon River Basin and the adoption of SALT in upland farms will help improve agricultural productivity, reduce soil erosion and eventually improve water quality. A total of 131 farmers belonging to the Blaen and Kaulo tribes were trained on SALT, which is also among the key interventions under the Municipal Food Security and Enhanced Economic Recovery Plan of Alabel, Sarangani.

Safe Water with OMAG Malapatan also trained 32 cacao farmers from Daan Suyan Tri-people Cooperative, Pitak Upland Farmer's Association, Kasasato Farmers Association and Lun Masla Farmers Association, on Integrated Pest and Diseases Management, watershed conservation and management, and gender in agroforestry activities. The four POs have a total membership of 277 farmers with 250 hectares planted to

cacao. The farmers were taught how to make their own cacao pod sleeves (plastic sheath to guard against infestation) and trained onsite on use. Participants were also taught how to identify pest infestations and specific pests affecting their cacao trees, prune, and prepare their pest management plan. These trained cacao farmers are all located within Lun Masla Watershed, one of the priority watersheds being assisted by Safe Water.

Safe Water facilitated the request of Sitio Likon Blaan Farmers Association for soil testing. The farmer's association is currently into small scale ube production and intends to increase its production capacity and at the same time broaden its link to markets. On June 24, a chemist from the Department of Agriculture, Regional Office 12 did an onsite orientation on soil laboratory analysis and field soil sampling. The results of the soil analysis which will be released in July, will determine if the area is suitable for massive ube production. Safe Water in partnership with SFI will assist ube farmers in this endeavor.

G. CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT (WDM)

WDM TRAINING FOR NWRB

As part of its technical assistance to the NWRB on the formulation of a comprehensive national policy on WDM, Safe Water conducted a customized WDM 101 online training on May 16, 2021. The training introduced basic WDM concepts and strategies to 21 participants from various NWRB units including the Water Policy Formulation Section, Water Resources Assessment Section, Project Evaluation and Coordination Section, and Water Resources Information Section, Policy and Program Division, Monitoring and Enforcement Division, Water Utilities Division, Water Rights Division, and Administration and Financial Division. The online training was led by Albert Samuela, a Water Alliance WDM expert from Nalco Water. San Miguel Corporation (SMC) also presented its WDM initiatives to represent the business sector such as: water mapping techniques, use of US EPA-compliant water efficient fixtures, regular monitoring of water savings, and its internal structure that oversees WDM initiatives in every SMC business unit.



Towards a national policy on water demand management. NWRB personnel processes the policy options presented by USAID from its desk review and analysis of WDM experiences from other countries. The workshop facilitated the identification of potential WDM policy options focusing on economic instruments, non-revenue water, technical solutions and behavior change communication and awareness raising that will shape the development of a WDM policy on municipal water supply.



Orienting Restaurant Personnel on Water Demand Management. Personnel from Ayala Malls Capitol Central (AMCC) and selected merchants join the Water Demand Management (WDM) 101 session delivered by USAID and Maynilad.

DOCUMENTATION OF WDM BEST PRACTICES

Safe Water continues to enrich WDM learning modules in collaboration with the Philippine Water Alliance/ Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) WDM experts. The case documentation of WDM best practices will be used as evidence to support the promotion of WDM in business establishments. It will also supplement the learning modules during the WDM training roll out in the project sites.

The first case documentation of WDM practices was done for Ayala Mall Capitol Central (AMCC) in Bacolod City on April 20-21, 2021. AMCC has adopted several WDM measures to reduce their water consumption, which includes the use of o-ring gaskets in the faucets in common areas of the mall, replacement of toilets with water-efficient flush-o-meter models, and installation of sub-meters in the restrooms throughout the mall. Case documentation activities included: 1) an onsite water audit; 2) an orientation of AMCC mall personnel and tenants on the basics of WDM; and 3) key informant interviews with personnel from AMCC Engineering Department on the planning and implementation of WDM initiatives in the mall.

Actual Water Audit. A water audit or water demand assessment survey provides a better understanding of the water use patterns, characteristics of fixtures and consumption. The water audit results can serve as baseline data for development or improvement of a WDM program. The Safe Water audit team surveyed the water fixtures in AMCC to ascertain their performance against efficiency standards for each fixture. The on-site water audit involved direct observations and recording of actual measurements of water flow and volume rates of water fixtures and identification of fixture leaks with the use of water audit tools. A total of 304 fixtures were audited (127 faucets, 111 toilets, 64 urinals, and 2 showerheads) in the common areas of the mall and 139 fixtures in the restaurants.

Engineers from the water districts and the University of St. La Salle-Bacolod who were trained by Safe Water on WDM participated as water auditors. The team was led

by Maynilad NRW experts.² Safe Water has submitted its draft water audit report to AMCC for their review. The report validated that AMCC has made significant reduction in water consumption and realized cost savings with their WDM initiatives. The report also recommended areas to further improve AMCC’s water efficiency program by upgrading fixtures that do not conform with the efficiency standards set by the Philippine Green Building Code.

Development of Water Audit Instructional Video. Safe Water and the Water Alliance is co-developing a WDM Trainers’ Guide, which includes an instructional video on how to conduct a water audit. The video footage was recorded during the water audit of AMCC and will have English, Ilonggo and Tagalog narrations.



Trained local experts join water audit. The USAID and Maynilad team, with experts in Negros Occidental who finished the Training of Trainers on WDM last year, also conducted a water audit of AMCC’s water fixtures in their toilet facilities and selected facilities of AMCC merchants.

² David Andrew Fernandez, Head of the West NRW Division of Maynilad is deployed as the Water Alliance lead WDM expert. Two other Maynilad personnel joined the audit.

FIGURE 9. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN PALAWAN



Legend

-  Watershed management plan formulation
-  Creation and strengthening of watershed management councils
-  Conduct of hydrologic studies and training on computational hydrology
-  Watershed boundaries
-  Developing local stakeholders' capacity for climate and hydrologic risk assessment
-  Scaling payment for ecosystem services
-  Strengthening partnerships for WRM and livelihoods
-  Capacity building for WDM

FIGURE 10. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN NEGROS OCCIDENTAL



USAID Safe Water - Water Resource Management Activities

Legend

-  Watershed management plan formulation
-  Watershed boundaries
-  Scaling payment for ecosystem services
-  Creation and strengthening of watershed management councils
-  Developing local stakeholders' capacity for climate and hydrologic risk assessment
-  Strengthening partnerships for WRM and livelihoods
-  Conduct of hydrologic studies and training on computational hydrology
-  Capacity building for WDM

FIGURE 11. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN SARANGANI AND GSC



USAID Safe Water - Water Resource Management Activities

Legend

- 

Watershed management plan formulation
- 

Watershed boundaries
- 

Scaling payment for ecosystem services
- 

Creation and strengthening of watershed management councils
- 

Developing local stakeholders' capacity for climate and hydrologic risk assessment
- 

Strengthening partnerships for WRM and livelihoods
- 

Conduct of hydrologic studies and training on computational hydrology
- 

Capacity building for WDM

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHENED WATER SECTOR GOVERNANCE

A. MOBILIZING FINANCING FOR RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION SERVICES (WSS)

MONITORING AND FACILITATING ACCESS TO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND MOBILIZING LOCAL BUDGETS FOR WSS INVESTMENTS

LWUA’s budget allocation for grants for septage management projects in Mandamus areas.

In June, LWUA management endorsed 10 projects worth [REDACTED] to its Board for approval of grant funding. Of this total, [REDACTED] from the 2021 LWUA budget allocation is available for utilization, in particular, LWUA can now bid out project implementation. Safe Water assisted LWUA to improve and complete the bid terms of reference for septage management projects. It also trained LWUA staff on bid evaluation.

DPWH Basic Infrastructure Program (BIP) for Level 2 and 3 public water supply systems.

The Team assisted the DPWH District Engineering Office in Negros Occidental to review the POWs and technical designs of water supply projects with a total allocation of [REDACTED] for 2021 and 2022 to fast-track the mobilization of funding assistance, procurement activities and project implementation.

Local Government Support Fund (LGSF) - NTF-ELCAC. To facilitate local government access to grant funding from the National Government’s LGSF program, the Team provided technical assistance and trainings to help identify eligible water supply projects and meet documentation requirements. Safe Water provided training on project preparation to the Sarangani Provincial Engineering Office and LGU engineers of Alabel, Glan, Malapatan and Malungon to access funding assistance amounting to [REDACTED] for barangay water supply projects from the NTF-ELCAC.

WD and LGU Budgets for WSS Projects. The Team assessed water supply facilities of WDs and LGUs to identify potential areas for expansion and system improvement and the corresponding investment requirements. Safe Water provided trainings and technical assistance to the following WSPs which facilitated allocation, obligation and utilization of [REDACTED] for water supply investment programs and projects:

TABLE 9. WD AND LGU BUDGETS FOR WSS PROJECTS

WSP/ LOCATION	SAFE WATER ASSISTANCE	AMOUNT MOBILIZED	SOURCE OF FUNDS
El Nido Water and Sanitation System (ENWSS)	Identification of well source development to augment existing demand	[REDACTED]	Local GAD Fund and General Fund for 2022
Aborlan Water System Management and Operation Unit (AWSMOU)	Reviewed, updated POW and hydraulic analysis for expansion and improvement of distribution systems; amount allotted for a 300cu.m elevated storage tank	[REDACTED]	LGU 20% DF for 2022
Dumaran Waterworks System	POW finalization and design preparation for the expansion of water supply in Sta. Teresita to augment existing water demand	[REDACTED]	LGU 20% DF for 2022
Quezon Water Supply System, Palawan	Mentoring on water quality, pressure management, O&M, leak repair and installation of new connections	[REDACTED]	LGU 20% DF for 2022

Sofronio Espanola Waterworks Office, Palawan	Hydraulic analysis and calibration of mother meter which led to budget allocation for the expansion and repair of existing leaks		LGU 20% DF for 2022
Narra Water Supply System, Palawan	Training on water quality and pressure management		LGU 20% DF for 2022
San Vicente MEEDO, Palawan	Review and finalization of POW and hydraulic analysis for well development covering all barangays including Port Barton area; and source development to augment the existing demand in business center of Poblacion		LGU 20% DF for 2021 and 2022 and General Fund
LGU-run water utilities of Alabel, Malapatan, Glan and Maasim, Sarangani	Applied learnings from trainings on WS design for MLGU WS expansion projects		PLGU Sarangani 20% CDF for 2021 and 2022
TOTAL			

Safe Water will continue to provide technical assistance and trainings on project development, planning and programming to help LGUs identify WSS projects for inclusion in their water security related plans, 2023 Annual Investment Plans (AIPs) and budgets, and long-term investment programs (PDPFPs and LDIPs). The Team will also help the LGUs and WDs explore other financing sources for eligible projects, such as special funds like the National Sewerage and Septage Management Program and People’s Survival Fund, multilateral and bilateral sources like the Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP), and commercial financing from GFIs and MFIs.

FACILITATION OF LWUA-DBP CO-FINANCING ARRANGEMENT

Safe Water, as part of its assistance to LWUA, will facilitate access of WDs with pipeline projects affirmed by LWUA for co-financing or sole financing with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP). However, facilitation activities on the co-financing arrangement between LWUA and DBP for WSS investments continue to be held in abeyance until the appointment of a LWUA Administrator. The current officer-in-charge has limited authority to decide on the co-financing arrangement.

MOBILIZING WASH LOANS FROM MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS

WASH loans generated for WSS services during the quarter (April to June 2022), through collaboration with Water.org and partner MFIs, amounted to [REDACTED].

To continue to build on the WASH loan programs, Safe Water and Water.org reviewed the latter’s WASH Training Modules for MFIs. The updated modules will be ready for roll out by August 2022 to existing and new MFI partners. The updated WASH Manual will be used to apprise partner MFIs on sector developments and requirements for WASH investments and accelerate demand generation through the INTEGRATE Program.³

³ Water.org initiated the INTEGRATE Program to systematically link LGUs and MFIs to integrate the latter’s WASH financing in plans and programs for WSS service expansion or improvement.

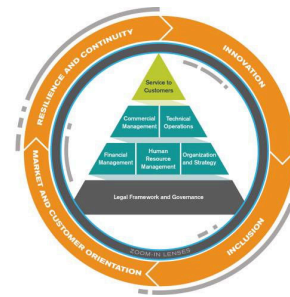
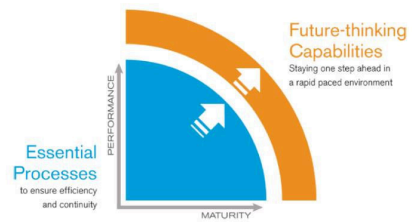
Safe Water also actively engaged the WASH TWG comprised of members from key MFI partners⁴ in the development of a WASH loan program tracking system to facilitate monitoring and reporting of MFI contributions to access financing.

Safe Water, with Water.org, Palawan Water and PEEDO also conducted an orientation on the establishment of local economic enterprises and ring-fencing for six water supply systems managed by Palawan Water in the municipalities of Roxas, El Nido, Balabac, Linapacan, Magsaysay, and Cagayancillo. The training is envisioned to improve demand generation for water supply services and MFI lending for water supply connections and other WASH services in these municipalities.

COMPLEMENTING DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS' INITIATIVES

Safe Water coordinated with NEDA and the World Bank on the proposed program for the sector to complement efforts and ensure coherence of approaches and policy implementation measures of the PWSSMP. World Bank presented the results of the Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA) study in April. ASA is a run up to the proposed program loan to support policy reforms in the WSS sector. World Bank is proposing to set up a performance-based grant fund under DPWH management to leverage WSS investments with WSP equity, commercial funding or private equity. World Bank assured it will adopt the principles of URAF.

Relatedly, World Bank has also recently concluded its capacity development assistance to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) on the application of the Utility of the Future (UoF) tool in the assessment of 842 water utilities under the agency's purview. To align initiatives with World Bank and other Development Partners, Safe Water will support NEDA in initiating discussions on: a) benchmarks for water utility performance for LGU-run utilities and WDs based on the size and resources of the utilities (KPI thresholds); and b) harmonization of local planning initiatives including the Provincial and Municipal WASH planning process and tools.



World Bank's Utility of the Future Program. The UoF is a new paradigm for providing WSS services, far beyond what most utilities have achieved—or even aimed for—today. A UoF provides high-quality services in a highly efficient manner while also being innovative, inclusive, market- and customer-oriented, and resilient. The success pyramid illustrates the interdependencies and complexities of a UoF.

B. SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PHILIPPINE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION MASTER PLAN (PWSSMP) AND THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE UNIFIED RESOURCE ALLOCATION FRAMEWORK (URAF)

The Team held a Pause and Reflect Session with NEDA on June 20-21 in Metro Clark, Pampanga related to Safe Water's assistance to NEDA in the implementation of the PWSSMP and operationalization of URAF. The change in administration is seen as an opportunity to advocate for the key reforms espoused by the PWSSMP. Safe Water will support NEDA in the conduct of high-level meetings with DOF, Department of Budget Management (DBM) and DILG and one-on-one consultations with WSS agencies (LWUA, NWRB, DOH, DPWH, DILG) on the government's water security agenda and its alignment with the new Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 through the preparation of advocacy materials, analytics and other related technical secretariat support. It will also help promote the PWSSMP's localization with the NEDA Regional Offices and LGUs by sharing Safe Water's water security planning framework, LGU report card template on WRM, WSS access and investment gaps and requirements, and most of all the experience of crafting provincial water security plans.

SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR) AND WATER REGULATORY COMMISSION (WRC)

NEDA will continue to push for the passage of the DWR and WRC with the new Administration and the 19th Congress. The technical notes prepared by the Team in Years 2 and 3 will serve as references for the advocacy activities. Safe Water will organize a Delphi session with Water Experts to gather insights and recommendations on advocacy strategies with the new administration and Congress on major policy reforms such as the DWR and WRC, National Water Resources Management Council (to be established through an Executive Order and is intended to strengthen NWRB to serve as apex body pending legislation of DWR), URAF and water pricing and allocation policies.

SUPPORT FOR THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE URAF AND WATER CONVERGENCE PROGRAM

NEDA also confirmed it will continue to pursue the operationalization of the URAF for WSS Services. DOF is included as a priority agency for the high-level meetings to discuss the URAF and the crowding of commercial financing for WSS investments. The approval of the NEDA Board Resolution adopting the URAF for WSS Services is still pending due to comments from DOF.⁵ Safe Water supported NEDA in the promotion of URAF through the preparation of a technical note addressing issues on the draft EO operationalizing the URAF. Safe Water also assisted financing schemes supportive of URAF, including a NG grant for septage management projects in the Mandamus areas and the pilot implementation and promotion of innovative financing schemes such as the OBA-BF for household sanitation services.

⁴ The key MFI partners under the Safe Water-Water.org collaboration include: ASA Philippines Foundation Inc., Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation, Inc., Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc., Community Economic Ventures, Inc., and Life Bank, Inc.

⁵ Safe Water prepared a technical note on DOF's comments in January to inform NEDA's response to DOF. NEDA has yet to officially respond to DOF's comments. The NEDA Board Resolution is crucial as it will serve as an explicit and formal document mandating URAF operationalization. Only upon approval of the NEDA Board Resolution will NEDA be able to issue the URAF Implementing Guidelines. Taking off from the initial work of WASHFIN, Safe Water has started drafting the Implementing Guidelines.

COORDINATION WITH NEDA AND KEY IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

NEDA. The Team reviewed the implementation of the PWSSMP Work Plan and Dashboard during the Pause and Reflect session with NEDA. The dashboard is a tool for NEDA to complement activities of key implementing agencies and development partners related to the key reform agenda and monitor their implementation and contribution to the accomplishment of the SDG targets on universal WSS access. Safe Water will provide technical support to NEDA in meetings with the key implementing agencies and development partners in the next quarter to discuss the implementation and monitoring of the PWSSMP work plan and complementarity of related initiatives.

LWUA. Safe Water followed up with LWUA on the review of the bid terms of reference and application of the septage management training in the final selection of projects for grant financing. LWUA is awaiting board approval of the projects for bidding. A follow-up training on sanitation pricing and construction supervision will be conducted after bidding of the projects.

DILG. The Team met with DILG on May 30 and confirmed the conduct of the following joint activities to strengthen governance of LGU-run water utilities:

1. Conduct of capacity development activities:
 - NRW training for LGU-run utilities;
 - Orientation on the establishment of water utilities as Local Economic Enterprises; and
 - Training on strategic business planning in 2023.
2. Pilot implementation of the CMS and enhancement of capacity building tools on water utility improvement:
 - Pilot implementation to start in the last quarter of 2022 (first quarter of Safe Water Year 4 Work Plan) in Sarangani and Palawan; and
 - Review and harmonization of tools on water utility performance improvement and governance.



Cascading the PWSSMP in the local level through PIWSP. During the Pause and Reflect session with NEDA, Safe Water committed to sharing the lessons learned and best practices on PIWSP during NEDA's discussions with stakeholders on the PWSSMP.



Exchanging new practices on water demand management. (Top) Engr. Albert Samuela, Vice Chair of the Water for Waterless Cluster of Water Alliance, introduced water footprint as a measure of humanity’s appropriation of freshwater in volumes of water consumed and/or polluted (definition from Water Footprint Network, the Netherlands; Bottom) Domingo Perez shared San Miguel Corporation’s WDM program – Water for All, Water Sustainability: The SMC Way. By 2025, SMC committed to reduce their water consumption across the entire SMC group of companies by 50% with 2016 as their baseline year.

3. Synchronization of water security and WASH planning activities at the local level.

NWRB. Safe Water is assisting NWRB to develop a national WDM policy for municipal water supply. The Team conducted a WDM 101 training for NWRB on May 16 to familiarize NWRB with the context and basic concepts of WDM, introduce WDM strategies and share an example of an effective WDM practice by the private sector. Safe Water also prepared a desk review on WDM policies in other countries to inform the development of the WDM policy for municipal water supply. Safe Water held a workshop on June 10 to present the results of the desk review to NWRB and NEDA and gather their feedback. During the workshop the group identified opportunities, weaknesses and gaps in related policies, programs and activities, and mapped WDM policy options and capacity development requirements for NWRB. Other technical and capacity development assistance to NWRB related to the development of the policy will include:

1. training on water audit, WDM policy reform areas and economic instruments;
2. development of a terms of reference for the development of a holistic WDM policy covering all users; and
3. development of the WDM policy on municipal water supply.

Safe Water will continue to promote the proposed collaboration between NWRB and the LGUs in joint monitoring and data collection activities for integrated and cohesive land use and water resources management as part of the project’s water security and WDM initiatives.⁶ The proposed collaboration focuses on three areas: a) sharing of data and information for policy and planning, and integration of water availability and demand in the CLUP; b) coordination on the issuance of local clearances/permits and water permits; and c) cooperation and support for monitoring and enforcement of water permits.

⁶ Safe Water drafted the MOU on the NWRB-LGU collaboration in July 2021 and revised it in September 2021 to incorporate NWRB’s comments. NWRB requested to further review the revised draft MOU to ensure harmonization of the proposed cooperation with their regulatory functions.

C. PROMOTION OF PPP AND INNOVATIVE FINANCING SCHEMES (PES AND OBA-BF)

PROMOTION OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP)

Safe Water continued to facilitate the partnership between the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental and the PPP Center (PPPC) for a bulk surface water project. Refer to the discussion of related activities under Objective 1, on page 15.

ROLL-OUT OF OUTPUT-BASED AID AND BLENDED FINANCE SCHEME FOR HOUSEHOLD SANITATION

The Team is actively promoting the OBA-BF scheme for household sanitation to the National Government, LGUs in the project sites and the international community using the pilot implementation in Alabel and Sagay City with MFI partners (ASA Philippines Foundation and Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation) as proof of concept. Safe Water shared with implementing partners the documentation on the pilot entitled “Leveraging Resources for Improved Sanitation through Output-Based Aid and Blended Finance: Proof of Concept from the AWESOME OBA-BF Pilot” in June. The report details the implementation process, the proof of concept, learnings and recommendations from the OBA-BF demonstration. The scheme has been integrated as an innovative financing strategy in the PIWSPs being formulated for Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

The Team also met with the LGU of Cauayan in Negros Occidental to discuss the adoption of the scheme in the implementation of their Zero Open Defecation Program. The preparation of the implementing guidelines for the adoption, institutionalization and financing of the OBA-BF program by LGUs is on-going.

