



Tambuli

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April - June 2010

Department of Public Works and Highways

Volume XI, Issue II

DPWH RIMSS Project wins 2009 Philippine Government ICT Awards

On June 22-23, 2010, the Chief Information Officer Forum (CIOF) and Chief Information Officer Forum Foundation (CIOFF) in collaboration with the Commission on Information and Communication Technology (CICT) and e-Governance for Effectiveness and Efficiency Project (E3) held the eGovernance Forum with the theme, "Public Service 2.0: From e-Government to e-Governance" at the Intercontinental Hotel, Makati City. Part of the said celebration was "to honor the outstanding government agencies which have undertaken ICT projects which helped to expand the use of technology for effective public service and positive social change, and the men and women who implemented these projects with utmost commitment and dedication."

The DPWH RIMSS Project is awarded the 2009 Philippine ICT Award in the area of Business Process. The RIMSS Project was presented during the break out session on June 22, attended by some eighty (80) participants, mainly

CIOs from different government institutions and from other private agencies here and abroad. The project was well appreciated and admired by both the organizers and participants, and elicited many interesting questions and comments during the open forum. The occasion also turned out to be a propitious venue to advocate the Department's efforts at enhancing the transparency and efficiency of its business processes through the use of Information Technology to better serve the public.

Post Script:

Last year, the MIS nominated the RIMSS Project to the Government Technology Awards in the FutureGov Summit held in Bali, Indonesia. The RIMSS Project made it to the shortlist in two categories: **Technology Leadership** and **Information Management**, and "placed top 5 in its class out of 500 nominations". FutureGov, sponsor of the said event, is Asia's only government, education and healthcare



modernization title, serving the largest and longest established network of senior public sector officials in Asia and the Middle East... working closely to identify opportunities for improving the governance, efficiency and citizen engagement of public sector organizations.

Strengthening the Environmental and Social Services of ESSO, IROW Acquisition Process and Strategic Environmental Assessment

One of the most phenomenal concerns we are experiencing right now is climate change and in recent years, countries all over the world have been doing their share in promoting environmental awareness. In response to this urgent issue, the Department has

been integrating environmental and social safeguards in its infrastructure project development.

The first Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) program on Environmental and Social Safeguards

were established during the National Road Improvement and Management Project (NRIMP-1). With the creation of the Environmental and Social Services Office (ESSO), the Department now has

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an office that will be handling socio-environmental matters. Furthermore, the sustainability of the Department's efforts for environmental and social services is likewise guaranteed under NRIMP-2.

The ESSO will also be linked with the IROW-PMO and the PMO Division of the Legal Service. In the proposed Rationalization Plan, however, these three offices will eventually be merged into what will be known as Environmental, Social and Right-of-Way (ESRO) Office, performing the functions of the said offices. At present, the ESSO staff is already familiar with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) tools which could be used for their decision making. In addition, the Department also intends to conduct Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as part of the capability building of the ESSO.

Under NRIMP-2, as per agreement between the Department and the World Bank, the consultancy for Safeguards was split into three packages:

1. Strengthening of the Environmental and Social Services Office (CS-IC-04A)
2. Improvement of IROW Management System (CS-IC-04B)
3. Strategic Environmental Assessment (CS-IC-04C)

Strengthening of the Environmental, Social and ROW Acquisition Capabilities of ESSO and PMO-IROW Staff.

As the ESSO develops, its key area of responsibility also expanded, in view of the emerging environmental issues on global warming and climate change, and concerns on the social aspects of project development. The IROW-PMO, on the other hand, which has been tasked to implement ROW acquisition, has very limited trainings related to ROW to be able to effectively carry out its functions. Through this project (CS-IC-04A), the ESSO and IROW-PMO staff will be given the necessary trainings to become reliable Environmental Planners and competent ROW Agents and thus be able to professionalize the way it conducts its functions. Among the expected outputs of this sub-component are the following: (1) Updated Social and Environmental Management System Manual; (2) Institutional development of ESRO; (3)

Framework/operational system to incorporate in the EIA new social challenges; (4) Framework to institutionalize Climate Change strategies into the planning, design and the entire cycle of project development. This commitment is projected to be completed within a period of three (3) years.

