BELIZE

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

SOCIAL ASSESSMENT

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'   FRAMEWORK

(Final Draft)

Submitted to: Social Investment Fund

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<u>Abbreviations</u>

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
GOB	Government of Belize
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
LGMC	Local Government Monitoring Council
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MED	Ministry of Economic Development
MHD	Ministry of Human Development and Transformation
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
NEMO	National Emergency Management Organization
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
SIF	Social Investment Fund
SWOT	Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNDP	United Nation Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
WG	Working Group

Glossary

Culture *"The vast structure of behaviors, ideas, attitudes, values, habits, beliefs, customs, language, rituals, ceremonies and practices peculiar to a particular group of people, which provides them with a general design for living and patterns for interpreting reality."* Dr. Wade Nobles. Culture can also be defined as an instrument that links the different aspects of development. It impinges on the economic, political, environmental and the social decisions and results of the components of development. Therefore, culture should not be considered just as the instrument of material progress and or artistic expressions of a people. It should be seen as a continuous process of change and evolution, where each person, by the way of their creative capacity, plays an important role in the process of development. In other words, culture should be considered as a key component of the purpose and the objective of development.

'Culturally appropriate' means having regard for all facets of the cultures, and being sensitive to their dynamics. For example in the Maya communities: allowing children to be present at public meetings; having meetings with audiences by gender; and conducting meetings in their language are some of the key issues to consider when having consultations with them. It must be pointed out that these dynamics exist primarily in the rural communities. In the towns, the Maya have adjusted and are seemingly willing to participate in collective settings. Another example of "culturally appropriate" relates to the use of language to allow for inclusion, i.e. using the language of the group in job advertisements to encourage job seekers from the group.

Definition of Indigenous for Belize. Self identification is regarded as a fundamental criterion for determining the groups to which the ILO Convention 169 applies. The definition of 'Indigenous People' has to be decided at the national level because there is no international definition for groups that's known as 'Indigenous'. The nation of Belize recognizes two groups of peoples that meet its definition/criteria for indigenous status. These groups are the Garifuna, who are considered to be a **tribal** people and the Maya, who are recognized, historically, as the descendants of the inhabitants of Belize, at the time of colonization. Both groups whose status is regulated by their own customs and traditions, live in a way that sets them apart from the national community.

Intercultural – takes into account not only the differences between groups but also the similarities and the relationships that bonds them, along with the acceptance of their human rights, values, norms, and the institutions used. The principles include: the affirmation that all human beings are born equal and free under the law; people of all cultures are a genuine and creative expressions of

humanity, and that within all cultures there are unique and valuable forms of interpreting reality, and that there is strength in diversity.

Introduction

In 1986 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Right to Development (DRD), which states: *"The right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized. As development occurs in countries where indigenous people live there is a need to implement measures that recognize the requirements to safeguard the rights, assets and cultural integrity of the people."*[1] The UN process involves working with the different ethnic groups to identifying their cultural issues that need protection and enhancement, in order that they may benefit and participate in the development of the region.

The International Decade of the world's Indigenous Peoples (1995-2004) was proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations Resolution 48/163 (1993). Its objective was the strengthening international cooperation to contribute to the solutions of the problems that affect Indigenous Peoples in areas of health, human rights, environment, development, education and health. In light of the above mentioned Indigenous Peoples Framework the consultants consider the World Bank Municipal Development Project and other related projects to be a significant step in the right direction. These projects have the potential for enabling the inclusion, meaningful participation and benefit of 'Indigenous Peoples' in the country's development.

There is a school of thought that this project should not focus on indigenous groups but instead on vulnerable groups. The Poverty Assessment Study which was recently released by the Belizean government shows that the level of poverty countrywide has increased, and that the population sector most affected is not predominantly indigenous groups, but instead the Mestizo. A continuation of past policies related to indigenous groups in terms of the distribution of scarce resources would not be prudent or politically correct for any government to pursue. What is recommended is that the Project appoint a Social Development Officer who will assist the administrators with the social issues that weigh them down and are key factors to the success or failure of the MDP. Developing this Indigenous Peoples Framework may be a case study for generating guidelines for dealing with future projects involving indigenous peoples in the country.

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[1] Environmental and Social Technical Assistance Project (ESTAP) work plan 1997-1999 Ministry of Economic Development, Government of Belize.

1.0   Background

Through the Social Investment Fund (SIF), the Government of Belize (GOB) has applied for financing from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), for the Belize Municipal Development Project. The proposed Municipal Development Project is intended to build upon the municipal drainage component of the Roads and Municipal Drainage project, which was completed in 2004. The Roads and Municipal Drainage Project, which cost US$13 million, was financed by the World Bank.

The proposed Municipal Development Project would have the following four main components:

Component 1: Small-scale Municipal Infrastructure Investments: This component, for which the major part of the loan would be made available, would include primarily investments related to drainage and traffic management (roads and road architecture, but also signage). It will also include social infrastructure/facilities, public spaces, parks, tourism enhancements, bridges (smaller, municipal type), markets, and street lighting, which will indirectly improve the environment and the quality of life in the selected towns.

Component 2:   Capacity Building for Town Councils: This component would help to strengthen the capacity of Town Councils to govern more effectively. Included in this component would be activities to (i) improve the revenue collection an land administration systems of town councils (ii) improve environmental and social management compliance with national law (iii) increase town council accountability (iv) increase citizen participation - via public council hearings, public budget discussions, use of citizen scorecards, participatory planning, and community counterpart contributions, among others) (v) improve financial management, traffic management and (vi) to improve town planning activities, such as, disaster risk reduction and mitigation activities.

Component 3: Technical assistance to Central Government in Municipal Management**:** This component would contribute to the strengthening of relationship between the central government and the town councils, in order to ultimately improve the prioritization and implementation of infrastructure investments and service delivery. It would include activities such as developing a formula for (i) transfers from the Central Government to Town Councils (ii) strengthening the land ownership registration system (by increasing the number of human and physical resources

available) (iii) strengthening the land use framework and (iv) strengthening of environmental and social management at the municipal level.

Component 4: Project Management/Administration: This component would support the implementing agency (still to be determined) by financing consultant services, goods, training and operating costs for management and administration, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.

The objective of the proposed Municipal Development Project is to improve and maintain municipal services delivery in the following towns of Belize: Belmopan, Benque Viejo Del Carmen, Corozal, Dangriga, Orange Walk, Punta Gorda and San Ignacio/Santa Elena. An added benefit of the proposed MDP would be the improved planning capacity (particularly in terms of the development of disaster management strategies) of the selected cities/towns in which the Project would be implemented. This could, among other things, place these municipalities in a better position to absorb people and activities, displaced from highly vulnerable areas, such as Belize City, which is adversely affected by natural disasters, especially hurricanes.

2.0 The Objectives of the Social Impact Assessment of the (MDP)

- To assess the specific social issues and impacts of the project on affected populations, such as, 'Vulnerable Groups' and 'Indigenous Peoples'.
- To design mitigation plans to improve the quality of life of these populations
- To develop a strategy for community participation in project implementation.
- To ensure that social measures are integrated into project at all phases, such as, planning, preparation, implementation and monitoring processes.
- To ensure that direct and indirect social outcomes are developed for all phases of project execution.
- To pinpoint elements of the MDP that have social implications
- To discuss different alternatives in terms of potential social impact and
- To develop a communication strategy to inform decision makers.

2.1 Objectives of the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF)

The objectives of the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), as set out in the WP 4.10, require that the following to be included:

(a) The types of programs and subprojects likely to be proposed for financing under the project.

(b) The potential positive and adverse effects of such programs or subprojects on 'Indigenous Peoples'.

(c) A plan for carrying out the social assessment for the Project

(d) A framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected 'Indigenous Peoples' communities, at each stage of project preparation and implementation

(e) Institutional arrangements (including capacity building, where necessary) for screening project-supported activities, evaluating their effects on 'Indigenous Peoples', preparing IPP's, and addressing any grievances.

(f) Monitoring and reporting arrangements, including mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the project.

(g) Disclosure arrangements for IPPs to be prepared under the IPPF.

The Indigenous Peoples Plan Framework Report is a response to the requirement outlined.

Methodology

The methodology will include a range of social assessment techniques inclusive of the following:

    A.   <u>Data Gathering</u>

(i) <u>Reconnaissance Visit</u> to the seven municipalities to meet Municipalities Mayor and Councilors. This exercise was multipurpose in that it was the initial contact with some key stakeholders, providing the Consultant with the opportunity to introduce the purpose and approach of the Social Assessment. In addition, the Consultant was able to initiate the planning process of the workshop; validate and modify the terms of reference of the working group; agree on the scheduling of the workshop and obtain or locate source of appropriate information/ statistics and project level information.

(ii) <u>Survey questionnaire</u>

(iii) <u>Audit/ Literature review</u>: much research has been carried out for and by the leadership of the municipalities.

    B.   <u>Consultations/ Stakeholder Involvement.</u>

This is an important aspect of the Social Assessment. Public Consultation is an integral part of the Social Assessment process. The purpose is to ensure meaningful participation of all affected and interested parties. This process is started early enough in project identification in order to build trust that all voices will be heard and compensation and mitigation measures identified to minimize impacts. The four phases of the Social Assessment process are:

Initiation   Preparation Participation   Continuation

The Consultant has therefore systematized its 'Stakeholder Involvement Strategy'.

The stake holders includes the:

(i) <u>Municipal Administrators</u>: These include the Mayor, Councilors and staff, who are the main administrative units at local level. Their role is to ensure the development and implementation of development and spatial plans, strategies and programs. The Consultant invites representatives from each municipality to take part. They are the primary clients of the project and the generator of information and will advise on the best options for success.

(ii) Ministry of National Development and Economic Development: This Ministry is responsible for Project Development, planning, assessments, strategies and programs. They are important to the implementation and the monitoring and evaluation phases.

(iii) Government Ministries: The state is the agency responsible for all aspects of well being in the community. The relevant government agencies will be invited to participate by providing information and mechanisms for ensuring success in the establishment of an institutional framework for the implementation of the outcomes of the Social Assessment.

(iv) NGO's: The Major NGO's should be active in issues such as natural resource management, social development, women, indigenous and vulnerable groups shall be invited to participate in the planning phase and implementation of certain social development strategies related to and under the MDP

(v) Academic and Training Institutions: Relevant agencies with already established programs in various areas, including research, capacity building, and urban planning, will be invited to participate.

(vi) Private Sector: The private sector, including associations of producers/ industry service providers, commercial banks, credit unions, etc., shall be a source of identifying and compiling good practices and as the implementers of certain strategies from the MDP.

(vii) Media: The media shall be invited to all the projects public events to enable increased visibility of the MDP and dissemination of the results where practical.

(viii) Working Groups: The Consultant has seen it important to establish Working Groups in each municipality. This process is critical for many reasons. The two important reasons are the critique from the Project Performance Assessment Report (PPAR) 2008 citing limited community participation in previous projects by the World Bank.[2] Although the level of participation of the Working Group will vary between municipalities it is the Consultant's intent for participation to improve, over time, if the WG and the community are to take owner ship of the process. The Consultant is consolidating a process on the participation ladder already begun by the Municipalities by involving the community at the Initiation and Preparation phase of the project. It is expected that this process will provide an opportunity to build confidence and trust among WG members and promote transparency of the Municipal Development Project. The method is

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[2] Project Performance Assessment Report Belize Roads and Municipal Drainage Project Loan 4575-BEL June 2, 2008. Sector Evaluations Division, Independent Evaluation Group (World Bank)

effective given the limited time constraints. The process will allow the group to identify and list social impacts, discuss and order them in terms of importance by voting. The consultant and technical assistance will be facilitators. The workshop agenda will include 'Project Introduction' (goals, key activities, expected results), 'Clarification of Roles' of the WG, 'Option Rating Exercise', S.W.O.T. 'Analysis of Project'.

In addition the establishment of Working Groups, the Consultant will have ongoing consultations to include: Focus group discussions with Municipalities and other persons they identify; One -on - one session with key informants: government ministries; Municipalities and other stakeholders.