The Team will present the results of the OBA-BF pilot implementation as an innovative water security solution for improving access to household sanitation during the session on Achieving Universal Sanitation at the Asia Water Forum 2022 on August 10, 2022.



Addressing financing gaps on WSS through PPP. USAID Safe Water in collaboration with the Public-Private Partnership Center (PPPC) assisted the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental (PGNO) in developing the Project Concept Note for the proposed Malogo Bulk Water Supply during a workshop on 09-10 June 2022 at Negros Residences, Bacolod City. Site visit was conducted to the proposed intake site located upstream of Malogo river in Barangay Kapitan Ramon, Silay City, Negros Occidental.

PES REPLICATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Safe Water activities to scale and improve existing PES programs in the identified LGUs are reported in Objective 2, on page 44.

TABLE 10. EXISTING PES PROGRAMS WITH PARTNER LGUS

For replication/ scale up	For improvement of PES systems
a. Bago Watershed in Negros Occidental b. Ilog-Hilabangan Watershed in Kabankalan c. Buayan Malungon River Basin in Sarangani Province d. Irawan and Montible Watersheds in Puerto Princesa City in Palawan	a. Environmental Protection Fee in Bago City, Negros Occidental b. Water Levy in Municipality of Quezon, Palawan

The Team is pushing for the institutionalization of the PES as a sustainable financing scheme for watershed conservation and protection through the issuance of local ordinances to implement the PES and the engagement of water service providers and users in its implementation.

WRM FINANCING FRAMEWORK

The Team has prepared the initial draft of the WRM Financing Framework. The financing framework aims to influence investment programming and resource allocation for the PIWSP and other local plans by providing a strategic approach to:

- a) guide the allocation, generation and mobilization of financial resources for priority investments in long-term, sustainable watershed management;
- b) identify financing modalities and instruments for sustainable watershed conservation and protection; and
- c) engage stakeholders (LGUs, water service providers, private sector, civil society organizations, and communities) in establishing and/or strengthening financial responsibilities and alliances for sustainable WRM financing.

D. TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT SUPPORT TO THE NEDA-LED WSS NETWORK

The next WSS Network Session will focus on Water Security and NEDA will convene the Secretariat of the Infrastructure Development Committee of the NEDA Regional Development Councils, NWRB and DILG to the WSS Network forum to promote the localization of water security initiatives. The Team has prepared the session program which will include the presentation of the National Water Security Roadmap by NWRB and Safe Water's Provincial Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework (PIIWSF), highlighting the experience of Sarangani.

E. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY TOOLS AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

This quarter, the Safe Water Team completed the following knowledge products:

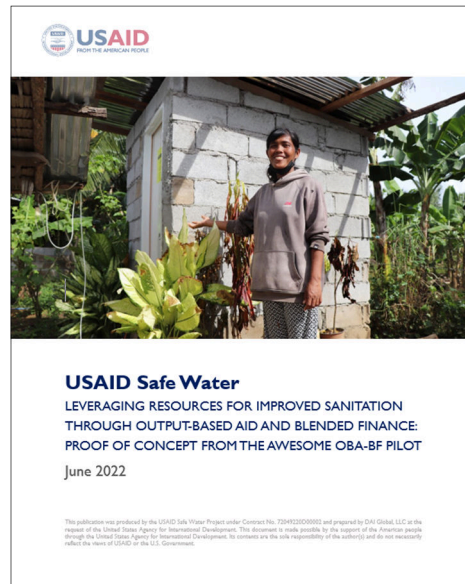
OBA-BF Pilot Documentation Report entitled “Leveraging Resources for Improved Sanitation through Output-Based Aid and Blended Finance: Proof of Concept from the AWESOME OBA-BF Pilot”. The report has been shared with implementing partners and it outlines the implementation process, learnings and recommendations from the pilot. The OBA-BF scheme has been integrated as an innovative financing strategy in the PIWSPs being formulated for Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

WDM Desk Review of initiatives and policies by other countries which will be used by NWRB as reference for WDM policy areas. This has been reviewed and presented to the NWRB during the WDM Desk Review Workshop held on June 10.

Hydrologic Studies for 60 additional watersheds in Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani which provides key information of potential available surface water, groundwater recharge volume and the locations of high recharge zones within each watershed. The findings will also be incorporated in the respective PIWSPs of Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

Updated Ring-Fencing Guide for LGU-run Water Utilities, which incorporate the changes in accounting treatment of government transactions and processes based on the Government Accounting Manual for Local Government Units which was released in 2020. The updated guide will also be annexed to the CMS Guidebook, which is currently being finalized.

Other knowledge products. The Safe Water Team also assisted in the preparation and finalization of reports such as the Montible IWMP and the Executive Summary of the PIWSP of Sarangani.



Packaging knowledge products for dissemination. Safe Water disseminated knowledge products, for instance the - OBA-BF Pilot Documentation Report and the WDM Desk Review – to stakeholders and partners.

Knowledge products in the pipeline include:

- Central Management System (CMS) Guidebook
- Framework for Watershed Management Financing
- Water.Org WASH Training Modules for MFIs
- OBA-BF Implementing Guide
- Water Demand Management (WDM) Trainer’s Guide and Documentation of Best Practices
- Septage Management Toolkit

During Safe Water’s Pause and Reflect session with NEDA, the endorsement of the Project’s knowledge products (i.e., Business Planning Toolkit, Financial Stress Test, CMS Guidebook, PIIWSF and Planning Guide and OBA-BF) was discussed. The provincial water security planning process (as contained in the PIIWSF and Planning Guide) was adopted, in principle, by NEDA. NEDA will use the framework to cascade the PWSSMP in local development plans.

The Project has likewise included in its work plan with DILG, the (peer) review of Safe Water knowledge products such as the CMS Guidebook and the PIIWSF and Planning Guide.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Academic Partnerships. Discussions with potential partner academic institutions in Safe Water sites as a mechanism to share and store WSS and WRM knowledge are still on-going. During the quarter, Safe Water drafted a MOA with University of St. La Salle (USLS) – Bacolod in Negros Occidental, which has been sent to Dr. Romeo Teruel, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement, May 10, 2022 for review. The draft MOA will be used as a template for discussion with other prospective partners in academia such as Palawan State University in Palawan and Notre Dame Dadiangas University in Sarangani.

Local Water Alliance. As discussed earlier, the concept of a local water alliance was introduced during the Water Convergence Forum in General Santos City. The local water alliance, envisioned as a multi-stakeholder platform to address water security issues, will also be tapped as a venue for knowledge exchange.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

A. GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP) STRATEGY 1: LGU GENDER FOCAL POINT SYSTEM MAXIMIZED IN WSS AND WRM INTERVENTIONS

PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAININGS ON GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT FOCAL POINT SYSTEM (GFPS) TO STRENGTHEN WOMEN’S REPRESENTATION IN WSS AND WRM DEVELOPMENT

The GFPS is an important platform of LGU-run water utilities and water districts to mainstream gender, champion women’s empowerment and leadership, and address gender issues in the water sector. GFPS is an inter-acting and inter-dependent group of people in all government agencies tasked with catalyzing gender mainstreaming. As an affirmative action, GFPS can include activities for gender development in the agency budget. Safe Water works with several partners such as the provincial government and state universities and colleges (SUCs) in strengthening the GFPS in the sector.

The Palawan Field Team used a multi-sector approach to the GPB Training for LGU-run water utilities by engaging municipal planning and development officers, environment officers, waterworks supervisors and engineers to work with the municipal GFPS representatives in the integration of gender and water issues in the LGU GAD Plan. Typically, the GFPS lead of each agency takes on the development of the GPB, as was done by the water districts in Negros Occidental and Sarangani. In Palawan, the Field Team involved other stakeholders within the LGU in gender mainstreaming within the water sector instead of the usual gender advocates. This approach was taken because most LGU GAD plans only address gender issues related to health, education, and livelihoods, but often none related to the water sector. By engaging different strategic personnel within the LGU, Safe Water is able to promote an appreciation of gender issues in the water sector and how to address them in a more holistic LGU GAD Plan.

The Safe Water Team customized the objective of the training, the gender analysis tools and the timeline of the final output for the LGU-managed water utilities. The LGU teams collectively identified priority issues in the water sector for inclusion in the overall LGU GAD Plans covering four areas - water supply and sanitation (WSS), water resource management (WRM), governance and women’s leadership.

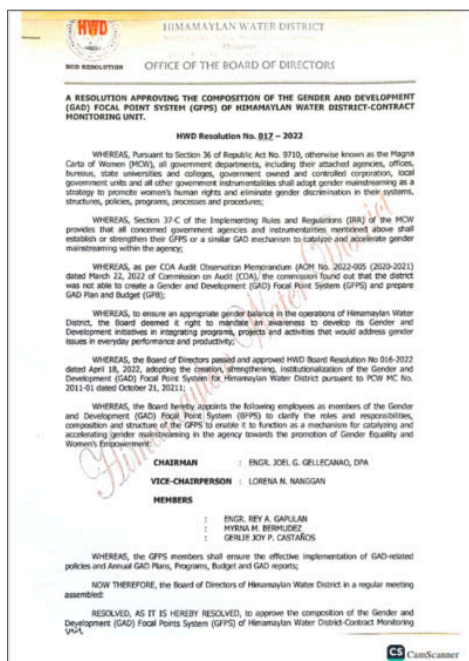
For LGU-managed water utilities, the tool for gender analysis shifted to the prescribed Gender Responsive LGU Assessment Tool (GeRL) instead of the Gender Mainstreaming Evaluation Framework (GMEF) used for water districts classified as government-owned corporations. Table II differentiates the application of the prescribed gender tools. Lastly, as the LGUs have already submitted their 2023 budgets in the first quarter of 2022, the proposed GPB sections responding to water sector issues were set for 2024.

TABLE II. TOOLS PRESCRIBED FOR GAD PLANNING AND BUDGETING

Tools	Unit of Analysis	Users	
		LGUs	Others
Gender-Responsive LGU Assessment Tool (GeRL)	LGUs and basic delivery of services	X	
Gender Mainstreaming Evaluation Framework (GMEF)	Organizational structure, policies & enabling mechanisms		X
Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG)	Programs and projects	X	X

A total of 39 participants representing ten LGUs (Aborlan, Brooke’s Point, El Nido, Narra, Quezon, Roxas, San Vicente, Taytay, Puerto Princesa City, and the provincial government of Palawan) completed the training. Among the significant feedback from the participants was learning to use the two tools: GeRL and the Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG) and identifying/amplifying water security issues. The participants said they are now confident in applying these tools as part of the GPB process.

The next step for the LGU teams is to ensure that the proposed gender and water security initiatives are integrated in the 2024 GAD Plan of their respective LGUs. Safe Water will take proactive measures towards this end by writing to the local chief executives about the accomplishments at the recently concluded multi-sectoral GAD Planning and Budget Training.



Strengthening women’s leadership in water districts. This resolution constituted the GFPS of the Himamaylan to support gender mainstreaming in the sector and to strengthen women’s leadership initiatives in the water district.

The succeeding GPB trainings will focus on the water districts starting with the PPCWD in Quarter 4 and the rest of the water districts in the province in Year 4.

In Negros Occidental, the GAD Planning and Budget Training for the Association of Negros Occidental Water Districts (ANOWD) focused on the completion of the gender analysis tools (GMEF and the Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines or HGDG), as well as the actual GAD Plans and Budget for the year 2023 per water district.

The ANOWD members had a head-start when the Provincial Gender and Focal Point System (PGFPS) and Safe Water jointly held a two-day orientation on gender and development and the GAD Planning and Budget process in March. During the training held on March 29-30, the participants accomplished the following:

- Identified gender issues or biases and proposed gender-fair alternatives relevant to their work;
- Discussed basic GAD concepts and gender-related issues in the water sector including manifestations of gender bias and ways to address these;
- Used the GMEF to assess their organization’s policies and identified policy-focused priority issues and activities; and
- Drafted an initial GAD Plan and Budget reflecting policy-related interventions.

As part of the follow-up actions to the training in March, the Team extended technical support in the formation of the GFPS for Himamaylan Water District which was approved and made official in April.

In Part 2-GPB for ANOWD Members held in June, the participants built on the outputs of Part I to complete the GAD Planning and Budgeting process and develop a full draft of the GPB for each water district. They completed the organizational assessment and gender analysis using the GMEF and HGDG, covering policy, human resources, enabling mechanisms, and programs and projects.

For majority of the ANOWD participants, the GPB Training organized by Safe Water was their first gender-related training as GFPS members. It is commendable that all the represented water districts were able to produce their GAD Plans. For future capacity-building

efforts, the participants identified preparation of GAD Accomplishment Reports and formulation of the GAD Strategic Framework and Agenda. While the GAD Plan and Budget is an annual instrument, the GAD Strategic Framework and GAD Agenda is a long-term plan that gives water service providers six years to plot their actions and programs for integration of gender and water security.

BOX 3.
TESTIMONIALS ON THE GAD PLANNING AND BUDGETING TRAININGS CONDUCTED

Here are some documented quotes from the participants that attended the GPB trainings during the quarter. These are some quotes from the participants representing **LGUs in Palawan**:

- "I am now able to identify GAD issues and to practice and utilize GAD Budget for water-related programs/ activities."
- "I want to relay necessary information to our boss (MPDC) so that he will be aware of some important things that we overlooked."
- "I understand better the value of involvement of more women in environment management."

These are some quotes from the **water district personnel and general managers from Negros Occidental** on how they intend to apply the learnings from the training:

- "This training on GAD issues was helpful with us better improving the present practices in the organization especially in terms of strengthening the role of women in the sector."
- "With this learnings, I intend to be able to address the GAD-related issues in the agency as well as for our clients."
- "This training is an engaging venue for us members of the GFPS to learn more about GAD."

A summary of the gender and water activities, programs and projects from the water districts is provided in the table below. The water districts represented in the GPB training are in a good position to finalize their annual GAD Plans, seek formal approval from their board and submit to LWUA on or before November 2022.

TABLE 12. PROPOSED GAD PLANS FOR YEAR 2023

WATER DISTRICT	PROPOSED PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES IN THE 2023 GPB AND INDICATIVE BUDGET	RELEVANT STRATEGIES IN THE SAFE WATER GENDER ACTION PLAN
Bacolod City Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of GAD Agenda and Strategic Framework including policy formulation and awareness-building among BACIWA management, personnel and clients 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women’s participation and leadership in WSS and WRM
Kabankalan Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity-building for female employees in Watershed Protection Program • Conduct of “Barangayan”, an information campaign targeting a majority of female concessionaires on the construction of steel bolted tank. • Attributed program: actual construction of the tank is cited as an attributed program 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women’s participation and leadership in WSS and WRM Ensure inclusion of women and other social groups in activities related to planning and decision-making processes
Manapla Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation of new clients on hygiene and sanitation 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women’s participation and leadership in WSS and WRM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing capacity-building among GFPS members and participation in local GAD campaigns Attributed program: Meter Rehabilitation of Pipelines at Teacher's Village, Brgy I, Zone 4 	Ensure inclusion of women and other social groups in activities related to planning and decision-making processes
Sipalay Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building in GAD for management and GFPS members Installation of service connection of 1000 households (3,313 females and 1,687 male) in Brgy Gil Montilla Attributed program: Construction of Water Supply System at Brgy. San Jose 	<p>Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM</p> <p>Ensure inclusion of women and other social groups in activities related to planning and decision-making processes</p>
Binalbagan Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and conduct of leadership training for IP women by tapping experts on watershed protection and management topics Training of staff in gender analysis, PIMME and collection and use of sex disaggregated data (SDD) Attributed program: TuBiG Program (Tumandok sang Binalbagan Group Program) 	<p>Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM</p> <p>Ensure inclusion of women and other social groups in activities related to planning and decision-making processes</p>
Cadiz City Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic GAD orientation for management and BOD Strengthen capacity of GFPS to integrate GAD in policies and programs of the water district Attributed program: Provision of water for disaster-affected barangays 	<p>Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM</p> <p>Implement GFPS in public sector WSS/WRM institutions by assisting in the formation of GFPS in Water Districts</p>
Murcia Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project TUBI – Watershed Rehabilitation Executive Briefing on GAD for top management and training of gender analysis and SDD for staff Formulation of GAD Agenda Attributed program: Expansion Program at Brgy Sta Rosa 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM
Talisay Water District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender-sensitivity training for BOD and top management Benchmarking and training on GAD mainstreaming, program implementation and monitoring for GFPS Attributed program: Water Supply Improvement Projects (rehabilitation, interconnection, maintenance of pumping station) 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM
Pulupandan Water District (Pulupandan WD GPB for further revision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender-sensitivity training for water district employees Provision of safety kits as part of the water district's pandemic response 	Provision of technical assistance to GFPS and key personnel to strengthen women's participation and leadership in WSS and WRM
Victorias City Water District	<i>For further review and revision</i>	
Indicative Total:		

IMPLEMENTING THE GENDER FOCAL POINT SYSTEM IN WSSI/WRM INSTITUTIONS

The Safe Water Team responded to Cadiz City Water District's request for assistance in the formation of their GFPS following the GPB training. Similar to the situation in Himamaylan, Cadiz City Water District is in transition following their joint venture with Prime Water and the dissolution of the GFPS as a result of the organizational change. Support to the Cadiz City Water District will be high in Safe Water's agenda for the 4th Quarter.

In General Santos City, Safe Water will forge partnerships with the private sector and other stakeholders through the formation of a local water alliance, as discussed in page 33.

MAXIMIZE LINKAGE WITH THE PROVINCIAL GAD FOCAL POINT SYSTEM IN NEGROS OCCIDENTAL (PGFPS-NEGROS OCCIDENTAL)

At the GPB training of ANOWD members this June, the Team succeeded in involving the network of GAD focal persons from three state universities as recommended by the PGFPS. Dr. Mary Ann Arceno, GAD Deputy Director of the Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology (NoNeSCoST); Dr. Elvie Samson, GAD Director of the Carlos Hilado Memorial State University; and Mr. Noel Dagono, GAD Director of the Central Philippines State University joined the training as resource persons and facilitators. By bringing in GAD experts from academia, Safe Water connects the water sector to local resource persons who can provide technical assistance in gender mainstreaming in the long term. This was made possible by the active network under the ambit of the Provincial Gender Focal Point System Action Officer, Ms. Marie June Castro, and the continued support of the Governor of the Province of Negros Occidental, Hon. Eugenio Jose Lacson.



Strengthening academe partnerships for GEWE. (Top) Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology GAD Director Dr. Mary Ann Arceno facilitated the session on the Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDDG) as a tool for gender analysis. (Bottom) Carlos Hilado Memorial State University GAD Director Dr. Elvie Samson facilitated the break-out group discussion with water districts to recap the GAD concepts learned from the first session in March 2022.

TABLE 13. ACADEMIA ENGAGED IN GPB TRAINING IN NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

NAME	POSITION	INPUT IN GPB TRAINING
Dr. Mary Ann Arceno, PhD	Deputy GAD Director, Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology	Use of Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG) in GAD Planning
Dr. Elvie Samson, PhD	GAD Director, Carlos Hilado Memorial State University	Preparing the GAD Accomplishment Report
Mr. Noel Dagono	GAD Director, Central Philippine State University	Presentation of the GAD Plans and Budget

The participation of GAD experts from academia not only expanded the partnership between ANOWD and the PGFPS, but also gave rise to new champions for gender and water security. In addition, Ms. June Castro of the PGFPS and the Safe Water Team met to discuss WSS and WRM activities that may be included in the provincial GAD Plan for 2024. Initiatives to be explored include:

1. replication of the OBA-BF piloted in Suyac Island in Sagay to other municipalities with active women’s groups;
2. continuing partnership with the GAD network from academia with the possibility of tapping extension and outreach programs of these state universities and colleges for the water sector; and
3. inclusion of water service providers in capacity-building activities of PGFPS, such as GAD mainstreaming and other gender-related trainings.

B. GAP STRATEGY 2: INCREASED PROFESSIONAL AND/ OR LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

STRENGTHEN WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP AND THEIR NETWORKS, WITH INCLUSION OF THE UNDERSERVED AND UNSERVED COMMUNITIES

Safe Water’s strategies to strengthen women’s leadership in the water sector include assistance to water districts to establish their GFPS and capacity-building among the GFPS. The Project is also committed to promote women’s leadership in other water service providers and WMCs and to put in place policies for women’s representation.

Stemming from the GPB Training of LGU-run water utilities in Palawan and the ANOWD members in Negros Occidental, the local partners recommended mobilization of women’s groups in environmental protection activities and harnessing women and IP leaders. The recommendation forms part of the proposed activities of the LGU teams from Brooke’s Point, San Vicente and Aborlan in Palawan, as well as the Binalbagan and Murcia Water Districts from Negros Occidental. This opens an opportunity for coordination of water resource management efforts in Safe Water.

The formation of new GFPS in specific water districts contributes to strengthening women’s leadership in the water sector (i.e., the creation of the GFPS proved critical for Himamaylan and Cadiz Water Districts). Continued capacity-building among the GFPS members of other water districts will ensure increased professional opportunities for both male and female gender advocates within the GFPS.

Partial data from the Safe Water project sites indicate that the proportion of women in decision-making positions in water districts exceed the 32% baseline reported by the project.

