

Indigenous Peoples Plan

First Bukidnon Electric Cooperative, Inc. (FIBECO)

(PV Mainstreaming Program - Window 2)

1. Project Description

In support to the Philippine Government's thrust in energizing far-flung areas with its prime aim in attaining total household electrification being regarded as one of the major keys to development; thus the realization of this project as an alternative solution in reaching areas without electricity, especially to communities that are too distant from the grid; this project would completely shape the face of electrification in Indigenous Peoples (IPs) communities. With the birth of this current innovation facilitated by Department of Energy (DOE) the PV-Mainstreaming project targets a Total Household Electrification by the Year 2020, will be financed by a European Union (EU) grant amounting to €60 million funds for various electrification programs under the administration of World Bank and DOE a facilitator. Included in the electrification programs is the PhotoVoltaic Mainstreaming (PVM) of Solar Home System (SHS) with 40,500 target households for 2 years. Amongst the Electric Cooperatives, FIBECO has a low household electrification level becomes the beneficiary- implementer of the program and granted with 1,000 units of SHS package for Window-2 within FIBECO's coverage area.

The PhotoVoltaic Mainstreaming (PVM) Solar Home System (SHS) project will utilize to provide electricity service to an individual household that has no access to the distribution system of FIBECO especially those in remote areas, which are isolated and scattered. The project shall be mainstreamed in the system of FIBECO in terms of connection, billing, collection, operation, and maintenance. Likewise, the beneficiaries will become member-consumer-owners (MCO's) of FIBECO with the same rights and obligations as those in the grid-connected distribution system. The European Union (EU) will finance, supply, and install the PVM-SHS, and thereafter FIBECO will own and maintain the PVM-SHS and will collect (Pay-As-You-Go system) service charges to recover the efficient costs of maintaining and replacement of defective components by the following under the ERC regulated and approved SHS tariff. To determine the willingness and capability to pay, beneficiaries are required to pay the connection fee amounting to P250.00 and membership fee/membership ID fee and inspection fee of P45.00 in exchange for the PVM-SHS installation with 30 days of free usage. Every beneficiary will receive the PVM-Solar Home System Package components and accessories, which includes the following:

- (a) 1 unit of PV-Solar Module, 50 Wp with PV cable;
- (b) 1 unit of System box composed of 28 AH lithium battery, charge controller and radio;
- (c) 1 unit external LED light 1W (with cable, plug, lamp, and control switch);
- (d) 2 units internal LED light 2W (with cable, plug lamp, and control switch);
- (e) 1 unit PV Module mounting Hardware 3-meter pole;
- (f) 1 unit rechargeable flashlight;
- (g) 1 unit USB phone charging cable;
- (h) 1 set of installation accessories.

The target areas of the project are the remote and mountainous areas of the municipalities of Kitaotao, Quezon, Talakag, Kalilangan, and Wao Lanao Del Sur— Province of Lanao. The beneficiaries of the PVM-Solar Home System project are the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) are residing in the following areas which consist of the following tribes: *Matigsalog* Tribe, *Talomo* Tribe of *Sinuda*, Kitaotao, *Donggoanon* Tribe of Kitaotao, and Pulanguinhon Tribe of Pulangui. These IP tribes constitute about nine percent (9%) of the total beneficiaries' or equivalent to 1000 households. The project is expected to have a positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries through access to sustainable energy that brings basic needs such as lightings, listening to the radio program, and can do the charging of any DC devices like Flashlight and Cellphone.

2. Information Disclosure, Consultation and Participation, and Consent by affected IP Communities

The implementation of this project requires consultation and consent by beneficiaries which covers the following major activities:

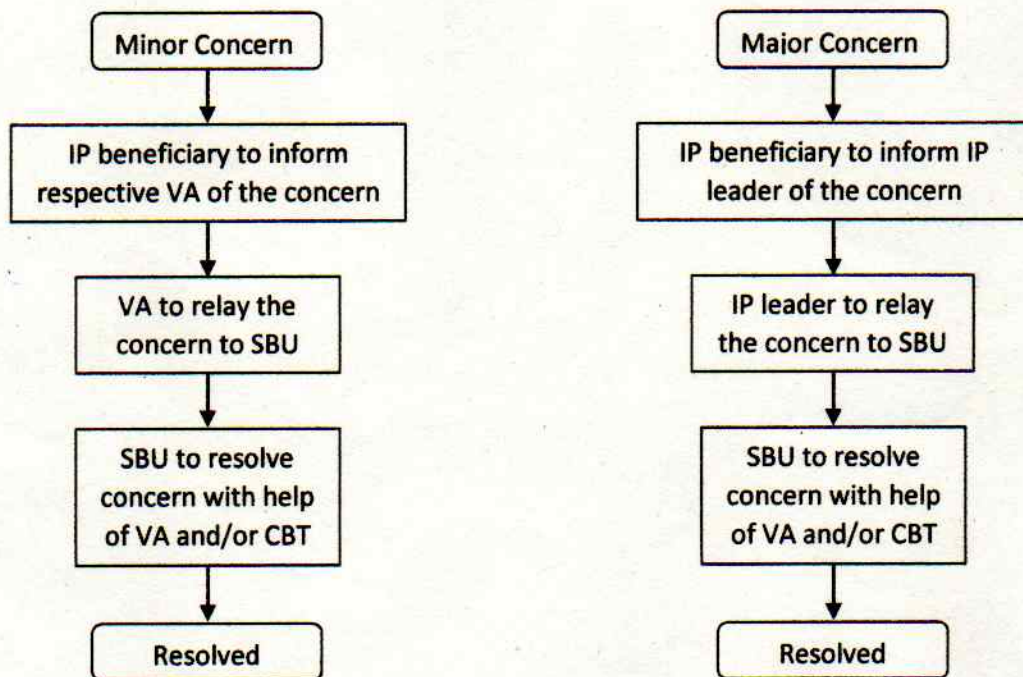
- (a) Dissemination, Information drive, and marketing;
- (b) Distribution and installation;
- (c) Operation and maintenance; and
- (d) Disconnection or connection to the Grid.

Despite this pandemic that we are experiencing at present, this project is still in the process of implementation through proper coordination with the Local Government Units (LGUs) and the barangay councils of different target areas. With limited face to face contact to the beneficiaries thus, the most relevant medium employed in delivering information and marketing of the project is presented to the Local Government Units (Mayor's office and Barangay Chairman), Indigenous Peoples (IP) Community leaders, as well as with the potential beneficiaries through the social media and the like mode of communication such as text messages, messenger, radio broadcasting, and reading materials to limit physical discussion and to avert possible transmission of COVID-19. IP community leaders were previously tapped to identify interested and qualified beneficiaries that shall be present during the distribution of Solar Home System (SHS) package. A simple turn-over ceremony will be conducted that will also serve as a briefer on the project's implementation, along with the introduction of the team who will perform the installation, operation, and maintenance activities. Moreover, the IP leaders will also assist the project implementer as to the identification of households who were provided with Solar Home System (SHS) package.

The operation and maintenance of the SHS units is to be performed by FIBECO through its Solar Business Units (SBUs), Vending Agents (VAs), and Community Based Technicians (CBTs). Any inspection, repair, pull-out of units done by SBUs, and CBTs must have prior coordination with the IP leaders and beneficiaries. VAs are organized within the community of beneficiaries served as providers of pre-paid loads, and will act as complaint officers for and in-behalf of FIBECO where beneficiaries can elevate their concerns or problems that require immediate action and resolution.

3. Grievance Redress Mechanism

During the implementation stage of this project, FIBECO shall adopt a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that will provide a proper venue for the parties involved of this project between FIBECO and the beneficiaries' concerns, specifically the IPs to seek redress when they have perceived negative impact at the course of the project's implementation. This GRM aims to capture and resolve grievances effectively and expeditiously whereby upholding transparency. It is intended to serve as a reference for the beneficiaries who wish to submit complaints and expect their concerns to be treated with utmost urgency. Shown in the flow chart below is the GRM for the minor and major concerns:



Minor concerns involve maintenance issues that can be easily resolved. Major concerns are other than those that the beneficiary deems it necessary that assistance from their IP leaders must be sought. Both parties FIBECO and beneficiary shall exert their best efforts to resolve any problems encountered within the GRM nevertheless if the frequent concern lodged is bereft of any alternative resolution, the beneficiary may elevate it to the barangay, municipal or provincial IP representatives or leaders for further assistance and appropriate intervention as it may deem just.

Approved by & Signed by:

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