



NEWSLETTER 13

Dear Reader,

This Newsletter presents progress up to the end of **October 2007** and is primarily intended for people involved in the project and might not give a complete picture of the project. The Newsletters and more information about the Project are also found on HLURB and Swedesurvey Homepages. 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, Ms. Emma Marilyn C. Ulep, HLURB, eulep@hlurb.gov.ph or

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

New Project Member

Mr. Christer Kjörneberg (left) is facing new challenging tasks in Libya. He has become the Technical Manager for the 3rd Generation Planning Project for Tripoli Region and will be assisted by Mr. Curt Carlsson (right) in the finalization of the GIS Cookbook Project. Curt is a Senior GIS Consultant at the National Land Survey of Sweden and has been working with GIS since the mid 80's. He has over ten years of experience of working abroad and has worked in countries like China, Egypt, Belize and Armenia. We wish both of them the best of luck in their new assignments.



The Cookbook Has Been Endorsed for Approval to the Board

On September 22, the Cookbook was approved and endorsed by the HLURB Policy Review Committee to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has then endorsed the Guidebook for Board deliberation and approval on November 12, 2007. After the approval, around 1000 copies of the "Cookbook" will be printed for distribution to selected LGUs. A CD version which contains the Textbook and the Toolbox will also be reproduced for those LGUs who have no access to Internet. On December 4, 2007, the Cookbook website will be up and running which coincides with the GIS Cookbook's launching and sign-off ceremony.



SIDA Visit

On October 18th, Ms Ulrika Lång and Mr Jörgen Schönning, Desk Officers from Sida, visited HLURB in Quezon City. Sida undertakes field visits on a regular basis and the time has now come for ongoing projects in the Philippines. They met with the Project Manager, Ms Emma Ulep, to discuss project progress and project achievements. They expressed satisfaction with the result and are looking forward to see the Project being implemented in the LGUs. The Sida representatives also informed that Sida is ending their financial assistance to the Philippines and are now focusing its support to a minor group of countries.

Pilot GIS Training

On August 27th to 31st the Basic Training in GIS was held at MMLDC in Antipolo City. The 19 course participants from the HLURB central and regional offices entered into the world of GIS in full spirit. The lectures during the basic training week were conducted by the ITG group of the HLURB central office in collaboration with NAMRIA, represented by Ms Gemma Asis. The main object of the course was to get familiar with ArcGIS. However, the Course Program included a one day exercises in MS Excel and PowerPoint, since these software are suggested by the Cookbook to be used together in the CLUP preparation. Also, Excel will often be the first means for low-income LGUs to capture data that later will be included in the municipal GIS. For the most participants, this was their first encounter with a GIS software. In general, the course evaluation showed that the participants were satisfied with the course program. However, the Project Team considers revising it according to suggestions from the evaluation. As for example, more time could be given to the exercises, which were sometimes experienced to be stressful. A slightly different approach could allow the participants to work more in their own pace.

On October 22nd to 27th, it was time for the 19 participants to undergo the Applied Training, which was held at the same venue. Commissioner Arturo M. Dublado was around to welcome the trainees and to give them moral support



The program aimed at letting the participants get used to the ArcGIS software and to practice some of the most common GIS operations. Also, the idea was to do this while working on close-to-reality examples of the different GIS analyses that are needed in the CLUP preparation process. During the first two days, the participants carried out exercises on base map preparation, demography and socio-economic analyses, which resulted in a needs assessment analysis. The following days were focused on geohazards analyses and land administration constraints, which resulted in a risk and suitability analysis. It was the first time that the Tutorials included in the Cookbook Toolbox were tested "in real". Both the participants and the

Project Team came up with good ideas and provided comments on how to improve them. The time assigned for the program was generous. Therefore so the participants got the opportunity to practice on what they needed the most. During the last day, extra exercises were created and a discussion of different GIS matters posed by the participants was clarified.

The objective of this pilot training is that the 19 participants will act as resource personnel when GIS training is carried out for the LGUs that have decided to use GIS as a tool for the CLUP preparation. The participants together with the ITG staff will now be part of the HLURB GIS Training Pool and will be on call to help the other Regional Offices and LGUs upon demand. The participants are also hoping that the acquisition of new computers be given priority by the HLURB management.



Undertakings in the Near Future

The Project Team will be busy with the preparation for the official launching of the Cookbook that is taking place on December 4. The launching marks the end of the SIDA support to the Project, however marks the start for HLURB to promote LGUs in using GIS as a tool in CLUP preparation.

BACKGROUND

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



Sida