TABLE X. NUMBER OF WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS

WATER DISTRICT	BOARD DIRECTORS & MEMBERS			GFPS		
	Total	Women	% women	Total	Women	% women
NEGROS OCCIDENTAL						
Bacolod	4	2	50%	9	5	56%
Bago						
Murcia	5	1	20%	5	4	80%
Silay						
Talisay	5	2	40%	5	4	80%
Sagay	5	3	60%	16	13	81%
Cadiz	5	1	20%	GFPS to be reconstituted		
Victorias	5	3	60%	19	11	56%
Manapla	5	2	40%	7	4	57%
Pulupandan	5	3	60%	5	4	80%
Kabankalan	5	3	60%	7	4	57%
Himamaylan	5	3	60%	5	3	60%
Sipalay						
La Carlota						
La Castellana	5	2	40%	3	3	100%
Binalbagan						
San Enrique						
	54	35	63%	81	56	69%
SARANGANI						
Glan	5	2	40%	7	6	86%
Maasim	5	3	60%	5	4	80%
Gen Santos City	5	1	20%	15	7	47%
Alabel Level III Water Services						
Malapatan Waterworks						
	15	6	40%	27	17	63%
PALAWAN						
Puerto Princesa City	5	2	40%	31	15	48%
				PPCWD GFPS composition and structure currently under review. Updated policy to be issued following the GPB Training.		

C. GAP STRATEGY 3: SHIFTING SOCIAL PERCEPTIONS AND VALUATION OF WOMEN'S INPUT

ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT

Integrated GAD Plans and Budgets. The LGU teams and water districts that participated in the GPB trainings this quarter identified initiatives for awareness-raising and capacity-building along the themes of water supply and sanitation, water resource management, governance and women's leadership. These activities are proposed for inclusion in the LGU GAD Plan for 2024 and will be covered in the mandated 5% GAD Budget. The LGU teams from Aborlan, Brooke's Point, Narra, San Vicente, Roxas and Taytay identified the need for sex disaggregated data, formulation of strategic plan and GAD Agenda, and updating



Understanding policy and program gaps on GEWE. Sipalay City Water District identifies the gaps in terms of mainstreaming GAD within the organization. The workshop aimed to identify the main gender issues and challenges of the water districts within their organizations and their clients, in terms of policy, people, programs, projects, activities, and enabling mechanisms. During the session, a lot of water districts identified a lack of advocacy and capacity-building initiatives on GAD.

of the LGUs' GAD Code as areas for advocacy and mobilization. The LGU Team from Narra suggested an orientation on gender and water security for its Sanggunian members and local chief executives while the Quezon and the Puerto Princesa City teams highlighted the need for capacity development among the members of the GFPS in their respective LGUs.

This advocacy and capacity-building initiatives are echoed in the GAD Plans of the Negros Water Districts. Bacolod City Water District has made development of the GAD Agenda a top priority. The GAD Agenda will serve as the water district's five-year strategic framework for gender mainstreaming anchored on its mandate. The rest of the ANOWD members such as Manapla, Sipalay, Binalbagan and Himamaylan Water Districts also requested further training on the integration of GAD and water security among their GFPS members and key officials. These activities will constitute their GAD Plan and Budget for 2023, due for submission to LWUA before November this year.

In line with its Gender Action Plan and its commitment to provide technical assistance and trainings to strengthen women's representation in WSS and WRM, Safe Water will support the advocacy and capacity development activities identified above.

Integrated in Safe Water Communication Products. The Team integrated GEWE in its communication products (i.e., project updates, awareness campaigns, etc.) through the following:

- Highlighting the woman champion on OBA-BF, Virgie Montero, in Safe Water's March Newsletter (provided link to the video and blog in USAID Medium and Global Waters);
- Seven percent of all project updates (including three news articles, three weekly highlights, one video) focusing on GEWE activities in Safe Water;
- Nineteen percent of all project updates (including four news articles, two social media posts, 11 weekly highlights, one downloadable resource, two videos) highlighting women's contribution and role in water resource management especially in sustainable livelihoods;

- Using photos of women - especially leaders or individuals in male-dominated positions and roles - used in communication products; and
- Developing two presentations (i.e., Emerging Best Practices on GEWE in Water Security and Youth in Environmental Governance and Water Security) spotlighting women and girls and their role in water security.

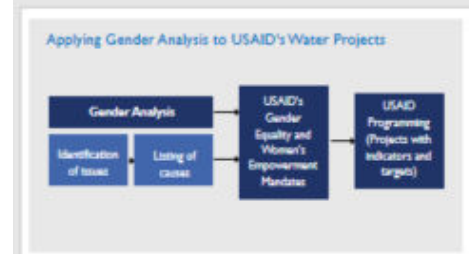
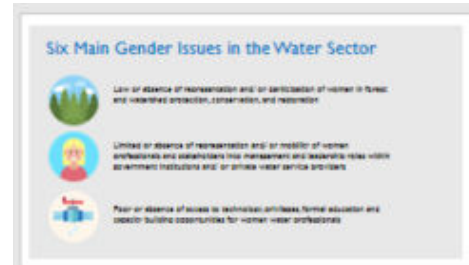
TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION MATERIALS

This quarter the Team produced a training material entitled, “Emerging Practices in Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in the Water Sector.” Citing concrete examples from relevant USAID’s programs, the presentation highlights integration of GEWE in the following key areas:

- Women’s participation in forest and watershed protection, conservation and restoration;
- Women’s participation and leadership in water supply and sanitation decision-making;
- Women’s participation in capacity-building activities for water service providers;
- Women’s participation in water resource management decision-making;
- Harnessing data and analyses in the water sector, including women’s value and input, sex disaggregated data and other gender-related information; and
- Women’s economic participation in upland and watershed communities.

Meant to answer the oft-repeated question of how gender and water security intersect, the presentation engaged the GBP trainings participants to explore ways to integrate the twin issues in their work.

“Emerging Practices in Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in the Water Sector” builds on the introductory situationer on women in the water sector presented at the GPB Training for local partners. It presents the gender challenges in WSS and WRM, expounds on Safe Water’s Gender Action Plan and its strategies and underscores the intersection of gender equality and water security.



Documenting and presenting USAID best practices on GEWE in water security.

Meant to answer the oft-repeated question of how gender and water security intersect, the presentation engaged the GBP trainings participants to explore ways to integrate the twin issues in their work.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

In total, Safe Water trained 635 individuals from various WSS / WRM service institutions and groups on various modules aimed at promoting gender equality or empowerment of women in advancing various WSS / WRM improvement efforts, broken down under CC-3 and CC-4 in Table 14. This brings Year 3 total and cumulative number of persons trained for advancing gender equality or female empowerment through their roles in the public or private sector to 1,210.

TABLE 14. GEWE CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN QUARTER 3

ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
CC-3: Percentage change in women in decision-making positions in WSPs supported by Safe Water	
GAD Planning and Budgeting Training for members of the Association of Negros Occidental Water Districts (ANOWD) jointly with the PGFPS/SUC members	31 participants representing 15 water districts reported in the 2 nd quarter. Only 13 water districts participated this quarter. 3 GAD Directors from State Universities and Colleges
GAD Planning and Budget Training for LGU-run Water Utilities in Palawan	39 staff from the PLGU, Puerto Princesa City (PPC) and 8 from MLGUs
CC-4: Number of persons trained with USG assistance for advancing gender equality of female empowerment through their roles in public or private sector institutions or organizations	
Coaching and ToT on GAD Planning and Budgeting for Palawan and Negros Occidental Field Team Members	10 Palawan Field Team Members 8 Negros Occidental Field Team
Integrated GEWE sessions during livelihood and forest protection activities	329 individuals on GEWE from 29 POs in Alabel and 10 POs in Malapatan; 181 PO members in Negros Occidental; 39 representatives from in Negros Occidental; 1 representative from Central Philippine State University
Women's Role in Water Security during the General Santos Water Convergence Forum	90
The Youth in Environmental Governance – Roxas, Palawan	167 youth participants (133 female and 34 male youth)
CC-5: Proportion of female participants in USG assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income, employment)	
Facilitate women's participation in the following activities: Ube Farming Training in Negros Occidental and Palawan	197 participants from Negros Occidental 132 women out of 247 participants from Palawan
Integrated Pest and Disease Management in Cacao Plantations in Sarangani Mangrove Planting in Tabon, Quezon Palawan	30 860 women out of 1400 participants

DEVELOPING GAD AND WATER CHAMPIONS

The GAD Directors from the three state universities, namely Dr. Mary Ann Arceno, GAD Deputy Director of the NoNeSCoST; Dr. Elvie Samson, GAD Director of the Carlos Hilado Memorial State University; and Mr. Noel Dagono, GAD Director of the Central Philippines State University, not only lent their expertise at the GPB training of ANOWD members, but also became new allies to advocate for water security. At the open forum, the dialogue between the water districts and the universities included

tapping the universities’ extension and outreach programs. The role of the GAD focal persons from academia will hopefully not end with serving as resource persons in GAD Planning, but extend to supporting water districts with research, student internship and other capacity-building initiatives.

Another ally and GAD champion is GM Manolito “Toto” Mendoza, General Manager of Talisay City Water District, ANOWD President, and newly-installed President of the Philippine Association of Water Districts (PAWD). GM Mendoza actively participated in both the GPB Trainings for ANOWD in March and June. In his closing remarks in March, he emphasized the importance of the partnership among the water districts, USAID through Safe Water, and the Provincial GAD Focal Point System. At the GPB Training this June, he expressed appreciation for the efforts made to ensure the completion of the GAD Plans with the follow up or Part 2 training.

D. GAP STRATEGY 4: IMPROVE SAFE WATER STAFF AND LOCAL PARTNERS’ UNDERSTANDING OF GENDER EQUITY

COACHING AND TOT FOR SAFE WATER FIELD TEAM MEMBERS

The Palawan and Negros Occidental Field Teams participated in coaching sessions on the essential elements of the GAD Plan and Budget with local stakeholders. They looked into the GPB process, the prescribed gender analysis tools and their application in the GAD Plans and examined the emerging practices on GEWE and water security as a menu of possible initiatives related to the three major components: WSS, WRM and governance.

The Safe Water Gender Team identified the contribution of GEWE initiatives to relevant cross-cutting indicators and other targets as shown in Table 15:

TABLE 15. CONTRIBUTION OF GEWE INITIATIVES TO OTHER INDICATORS

INDICATORS	GENDER-RELATED INITIATIVES	RESULTS FOR Y3Q3
IR 1.1: Number of WSPs with increased operational, technical, and financial management capacity through Safe Water activities	Development of GAD Plans and Budget (GPB)	10 LGU-managed Water Utilities in Palawan; 13 Water Districts in Negros Occidental and 2 in Sarangani able to produce GPBs to date
IR 1.2: Number of coordination mechanisms institutionalized at the local, watershed, and regional levels through Safe Water activities	Formation of GFPS among water districts and women representation in WMCs	2 Water Districts formed their GFPS after GPB Training (Maasim and Himamaylan); Cadiz City’s GFPS also forthcoming
IR 1.3: Value of new funding mobilized to the water and sanitation sectors	Monitor GAD Budget included in the GPB	Proposed budgets included in the GAD Plans for further review and approval within the LGUs and water districts
IR 2.3: Amount of investment mobilized for sustainable landscapes		
IR 3.2: Number of mechanisms developed and/or enhanced for exchanging knowledge on water security	Capacity development activities on GAD with WSS partners	Capacity development ongoing, mechanisms for exchange forthcoming
Outcome 3.1: Number of policies or plans developed, enhanced or implemented to promote water security	Development of GAD Plan and Budget	Policy formulation included in GAD Plans as next step following capacity building in GAD Planning

Outcome 3.2: Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services	Formation of GFPS among WDs and women representation in WMCs	Formation of GFPS and women representation in WMCs ongoing
CC1: Number of tools, technologies, or measures implemented (WRM and WSS	GAD tools, technologies, or measures	Application of the GeRL Assessment Tool, GMEF and HGDG
CC2: Number of partnerships developed and/or institutionalized (WRM and WSS)	GAD partnerships	Partnership with the PGFPS and its GAD network in SUCs in Negros Occidental

IMPROVE LOCAL PARTNERS' UNDERSTANDING OF GENDER EQUITY

The Sarangani Field Team incorporated gender and forest protection in its Lawin training for Forest Patrollers. Forty community-based patrollers from the municipalities of Kiamba, Maitum, Glan and Malapatan participated in the innovative training.

In addition, the Safe Water Team in Palawan reached out to the youth in the municipality of Roxas to talk on the role of the youth, women, indigenous people, and other civil society actors in environment protection. The Field Team took this opportunity to dialogue with the youth in Roxas and highlight water security through an interactive presentation entitled, “The Youth in Environmental Governance.” A total of 167 youth participants from Roxas (133 female and 34 male youth participants) attended the dialogue.

FACILITATE WOMEN’S ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Safe Water employs a number of strategies to ensure the participation of women in livelihood activities and maintains a proactive stance in facilitating their access to employment and enterprise development opportunities. These strategies are both incremental, continuing and include the following efforts to date:

- Searching and targeting organizations with women members;
- Encouraging local partners to adopt the Safe Water Gender Action Plan strategies;
- Developing checklists, partnership agreements and other instruments that ensure gender balance in activities; and
- Coaching field team members and orienting local partners on the integration of gender and water security

The Palawan Field Team jointly organized “Pista ng Kalikasan” or the Festival of Nature with Quezon Municipality, the environment office of the Province, the education department, and other agencies. The celebration featured mangrove planting in more than 2 hectares of mangrove plantation in Tabon, Quezon and mobilized some 1400 participants, 860 (60%) of whom were women.

In Sarangani, the Field Team conducted an integrated pest and disease management training for cacao plantation farmers. Thirty participants representing 4 POs attended the activity.

A series of Ube Farming and Production Trainings in Negros Occidental and Palawan with SFC were held this quarter. In Palawan, some 240 members of local IP and other organizations in Bataraza, Narra and

Puerto Princesa participated in the hands-on training. Out of this number, 132 were women. In Negros Occidental, participants represented over 47 POs from 6 cities and 5 municipalities. A total of 197 individuals from the province benefited from the training on ube planting and processing.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

During the quarter, the Safe Water Project implemented its Communications and Outreach Plan to build shared understanding about the project, to provide communication support to its component activities and to generate national interest in WRM and WSS issues being addressed through its activities.

A. COMMUNICATIONS OUTREACH PLAN STRATEGY I: BUILDING SHARED UNDERSTANDING

Safe Water communicated the importance of WRM and WSS among key stakeholder groups and external audiences through project activity updates, success stories, and key event promotions as listed below.

UPDATES ON PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The Team used several communication platforms to disseminate updates on Safe Water implementation. These included: weekly highlights, social media posts (e.g. photos, videos, recordings, press releases) and monthly newsletters, summarized in Table 16. The sources and topics of project updates are summarized in Box 4, page 87.

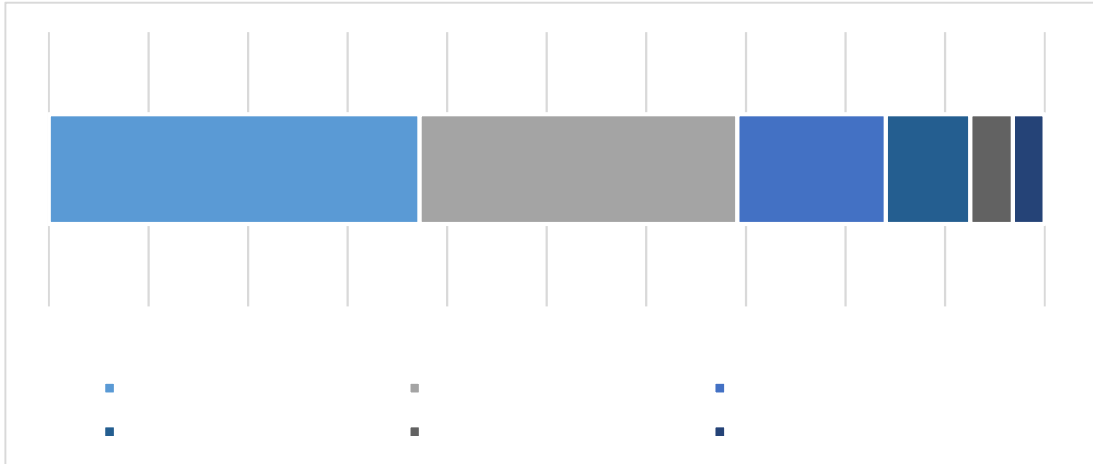
TABLE 16. COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS USAGE

COMMUNICATION PRODUCT	AUDIENCE	FREQUENCY	NUMBER
Safe Water Newsletter	Safe Water partners, stakeholders, beneficiaries, trainees, etc.	Monthly	3
Highlights	USAID and DAI stakeholders	10-12/month	36
Social Media (based on newsletter contents)	USAID Spotlight	3/ month	9
	News articles	8/month	25
	Social media posts	4-6/month	14
	Videos/ footages, and recordings	4/month	13
	Press releases	1-3/month	7
Total			107

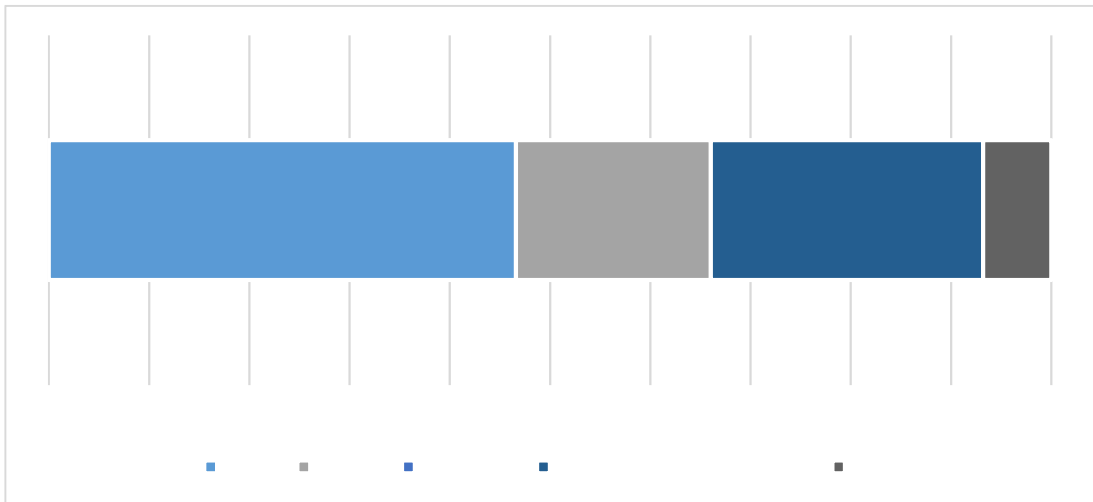
Monthly Newsletters. In USAID Spotlight, Safe Water featured messages, researches, blogs and its new climate strategy from USAID.gov, USAID Medium, USAID Exposure, Global Waters, Climatelinks, and DAI Global Developments, as outlined in Annex A. Safe Water also included news articles and social media posts published by partners, stakeholders, participants, beneficiaries, mainstream media outlets, USAID, local blog pages, and USAID Safe Water staff in the Monthly Newsletters. Screenshots can be found in page 88.

BOX 4.
SOURCES AND TOPICS FEATURED IN PROJECT UPDATES

Almost 70% of the content comes from citizen journalism, empowering our partners, stakeholders, participants, and beneficiaries to play an active role in disseminating news and information about Safe Water and its activities, and more importantly, promote their awareness on WSS and WRM issues. In addition, citizen journalism has become organic – reaching untapped audiences and extending to local communities and networks that may not be traditional audiences of USAID and development organization platforms.



During the quarter, the messaging of project updates was anchored on Safe Water's Inclusive and Integrated Water Security Framework highlighting issues on WSS (47%), livelihoods and partnerships (27%), WRM (19%), and GEWE (7%).



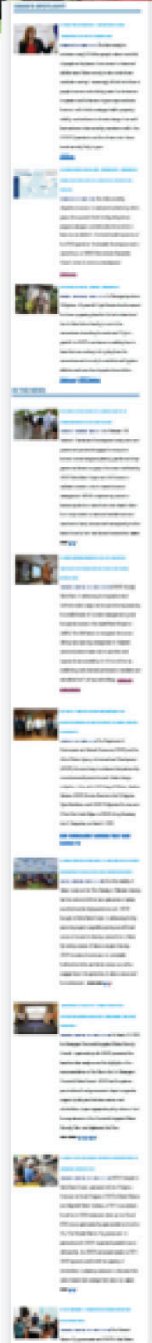


USAID
at 60



SAFE WATER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
Volume 2022 | March Issue

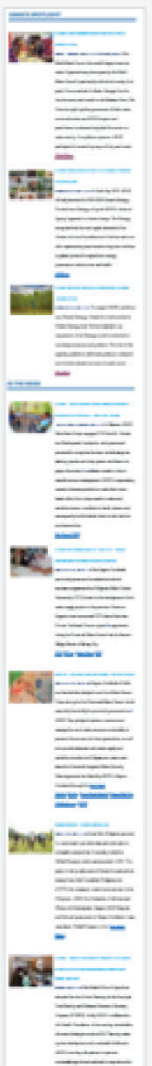
Monthly Newsletters. Safe Water shared project updates with stakeholders, partners and beneficiaries through USAID Spotlight, news articles, social media posts, and other resources.