C.   Data Analysis

Information gathered from the audit/ literature review and field visit will be processed using a matrix by municipality. Stakeholder analysis will be carried by the Consultant. The consultant will identify people, groups and institutions from each municipality, who will influence the project (positively or negatively). The consultant will be able to anticipate the kind of influence positive or negative that these groups will have on the MDP. The analysis will also provide insight into the strategies to get the most effective support possible for the MDP and reduce the obstacles to successful implementation of the project.

(i)   Strength Weaknesses Opportunities Threats (SWOT) Analysis: This technique will be used with the WG to assess the current reality of the MDP for each municipality. From this the Consultant will be guided by the WG to developing recommendations, mitigations and indicators for monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

(ii) Option Scoring: The working group members will be given a list of options that was developed into a questionnaire. They are asked to indicate choices or rate/rank issues within a set of constraints, in terms of importance for their municipality. A combination of individuals will be targeted through meetings and other forums. The social issues will be generated from the workshops and the discussions with the Mayors and Councilors.

(D)   Report Writing: The consultant will utilize the guidelines stated in the TOR, along with those outlined on the World Bank Website and input from the World Bank Technical advisor. The two thematic reports are the Indigenous Peoples Framework and the Social Screening Report. Special attention will be paid to the OP4.10 for the writing of the Indigenous Peoples Framework[3].

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[3] OP 4.10   Annex A Social Assessment July, 2005

Each of these reports will contain a synopsis annex for each municipality. The Final Report will draw together the information from the whole assessment.

3.0   Summary of the Diagnostic of the Municipalities

3.1   Description of the Municipalities Studied

The Study Area consisted of the seven municipalities included in the MDP.

3.1.1   Belmopan City

Belmopan, which is the administrative capital of Belize, is located approximately 82 kilometres (51 miles) west of the old capital of Belize City. It is 76 meters (250 ft) above sea level. Belmopan, with an imposing view of the majestic Mountain Pine Ridge foothills, is located near the Belize River Valley, The name Belmopan is derived from the union of two words 'Belize', which is the name of the longest river in the country, and 'Mopan', one of the rivers that empty into the Belize River. The first phase of Belmopan, was completed in 1970 at a cost of BZ$24,000,000. Included in that phase was the first residential housing, which was built to house the public offices that were transferred from Belize City to work in the new capital of the nation of Belize. The second sector of Belmopan refers to those residential areas that developed around the periphery of the central area over the past two decades. These areas are known as Las Flores, Salvapan, Maya Mopan, Riveria, Mountain View etc. It should be noted that the initial population of most of these 'new' residential areas were comprised of Central American refugees and economic migrants who had fled from political prosecution, in their native countries during the late 1970's and 1980's.

3.1.2   Benque Viejo Del Carmen

Benque Viejo is located in the Cayo District, next to the Western Border of Belize and the neighboring country of Guatemala. The northern boundary of Benque Viejo is the village named Succotz and the eastern boundary is Arenal Village, which is also another border settlement, next to Guatemala. The border town of Melchor de Mencos, which is in Guatemala, is five miles from Benque Viejo. Some of the benefits that Benque Viejo residents have from being a border town include access the following media from Guatemala, namely Radio Sonora, Prensa Libre (newspaper) as well as telephone access via Tico Phone. The Organization of American States' (OAS) presence in the Adjacency Zone helps to address border disputes and provides grant for schoolchildren, to offset the service delivery to Guatemalan students who attend schools in the town.

3.1.3   Corozal

Corozal Town, which is the administrative center for the Corozal District, was established as a town in 1893. It is a coastal community, with the Caribbean Sea as its eastern border. The northern boundary is Consejo Village. The Corozal Town boundaries do not include the communities of Paraiso, San Andres and San Antonio and its southern boundary village of Ranchito. Despite this fact, these settlements, which contains many commercial and potentially commercial sites, use the town services but do not pay property taxes,

3.1.4   Dangriga

Dangriga Town, which is below sea level, is the administrative center of the Stann Creek District. Dangriga, which was formerly known as Stann Creek Town, was established as a town on 15th February, 1895. The surrounding settlements that rely on Dangriga for services include the villages of Sarawee, Silk Grass, Hopkins, Georgetown and Mullins River. Dangriga is a coastal community that has the Caribbean Sea as its being its eastern boundary. The northern, southern and western boundaries of Dangriga consist of farmlands that are owned by citizens of that municipality. These farmlands are used for the cultivation of cash crops, mainly citrus and other fruits and staples. The South Stann Creek River divides the town into north and south. The Havana Creek, which is a manmade creek, designed for drainage, passes through the southern side of the municipality.

3.1.5   Orange Walk

Orange Town, which is the administrative center of the Orange Walk District, was established as a town in 1893.   The surrounding settlements that rely on Orange Walk Town for services include the (northern boundary) Trial Farm Village. (Southern boundary) is San Jose Palmar Village, (western boundary) private farm lands and (eastern boundary) New River, which contains Crown lands.

3.1.6   Punta Gorda

Punta Gorda Town, which is the administrative center of the Toledo District, was established as a town in January 21st, 1895. It is a coastal community with the Caribbean Sea as its eastern boundary. The boundaries of the municipalities are 'Cattle Landing' village (north), 'Boom Creek' village (south) and 'Cerro Hills' and 'Forest Home' Village (west). The Joe Taylor Creek passes

through the northern side of the municipality. The boundaries of Punta Gorda Town exclude important areas that use the services of the town but do not pay property taxes. These areas include many commercial and potentially commercial sites such as Orange Point, Commercial Free Zone (VOA), Boom Creek Road, New Road, Cerro Hill Area and Toledo Community College.

3.1.7   San Ignacio-Santa Elena

San Ignacio- Santa Elena Town, which is above sea level, was established as a town in *****

It was once the administrative center of the Cayo District, before the establishment of Belmopan City in 1971.   The municipality is nestled between two rivers known as the Macal and Mopan Rivers. The Macal and Mopan rivers both meet at Branch Mouth which is at the northern end of the Town. San Ignacio- Santa Elena Town is bounded Red Creek village (east), Santa Familia (north), Bullet Tree Village (west). The community continues to expand rapidly by utilizing land areas which had been uninhabited. There are areas, which includes Hill View and Red Creek, are included in the town boundaries, although they utilize the services of the town.

http://ambergriscaye.com/pages/town/map1.html

3.2   Location of the Municipalities

The following three municipalities are also border towns; Benque Viejo Del Carmen, Corozal and Punta Gorda. These border towns experience positive and negative impacts as a result of their location. The positive impacts include the access to health care, commercial opportunities, edutainment, technology and economical travel. Negative impacts include: proliferation of drugs and guns, gang influence (Benque Viejo Town), cash drain, overuse of educational facilities and criminal activity. Although Orange Walk is a not a border town, it is also influenced by the Mexican town, Chetumal because of its location.

Of the seven municipalities included in the Belize Municipal Development Project (MDP), three are coastal communities sited at or near sea-level. These municipalities are Corozal, Dangriga, and Punta Gorda. The remaining four municipalities, which are located on higher inland areas are Orange Walk, Benque Viejo Del Carmen, San Ignacio/Santa Elena, and Belmopan. It should be noted that all four inland municipalities have been designated as 'catchment communities' for residents residing in the coastal communities, who seek refuge from hurricanes. The three coastal municipalities mentioned above, along with Belize City, are vulnerable to the ravages of seasonal hurricanes, during the (season) months June to November each year. Based on its location in the geographical center of the country and on fairly high terrain, Belmopan, is designated as the main 'catchment' community for residents moving from coastal communities to higher inland areas seeking a safe place during the hurricane season.

3.3   Land Distribution

All seven municipalities have been divided in zones or areas by the respective city/town councils for the purpose of land use and administration. Although two of the municipalities, Belmopan and Corozal, were planned communities when they were established in 1970 and 1955 respectively, none of the seven municipalities presently practices city/town planning. It is note worthy that a 'Master Plan' was developed for Belmopan but it was apparently never implemented by the city administrators.   In the case of Corozal Town, a 'Development Plan' was drawn up for the municipality following the devastation of the town by a hurricane in 1955. But, like Belmopan, this Development Plan was never implemented by the town authorities.

3.4 Demography

The three highest populated municipalities are San Ignacio/Santa Elena; Orange Walk, and Dangriga. The municipality with the smallest population is Punta Gorda Town. Based on ethnic composition, the dominant ethnic group in five of the municipalities is the Mestizo (Corozal, Orange Walk, Benque, San Ignacio/Santa Elena), while the Garifuna dominate Dangriga and to a lesser extent the municipality of Punta Gorda Town. In the case of Belmopan, although Mestizo is the dominant group, the other main ethnic groups, including Creole, Garifuna, and Maya, are well represented. The same can also be said of Punta Gorda Town where other groups (apart from the Garifuna) such as the Maya, East Indians, and Creole are well represented in the population.

The current population figures of the municipalities vary. The table below indicates the data from Statistical Institute of Belize for 2008 by municipality.

Table 1   Population of the Municipalities

Municipality	Population	Households	Average Household Size
Corozal Town	7,589	1,876	4.0
Orange Walk Town	12,977	2,895	4.5
San Ignacio-Santa Elena	17,191	2,853	5.5
Belmopan	6,460	1,255	5.0
Benque Viejo	6,680	1,104	5.0
Dangriga	8,424	2,100	4.0
Punta Gorda	4,266	996	4.3

Source: Statistical Institute of Belize 2008 & NPESAP 2006-2010

Except for (urban) Cayo District the average household size of the municipalities is 4.5.

3.4.1 Migration

In relation to migration trends, while all seven municipalities were strongly impacted by out-migration during the late 1960's to the USA, that trend was reversed in the late 1970's and 1980's to that of in-migration. The majority of the immigrants came from neighboring Central American countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador, which were all experiencing political (prosecution) and civil unrest resulting. This phenomenon led to and mass migration of large sectors of their population to neighboring countries including Belize. Some technical and

financial assistance was received from the UNHCR to address the basic needs of these immigrants when they entered Belize.

The municipalities that were affected the greatest by the influx of the first wave of migrants are: Benque, San Ignacio/Santa Elena and Belmopan. The inflow of these migrants, into the other municipalities, known as Orange Walk, Corozal, Dangriga and Punta Gorda, was more recent. These recent inflow consisted primarily of economic migrants as distinct from the first group who were seeking political asylum.

A second inflow of economic migrants, this time of Maya from the southern districts of Stann Creek and Toledo, has and continues to have significant impact on the municipalities of Belmopan and Punta Gorda, particularly in relation to the provision of infrastructure, utilities, and health and education services. In most instances, the relevant government agencies are unable to meet the demands of the new migrants, who are seeking employment and social services from the respective municipal government in their district.

3.5   Vulnerable Groups

The main vulnerable groups in Belize include women, children, youths, the elderly and the disabled. Generally speaking, all the groups have been negatively impacted by the present economic problems the country is experiencing. The present economic problems has resulted in rising unemployment rates and increased number of commuter workers in almost all of the seven municipalities. For example, the unemployment rates and the number persons who commute long distances to find work are significant in the following municipalities; Benque, Dangriga, Punta Gorda, and Corozal. The municipalities of Belmopan, Orange Walk and San Ignacio/Santa Elena are doing relatively well in terms of employment opportunity. The fallout of high unemployment and increased commuter populations has lead to an apparent increase in a number of social problems including (i) school drop-outs and criminal behavior among some youths (ii) increased incidence of domestic violence (iii) increased levels of poverty among low-income families and (iv) an increased dependence on local municipal authorities to meet basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, medical care, educational expenses etc. In the next section we will examine the vulnerable group which is the focus of this report. 'Indigenous People (groups) are classified as being vulnerable, and their inclusion (or lack thereof) in the day to day administration and management of the seven municipalities was also examined in this report.

3.5.1   Indigenous Peoples in the MDP Area

It was noted that in some municipalities (Belmopan and Punta Gorda), the Maya, as a group, were given special accommodation by the municipal authorities in terms of infrastructure, utilities, etc, while no such accommodation was accorded the Garifuna group in none of the seven municipalities. In fact, the Garifuna, as a group, was able to integrate themselves within the existing social fabric of the communities they reside in without much difficulty. The same cannot be said of the Maya, although members of the Yucatec Maya (based primarily in the northern districts of Orange Walk and Corozal), have also been integrated into the dominant Mestizo culture of those communities.

