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Towards Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: Identifying Economic and Investment Priorities in Barangay Pili, Mogpog

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ABSTRACT

The UNSDGs are a set of global objectives to address various socio-economic and environmental challenges. In this context, identifying economic and investment priorities is crucial for advancing sustainable development. The aim of this study was to assess the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili in Mogpog, Marinduque to help develop a sustainable roadmap that maximizes its potential in alignment with the SDGs. The study employed a quantitative descriptive research design and simple random sampling method to gather data. A total of 121 residents were surveyed using a Citizen Satisfaction Index System (CSIS) adopted questionnaire. Data gathering was performed with the support of barangay officials and members of sanguniang kabataan to obtain residents' perspectives and satisfaction levels on the economic and investment programs. Data gathered were analyzed using the descriptive statistics (mean) and frequency distribution. The findings revealed that the top three most pressing economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili are the implementation of livelihood programs, development and maintenance of tourist attractions facilities and organization and development of farmers, fishermen, and their cooperatives. Moreover, the current government economic promotion programs and services were perceived as inadequate in addressing these concerns. With the findings, this research provided insights for policymakers and stakeholders working towards the achievement of the SDGs. This investigation emphasizes the necessity of community involvement in promoting sustainable development and for government agencies to continuously enhance and adjust their economic promotion programs and services to keep up with the changing needs of their constituents.

Keywords: community involvement, farmers' and fishermen's cooperatives, public and private collaboration, social equity, sustainable agriculture.

INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) aim to promote economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability in countries around the world. Over the years, the Philippines has made significant progress towards achieving the UNSDGs (Manalo, 2022). According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines Country Programme document, the country has made notable progress in reducing poverty, improving access to education and healthcare, and promoting



gender equality (UNDP, 2020) and has sustained progress on most of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (PSA 2022). However, despite these accomplishments, there are still areas where progress is needed.

Sustainable development is a crucial aspect of economic growth and prosperity of a nation. It requires the collaboration of both the public and private sectors to achieve its goals. In the Philippines, the government has been implementing various economic promotion programs and services to support sustainable development at the local level, including in barangays. The local government units (LGUs) play a significant role in implementing economic promotion programs and services that aim to address the economic and investment needs of its barangays (SDGs, United Nations in Philippines). Barangay Pili, Mogpog, in particular, is one of the many barangays in Marinduque that has been striving to achieve sustainable development where, like many other rural communities in the Philippines, poverty and limited economic opportunities continue to be major challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has also exacerbated these challenges, particularly in terms of livelihood and income generation.

Barangay Pili, Mogpog, Marinduque, is a rural community located in the central part of the Philippines. As with many other barangays, Pili faces several economic and investment challenges that hinder its sustainable development. Given these challenges, the study aims to identify the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development. According to a study, respondents in Barangay Pili perceive that priority government programs and services are needed to improve the quality of services, atmosphere, and other aspects of community life (Udanga, G.E. et al. 2022). Furthermore, the study will examine the current government economic promotion programs and services available in the barangay and assess their effectiveness in addressing its economic and investment needs. Lastly, the study will provide recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the existing government economic promotion programs and services to achieve sustainable development in the Barangay.

It is essential to examine the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili and evaluate the existing government economic promotion programs and services available as it would help for the effective project implementation and more sustainable community program (Borbon, 2020). It can help the local government units and other organizations to design and implement effective programs and services that can support the economic development of the place. By identifying the economic and investment needs of the barangay, it will be possible to develop sustainable solutions that can address the current challenges and provide opportunities for growth and development.

To date, limited studies have been conducted on the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog, for sustainable development. However, a study conducted by the Marinduque State College in 2017 showed that the top economic priorities of the barangay include livelihood programs, agricultural development, and access to financing (Buenaflor et al., 2017). The study also highlighted the importance of sustainable agriculture and ecotourism in the barangay's economic development.