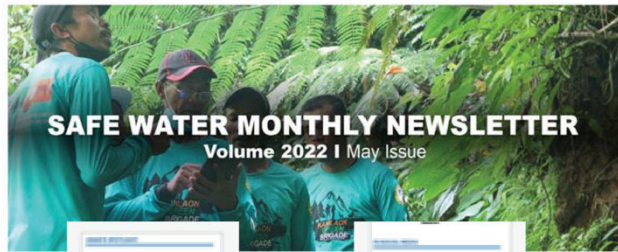
USAID
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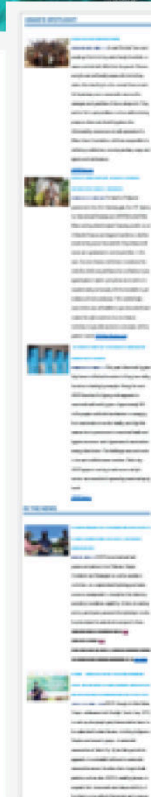
SAFE WATER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
Volume 2022 | April Issue



USAID
at 60



SAFE WATER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
Volume 2022 | May Issue



Of the social media posts during the quarter, seven posts sparked the most interest:

TABLE 17. MOST POPULAR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS DURING THE QUARTER

SOCIAL MEDIA POST AND LINK	PUBLISHED BY	ENGAGEMENT		
		Reactions	Comments	Shares
Integration of pest and diseases management in cacao plantation and adoption of environment-friendly farming practices - shorturl.at/pBGOX	USAID Philippines	936	7	14
Lawin forest and biodiversity protection system's implementation to protect forests within high-recharge areas - shorturl.at/asC47	USAID Philippines	462	2	35
Completion of 40 hydrologic studies in the Philippines - shorturl.at/kyBKU	USAID Philippines	208	3	16
Sustainable ube farming in Cadiz City, Negros Occidental - shorturl.at/ptzPQ	Bilis Cadiz Ugyon Cadiznon	144	1	8
Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit - shorturl.at/hCHLN	Provincial Government of Negros Occidental	127	1	11
Organic vegetable harvests of USAID-trained farmers in Narra, Palawan - shorturl.at/gjEJQ	Dumria Dumangueña	123	19	2
Capacity building for WSPs in Palawan - shorturl.at/BFWYZ	Originally posted by USAID Philippines, shared by Palawan Water	117	-	4

SUCCESS STORIES

The Team is tracking interventions, which will translate into longitudinal stories. During the quarter, three of these topics were put into the spotlight: PIWSP, OBA-BF, and P4WatER.

PIWSP. The ongoing success of the PIWSP process is being tracked with the successful Provincial Water Summits conducted in Sarangani last quarter and in Negros Occidental last April 2022. During the quarter, the Team featured the PIWSP process in the following communication products:

- April newsletter cover photo featured Negros Occidental Governor Lacson who led the signing of the Pledge to Act for a Water Secure Future, together with LGU mayors and other stakeholders, during the Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit
- Two news articles and one social media post from the monthly newsletters
- Two weekly highlights
- Five press releases on Negros Occidental PIWSP and four press releases related to the PIWSP

With NEDA's interest to adopt the Provincial Water Security Planning Framework as a platform to cascade the PWSSMP at the provincial and local levels, Safe Water is developing a storyline that will be used for presentation materials and potentially into an animated video to share the successful pilot implementation in Negros Occidental and Sarangani.

OBA-BF. Last quarter, USAID featured the OBA-BF experience in the following communication products:

- Testimonials video posted on the USAID Water YouTube channel
- Three fact sheets published in Global Waters' Communication and Knowledge Management (CKM) portal
- Blog entitled, "Virgie's Hope for Better Sanitation," published by USAID Medium
- Photo entitled, "Sharing a laugh," submitted as entry to the Water for the World Photo contest

The Team continues to track its OBA-BF experience and to share its success from its pilot implementation to more partners and stakeholders. During the quarter, OBA-BF was featured in the March newsletter with a cover photo featuring Virgie Montero, the OBA-BF beneficiary highlighted in the USAID Medium blog. The blog was included in the March issue of USAID Spotlight.

Following the success story shared in USAID Medium, another international platform – DAI's Global Developments Blog – featured OBA-BF in a blog entitled, "Hybrid Finance Model Shows Promise in Boosting Access to Sanitation (Read here: shorturl.at/inAJS). The blog shared OBA-BF's piloting experience, successes, lessons learned, and next steps. The Team also released the OBA-BF Pilot Documentation Report as proof of concept from the pilot experiences in Sagay City, Negros Occidental and Alabel, Sarangani.

The Team will continue to track OBA-BF, especially as Safe Water intends to expand its implementation to other LGUs in the Project sites. In the next quarter, The Team will deliver a presentation at the Asia Water Forum 2022 to seek support and insights from development partners and stakeholders to further scale up its implementation.

P4WatER. The Partnership for Water and Economic Resilience (P4WatER) project successes were highlighted in the quarter. Communication products shared how P4WatER is a model of the integrated and inclusive water security framework in action – supporting the role of



Empowering partners to talk Safe Water stories of success. The video entitled, "Agos Project in Negros Occidental," published by Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, Inc. shares testimonials of farmers participating in the P4WatER project.

ACHIEVING A WATER-SECURE FUTURE FOR THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Following the inaugural February 2020 Negros Occidental Water Summit, USAID joins the Province of Negros Occidental in developing another first - its **Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan** which will implement and finance measures to support water security in all of the province's cities and municipalities.

What Has Been Achieved Since the 2020 Water Summit:

In June 2021, the Negros Occidental provincial government, in collaboration with USAID through its Safe Water Project, launched its Provincial Integrated Water Security Program (PIWSP) to leverage respective expertise, technologies, and resources to achieve water security.

- Conducted baseline studies on access to water supply and sanitation and water resource management
- Harmonized hydrologic data for basins and watersheds to inform water resource management plans
- Profiled natural springs and water systems to inform monetary and quality of services
- Strengthened Water Sector Governance: Good water governance underpins the enabling environment for water security.
- Increased Access to Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation Services: Increased and improved access contributes to the national Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets.
- Improved Water Resources Management: Upstream stewardship benefits downstream water and sanitation services through reduced and resilient water resources.

Provincial Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework

What Do We Hope to Achieve in the 2022 Water Summit:

USAID and the Province of Negros Occidental and its local governments hope to engender support of decision makers and stakeholders to achieve a water-secure future.

- Pass appropriate policy reforms: The summit will underline the proposed strategies and measures that will help address the problems on water supply and sanitation services, and water resource management.
- Increase funding for the requirements of the Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan: The summit will assist stakeholders the annual investment requirements to achieve the provincial targets on access to water supply and sanitation and watershed protection and conservation.
- Implement measures supporting provincial water security: The summit will assist government to include the water security plan measures in local plans and investment programs.

Key Achievements:

- Developed water quality monitoring capacity at local governments and service providers
- Forged partnerships with Coca-Cola, Association of Negros Producers, MUAD, Negros and Sangleir Fosters, Cerys to develop sustainable livelihoods that help protect or conserve watersheds
- Implemented sanitation projects, sewerbank rehabilitation and relocation in major and probing watersheds

upland communities and leveraging the private sector in sustainable watershed management. The communication products include:

- Press release entitled, “Water supply: Coke goes all out,” published by Tribune and packaged into a Philippine blog entitled, “Coca-cola empowers vulnerable communities with access to clean, safe water,” posted by Mum Writes Blog
- Video entitled, “Agos Project in Negros Occidental,” published by Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, Inc. (Watch here: shorturl.at/ctCLU)

During the quarter, Coca-Cola Asia and South Pacific (ASP) hosted a live virtual event entitled “Everything You Wanted to Know: Understanding Water”, which gathered its key executives in the ASP region and managerial level employees to highlight its water partnerships in Indonesia with National Geographic, in Cambodia with Planet Water, and in the Philippines with USAID Safe Water and MUAD. The interactive panel discussion proved to be an effective opportunity to discuss the water challenges, to share Coca-Cola’s partnership activities addressing such challenges, and the private sector’s commitment to strengthen similar initiatives within the region.

PROMOTION OF KEY EVENTS

During the quarter, Safe Water communications and outreach campaign focused on three key events - the Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit, Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council’s adoption of their Water Security Plan, and preparations for the 2nd Philippine Water Challenge.

Provincial Integrated Water Security Planning Process:

In response to the call for water-secure future, the Provincial Governor issued an Executive Order 21-PP in March 2021, creating the Provincial Integrated Water Security Team (PIWST) tasked to work with USAID in formulating the water security plan, following the process outlined below:

- Step 1:** Call for Water Security
- Step 2:** Water Security Team Organization
- Step 3:** Inventory and Collection of Data
- Step 4:** Data Organization
- Step 5:** Data Validation with Stakeholders
- Step 6:** Water Security Assessment
- Step 7:** Provincial Integrated Water Security Summit
- Step 8:** Create the Water Security Council and draft the Water Security Plan
- Step 9:** Present the Plan to Local Government Stakeholders
- Step 10:** Approve and Adopt the Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan

What is the Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan (PIWSP):

The PIWSP will serve as the roadmap for cities and municipalities in Negros Occidental in providing adequate and good quality water and sanitation services and sustainable water resource use. It ensures coherence of local policies, plans, and investment programs.

Pioneering approach to integrate development of Water Supply and Sanitation Services and Water Resources Management.

Platform for cascading the Philippine Water and Sanitation Master Plan at the provincial and local levels.

Status of the Negros Occidental PIWSP:

The 2022 Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit presents the baseline data analysis, and the highlights of the recommendations of the provincial integrated water security plan. The next steps after the summit are:

- Step 8 - Create the Water Security Council and write the Plan:** The Water Security Council will facilitate the creation of the water security council and responsible plans collected during the water summit serve to finalize the draft water security plan.
- Step 9 - Present the Plan:** The Water Security Council will present the draft plan to local chief executives, legislative council, and other stakeholders.
- Step 10 - Approve and Adopt the Plan:** The final draft provincial integrated water security plan will be submitted to the Sanggunian Panlalawigan for approval and adoption.

Monitoring and Evaluating the PIWSP:

The monitoring and evaluation ensure the progress of planned interventions and corresponding outcomes are routinely tracked. These inform various stakeholders about achievements, areas for improvement, and gaps from the identified targets.

Key Result Action Areas
These are action areas based on the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan

Outputs and Milestones
Action areas are localized into outputs and milestones, all water supply and sanitation access, water resources

Water Security Plan Outcomes
The outputs and milestones contribute to the Provincial Water Security Plan Outcomes

PIWSP National Targets
The Province Water Security Plan Outcomes contribute to the PIWSP's national targets

Developing collaterals to promote key events. During the Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit, Safe Water partnered with the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental to develop a fact sheet of the achievements of the 2020 Water Summit and the way forward beginning the 2022 Water Summit.

Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit. Safe Water supported the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental in organizing its second Water Summit held last April 7 where the province reiterated its commitment to addressing water security problems. In line with this, the Team produced the following communication products:

- **Press releases.** Mainstream news agencies, USAID, and the provincial government published four press releases on the Negros Occidental Provincial

baseline data and the highlights of the proposed Negros Occidental Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan (shorturl.at/AFPQR).

- **Water supply and sanitation and water resource management municipal/ city report cards.** All the municipal and city government representatives in Negros Occidental received report cards of their water supply and sanitation situation, water demand and supply balance, watershed deforestation rate, targets, and investment requirements (shorturl.at/amQY7).
- **Negros Occidental Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan fact sheet.** All water summit participants received a fact sheet outlining 2020-2021 water security achievements and the Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan Framework, process, and status (shorturl.at/dhkvx).
- **Learning hub standees.** The Team prepared learning hub standees to summarize key discussion points of PIWSP strategies supported by the Project. This includes:
 - Learning Hub 1
 - Financing Towards Universal Access to Water and Sanitation
 - Adoption of Payment for Ecosystem Services for Watershed Protection
 - Learning Hub 2
 - Harnessing Hydrological Analyses for Evidence-based Watershed Management
 - Hydrologic Maps of Negros Occidental Watersheds
 - Learning Hub 3
 - USAID Supports Development of Surface Water Bulk Supply
 - Promoting Safely Managed Sanitation
 - Learning Hub 4
 - Call for Partnerships



Summing up PIWSP strategies and interventions through learning hubs. Safe Water highlighted its major interventions which are parallel PIWSP strategies through visual standees which were discussed by key Safe Water personnel.



The power of storytelling in data.

Safe Water packages its presentation and analysis of data into visual presentations and infographics to better catch the attention of stakeholders, especially policymakers and public sector decision-makers.

- Strengthening Women’s Leadership and Economic Participation in the Water Sector

- **“Thank you” mailer.** Safe Water supported the provincial government in sending a “thank you” mailer to all water summit stakeholders, which included the Governor’s Message, recording, news articles, and downloadable resources.

Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council’s Adoption of their Water Security Plan.

The first ever PIWSP in the Philippines has been adopted by the Sarangani PWSC and will be endorsed to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan upon its constitution next quarter. The Team supported the presentation by the PIWSP-TWG to the PWSC by producing the following communication products:

- **Executive Summary.** The Executive Summary of the PIWSP captures the highlights from the write shops with Sarangani Province water security stakeholders (shorturl.at/wX369).
- **Visual Presentation.** The Executive Summary is accompanied by a presentation which outlines the PIWSP highlights. This includes updated visual presentations from the Sarangani Water Summit (shorturl.at/fhJZ2).

2nd Philippine Water Challenge (PhIWC). In preparation for the 2nd PhIWC, the Team worked with Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation’s (PDRF) Communication Specialist in outlining the communication and promotion plan which includes:

- Updating of the PhIWC website
- Branding and Marking guidelines
- Collaterals for the soft launch including a save-the-date mailer, official poster, video of previous winners, feature article on previous winners, and tarpaulin
- Collaterals for the official launch including a save-the-date mailer, official poster, event packet, master slides, standees, LED screen video design, and welcome tarp
- Press release on the 2nd PhIWC

- Social media campaign including social media publication materials and two animated videos, among others

Standard Branding and Marking of Safe Water Collaterals. During the quarter, the Team produced several event collaterals such as tarpaulins, t-shirts, PowerPoint presentations and certificates following the required branding and marking of USAID for Safe Water. The Team produced T-shirts for events in partnership with key stakeholders and for major events that will help promote key activities of the project.

BOX 5.
STANDARD BRANDING AND MARKING OF SAFE WATER COLLATERALS

The Team produced several event collaterals such as tarpaulins, t-shirts, PowerPoint presentations and certificates following the required branding and marking of USAID for Safe Water. Samples of collaterals are shown below:



Tarpaulins



Shirts



Certificates



Tote bags



Shirts



PowerPoint Presentations



Celebrating Earth Day. All three sites celebrated the Earth Day with a three-day training on operations and management in Palawan, the Water Convergence Forum in General Santos City, and the WDM I01 session and water audit delivered by USAID and Maynilad in Negros Occidental.

B. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH PLAN STRATEGY 2: PROVIDING COMMUNICATION SUPPORT TO COMPONENT ACTIVITIES

IMPLEMENT AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

During the quarter, Safe Water celebrated key events with stakeholders including Earth Day (April 22), International Day for Biological Diversity (May 22), and Environmental month (June).

Earth Day celebrations. The Team supported Earth Day celebrations in the project sites which include:

- **USAID visit to Calamianes Island Group (Coron, Palawan).** The Calamianes Group of Islands is a chain of small islands that are water stressed if not water scarce. They are also prone to water pollution due to rapid economic development driven by an active and expanding ecotourism industry. Water utility providers in this area need to have updated technical knowledge and skills to properly run their water systems, ensuring sufficient quantity and quality compliant with the drinking water standards.

Safe Water delivered training on operations and maintenance of water supply facilities for the four island municipalities of Calamianes to address problems of weak management of water supply services. During the training, USAID Philippines Chief of Environment Office, Mr. John Edgar, engaged waterworks officials of the four municipalities in a roundtable discussion on pressing issues and how Safe Water can help identify solutions. The Team also produced a water supply and sanitation situationer fact sheet, which was distributed to stakeholders.

- **Water Convergence Forum (General Santos City).** The General Santos City ENRO with the support of Safe Water, organized a Water Convergence Forum to build awareness about the current water supply and sanitation situation of the City and to forge a water alliance to unify efforts among different stakeholders.

The multi-stakeholder forum was participated by representatives from civil society organizations, academe, business sector, owners/operators of hotels and malls, fishing industry, and RWSAs.

- **Water Demand Management Roll-out in partnership with Ayala Malls Capitol Central (Bacolod City, Negros Occidental).** Safe Water, together with PBSP Water Alliance and experts from Maynilad, documented WDM practices at Ayala Malls Capitol Central and measured the efficiency of water fixtures in their facilities. Participants from last year’s WDM Training of Trainers were also engaged in the conduct of the water audit.

At the end of the 2-day activity, a total of 115 faucets, 106 toilets and 62 urinals from the mall and merchant facilities were audited. The findings from the water audit will be used as inputs in the preparation of knowledge products and communication materials for WDM advocacy and capacity building activities.

International Day for Biological Diversity (IDBD) celebration. USAID featured the Lawin implementation system story in its Facebook page, narrating how the technology-based system aids in the protection of high-recharge areas, in addition to the identification of hotspots of illegal activities that threaten biodiversity. The story is one of the more popular posts on its page garnering 463 reactions, 2 comments, and 73 shares. The post was shared LGU partners, watershed patrollers and previous USAID B+WISER Lawin trainees, among others. The story is in line with the IDBD theme entitled, “Building a shared future for all life” underlining that water security and biodiversity are essential for building back better our communities.



Lawin system for water security and biodiversity protection. USAID featured the Lawin implementation system story in its Facebook page to show how the technology-based system has expanded in its implementation by protecting high-recharge areas, in addition to the identification of hotspots of illegal activities that threaten biodiversity.



Sustainable Partnerships Highlighted in Environment Month. (Top) Atty. Noel Aquino (right), Environment and Natural Resources Officer of Provincial Government of Palawan, awards Certificate of Appreciation to USAID for its support and contribution to the success of Pista ng Kalikasan 2022 in Tabon, Quezon, Palawan. (Bottom two) Student participants from 11 high schools listen to USAID Safe Water talk on the role of youth in a cleaner and greener environment and in water security. The students learn about the water challenges and the strategies they can take to strengthen their participation in environment and watershed protection.

Environmental Month celebration. The Team supported different Environmental Month celebrations in the Project sites:

- **Pista ng Kalikasan (Quezon, Palawan).** During the 2022 annual “Pista ng Kalikasan” (Festival of Nature), the Provincial Government of Palawan’s Environment, the Natural Resources Office, the Quezon Municipal Government, Palawan State University, DENR, the National Museum, the Department of Education, the military and law enforcement agencies, Safe Water, and other public and private organizations, joined the citizens and officials of Barangay Tabon in a mangrove tree planting activity.

Around 1,400 people, more than 60% of whom are women, planted some 10,000 mangrove propagules on more than two hectares of coastal area in Sitio Karamporo. The activity is one of the ridge-to-reef strategies identified in the watershed conservation and restoration plan currently being drafted. Safe Water is assisting the Municipality of Quezon to improve the management of its water resources and implement restoration activities.

- **#OnlyOneEarth youth for the environment campaign (Roxas, Palawan).** On June 22, the youth of Roxas took center stage during an environmental awareness campaign where resource speakers from participating agencies, including Safe Water, gave presentations on the role of young people in the care and protection of the environment, forests, coastal marine areas, wildlife, biodiversity, water sources, and watersheds. This is part of the Philippine Environment Month and Municipal Arbor Day celebrations in Roxas, spearheaded by the municipal government together with the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, DENR, C3 Philippines, and Safe Water, among other public and private partner organizations.

- **USAID visit with Sarangani partners (Maasim and Malungon, Sarangani).** For the last two years, the Safe Water project has been working with the Maasim and Malungon LGUs, POs, farmers’ associations, and NGOs like CLAFI to provide sustainable economic opportunities for upland farmers and dwellers to earn additional income and protect the ecosystems valuable to the critical watersheds in Sarangani.

On June 23-24, USAID participated in the Environment Month celebration with CLAFI, MLGU Maasim and trained coffee farmers from 3 POs - Datal Basak Organic Farmers Association, Motoladal Farmers Association and Holic Farmers Association. CLAFI presented their agroforestry initiatives in Siguel Watershed highlighting assistance extended by USAID to the communities in Siguel Watershed. USAID joined CLAFI and MLGU Maasim in distributing coffee seedlings to the three POs and planted Arabica coffee seedlings near the CLAFI Convergence Center in Sitio Datal Basak. On June 24, USAID also participated in the Environment Month celebration with Kasilak Development Foundation Inc., MLGU Malungon and Bisaya-Kaulo-Ilonggo Farmers Association (BISKAGO) at the bamboo dike established at Sitio Campo, Lower Mainit in Malungon.



Sustainable Partnerships Highlighted in Environment Month. (First) Safe Water COR Joanne Dulce participate in tree planting activities as part of the celebration of environment month in Sarangani. (Second) Cedelia Mozo, President of Holic Farmers Association shared that coffee and abaca is their traditional livelihood and appreciated the learnings they got from the training and benchmarking at established IP managed coffee farm.

EXPAND KNOWLEDGE OF COMPONENT ACTIVITIES THROUGH COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

By providing communication support to component activities, Safe Water communications and outreach efforts helped to expand knowledge and facilitate buy-in of technical approaches and tools supporting Safe Water’s Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework:

Increased Access to Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation Services. The Communications and Outreach Team supported Objective I component activities through the following, in the next page:

- **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) & WASH Loan Program Marketing Training Modules.** The Team supported the updating of Water.org’s WASH Training Modules, including enhancing the PowerPoint presentations. The Team together with Water.org and NEDA, reviewed the training modules which have been reorganized into eight-sessions, strengthening data visualization, storytelling, branding, and marking.
- **Asia Water Forum presentation on OBA-BF.** Following the acceptance of the Safe Water’s abstract for the Asia Water Forum 2022 organized by ADB, the Team produced a visual presentation entitled, “Leveraging Resources for Improved Household Sanitation through Output Based Aid with Blended Finance: A Proof of Concept.”
- **Branding and Marking of Objective 1 Knowledge Products**
 - Leveraging Resources for Improved Sanitation through Output-Based Aid with Blended Finance: A Proof of Concept from the AWESOME OBA-BF Pilot (report, released to stakeholders)
 - High-level Feasibility Assessment of Malogo River Bulk Water Supply Project (report and spreadsheet, ongoing revision)
 - Central Management System Guidebook (report, ongoing revision)

Improved Sustainable Management of Water Resources. The Communications and Outreach Team supported Objective 2 component activities through the following:

- **Safe Water Presentation during the DENR 1st Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (ITWG) Meeting.** The Team produced a visual presentation of project updates covering water security challenges, background of the project, baseline assessment, key achievements, and way forward.
- **Branding and Marking of Objective 2 Knowledge Products**
 - Montible Integrated Watershed Management Plan (plan, released to stakeholders)
 - Safe Water and Globe Telecoms Strategic Partnership (proposal, discussed with Globe)

Strengthened Water Sector Governance. The Communications and Outreach team supported Objective 3 component activities through the following:

- **Findings of the Water Demand Management Desk Review.** The Team produced a visual presentation summing up the results of the WDM Desk Review (and applying branding and marking to the report shared with stakeholders)
- **Philippine Water Challenge presentation during the PAWD Convention 2022.** The Team produced a visual presentation on the 1st PhiIWC and the challenge theme and key dates for the 2nd PhiIWC which was presented by Safe Water COP Alma Porciuncula.