3.5.2   Challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples.

3.5.2.1   Lack of Data:

The **Millennium Development Goals** (MDG) require that all indicators should be disaggregated by ethnicity, gender, and urban/rural as far as possible. Based on literature review, consultations and in-depth interviews, the consultants observed that there is a lack of disaggregated data by ethnicity. The available data is designed to reflect information only of the national population. It is not designed to evaluate the peculiarities of the situation of Indigenous Peoples, especially at the municipal level. The national social policies do not reflect sensitivity to the traditions and cultures of Indigenous Peoples. As a result, their provision of basic services to the Indigenous community is lacking.

3.5.2.2   Poverty

As mentioned before, the government of Belize has shown its commitment to the mitigation of poverty as required MDG. This commitment provides the avenue to facilitate the improvement and well being of Indigenous Peoples.

The MDP project goals will complement the MDG particularly through the:

MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

MDG 2: Ensure coherence of Belize's Educational Systems with educational systems of developed countries, through improved quality and institutional set-up and

MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.

Despite their commitment, the poverty and economic instability of the current economic situation threatens the capacity of the GOB to maintain its level of investment in Indigenous Peoples.

Table 3: Poverty in Belize by Ethnic Group

Ethnic Group	Indigent	Poor	Not Poor	Total	Total %	Indigent	Poor	Not Poor
Black / African	17	42	336	395	0.2%	4.3	10.6	85.1
Caucasian / White	55	47	890	992	0.5%	5.5	4.7	89.7
Chinese	59	146	833	1,038	0.6%	5.7	14.1	80.3
Creole	3,208	8,089	29,610	40,907	22.2%	7.8	19.8	72.4
East Indian	744	1,210	3,545	5,499	3%	13.5	22	64.5
Garifuna	1,398	2,753	6,682	10,833	5.9%	12.9	25.4	61.7
Maya Kekchi	6,587	2,489	1,765	10,841	5.9%	60.8	23	16.3
Maya Mopan	3,623	1,549	2,200	7,372	4%	49.1	21	29.8
Maya Yucatec	421	671	1,417	2,509	1.4%	16.8	26.7	56.5
Mennonite	1,410	1,964	3,939	7,313	4%	19.3	26.9	53.9
Mestizo	8,412	14,345	43,978	66,735	36.2%	12.6	21.5	65.9
Spanish	2,991	6,387	18,188	27,566	15%	10.9	23.2	66
Other	131	187	1,300	1,618	0.9%	8.1	11.6	80.3
DK	84	109	368	561	0.3%	15	19.4	65.6
TOTAL	29,140	39,988	115,051	184,179	100%	15.8	21.7	62.5
	15.82%	21.71%	62.47%					

Source: National Poverty Elimination Strategy and Action Plan 2006- 2010.

3.5.2.3   Lack of Cultural Competence (sensitivity) of Service Providers

There is a lack of appreciation and understanding of the 'Indigenous People's culture, world view, values and aspirations by governments and those who deliver direct services. In order to solve this problem there needs to be increased respect for the 'Indigenous Peoples' rights.

3.5.2.4   Migration (rural-urban drift)

The current tendencies of soil degradation, lack of security in land-tenure system, unemployment, educational opportunities and improved living conditions has led to the movement of the Mayan peoples from rural communities to urban centers in Belize. Some of these factors also contributed to rural-urban drift of the Garifuna people from the urban municipalities of Punta Gorda and Dangriga to the Belmopan,

San Ignacio-Santa Elena, Belize City and the United States of America. It is important to note that, given the economic crisis, the transition phase of the migrants is very slow therefore members of these ethnic groups may stay in ghetto like conditions for a long while. It is also important to note that, the demands placed on the services by this new migrant population includes, human resource, infrastructure and a level of understanding (or lack thereof) of the culture of service providers.

The rural-urban drift phenomena have resulted in major displacement of a people who chose to continue living in a traditional way. These changes include their housing, food, choices and kinship, etc. Despite this fact, these ethnic groups maintain strong ties with their original communities.

The culture shock, resulting from the alienation from their original community, has had a major impact on both groups. In other words, the absence from cultural practices, based on community values and support systems, has led to a major disruption of the family. One example of this phenomenon is the involvement of the younger members of these groups in illicit activities.

3.5.2.5 Illiteracy

The migration process is also influenced by the desire to access utilities, such as literacy, which are unavailable in some rural communities. The Maya literacy level has limited their ability to be marketable in the urban communities, thus making their income low and sporadic, which contributes to the potential ghetto lifestyle.

Table 4: Literacy Statistics

District	Inhabitants	Absolute Literacy	Literacy Rate
Corozal	20,058	14,461	72.10
Orange Walk	23,278	17,374	74.64
Belize	41,361	37,090	89.67
Cayo	30,264	21,198	70.04
Stann Creek	14,870	11,160	75.05
Toledo	12,334	7,669	62.18

Source: National Poverty Elimination Strategy and Action Plan 2006- 2010

3.5.2.6   Governance.

(a)   Despite the countless organizations representing Indigenous Peoples, the level of organization is deficient. Because of this fact, the groups cannot approach the social issues (themes) that affect them in a methodical/ systematic way. Threats to the well being of all ethnic

groups and, in particular, the Indigenous Peoples are the high at level because of political interference in the execution of programs at community level. Political interference affects 'Indigenous Peoples' to the point of vulnerability and exploitation.

(b) The relationship between the Town Council and Civil Society needs strengthening. This would enhance involvement of the Indigenous People in governance. The traditional government system of indigenous peoples is the Alcaldes. This system is being reviewed for inclusion in the Belize Constitution. The Alcaldes system would operate alongside the other governance systems in communities.

3.6 Social Services and Economic Infrastructure

Study shows that while the education, public utilities (water, power, telephone), and housing sectors are considered satisfactory, the same cannot be said of the health sector. It was noted that although most of the municipalities were served by relatively new health facilities, such as, regional hospitals or poly-clinics, there were major concerns related to the quality of the services offered. In almost all instances, the concerns were related to (i) shortage of doctors (ii) doctors who were not sensitive to the cultural needs of their clients (iii) insufficient basic medicines and difficulty to access medical facilities. The difficult access medical facilities were an issue for concern, especially in San Ignacio and Dangriga. The health facilities in both of these municipalities are located about 2 miles from the center of the respective towns. This result s in a transportation problem, particularly for low-income users of the services, who cannot afford the transport costs.

In the area of sanitation and waste disposal systems, some municipalities were lagging behind. For example, in Dangriga and Punta Gorda the amount of residents with proper sanitation is 45% and 55% respectively. The amount of residents with proper sanitation in Belmopan is 90%, Benque is 75% and San Ignacio/Santa Elena is 75%. In the case of San Ignacio/Santa Elena, a major health issue is related to the flow of effluence and other liquid wastes into the nearby Macal River, which is one of the main sources of drinking water for the municipality.

3.7   Social Infrastructure

The main public structures examined by the consultants included the sporting facilities, town halls, markets, hurricane shelters, cemeteries and parks and green spaces of the municipalities. The majority of town halls were in fairly good state. There is no town hall in Belmopan. The Punta Gorda town hall is in need of urgent renovation and expansion. The remaining municipalities have plans to expand their present town hall structures to accommodate new services that they are offering to the public. These services include licensing of vehicles, etc. Like the town halls, the majority of the markets are in fairly good condition and a few were recently upgraded. The upgraded ones are in Belmopan, San Ignacio, and Corozal. Benque and Orange Walk are without a market and are in urgent need of one.

The quality of hurricane shelters in the municipalities leaves a great deal to be desired. The study shows that the available hurricane shelters, in all the municipalities, are insufficient to meet demands. They are also in need of urgent repairs and expansion. It should be noted that although the NEMO headquarters is located in Belmopan, the hurricane shelter situation is similar to that of other six municipalities.

In a review of available parks and green spaces the consultants were informed that most municipalities have put aside land for recreational purposes. These include playgrounds for children and sporting fields for team sports, such, as football and softball. The consultants also observed that the available facilities were ill- equipped, in terms of the basic equipment necessary for their proper usage. In a number of instances, parks were without benches, swings, slides for use by the children of the municipality. The sporting fields were without proper fencing and seating for the spectators.

3.8   Streets and Road Infrastructure

The study has shown that the streets in all seven municipalities were in need of rehabilitation and/or reconstruction. The situation seemed to be relatively more serious in those municipalities with hilly terrain (San Ignacio/Santa Elena), and where the annual rainfall totals are high (Punta Gorda). One of the major concerns of the municipal administrators is related to the durability of the materials used to repair the streets, since most complained about the poor quality of civil works done on their streets by past contractors.

Signage was cited as an important requirement for all municipalities, especially in their new housing areas. It is considered necessary to facilitate quick responses to the requests for services, such as, police and ambulance assistance and the delivery of items like butane gas.

3.9   Transportation

This issue of transportation was examined from two perspectives - road and air transportation systems. The data collected indicates that the road transportation system for all the municipalities is in fairly good condition. The main highways are subjected to regular maintenance and upgrading. The same cannot be said of the air transportation system. Orange Walk, Benque and San Ignacio/Santa Elena municipalities do not have municipal airfield. In the case of Belmopan and Orange Walk, it was noted that although both municipalities were in close proximity to airfields (the Hector Silva and the BSI airfields respectively); both are operated as private concerns and are only utilized for emergency purposes by the public.

3.10   Media and Telecommunications

The study indicates that all seven municipalities were well served by a wide range of media and telecommunications providers. In the area of telecommunications, the two main providers, BTL and SMART, have established links with all of the country's municipalities. Their services offered include telephone and internet connections. In the case of the media, all the municipalities are served by local providers of radio, television (inclusive of cable television), newspaper, and library services. It should be noted that library services are provided by central government through the Ministry of Information, with branch offices in each municipality. Finally, it was noted that Internet Cafes has now become a regular fixture in all seven municipalities. These Internet Cafes offer their services to the general population, inclusive of students and tourists.

3.11   Disaster Management

The main aspect of disaster management is the preparation for and impact of hurricanes, based on feedback from municipal and Working Group members. Other types of natural disasters, such as, earthquakes , tsunami, dam- breaks and chemical pollution also needs to be addressed. In order to deal with these issues, all the municipalities were integral members of NEMO. The district branch committees of NEMO are known as the District Emergency Management Organization (DEMO). DEMO is chaired by the area representatives and deputized by the mayors of all the municipalities. The consultants discovered that the majority of shelters were in a state of disrepair and needed urgent renovation or replacement. In many instances, the shutters were rotten and bath-rooms needed to be renovated. Concerns were also expressed in relation to the number of available shelters. The need for additional shelters was a common concern expressed by municipal authorities during the consultations.

It is very important to note that, Belize recently experienced some of the strongest tremors from an earthquake that was centered near its neighboring country Honduras. This caused structural damages to homes and other structures in a few Belizean coastal communities in the Stann Creek and Toledo districts. As a consequence, NEMO has recently developed mitigation measures to deal, not only, with the possibility of an earthquake strike, but also with the real possibility of having to cope with a tsunami as an aftermath of the quake. Although these measures are relevant to all seven municipalities, those measures related to the possibility of a tsunami is restricted to the coastal municipalities and other communities including Corozal, Belize City, Dangriga, and Punta Gorda.

The municipality of San Ignacio/Santa Elena has to deal with the possibility of a dam-break(s) and its aftermath of floods due to the presence of two major dams on rivers that runs through that municipality. A community environmental pressure group has been formed in the municipality, which is working along with other environmental groups and the town council. The main function of the pressure group is to assist the relevant central government agencies charged with environmental protection, in developing mitigation measures to address this issue.

The municipality of Orange Walk is faced with a potential disaster because of the possibility of an explosion from the nearby Tower Hill Sugar Factory. The potential disaster can be cause by the air pressures in the boiler. Based on information collected from the Working Group in that municipality, the air pressure of the boilers are at a level that can result in an explosion affecting a radius of at least five miles from its center. Such an explosion would affect the entire municipality of Orange Walk and all surrounding settlements.

