

Indigenous Peoples Plan

Sultan Kudarat Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SUKELCO)

(PV Mainstreaming Program - Window 2)

1. Project Description

In support to the Philippine Government's target of Total Household Electrification by the Year 2020, the European Union committed to provide €60 million fund for various electrification programs under the administration of World Bank and DOE as program owner. Included in the electrification programs is the PV Mainstreaming of Solar Home System with 40,500 target households for 2 years. SUKELCO being one of the Electric Cooperatives with low household electrification level became beneficiaries of the Program and granted with additional 5,900 units of Solar Home System Package for Window 2.

The PV Mainstreaming project will utilize the solar home system to provide electricity service to households that have no access to distribution system of SUKELCO especially those in far flung areas which are isolated and dispersed. The project shall be mainstreamed in the system of SUKELCO in terms of connection, billing, collection, operation and maintenance. Likewise, the beneficiaries will become member-consumer-owners of SUKELCO with the same rights and obligations as those connected in the distribution system of SUKELCO. Supply and installation of the SHS will be subsidized and shouldered by the EU grant and thereafter SUKELCO will own and maintain the SHS. SUKELCO will collect (Pay-As-You-Go system) service charges to recover the efficient costs of maintaining and replacement of defective components in accordance to the ERC regulated and approved SHS tariff. To determine the willingness and capability to pay, beneficiaries are required to pay the connection fee of P200.00 and membership fee of P5.00. Every beneficiary will receive the Solar Home System Package which includes the following:

- (a) 1 unit of Solar Module, 50 Wp with PV cable;
- (b) 1 unit of System box composed of lithium battery and controller;
- (c) 1 unit external LED light (with cable and switch);
- (d) 3 units internal LED lights (with cable and switch);
- (e) 1 unit rechargeable radio/MP3 player;
- (f) 1 unit rechargeable flashlight;
- (g) 1 unit phone charger cable;
- (h) 1 unit 3-meter pole; and
- (i) 1 set of installation accessories.

The target areas of the project are the far flung and mountainous areas of the municipalities of Esperanza, Isulan, Bagumbayan, Columbio, Sen. Ninoy Aquino, Palimbang, Kalamansig, and Lebak, Province of Sultan Kudarat, Region 12 where Indigenous Peoples are residing and beneficiaries of the project. The Indigenous Peoples residing in the target areas are Teduray Tribe of Esperanza, Manobo Dulangan Tribe of Kalamansig, and T'boli/Ubo Tribe of Bagumbayan. These IP tribes constitute around 12% of the total beneficiaries' equivalent to 300 households. The project is expected to have positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries through access to sustainable energy that brings lightings at night, listen to radio and cell phone charging at home.

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

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

- a) Profiling, information drive and marketing;

- b) Distribution and installation; and
- c) Operation and maintenance.

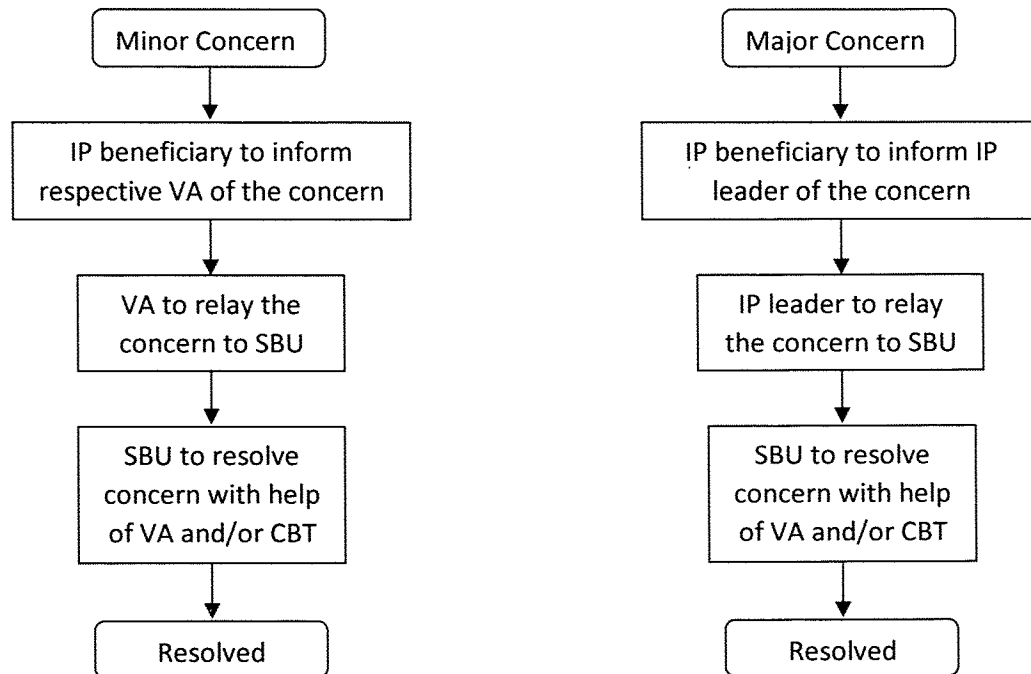
In the implementation of this project, SUKELCO will abide by the pre-cautionary measures imposed by the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic. Basic pre-cautionary measure which shall be complied by all implementing personnel in all stages of the project implementation shall be the mandatory use of face mask, proper hygiene/disinfection, practice of physical distancing, and restriction of an individual to work if showing symptoms of Covid-19 virus.