Likewise, the Philippine government has implemented various economic promotion programs and services to support sustainable development at the local level, including in Barangay Pili, Mogpog. These programs and services include the Department of Agriculture's Special Area for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) program that aims to increase food production and reduce poverty in the country's poorest provinces, including Marinduque, the Department of Trade and Industry's Shared Service Facilities (DTI-SSF) program that provides shared production facilities and equipment to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to improve their productivity and competitiveness, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development's Sustainable Livelihood Program (DSWD-SLP), that has led in the provision of opportunities for income-generating activities and livelihood development



through the implementation of the Sustainable Livelihood Program since 2011 (Acosta,Pablo Ariel; Avalos,Jorge, 2018)

Despite the availability of these programs and services, it is unclear how effective they have been in addressing the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili for sustainable development. Therefore, this study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs and services in the barangay and provide recommendations on how to improve their effectiveness.

This research aims to identify the needs and priorities of Barangay Pili in terms of economic promotion and sustainable development, with a particular focus on how they contribute to the achievement of UNSDGs 1 (No Poverty), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by identifying the specific needs of Barangay Pili and proposing targeted interventions to promote economic growth and reduce poverty. By investing in the future of Barangay Pili, we can support the community's journey towards achieving the UNSDGs and creating a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

Despite efforts to promote sustainable development in Barangay Pili, Mogpog, there is a lack of understanding regarding the economic and investment priorities that are necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Without a targeted needs assessment, it is difficult to identify the most pressing economic and investment needs of the community, hindering progress towards sustainable development. Therefore, this research aims to identify the economic and investment priorities of Barangay Pili, Mogpog and assess their potential impact on the achievement of the SDGs, in order to inform future economic and investment policies and promote sustainable development in the community.

The primary objective of this study is to identify the economic and investment priorities of Barangay Pili, Mogpog towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The research aims to specifically address the following questions::

1. What are the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development?

2. How effective are the existing government economic promotion programs and services in addressing the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development?

3. What recommendations can be proposed to improve the effectiveness of the existing government economic promotion programs and services in Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development?

The significance of this study lies in its potential contribution to the development of Barangay Pili, Mogpog, Marinduque through the identification of its economic and investment needs, evaluation of the existing government economic promotion programs and services, and proposal of recommendations to improve their effectiveness for sustainable development. The findings of this study can serve as a basis for the barangay officials, local government units, and other stakeholders to develop and implement appropriate economic and investment programs and services that can address the identified needs and improve the socio-economic condition of the community. This study can also contribute to the body of knowledge on local economic development, particularly in the context of small rural communities in the Philippines.

The findings of this study can be useful for the local government units, particularly the barangay officials, in planning and implementing programs and projects that are responsive to the economic and investment needs of the community. It can also inform the decision-making of national government agencies and other organizations that provide economic development services to the barangay.

Furthermore, this study contributes to the body of knowledge on sustainable development in rural communities in the Philippines. It provides a case study on the economic and investment needs of a specific barangay, which can serve as a reference for similar studies in other rural areas and as a model for sustainable development initiatives in other rural communities in the Philippines.



METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study employed a quantitative descriptive research design, wherein 121 household representatives from Barangay Pili, Mogpog were surveyed. The survey was conducted with the assistance of volunteers from the youth sector and barangay officials. The research design allowed us to collect data that describes the current economic and investment priorities of the barangay.

Data Gathering Procedure

The research team initiated the data gathering procedure after the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Marinduque State College (MSC) and Barangay Pili was signed. The MOA allowed MSC researchers to conduct various researches in the barangay. Before the data gathering procedure, the research team met with the barangay officials to discuss the research objectives and procedures. The officials were informed of the survey's importance and were asked to provide support to ensure that the data gathering procedure would be successful. To collect data, the research team requested volunteer enumerators from the youth sector and barangay officials of the place. Proper orientation of volunteers is crucial to ensure that they understand the research objectives and procedures. The research team conducted an orientation session to explain the survey questionnaire's purpose and how to administer and answer it appropriately. An interview simulation was also conducted to further strengthen their understanding of the survey questionnaire.

Hard copies of the survey questionnaire were distributed to the volunteers, who were grouped and assigned to cover the barangay's seven puroks to gather data. Data gathering took longer than anticipated due to the limited availability of volunteers and respondents. As a precautionary measure to avoid excessive exposure of volunteers due to the pandemic, data gathering was done in phases.