3.12   Community Participation

It was noted that the level of community participation, in relation to the affairs of the various municipalities, was generally poor. It was also noted that in some instances, town council meetings were not opened to the general population but, instead, limited to just councilors and town administrators. Some of the municipalities including Benque and Belmopan have published their council meetings through various media outlets and recent turnouts. The consultants consider this to be relatively encouraging.

3.13 Economics

Almost all seven of the municipalities, with the exception of Benque, are well serviced by the various financial agencies, such as, commercial banks, credit unions other credit institutions. In the case of Benque, apart from one local credit union, none of the other traditional financial institutions have set up branch offices in the municipality. Because of this fact, almost all financial transactions are done in the nearby municipality of San Ignacio /Santa Elena. This has an extra (transportation) cost to the residents of Benque. None of the utility offices are located in this municipality. This also results in extra costs in doing business in the neighboring municipality of San Ignacio/Santa Elena.

The information collected indicates that unemployment levels are relatively high in most municipalities, except Orange Walk and Belmopan. In the case of Orange Walk, job opportunities are fairly good due to the presence of the Tower Hill Sugar Factory and allied spin-off industries. Belmopan, as the administrative capital of the country, employs a significant percentage of the city's population in its various government ministries, departments and statutory agencies. The employment situation in most of the other municipalities is bad and getting worse. The municipalities with the largest number of commuters, who leave their homes on a daily or weekly basis to work outside their communities, are Benque, Corozal, and Dangriga. The Corozal Free Zone, to a certain degree, has alleviated the employment situation in Corozal Town, although the majority of the jobs lost due to the closing of the Libertad Sugar Factory, some years ago, have not been adequately replaced.

The tourism potential of all seven municipalities is under-developed and need to be given a higher priority by the municipal administrations. As a consequence, it was noted that technical assistance was being sought from the relevant agencies both locally and internally by some municipalities such as San Ignacio/Santa Elena (IDB) and Corozal (BTB, BTIA, and NICH). The other municipalities are developing plans, in coordination with the relevant local agencies such as BTB and BTIA, to boost the tourism potential of their respective municipalities taking into consideration that in most instances, the basic elements are already in place within the town limits. These basic elements include diverse cultures, a wide range of natural resources and archeological sites.

3.14   Drainage Infrastructure

Six of the seven municipalities were involved in a World Bank financed drainage project a few years ago. The only exception was the City of Belmopan. Belmopan did not benefit from the last World Bank drainage project, and is now making a pitch for financial support to address some of its more critical drainage problems.

The consultants have been receiving information from municipal administrators and members of the Working Groups, in relation to the impact of the World Bank drainage project. The general conclusion reached is that, the main objective of the project, which was the alleviation of flooding in flood-prone areas, was not achieved. It was noted that in some municipalities (Corozal and Dangriga),the project was not incomplete, while in other instances, the flooding situation worsened after the completion of the project. This was due mainly to unplanned developments in the drainage area. In two instances, the developers, who were alleged to be causing the problems, refused to comply with environmental regulations. These regulations, which were designed for environmental protection, were put in place by both the municipal and relevant central government agencies.

The general consensus from the six municipalities that were involved in the first World Bank drainage project was that its continuation is urgently needed. It also indicated that more consultation with residents of the affected areas is critical for its success.

3.15   Safety and Security

The consultants recognized that the survival of livelihoods of most town residents depends on the effectiveness of the safety and security system. In other words, the safety and security of all seven municipalities were considered to be very important.

Due to the peculiar circumstances of the municipalities located near a border, safety and security was considered to be their main priority. It was noted that the border towns of Benque, Punta Gorda, and Corozal and, to a lesser extent, Orange Walk, have all had to come up with new and innovative security measures to address illegal trading across the border with Guatemala and Mexico.

The feedback received from the municipal authorities and Working Group members is indicating that, unlike Belize City (dubbed the crime capital of Belize), all of the other municipalities seemed to have been able to get a 'grip', so to speak, on the crime situation in their respective municipalities, and are confident that they will be able to bring to manageable levels in the years ahead. For example, an attempt to develop stronger relationships between the Police and the

community has been initiated in some municipalities, including San Ignacio/Santa Elena and Benque. These municipalities have established groups known such as, 'People's Coalition', to address the crime situation in their respective municipalities. A similar initiative has also been implemented in Belmopan to address the crime situation in that municipality.

4.0 Proposed Projects and Subprojects for financing through the MDP

Table 5: Matrix of Component 1: Small Scale Investments Projects – by Municipality

Projects	Municipalities						
	Belmopan	**Benque Viejo**	**Corozal**	**Dangriga**	**Orange Walk**	**Punta Gorda**	**San Ignacio-Santa Elena**
Drainage	There is a need to study flood prone areas - Cohune Walk and Mountain View Areas.	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004.	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004 - Lakeland and Wageirale	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004 - Need to be mindful of ecosystem of Fresh Pond.	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004 - Magoon area.	Continuation of the WB drainage project that was terminated in 2004 ▪ Sacred Heart College, Mosquitoville, Trenchtown,, Boiton, Kontiki, Aguada and Hillview areas
Traffic Management	Traffic lights in Forest Drive and Constitution Drive	The need for a system for the flow of traffic coming in and going out of town,	Traffic lights for college road.	The need for a system for the flow of traffic coming in and going out of town,	Public relations training for traffic wardens	Parking lot.	Traffic lights at Bullet Tree Road and Joseph Andrews Drive. Burns Ave and **
				Adequate Parking space	Bus terminal is needed.		Parking lot in the downtown area.

				near bus terminal			
	Lanes for bicycles.			Lanes for bicycles.			Lanes for bicycles
All municipalities need public education about the proper use of pedestrian crossings and sidewalks. They also need public education, including proficiency exam, about bicycle safety.							
Road Repair	**All municipalities need to obtain the appropriate technology for Street construction, especially the use concrete instead of asphalt. Their goal is to pave 50% of their unpaved streets in this project.**						
Signage	***	***	Support for the Project to install 50 street signs per year.	***	Support signage plan recommended by the citizens committee.	***	Install signs in new areas.
Social infrastructure							
Sporting Facilities	Upgrade Isodoro Beaton Stadium to meet FIFA standards.	***	Upgrade Ricalde Stadium.	Havana Creek Building to be completed to serve as a community center for the Southside.	***	***	Upgrade Victor Galvez Stadium to multipurpose sporting complex. Convert the Civic Center to a mall.
Market	***	Market needed for craft, fruit and vegetable vendors.	Fish vendors market needed.	Expansion of market. Enforcement of marketing rules.	Expansion of market on the main street to provide outlets for vendors.	Market upgraded to a facility for income generation. Improve	Move to Phase II to include a Plaza.

							bathroom facilities.
Town Hall	Build a City Hall.	Rehabilitate to include a Project Development Unit.	Expand or replace and use present building as a tourism information center.	Renovate to improve meeting area and bathroom facilities.	Expansion to allow for improved meeting area.	New town hall or upgrade present facility.	Improve present facility with a facelift.
Cemetery	Land needed for expansion.	New cemetery fencing.	New cemetery needs a chapel and fence.	***	Land needed for cemetery. Presently using Trial Farm Cemetery.	***	***
Parks & Green Spaces	Upgrade Bloggo, Mae Gordon and Harriot Topsey Parks.	Coronation Park and Centennial Parks to be upgraded. Seek sponsorship with BTL, BNE and BEL	Proper Maintenance of the following existing Parks. Mothers Park, Central Park, and Maya Beach.	Security for Alejo Beni Park. Maintain and strengthen the relationship with partners.	Upgrade Victoria Park to accommodate vendors and tourism.	***	***
Bridges	***	***	***	Rehabilitate Havana Bridge	***	***	***
Street Lighting	***	In new housing areas.	In new housing areas.	In new housing areas.	In new housing areas.	***	***
Hurricane shelters	Upgrading.	Upgrade/ replace.	Upgrade/replace.	Upgrade/ replace.	Upgrade / replace.	***	***
Tourism Enhancement	Develop tourism plan.	Develop tourism Plan.	Build an artificial beach. Tap into the	IDB Tourism Development	Marketing campaign.	Build a Gateway Plaza at the Pier	IDB project approved.

			archaeological sites. Corozal Information Center. Promote cultural aspects of the municipality.	Project. Marketing Campaign.		with tourism information, vendor outlets, performance stage etc.	

Table 6:   Matrix of Component 2:   Capacity Building Projects - by Municipality

Projects	Municipalities						
	Belmopan	Benque Viejo	Corozal	Dangriga	Orange Walk	Punta Gorda	San Ignacio-Santa Elena
Revenue collection	All municipalities need to establish good digital billing system and to collect a portion of the Tourism Tax from the government of Belize						
Town Council Accountability	All municipalities need to enforce their statutory instrument for non-payment actions. They also need to Establish municipal courts.						
Land administration	All municipalities need to establish a digital and transparent database for property taxes. They also need to have Geographical Positioning System (GPS Maps). They also need to train their personnel how to use (read) the same GPS.						
Environmental and social management compliance				Funding to assist with the building of much needed septic tanks.			Septic tank and soak away enforcement.
Citizen participation	All municipalities need to (i) support community initiatives, such as, 'Peoples Coalition' addressing crime, youth and transportation issues (ii) support citizen education on the importance of tax payment and (iii) Conduct meetings to provide TC quarterly report to citizens						
Financial Management	All municipalities need to establish an accounting system for efficiency and accountability						

Traffic Management	Licensing of bicycles.	***	***	Licensing of bicycles.	***	Licensing of bicycles	Licensing of bicycles
Town Planning							
Zoning		Conduct a zoning exercise.	Review zones to include areas that use the town services but do not pay taxes - Halls Layout & San Andres Housing Areas	Zoning exercise for town. Revisit the Special Development Area (SDA) for Dangriga Town (1984).	Zoning exercise needed. Infrastructure is needed for New River housing area.	Expand to include Orange Point, commercial Free Zone, VOA, Boom Creek, New Road, Cerro Hill Area, TCC and area across Joe Taylor Creek in Hopeville.	Review Zones to include Windy Hill.
Long Term Development Plan	All municipalities need to develop a 15-20 Year zoning plan. In the process, they need to revisit the SDA for Corozal Town (1994) and Dangriga Towns (1964) and the urban plan for Belmopan.						
Disaster risk reduction.							
Fire Hazard	Fire Service. Enforcement of regulation for butane gas	Enforcement of regulation for butane gas service.	Enforcement of regulation for butane gas service.	Enforcement of regulation for butane gas service.	Enforcement of regulation for butane gas service.	Enforcement of regulation of butane gas service.	Enforcement of regulation for butane gas service.

	service.						
Hurricane	Hurricane Shelter upgraded.	***	***	Upgrade Hurricane shelters. Vulnerability study to identify homes and potential shelters that are at risk	***	Hurricane Shelter upgrades.	***
Flood	***	***	***	***	Preparation for flood evacuation during heavy rainfall.	***	Flood victim's shelters. Educate regarding the evacuation flood route in case of Dam collapse.
Industrial Hazard	***	***	***	***	Education on the potential harm from explosions at the Tower Hill Sugar Factory.	***	***

5.0 Potential Adverse and/or Positive Effects on Indigenous Peoples

The major impacts of the components of the MDP on the Indigenous population are identified in the table below. The impacts are evaluated as regards the sensitivity level (or presumed conflict level) of every component concerned for each of the preparation, implementation, and evaluation phases. As a result, four levels of impact will be used: negligible (not significant), low, moderate and high. A plus (+) sign will indicate positive impact and minus (-) sign will indicate negative impact.

