

Implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in Region 10

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Abstract — The Barangay Peacekeeping Operations (BPO) conducted by Barangay Peace Actions Teams (BPATs) are essential in promoting peace, order, and community safety at the grassroots level. This study was conducted to determine the implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in region 10 for CY 2023–2024. Specifically, this aimed to describe the respondents profile, find out how the respondents perceive the extent of implementation of BPO, test the significant difference in the respondents perceived extent of implementation of BPO when grouped according to their profile, examine the results of the in-depth interview and focus group discussion conducted to the select group of respondents, and design an enhanced program for Barangay Peacekeeping Operations. The respondents were 254 selected individuals across the five provinces and two highly urbanized cities of Northern Mindanao, selected through purposive sampling. Furthermore, this study employed a descriptive research method and a researcher-developed instrument. It used descriptive statistics, including frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation, to describe the variables in the study. Moreover, the T-test and F-Test were used to analyze and interpret the data.

The findings of the study revealed that most of the respondents were 30 to 38 years old, college graduates, and police officers. Further, the respondents perceived the extent of implementation of BPO was particularly implemented on security services in the community. However, there was no significant difference in the respondent's perceived implementation of BPO when grouped according to their profile. Moreover, based on responses from the in-depth

interview and focus group discussion, respondents reported a need for continuous training in conflict resolution through the barangay justice system and in crisis management, as well as logistical support. It is concluded that community security services are important mechanisms that enhance the security and well-being of community residents. The study recommended that the Philippine National Police, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit, should strengthen the implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in Region 10 to enhance the Barangay Peace and Order Program.

Keywords: Barangay Peacekeeping Operations

I. INTRODUCTION

The Barangay Peacekeeping Operations (BPO), conducted by the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs), are designed to help the government maintain peace and order within local communities. The main goal is to ensure the well-being of individuals and address the root causes of problems. However, as it fulfills these responsibilities, it may encounter challenges that hinder its effectiveness. It is not uncommon for other government approaches to face the same situation, where it becomes necessary to evaluate how well the program has been performing after a significant amount of time has passed. It should assess whether the program still meets the current requirements and make any essential updates to ensure it functions smoothly and remains effective in modern times.

The implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in the Philippines has emerged as a significant element in the government's endeavors to uphold peace and maintain order within local communities. Barangay Peacekeeping Operation entails developing Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams, composed of civilian volunteers who collaborate with local police to prevent and resolve problems in their areas. The efficiency of Barangay Peacekeeping Operation deployment has been uneven. While Barangay Peacekeeping Actions Teams have successfully reduced crime rates and prevented conflicts in some areas, there have been concerns about the teams' training and selection, accountability, and ability to operate within the rule of law. While the implementation

of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in the Philippines has shown promise in promoting peace and order at the grassroots level, the program needs to be continuously evaluated and improved to ensure it adheres to human rights principles and promotes accountability and transparency.

In the Global Landscape, the barangay peacekeeping model has already been applied, each tailoring it to fit their unique societal fabric. This model's adaptability is evident in how different countries have adopted and tailored it to address their specific local peacekeeping needs.

For instance, a community in Kenya. Here, local peace committees, reminiscent of Philippine barangays, have been established. These committees, through a blend of traditional and contemporary methods, have become pivotal in resolving peace issues. Working alongside tribal leaders, they leverage age-old peacekeeping practices, seamlessly integrating them with modern peacekeeping strategies. This approach has been particularly effective in addressing issues arising from land disputes and tribal differences, reflecting the barangay system's essence of collaboration and inclusivity.

Similarly, in regions of Latin America such as Colombia, known for their history of internal conflict, a parallel trend is observed. In these areas, particularly in rural locales where the government's presence is less pronounced, community-based peacekeeping initiatives have risen to prominence. Here, community leaders, much like barangay officials in the Philippines, assume critical roles in mediating conflicts and liaising with local authorities.

Both in Kenya and Colombia, these community-driven peacekeeping efforts highlight the universal applicability of the barangay model. They underscore the importance of tailoring peacekeeping efforts to local traditions and values. The success of these initiatives serves as a testament to the barangay model's flexibility and effectiveness, demonstrating how community participation, respect for local cultures, and the integration of traditional and modern approaches can create a harmonious blend of peacekeeping operations.