Cross-cutting Issues. The Communications and Outreach Team supported cross-cutting activities through the following:

- **Emerging USAID Best Practices on GEWE in Water Security.** The Team produced a visual presentation summing up the best practices on GEWE in water security.

- **Youth in Environmental Governance and Water Security.** The Team produced a visual presentation with a gamified approach to tackling the youth’s experiences and understanding of environmental governance and water security (true or false game), the required support for young people to be involved in the sector (4 pics, 1-word game), and how youth can be partners in water security.
- **Branding and Marking of Cross-cutting Knowledge Products**
 - GPB Training Session materials (presentation used during GPB sessions in Negros Occidental and Palawan)

The Communications and Outreach Team also completed the collection of photos and videos for all sites. During the quarter, the photographer/ videographer gathered photos and videos of Puerto Princesa City and Southern Palawan.

To strengthen the capacity of the Field Teams, the Communications, Outreach and Gender (COG) Manager delivered Canva 101 training sessions for communication focal persons covering:

- Session 1 (May 3): Canva 101 Basics, USAID Branding and Marking, and Developing a Tarpaulin
- Session 2 (May 10): Improving PPT presentations using Canva
- Session 3 (May 17): Visualizing Data into Infographics
- Session 4 (May 23): Creating Short Videos

EXPAND USABILITY OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

Aside from using Safe Water communication products for social media publication, marketing, events among others, the Team began expanding their utility to other functions such as those listed in Table 18 below:

TABLE 18. UTILITY OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS

TOPICS/ THEMES RELEVANT TO SW	COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS	UTILITY OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS
Partnerships for WSS and PES financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March newsletter cover photo on OBA-BF • DAI Global Developments Blog article • Asia Water Forum 2022 presentation on OBA-BF • Learning hub standee on: (1) Financing Towards Universal Access to Water and Sanitation, and (2) Adoption of Payment for Ecosystem Services for Watershed Protection • WASH & WASH Loan Program Marketing (PPT) • April newsletter cover photo on the Negros Occidental Water Summit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote public-private partnerships and encourage investments in WSS service provision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Agos Project in Negros Occidental” video produced by Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines, Inc. • P4WatER Fact Sheet shared with Coca-Cola Asia and South Pacific key executives during the live virtual event entitled, “Everything You Wanted to Know: Understanding Water” • Learning hub standee on Call for Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support upstream community livelihoods and enterprise activities • Document Safe Water-assisted community livelihoods and enterprises as models and examples

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27% of project updates (news, social media, weekly highlights, resources, videos, press releases) 	
Improved service provision and governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negros Occidental Water Summit collaterals: visual presentations, report cards, fact sheet • Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan products: executive summary and visual presentation • Calamianes Island Group report card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Safe Water integrated and inclusive water security framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None during the quarter (planned fact sheet next quarter) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight Safe Water-assisted decisions and policy directions adopted by governance bodies such as protected area management boards, local government units, watershed management councils, and ancestral domain and tenure holders
Evidence-based decision-making enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning hub standee on harnessing hydrological analyses for evidence-based watershed management • Hydrologic maps of Negros Occidental watersheds • Youth in Environmental Governance and Water Security (PPT) • Ongoing collection of photos and videos to supplement the WDM manual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Safe Water support of water source education, research, monitoring and innovation for improved WSS service and water resource development and management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhiWC presentation during the PAWD Convention 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight breakthroughs in technology development, innovations and emerging trends for WSS service expansion and water resource management
WSS and WRM policy and regulatory reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Water presentation during the DENR 1st ITWG meeting • 19% of project updates (news, social media, weekly highlights, resources, videos, press releases) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate Safe Water support to evidence-based WRM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning hub standees on: (1) USAID Supports Development of Surface Water Bulk Supply, and (2) Promoting Safely Managed Sanitation • 47% of project updates (news, social media, weekly highlights, resources, videos, press releases) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate Safe Water support to improved WSS service
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findings of the WDM Desk Review (PPT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence policy-making and practice at the national and local levels especially among relevant stakeholder organizations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning hub standee on Strengthening Women’s Leadership and Economic Participation in the Water Sector • Emerging USAID Best Practices on GEWE in Water Security (PPT) • Seven percent of project updates (news, social media, weekly highlights, resources, videos, press releases) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen GEWE integration in water security

C. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH PLAN STRATEGY 3: GENERATING NATIONAL INTEREST FOR WSS AND WRM ISSUES

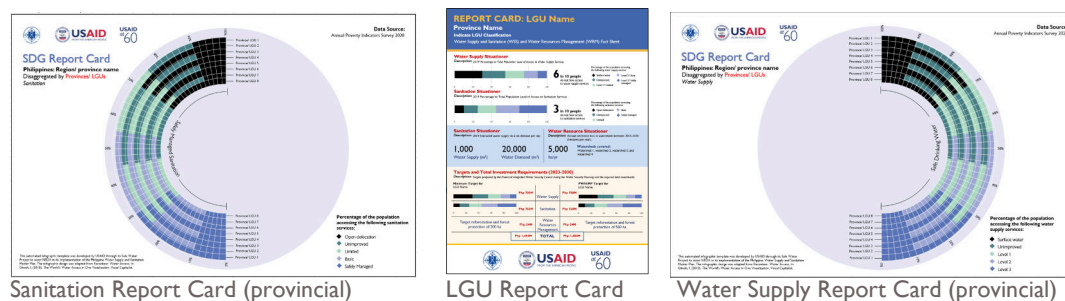
By generating national interest for WSS and WRM issues, the Team supported broad-based engagement of stakeholders to improve WSS services and WRM at the national level. This quarter, the Team supported the PWSSMP advocacy through:

- Project updates including three of 25 news articles shared in its monthly newsletters, two of 36 weekly highlights, one of 13 videos, nine of 16 press releases (related to PIWSP as a platform for cascading the PWSSMP at the provincial and local levels);
- WSS and WRM report cards (Negros Occidental cities and municipalities, Calamianes Island Group); and
- Communication products (i.e., PowerPoint presentations, infographics, fact sheets, etc.) used in the Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit and the presentation to the Sarangani Provincial Integrated Water Security Council.

NEDA recognized the Provincial Water Security Planning process as an effective platform for cascading the PWSSMP at the provincial and city/municipal levels. In particular, NEDA intends to scale up the use of WSS and WRM report cards in other provinces, similar to what was done for Negros Occidental and Sarangani. In response, the Team produced report card templates at the regional, provincial, and municipal/city levels to monitor their WSS situation vis-à-vis the PWSSMP targets of universal access to water supply and sanitation by 2030. The Team trained NEDA Infrastructure staff on how to use these templates for their expansion and cascading of the PWSSMP to the regions and provinces.

BOX 6. DEVELOPING AUTOMATED SDG REPORT CARDS FOR NEDA

Following the participation of NEDA during the Negros Occidental Water Summit, the agency requested Safe Water to produce SDG report card templates that could be automated and used by local governments. The Team developed these templates and integrated data entry forms in excel which would automate infographic outputs.



During the NEDA-Safe Water Pause and Reflect (P&R) Session on June 20-21, the Team identified the following communication products that will be developed next quarter to support the PWSSMP:

- Reaffirming Agency Commitments and Moving Forward (PPT)
- Cascading the PWSSMP to the Provincial Level (PPT and animated video, case about the PIWSP and water summits)
- Developing a National Policy on Water Demand Management (PPT)

These communication products will be accompanied with briefing kits or speaker notes to highlight key points. The products will also be developed into social media materials for the next quarter (e.g. social media cards, pictograms, infographic and videos) for NEDA’s use in their Facebook page.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

A. ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AGAINST THE THEORY OF CHANGE AND KEY EARNING QUESTIONS

On May 31, 2022 the Team held a workshop led by the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Advisor to: 1) assess the implementation of the project against the Theory of Change (ToC) and; 2) to respond to the Key Learning Questions (KLQs) specified in the Project’s MEL Plan.

In the ToC session, the Project’s progress against desired scenarios or changes was mapped and gaps that need to be addressed in order to significantly contribute to water security goal in the project sites were identified. The output of the session indicated that implementation has thus far revolved around the IF, THEN and WHILE levels of the Project’s ToC path, which reflect activities and corresponding outputs of the Project. In Years 4 and 5, the Team will need to put more attention in attaining the anticipated scenarios in the AND, LEADING TO and THEREBY, which pertain to the milestones and results towards water security. An overview of the assessment of the pace of Safe Water implementation against the ToC path is provided in Table 19.

TABLE 19. OVERVIEW OF THE SAFE WATER PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AGAINST THE TOC PATH (AS OF JUNE 2022)

TOC PATH	KEY SCENARIOS EMERGING ALONG THE TOC PATH (CONTINUING / EXPANDING TOWARDS END-OF-PROJECT)	GAPS / YET TO BE ATTAINED IN THE REMAINDER OF THE PROJECT LIFE
<p>If the Safe Water Project partners effectively with sector stakeholders to:</p> <p>Develop and disseminate accurate and reliable information on the state of water resources, climate change impacts, and domestic demand projections;</p>	<p>Safe Water uses evidence and a science-based approach in addressing barriers to water security in the targeted areas in partnership with the LGUs and other WSS and WRM stakeholders (i.e., water districts, upland community organizations, government agencies and private institutions).</p> <p>Various studies conducted by Safe Water and shared with partners include: (i) baseline assessment (WSS service gaps, limited funding to WSS and WRM, low capacity of LGUs / WSPs to manage WSS and watersheds, deforestation); (ii) hydrologic studies (surface water availability and ground water recharge under different climate</p>	

<p>Strengthens capacity and competency of sector actors to interpret, analyze and use data for decision-making;</p> <p>Develop integrated and coordinated planning platforms for water and sanitation service providers and water resource managers;</p> <p>Strengthen capacity of LGUs and WSPs develop and implement climate resilient WSS projects; and</p> <p>Strengthen the enabling environment for the effective regulation, financing, and rationalization of institutional roles in the sector.</p>	<p>change scenarios); (iii) WSP capacity assessment (operations, technical and financial management); and (iv) upland livelihood assessment (available and potential livelihood); among others.</p> <p>With technical assistance provided by the Project, LGUs and other partners gained greater capacity to interpret, analyze and use data for decision-making, particularly in identifying strategic actions or measures to address WSS and WRM gaps and challenges.</p> <p>Safe Water developed and introduced frameworks / tools that enable partners to translate data into cohesive plans for effective WSS services and WRM (i.e., PIIWSF, IWMP Guide, Business Planning Toolkit, WSP Assessment Toolkit, O&M Guide).</p> <p>The project also assists LGUs and WDs on WSS project development (FS, POW and DED) and implementation (construction supervision for service expansion and improvement).</p> <p>Safe Water also assists LGUs, WDs and other partners to access financial assistance (loans, grants) from private organizations, national government agencies and other institutions to mobilize additional funding for WSS projects (i.e., construction / upgrading of water supply systems, water source development) and sustainable landscape activities (i.e., agro-forestry, livelihood for upland communities).</p> <p>The technical assistance includes forging of partnerships with various institutions such as Water.org in providing loans for households to gain access to new or improved WSS services; NGOs providing support to community livelihood activities in various watersheds; spearheading additional funding from LGUs to WSS / WRM, and accessing funding from national government agencies, among others.</p> <p>The additional funds mobilized for WSS and WRM among project areas (as of June 2022) amount to ██████████ respectively.</p>	
<p>THEN, National and local government institutions will be able to develop and implement the long-range policies necessary to balance sector investment, water resource management, and domestic needs for</p>	<p>Safe Water provides technical assistance in the formulation of IWMPs (e.g., Narra and Montible watersheds), which builds on the results of the baseline assessment, hydrologic studies and other WRM data provided by the Project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion and adoption of PIWSPs. With TA from the Safe Water, the provinces of Negros Occidental and Sarangani are currently crafting their PIWSPs for the period 2023 – 2030 using the PIWS framework as a guide. The

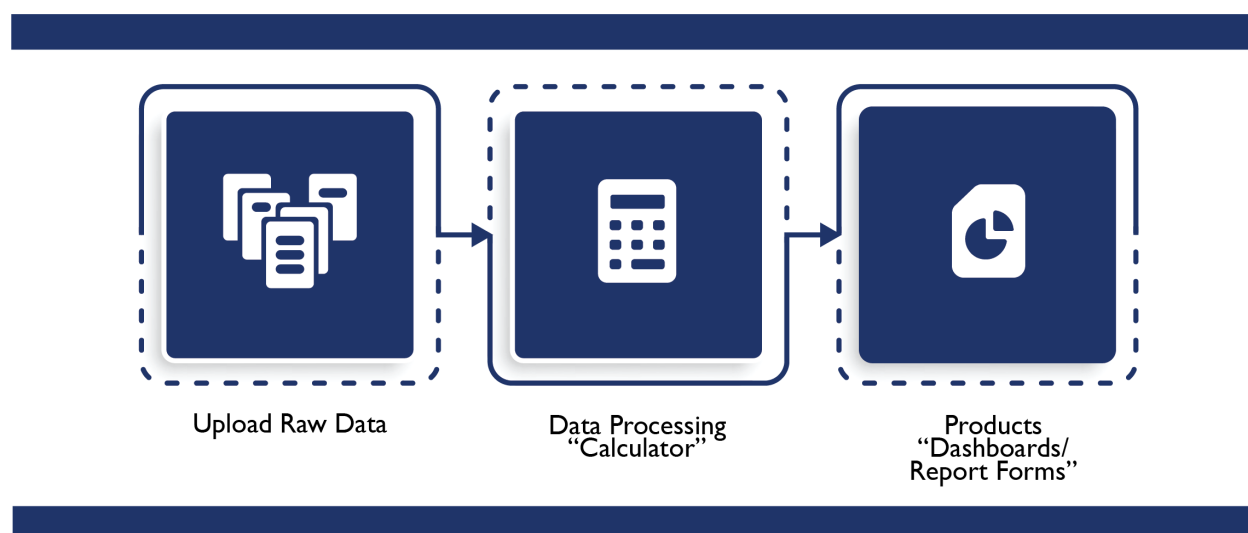
<p>improved and expanded water and sanitation services, sector investment, water resource management, and domestic needs for improved and expanded water and sanitation services, and sanitation services,</p> <p>Additional climate resilient WSS projects will be realized*</p> <p>WSPs will have the ability to provide better quality of services*</p>	<p>LGUs completing various Level 2 (basic) and Level 3 (safely managed) water supply projects with technical assistance from Safe Water on project development and/or construction supervision.</p> <p>WSPs improving their services such as water quality meeting PNSDW standards, longer service hours, and stronger water pressure, among others as a result of adopting Safe Water recommendations (i.e., chlorination, repairing leaks, installation of pressure gauges and other activities contained in the O&M plans).</p>	<p>plans take into consideration the results of baseline assessment (e.g., focusing WSS projects to areas with high number of people without access to safe drinking and hydrologic studies (e.g., greater forest protection and reforestation activities to GW recharge areas) undertaken by Safe Water. The formulation of the plans is targeted to be completed in September 2022 while adoption by the PLGUs would be made in December 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion and adoption of some IWMPs and LWCRPs to expand and improve WRM Development and implement septage management program.
<p>WHILE, Water and sanitation service providers will have the ability and the motivation to adopt measures to support water resource protection, efficiency, and financial sustainability in operations,</p>	<p>Through partnerships with the LGUs, private institutions and watershed communities, Safe Water facilitates implementation of sustainable landscape activities comprising of sustainable and non-extractive livelihood activities, agro-forestry and forest protection, among others. The project has also successfully launched PES in selected areas as pilot sites.</p>	<p>Safe Water to pay attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-scale / expanded rollout of the PES among project sites; • Updating of tariffs for water service connections • Adoption of CMS by WSPs; • Development and implementation of WSP automated billing system.
<p>AND, water consumers will have the knowledge and will to support a sustainable sector through water resource protection, efficient water use, and willingness to pay,</p>	<p>Safe Water developed a WDM Framework</p>	<p>Implementation of WDM (households and industries to adopt WDM); and</p>
<p>LEADING TO, An integrated, evidence-driven, and institutionalized governance and investment framework that will sustain water resources and water and sanitation services for the long term</p>		<p>Implementation of approved PIWSPs, IWMPs and LWCRPs (with annual budgets)</p>
<p>THEREBY: Improving water security for water-stressed communities in the Philippines.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of the population in the targeted areas gaining access to safe drinking water and sanitation services by 20230 (attaining SDG No. 6—access to water and sanitation). • Reduction of run-off ratio in targeted catchments • Prevention of further change (degradation) in water quality and ground water recharge / infiltration

B. TRACKING MICROFINANCE INSTITUTION (MFI) CONTRIBUTIONS TO WASH INDICATORS

The Team is developing a system that will monitor contributions of the MFIs to WASH access targets under the Safe Water’s partnership with Water.org. The system intends to facilitate processing of robust MFI loan data⁷ from various areas (including Safe Water areas) to account for the number of people gaining or having access to improved WSS services according to Safe Water Outcome Indicators 1.1 to 1.4. The system is part of Safe Water’s technical assistance to Water.org and its partner MFIs to improve their capacity in tracking and reporting contributions to SDG No. 6 targets (access to safe water and sanitation) to NEDA, the lead partner of the Safe Water Project.

The Team developed an initial version of the system and it is currently being tested using raw data shared by MFIs. In the 4th Quarter, the Team will enhance and convert the system into an online portal to facilitate web-based uploading of data from MFIs and automate various dashboards and report forms that are useful to the Project, Water.org, MFIs and NEDA. The design structure of the system is provided in Figure 12.

FIGURE 12. ONLINE MFI TRACKING SYSTEM DESIGN



C. SAFE WATER ONLINE M&E SYSTEM

Since the last quarter, the Team has been using the Safe Water Online M&E System. Project updates and performance against annual and Life of Project (LOP) targets are reported online which facilitates data organization for internal monitoring and for periodic progress reports and reporting to the USAID Development Information System (DIS). The system also serves as repository of the evidence for achievements reported against indicators (i.e., documentation of focus group discussions/ FGDs or key informant interviews/ KIIs with the beneficiaries, records and reports, EO and ordinances, among others).

⁷ Current data and reporting of MFIs on loans for WSS services do not provide disaggregation of data according to Safe Water Outcome Indicators 1.1 to 1.4. As of the moment, data are reported mainly for Outcome 1.1 and 1.3.

D. PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS

During the 3rd Quarter of Year 3, Safe Water surpassed targets for 11 out of 25 project indicators. The achievements built on collaboration between Safe Water and partner LGUs, WSPs, the private sector, and other stakeholders. The achievements are summarized in Table 20.