Table 7: Matrix of Potential Impact of Component 1 Projects on Indigenous People

Project	Potential Impact in Design & Implementation Phases	Level of Impact	Mitigation
Drainage	-loss of land and fixed assets +Health conditions will be improved. +Gender difference between local people and incoming workers -In-migration	+/ - High	Cultural appropriate consultation Financial resettlement Area based employment arrangements.
Traffic Management	+better movement +safety and security - Resistance to change	+/- High	Public education.
Road Repair	+land and fixed assets increase in value +improvement of street network +employment opportunities +improved capacities +contribution to the development of the municipality -depletion of local employment opportunities after the completion	+/- High	Culturally appropriate advertisement of job opportunities. Skills training Area based employment arrangements Sustainable Development Project for municipality

	of the project +/- landscape features affected - gender issues between local people		
Signage	+ employment opportunity +improved capacity +knowledge of community history and heritage +way of life and social organization +improvement of road network -vandalism - literacy level -unskilled workforce -conflict with outside workforce	**+/- high**	Public education. Participatory planning involving youth.
Social Infrastructure (Stadium, Market, Town Hall, Civic Center, Bridge and Hurricane Shelters)	+ increase of community assets +local economy increase +higher interest in cultural and heritage site +safety and security + Employment opportunities +way of life and social organization improved + improved capacities -Political interference	**+/-High**	Culturally appropriate advertisement of job opportunities. Skills training Area based employment arrangements Sustainable development Project for municipality

	-Conflict due to outside workers -depletion of Local economy after completion of project		
Cemetery	+ increase of community assets + employment opportunities +higher interest in a heritage site +way of life and social organization improved +family and kinship relations taken into account -Political interference -Loss of land and fixed assets + Improved capacities - conflict with relation to migrant workers - conflict due to loss of land and fixed assets -depletion of Local economy after completion of project	**+/-High**	Public Education on history of community Participatory planning involving the community Culturally appropriate advertisement of job opportunities. Skills training Area based employment arrangements Sustainable development Project for municipality
Parks and Green Spaces	+way of life and social organization +family and kinship relations taken into account +recreation enhancement +tourism opportunity -area for gang activities +Opportunity for community participation + landscape enhancement	**+/- High**	Culturally appropriate advertisement of job opportunities. Skills training Area based employment arrangements Sustainable development Project for municipality Programs for youth

	-Vandalism - home for vagrants		

Table 8: Matrix of Potential Impact of Component 2 Projects on Indigenous People

Projects	Potential Impact	Level of Impact	Mitigation
Revenue collection	-resistance -unemployment and low wages -political interference -corruption	+/- High	Job creation program Education program to inform the public. Training in PR & cultural competence for TC personnel
Town Council Accountability	no confidence in leader limited human resource pool -corruption	-High	Culturally appropriate education program to inform the public.
Land administration	- loss of land and assets -resistance -unemployment and low wages -political interference dependency on politicians lack of representation -illiteracy	-High	Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public. Training in PR & cultural competence for TC personnel
Environmental and social management compliance	-resistance -unemployment and low wages -political interference	-High	Job creation for income generation. Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public of the legislation

Citizen participation	-lack of sensitivity to the basic needs of indigenous people indigenous not seen as a group with special needs frustration and apathy	-High	Training in cultural competence for TC personnel Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public.
Financial Management	+More confidence +More transparency	High	Education program to inform the public.
Traffic Management	+Improved capacities -Resistance to change -Inability to pay fees for licensing +better movement +safety and security	+/- High	Culturally appropriate public notices. Include indigenous people in the traffic wardens Recruitment process to include indigenous people.
Town Planning	+Way of life and organization +Land security -Political interference/ conflict between the area representative and municipal government	+/- High	Culturally appropriate consultation.
Disaster risk reduction.			
Health Hazard/	-poverty +way of life and organization -illiteracy	+/- High	Culturally appropriate public education. compliance by inflammable gas vendors and consumers

	-resistance and non compliance with law		
Hurricane Preparedness	+safety and security	High	Participatory research Culturally appropriate communication
Flood	+safety and security	High	Culturally appropriate communication.
Industrial Hazard (Applicable to Orange Walk only)	-Loss of lands and assets	Negligible	Monitoring and evaluation of the situation.

5.1 Impact and Mitigations of the Proposed Projects and Subprojects

5.1.1 Drainage

(a) Positive Impacts

Employment and Regional Economy. The construction of drains, road and social infrastructure will produce a positive increase in the employment opportunities. Other employment opportunities will be provided by services to the workers. The potential financial compensation, linked with potential resettlement, may improve the economic conditions of the population.

Improved local communication. The positive contribution resulting from the drainage and road infrastructure would include the improvement and support for local communication, markets and tourism and other investment. It will also develop an increase of public interest for the municipalities.

Landscape. During the implementation phase, the increased activity, such as, additional traffic, etc. will cause considerable change to the perception of the area. For example, an area that was previously not frequently visited and considered to be 'calm' can be transformed into a zone of intense activities (traffic, noise, dust).

(b) Negative Impact

*Land and Fixed Assets***.**

Table 9: Areas targeted for Drainage Infrastructure by Municipality

Municipality	Area affected	Number of properties
Belmopan	Cohune Walk, Water Reservoir,	NA
Benque Viejo	----	---
Corozal	Skelton Town, White Cocal	521
Dangriga	Wageirale, Lakeland	529
Orange Walk	Fresh Pond, Lorenzo Housing Area	NA
Punta Gorda	Indianville	NA
San Ignacio-Santa Elena	Kontiki, Mosuitoville, Aguada, Hillview	NA

The implementation phase of the MDP will result in the loss of land and other fixed assets belonging to the resident population: There will be some loss of houses and land as a result of zoning, especially in Belmopan: Corozal, Dangriga, San Ignacio-Santa Elena; Orange Walk, and Punta Gorda. The exact number of people and households directly affected depend on the project design.

Mitigation
➢ Conduct appropriate topographical studies of the area.
➢ The need for proper assessment of flood prone areas and a resettlement of population will be required.
➢ Financial resettlement or relocation.

Loss of income: One of the potential negative impact would be the loss of income when the project is completed, especially if there is no further need for the skills acquired from the MDP. The possibility for the depression of local economy can also result from the termination of construction.

Mitigation
➢ Develop a sustainable development plan for the municipality

Inflation of local prices of materials

Mitigations:
➢ Enforce the price control for consumer protection.

Social and cultural networks. During the implementation phase there would be interaction between the community and the workforce, which may include non resident workers. This can lead to the: disruption of social networks and established cultural interaction. This includes the possibility of conflicts between local people and migrant workers, resulting from cultural and gender differences. It can also lead to prostitution and increased pressure on social and sanitary infrastructure.

Mitigations:

> ➤ Presentation of the health talks to the workers and women.

> ➤ Area based employment arrangements.

Landscape. The features affected during the road works may not be repaired. This can cause the environment to look shabby after the completion of the project.

Mitigations:

> ➤ Ensure that the contractors clean up and repair damages to the landscape.

Education. During the implementation phase, construction may cause delays and disruption of access to schools and create a safety risk for children.

Mitigations:

> ➤ Communication with the affected schools and appropriate signage and announcements before and during construction.

> ➤ Plan an alternate route for vehicles and pedestrians.

Health. The project can cause a potential increase of traffic and subsequent pollution in the area. In the process, there will be an increase risk of accidents and dust in the air. This can lead to increased incidence of acute respiratory infections and related problems. During the implementation phase of the works, the in-migration of workers will create some conflict and some gender difference between local people and incoming workers. The presence of workers employed in the area could introduce contagious diseases such as VD, HIV/AIDS, etc.

Mitigations:

> ➤ Area based employment arrangements.

> ➤ Cultural appropriate consultation and health talks to the workers and women.

Cultural Property. Loss of culturally significant sites may result with excavation. Excavation can unearth some important historical artifacts. Although there are only few archaeological sites in the

municipalities (Orange Walk, Corozal), churches, burial sites, etc. are considered to be very important sources of history, culture and other memories.

Mitigations:
➢ Establish a archival depository for the artifacts.

5.1.2 Traffic Management

(a) Positive Impact

Better movement within the town/city. The organization of streets to improve the flow of traffic will result in better movement through the municipality. The avoidance of bottle necks during peak periods will minimize travel time and save on fuel.

(b) Negative Impact

Resistance to change. The citizens may be uncooperative in the initial phases and will not pay fines for violations.

Mitigation
➢ Cultural appropriate consultation to inform of the plan and the benefits.

Inadequate Human resources. The human power to manage and sustain the projects is very costly. There is a need for an increase in both the number of traffic wardens and the level of training.

Mitigation
➢ Train volunteers to assist the traffic wardens e.g. school areas and public places.
➢ Health talks to the workers and women.

5.1.3 Road & Street Infrastructure

(a) Positive Impact

Improved capacities. The workers will acquire new skills that would make them more marketable.

Contribution to the development of the municipality

Employment and Regional Economy. The construction of drains, road and social infrastructure will produce a positive increase in the employment opportunities. linked with works and provision of services to the workers. The potential financial compensation, linked with potential resettlement, may improve the economic conditions of the population.

Improved local communication. The positive contribution resulting from the drainage and road infrastructure would include the improvement and support for local communication, markets and tourism and other investment. It will also develop an increase of public interest for the municipalities.

Improvement of street network. The construction of the streets will have an impact on the quality of the road and vehicles, safety and security of passengers and movement of transportation within the municipality.

Street safety and security. The construction of the streets will have an impact on the quality of the road and vehicles, safety and security of passengers and movement of transportation within the municipality.

(b) Negative Impact

+/-Landscape. There is potential for problems with transportation, due to inevitable interruption of the road, at certain points access to some areas may be cut off, causing users to use longer routes to their destination. This would lead to vehicles having to take longer route, causing increasing transportation time to move from one area to the next.

Depletion of local employment opportunities after the completion of the project.

Mitigation:
➢ Develop a sustainable project for the municipality.

Education. During the implementation phase, construction may cause delays and disruption of access to institutions such as school

Mitigation:
➢ Scheduling of works vacation time or weekends, if possible, so as to minimize disruptions of activities such as schooling.
➢ Culturally appropriate signage

Health The project can cause a potential increase of traffic and subsequent pollution in the area. In the process, there will be an increase risk of accidents and dust in the air. This can lead to increased incidence of acute respiratory infections and related problems. During the implementation phase of the works, the in-migration of workers will create some conflict and some gender difference between local people and incoming workers. The presence of workers employed in the area could introduce contagious diseases such as VD, HIV/AIDS, etc**..** **I**ncrease of traffic in the area will result in increase risk of accidents,

Mitigation:
➢ Present Health education talks to the community, workers and women.

5.1.4 **Signage**

(a) Positive Impact

way of life and social organization improved

(b) Negative Impact

Resistance to change; Vandalism

Mitigation
➢ Public education.
➢ Participatory planning involving youth
➢ Enforcement of laws when violated.

5.1.5 Social Infrastructure (Stadium, Market, Town Hall, Civic Center, Bridge and Hurricane Shelters)

(a) Positive Impact

Increase of community assets. The social infrastructure subproject will result in an increase of community assets.

Local economy increase

safety and security

Employment opportunities

improved capacities

(b) Negative Impact

Political interference

Conflict due to outside workers

Mitigation:
➢ Area based employment arrangements
➢ Culturally appropriate advertisement of job opportunities.
➢ Skills training

Depletion of Local economy after completion of project

Mitigation
➢ Sustainable development Project for municipality

5.1.6 Cemetery, Parks and Green Spaces

(a) Positive Impact

higher interest in cultural and heritage site

Beautification. The improvement of parks and green spaces will lend itself to the beautification of the municipality.

(b) Negative Impact

Littering

Vandalism.

Mitigation
➢ Public Education on history of community
➢ Participatory planning involving the community
➢ Community mobilization to supervise youth activities
➢ Need for signs promoting anti-litter, waste containers and adequate bathroom facilities.
➢ Sustainable Development Project for municipality

5.2. Impact and Mitigation Measures for Component 2

5.2.1 Revenue collection

(a) Positive Impact

TC will show an increase in revenue.

(b) Negative Impact

resistance and non payment of residents

poor economic conditions

unemployment and low wages

political interference/ -corruption

Mitigation
➢ Job creation program
➢ Education program to inform the public.
➢ Training in PR & cultural competence for TC personnel

5.2.2 Town Council Accountability

(a) Positive Impact

Respect, confidence and trust earned.

Investors attracted.