- a) In the pre-installation stage, the project will be presented to the Local Government Units (Mayor's office and Barangay Chairman), IP community leaders as well as with the potential beneficiaries. SUKELCO will conduct profiling through house to house survey and the IP community leaders will be tapped to identify capable and interested beneficiaries. Upon identification of potential beneficiaries, SUKELCO in coordination with barangay LGU and IP community leader will conduct information drive and marketing to brief the beneficiaries about the project details on its installation, operation, maintenance as well as its benefits and possible health and safety hazards. The gathering of beneficiaries shall be limited to small groups (per purok/sitio) in consideration of physical distancing measure.
- b) Upon availability of the SHS package, the same shall be transported to the barangay centers for distribution to beneficiaries. In the gathering of beneficiaries, number of beneficiaries shall be limited only to the capacity of the venue that physical distancing can be practiced. SUKELCO's PVM Solar Business Unit (SBU) shall prepare a schedule for releasing per purok/sitio (if necessary) to avoid overcrowding in the venue and shall see to it that pre-cautionary measures are properly observed. IP leaders will be invited to witness the distribution of SHS package and assist the project implementers in identifying the beneficiaries. During installation stage, installers shall be reminded of the practice of pre-cautionary measures while working. Every day, installers shall be required to conduct health check (ex. temperature check) and washing/disinfection of hands before going to work and after installation activities. Those found with symptoms of Covid-19 virus shall be required to go home and seek medical assistance. They shall be required to stay on their assigned sites until all target beneficiaries were completed. They will be required to bring their own sleeping bags or tent to avoid staying with the house or premises of the people on site. They will be required to minimize physical contact with beneficiaries and always wear face mask while working.
- c) Operation and maintenance of the SHS units shall be undertaken by SUKELCO 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 have prior coordination with the IP leaders and beneficiaries. VAs organized within the community of beneficiaries served as providers of pre-paid loads as well as complaint officer of SUKELCO where beneficiaries can relay their concerns or problems that requires action from SUKELCO. All activities in the operation and maintenance of SHS units shall be done with utmost pre-caution to avoid risk of infection from Covid-19 virus between implementers and beneficiaries.

3. Grievance Redress Mechanism

In the implementation of this project, SUKELCO shall adopt a **grievance redress mechanism** (GRM) that will enable affected beneficiaries specifically IPs to raise **grievances** with SUKELCO and seek **redress** when they perceive a negative impact arising from the project

implementation. The section head of the Solar Business Unit in the person of **MR. JIMMY FEGARIDO** is the designated Point Person of SUKELCO who will facilitate the Grievance Redress Mechanism. This GRM aims to capture and resolve grievances effectively and expeditiously in a transparent manner. It is intended to serve as a reference for the beneficiaries who wish to submit complaints and expect their concerns to be responded to, and a general guide for SUKELCO on how to handle and resolve the grievances that will invariably emerge. Shown in the flow chart below are the GRM for the minor and major concerns:



Minor concerns are the usual operation and maintenance concerns that can be easily resolved. Major concerns are those other concerns that the beneficiary deemed that he/she needs assistance from their IP leader. Both SUKELCO and beneficiary shall exert their best effort to resolve any concerns within the GRM however if the same is not resolved, the beneficiary may elevate their concern to their barangay, municipal or provincial IP representatives or leaders for further assistance and intervention.

Prepared by:


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