TABLE 20. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AGAINST TARGETS, AS OF YEAR 3 3RD QUARTER

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
Outcomes by Objective								
Objective I: Increased access to resilient water supply and sanitation services								
O I.1: Number of people gaining access to basic or safely managed drinking water services as a result of U.S. Government (USG) assistance	F		270,000	48,046	30,000	5,542	23,548	78.49%
	Basic	1,539,312	51,570		16,000	3,968	21,749	135.93%
	Safely Managed	1,260,760	218,430	48,046	14,000	1,574	1,799	12.85%
<p>Safe Water enabled 23,432 individuals in 5,687 households to gain access to safe drinking water services by assisting various WSPs on improving their operations as well as in development and implementation of water supply projects to expand their service areas. The breakdown according to project site is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Palawan: 1,176 people (294 households) availed of Level 3 water supply service connections (safely managed) from the waterworks systems in the municipalities of Quezon and El Nido because of better services such as improved water pressure and availability especially in areas that were formerly experiencing intermittent connections. The improved services are attributed to the technical assistance provided by Safe Water to the WSPs such as installation of pressure gauges and leak repair which reduced non-revenue water. - Negros Occidental: 13,875 people (2,775 households) gained access to basic drinking water services from various Level 2 water supply projects implemented by the DPWH in Bacolod City, Cadiz City, Silay City, Talisay, EB Magalona, Murcia, Isabela, La Carlota, and Bago City. Safe Water provided technical assistance in the review and enhancement of the POWs, material specification and standard, and O&M training of water supply operators to ensure sustainability of water supply systems. - Sarangani: Safe Water trained the staff of the Provincial Engineering Office on design and preparation of water supply systems. The trained staff applied their learnings to implement 16 Level 2 water supply projects funded by the PLGU's 20% Development Fund. Four (4) of the 16 projects have been completed and currently serving 7,874 people (1,775 households). - 507 people (114 households) have also gained access to Level 3 water supply systems from additional 113 service connections in Alabel and Glan WDs due to improved water pressure. Both adopted learnings from the Safe Water trainings on O&M (i.e., leak repair, replacement/de-clogging/ flushing of pipes, clustering of service connections) and Construction Supervision. <p>Others: 116 people (25 households) gained access to safely managed drinking water services by connecting to Level 3 water supply systems operating in Safe Water sites through loans from Water.org partner MFIs amounting to [REDACTED].</p> <p>This brings the total number of people gaining access to basic or safely managed drinking water services to 29,091 (97% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number now at 77,137 or 28.6% of the LOP target). Safe Water expects to exceed its Year 3 target in considering the continuing assistance to WSPs on project development, O&M trainings and access through WASH loans.</p>								

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
O 1.2: Number of people receiving improved service quality from an existing basic or safely managed drinking water service as a result of USG assistance	F	0	800,000	1,211	100,000	481	109,001	109%
	<p>108,545 individuals (25,280 households) are now accessing improved water quality that meets PNSDW standard for chlorination (0.3 to 1.5 ppm residual chlorine) because of regular and proper chlorination done by various WSPs providing safely managed water services in the project sites. The adoption or improvement of chlorination is a result of Safe Water's technical assistance provided to various water service providers. The breakdown per project site is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Palawan: 50,004 people (12,505 households) in Rizal, Narra, El Nido, Quezon, and San Vicente; - Negros Occidental: 34,454 people (7,630 households) in Kabankalan, Murcia, Talisay, and EB Magalona - Sarangani: 24,087 people (5,052 households) in General Santos City, Alabel, Glan, and Maasim <p>Others: 456 people (93 households) in the project sites were able to upgrade service quality from the water supply systems they currently access through loans from Water.org's partner MFIs valued at [REDACTED].</p> <p>This brings the total number of people receiving improved services from basic or safely managed drinking water services in Year 3 to 109,484 (109.5% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 110,693 accounts for 13.8% of the LOP target).</p>							
O 1.3: Number of people gaining access to limited or basic or safely managed sanitation services as a result of USG assistance	F		210,000	85,674	40,000	22,108	3,547	8.87%
	<i>Basic</i>	2,556,952	104,890	85,674	20,050	20,558	3,547	17.69%
	<i>Limited</i>	1,821,283	105,110		19,950	1,550		
	<i>Safely Managed</i>	1,375	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A
<p>3,547 people (854 households) from the project sites accessed loans amounting to [REDACTED] from Water.org partner MFIs to install basic sanitation services.</p> <p>This brings the total number of people gaining access to limited or basic sanitation services in Year 3 to 25,266 (64.1% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 111,329, accounts for 53.01% of the LOP target).</p> <p>Safe Water expects to achieve the annual (40,000) target in the 4th quarter considering the activities related to the expansion of WASH loans.</p>								
O 1.4: Number of people receiving improved sanitation services quality from an existing "limited" or "basic" services as a result of USG assistance	F	0	310,000	66,226	60,000	27,922	3,233	5.39%
	<p>3,233 people (760 households) accessed loans amounting to [REDACTED] from Water.org partner MFIs to upgrade/improve basic sanitation facilities.</p> <p>This brings the total of people accessing improved service quality (HL 8.2-7) in Year 3 to 31,154 (51.9% of the Year 3 annual target; and cumulative number of 97,380 accounts for 31.4% of the LOP target).</p>							
Objective 2: Improved sustainable management of water resources								
O2.1: Amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduced or avoided (in metric tons equivalent) related to sustainable landscapes as a result of USG assistance	F	418,896	1,000,000	49,505	225,000	24,035	76,296	33.91%
	<p>Safe Water accounted for the prevention of 76,296 MT of CO2 GHG emissions in the following water sheds: Narra (48,548 MT), Bago (7,048 MT), and BMRB (20,901 MT).</p> <p>This brings the total GHG emissions prevented (EG 13-6) across Safe Water covered watersheds in Year 3 to 100,331 MT (44.6% of annual target; and cumulative total of 149,836 MT which accounts for 15% of the LOP target).</p>							

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
O 2.3: Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) associated with USG sustainable landscapes activities	F	22,450	160,000	15,280	35,000	4,885	13,973	39,92%
	<p>13,973 people gained monetary/non-monetary benefits from various livelihood activities initiated through Safe Water partnerships with various institutions and stakeholders, broken down as follows:</p> <p>Palawan (4,605 people):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2,281 people from 32 POs provided with additional livelihood opportunities on Ube Farming (under the partnership with Sunlight Foods. Inc.); - 2,272 people from various POs with additional source of income from selling livestock products to local buyers in San Vicente. Safe Water strengthened capacities of the POs on financial management, organizational management, book keeping and marketing, among others; and - 52 people represented by 13 additional members of Tidawan Watershed Women's Association in Irawan that benefit from increased savings and access to financing through adoption of community savings association (CoMSCA) introduced by Safe Water. Loans and additional incomes are used to sustainably manage their livelihoods and forest protection activities. <p>Negros Occidental (5,535 people):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4,915 people from 783 household members of ten (10) POs provided with additional livelihood opportunities through the establishment of demonstration farms and crop diversification under the P4WatER project that is implemented in partnership with Safe Water, MUAD and Coca-Cola Foundation; and - 620 people (household members) with additional household income earned by 124 patrollers from the monthly allowances provided by the City LGUs of Silay and Talisay. <p>Sarangani (3,833 people):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2,420 people represented by 484 members of POs that benefit from the prevention of soil erosion in their areas as a result of Safe Water's technical assistance to 11 POs in Alabel on adopting Slope Agricultural Land Technology (SALT) farming which will improve soil fertility and increase yields of farmers; and - 1,413 people represented by 283 members of four IP-POs in Malapatan provided with additional livelihood opportunities as a result of the on-going Safe Water technical assistance to the POs on Cacao Integrated Pest and Disease Management to support sustainability of cacao production. <p>This brings the total number of beneficiaries under Outcome 2.3 in Year 3 to 18,858 people (53.9% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative numbers of 34,138 people account for 21.3% of the LOP target).</p> <p>The annual (35,000 people) target for Year 3 is expected to be achieved through Safe Water's technical assistance: (i) enabling POs to adopt more environmentally sustainable farming practices; (i.e., organic vegetable farming, sustainable ube production); (ii) implementing livelihood activities that are tied to partnerships forged between POs and partners from the private sector (i.e., KASILAK, CLAFI, CCPFI, MUAD Negros); as well as (iii) supporting the implementation of livelihood activities developed by the LGUs (i.e., mangrove planting), among others.</p>							
O 2.4: Changes in runoff-ratio in targeted catchments	C	Surface flow was at 2.15 billion cubic meters or equivalent to a run-off ratio at 48% VS 4.5 billion cubic meters annual rainfall	Decreased				Results will be reported in Year 5	
O 2.5: Changes in water quality as measured by water turbidity	C	FNUs at sections of river: 24.8% (upstream);	No change				Results will be reported in Year 5	

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
		53.3% (midstream) ; 59,5% (downstream)						
O 2.6: Changes in the volume of groundwater recharge / infiltration	C	940.3 million cubic meters, equivalent to 21% GW recharge rate against 4.5 billion cubic meters annual volume of rainfall.	No change				Results will be reported in Year 5	
Objective 3: Strengthened water sector governance								
O 3.1: Number of policies or plans developed, enhanced, or implemented to promote water security	C		50	13	10	8	3	30%
	Safe Water assisted three LGUs in Palawan namely; Dumaran, Quezon and Roxas on the issuance of Executive Orders (EOs) creating Watershed Management Councils and their TWGs. This brings the total number of policies/plans reported under Outcome 3.1 in Year 3 to 11 (110% of the annual target; cumulative number of 24 accounts for 48% of the LOP target).							
O 3.2: Number of water and sanitation sector institutions strengthened to manage water resources or improve water supply and sanitation services as a result of USG assistance	F	0	50	28	10	5	10	100%
	Safe Water assisted 10 WSPs to improve their services in terms of meeting PNSDW standards through regular and proper water chlorination. The WSPs are as follows: Palawan (5): Quezon, El Nido, San Vicente, Narra, and Rizal Waterworks Negros Occidental (2): Kabankalan City WD and Talisay City WD Sarangani & General Santos City (3): VEWASA, Katangawan, General Santos City; VIRWASA, Calumpang, General Santos City; and Alabel Level III Water Service. This brings the total number of WSS sector institutions reported in Year 3 under Outcome 3.2 to 15 (150% of the annual target; cumulative number of 43 account for 86% of the LOP target).							
Intermediate Results by Objective								
Objective 1: Increased access to resilient water supply and sanitation services								
IR 1.1: Number of WSPs with increased operational, technical, and financial management capacity through Safe Water activities	C	188	30	13	5	12	13	260%
	13 WSPs demonstrated improvement in the operation/management of their services in the following aspects: - improved water quality assurance through chlorination practice that meets PNSDW standards in seven (7) WSPs namely: Narra and Rizal Waterworks in Palawan; Kabankalan and Talisay WDs in Negros Occidental; VEWASA, Katangawan and VIRWASA, Calumpang in General Santos City; and Alabel Level III WSS in Sarangani; and - preparation and implementation of WSP O&M plans, in six (6) WSPs in Palawan namely: Salvacion RWASA, Busuanga Waterworks and Sanitation, Coron Waterworks, Linapacan Waterworks, Culion Waterworks, and Culion RWASA.							

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
Objective 2: Improved sustainable management of water resources								
IR 2.1: Number of hectares under improved watershed management through Safe Water activities	C	2,136	330,000	24,178	90,000	26,540	22,031	24.48%
<p>As a result of Safe Water assistance, an additional 22,031 hectares in the Montible (19,276 hectares) and Lake Manguao (2,755 hectares) Watersheds of Palawan are now considered under improved watershed management having achieved three of the seven criteria (or milestones) for determining areas under improved watershed management - (i) watershed management plans approved; (ii) watershed management councils established; and (iii) POs undertaking WRM i.e., forest patrolling through the Lawin system, and livelihood activities.</p> <p>This brings the total of areas under improved watershed management in Year 3 to 48,571 hectares (54% of Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 72,749 hectares account for 22% of the LOP target).</p> <p>To ensure achievement of the Year 3 target, Safe Water will provide focused technical assistance to LGUs and other institutions to formulate IWMPs; implement priority measures in the plans; and build capacity of key stakeholders on water resource management, monitoring, among others.</p>								
IR 2.2: Number of LGU, WSPs, and watershed stakeholders with improved capacity to plan, manage and monitor water and forest resources sustainably, using data and innovative technologies	C		50	8	17	5	3	17.65%
<p>Three institutions in Negros Occidental: Silay and Talisay LGUs have improved their capacities in forest protection by adopting the Lawin Forest Protection System; Hinobaan MLGU acquired knowledge and skills in the conduct of groundwater recharge analysis that is crucial to support more strategic and science-based reforestation activities (outputs will form part of their LWCRP).</p> <p>This brings the total number of LGUs/WSPs/watershed stakeholders in Year 3 to 8 (47.1% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 16, account for 32% of the LOP target).</p> <p>Safe Water aims to achieve its Year 3 target in the 4th Quarter by assisting LGUs and other institutions in formulating IWMPs and LWCRPs, watershed protection activities, and conduct of hydrologic studies, among others.</p>								
IR 2.3: Amount of investment mobilized (in US\$ equivalent) for sustainable landscapes, as supported by USG assistance	F							23.91%
<p>Safe Water mobilized additional [REDACTED] for sustainable landscape activities in Negros Occidental, from counterpart funding of LGUs (Victorias, Silay and Talisay) in the conduct of training of POs on the Lawin Forest Protection System, and budgets allocated by the LGUs for forest patrol, among others. This brings the total amount of investments mobilized for sustainable landscape activities in Year 3 to [REDACTED] (761% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative amount of [REDACTED] account for 113.5% of the LOP target).</p>								
IR 2.4 Number of people who apply improved conservation law enforcement practices as a result of USG assistance	C		2,000	170	400	31	722	180.5%
<p>238 forest patrollers conducted forest patrolling activities in Talisay City and Silay City (Negros Occidental); and in the Municipality of Roxas (Palawan) using the Lawin Forest Protection System. Safe Water trained these patrollers on the use of the said system to increase their capacity as monitors to enforce watershed conservation laws.</p> <p>In addition, 484 individuals in the municipality of Alabel have adopted/applied SALT, a farming technique introduced to upland farmers as part of Safe Water's technical assistance to protect and conserve watersheds and natural resources in project sites.</p> <p>This brings the total number of people who apply improved conservation law enforcement practices under IR 2.4 in Year 3 to 753 (188.3% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 923 account for 46.2% of the LOP target).</p>								

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
Objective 3: Strengthened water sector governance								
IR 3.1: Number of major reform initiatives supported	C		10				3	
<p>Safe Water has no Year 3 target for this indicator. However, relevant project activities/assistance to oversight national government institutions such as NEDA, NWRB and LWUA in pursuit of water security have demonstrated tangible support to three water and sanitation reform initiatives, which constitutes 40% of the LOP target. These initiatives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. support for the creation of the DWR and WRC (technical notes prepared in Year 2 and 1st Quarter of Year 3 used by NEDA to continue advocacy for its passage with the new administration and the 19th Congress); 2. development of WDM policy for municipal water supply (ongoing technical and capacity development support to NWRB to review related water regulatory functions and policies and identify options to address gaps); and 3. promotion of URAF (support to NEDA in addressing concerns on the draft EO adopting the approach, and in operationalizing the URAF programs thru assistance to LWUA in utilizing NG grants for septage management projects, facilitation of PPP for bulk water supply, and pilot implementation and promotion of innovative financing schemes i.e., OBA-BF). 								
IR 3.2: Number of mechanisms developed and/or enhanced for exchanging knowledge on water security	C		15	4	4	2	2	50%
<p>Two mechanisms were used as platforms for knowledge exchange on water security among different institutions or stakeholders, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negros Occidental Water Summit facilitated by Safe Water that provided local leaders and stakeholders greater understanding of the condition as well as challenges affecting the WSS services, deteriorating state of water resources and long-term solutions to achieve a water-secure future for the province 2. General Santos City Convergence Forum and Water Summit. The Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee (LDWQMC) of CLGU General Santos City, in collaboration with Safe Water, hosted a convergence forum and water summit to celebrate Earth Day by promoting water demand and water resource management to General Santos City RWSAs, local partners, and other stakeholders <p>This brings the total number of knowledge exchange mechanisms in Year 3 to four (4), (100% of Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of eight (8) account for 53.3% of the LOP target).</p>								
Cross-cutting								
Number of tools, technologies, or measures implemented (WRM and WSS)	C		30	18	9	5	5	66.7%
<p>Safe Water facilitated the use of five tools or measures to improve WSS services, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EPANET for the hydraulic analysis of water supply systems of LGUs 2. Risk assessment tool in Water Safety Plan with PPCWD 3. Detailed Unit Price Analysis (DUPA)- standard for preparation of POW of DPWH 4. Well-drilling technology with El Nido and Rizal Waterworks 5. Simplified Septage Toolkit introduced by the Safe Water in a Workshop on the Systematic Operation of Existing Septage Treatment Plans for the six costal LGUs in Sarangani <p>This brings the total number of tools, technologies, or measures implemented in Year 3 to 10 (111% of Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 28 account for 93% of the LOP target).</p>								
Number of partnerships developed and/or institutionalized (WRM and WSS)	C		23	15	2	3	1	50%
<p>One more partnership was forged during the quarter, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between USAID Safe Water and ACDI/VOCA PhilCAFE. The partnership will facilitate implementation of good agricultural practices on coffee production among Safe Water target communities in Sarangani Province.</p> <p>This brings the total number of partnerships in support of WSS and WRM improvement initiatives in Year 3 to four (4) (200% of the Year 3 annual target; cumulative number of 19 account for 82.6% of the LOP target).</p>								

Indicators by Objective	Type (F/C)	Baseline	LOP Target	Achieved as of the end of Y2	Y3 Target (Annual)	Y3 Actual		
						Q1 and Q2 (Figure / Value)	Q3	
							Figure / Value	% Against Annual Target
Percentage change of women in decision-making positions in WSPs or sector institutions	C	32%	50%				0	
	<p>This indicator does not have annual targets but Safe Water is building on enabling conditions to ensure that the LOP target is reached. This includes the following activities scheduled for the 4th quarter of the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender and Development Planning and Budgeting (GPB) Training (GPB) for WSPs and WMCs; and - Gender-Responsive Human Resources and Management Strategies Training for WSPs - 							
Number of persons trained with USG assistance for advancing gender equality or female empowerment through their roles in public or private sector institutions or organizations	C		1,000	163	400	343	867	302.5%
	<p>Safe Water trained 867 individuals from various WSS / WRM service institutions and groups on various modules aimed at promoting gender equality or empowerment of women in advancing various WSS / WRM improvement efforts, broken down as follows:</p> <p>Safe Water team (n=18): 10 Palawan field team members and 8 Negros Occidental field team members trained as trainers on GPB (e.g. gender analysis and tools)</p> <p>Negros Occidental (n=224): 31 participants representing 15 water districts for the 2nd session (1st session, reported in the 2nd quarter; not counted again for this quarter); 3 GAD Directors from State Universities and Colleges attended the GPB Training Part 2; 181 PO members attended the Technical Training on Ube Production (Part 1 & 2) with integrated GEWE sessions; 39 representatives from LGUs attended the Technical Training on Ube Production (Part 1 & 2) with integrated GEWE sessions; 1 representative from Central Philippine State University who attended the Technical Training on Ube Production (Part 1) with integrated GEWE sessions</p> <p>Palawan (n=206): 39 staff from the PLGU, Puerto Princesa City (PPC) and 8 from MLGUs to formulate GAD Plan and Budget on water, sanitation, water resource and livelihood for potential funding in 2024; 167 youth participants learning about youth, especially girls, role in environmental governance in Roxas, Palawan</p> <p>Sarangani (n=419): 329 individuals on GEWE from 29 POs in Alabel and 10 POs in Malapatan during integrated GEWE sessions within the livelihood and forest protection activities; 90 participants learning about women's roles in water security during the General Santos Water Convergence Forum</p> <p>This brings Year 3 total number of persons trained for advancing gender equality or female empowerment through their roles in the public or private sector to 1,210 (302.5% of annual target; cumulative number of 1,373 account for 137.3% of the LOP target).</p>							
Proportion of female participants in USG assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income, employment).	C	40%	50%	67%	50%	0%	55%	
	<p>Women accounted for roughly 55% of the people (7,685 out of 13,973) enjoying monetary and non-monetary benefits from various livelihood activities developed or supported by partnerships between Safe Water and various institutions during the quarter.</p>							

PHILIPPINE WATER CHALLENGE

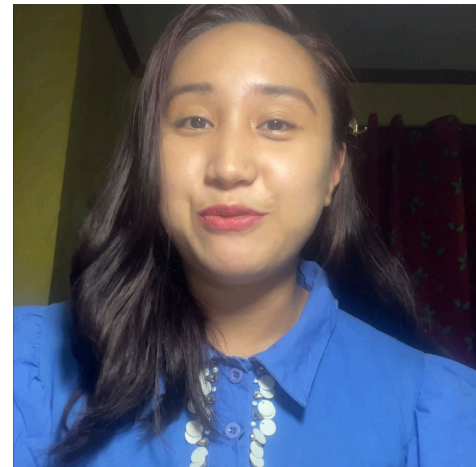
Preparations for the 2nd PhIWC. During the quarter, Safe Water and PDRF held brainstorming sessions to identify the theme for the 2nd PhIWC, refine competition criteria and mechanics, map out a sponsorship strategy, and develop the communications and marketing plan. The theme for the 2nd PhIWC will focus on Water Demand Management and emphasizing the “reduce, reuse and recycle” aspect of WDM. The Team has prepared a concept note for the 2nd PhIWC and this has been shared and discussed with other partners (Maynilad and Manila Water) to get their inputs and feedback. The target launch for the 2nd PhIWC is during World Water Week in August.

Deployment of 1st PhIWC Solutions. In the previous quarter, the MVP Point One water filters developed by Waves4Water were deployed to Barangay Calubang in Ilog, Negros Occidental. The filters provided safe water access to 100 families in communities where the water system was damaged Typhoon Odette. Funding for the filters came from Lutheran World Relief and implementation was handled by the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation. This quarter, PDRF reported that a total of 500 families have directly benefited from the water filters.

Improvements Made on Winning Solutions. Safe Water, PDRF and the 1st PhIWC winners agreed to utilize their prize money towards improving their solutions. The winners are at various stages of completing the agreed improvements. The improvements made to-date are as follows:

Tubig Pag-Asa (TPA), a local social enterprise, offers multiple services including provision of clean water and management of water bill collection and sanitation services to low-income communities living in depressed urban areas and relocation sites. TPA improvements on its service model are:

1. Installation of generator sets and water tanks in their Cebu branch; and
2. Development of an operations manual with an emergency management plan. The generator



Sharing stories, inviting new applicants. PhIWC previous winners sent videos about their experiences since winning the cash prize and other support they've received from the organizers. They also shared some insights and tips for the new applicants in the 2nd round of the challenge.

sets will augment the operations in Cebu as electricity was affected by Typhoon Odette while the water tanks will ensure continuous water distribution in case of natural disasters. The operations manual describes the step-by-step operational processes as standard for implementation in all TPA branches to ensure business continuity.

Ozone Dynamic Ventures upgraded and/or installed different features/parts, as validated during the monitoring visit, thus improving the output, efficiency and ease of operation of the water solution. The upgrade included pump replacement, which increased capacity to 200 liters and installation of water revitalizer that will not require replacement in the future.

LOCAL WATER ALLIANCE

The concept of a local water alliance has gained initial traction in General City during the Water Convergence Forum last April 22. The forum tackled the current water supply and sanitation situation of the City and raised the prospects of a local water alliance as a multi-stakeholder platform to address water security issues of the city. Co-organized by Safe Water and the General Santos City ENRO, the forum gathered 60 representatives from government, civil society organizations, academe, business sector, owners/operators of hotels and malls, fishing industry, RWSAs and other interest groups. Maynilad Water Academy Executive Director and Water Alliance Cluster 2 Lead Rodora Gamboa presented the Water Alliance as model for the local alliance. DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Region 12 Willie Loyola discussed how the water alliance can complement the government's programs for water resource protection and conservation.