(b) Negative Impact

no confidence in leader

limited human resource pool

corruption

Mitigation
➢   TC comply with quarterly public meeting requirement
➢

5.2.3   Land administration

(A)   Positive Impact

 land security

(b) Negative Impact

 loss of land and assets

resistance

unemployment and low wages

political interference dependency on politicians

lack of representation

illiteracy

Mitigations:

➢ Mobilize a payment plan.
➢ Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public.
➢ Invite representation from special interest groups to participate, including organizations representing indigenous groups.
➢ Training in PR & cultural competence for TC personnel

5.2.4 Environmental and social management compliance

(a) Positive Impact

Ministry of Health and Town Council work together.

(b) Negative Impact

resistance by some citizens to comply.

unemployment and low wages

political interference

weak enforcement

relevant authorities ineffective (e.g. Public Health)

Mitigations
➢ Training of Municipal personnel in the legislation
➢ Job creation for income generation.
➢ Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public of the legislation

5.2.5 Citizen participation

(a) Positive Impact

Supporters of the party in power will participate.

(b) Negative Impact

Frustration and apathy. The possibility for exclusion may also be omission on the part of the Town Council administration and non participation by the same Indigenous People. The historical experience of exploitation (underemployment and low wages), low self esteem, frustration, depression and apathy has lead to non-participation by the Indigenous People's.

Lack of sensitivity to the basic needs of indigenous people

Indigenous not seen as a group with special needs. The overall concern of the indigenous people is the potential for their exclusion from participating in the MDP. The culture of dependency, created by a political system provides handouts in exchange for political loyalty are also a contributing factor.

Mitigation
➢ Mechanisms must be put in place to facilitate and enable participation.
➢ Training in cultural competence for TC personnel
➢ Culturally appropriate communication to inform the public.

5.2.6   Financial Management

(a) Positive Impact

Citizens will have more confidence in the administration.

More transparency in the affairs of the Municipal administration.

(b) Negative Impact

Unavailable of trained personnel for the job.

Nepotism

Mitigation
➢ Transparency in hiring of personnel.
➢ Compliance with the TC workers regulations

5.2.7   Traffic Management

(a) Positive Impact

Improved capacities of the workforce.

Better movement within the community.

safety and security

(b) Negative Impact

Resistance to change

Inability to pay fees for licensing

Mitigations:	
➢ Culturally appropriate public notices for recruitment to include indigenous people.	
➢ Include indigenous people as the traffic wardens	
➢	

5.2.8   Town Planning

Positive Impact

Way of life and organization

Land security Resettlement will have impacts on the land owners and community, which can only be evaluated once alternatives for resettlements are more clearly identified.

(b) Negative Impact

Conflict with neighbors. The limited space for expansion will increase competition and possibly raise conflicts between urban and rural communities. All municipalities except for Dangriga are faced with the threat of conflict with neighboring villages.

Political interference

conflict between the area representative and municipal government

Mitigations	

➢ Hire an Urban Planner
➢ Culturally appropriate consultation.
➢ Conflict Resolution, Negotiation and Mediation skills training for Town Council.

5.2.9   Disaster risk reduction.

(a) Positive Impact

way of life and organization

(b) Negative Impact

Health Hazards from sewage and waste water

poverty

illiteracy

resistance and non compliance with law

Mitigation
➢ Culturally appropriate public education.
➢ compliance by inflammable gas vendors and consumers

Hurricane Preparedness

(a)   Positive Impact

safety and security.

(b) Negative Impact

inadequate data regarding the demands of population increase

Mitigation:

➤ Participatory research to .conduct a vulnerability study
➤ Culturally appropriate communication

Flood

(a) Positive impact

Safety and security.

(b) Negative Impact

Citizens unwilling to evacuate.

Security of property.

Mitigation
➤ Culturally appropriate communication.
➤ Publicizing of the evacuation plan, all year round.   ➤ Conduct simulation exercise.

Industrial Hazard (Applicable to Orange Walk only)

(a) Positive Impact

(b) Negative Impact

The factory location is not seen as a threat

loss of land and fixed assets.

Safety and security

Mitigation
➤ Assess the present danger of the situation.

➢ Monitoring and evaluation of the situation.

6.0 Action Plan of Measures to Minimize, Mitigate or Compensate for Adverse Effects.

Although these types of project will always involve social disruptions and difficulties, there are a number of activities happening in the municipalities which complement the development project. These activities include, addressing governance issues, increasing donor interest and tourism enhancement promotions. The MDP can contribute to the achievement of some of the National goals for economic development. These goals can be sustained, provided that disaster prevention and preparedness is addressed in all development projects. This involves integrated land use planning and the establishment of a disaster risk management system. In the process, family dynamics are taken into account and the communities are given the responsibility for the selection of their development options and for ensuring their success.

6.1   Specific Mitigation Measures

6.1.1   Employment

6.1.1.1 Facilitate income generation opportunities for indigenous people by utilizing culturally appropriate job promotion and advertisement.

6.1.1.2 Develop an area based hiring policy.

6.1.2   Participation:

Addressing Indigenous Peoples' concerns effectively is critical for establishing constructive relations. This must be accomplished through a 'culturally appropriate' consultation process. Because of the diverse cultures of Belize, there is a need for building cultural competence in national and regional discussion among cultural organizations. Careful documentation of the consultations with indigenous peoples, including government participation in such consultations, is required during all phases of the project. The documentation should include the concerns expressed, the information delivered and the responses and commitments made to the community, during meetings.

6.1.3 Training for Town Council Personnel

Fostering a culture of development: A culture of development is needed to avoid the problem of 'instant gratification'. It should involve the encouragement of participation designed to strengthen the process of social inclusion. This would be through the training sessions described below.

6.1.3.1 Multicultural Education: The need for those who provide services to Indigenous people to be trained in the relevant culture is extremely important. Intercultural skills, which are critical to development, will foster the demonstration of basic human empathy and kindness, necessary for learning and health recovery.

6.1.3.2 Intercultural Communication: The communicative process between persons or individuals of different cultures is called globally "intercultural communication". Intercultural communication is processes which allow a symbolic interaction between individuals and groups. This can be understood as the ability to negotiate the cultural meanings and to act communicatively and efficiently according to the multiple identities of the participants. It is important to note that, for the survival of the culture, 'intercultural communication' continues from generation to generation.

6.1.3.3 Principles of ILO Convention 169

Training of Town Council personnel (Mayors, Councilors, administration and staff) and other service providers of ILO convention 169 is critical to the transformation of attitudes towards Indigenous Peoples. This would be a step in the direction for having ILO convention signed and ratified by the government of Belize.

6.2 Networking for the provision of Social Services

All municipalities cited the need to provide social services to various degrees and visions of how to address the social issues of their municipality. In order to carry out this task, all of the municipalities need to build closer working relationship with the Ministry of Human Development and Transformation. They also need to develop **a**ctivities, such as sports, life- skills training and cultural projects for children who are not attending school. In the light of the above observation, there is a need to develop a comprehensive Social Development Plan for all municipalities to address the social issues impacting vulnerable groups in the municipality. For those municipalities with high percentage of Indigenous People, networking would be beneficial in the outreach. The hiring of a Social Development Officer for this project would provide the necessary guidance for the development of the Social Development Plan and to meet the social development needs of the municipalities.

7.0   Cost Estimates and Financing of the Indigenous Peoples Plan.

The activities for 7.0 were generated in general sessions, Strength Weaknesses Opportunities Threat (SWOT) analysis exercise and during the focus groups

Table 10:   Matrix of Action Plan for Indigenous People Plan.

Activity	Target	Cost	Collaborating agency
Design a system for data collection disaggregated by ethnicity for all municipality services.	TC staff	12,000	TC, MLGRD, MED, UNDP
Communication strategy to inform the community of the project and job opportunities.	TC Staff	10,000	BENIC, Media houses
Design job promotion and advertisement in culturally appropriate language	TC, SIF, MDP Project Management	5,000	MLGRD, Working Group
Training for personnel		000	
4 Training in intercultural communication	TC staff & indigenous organizations, SIF	11,200	UB, BENIC
Training for community		000	
3 Culture and Development	Belmopan, Dangriga and Punta Gorda TC, WG members, Indigenous People & SIF	7,400	UB, BENIC, UNESCO, NICH
Cultural Sensitization Workshop on ILO Convention 169	TC members, Indigenous people	11,200	MLGRD, MED, SIF, BENIC & Intl. Partners
Hire a Social Development Officer to work on the development of a comprehensive social Development Plan	Mayors Association, TC, SIF, WG	48,000	BENIC, MHD, MOE, MOH, VOICE, YFF NGOs, other social partners
Total (Belize Dollars)		$104,800	

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8.0 **Procedures for Grievance**

The subject of grievances is hardly dealt with by legislation, which makes it difficult to outline a path for dealing with them.[4] Consultations are usually not done properly as the state, in anticipation of the revenue, is willing to expedite the project approval process by not following consultation requirements. The potential grievances that the indigenous peoples may incur as a result of the Municipal Development Project (MDP) include:

- Inadequate consultation
- Loss of land
- Resettlement in places not agreed to by the population
- Destruction of property (house) and crops
- Discrimination with employment
- Discrimination with project benefits
- Health hazard

The State has an obligation to protect the interest of its citizens. The State cannot transfer its obligation to contractors/ consultants. It needs to ensure that the company/contractor understands its obligations to the stakeholders. It is important to note that the Law of Belize, which is the protector of the interests of individuals, should be the primary recourse for damages from the MDP.

The legal frameworks for addressing grievances include the Principles of Civil Liability and the Environmental Protection Act (EPA)[5]. The safeguards provided by the World Bank, i.e. OP 4.10, also provide a level of security for the avoidance of the grievances from occurring.

Each situation will be given a hearing followed by:

- Remedying of the situation
- Compensation for damages through resettlement
- Licenses that have been granted are subject to legal challenge, if the contractor does not comply.
- No Action

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[4] Ellis, Zoila. Environmental Law Manual of Belize. 1996.
[5] McCalla, Winston. Guide for Developers. Department of Environment. 1995.

The move toward the ratification of the ILO Convention 169 will assist Indigenous People, Government, service providers and private sector with a framework for addressing indigenous people's issues.

8.1 Legal and institutional framework for Indigenous People

8.1.1   National Policy

Chapter II of the Belize Constitution, which is the supreme law of Belize, guarantees every citizen protection of fundamental rights, freedom and equal privileges. The present national commitment of the Government of Belize is consistent with the position mentioned in the previous sentence. The government decision to invest in raising the standard of living in the Southern part of Belize, especially in the areas of health and education, so that it is comparable to the rest of the country is consistent with Belize Constitution. In the process, the government of Belize has made significant investment in water systems, sanitation, vector control programs, construction of schools, houses for teachers and health facilities, even in the most remote areas[6]. In the last ten years the secondary road construction has significantly reduced the geographic isolation of the indigenous communities. The MDP will add to the improved living standard of indigenous people, the majority of whom live in the southern municipalities of Dangriga and Punta Gorda. (See map)

8.1.2   International Agreements

8.1.2.1   World Bank Safeguards

Among the World Bank safeguards for the Municipal Development Project (MDP) is the Indigenous Peoples OP.4.10. This policy, regarding the preserved and original way of live of the Garifuna and Maya with their own language and traditions - still being a part of their everyday life- is applicable to the MDP. The predicted changes of the MDP should have minimal effect on the wellbeing of these peoples. The objectives of this policy are to ensure that any aspect of the project that is likely to cause potentially physical relocation of households or impose restriction of access to natural resources in its area of influence:

- Ensures that the development process fully respects dignity, human rights, economies and cultures of indigenous peoples;
- Ensures that adverse effects during the development process are avoided or, if this is not feasible, ensures that they are minimized, mitigated or compensated; and

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[6] Health of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. Evaluation of the Health Achievements within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. PAHO-WHO 2008.

- Ensures that indigenous peoples receive culturally appropriate, gender and intergenerational inclusive social and economic benefits.

It also mandates adequate consultation and disclosure to the affected community in an adequate form and language.