Finally, the research team validated the research findings with key informants, such as the barangay officials and community leaders. The validation process ensured the accuracy and reliability of the research results.

Research Instrument

The research team used a revised survey questionnaire based on the Citizen Satisfaction Index Survey (CSIS) form used by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The survey questionnaire was customized to suit the needs of the target research locale. Data obtained were statistically processed using frequency and mean.

Research Locale

The study was conducted in Barangay Pili, Mogpog, in the province of Marinduque, Philippines. Pili is one of the 37 barangays of the Municipality of Mogpog, a coastal municipality in the island province of Marinduque. It has a land area of 108.06 square kilometers or 41.72 square miles, constituting 11.34% of Marinduque's total area. The population of Barangay Pili based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing was 529, with 165 households clustered into seven puroks. The Barangay became an area of this study on the basis of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Marinduque State College and Barangay Pili.

Research Population and Sample

The research population comprised of 165 households in Barangay Pili, Mogpog. The research team used probability sampling, specifically simple random sampling, to select the respondents. This allowed the team to generalize the study's results to the entire population accurately. However, data were retrieved only from 121 household representatives who completed the survey questionnaire.



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RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development

The survey questions were designed to assess the respondents' prioritization of needs and satisfaction levels with the programs and services provided by the government, utilizing the following scale:

Range Verbal Description

- 4.20 5.00 Very High-Level
- 3.40 4.19 High-Level
- 2.60 3.39 Moderate Level

1.80 – 2.59 Low Level

1.00 – 1.79 Very Low Level

The following table shows the government's economic and investment promotion programs/services to the local government units. The table presents the results of a needs assessment on economic and investment promotion in Barangay Pili, Mogpog. The study identified 13 areas of needs, which were rated by respondents according to their level of priority, with a total of 121 respondents.

ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION PROGRAMS	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	MEAN	VERBAL DESCRIPTION
Livelihood Programs	9	5	15	53	39	121		High-
							3.89	Level Priority
Development and maintenance of		-				101		High-
tourist attractions facilities	9	2	27	41	42	121	3.87	Level Priority
Organization and development of	of				The			
farmers, fishermen, and their	11	7	19	39	45	121	3.83	High-
cooperatives								Level Priority
Access to facilities that promote								High-
agricultural production such as fish	9	б	28	34	44	121	3.81	2
hatcheries and breeding stations								Level Priority
Prevention and control of plant and								High-
animal pets and diseases; fish kills and	9	2	31	43	36	121	3.79	Level Priority
diseases								Level Phoney
Investment promotion activities such								High-
as trade fairs, fiestas, business events,	9	7	28	35	42	121	3.78	Level Priority
and similar events								Level Phoney
Distribution of								High-
planting/farming/fishing materials	9	7	26	41	38	121	3.76	-
and/or equipment								Level Priority
Accessible farm harvest	9	5	32	44	31	121	3.69	High-
buying/trading stations	,	2	52		51	121	5.09	Level Priority
Access to irrigation facilities or	~	-	22	25	27	121	2.60	High-
equipment	9	7	33	35	37	121	3.69	Level Priority
Dublia Englando de Consiano	lic Employment Services 9 6 32 4		22	47	27	121	3.64	High-
Puone Employment Services		47	47 27	121	3.04	Level Priority		
Regulation and supervision of	0	5		27	26	121		High-
businesses	9	S	44	37	26	121	3.55	Level Priority
Water and soil resource utilization and	12	0	20	21	20	121	2.42	High-
conservation projects	12	9	39	31	30	121	3.48	Level Priority
Post-Harvest facilities such as crop								TTi-h
dryers, slaughterhouses, or fish	12	7	40	36	26	121	3.47	High-
processing facilities								Level Priority
Composite Mean							3.71	High-
								Level Priority



The table shows the highest responses for Livelihood Programs with the mean of 3.89 and a verbal description of High Priority. Additionally, the respondents' overall perception of the totality of the economic and investment promotion programs/services as a need has a composite mean of 3.71 with a verbal description of High Priority.

