



CORONA VIRUS – 19: A GLOBAL WAR ON GOOD GOVERNANCE A LOCAL IMPLICATIONS

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Abstract

Global War on Corona Virus -19 pandemic as weaponized by the characteristics of “*good governance*” by the Local Government Unit (LGU) in the 424 Barangays of the Municipality in Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines is highly significant. Strategize by the frontliners using the National Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) COVID-19 regulations through the (1) *rule of law*; (2) *transparency*; (3) *responsiveness*; (4) *consensus*; (5) *equity and inclusiveness*; (6) *effectiveness and efficiency*; (7) *accountability*; and (8) *participation* while holding the 1) Curfew Hours; 2) staying at home; 3) wearing of the face-mask; 4) Community quarantine; 5) General community quarantine; 6) Enhance Community quarantine; 7) Extreme Enhance Community quarantine; and 8) Social Distancing or Physical Distancing.

The highly significant “*effectiveness*” and “*efficiency*” on the frontline services done by the frontliners and executive bureaus officials in combatting COVID-19 pandemic by using the IATF protocol. Likewise, kinship, patron-lineage and landlord “*padrino*” system in the community was also detected high significantly sustain the 1st and 2nd quarter fiscal year 2020 by operationalizing the non-pharmaceutical intervention. The zero casualties in the 424 Barangays in the Municipality of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed that “*political well*” is the prevailing attribute to highly significant leadership of the LGUs officials.

Short title: Corona virus – 19: A Global War

Introduction

The effect on the GLOCAL (Global and Local) coronavirus – 19 PANDEMIC to the (1) *rule of law*; (2) *transparency*; (3) *responsiveness*; (4) *consensus*; (5) *equity and inclusiveness*; (6) *effectiveness and efficiency*; (7) *accountability*; and (8) *participation* in good governance as weaponized by the LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT in Misamis Oriental Northern Mindanao, Philippines in mitigating the offensive attack made by the coronavirus – 19 pandemic.

The 1st quarter (January, February & March) and the 2 months of the 2nd quarter (April & May, 2020) was assessed and evaluated regarding their *effectiveness* and *efficiency* in the delivery of their respective frontline services. Thus, the lead IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force) records and other prepondering shreds of evidence were utilized to triangulate the field reports and the gathered and collected data from the BHW (Barangay Health Worker), BNS (Barangay Nutrition Scholar) CDVs (Community Development Volunteers) and BHERT (Barangay Health Emergency Response Team).

Elected and appointed public servant in Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines local governance was assessed and evaluated thoroughly in their LGUs constituencies as responded their frontline services in line to duty during the COVID – 19 pandemics. It has been done so that, the “*preparedness response*” will be measured by the LGUs to contribute to the “*risk reduction*” management effort made by the National and International government in combatting the health – related issues reduction and mitigation. It is with the effort that instead of having a defensive but the offensive mode will be delivered too. This study will become an eye-opener strategy in combatting the invisible and invincibility of Coronavirus – 19.

Methods

Documentary analyses and triangulation test validation on the 1st quarter (January, February & March) 2020 and 2nd quarter (April & May) 2020 records and reports on the convergence of information from the 424 Barangays in the Municipality of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines in their respective Barangay Health Workers (BHWs), Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) CDVs (Community Development Volunteers) and BHERT (Barangay Health Emergency Response Team) sources through the information as weaponized on the *rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency, accountability, and participation*. These records and reports are utilized for the triangulation of data gathered on the field according to the 16 Barangays in the Municipality of Alubijid; 31 Barangays in the Municipality of Balingasag; 9 Barangays in the Municipality of Binuangan; 23 Barangays in the Municipality of Claveria; 15 Barangays in the Municipality of El Salvador; 81 Barangays in the Municipality of Gingoog; 11 Barangays in the Municipality of Gitagum; 16 Barangays in the Municipality of Initao; 15 Barangays in the Municipality of Jasaan; 15 Barangays in the Municipality of Kinoguitan; 21 Barangays in the Municipality of Lagonglong; 11 Barangays in the Municipality of Laguindingan; 9 Barangays in the Municipality of Libertad; 8 Barangays in the Municipality of Lugait; 25 Barangays in the Municipality of Magsaysay; 13 Barangays in the Municipality of the Manticao; 19 Barangays in the Municipality of Medina; 10 Barangays in Naawan; 14 Barangays in the Municipality of Opol; 18 Barangays in the Municipality of Salay; 10 Barangays in the Municipality of Sugbongcongon; 10 Barangays in the Municipality of Tagoloan; 18 Barangays in the Municipality of Talisayan; 11 Barangays in the Municipality of Villanueva.