In the context of Belize, the application of OP4.10 is relevant to tribal populations, namely Garifuna and Maya. The population of these ethnic groups is not significant in the project areas of Corozal, Orange Walk, Benque Viejo and San Ignacio. For these municipalities, the issue of economic status and ethnicity is considered to be more important than 'Indigenous People', in terms of vulnerability. In light of the above findings, the Consultant recommends the consideration of the potential vulnerability of all affected groups. This recommendation is to ensure effective consultations and culturally appropriate benefits for each group, instead of focusing only on groups defined as 'Indigenous Peoples'. Because of this fact, the analysis of sub-project preparations will assess the vulnerability of different ethnic groups to ensure that they are not excluded from projects benefits and negative project impacts. The need for culturally compatible mechanisms for participation will incorporate adequate measures to address any such vulnerability in the project design.[7]

8.1.2.2. **United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF) Convention on the Rights of the Child**

UNICEF is an intergovernmental agency dedicated to looking after the wellbeing of the world's women and children. They have facilitated research, programs that improve the status of indigenous children. A major initiative of UNICEF is the **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).** The CRC codified the states (government) responsibility to ensure the child's rights to: survival and development, non-discrimination, have their views taken into account and to have all decisions taken in their best interests. In line with this agenda is the facilitation of the collaboration and creation of a network of agencies that address the needs of adolescents and families in the Toledo District.

8.1.2.3   ILO Convention 169

This Convention on Indigenous and Tribal People is one of the key instruments in the body of international law relating to indigenous peoples. Adopted in 1989, the convention has been ratified

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[7] World Bank OP 4.10

by only 18 Latin American countries as of January 2007. Belize is not included in that number. The key relevant provisions of the Convention addresses land rights, consultation and protection of indigenous peoples cultures (way of life) as outlined below:

- Governments develop coordinated and systematic action to protect the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples.
- Governments ensure that indigenous people have the right to decide their own priorities for the process of development
- Governments respect indigenous people's special relationship with lands which includes territories, both occupied and used.
- Indigenous peoples should not be removed from lands except where necessary as an exceptional measure and with their free and informed consent. If consent cannot be obtained, relocation should only occur in compliance with due legal process.

The convention also proposes a mechanism to minimize risk related to projects that affect indigenous people.

8.2   Non Governmental Organizations

8.2.1   National

8.2.1.1 Belize National Indigenous Council (BENIC)

BENIC is the umbrella organization of indigenous organizations in Belize. It consists of an alliance of agencies working for the advancement and inclusion of indigenous people in development. BENIC is a membership organization which provides opportunities for training, information gathering and advocacy on indigenous issues. Their achievements include training in capacity building, project development, human rights and governance issues for 'Indigenous Peoples' communities. BENIC is a part of regional networks that includes CICA (Consejo Indigena de Centro America) and COIP (Caribbean Organizations of Indigenous Peoples). BENIC has been able to access resources for its activities through these networks.

National Garifuna Council (NGC)

The National Garifuna Council is a community-based organization representing the Indigenous Garifuna people of Belize. Their mission is to promote and preserve the cultural identity, economic development and general well being of the Garifuna people in Belize. NGC collaborate with the following regional Garifuna organizations: Organizacion Negra Guatemalteca (ONEGUA), Organizacion Fraternal Negra Hondureña (OFRANEH) and Organizacion Afro Garifuna Nicaraguense (OAGANIC). NGC is also a member of

CABO (Central American Black Organization), BENIC (Belize National Indigenous Council) and BITI (Belize Indigenous Training Institute). NGC intiatives include: Gulisi Museum, a Bi-Cultural School

and The Language Preservation Project –(dictionary of the Garifuna language), which is designed to create a teaching curriculum of the Garifuna language on a basic, intermediate, and advanced level.

Toledo Alcaldes Association (TAA)

The TAA plays the leading role in advocating and representing the matters of governance within the Maya Communities of Toledo. In the National Policy on Local Governance in Belize, the Alcalde system, which is based on 'Village Governance', has been considered to be a core part of local government in Belize. The basis for the legality of the Alcaldes System is provided for within the Inferior Courts Act of Belize. The MLGRD is in the process of implementing legislation to expand the legal framework for the involvement of the Alcalde system in the laws of Belize. This is documented in NPLGB.

Kekchi Council of Belize (KCB)

An advocacy group representing Kekchi Mayan groups in Toledo District. They are presently not active but have representation in different important bodies representing indigenous people, SATIM and MLA.

Toledo Maya Women's Council (TMWC)

This is the umbrella organization for Maya women. It is designed to promote income generating groups in the Toledo District. The activities focus on empowerment of women, skills training and advocacy for involvement in governance in Maya communities. The present coordinator, Mrs. Pulcheria Teul, is also a senator in the Belize Senate.

Maya Leaders Alliance (MLA)

A network of Maya Organizations include: TMWC, TAA, TMCC, Julian Cho Society, YaChe, and Tumul Kin. Information was not available for each of the organizations listed.

Tumul'Kin

A bi-cultural institute for Maya adolescents located in Blue Creek, Toledo District.

8.2.1.2   Human Rights Commission of Belize (HRCB)

The HRCB is an independent non partisan, non-profit, humanitarian NGO made up of Belizean men, women and young people committed to the promotion and defense of human rights. HRCB's vision is to improve the quality of life through continuous education and changes in public policies in respect for the equal, universal and indivisible human rights of everyone in Belize. This is accomplished through education, awareness building, casework, research, action, publicity, advocacy and lobbying.

The HRCB is the only organization in Belize addressing human rights abuses in a holistic manner. The HRCB is a member of the Central American regional network, Commision de Derechos Humanos de Centro America (CODEHUCA). They have facilitated graduate and post graduate training for indigenous people in Belize, in the areas such as, women and human rights, human rights and health.

8.2.2   Regional and International

8.2.2.1 Regional

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

An International organization dedicated to assisting the government of the Americas in meeting the health needs of the population.

8.2.2.2 International

United Nation Development Program (UNDP)

The UNDP is an intergovernmental organization that promotes and supports activities for communities within the framework of sustainable human development. These activities include capacity building, leadership and governance strengthening, natural resource management, and income generation projects.

United Nations Education, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

An organization of the United Nation member states that focuses on the promotion, preservation and development of the cultures of the world.

9.0   Mechanism for Monitoring and Evaluation of MDP

The important assumptions made for the success of the project are:

- that the political will exists
- that the politicians, i.e. Cabinet/ Area Representatives will agree with the TC on the projects selected.
- Indigenous People do not migrate and remain as residents of the municipality in order to benefit
- The project funds will be available in a timely manner

The purpose of this section is to propose an institutional framework which should be vested with oversight responsibility for coordinating the implementation and evaluation process for all municipal projects and programs inclusive of the MDP. The key elements of such a framework are:

(a) That the body be vested with responsibility to coordinate the implementation process of all municipal projects and programs;

(b) That the composition of the body should be representative of all sectors of the society at both the municipal and national levels,

(c) That the body should be vested with responsibility for monitoring and evaluating all municipal projects and programs, and

(d) That a Secretariat be established and staffed by a team of dedicated professionals who will be responsible for carrying out its day to day functions.

The Consultant is of the opinion that instead of developing a new mechanism to carry out these functions, it will be more prudent to first do a research to find out whether or not such a mechanism already exists and perhaps, with some modifications, can be adapted for the purposes outlined above.

The Government of Belize (through a press release from Cabinet), recently gave its approval to a National Policy on Local Governance in Belize whose main goal is "to give guidance and direction to the systems and practices of local governance in Belize towards greater equity, efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in the delivery of local government services to people in rural and urban communities". When this policy document is examined from both an implementation and institutional perspective, two (2) mechanisms are highlighted: the Local Government Monitoring Council (LGMC), and the Municipal Association (also known as the Mayors Association).

Chapter 4 of the National Policy on Local Government (NPLG), Sections A and B which relates to policy implementation and monitoring states that the LGMC is vested with "primary oversight responsibility for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all local government projects and programs inclusive of urban (municipalities) and rural (villages) communities. Chapter 3 of the National Policy, Section D which relates to guidelines and directions for local governance policy in Belize states at guideline #18 that "there will be a legally established Municipal Association representative of elected Mayors and councilors."

When these two mechanisms are examined in relation to the key elements proposed above for an effective and functional institutional mechanism, it would seem that they are both vested with the majority of those elements. Obviously, some modifications will be necessary (particularly the LGMC), to ensure that the specific needs and concerns of municipalities are given the attention they deserve.

The institutional framework that is being proposed consists of three levels. Level 1 which is the lowest level will be comprised of the Working Groups that have been established to participate in the consultation process in the seven municipalities. The membership of each Working Group is representative of all sectors of the municipality, and works along with the mayor and councilors towards the achievement of municipal goals and objectives. The consultant is proposing that the Working Group mechanism be given official recognition and incorporated into the National Policy on Local Governance. Level 2 of the framework is the Municipal Association which is already in place, and will
be given legal recognition as outlined in the National Policy. Its membership is comprised of all the mayors in the country (presently there are nine mayors), along with an Executive Secretary who works out of a Secretariat. Level 3(the highest level of the framework), is the Local Government Monitoring Council (LGMC) which is already in place, and whose membership as set out in the National Policy include the Ministry of Local Government (chair), the Mayors' Association, The National Association of Village Councils, the Toledo Alcaldes Association, and two additional appointees (one each from GoB and a non-governmental organization). The consultant is proposing that the two additional appointees be drawn from SIF and BENIC:

1) Representative from the Social Investment Fund (SIF) who has direct coordinating responsibility for the MDP. It is also recommended that the SIF representative remain on the LGMC during the project-life of the MDP.

2) Representative from BENIC of the Indigenous People be on the LGMC.

The proposed institutional framework can be examined below via a diagram which gives the reader a view of the information-flow within the framework

Figure 1 Organogram for the Institutional Framework for the Monitoring and Evaluation of IPPF
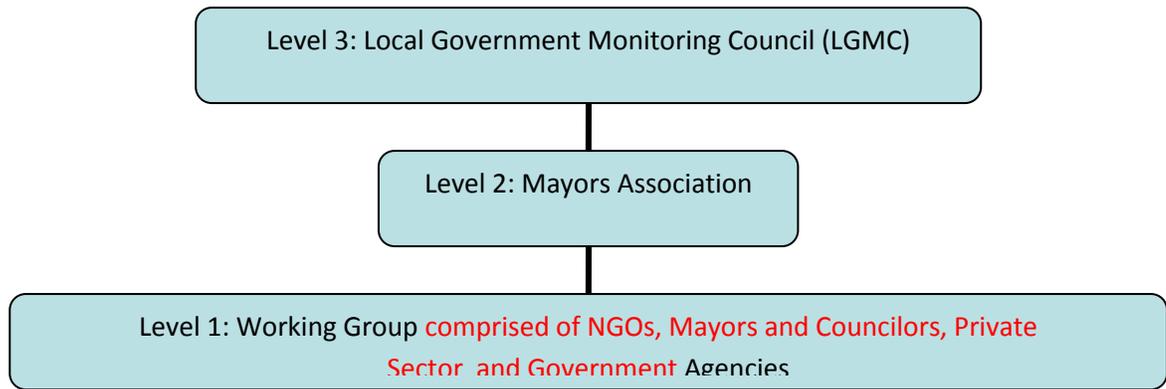
Level 3

- National policy issues
- Compliance with legislation
- Pooling of resources

Level 2

- Networking
- Commonalities of issues

Level 1

- Identify issues
- Prioritize issues
- M & E(at the local level)