The highest priority needs were livelihood programs (mean = 3.89), followed closely by development and maintenance of tourist attractions facilities (mean = 3.87), organization and development of farmers, fishermen, and their associations (mean = 3.83), access to facilities that promote agricultural production such as fish hatcheries and breeding stations (mean = 3.81), and prevention and control of plant and animal pests and diseases; fish kills and diseases (mean = 3.79). These were all rated as high-level priority needs.

Investment promotion activities such as trade fairs, fiestas, business events, and similar events (mean = 3.78), distribution of planting/farming/fishing materials and/or equipment (mean = 3.76), accessible farm harvest buying/trading stations (mean = 3.69), access to irrigation facilities or equipment (mean = 3.69), and public employment services (mean = 3.64) were also identified as high-level priority needs.

Regulation and supervision of businesses (mean = 3.55), water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects (mean = 3.48), and post-harvest facilities such as crop dryers, slaughterhouses, or fish processing facilities (mean = 3.47) were rated as high-level priority needs.

Overall, the composite mean of the identified needs was 3.71, indicating that there is a high-level priority need for economic and investment promotion in Barangay Pili, Mogpog. These results can help inform policymakers and local government officials in developing effective and relevant programs and policies towards achieving sustainable development goals in the area.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused so many disruptions to the livelihood activities of people. Reduced human activities negatively affected the livelihood and social well-being of the local communities. It is, thus, not surprising that this particular need is floated as a very high-level priority among the respondents. In response to the adverse effects of COVID-19 on people's livelihoods, the Philippine government has implemented several measures, one of which is the enactment of the Bayanihan Act 2. This act serves as a crucial component of the government's three-phase economic recovery plan. Its primary objective is to address the challenges brought about by the pandemic and mitigate its impact on the livelihoods of the population: it provides government funds to stimulate the economy, it strengthens the health sector, and it bolsters the government's pandemic responses. Through the implementation of the Bayanihan Act 2, the government aims to provide necessary support and assistance to affected individuals and businesses, ensuring their resilience and facilitating the recovery of the economy. The local government units, on their initiatives, provided training on alternative livelihood strategies under the 'new normal' (Magcale et al., 2021).

There are authentic livelihood programs that communities could avail of, one of which is the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) that has taken the lead in providing income-generating activities/livelihood development since 2011. The objective of SLP is to reduce poverty and inequality by generating employment among poor households and by leading highly vulnerable households into sustainable livelihoods and toward economic stability. This could be done by way of two tracks; increase in wage- and self-employment in the short run, and improve socio-economic well-being in the long run through the acquisition of productive assets and income (Acosta, Pablo Ariel & Avalos,Jorge, 2018).



One of the World Bank's recommendations for the sustainability of the program is to strengthen referral linkages to other programs. Effective collaborations can significantly improve the efficiency of the program so, SLP should look to involve other national and local agencies with the capacity to provide further guidance and resources to their entrepreneurial projects and job search. (Acosta, 2018)

How effective are the existing government economic promotion programs and services in addressing the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development?

Based on the table provided below, the study aimed to determine the level of satisfaction of Filipinos towards economic and investment promotion programs in their country. The table shows the results of the survey, with 13 different programs listed and their respective mean scores and verbal descriptions.

According to the following table, the existing government economic promotion programs and services in Barangay Pili, Mogpog are rated as moderate overall, with a composite mean score of 2.66. The top three programs that garnered the highest ratings were livelihood programs, investment promotion activities, and development and maintenance of tourist attractions and facilities, all of which received a moderate rating.

Meanwhile, the lowest rated programs were organization and development of farmers, fishermen and their cooperatives, distribution of planting/farming/fishing materials and/or equipment, accessible farm harvest buying/trading stations, post-harvest facilities such as crop dryers, slaughterhouses or fish processing facilities, and water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects, all of which received a low level rating.