Improvement of IROW Management System.

During the RIMSS Project, it appeared in the AS-IS analysis that one of the major causes of delays in the implementation of road projects is the clearing and acquisition of right-of-way (ROW). The absence of implementing mechanisms for corridor preservation, documentation and storage titles and maps, organizational structure, etc., and the lack of capacity building on the part of ROW agents compound this problem. The Department then saw that there is a critical need to improve the processes by ensuring that ROW is acquired prior to construction and to adhere to RA 8974 (*An act to facilitate the acquisition of right-of-way, site or location for national government infrastructure projects and for other purposes*). At the same time, improvements on this law was likewise considered.

At present, the highway road network is not properly managed in the context of asset management. For example, it is not known to what extent the DPWH ROW assets are clear and free from encumbrance of claims. Furthermore, the absence of policy on abandoned roads resulted in losses in assets of the government. This project (CS-IC-04B) have the following deliverables: (1) Highway Boundary Plan for pilot region and District Offices; (2) Roll over plan for the implementation of the Highway Boundary Plan for DPWH-wide application and continued adoption of the process improvement; (3) Roll-out plan for the enhanced IROW Application; (4) Draft policy and procedures on the innovative financing of ROW acquisition; (5) Public meetings, consultation and workshop on the new improved IROW Management System. The implementation will be for a three-year period.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SEA is a useful mechanism for the integration of climate

change considerations into national and sectoral level policies, plans and programs. It is expected to help DPWH to comply with the EIA Law and improve the sustainability of its planning process. Once the study is completed, it shall be disseminated to all DPWH Regional Offices. These are the required deliverables from the consultants: (1) Inception report (should discuss the implementation plan covering the type of data to be collected, methodologies to be used, team composition, field trips, project scheduling, deliverables, and so on); (2) Mid-term report (comprised of two parts: The first part is the result of the baseline, analysis of stakeholders, political economy analysis and identification of environmental and social priorities; the second part will focus on methods and mechanisms for scenario building, assessment of effects of transport plans on environmental and social priorities, and institutional analysis for transport sector, and environmental management in the context of the transport projects; (3) SEA Reports – full description and analysis of the SEA study. The estimated duration of the assignment is seven (7) months.

Source: ESSO

DPWH Website Hosting Outsourced

Outsourcing is now the by-word in both private and public sector. The DPWH, in order to be relieved of the financial burden of purchasing new equipment and upgrading the required software, decided to have its website hosted by a service provider. With a reliable web host to keep the Department's internet website (www.dpwh.gov.ph) up 24/7, the Department is better able to serve its external stakeholders with more transparency and efficiency.

ePLDT, being the leased line provider of the Department, agreed to waive the web hosting fee and enabled the Department some savings in this regard.

DPWH is 112 years old... and going stronger than ever!

June 23 marks the 112th anniversary of DPWH. The weeklong anniversary celebration at the Central Office kicked off on June 21 with the launching of the “Eco-Friendly Office”, a proof that environmental awareness and involvement in eco-friendly initiatives are very much alive in the Department. This was followed by the opening of the weeklong IT Exhibit with the theme: DPWH Leveling Up Thru Information Technology. The exhibit showcased the Department’s intranet and internet

websites, and other IT-enabled business process improvements, to wit: Personnel Information System (PIS), New Government Accounting System (eNGAS), Civil Works Registry (CWR), the Planning Applications (RBIA, RTIA, BMS, PMS, TARAS), the DPWH Communications Network, and other helpful tips in maximizing the use of our existing IT resources in the Department. The IT Exhibit is also the Department’s simple way of joining the national celebration of June as Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) Month. There was also a blood letting activity where DPWH employees literally offered their blood to help save another person’s life.

On June 22, the opening of the *Tiangge* at the DPWH Quadrangle was held. On the day of the anniversary itself, June 23, the whole day celebration started with the Eucharistic celebration followed by a program consisting of raffles, performances (from the Excom, Mancom, DPWH chorale, and some Rank and File Employees), and the giving of Awards to 2010 Retirees and Personnel with 40 years of service. An Employees’ Afternoon Delight consisting of raffles, Guest Performers, and Live Bands concluded the day’s celebration. The culmination of the 112th anniversary celebration is the Tree Planting Activity at the DPWH Housing Site at Lower Bicutan, Taguig City.