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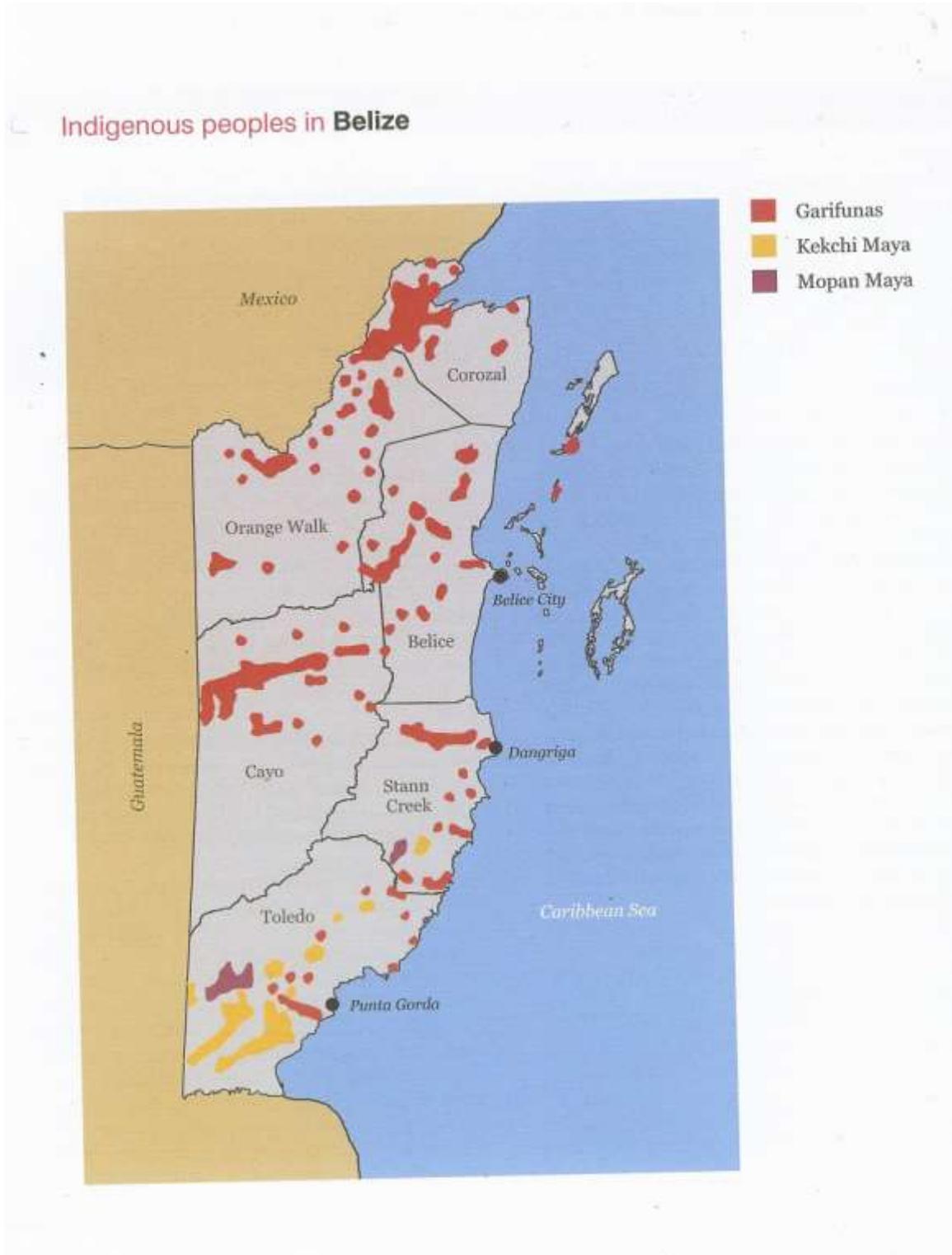Palacio Dr. Joseph. ESTAP Cultural Sensitization and Change Management Workshop Punta Gorda, January 25-27, 1999.

Report of CDSH Adelaide Australia April 26, 2007

Location of Indigenous Populations Within the Project Area

Belize is described as having ethnic and cultural heterogeneity in all the municipalities. It is only in rural communities that homogeneous settlements can be found.

Indigenous peoples in **Belize**

The Indigenous Communities of Belize by District

	Stann Creek District	Toledo District
Garifuna	**Dangriga Town** Seine Bight Hopkins Georgetown	**Punta Gorda Town** Barranco
Maya Mopan	Maya Mopan Red Bank Maya Center	Pueblo Viejo San Antonio Santa Elena Crique Jute Na-Lum-Ca San Jose Santa Cruz
Maya Kekchi	San Roman Santa Rosa San Pablo	Boom Creek Mabilha San Felipe Jordan Santa Ana Otoxha Midway Dolores Conejo Creek Jalacte Crique Sarco Laguna San Vicente Blue Creek San Miguel Aguacate Silver Creek Santa Teresa Indian Creek Golden Stream Medina Bank Sunday Wood Bladden Corazon Creek Hicatee San Benito Poite Big Falls San Lucas San Marcos San Pedro Columbia

Map showing location of the indigenous peoples in Belize.

Source: <u>Health of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas</u> PAHO)

Annex 3

Population and Indigenous Peoples of Belize in the Southern Districts

Indigenous Peoples	% Total Population (Stann Creek)	% Total Population (Toledo)	% Indigenous Population (Stann Creek)	% Indigenous Population (Toledo)
Garifuna	45.4	12.5	88.7	18.1
Mopan Maya	5.5	25.2	10.83	36.54
Kekchi Maya	0.2	31.2	0.45	45.26
Other	48.8	31.2		

Source: Cultural office of Statistics, 2001. Summary of Statistics Printed by Government of Belize.
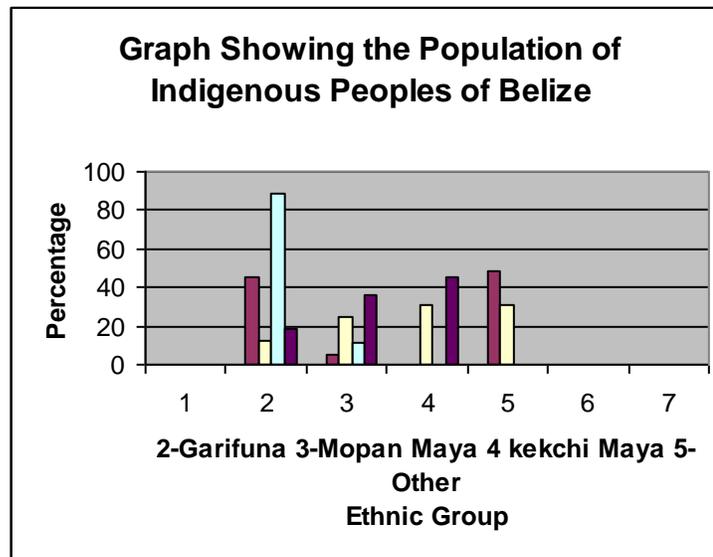
Source: Health of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

Annex 4.

Population and Households in Urban Belize

Municipality	Population	Households	Average Household Size
Corozal Town	7,589	1,876	4.0
Orange Walk Town	12,977	2,895	4.5
San Ignacio-Santa Elena	17,191	2,853	
Belmopan	6,460	1,255	
Benque Viejo	6,680	1,104	
Dangriga	8,424	2,100	4.0
Punta Gorda	4,266	996	4.3

Source: Statistical Institute of Belize 2008 & NPESAP 2006-2010

Contacts

Name	Organization	
Olga Myers	Belmopan City Council, women and the elderly	
Patricia Garbutt	Il Rey Inn/ Hibiscus Hotel	
Gareth Gentle	Anchor Security	
Daniel Cacho	Police	
Audrey Moody	Police	
David Diego	Environmental Health	
Amilcar Umana	BCC- Parks& playgrounds and sports/ Educator	
Frank Blatz	BAHA	
Elizabeth Pascascio	St. Ann's Anglican Church	
Simeon Lopez	Mayor	
Denton Belisle	Administrator	
Pete Carillo	Councilor	
James Robinson	Technical Assistant for Civil Works	
Manuel Lizarraga	BCC	
Benque Viejo		
Ms. Kim Chrysler	Mopan River Resort	823-2047
Karla Windsor	Mount Carmel Credit Union	823-2003

Alexis Trujillo	Registered Tour Guide	607-0620
Deacon Calvin Cathers	Of BRC Ltd.	823-2143
Mr. David Ruiz	Mt. Carmel High	823-3022
Nicholas Ruiz	Benque Viejo Town Council	601-0235
Marcos Kotch	BVTC	668-2853
Salvador Iglesias	Councilor	57452087 (Guate)
Claudio Mas	Benque Police	600-8878/ 664-8878
Ninfa Codd	BVTC	604-6957
Concie Hyde	BVTC	
Rodolfo Bol	Mount Carmel Credit Union	823-2003
Francisco Tun	Mopan Technical High School	823-2028
Ana Castellanos	BVTC	667-8928
Javier Rosado	Natural Resources	667-0174
Ms. Marlene Hernandez	Ministry of Youth	823-3053
Corozal		
Dennis Torres	Citizen	668-4676
Hilberto Campos	CTC	610-0260
David Akerman	Citizen	678-9778
Carlos Sawers	CTC	628-0481
Jesus Chuc	CTC	621-6607
Rejilio Gonzalez	M/V Inspector	624-4550

Nonita Ramirez Perdomo	CTC	600-0521
Jude Budna	CTC	604-2648
Elvis Gomez	Foreman CTC	620-0439
Willard Levy	NEMO	623-0237

Orange Walk Town

Zain Hassan	Sealand Harvesters	Sealand132@gmail.com
Alvar Grajalez	Independent	602-3900
Othon Castillo	S. Citizen	322-5535
Andre Moguel	O. W. Town Council	302-2053
Bernadette Cornejo	O.W People's Coalition	604-9952
Roberto Urbina	O.W. Town Council	302-2053
Phillip de la Fuente	Mayor Orange Walk Town	670-2702
Victoria Hernandez	Voice-COMPAR	620-6531
Inez Lino	BWSL	
Osbert Lopez	BWSL	

Punta Gorda			
Anselmo Cruz	**Belize Red Cross**	**702-2209/ 722 -2150**	**Main St.**
Eldred Neal	**National Drug Abuse Control Council**	**722-0085**	**Far West**
Robert Pennel	**Tropic Air**	**722-2530**	**Box 167**
Floyd Lino	**Mayor**	**fglino@yahoo.com**	**Pine St.**

Sergio Briceno	**Sr. Traffic Officer**	**bricenogustavo@yahoo.com**	**West St.**
Sylvestre Teul	**Councilor**	**722-0142**	**Indianville**
Leroy Supaul	**PGTC Deputy Mayor**	**601-8887**	**Cor. West & Cemetery Lane.**
Sgt. Delfin Zuniga	**Belize Police Dept.**	**605-2846**	**Toucan Street**
Will Jones	**Consultant**	**660-9455 willjones75@yahoo.com**	
Rene Pennel	**PGTC**	**625-2098/722-2321** **renpennel@yahoo.com**	
Orlando Muschamp	**Councilor**	**626-1767** **orlando_muschamp@hotmail.com**	
Stanislaus Martinez	**Lands Dept.**	**722-2041** **staninez@yahoo.com**	**Lands Office**
Anthony Lambey	**Town Council**	**623-9670**	**82 George St.**
Dorla Bowman	**Building people**	**dbowman@btl.net**	**P.O. Box 98**

Name	Organization	Telephone/E-mail	Address
Prospero Castillo		522-3710	5 Moho Rd, Dangrga
Felicia Nunez Sr. JP	Concern Citizen	522-2385	5 Sharp St. Southern Foresh
Caren Ogaldez	P.O.W.A	620 4908	Benguche Area Dangriga
Moses Junior Lopez	Concern Benguche	625 4022	Benguche Area
Alex Joseph	Councilor	663-2934	1148 Benguche
Simeon M Joseph Sr	Concern Citizen	522 2034	21 Canal St Dangriga
Luis B	W. Citizen Community	502- 0013	2739 MayFlower St
Melissa Powell	Concern Citizen	Sexy_melpowell@yahoo.com	25 Gumagarugu
Cheryl Zuniga	Concern Citizen	502-2495	19 Gumagarugu
Beverly Benguche	Concern Citizen	623-9560	24 Gumagarugu
Fred Garcia	Concern Citizen	666-7701	17 Gumagarugu
Ruth William	Administrator DTC	522-2039	Dangriga Town Council
J. Zuniga	Dangriga Polyclinic		George Price , B Hive
Harry Sabal	Dangriga Polyclinic	622 5702	George Price Drive
Charles N. Mariano	Dangriga Town Council	626-9921	2817 Melinda Rd, Dang
Aaron Jake Gongora,	Mayor		
Mr. Peter Ciego,	Deputy Mayor		
Mr. Alexander Joseph	Councilor		
Elvis Usher	Councilor	601-1503	1506 George Price Drive
Grace Feairweather	Dangriga Town Council	522-0691	2491 2nd New Site, Dangrig