PARTNER PROFILE

Improving Tenure Security of Smallholder Farmers in Select Areas in the Philippines

As part of Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR) of the UN Habitat Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)

MILALITTRA

MIARAYON LAPOK LIRONGAN TINAYTAYAN TALAANDIG TRIBAL ASSOCIATION

Barangays Miarayon, Lapok, Lirongan, and Sitio Tinaytayan of Barangay San Miguel, Municipality of Talakag, Bukidnon Province, Philippines

ORGANIZATION PROFILE

Miarayon Lapok Lirongan Tinaytayan Talaandig Tribal Association (MILALITTRA) covers four barangays in the municipality of Talakag under the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) of the said indigenous peoples' organization.

The MILALITTRA is a major partner of Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF) in the implementation of the Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES) – Kalatungan project. It also implements the government's National Greening Program (NGP), having established nurseries and grown nearly 300,000 native tree species in about 400 hectares inside the CADT area (MILALITTRA, SEC Reg. No. CN200312079).



The major source of income of the community is farming. It is estimated that around 1,500 hectares are devoted to farming. Some community members are employed in government offices, some are into small business, and some engage in farm products trading. The farm products common in area are high-valued crops such as carrots, potato, cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli. Coffee trees are also present in the area and are mostly located in the backyard gardens and family farms.

Barangays/Sitio Covered in AD	Households	Area	Ancestral Domain/CADT Status
Brgy. Miarayon, Brgy. Lapok, Brgy. Lirongan, Sitio Tinaytayan of Brgy. San Miguel, in Talakag Bukidnon	2,500		Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title awarded in May 2003; awaiting approval of ADSDPP

PARTNER LOCATION

The Municipality of Talakag was once known as *Kabalangasan* because of its abundant wild Malayan trees called "Balangas" (now popularly known as Rambutan). Its current name stemmed from the rivalry between two tribes over women. The tribe that resides in the area called their rivals *Talakag* from the Visayan word *LAKAG*, which means "to go after" or "follow in pursuit" and the prefix *TA* denoting "fondness for doing such." The name *TALAKAG* means "fondness in giving pursuit.

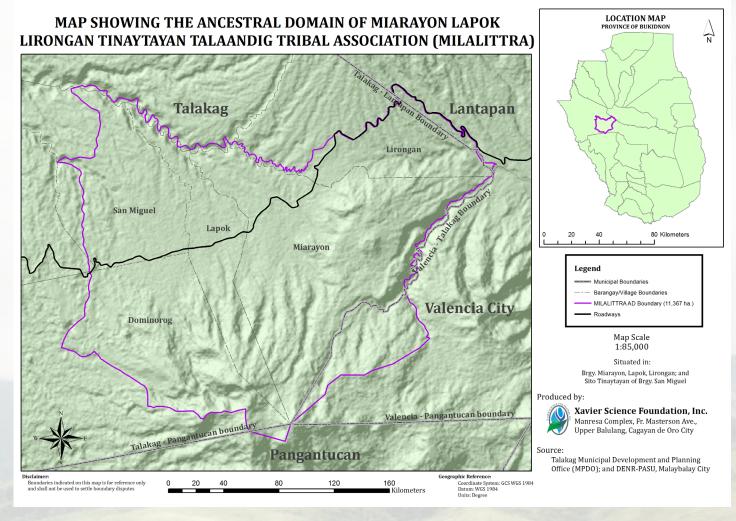
The four (4) barangays of Miarayon, Lapok, Lirongan and San Miguel are collectively known as Miarayon Region. A CADT awarded to the tribal group MILALITTRA governs the region and its people.



It is located 57 kilometers from the Poblacion of Talakag and about 109 kilometers from the Provincial Capital of Bukidnon in Malaybalay City. It has a population of 2,813 (census 2014) with 564 households and 691 families. Males are 1,522 while females are 1,291 in population. Ninety-five percent of the population is of Talaandig descent. In terms of land area, the barangay has 4,162.73 hectares that are mostly forested and agricultural areas, while some were developed into residential villages. Individual ownership rights are recognized in the barangay despite CADT coverage, some lots have been patented to individual owners before the awarding of CADT while others have Tax Declarations.

It has two (2) pre-schools, four (4) public elementary schools, and one private secondary school run by the Jesuits. Private institutions and government line agencies have also extended support in the barangays.

Farming is the area's main source of income, with approximately 1,500 hectares devoted to it.



This project is implemented by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) in partnership with Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF), with technical and financial support from Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and Germany's Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

This project shall enhance the tenurial security of about 2,500 indigenous peoples households in two municipalities in Bukidnon, Northern Mindanao. It has three (3) targeted outcomes:

- a) increased uptake of land tools, approaches, frameworks and policy guidelines that are pro-poor, fit-for-purpose, and gender responsive;
- b) strengthened capacity of change agents and rural poor women, men and vulnerable groups to implement pro-poor, fit-for-purpose and gender responsive land tools and approaches; and,
- c) improved awareness among stakeholders on issues and measures for improving land and natural resource tenure security for poor women, men and vulnerable groups.

For more information about the project:

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