In the context of international peacekeeping, it is noteworthy that countries vary in their enthusiasm for participating in peacekeeping operations, with some demonstrating a greater propensity to engage in operations in certain countries than in others (Perkins & Neumayer, 2008). Additionally, the burden of peacekeeping expenditures is disproportionately shouldered by rich

countries for UN-financed operations, highlighting the financial challenges associated with peacekeeping efforts (Shimizu & Sandler, 2010). Moreover, countries' involvement in peacekeeping operations is influenced by factors such as regional security concerns, maintaining political or foreign-policy affinity, and stabilizing former colonial ties (Zhang, 2021). This underscores the complex motivations that drive countries to participate in peacekeeping missions.

It is on this premise that this study was conducted to determine the implementation of barangay peacekeeping operations in Region 10.

Theoretical Framework

This study was anchored on Meyer and Rowan's (1977), Institutional Theory which highlighted on how organizational programs and practices were shaped, sustained, and modified by formal rules, established norms, and external pressures within their institutional environment. The theory suggested that programs achieve legitimacy and effectiveness not merely through their formal existence or documented structures, but through their capacity to adapt to changing social conditions, stakeholder expectations, and operational realities. In contemporary public safety and governance literature, institutional effectiveness is increasingly associated with continuous evaluation, responsiveness to community needs, and the ability of programs to adjust to emerging challenges.

Institutional Theory is particularly applicable to the present study, which sought to determine the implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in region 10 and identify areas for program enhancement. BPO operates as a formal local governance program within the barangay institutional framework and is influenced by policies, leadership practices, resource availability, and coordination with partner agencies. The Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams function under established guidelines and organizational structures; however, the effectiveness of these arrangements depends on how consistently and appropriately they are implemented across barangays. Viewed through an institutional lens, variations in the implementation of security services in the community, conflict resolution through Barangay Justice System, crisis management, and community partnership and empowerment can be understood as outcomes of

institutional strengths and constraints rather than individual performance alone. By applying Institutional Theory, this study is able to examine gaps between policy intent and actual practice, assess whether current peacekeeping strategies remain responsive to present peace and order conditions, and propose evidence-based improvements to the Barangay Peacekeeping Program. Governance studies support this perspective, emphasizing that local safety programs are more effective and sustainable when institutional arrangements are flexible, context-sensitive, and aligned with contemporary security and community needs.

The government police force had employed several community-oriented policing programs and services. However, as far as the various programs and services rendered by the Philippine National Police (PNP) are concerned, they did not go through a comprehensive approach in the country, involving stakeholders and external services in the community to fully provide and aid to meet the full scope of what is required to prevent further criminal participation of any person or citizen of the country. The essential components of collaboration, including the implementation of engagement and empowerment of stakeholders such as the community, are disregarded due to the organization's lack of policy guidelines and initiatives. Despite these existing policing programs and services, the perception of dismaying peace and order conditions continues to haunt the PNP organization.

Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework shows that the independent variables involved the respondents' age, highest educational attainment, and economic engagement. Meanwhile, the dependent variables focused on the perceived extent of implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in Region 10 based on: Security Service in the Community, Conflict Resolution through Barangay Justice System, Crisis Management, Community Partnership, and Empowerment.

The variables were based on the operational structure as provided by the Philippine National Police Manual on Barangay Peacekeeping Operations and Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT Manual) released in 2009 by the Directorate of Police Community Relations. These variables were caused by the basic functional areas that the PNP cited to be key elements of

successful barangay-level peacekeeping, so that the research is abreast with the set national guidelines and operational norms on community-based policing within the Philippines.

The presence of security services in the community as a dependent variable indicates the focus of peacekeeping operations by the PNP on the frontline functions of the operations in supporting crime prevention, visibility, and ensuring safety at the grassroots level. The measurement of this variable will enable the study to determine the extent to which the BPATs operationalize the peacekeeping functions prescribed by the PNP in their coordination with the local stakeholders.

On the same note, the Barangay Justice System conflict resolution is considered a dependent variable in deference to the directive of the PNP to incorporate the peacekeeping operations within the prevailing barangay justice systems. This variable is the measure of BPATs contribution and enforcement of the local dispute settlement processes that adhere to the ethos of cooperation, impartiality, and harmony in the community as it was described in the BPAT Manual.

