

ANNEX 5

Taguig City Profile

Taguig City, one of the 17 component cities of Metropolitan Manila, lies on the western shore of the Laguna de Bay. Once a fishing community, Taguig is now a thriving residential, commercial and industrial centre. Taguig was declared a city in 2004 after the residents approved in a plebiscite the proposal of the Congress to convert Taguig into a city. Today, the City is considered one of the highly urbanised areas in the country.

Taguig has a land area of 4,521 hectares and is divided into 28 barangays (villages). It has a population of 613,343 based on the 2007 Census of Population. The City ranks 8th among the most populated cities in the country. Its population growth rate was the highest in Metro Manila in 2007. The National Statistical Coordination Board pegged 3.82% as the growth rate per annum between 2000 and 2007, Taguig's rate was higher than the national average of 2.28%. This phenomenon can be largely attributed to uncontrolled migration. Based on 2007 Census, there were some 44,332 in migrants in Taguig. Most of these families have settled in the City's vast tracts of undeveloped lands that were not commonly found in other cities of Metro Manila.

Taguig is also ranked as the poorest¹ in Metro Manila, with 5.2 percent of its population, around 27,149, considered poor². Of the 689,377 informal settler families in Metro Manila, 20,718 were reportedly living in Taguig³. Of these: 4778 families are in the danger areas, along the lake shoreline, rivers and creeks; 13,248 occupy government-owned lands; 718 occupy privately-owned lands, and 1974 families are in Areas for Priority Development⁴.

Taguig is vulnerable to flooding as it lies about 16 meters above the mean sea level. It is by the Laguna de Bay and the soil condition along the lakeshore is generally soft. Hundreds of families in Taguig were affected when Typhoon Ketsana inundated a rainfall volume of 448 mm in 12 hours. Six barangays near the lakeshore were submerged six feet under floodwaters and eight areas were under less than .5 m to 1.5 m high floodwaters.⁵ The impacts of calamities on the residents of Taguig are expected to be more severe as the increase in annual rainfall level is projected to rise to about 60-100 % in Metro Manila⁶ in the incoming years. Taguig is potentially vulnerable to seismic movements too as it is positioned close to the West Valley Fault Line.

The poor who live mostly in informal settlements are most vulnerable to natural hazards. In 2000, there are about 21,931 households in informal settlements or about 33.70%⁷ of the total households of Taguig. The average number of families in a household is 1.5 and the average household size is 5 persons per household. Based on AusAID study the average size of households in the high-risk areas of Taguig City is 5.2. AusAID conducted a socioeconomic profile of families living in danger zones in May 2010 and the survey results indicate that 85% of low income households are willing to avail of a housing program. Half of the surveyed families are willing to pay a minimum of PhP 1500/month amortization for safer housing. AusAID's survey team likewise undertook several field visits and consultations to assess the conditions in those areas. River banks occupied by informal settlers living

¹ Poor families are those whose income fall below the poverty threshold¹ as defined by the government and/or those who cannot afford, in a sustained manner, to provide their basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other amenities of life. In the National Capital Region (NCR), the annual per capita poverty threshold was estimated to be PhP 20,566 in 2006. Hence, a family with five members needed to earn at least PhP 8,569 monthly so as not to be classified as poor.

² 2003 City and Municipal Level Poverty Estimates, NCSB

³ National Housing Authority's (NHA) Report on the Magnitude of Informal Settler Families (ISFs) for the Metro Manila Relocation and Resettlement Program as of February 2010

⁴ The term, "Areas for Priority Development" (APDs) was used in the pertinent decrees and proclamations interchangeably or alternatively with the term "Urban Land Reform Zones" (ULRZs). From all indications they have the same meaning. They refer to the 244 areas in Metro Manila specifically described and identified in Proclamation 1967, and other sites later identified and proclaimed. HLURB

⁵ Taguig City report, 2010

⁶ PAGASA General Circulation Models

⁷ HUDCC 2000

in makeshift shanties and the river channels clogged with water hyacinths, debris and waste were a common sight. The living conditions of the informal settler families are unsanitary.

There are parts of the City though that are elevated several metres above the level of Laguna de Bay and is characterised by well-drained, rolling terrain with relatively flat plateaus that are ideal for building. These are in the Global City area of Taguig, as known as The Fort, the affluent side of the City which was not seriously affected by flooding during Ondoy. The area is not prone to earthquake shocks as the bedrock in this area is Diliman Tuff, commonly known as adobe stone, which is suitable for bearing the foundations of medium and high rise buildings.

The Global City is a privately-led development, with high end residential condominiums and commercial buildings. International schools, a tertiary hospital, and many multinational offices are located here as well. The city derives a large part of the City's real property taxes from the Global City.

The City Government is headed by the Mayor who holds offices in the City Hall located in the old part of Taguig. The Mayor, a newly elected chief executive, together with the other elected officials, has a political term of three years and may be re-elected for only three consecutive terms. During the call for 2011 budget preparation last year, the Mayor outlined the local administration's key priorities which include infrastructure development supporting the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, poverty reduction, environmental preservation, enterprise development, and improvement of basic public services, among others.