



NEWSLETTER 3

Dear Reader,

This newsletter presents progress up to beginning of **March 2005** and is primarily intended for people involved in the project and might not give a complete picture of the project. The Newsletter is also found on the HLURB Homepage. Please also note that the Newsletter has an informal character and that the content does not imply official endorsement by HLURB.

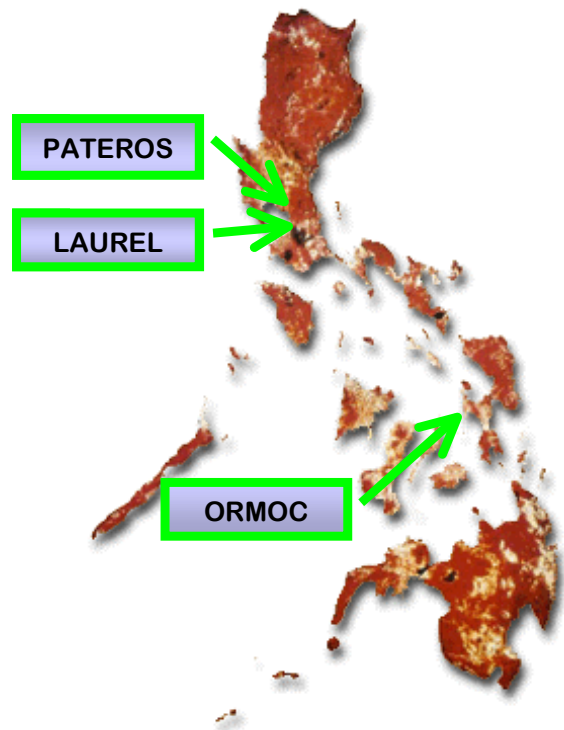
If you have ideas or questions about the project, please contact the Project Manager, Mrs. Emma Marilyn C. Ulep, HLURB, eulep@hlurb.gov.ph or

the Project Technical Adviser, Mr. Christer Kjørneberg, Swedesurvey christer.kjorneberg@swedesurvey.se

Study tours to the Municipalities

This period has focused on the collaboration with the three pilot municipalities: Pateros, Ormoc and Laurel. Memorandums of Agreements have been signed between HLURB and the respective municipality outlining division and distribution of responsibilities. The LGUs, representing a metropolitan municipality (Pateros), a regional hub (Ormoc City) and a small rural LGU (Laurel) have been selected due to their previous experiences in using GIS in the preparation of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

A one-day workshop was held at Ormoc City, 11 February 2005. The senior staff of concerned departments in Ormoc City together with a number of planners from LGUS in the region were invited to air their views and expectations of the Cookbook. At the same time valuable information was given about organizational matters, staffing, the status of computerization in the municipalities and other conditions, which will set the standard for the introduction of a municipal GIS.



In-depth discussion have been conducted with the LGU planning staff to find out how the GIS was used in the CLUP preparations, field surveys have been made to compare the plan with the 'real world' and how GIS was used for presenting important indicators and facts. A general conclusion is that the current HLURB Guidelines for the CLUP preparation are quite demanding, complex and sometimes contradictorily and might be too voluminous for easy comprehension for a Chief Planner in a Class 6 Municipality. This has also been observed by the HLURB

team, currently very busy to come up with a new and more 'user-friendly' version of the Guidelines.

It is also obvious that the map appreciation is weak both among those who (mostly consultants but also HLURB regional staff) prepare the plans and the stakeholders who approve the plan and try to interpret it in the implementation phase. A review of the CLUPs reveals that GIS is far from fully utilised.

A Need for a 'CLUP for Dummies'?

It was found that the final Plan documentations are quite voluminous, and can therefore not be defined as 'comprehensive' in the meaning that it has been read, understood and used by the receivers. In the future, one way to facilitate the receptiveness among the stakeholders might be to make a 'CLUP for Dummies', a very condensed version of the most important outcome of the planning process in a leaflet that will be distributed to a major part of stakeholders once the planning process has come to an end:



Cartographic Negligence?

A requirement for open and democratic local governance is that comprehensive land-use plans can be understood. If not,

maps, tables, diagrams, and plans that are difficult to interpret, will act as a barrier to the exchange of information between planners, elected representatives and the public. Regarding the majority of maps found in the reports, the following issues restrict the opportunity to fully comprehend them:

- ☒ The distinction between a 'plan' and a 'map' is not respected;
- ☒ Scale and ruler are missing;
- ☒ Legend is missing;
- ☒ If legend is found, the symbols in the map are not the same as in the legend;
- ☒ Point symbols are used where it should be found polygon symbols and vice versa;
- ☒ Thematic information is mixed with base information or is displayed without having a base map as a backdrop for easy reference. The legend is also mixed.
- ☒ Hatching and raster are used without using proper color-coding or line thickness to focus on the important or crucial component of the thematic information.

Besides from GIS related spatial information many tables could have been represented with more easy-to-read graphs.



The Project Team also visited Laurel for three days and conducted field validations together with the LGU Planning Staff using GPS. A workshop with councilors and LGU officials was also held.

BACKGROUND

Swedesurvey has been given the responsibility to assist Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) in the preparation of guidelines how to use a GIS in comprehensive land-use planning. The project is sponsored by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