Papugay sa lahat na naging bahagi – noon at ngayon - ng “Isang DAAN at Labindalawang Taong Serbisyo, TULAY sa Pag-Unlad ng Bayan Ko”!



Launching of Eco-Friendly Office

IT Training Section, MIS



Photos taken during IT exhibit entitled “DPWH Leveling Up thru Information Technology”

Visayas and Mindanao Regions to be directly connected to CO

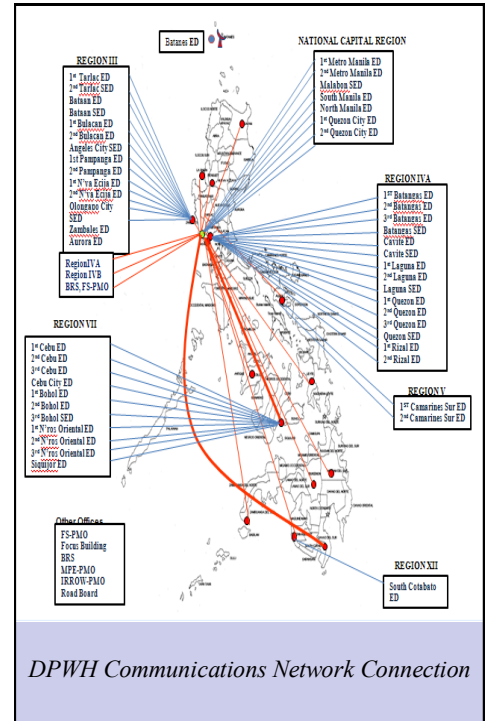
Starting June 2010, the works for the direct connection of the seven (7) regional offices of Visayas and Mindanao to the Central Office are underway.

With the continuing increase in bandwidth utilization due to the deployment of more IT-enabled applications to the Regional and District Engineering Offices, the DPWH upgraded its leased line connections to address the huge network traffic and frequency of downtime being experienced by the regional offices, particularly the regions that connect to the CO thru the hub regions. The seven (7) Regional Offices are: Regions VI, VIII connected to Region VII (Cebu hub); Regions IX, X, XII, XIII connected to Region XI (Davao hub), and IVB, connected to Region IV-A. The best part of this good news is that the installation of these dedicated leased

lines connections will not entail additional cost to the Department, except for the additional router, which will be used in the direct connection of the said regions. To date, Regions VIII and IV-B are already connected, while ongoing activities are done in the remaining regions. This project is expected to be completed by the end of August 2010.

As to Region VII, whose office was transferred to the South Reclamation Project (SRP) in Cebu City and which currently has no existing communications facility, a Digital Microwave Radio Link will be used to connect it to the Central Office. The installation of the said facility is ongoing.

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ITEMS... your IT handyman

Computer maintenance and repair assistance are important services for computer users in the Department. The more the computer becomes a part of our daily routine, the more necessary it is to know where one can get assistance when some problems are encountered. The good news is, there is a section in the MIS that takes care of that worrying for us – the IT Equipment Maintenance Section (ITEMS).

ITEMS specializes in installation, maintenance, troubleshooting and technical support services for the office-wide computer network systems, telephone systems, and other office equipment, including hardware, software, telecommunications, peripherals, and associated supplies. ITEMS offers different types of assistance: (1) onsite support wherein a technician goes to the caller's workplace and perform troubleshooting and repair onsite; (2) online support where callers are guided/given instructions over the phone to perform basic troubleshooting

and repair activities; and (3) Bench Support where troubleshooting and repair is done at the ITEMS section, particularly for IT equipment delivered by the users themselves.

The services of ITEMS are available to all offices of the Department. All problems, queries and requests for assistance must be made through the IT Helpdesk at local 43070 or thru email / intranet. With ITEMS around, no ticket is left unclosed.

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TAMBULI is a quarterly publication of the DPWH Monitoring and Information Service (MIS) in support of the Institutional Capacity Development Projects (ICD) and other IT-enabled Business Process Improvements (BPIs) of the DPWH with editorial business address at:

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