

## **HAZARD AND CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT OF FARMING AND FISHING COMMUNITIES OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GARCHITORENA**

Wilma C. De Los Santos

*Faculty Member, Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology, Philippines*

E-mail: engrwilma.minscat8917@gmail.com

*Keywords:* Hazard, Climate Risk, Farming and Fishing, Local Government Unit, Garchitorena.

### **Abstract**

The study was carried out to assess the hazard and climate risk management of farming and fishing communities of the municipality of Garchitorena. Five (5) most vulnerable barangays were selected as study areas: Barangay 1, Ason, Canlong, Mansangat and Pambuhan. The study used descriptive-evaluative and developmental research designs following a progressive system of assessment. Descriptive-evaluative research design was used to figure out the municipality's hazard and climate risk management. Developmental research design was used to formulate plans and policies apt to the local situation.

The major part of the land of the municipality is agriculture with large acres of marine and aquatic resources, thus, farming and fishing are the major sources of food and income. Hence, the municipality is very vulnerable to climatological and hydrometeorological hazards due to its physical, environmental and socioeconomic condition. The major hazard is tropical cyclone. Climate risks include more intense and frequent rainfall, longer dry period, sea level rise and increasing ocean temperature. Major risk impacts include destruction of agriculture and coastal resources, rough seas that obstruct fishing, resulting to very low or no harvest and ultimately, scarcity in food and financial distress. The vulnerability factors, the local adaptation and coping mechanisms, the strengths and gaps were identified and enumerated.

On the basis of findings, socioeconomic condition and poor local governance intensify the vulnerability of the municipality. From the evaluation of the Local Government Unit's programs and initiatives, hazard and climate risk reduction and management is of less priority and behind in its policy and planning. Therefore, medium and long term plan of action and policies were formulated and recommended to help manage and reduce the risks posed by climatological and hydrometeorological hazards.