The selection of crisis management as a dependent variable is rooted in the fact that BPATs have been viewed by the PNP as essential support centers in case of emergencies and disruptive incidents. The examination of this variable can help the study determine the responsiveness of peacekeeping operations to crisis within the PNP preparedness, coordination, and timely response guidelines, which are critical towards reducing the damage and ensuring that the populace remains in a calm state.

Statement of the Problem

This study aimed to determine the implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in Region 10, during the Calendar Year 2023-2024. The result of the study would be the basis for Enhanced Barangay Peace and Order Program.

Specifically, the study sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the profile of the respondents in terms of:
 - 1.1 Age;

- 1.2 Highest Educational Attainment; and
- 1.3 Economic Engagement?
2. How do the respondents perceive the extent of implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations based on:
 - 2.1 Security Services in the Community
 - 2.2 Conflict Resolution through the Barangay Justice System
 - 2.3 Crisis Management; and
 - 2.4 Community Partnership and Empowerment?
3. Based on the findings of the study, what Enhanced Peace and Order Program can be designed?

II. METHODOLOGY

Study Design

This study made use of descriptive research method, to examine a particular topic in order to describe and establish its present state and nature. This method facilitated an understanding of the people's characteristics in each area investigated in the study. According to Aquino (1992), the descriptive method aims to give a clear, unbiased, and correct picture of a particular situation or topic. Atmowardoyo (2018) states that a descriptive study aims to accurately describe existing things. The descriptive study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of current situations.

Measures

The research instruments used in the study underwent content validation on September 13-27, 2024 by the following: the PRO 10 Regional Director/Vice Chair of Regional Peace and Order Council 10, Chief of Regional Operations Division, Chief of Regional Community Affairs Division, Director of Cagayan de Oro City Police Office (COCPO), Station Commander of PS3, COCPO, five barangay chairperson, law professor/Member of COCPO Advisory Council, university professor, a municipal mayor/chairperson of a Municipal Peace and Order Council,

Assistant Department Head of CDRRMD, and a psychometrician. In total, the validation included 15 experts (5 police officers, 5 barangay officials, 2 members of academe, 2 from local government units and 1 psychometrician).

On October 9, 2024, the instrument was pilot tested on the 30 respondents in Barangay Lapasan, Cagayan de Oro City, the second-highest barangay with the highest crime rates. These respondents had the same characteristics as the final respondents, but they did not participate in the actual study. The result was good for there were no queries about the questionnaire.

Then, a reliability test was conducted to ensure the internal consistency of the questionnaire items using Cronbach's alpha (α). The results indicated a high reliability across all dimensions: Security Services in the Community ($\alpha = 0.914$), Conflict Resolution through the Barangay Justice System ($\alpha = 0.869$), Crisis Management ($\alpha = 0.936$), and Community Partnership and Empowerment ($\alpha = 0.928$). These values exceed the commonly accepted threshold of 0.70, indicating that the questionnaire items within each dimension demonstrate strong internal consistency and reliability in measuring respondents' perceptions of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations.

Ethical Considerations

It must be noted that the study was based on the participants freely volunteered informed consent. This means that the research undertaking was fully explained, particularly as to what it was about, its intentions and aims, and how it would be conducted. It was made clear what taking part in the research would involve, who would have access to the data and how it would be used and stored. The participants were informed of their right to refuse participation as well as the potential uses to which the data could be put.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Profile of Respondents. Respondents profile such age, highest educational attainment, and economic engagement are considered important in this study because they provide essential context for understanding how Barangay Peacekeeping Operations are implemented and perceived by different segments of the community.

These characteristics have a profound influence on respondents' level of participation, understanding of peacekeeping roles, and perception of the effectiveness of barangay-level peace and order program in Northern Mindanao. The succeeding table reflects these variables in the study.

In terms of age, it can be gleaned from the table that the highest frequency of 119 (46.85%) belonged to age bracket 30 and 38 years old. This means that a significant portion of the respondents are likely in their prime working years, contributing to both the economy and society. The prevalence of this age group shows that BPATs in Region 10 are primarily made up of people who have both the enthusiasm and maturity required for effective peacekeeping functions. It suggests that peacekeeping operations could benefit from this age group's combination of experience and physical readiness, which is important in patrols, conflict resolution, and community participation. As observed, this finding emphasizes the need of maintaining this age group's participation through ongoing training, leadership development, and retention measures in order to boost the regional implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations. Studies on community policing and peacekeeping emphasize that individuals within this age range are well-suited for operational and community-based functions due to their balance of physical readiness, maturity, and adaptability (Bayley, 2006).