Findings and Discussions

The characteristics of “*good governance*” as weaponized by the Local Government Unit (LGU) in the 424 Barangays in the Municipality of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines garnering highly significant “*effectiveness*” and “*efficiency*” in combatting the Global COVID-19 Pandemic. These eight (8) characteristics of *good governance* as weaponized against COVID-19 pandemic made the LGU responsive to the present and future needs of the organization as exercises prudently by the local officials on the implementation of the Misamis Oriental local policy-setting and decision-making and that the best interests of all stakeholders, (Businesses, Company, Industry & Community) and constituencies. Thus, the following mechanism as weaponized by the Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines LGUs revealed that:

Rule of Law

Under this characteristic on *good governance* made by the Misamis Oriental Northern Mindanao, Philippines LGUs as followed the National Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Guidelines headed by the Department of Health. These guidelines were meticulously observed by the 424 Barangays in their respective Municipalities. Likewise, it was observed also during the “*fielding*” of the data triangulation that every Municipalities design their defensive and offensive tactic as the strategy in combatting the COVID – 19 pandemic. And, the following strategy as empowered by the National Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) COVID-19 regulations received “*highly significant*” likelihood responses on the “*effectiveness*” and “*efficiency*” in the enforcement on: 1) Curfew Hours; 2) staying at home; 3) wearing of face-mask; 4) Community quarantine; 5) General community quarantine; 6) Enhance Community quarantine; 7) Extreme Enhance Community quarantine; 8) Social Distancing or Physical Distancing.

However, when the said *rule of law* was closely and rigorously enforced and monitored during the month of January, February, March, April and May 2020 respective constituencies in every Municipalities support their public officials. These are sign on healthy political mandate (87%) on “*peoples well.*” Criminalities often reported such as 1) *anti-illegal drugs*; 2) *theft*; 3) *malicious mischief*

and other forms of *petty crimes* totally found “zero” incident report due to the quarantine issues and “luck down.”

It is the undeniable fact that, individual violated the said regulation design by every Municipality “*norm*” and “*practices*” to protect their respective constituencies on the COVID-19 pandemic corroborate to “*economic reason*.” In other words, “staying at home” without the support made by the government tendency “people” in the community will “stay outside home” seek for an hour, daily or chartered labor force or work for foods on the family consumption. That is were this study observed that SAF (Social Amelioration Fund) given by the National Government of the Philippines was able to reach the remotest and the poorest citizenry in the 424 Barangays of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines for support.

This insignificant number on the lawless individual during the implementation were reprimanded, counseled, educated within two (2) hours on community services as a reward by non-abiding citizens to the rules and regulation set by their respective local IATF within the Municipalities despite of giving “*economic support*.” Such regulations the observance on the six (6) pm to five (5) am curfew hours; the wearing of face-mask; observance of the physical distancing and staying at home except only for “*essential reasons*.”

Transparency

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed *highly significant* on the *effectiveness and efficiency* on being transparent during the period on the 1st quarter (January, February & March) 2020 and 2nd quarter (April & May) 2020 while observing IATF regulation that: 1) Creation of Media and Press Releases Task Force. The regular “daily” meeting, press releases and conferences; TV, Radio, Internet and Barangay Crier information official “shout-out” were utilized; 2) Local Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) headed by the Department of Health smoothly implemented the “regulation” adopting the *Transitional Bill Board* outside the Municipal hall & Capitol which was called as “*Transparency Board*;” 3) The information IN and OUT of the IATF was facilitated through their media counterpart down the line of command from the BHWs, BNSs, CDVs & BHRT; 4) LGUs chief executive, the Governor, the Mayor, the Barangay Chairman, the zone and sectoral presidents were collaborative, collectively and collaboratively informed the public regarding their role of the frontline fighters such that: men in uniform (army, police, bureau of fire and security agencies) within their area of jurisdiction; 5) Department of health task forced (doctors and relative health related) were transparent collated their “hourly,” “daily” and “weekly” report as part of the monitoring tool.