At the end of the forum, Safe Water obtained signed Expressions of Interest from several participants to organize the alliance. The Notre Dame of Dadiangas University has expressed interest to be the host organization and secretariat to the alliance. Safe Water will convene these organizations in a small roundtable discussion as a pre-organizational activity.

2.2 ADDRESSING IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASED ACCESS TO RESILIENT WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

Easing of COVID-19 Restrictions. Safe Water has taken advantage of the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in the country. During the quarter, the Manila Technical Team was able to take more trips to the project sites, which improved management and increased productivity of the project. The Team was also able to conduct more in-person meetings rather than virtual ones. By the end of the quarter, however, the number of COVID-19 cases has started to rise. Hopefully, this will not continue and will not result to the re-imposition of more stringent restrictions in the coming quarter.

Impact of National and Local Elections in Safe Water Activities. Local officials were very busy during the campaign period for the National Elections on May 9, putting a few project activities on hold. This has spilled over post-election for turn-over activities in LGUs with newly elected officials. The Team managed by carrying-out meetings and workshops with other local stakeholders. Safe Water will conduct courtesy calls with USAID and newly elected local officials to apprise them of the Project's technical assistance activities.

Safe Water's Relations with Palawan Water. Palawan Water (formerly the PGP-Water Infrastructure Group) has been highly praised for implementing a province-wide expansion of water supply services not only in the town centers of most municipalities, but also in far-flung barangays and islands. However, LGU beneficiaries have raised issues regarding deficiencies in the water systems constructed by the PGP-Water Infrastructure Group. Palawan Water got wind of the "complaints" relayed to Safe Water, and as a result, Palawan Water was hesitant to cooperate with the Team under the impression that Safe Water will critique their projects. Fortunately, after explaining to them the collaborative and complementation stance of Safe Water, Palawan Water is starting to warm up to the Team. The Team will continue to liaise with Palawan Water to determine areas where Safe Water can provide assistance in improving water supply services in the province.

OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Impact of National and Local Elections on Safe Water Activities. Implementation of some project activities such as planning meetings and trainings were affected by the campaign period for the May 2022 National and Local elections, as well as the transition period for newly elected LGU officials. The Field Teams had to postpone some scheduled activities and focus on those that do not require LGU presence, such as mapping and data gathering for watershed management planning.

Delays caused by Intermittent Rains. The planting of ube seedlings has been delayed due to intermittent rains in projects sites. An ube production protocol is the inability to plant seedlings whenever it rains. Intermittent rains that occurred in some project sites, such as in the west coast of Puerto Princesa City, prompted one Indigenous People's organization to delay its ube planting activity.

Logistical Constraints. After two days of training on ube processing in Quezon, Palawan, the existing freezer in the plant of IDEAS (a Safe Water partner NGO) could no longer accommodate the increasing volume of processed ube (called "ube cubes" by SFC). SFC had to search for a cold storage facility or warehouse in Puerto Princesa City to store the additional processed ube cubes. SFC covered the transportation of the ube cubes from Quezon to Puerto Princesa as well as the storage fee of the warehouse facility while waiting for the shipment of the product.

Lack of Needed Equipment. The Lawin Forest Protection System could not be immediately implemented widely due to the lack of mobile phones with the cyber tracker application to be used by forest patrollers. Safe Water has requested assistance from Globe Telecoms for the provision of mobile phones, which the latter has favorably considered.

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHENED WATER SECTOR GOVERNANCE

Delays in the Implementation of Priority Key Reform Initiatives. Facilitation of the co-financing arrangement between LWUA and DBP was put on hold due to the pending appointment of the new LWUA administrator. Consultations with the next LWUA leadership will be scheduled in the next quarter.

NEDA committed to continue to push for the passage of the DWR and WRC bill (which was not discussed in plenary during the 18th Congress) and the EOs on the NWMC and URAF. Safe Water will continue to backstop NEDA in engaging the support of key implementing agencies and concerned Congressional and Senate committees, Development Partners and other stakeholders in advocating the need for regulatory, financing and institutional reforms in the sector.

NWRB's commitment for joint cooperation with LGUs in planning, implementing and enforcing integrated land use and water resources management remains pending. Safe Water, with NEDA, will continue to push for the implementation of this joint initiative as part of NWRB's key reform action agenda and through sharing of successful policy and regulatory practices.

3. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASED ACCESS TO RESILIENT WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. Continue assisting the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental in securing NWRB water rights for both Malogo and Imbang Rivers for the proposed surface water bulk supply project and in its partnership with the PPP Center for the conduct of a full feasibility study for the project.
2. Finalize recommendations to PPCWD regarding the sedimentation problem in Montible's teruvian dam and include this in PPCWD's updated Water Safety Plan. Continue mentoring assistance to PPCWD for the completion of its updated Water Safety Plan.
3. Continue assistance to the WSPs of Puerto Princesa City, Rizal, Quezon, El Nido, San Vicente and Aborlan in Palawan, and Maasim and Savesegrow MPC in Sarangani, in the development of their small-scale projects listed during this 3rd Quarter of Year 3 and monitor implementation of Safe Water recommendations.
4. Monitor implementation of action plans for the systematic septage management programs of the coastal LGUs of Sarangani.
5. Review and recommend improvements to the design of the septage treatment facility of Sipalay City, Negros Occidental.

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

6. Continue proactive execution and prepare to scale up Water Quality Assurance and Pressure Management activities in coordination with water utilities in the project sites. Document and monitor implementation of recommended improvements.
7. Investigate, assess and finalize recommendations for the improvement of water treatment facilities for identified LGUs in Palawan to be carried out by the Safe Water Treatment Process Specialist.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

8. Conduct O&M follow-up activities for WSPs in Palawan's Calamianes group of islands (composed of Busuanga, Coron, Culion and Linapacan Municipalities) to identify technical and capacity building activities to improve their water supply services.
9. Continue capacity building for WSPs, focusing on water safety planning, ring-fencing and NRW reduction.
10. Collaborate with DILG in training and mentoring its regional hubs and WSPs in Safe Water sites on NRW reduction.
11. Continue guidance and support on the establishment of CMS pilot in Alabel, Sarangani by providing capacity building training to LGU staff who will handle the Municipal Water Enterprise; begin assistance to pilot CMS in Narra, Palawan; and carry out introductory training for other LGUs in the project sites that are interested in CMS.
12. Finalize the CMS Guidebook and share with partner agencies for peer review.
13. Monitor and continue assisting LWUA in tendering the design-build contract of the proposed septage treatment plants of the first batch of WDs covered by the Manila Bay Mandamus (Plaridel, Norzagaray, San Miguel, Dinalupihan and Cabuyao WDs).
14. Train General Santos City WD in bid evaluation of its proposed septage treatment plant.

15. Assist the LGUs and WDs of Cadiz, Bago and Victorias in the preparation of septage management program feasibility studies and the possibility of clustering these areas with other LGUs and WDs.
16. Continue updating and finalize the WASH Training Modules for Water.org and MFI partners. Conduct capacity building training for Water.org and its partner MFIs. Continue working with them on household water connections and toilet facilities.

WATER SECURITY PLAN

17. Continue assisting the provincial governments of Negros Occidental and Sarangani in completing their respective PIWSP. Start activities for the formulation of the Water Security Plan of Puerto Princesa City.

PREPARATION FOR CLIN 02

18. Prepare proposal for CLIN-2 for the repair of damaged water supply facilities brought about by Typhoon Odette in the identified priority sites in Palawan following the damage reports and POWs submitted by the water utilities and site inspections carried out by Safe Water.

OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD AND OTHER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

1. Continue assistance in establishing PES in Palawan, Negros Occidental and Sarangani provinces.
2. Conduct training on Organic Vegetable Farming in Quezon and Dumarán, Palawan.
3. Assist in LGU Watershed Conservation and Rehabilitation Plan formulation (LWCRP) for target LGUs in Palawan, Sarangani and Negros Occidental.
4. Continue training and implementation of Lawin Forest Protection System in priority watersheds.
5. Conduct IWMP write shop for Palawan Flora, Fauna and Watershed Reserve and Quezon, Palawan.
6. Facilitate the formulation of IWMPs for Western Sarangani Watersheds, Siguel watershed and BMRB.
7. Assist in strengthening the organizational capacities of BMRB, Siguel, PFFWR and Bago WMCs.
8. Continue to conduct trainings on SALT, pest management and control, establishment of COMSCA, and other sustainable landscape initiatives with partners such as MUAD Negros, Kasilak Foundation, CLAFI, ECLOF, and Sunlight Foods, Corp, among others.
9. Support the preparation of Sarangani Reforestation Development Program.
10. Support the Provincial ENRO of Sarangani in the implementation of its Community-based Agroforestry Development Program.
11. Conduct coffee rejuvenation trainings and follow-on activities.
12. Strengthen Sarangani Coffee Industry Development Council.
13. Organize Water Monitoring Teams and establish monitoring sites.

HYDROLOGIC STUDIES, CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGIC RISK ASSESSMENT

1. Sign contract with winning bidder on vulnerability and climate risk assessment of priority watersheds and commence study.

PARTNERSHIPS ON WRM AND WDM CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Continue WDM advocacy and roll-out activities in project sites (i.e., conduct Hands-on Training on WDM and Water Audit for Puerto Princesa City Government Offices)
2. Pursue prospective partnership opportunities such as:
 - a) second grant funding from proposal Coca-Cola for a watershed protection and conservation project in Himogaan and Sicaba River Watersheds;
 - b) mobile phone donation from Globe Telecoms and develop the two other project proposals
 - c) follow-up with Shell Foundation on its proposed collaboration with Safe Water in common sites; and
 - d) continue scoping of projects for possible funding by Forest Foundation Philippines in Palawan.

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHENED WATER SECTOR GOVERNANCE

MOBILIZING FUNDS TO IMPROVE WSS ACCESS AND SERVICE DELIVERY

1. Continue assistance to mobilize utilization of NG budget allocation (e.g., LWUA, FALGU, NTF-ELCAC) and LGU budgets for identified and eligible water supply and sanitation projects, and promote and facilitate access to other funding sources (e.g., NSSMP, PSF and GGP and commercial loans).
2. Assist LGUs integrate priority WSS and WRM programs, projects and activities in their PIWSPs, PDPFPs, CDPs, AIPs and budgets for 2023, and help identify potential funding sources.
3. Promote adoption of the OBA-BF scheme with LGUs and the private sector; finalize the OBA-BF implementing guide, including templates of local ordinances and MOAs with MFIs, for ease of replication by the LGUs.
4. Assist LGUs in the institutionalization of PES for sustainable financing for watershed protection and conservation.

SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PWSSMP AND URAF

1. Continue technical support to NEDA and key implementing agencies (NWRB, DILG and LWUA) through:
 - a) Preparation of technical notes and other inputs related to the PWSSMP key reform agenda and URAF;
 - b) Development of WDM policy for municipal water supply and preparation of holistic WDM policy;
 - c) Support to the implementation of the National Water Security Roadmap; and
 - d) Promotion of water utility governance reforms (i.e., establishment of LEEs, and harmonization of key performance indicators).
2. Support localization of the PWSSMP through the NEDA Regional Development Councils.
3. Continue support in monitoring the PWSSMP dashboard/key action plans and the roll out of the communications and advocacy plan.
4. Provide technical secretariat support to conduct the Delphi Session with Water Experts and WSS Network sessions.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

1. Complete knowledge products in the pipeline such as the CMS Guidebook, WRM Financing Framework and Water.org's WASH Training modules.
2. Continue discussions with academic institutions to formalize knowledge exchange initiatives in Safe Water sites (i.e., follow-up MOA with USLS; draft MOA for discussion with Notre Dame Dadiangas University).
3. Provide support in the establishment of a Local Water Alliance in General Santos City.
4. Continue discussions with NEDA on their plans for a WSS portal, as contained in the PWSSMP.

CROSS-CUTTING

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

1. GAP Strategy 1: Maximize LGU Gender Focal Point System in WSS and WRM Interventions
 - a) Conduct GAD Planning and Budget Training for the GFPS members of PPCWD. This will be followed by GAD agenda-setting beginning September
 - b) Support Cadiz City Water District in the formation of its GFPS
 - c) Conduct follow-up activities with Glan and Maasim Water Districts to build on their GAD Plans for 2022.
 - d) Proactively support the finalization and approval of the GAD Plans and Budgets of the LGU-managed water utilities in Palawan and ANOWD members. Support LGU teams in Palawan and the GFPS of the water districts in Negros Occidental through coaching and endorsement to the local chief executives and general managers of water districts, as necessary.
2. GAP Strategy 2: Increase Professional and/ or Leadership Opportunities for Women
 - a) Develop overall approach for rolling out human resources development and management strategies to strengthen women's leadership in WSS/WRM
 - b) Conduct forum with gender, water and human resource practitioners
3. GAP Strategy 3: Shifting Social Perceptions and Valuation of Women's Input
 - a) Develop infographic or fact sheet on emerging practices on the integration of gender equality and women empowerment with water security
 - b) Continue featuring general managers, new GFPS and other gender and water champions
 - c) Continue integration of GEWE in communications materials and knowledge products
4. GAP Strategy 4: Improve Safe Water Staff and Local Partners' Understanding of Gender Equity
 - a) Conduct ToT with Sarangani Field Team
 - b) Undertake another ToT for the Field Teams in the integration of GEWE in WSS, WRM and livelihood activities before end of September

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

1. C&O Plan Strategy 1: Building Shared Understanding
 - a) Inform and update partners and stakeholders on project activities through:
 - Weekly Highlights
 - Weekly Social Media Submissions
 - Monthly Newsletter
 - Quarterly Blog
 - b) Share success stories and promote key milestones such as the:
 - Philippine Water Challenge
 - PWSSMP
 - Provincial Integrated Water Security Plans
 - OBA-BF
 - Hydrology Studies and TOT
 - Ongoing partnerships
 - c) Report results to USAID in the next quarterly report
2. C&O Plan Strategy 2: Providing Communication Support to Component Activities
 - a) Implement awareness campaigns tied to the messaging of #SafeWaterPH, #WaterSecureFuturePH, USAID's 60th anniversary, and international campaigns of observances and celebrations
 - b) Translate knowledge products into communication products such as:
 - WRM Financing Framework
 - Innovative Financing Schemes such as the PES and OBA-BF
 - Philippine Water Challenge
 - PWSSMP
 - Provincial Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework
 - Hydrology Studies, TOT and Recharge maps
 - WSS Technical Assistance (e.g. Bulk Water Supply, Septage Management, CMS)
 - Ongoing partnerships
 - Women leadership in the Water Sector
 - c) Expand usability of communication products
3. C&O Plan Strategy 3: Generating National Interest for WSS and WRM Issues
 - a) Organize in-person and/ or virtual events to tie awareness campaigns with international and national celebrations
 - b) Implement PWSSMP communications plan

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

1. Continue development of an online system for tracking contributions of MFIs on access to WSS services.
2. Continue assistance to the provincial governments of Negros Occidental and Sarangani on crafting the results framework of their PIWSPs.
3. Continue documentation of evidence of achievements against indicators.

4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

This section provides an overview of the project’s financial performance, human resource management, and operational activities resulting from various key actions by the management team.

4.1 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

The Chief of Party (COP) and Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) continued to lead, coordinate, and manage the day-to-day operations and activities of the Safe Water Project. DAI Headquarters continued to provide backstop administrative, finance, and technical support and guidance on implementation concerns.

COVID-19

The Team continued to monitor the quarantine levels enforced in project implementation sites. All sites including Manila Office in the National Capital Region continued to be placed under Alert Level 1 for the duration of the quarter (April to June 2022). There was a surge of cases in June in Metro Manila. Pasig City, where the Manila Office is located, was one of the five cities placed under moderate risk rating. The DOH reported a decline in the observance of public health standards by 21% as of late June. The table below presents the status of the quarantine levels in the project sites during the quarter.

TABLE 21. QUARANTINE LEVEL TRACKER

SWA Field Sites	2020												2021												2022					
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June		
Metro Manila																							2	3	2	1	1	1	1	
Palawan Province																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	
Puerto Princesa City																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	
Negros Occidental Province																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	
Bacolod City																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	
Sarangani Province																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	
General Santos City																							2	2	3	1	1	1	1	

ECQ / MECQ		ECQ
GCQ / with high alert level		GCQ
MGCQ		MGCQ
Alert Level 4	4	
Alert Level 3	3	
Alert Level 2	2	
Alert Level 1	1	

The project team members in all sites did not report any positive COVID-19 cases for the 3rd quarter. Observance of the health protocols remained at high level for all activities.

The project continued to track the vaccination status of project staff. As of June 30, 98% are fully vaccinated. One staff has still elected not to be vaccinated.

The project continued to implement different work arrangements designed to suit the unique situation of the project offices’ locations. For the Manila Office, implementation of full capacity 3 times a week (Mondays to Wednesdays) remains in effect. The site offices set their own arrangement on a monthly basis, as cleared by project management, based on the prevailing situation and quarantine restrictions imposed in their respective areas.

STAFFING

The project lost two Long-term Technical Assistance (LTTA) staff members due to one resignation (Project Driver for Sarangani) and one termination (WSS Officer in Palawan). Recruitment is on-going and target is to have the vacancies filled up by the first month of the next quarter.

The project completed the hiring of seven STTA Staff:

1. Training Module Writer
2. Technical Advisor on Water Summits, Water Security and Hydrologic Studies
3. GAD Plan and Budget (GPB) Trainer
4. STTA reliever for Livelihood LTTA due to maternity/family leave
5. Technical Writer
6. WMC Capacity Assessment Advisor and
7. Climate Resiliency Specialist.

The project also renewed the contract of the Treatment Process Specialist. Approval was requested and received on the revision of the Scope of Work of PES and Financial Specialist STTA.

TABLE 22. SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL AND SUPPORT STAFF BY LOCATION AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

CATEGORIES	TOTAL	STAFF TYPE		LOCATION			
		TECHNICAL	OPERATIONS	MANILA	PUERTO PRINCESA	BACOLOD	GENERAL SANTOS
Total staff on board	70	49	21	36	11	11	12
No. of LTTA Staff	53	34	19	21	10	11	11
No. of STTA Staff	17	15	2	15	1	0	1
No. of staff resigned or ended employment during the quarter	2	1	1	0	1	0	1
No. of staff for recruitment*	2	1	1	0	1	0	1

The Team continued to engage the following Home Office staff to provide support for effective and efficient project implementation, that allowed the project to achieve its accomplishments during the period despite the challenges and limitations brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Paul Jeffery – Home Office Project Director, provided overall technical oversight in project implementation
- Kate Edelen – Home Office Project Manager for Safe Water, provided technical management oversight and support. Responded to USAID requests for contractual and financial information, supported recruitment and on-boarding of key staff, led monthly and quarterly reviews with the project leadership team. Served as HO point person for the OBA-BF pilot, working with the project team to develop and deliver presentations on the pilot. At times when she had to go on leave from the project, Joey Manfredo and Clarence Cabanero provided cover.
- Charlotte Carr - Home Office Associate, provided support in the recruitment and on-boarding of project staff including preparation of Terms of Reference (TORs) and relevant documents for USAID approval
- Kathryn Dansker - Provided guidance in the development of contracts for procurement documents, and contracts of implementing partners. Provide guidance in ensuring compliance with USAID contractual requirements

- Tanja Lumba – Provided technical support to staff on the Technical and Administrative Management Information System (TAMIS). TAMIS serves as a workflow and reporting tool that integrates activity management, project administration, impact and performance monitoring, and streamlines subcontract management along with other tasks.
- Rhi Gulick – Technical Writer, provided communications support to project deliverables, reports and communication pieces.
- Stuart Kenward – Provided design support of Safe Water’s web-based M&E system. Worked with Team to draft the System Deployment Plan, which outlined strategies and actions to ensure efficient use of the system by both Safe Water staff and partner LGUs
- Sheila Town – Technical Writing Advisor and Trainer, supported the repackaging and editing of technical reports such as the CMS Guidebook.
- Heather Skilling – Provided support as Water Policy Specialist, working collaboratively with the Safe Water technical team to: 1) identify and collate examples of WDM policies from other countries of similar characteristics to the Philippines and its water sector; 2) prepare and finalize the terms of reference for the preparation of a holistic WDM policy; 3) review and provide inputs to the draft policy for WDM on municipal water supply and present the draft policy to NEDA and NWRB Board; and 5) act as resource person for NWRB orientation/trainings.

In support of major activities, the project completed the following procurements during the 3rd Quarter:

TABLE 23. BREAKDOWN OF MAJOR PROCUREMENTS DURING 3RD QUARTER (APRIL-JUNE 2022)

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL (US\$)	DATE OF PURCHASE ORDER
Health Insurance for SWA Personnel		
Training on Operations and Maintenance of Water Supply Facilities, Palawan		
SWA Internal Pause and Reflect Session, Tagaytay City		
Group Life Insurance for SWA Personnel		
Water Quality and Pressure Management Training for LGU-Run Water Facilities, Palawan		
GAD Plan and Budget Training for LGU-Run WSPs in Palawan		

The Operations and Finance Teams joined the Internal Pause and Reflect Session in Tagaytay, City last May 11-13. Issues and concerns on field operations were raised and discussed. The Human Resources and Procurement Processes review that started last quarter was continued to consider issues and concerns raised. The issues and concerns contributed to the finalization of the Scope of Work for the STTA engagement of Home Office Operations Specialist, Charlotte Carr, who started in June. Recommendations were made on procurement processes, which will be implemented in the next quarter. This is intended to contribute to effective and efficient implementation of activities. Procurement is doing bi-weekly meetings for updates and learning sessions.

On Finance Systems, DAI will update its internal financial system from FAS to vFER by next quarter upon assessment of the Home Office. The Manila and Field Finance staff training on vFER accounting system is scheduled on July 27-29 to be conducted remotely by Vahe Sahakyan, Senior Principal Operations

Specialist. The project will transition from Dynacom (FAS) to vFER starting August 2022. DAI USG Finance started phasing out FAS to increase the security of our field finance systems. The new system, vFER, provides all the features and automations existing in Dynacom in addition to being a much simpler, intuitive, and user-friendly interface. Since vFER is an in-house built system, it does not have a license fee, this providing a cost savings to the project.