On the other hand, the lowest frequency of 4 (1.57%) of the respondents belongs to 57 years old and above. This means that older people participate in BPAT operations infrequently, which could be impacted by age-related physical limitations, health concerns, or a lack of availability for physically demanding duties. It implies that BPATs can improve their effectiveness by assigning roles to people of their proper age. As observed, strategic utilization of older members

in consultative and supervisory functions to maximize their experience while ensuring operational efficiency and safety within Barangay Peacekeeping Operations in Region 10. Cordner (2014) highlighted that older members might face some restrictions in frontline tasks; however, their experience and institutional expertise can still be useful in assisting peacekeeping efforts by advising, mentoring, and coordinating work.

In terms of respondent's highest educational attainment, data revealed that the highest frequency of 205 (80.71%) are college graduates. This means that majority of the respondents have a strong foundation for higher education within the community, which may correlate with enhanced civic engagement and informed decision-making among these groups, particularly in roles like law enforcement and local governance. It implies that the high educational achievement among police officers and barangay officials may lead to improved governance practices, as these individuals are equipped with the necessary skills to develop informed policies, community programs, and a potential for stronger community engagement initiatives. As noticed, the percentage of college-educated respondents is quite high, which means that police officers and barangay officials possess strong human capital and can improve the effectiveness of governance, policy-making, and engagement with the community. This is consonant to the findings of Sorensen (2023) which provides evidence that higher educational attainment among local leaders is linked to improved government efficiency, suggesting that more educated officials may be better positioned to craft informed policies and strengthen governance practices.

Further, the data shows the respondents economic engagement, it showed that the highest frequency of 173 (68.11%) are police officers. This means that most of the respondents are members of the Philippine National Police, highlighting the knowledge and central role in the implementation and operationalization of peacekeeping initiatives at the barangay level. The dominance of police officers suggests that peacekeeping activities are largely driven by formally trained law enforcement personnel who possess technical knowledge, authority, and experience in crime prevention and control. It denotes, that BPO in Region 10 are firmly anchored on institutional policing structures, which may enhance operational discipline and adherence to standard procedures. As perceived, this underscores the importance of sustaining police–community collaboration while ensuring that police officers assigned to BPAT-related functions

receive continuous training on community-oriented and participatory peacekeeping approaches. Studies have shown that strong police involvement in community-based peacekeeping contributes to improved coordination, legitimacy, and effectiveness in maintaining peace and order (Terrill & Reising, 2022).

Conversely, the lowest frequency of 21 (8.27%) of the respondent's barangay officials which means that barangay officials comprise a relatively small proportion of participants compared to police officers and civilians, which reflects not only their limited participation in peacekeeping activities but also their inherently smaller number within the formal barangay organizational structure. It implies that peacekeeping operations at the barangay level may rely more heavily on community members and volunteer groups for operational tasks, while barangay officials primarily perform supervisory, administrative, and policy-oriented functions. As observed, there is a necessity to strengthen the strategic involvement of barangay officials in planning, coordination, and oversight roles to complement the operational efforts of police officers and civilians and to ensure a more balanced and sustainable implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations. According to the existing organizational and governance literature, in BPAT-type arrangements, frontline operational activity is often led by police officers or local people, and the role of officials is to provide oversight or policymaking (Lau & Ali, 2019). In line with this, Manalo (2023) observed that despite the fact that officials are outnumbered, their leadership and coordination roles are critical in planning, governing, and overseeing community-based safety programs especially when BPATs work in tandem with formal policing systems.

Respondents' Perception of the Implementation of BPOs in Region 10. In this study, the variables include Security Services in the Community, Conflict Resolution through Barangay Justice System, Crisis Management, and Community Partnership and Empowerment, operationalize the BPO implementation of the official BPAT functions into measurable dimensions that are symbolic of the actual practices of the barangay. The BPAT Manual of the Directorate of Police Community Relations (2009) mentions these variables.