Responsiveness

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed that: 1) the IATF protocol serves the best interests of their stakeholders within their community counterparts in a reasonable timeframe (5 minutes to 15 minutes) such that in identifying the PUMs (Person Under Monitoring) and the PUIs (Person Under Investigation) later changed to “suspect” by the Department of Health (DOH) through their contact tracing & tracer local technique using the BHWs, BNSs, CDVs & BHRT team. This team is responsible for identifying the locally, nationally and internationally transmitted disease to the “patient” by the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is timely to say that, 97% of their respective BHWs, BNS, CDVs and the BHRT reported data were promptly reported during their 1st quarterly and 2nd quarterly reported data were contacted, traced, profiled based on their dominant local, national and internationally transmitted illnesses. It is easy for them to “contact – trace” the attacked made by the COVID-19. While the platoon on the BHWs, BNS, CDVs and BHRT combed the community, the residence was very responsive in “*contact-tracing*” by cooperatively and collaboratively revealing information needed by the platoon. So, findings revealed that information is coming within the center and going out from the parameters to the countryside areas of

“*contact-tracing*.” Due to the eagerness of the “*community*” to participate, respective Barangays trained their “volunteer” as contact tracer, and “*videographer*” as “*Ethnographer*” on field for purposes of coming-up a more detailed “*incident report*” “*on the ground*.”

Consensus

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed that “*peoples well*” through the IATF consultation to the Governors, Mayors, Barangay Chairman, Zone, and Sectoral Presidents reach the general constituencies to let them understand the implementation on the strategic combatant tactic against the Global War on COVID-19 pandemic. As the print’s ads and the non-print ads are still proactive in the area, the voice of the people is still heard within the center of the organization. As the 424 Barangays LGUs weaponized Curfew Hours, wearing of face-mask, Community quarantine, General community quarantine, Enhance Community quarantine, Extreme Enhance Community quarantine, and Social Distancing or Physical Distancing wherein the different interests of their community counterparts and stakeholders are discussed through their “representatives” and exchange of “ideas,” “insights,” “opinion,” and “decision” in achieving a sustainable and prudent manner on the IATF protocol.

So far, during the qualitative research made people are “*well-informed*” through their traditional mode of channeling the information. The “*Barangay crier*” (Amulhukan) – “*rekurida*” (routing by announcing the information) according to their own auxiliary language gotten likelihood and highly significant effect. Communication is effectively handled and disseminated and “*they fight as one*” and “*they heal as one*” evidence of these is the “*zero*” casualties through the observance of the general “*protocol on the IATF*.”

Equity and Inclusiveness

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed on their sense of proprietorship and belongingness of the COVID-19 pandemic fight is that: 1) it provides the opportunity for their community counterparts and stakeholders to maintain, enhance their utmost social responsibility and well-being to the most compelling reason for existence and value to society during the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing them to enjoy the 90 percent IATF regulation with the 10 percent locally regulated behavior and action in combating the COVID-19 pandemic. However, mobility as to their proactive social responsibility matters and vary according to their geographic ethnography; 2) it takes a positive action from “negativity to positivity” because “*everybody*” within the community counterparts and their constituencies have the right of proprietorship being the “frontline” in the combat zone within their own locality against the COVID-19 pandemic despite that their enemy (COVID-19) is invincible. As other “*veritas*” on some of our “*frontliners*” in other places died for reason on non-capable, irresponsible authority driven employer and submissively for heroism (move by compassion). As a sign of the new normal, irrelevant “norms” and “practices” could be redefined in the health issues to be a legislative concern. Stay at home, wash your hands, wear your face-mask, maintain physical distancing, eat healthy foods, sleep on the right time and sustain mental hygiene.

Effectiveness and Efficiency

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed that the processes implemented by the organization as a matter of procedure gotten favorable results meet the needs of its stakeholders and community counterpart while making the best use of resources – human, technological, financial, natural and environmental – at its disposal. This, however, revealed *highly significant* as to the different “standard” common to all on the 424 Barangays in their respective Municipalities. The reasons for these are 1) having different cultural, political and religious boundaries - leadership; 2) different geographic norms and practices - clustering; 3) different level of understanding on the educational attainment (lead by the CHED – Commission on Higher Education for College; DepEd (Department of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education and TESDA – Technical and

Education Skills Development Authority for those who are developing their skills) and social status (NEDA – National Economic Development Authority for the classification of their SES – Socio – Economic Status for intervention were DSWD – Department of Social Welfare and Development). These are few of the many institution in the national to the local government identified the 24 million families (*18milions in the lower families; 4millions in the middle families and 2millions in the upper families*).

However, during the qualitative study done on the period of the 1st and 2nd quarter on the fiscal year 2020, approaches in combatting COVID-19 pandemic was made locally by the combatant men and women in the local isotopes. Such that: 1) the six (6) pm to five (5) am curfew hours were residents are compelled to be on their home – they police their own community; 2) the wearing of face-mask though alone working on their farm, doing carpentry works and other essential labor forced are still wearing face-mask – employer, industry, company and business partner are implementing; 3) observance of the physical distancing while doing essential work and services are heightened very high – monitoring of the work supervisors -area IATF are always doing surveillance; and 4) staying at home except only for essential reasons are effectively and efficiently observed.

