

A MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT, PEACE AND GOVERNANCE IN WESTERN BASILAN

CONTEXT

The adoption of the 1987 constitution and of the Local Government Code (LGC) in 1991 served as catalysts for inter-local cooperation. Since then, models have existed and evolved, responding and addressing varied concerns such as environment, health, water, private sector promotion, decentralization and conflict transformation.

The project “**Modeling Inter-LGU Alliance in Basilan**” builds on Basilan’s success in stabilizing its peace and order, a living proof of the successful collaboration of its local leaders in addressing common development issues. The project supports the municipalities of Lantawan, Maluso, Sumisip, Hadji Muhtamad and Tabuan Lasa in the province of Basilan, in their pursuit of a common local development agenda.

The project, aimed at assisting local governments in Basilan to model a municipal alliance of Western Basilan, is being implemented by the Institute for Autonomy and Governance (IAG) in collaboration with the Zamboanga-Basilan Integrated Development Alliance (ZABIDA). Despite their unique diversity, these entities envision the alliance as an expression of shared values, as they believe in broader participation and ownership as fundamental in good governance.

The project supports the LGUs involved by laying out the foundations for management capacities, through extensive consultations among key officials and other local stakeholders, capacity building activities geared towards shared planning and implementation, and the provision of equipment that will facilitate the following long-term common development agenda:

- Develop local land-based and coastal economy while protecting the ecological base;
- Consolidate gains in security and local conflict resolution;
- Promote transparent, efficient and accountable local governance and alliance building.
- Make critical health and education services available where they are needed.

As a first commitment hereof, the Western Basilan Alliance (WBA) has set up a new local radio station aimed at promoting peace, dialogue and development among the partner municipalities and the province of Basilan.

The members of the alliance believe in the positive opportunities this joint endeavor will bring to Basilan. Therefore, through a second phase of the project, we will continue supporting the:

1. Institutionalization of WBA capacities and its implementing structures to undertake inter-local cooperation;
2. Provision of sustainable livelihood activities as basis for collaboration among member-LGUs and to harness buy-in among the WBA constituencies.



PROJECT INFORMATION

CAD/CRS Code:

- 1511200 Support to Regional and Local Governments

Priority:

- Good governance, Peace building

Managing agency:

- AECID

Executing entity:

- Institute for Autonomy and Governance (IAG)

Duration:

- October 2017- December 2021.

Areas of intervention:

- Basilan Island (Mindanao)

AECID contributions:

- Phase I, 2017: 300.000 Euros
- Phase II, 2019: 500.000 Euros