Moreover, these variables reflect the peacekeeping at the barangay level, between the delivery of visible security and preventative patrols, on the one hand, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts, on the other, and readiness and response of the community to the maintenance of

peace and order. Combined, they depict a community and holistic approach to peacekeeping, that effective BPO implementation does not solely rely on enforcement and security presence but on coordination, responsiveness, and high community engagement.

Security Services in the Community. The data shows the respondents' perceptions on the implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations based on **community security services** with the overall mean of 4.19 (SD = 0.66), described as **agree** and interpreted as **implemented**. This means that the respondents feel the presence and involvement of BPATs in making sure that there is community security though there may be varying degrees of implementation in particular activities. It denotes, that the Barangay Peacekeeping Operations is implemented and operating as a necessary aspect of the grassroots security which strengthens the place of community-based mechanisms as being used in the area of crime prevention and peace maintenance. As observed, even though BPATs are practical and visible within most barangays, weaknesses in implementation might be owed to the disparities in training, availability of resources and supervisory support, especially on an urban and rural context in Region 10. Institutional support, standardization of the operational practices and increased coordination with the PNP must therefore be strengthened in order to make implementation not just an "implemented", but "highly implemented". This observation corresponds to the literature focused on the fact that community-based policing interventions can be the most effective only when both enforced by the local government units and formal law enforcement agencies to conduct regular monitoring (Haim et al., 2023). Similarly, Gill et al. (2019) discovered that the persistence and continued institutionalization of support, and monitoring of police organizations and local authorities are the factors in the success, legitimacy, and sustainability of community-oriented policing programs.

The Indicator, **Regular patrols conducted by the contribute to the efficiency of security services in the community** received the highest rating, with a mean of 4.26 (SD=0.63), described as **agree** and interpreted as **implemented** suggesting that patrols are perceived as a constant and dependable practice within the community. It means that regular BPAT patrols are implemented, very visible, and well received by people in the communities as effective in improving the security services. Moreover, it indicates the great extent of agreement between the respondents about the significance of regular patrols. It implies that the presence of BPAT is a preventive measure that

can deter crimes as well as an assurance to the residents thus increasing the trust and confidence of the people in the local peacekeeping systems. As noticed, scheduled patrols have to be institutionalized and sufficient manpower and logistical support provided to the BPAT members. In accordance with the modern community policing literature, Gill et al. (2019) underlined that obvious and regular patrol operations have a considerable positive impact on the perceptions of the community about safety and help to build the more effective relations between the police and the community. Also, Braga et al. (2019) revealed that the higher the level of police presence in the area due to the focus on patrol tactics, the greater the effectiveness of deterring crime and supporting the belief of the population in the activity of law enforcement in the area.

On the other hand, the indicator *BPATs Barangay Peacekeeping Operations promptly addresses disturbance incidents* got the lowest mean of 4.05 (SD = 0.77), described as *agree and interpreted as implemented*. Although still interpreted as Implemented and this indicates greater variability in respondents' experiences, suggesting that prompt response to disturbance incidents may not be uniformly observed across all barangays. It indicates that while BPATs are generally capable of implementing responses to incidents, factors such as limited training, availability of personnel, coordination challenges, and delayed reporting may affect response timeliness. It is noticeable, that there is a need for clearer standard operating procedures, enhanced communication systems, and continuous skills training in incident response and conflict management. Haim et al., (2023) reported that rapid response is critical to the effectiveness of community-based peacekeeping and that delays may undermine public confidence and operational credibility. The same is reflected in the work by Bove et al. (2021), who concluded that a timely intervention of peacekeeping forces is a key to the successful conflict resolution and the security preservation, particularly in the unstable environments

Conflict Resolution through Barangay Justice System. The data showed that in the *Conflict Resolution through the Barangay Justice System* the overall mean of 4.01 (SD = 0.73), that relates to the description as *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that respondents tend to and usually feel the interventions implemented by the BPATs in facilitating conflict resolution mechanisms at barangay level. It suggests that BPATs are a working support system within the Barangay Justice System, which help in settling disputes and promoting harmony in the

community. As seen, this highlights the need to maintain and reinforce BPAT-barangay justice partnership, with recent literature adopting a similar viewpoint by suggesting that positive community-based conflict management leads to improved trust, cooperation, and long-term peace (Haim et al., 2023). According to Caliguind et al. (2019), the community dedication to BPAT increase the safety of the people, as well as the efficiency of the peacekeeping efforts, and indicated that the joint contribution of community members is likely to result in a high level of crime prevention and better methods of addressing conflicts.