¹¹ 5·								
ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION PROGRAM	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	MEAN	VERBAL DESCRIPTION
Livelihood Programs	13	12	56	29	11	121	3.11	Moderate
Investment promotion activities such as								
trade fairs, fiestas, business events and	19	11	65	17	9	121	2.88	Moderate
similar events								
Development and maintenance of	18	24	44	28	7	121	2.85	Moderate
tourist attractions and facilities	18	24		28	1	121	2.83	Moderate
Public Employment Services	25	14	59	17	б	121	2.71	Moderate
Access to facilities that promote								
agricultural production such as fish	28	19	43	24	7	121	2.69	Moderate
hatcheries and breeding stations								
Regulation and supervision of	23	16	63	16	3	121	2.67	Moderate
businesses	13	10	03	10	2	121	2.07	Moderate
Prevention and control of plant and								
animal pests and diseases; fish kills and	30	18	46	16	11	121	2.67	Moderate
diseases								
Access to irrigation facilities or	27	21	51	16	6	121	2.61	Moderate
equipment	2)	21	51	10	v	121	2.01	Moderate
Organization and development of								
farmers, fishermen and their	31	18	49	17	б	121	2.58	Low Level
cooperatives								
Distribution of								
planting/farming/fishing materials	34	26	32	21	8	121	2.53	Low Level
and/or equipment								
Accessible farm harvest buying/trading	38	13	45	20	5	121	2.51	Low Level
stations	20		12		2			Low Level
Post-Harvest facilities such as crop								
dryers, slaughter houses or fish	32	23	44	17	5	121	2.50	Low Level
processing facilities								
Water and soil resource utilization and	42	16	48	11	4	121	2.33	Low Level
conservation projects							2.33	Tow Peret
Composite mean							2.66	Moderate



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Data revealed that Livelihood Programs got the highest mean of 3.11 with verbal description of moderate. It can be said that the presence of livelihood programs is evident in the barangay. Local government units prioritize the provision of livelihood programs and usually one of the major programs cascaded to barangay level with the assistance of other partner agencies. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) initiated in 2011 the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) with the objective of offering livelihood assistance to impoverished households, primarily focusing on Pantawid beneficiaries (Ballesteros et al., 2017). The livelihood assistance is in the form of microenterprise development (MD) and employment facilitation (EF).

On the other hand, the water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects obtained the lowest mean of 2.33 with verbal description of low level. It may be attributed to the fact that awareness and availment of such program is low. In a study, it was mentioned that serious attention should also be given to the service on Water and Soil Resource Utilization and Conservation Projects. This must also be noted that awareness was low (Bacares, 2021). Moreover, availment was also low. The citizens who did not avail cited that there is actually water scarcity in their area.

The results show that the overall composite mean score of all programs is 2.66, which falls under the "Moderate" verbal description. This suggests that, on average, Filipinos are moderately satisfied with the economic and investment promotion programs implemented in their country.

Livelihood programs have the highest mean score of 3.11, indicating that residents are moderately satisfied with these programs. Meanwhile, the distribution of planting/farming/fishing materials and/or equipment, accessible farm harvest buying/trading stations, post-harvest facilities, and water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects all received low mean scores, indicating low levels of satisfaction.

It is worth noting that most of the programs received mean scores falling under the "Moderate" verbal description, indicating that while there is room for improvement, residents are generally satisfied with the economic and investment promotion programs in their country.

Overall, while the government economic promotion programs and services in Barangay Pili, Mogpog were found to be moderately effective, there are still areas for improvement, particularly in programs that aim to support farmers, fishermen, and their cooperatives, as well as those related to the distribution and post-harvest facilities for farming and fishing.

The findings of this research have **significant implications** for the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By identifying the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog, and evaluating the effectiveness of existing government programs and services, this research provides important insights for policymakers and stakeholders working towards the achievement of the SDGs. The recommendations proposed in this study could be used to guide the development of more effective and sustainable economic promotion programs and services in the community and beyond, thus contributing to the overall global efforts towards achieving the SDGs.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a global initiative aimed at addressing various challenges and serving as a universal call to action. The SDGs encompass a wide range of objectives, including ending poverty, promoting environmental sustainability, and ensuring the well-being and prosperity of all individuals. These goals provide a comprehensive framework for countries and stakeholders to work together in achieving a more equitable and sustainable future for all. The findings of this research on the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog align with several of the SDGs.