During the conduct on the qualitative research the researcher found out the *effectiveness and efficiency* on the implementation of the IATF regulations are the following reasons: 1) the “*political well*” of their public officials; 2) the high presence of *kinship*; 3) the role of the patriarchal leadership; 4) geographic location that not only the individual or physical distancing but house distancing too was observed... presence of – agricultural and industrial areas wherein they can be cluster by their own employer and supervisor by monitoring. They also do the thermal scanning and rapid testing for medical and health-related issues so that proper advice will be done.

Accountability

The 424 Barangays LGUs of Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines revealed that through the national command center on the IATF the local LGUs IATF held accountable in their own geographical regions and held accountable to the LGUs organization. The decisions or actions as well as the applicable rules of law in the LGUs found out that 90% of the said rules and regulations are really coming from the national government likewise only 10% coming from the local government counterpart partners of which their geographic ethnography be made applicable.

However, the “*rules on flexibility*” and “*modification*” as to the enforcement of the IATF rules and regulations pragmatically allowing the local chief executive to be held liable and accountable. In the study such offices are 1) Provincial governors; 2) Municipal/town/city mayors; 3) Barangays Chairman; 4) Department of Social Welfare and Development Directors and relative thereto; 5) zone and sectoral president; 6) and other assigned agents by the person in authority as defined by law.

So far, during the implementation of the IATF rules and regulations those who are held liable and accountable in the said implementation are usually public officials belongs to the patron-lineage on kinship, patriarchy, and landlordism. So, there is no doubt that “*residents*” or “*peoples*” in their community are law-abiding residents.

Participation

It has been qualitatively observed that both men and women, either directly or through legitimate representation, the key cornerstone on the participation either non-decision and decision-making process peoples are well informed and organized, including to which the freedom of expression, speech and of the press are properly observed during the right to assembly. Moreover, during the qualitative research done peoples are proactively participating as a field combatant against COVID-19. The best interests during the qualitative research were made are the following: 1) residents who are identified as frontliners such as a) medical doctors; nurses; medical scientist; men in uniform and relative frontline services to health, safety,

and security; 2) workers in the essential services like – food, clothing and shelter relative thereto for man’s survival is a call for participation in the organization and society in general in their own respective community for the support by obeying the IATF rules and regulations to avoid COVID-19 to communicate and contaminate the community. The greatest role for the “*participation*” of the community is to stay at home, wash your hands, wear your face-mask, maintain physical distancing, eat healthy foods, sleep at the right time, and sustain mental hygiene. Leave an expert to fight COVID-19 and be on guard by boosting your immune system.

Daily, weekly and monthly strategic meetings and conferences were made by the local task force (IATF) through multimedia aided communication. The role of public WIFI and flattening landscape through the dedicated WIFI and mounted antenna towers help very much in this endeavor. Barangay crier played an important role in the every now and then announcement specially to places that are not yet flattened by the multimedia. Well-informed individual/resident has something to do in strategizing to fight COVID-19 pandemic. Human Behavior and organized human action establish good “norms” and “practices” will redefine a “new normal.”

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Global War against COVID-19 as “*weaponize*” by the 424 Barangays in Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines through the characteristics of “*good governance*” based on the strategically designed *curfew hours, staying at home, wearing the face-mask, Community quarantine, General community quarantine, Enhance Community quarantine, Extreme Enhance Community quarantine, Social Distancing or Physical Distancing*. All of these involves *highly significant* well-informed peoples who bring their ideas, experiences, preferences and other human strengths and shortcomings to the policy-making for social legislative action. Through the ongoing discourses and fight on the COVID-19 pandemic.

The global souring high on the victims of COVID-19 pandemic qualitative research in the 424 Barangays in Misamis Oriental, Northern Mindanao, Philippines suggest this study as an eye-opener on the future policy and decision-makers. Since the needed “*weapon*” (vaccine) for the COVID-19 pandemic are not yet “*weaponized*” by the Health Related Combatants “*Scientist*” and “*Frontliners*” so, stay at home, wash your hands, wear your face-mask, maintain physical distancing, eat healthy foods, sleep at the right time, sustain mental hygiene and leave an expert to fight COVID-19 and be on guard by boosting your immune system despite that the assessment and evaluation made by the IATF protocol is LOW RISK.

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