Moreover, the indicator *The BPATs Barangay Peacekeeping Operations are well-supported by the conflict resolution in the Barangay Justice System* the highest mean of 4.13 (SD = 0.69) described *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that BPATs are generally viewed as good collaborators of conflict management under barangay justice system. It implies that BPAT intervention are implemented to enhance mediation and conciliation activities through structure, security, and impartiality that is needed to achieve equitable dispute resolution. As perceived, reasserting the community-based peacekeeping as a component of the local justice system, BPATs are gradually being made part of the justice systems. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2020) cites that partnership between community peacekeeping actors and the local justice system is one of the determinants of accessible, legitimate, and effective conflict resolution at the grassroots. The study by Metillo et al. (2022) focused on the barangay officials and their role in addressing issues within the community and was able to conclude that the officials are actively involved in the process of mediation and conciliation. The results may indicate that barangay justice systems which are aligned to the endeavors of BPATs significantly impact the process of conflict resolution since they fulfill constituent interests. This is highly consistent with the claim that BPATs are perceived as effective partners to deal with community conflicts and fairer dispute resolution

Finally, the indicator *Conflict resolutions facilitated by BPATs Barangay Peacekeeping Operations lead to enduring peaceful solutions* got the lowest mean of 3.80 (SD = 0.96), still described as *agree and interpreted as implemented*. This finding means that although the conflict resolutions that are implemented and facilitated by BPAT are effective most of the time, respondents feel that the sustainability of the outcomes varies. Further it means that not all

communities had the same experience, implying that not all mediated disputes lead to lasting peace. It implies that the post-resolution monitoring, follow-up mechanism, and sustained community involvement can be further reinforced to achieve lasting agreements. As noticed, this indicates the necessity of increased training of BPAT members on more advanced mediation, case follow-through, and restorative practices because recent research indicates that the reduction in community policing initiatives is more effective when the focus is based on continuity and long-term involvement than focused interventions (Rojek, 2020). In the study of Añana et al. (2024) By asserting the importance of structured interventions, the findings support the premise that effective integration of community peacekeeping efforts can enhance mediation and conciliation activities necessary for equitable dispute resolution.

Crisis Management. The data disclosed that in **Crisis Management** the overall mean of 4.01 (SD = 0.67) described as *agree and interpreted as implemented*. This means that the respondents tend to concur that BPATs are always engaged in crisis related activities in the community. The relatively high degree of agreement among the respondents when it comes to the frequency of crisis management practices. It denotes that BPATs serve as a reliable backup system in the time of crisis, which helps the community to be prepared and reduce harm. As observed, this underscores the need to maintain crisis management resources by sustaining them through ongoing training, coordination, and institutional support, as was reported by Haim et al. (2023) that effective crisis management on a community-based can improve resilience and trust in people. It is further supported with the study of Azad et al. (2019) that community-based disaster preparedness efforts can improve crisis resilience and response. The BPATs and other local-level institutions and organizations are critical in building adaptive capacity and effective disaster management.

The indicator, *The communication channels implemented by BPAT through Barangay Peacekeeping Operations during a crisis are reliable and informative* got the highest mean of 4.06 (SD = 0.67) described as *agree and interpreted as implemented*. It means that the respondents tend to concur that BPATs are seen as efficient in the spreading information about the situation on the ground (the right information at the right time) when there is a crisis, which is essential in informing people about how to respond to the situation without causing confusion and panic. It

indicate that effective communication systems boost coordination among the responders and enhance community compliance in case of emergency. As observed, that communication is a fundamental strength of the crisis management led by BPAT. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2020) claims that effective communication, especially during community-based peacekeeping and emergency management, is a key feature of an effective response to the crisis, which is most effective in the event of good and reliable communication.

Conversely, the indicator ***BPAT members undergo routine training in crisis management procedures*** has the lowest mean of 3.96 (SD = 0.71), still described as *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that although crisis management training is typically performed and implemented, it might not be as steady or all-encompassing in all barangays. It suggests that lapses in routine training can influence the preparedness and performance of BPAT members in a complicated or large scale crisis. As noticed, the necessity to institutionalize standard and regular training programs in crisis management as the empirical data indicate that ongoing training is of great help in enhancing the effectiveness of frontline response and decision-making in an emergency (Rojek, 2020). This is further supported by study of Bakar et al.(2021) that the structured and continuous training programs are essential to the local emergency response units and that the training improves the performance of the emergency response teams in case of an emergency.