Firstly, the need for sustainable livelihood programs aligns with SDG 1, which aims to eradicate poverty. The provision of livelihood programs can improve the economic situation of the residents and help lift them out of poverty.

Secondly, the need for water and soil resource utilization and conservation aligns with SDG 6, which aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. This highlights the importance of access to clean water and proper management of natural resources in the community.

Lastly, the need for improved infrastructure and transportation aligns with SDG 9, which aims to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. This underscores the importance of providing adequate infrastructure to promote economic growth and development.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the findings of this research revealed that the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog align with the achievement of several of the SDGs particularly in the local context. Further, the study revealed that Barangay Pili, Mogpog has several economic and investment needs for sustainable development, with Livelihood Programs, Development and maintenance of tourist attractions facilities, and Organization and development of farmers, fishermen, and their cooperatives topping the list. Furthermore, the findings revealed that livelihood programs have been prioritized by the local government units and are being implemented in the barangay with moderate satisfaction levels among the residents. The program on water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects have the lowest effective rating level, which may be attributed to the low awareness and availment of the program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The scope of this study is limited to the assessment of the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog and the effectiveness of the existing government economic promotion programs and services in addressing these needs for sustainable development. The study is based on the perspectives of the barangay officials, business owners, and residents. However, this study does not cover the assessment of other factors such as political, environmental, and social factors that may also affect sustainable development in Barangay Pili.

Another limitation of the study is the relatively small sample size, which may not be representative of the entire barangay population. Moreover, the study only covers the perceptions and experiences of those who participated in the survey and interviews, and may not necessarily reflect the views of other stakeholders.

Despite these limitations, the study provides valuable insights into the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili, Mogpog and the effectiveness of government programs and services in addressing these needs for sustainable development. The findings of this study can serve as a basis for further research and policy development aimed at promoting sustainable economic growth and development in Barangay Pili and other similar communities.

Based on the findings of the study, several recommendations can be made to improve the effectiveness of the existing government economic promotion programs and services in Barangay Pili, Mogpog for sustainable development.

Firstly, increasing awareness and participation in economic promotion programs and services, specifically focusing on water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects. To achieve this, targeted campaigns and information dissemination should be conducted through various platforms, such as social



media, community meetings, and barangay bulletins. This will help ensure that citizens are well-informed about these programs and are encouraged to avail themselves of the benefits.

Secondly, improving the accessibility and availability of economic promotion programs and services is crucial. The local government should consider establishing additional livelihood programs and a training center in Barangay Pili. These initiatives would directly address the economic needs of the citizens, providing them with more opportunities to enhance their skills and generate income. By enhancing accessibility and availability, more citizens will be able to benefit from these programs and contribute to the economic growth of the community.

Thirdly, there is a need to provide more support for microenterprise development (MD) and employment facilitation (EF) programs to further boost the livelihood opportunities in Barangay Pili. The Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) launched by the DSWD in 2011 provides such assistance, but it may need to be expanded to reach more residents and cover a wider range of livelihood options (Ballesteros et al., 2017).

Fourthly, partnerships with other government agencies and private entities may be explored to provide additional resources and logistics support for the economic and investment needs of Barangay Pili in alignment with the national and local priorities of the government and based on a needs assessment survey to determine the specific requirements of the residents. Partnerships can include collaboration with local cooperatives, non-government organizations, and private companies to provide funding, training to project recipients, and other resources that can help support the development of the community. Assistance from DTI for possible small- and medium-scale business ventures for residents or project recipients could also be considered. The local government should facilitate regular meetings and consultations among partner agencies to ensure the effective delivery of services and the efficient use of resources.

Finally, the local government should explore the possibility of partnering with private sector entities to attract more investments in the barangay. This can be done through the establishment of an investment promotion office or the participation in regional and national investment forums.

Overall, these recommendations aim to improve the economic and investment climate of Barangay Pili, Mogpog and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals. It is important to note that these recommendations are subject to limitations such as small sample size or limited scope. Nevertheless, they can serve as a starting point for further research towards sustainable development.

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