Other Finance updates include:

- Audit of the Financial Statements was completed and filed with the Bureau of Internal Revenue;
- Engagement of an STTA to assist Finance on archiving will be deferred upon assessment of the requirement. Operations staff temporarily assisted the Finance Team in its archiving requirements; and
- Tax Clearance process was completed for the Puerto Princesa and General Santos Offices and on-going for other offices.

The Project Security Plan was updated and has been submitted to Home Office for review.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER

1. Continue review of systems and processes to update the service level agreement for Operations, Finance and Procurement to ensure efficient and timely delivery of goods and services and contribute to effective implementation of activities.
2. Attend online vFer Training by end of July 2022.
3. Continue to recruit for LTTA replacement personnel and short-term consultants needed by the project. This includes the following:
 - a) Additional 2 Technical Writers
 - b) Driver for General Santos Office
 - c) WSS Senior Manager
 - d) Procurement Specialist for CLIN2
 - e) Procurement and Logistics Associate for staff augmentation in the Manila office
4. Request approval for additional Driver post for Palawan Field Office.
5. Request approval for new contracts of the WSS Advocacy Expert, Resource Economist and the Legal and Institutional Consultant.
6. Update the COVID-19 Project Continuity Plan, which includes return to work guidelines to strengthen the policies and procedures in place and ensure compliance with DOH, DOLE, IATF guidelines.

ANNEXES

ANNEX A. BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNICATION PRODUCTS USED FOR PROJECT UPDATES

Monthly Newsletters. In USAID Spotlight, Safe Water featured messages, researches, blogs and its new climate strategy from USAID.gov, USAID Medium, USAID Exposure, Global Waters, Climatelinks, and DAI Global Developments, as outlined below:

- March 2022 (released April 2022)
 - USAID Administrator Samantha Power Statement on World Water Day (Message) shorturl.at/eoG02
 - Closing the Equity Gap: Water and Sanitation Data Can Help Us to Ensure No One is Left Behind (Research/Blog) shorturl.at/gltuC
 - Virgie’s Hope for Better Sanitation (Blog) shorturl.at/beruP
- April 2022 (released May 2022)
 - USAID Participates during the 2022 World Water Forum (compilation of blogs, videos, and resources) shorturl.at/bcD05
 - USAID Launches 2022-2030 Climate Strategy on Earth Day shorturl.at/kuyAR
 - USAID Announces the Climatelinks Climate Strategy Hub shorturl.at/muPQX
- May 2022 (released June 2022)
 - When Women Manage Water shorturl.at/bcD05
 - Hybrid Finance Model Shows Promise in Boosting Access to Sanitation shorturl.at/plK04
 - Six Ways USAID is Committing to Menstrual Health and Hygiene shorturl.at/vCIQV

The monthly newsletters featured the following articles:

March 2022

1. Women spotlighted in coastal resource management on Women’s Day
2. USAID assists Alabel LGU in crafting a resolution to establish a municipal water enterprise
3. DENR, USAID to boost partnership on environmental protection and climate change mitigation
4. USAID trains more than 150 farmers on organic vegetable growing and farm establishment
5. Sarangani Province, USAID mark first provincial water summit to set water security roadmap
6. USAID rolls out water demand management in General Santos City
7. LGU Gensan, USAID work towards RWSA empowerment
8. USAID celebrates water and economic resilience partnerships
9. DENR, USAID create Buayan-Malungon and Siguel Watershed management councils
10. USAID links the Provincial Government, water districts in Negros Occidental to implement gender and development plans

April 2022

11. USAID, San Vicente collaborates to expand livelihood projects to “last mile” areas
12. USAID facilitates NegOcc and PPP Center partnership in water supply projects
13. NegOcc officials pledge a Water Secure Future
14. Water supply: Coke goes all out
15. USAID, Seaoil Foundation, Alabel LGU plans jointly to promote sustainable livelihoods, water security
16. USAID develops LAWIN capacity for forest patrollers in Silay City
17. USAID, ECLOF, Narra LGU enable women on organic farming to protect water sources
18. LGU Gensan convenes Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee
19. Sarangani Province identify water security issues and interventions to support water security plan
20. USAID, RWSA ensure water quality through residual chlorine monitoring
21. USAID delivers water supply and design trainings for Calamianes Island Group water service providers

May 2022

22. Experts trained on computational hydrology by USAID present their hydrologic studies in NWRB forum
23. USAID, Sunlight Foods Corporation enable Cadiz farmers and irrigators associations on a technical suite of sustainable ube production
24. USAID, Alabel Municipality empower farmers with agricultural tech to support water security plan
25. USAID develops Lawin capacity for patrollers to protect watersheds in Negros Occidental, Sarangani

The monthly newsletters also included the following social media stories:

March 2022

1. Sustainable ube farming in Narra, Sofronio Española, Agong-Ungay, and Napsan in Palawan
2. Cherish Fisherfolks Association business planning
3. Knowledge forum during the Sarangani Provincial Water Summit
4. Discussion with Palawan Office of Provincial Agriculturist on livelihood opportunities
5. Orientation and Simulation training on the Community Priority Producers Capacity Assessment Tool conducted by USAID with the local farmers in Malapatan
6. International Day of the Forests in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

April 2022

7. Discussion with Tagakaulo Indigenous Sustainable Development Association on livelihood opportunities
8. Community-Managed Savings and Credit Association (CoMSCA) experience of Dumanguena Manaile River Irrigators Association Inc.
9. Water audit of Ayala Malls Capitol Central
10. Lawin forest protection system in Alabel, Sarangani

May 2022

11. Organic vegetable harvest by the Dumanguena Manaile River Irrigators Association, Inc. (DUMRIA)

12. Heartfelt thanksgiving message of DUMRIA expressing the value of lessons they've learned from USAID Safe Water's sustainable livelihood activities
13. Sustainable cacao farming in Malapatan, Sarangani
14. Grass coiled baskets from Cadiz City, Negros Occidental

Resources shared in the newsletters that are non-video resources, these include the following:

Briefs and fact sheets

- COVID-19 Brief: The Impact of WASH in slowing the spread
- How USAID helps to advance climate and biodiversity solutions
- Report cards including the individual LGU water supply and sanitation situationers, water supply and demand balance, watershed deforestation rate, targets, and investment requirements
- Negros Occidental Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan Fact Sheet
- The Philippines – Super Typhoon Rai
- Menstrual Health and Hygiene Technical Brief

Blogs and opinion pieces

- Futuristic in sense, noblest in essence
- The 'Worth of Water'
- Coca-Cola Empowers Vulnerable Communities with Access to Clean, Safe Water

Presentations

- Highlights of the Feb 2020 Negros Occidental Water Summit Presentation
- Master Slides of the 2022 Negros Occidental Water Summit Presentation

Others

- 2022 Water for the World Photo Contest Winners, including USAID Safe Water entries (Photos)
- REAL Water Podcast (Spotify podcast)
- USAID gives additional P400M for 'Odette'-hit areas (press release)

Weekly Highlights. The Team submitted 36 weekly highlights featuring major activities and events for the quarter:

April 2022

1. USAID links the Provincial Government, Water Districts in Negros Occidental to implement Gender and Development Plans
2. USAID and Puerto Princesa City stakeholders craft strategic actions for a resilient watershed reserve
3. USAID water projects share approaches for integrating water resource management with water service delivery with all-woman panel
4. Negros Occidental commits full support to inaugural Provincial Integrated Water Security Plan during 2nd Water Summit
5. National and local public experts trained by USAID to present their hydrologic studies in NWRB forum
6. USAID guides water utilities of Calamianes Island Group in crafting environmentally-sound operation and maintenance plans

7. USAID, Dumarán stakeholders commence conservation and restoration planning for four watersheds
8. USAID develops LAWIN capacity for Silay forest patrollers to protect watersheds
9. General Santos City, USAID celebrate Earth Day to discuss local convergence for water security
10. USAID, Maynilad partner with Ayala Malls Capitol Central to document water demand management measures

May 2022

11. USAID, Alabel municipality empower farmers with agricultural technology to support water security plan, watershed conservation plan
12. USAID develops LAWIN capacity for Alabel and Maasim forest patrollers to protect watersheds
13. Smallholder farmers in Narra, ready to sell newly-harvested organic vegetables
14. Smallholder farmers learn organic ways to manage pests and diseases in cacao plantation to sustain watersheds
15. USAID develops LAWIN capacity for forest patrollers to protect watersheds in four municipalities
16. USAID holds learning session for NWRB to promote a national policy on water demand management
17. USAID guides Quezon watershed management council in developing a plan to protect and restore forests and watersheds
18. USAID, Sunlight Foods Corporation distribute ube seedlings to farmers of Puerto Princesa City and Southern Palawan
19. USAID, San Vicente Municipal Government train 400 women and men from local associations on basic organizational management and simple bookkeeping
20. USAID trains 13 municipalities of Palawan on water quality monitoring and pressure management
21. LGU GenSan, USAID convene Local Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Committee to discuss Water Safety Planning
22. Western Sarangani, USAID consult stakeholders in creating of management council to address watershed degradation
23. USAID works with Palawan provincial and local governments to mainstream gender in the water sector through plans, budgets

June 2022

24. USAID demonstrates water quality assurance to enable Talisay City Water District comply with drinking water standards
25. USAID, Sunlight Foods Corporation enable more than 400 farmers on a technical suite of sustainable ube production
26. USAID engages SUC GAD Focal Persons to finalize GAD plans, budgets of water districts for 2023
27. USAID supports efficient and resilient operation of PPCCWD water supply improvement project phase II
28. USAID advocates water demand management national policy, facilitates dialogue with NWRB
29. USAID facilitates Sarangani SP's adoption of five-year provincial integrated water security plan
30. USAID assists Negros Occidental Provincial Government, PPPC in Malogo Bulk Water Supply and Septage Facility Project Conceptualization
31. USAID supports systematic operation of septage management in Sarangani

32. USAID enables Bantay Bukid Brigade patrollers to implement LAWIN in high-recharge areas, watersheds
33. USAID, SFC support demo farm establishment in Northern Negros Occidental on sustainable ube production
34. USAID, Roxas Watershed Management Council converge to rehabilitate typhoon-damaged forests, watersheds
35. USAID, PhilCAFE, Provincial Government of Sarangani partner to promote sustainable coffee farming
36. USAID joins 1,400 women and men in planting mangrove trees during “Pista ng Kalikasan” in Quezon

Videos. Videos, footages, and recordings produced and/ or shared by USAID Safe Water in its monthly newsletters during the quarter include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. USAID/Safe Water's Output-Based Aid & Blended Finance (OBA-BF) Piloting Experience | shorturl.at/ikmxO |
| 2. COP26 Videos on how USAID brought water security and sanitation into the climate conversation | shorturl.at/nHZ48 |
| 3. Narra organic farmers thank USAID for support in local production and watershed protection | shorturl.at/aiqxU |
| 4. USAID supports women leaders in environmental protection | shorturl.at/afBCQ |
| 5. USAID Launches 2022-2030 Climate Strategy | shorturl.at/jkwDT |
| 6. Remarks by Dr. Jim Barnhart - World Water Forum Senegal 2022 | shorturl.at/ffU59 |
| 7. Remarks by Jeff Goldberg - World Water Forum Senegal 2022 | shorturl.at/efl78 |
| 8. 2022 Negros Occidental Provincial Water Summit | shorturl.at/epO38 |
| 9. Introducing the new USAID Philippines Mission Director | shorturl.at/pCDPU |
| 10. USAID Administrator Samantha Power's 1st Year Anniversary Message | shorturl.at/nCGJL |
| 11. The Role of Water Resources Management in Delivering Water Services (Recording) | shorturl.at/cdhBK |
| 12. REAL Water Podcast | shorturl.at/erZ48 |
| 13. Agos Project in Negros Occidental | shorturl.at/ctCLU |

Press Releases. Press releases were published and featured by mainstream media outlets, providing greater visibility for the project:

- USAID facilitates NegOcc and PPP Center partnership in water supply projects
[PNA](#) | [PPP.gov](#) | [Manila Times](#) | [SSG](#)
- NegOcc officials pledge a Water Secure Future
[NegOcc](#) | [SunStar](#) | [AksyonRadyo Bacolod](#) | [Visayan Daily Star](#) | [KikoBenitez.com](#) | [USAID](#)
- Water supply: Coke goes all out
[Tribune](#)
- Water Supply Improvement Project II ng PPCWD, mapapakinabangan na
[Palawan Daily News](#) | [PPC Water](#)

- PPP Project Concept Note Development Workshop for the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental
PPP.gov.ph
- Safe water project to benefit 350k Filipinos
[Manila Times](#) | [Growth Features](#)
- Gov Lacson bares major plans
[Manila Times](#)

ANNEX B. DRAFT INDICATIVE ANSWERS TO THE KEY LEARNING QUESTIONS

The indicative answers to each Key Learning Question (KLQ) considers the assessment of the Project's progress and feedback received from partner LGUs and other stakeholders from the implementation of project activities. The answers, which will evolve over the life of the project, are meant to underscore the groundwork made and to inform follow-up actions and needed adjustments as project implementation continues.

KLQ Number 1: *What types of water resources and climatic data products/resources developed with the support of Safe Water are found to be most useful in preparing water security plans, and most effective in enabling an inclusive decision-making process?*

Answer:

Safe Water has provided local governments, water service providers, and other stakeholders in the project sites with three (3) water resources/climatic data- (i) results of hydrologic studies; (ii) forest cover; and (iii) water extraction. These water resources/climatic data were presented in various Safe Water fora (i.e., Co-Design Workshops, Pause and Reflect Sessions, Orientations on Provincial Water Security Planning) which allowed stakeholders to grasp the state of water availability in their province and get their buy-in to address the water security challenges.

Hydrologic Studies. Safe Water Project conducted hydrologic studies for five (5) major watersheds in the project sites: Montible in Palawan; Bago and Malogo in Negros Occidental; and Buayan-Malungon and Siguel in Sarangani. Using downscaled climate data produced by the Manila Observatory, the hydrologic studies provided information on surface water availability and groundwater recharge volume availability at baseline volume and under 2020 and 2050 climate change scenarios (for RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5).

The information on surface water availability (i.e., monthly surface water discharge//dependable flow) can be used to determine if there will be enough water to meet water consumption requirements of the province. The identification of high groundwater recharge areas will help prioritize which areas within each watershed should be deliberately protected and preserved to optimize groundwater infiltration.

The hydrologic studies also provided policy recommendations such as monitoring of water extraction and issuance of water permits; development of bulk water sources; resource sharing among various users; construction of multi-use reservoirs; establishing programs for riverbank stabilization, among others.

Forest Cover. Safe Water has generated forest cover maps and computed for the 5-year (2015-2020) change in forest cover for major watersheds in Safe Water sites. Information on forest cover has helped stakeholders identify specific areas (barangays per municipality/city) in a particular watershed where forest gains and losses take place and the rate at which this occurs. This will serve as basis for prioritizing interventions (and corresponding investments) to areas that are considered as "Threat Areas". Threat Areas pertain to portions of the watershed where forest losses are considerably high, thus, where protection activities need to be undertaken or intensified.

Water Extraction. Safe Water also analyzed data on the permitted water extraction to determine if extraction from various sources is within or beyond the dependable flow. The findings can be used to regulate water extraction and the issuance of permits.

The abovementioned data are currently being used by the provincial/local governments in Safe Water sites to support the formulation their Provincial Integrated Water Security Plans (PIWSPs) and other plans critical to managing water resources (i.e., Integrated Watershed Management Plans, Local Watershed Conservation and Restoration Plans).

The Team is assisting the provinces of Negros Occidental and Sarangani in the on-going formulation/finalization of their respective Provincial Integrated Water Security Plans (PIWSPs) guided by Safe Water's Provincial Integrated and Inclusive Water Security Framework. The Team is also assisting LGUs and partner stakeholders in the targeted sites to develop their Integrated Watershed Management Plans (IWMPs). The IWMP provides a holistic and integrated approach for sustainable management and conservation of watershed, which is critical to support expansion and improvement of WSS services in the targeted areas. It will also form part of the inputs to the preparation of PIWSP, particularly on the WRM.

All these plans build on the findings and recommendations of the hydrologic studies as well as forest cover and water extraction data. Moreover, the formulation of these plans utilizes an inclusive decision-making process, involving all stakeholders concerned.

In the PIWSP formulation, the provincial governments have created their own Provincial Integrated Water Security Council (PIWSC) and Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of representatives from the PLGU, city/municipal LGUs, and for the case of Negros Occidental, their TWG also includes the academe and private sector. In the drafting of IWMPs (such as the Montible IWMP), planning workshops involved watershed communities and various stakeholders such as: indigenous peoples' representatives, barangay officials, water service provider(s), city government offices; national government agencies, academic institutions, and NGOs.

KLQ Number 2.1: *How have partnerships among LGUs, private sector/ NGOs and watershed communities effectively contributed to water security objectives in the project sites?*

Answer:

Safe Water has forged various partnerships to tie efforts of LGUs, private institutions, and upland communities to support and implement sustainable solutions to prevent further depletion of water resources. The partnerships cover three significant aspects of assistance to the targeted areas. These are support to: (i) livelihood for watershed communities; (ii) forest protection and (iii) access to WSS services. The benefits that the partnerships provide and how these contribute to protect water resources are described as follows.

Support to livelihood. Safe Water is implementing 19 partnership agreements⁸ with various private institutions/groups to develop or improve capacities of watershed communities or People's Organizations (POs) to implement profitable and non-extractive upland livelihood activities.

Through technical assistance from Safe Water and its various partners, POs are able to: (i) demonstrate improved skills and techniques in managing their livelihoods (i.e., climate-smart farming, organic farming, establishment of demonstration farms) that provide households and individuals, especially women, access to livelihood opportunities; (ii) utilize livelihood technology (i.e., SALT, pest management) that enhance their productive capacity; and (iii) access markets and segments of the value chain (i.e., logistics, production and marketing, among others) that are already enabling some households to gain additional

⁸ Each partnership is formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding / Agreement between the private institutions and DAI Safe Water/LGU/POs.

or higher incomes. By increasing opportunities for sustainable non-extractive livelihood activities, watershed communities shift away from extractive activities (i.e., kaingin, cutting of trees, charcoal-making) as a source of living. Hence, preventing further degradation of the forest.

Forest Protection. Safe Water partners with the various LGUs to increase and institutionalize involvement of watershed communities as monitors for forest protection. The Project has trained over 900 members of various POs on the protection of forest and biodiversity resources through patrolling activities using the LAWIN Forest Protection System. As a result of actual patrolling activities using LAWIN, some apprehensions (i.e., illegal logging, kaingin) have been documented through forest patrolling reports and in the official websites of proponent LGUs. By conducting patrolling more efficiently, forests are protected from further deforestation activities.

Access to WSS Services. Safe Water partners with Water.org to facilitate access of people in the targeted sites to financial assistance (loans) from micro-financing institutions (MFIs) to avail of water service connections, improve access to existing water facility, construct sanitary facilities (with septic tanks), or improve existing sanitation facilities. As of the period, loans from the MFIs gave about 56,000 people access to new or improved water services while other 207,000 people gain access to new or improved sanitation services. Thus, by augmenting opportunity to access financial assistance, more people in the targeted areas gain access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

KLQ Number 2.2: *How can these partnerships be institutionalized?*

Answer:

The increasing engagement of upland communities in profitable and non-extractive livelihoods along with improved forest protection that emanate from the partnerships initiated by Safe Water among different actors or stakeholders are evidently demonstrating relevance to the protection of water resources. While efforts remain to bring additional partnerships for expanding measures for watershed protection, the Safe Water project and partners will carry out parallel actions to reinforce sustainability of the successful partnerships and their emerging benefits beyond the life span of the project. An initial menu of strategies or options is provided as follows:

- a) Institutionalizing support / assistance to livelihood activities as part of the PIWSPs;
- b) Documentation of experience and scale-up successful partnerships;
- c) Sharing of experience through knowledge products and learning events;
- d) Creation or designation of a unit within the LGU tasked to monitor and facilitate provision of assistance to POs;
- e) Capacitate LGUs in cultivating partnerships (i.e., profiling of potential partners and recipients from watershed communities; accessing potential source of assistance whether from government and/or the private sector)

KLQ Number 3: *How Is Safe Water's technical assistance to NEDA and other national government agencies on the implementation of the sector Master Plan and the Unified Resource Allocation Framework resulting to better planning and increased investments for water supply and sanitation services in the three focal sites of the project?*

Answer:

Safe Water's technical assistance to NEDA and other national government agencies include: a) preparation of technical and discussion notes on major sector policy reform initiatives; b) advocacy support and coordination with key implementing agencies on the implementation of their respective PWSSMP key reform action plans, and with LGUs in cascading the key reform agenda to the local level; c)

operationalization of the URAF; and d) technical secretariat support to the WSS Network that serves as a knowledge platform for the PWSSMP.

This assistance strengthened the commitment of national agencies to support Safe Water activities. It also provided an opportunity for the Project to demonstrate innovative schemes to inform needed policy and institutional reforms and strengthen water security planning, investment programming and resource mobilization for WSS interventions in the three project sites. The Output Based Aid-Blended Finance (OBA-BF) scheme for household sanitation being promoted under the URAF and piloted and replicated by the Project have increased awareness and generated funding for household sanitation from LGU current and supplemental budgets, microfinance institutions and private equity.

In Year 2 and Year 3, a total of [REDACTED] was generated for household sanitation providing access to 410 households. In Year 2, a total of [REDACTED] was mobilized from various sources for local water supply projects with Safe Water assistance. The localization of the PWSSMP through the Provincial Integrated Water Security planning process has helped the LGUs in the sites identify their respective WSS investment requirements that will be the basis for annual budgeting and resource mobilization adopting the URAF.