Community Partnership and Empowerment at the community level. The data revealed that in ***Community Partnership and Empowerment*** the overall mean of 4.08 (SD = 0.66), described as *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that respondents generally agree that BPATs consistently engage the community in peacekeeping initiatives, promote collaboration, and encourage active participation in peace and security efforts. It explains that community partnership has become a functional and embedded component of peacekeeping operations Implemented at the barangay level. As seen, this highlights the importance of sustaining inclusive and participatory approaches, as recent studies have shown that strong community engagement significantly enhances trust, cooperation, and the effectiveness of community-based policing initiatives (Haim et al., 2023). This findings this fact is also reinforced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2021) which emphasized that regular and standardized crisis-response training plays a key

role in preventing lack of preparedness and performance among communicative-based peacekeeping staff.

The indicator, *The BPATs Barangay Peacekeeping Operations effectively collaborates with local organizations and institutions to strengthen community partnerships*, got the highest mean of 4.15 (SD = 0.63) described as *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that implementing the cooperation with local organizations and institutions is one of the strengths of BPAT activities as it allows to share responsibility and take collective measures to preserve peace and order. It denotes that cooperation between organizations can increase the scope, validity and sustainability of peacekeeping efforts through the sharing of resources and experience. As perceived, this is an indication that partnership-based peacekeeping is one of the ways of having stronger and empowered societies. According to Terrill and Reisig (2022), the successful operation of a community-oriented policing program through the effective cooperation of law enforcement with the community institutions is the key to enhancing the level of trust in the community and improving the results of the community-oriented policing program.

In contrast, the indicator *Barangay Peacekeeping Operations consistently provides the community with feedback regarding the outcomes of their peacekeeping operations* got the lowest mean of 4.00 (SD = 0.70) described as *agree* and interpreted as *implemented*. This means that although feedback mechanisms may be implemented, there are chances that they are not always and not in a uniform manner practiced in all the barangays. It implies that the lack or limited feedback can influence the transparency and community awareness regarding the results of peacekeeping. It is noticeable that the importance of reinforcing feedback and communication systems to provide constant communication between BPATs and society members. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2020), transparency and frequent feedback are essential elements of community-based peacekeeping because they strengthen the culture of accountability, trust, and is a long-term community engagement. In a local empirical study carried out within the selected barangays of Davao City, it was also found that an increase in transparency and accountability in law enforcement strongly relates to increased community trust and cooperation, which confirms the significance of consistent feedback and communication

channels between peacekeeping units and the community in which they operate (Aguilar et al., 2024).

Proposed Enhanced Program on the Implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Operations. In response to these findings, the Enhanced Barangay Peace and Order Program was created and proposed for implementation in Region 10. This program strategically addresses conflict resolution through barangay justice system, and crisis management, which were rated lower in extent of implementation than the other indicators.

The implementation plan incorporates key elements such as assessment and planning, resource mobilization, training and capacity building, a robust monitoring and evaluation system, and regular reporting and feedback. Long-term success is fostered through institutionalization and community ownership.

Based on the findings of the study entitled “Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) in Region 10” showed that while community-based efforts exist, significant gaps persist in ensuring enduring conflict resolution outcomes and in crisis management training. These gaps hinder the sustainability and reliability of peacekeeping mechanisms, especially in volatile or disaster-prone barangays. Barangay Peace and Order program in the Philippines is adopted at the level of barangay to ensure the upkeep of peace, prevent crime and facilitate the safety of the populace. A localized process of the translation of national policy on peace and order into localized and work-related activities of the barangay.

IV. CONCLUSION

Security services in the community are an important mechanism that enhances the safety and well-being of the residents. These services strengthen community resilience, promote social cohesion, and encourage active engagement of local members. Moreover, security services serve as a critical mechanism through which the policies on peace and order are converted to tangible

actions that have a direct bearing on the lives of community members. This provides a clear understanding of how security services promote the effective Barangay Peace and Order program. Indeed, security services play a vital role that contributes to the social balance through the consideration of safety issues and ensuring that everyone's needs are met effectively.

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