
Local Government Unit Services Using Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Approach in Urban Barangays in Talavera Nueva Ecija Basis for Empowering Women Strengthening Communities

ARTES, JAFET N.

jafetartes258@gmail.com

GASPAR, DAINNA B.

dainnagaspar974@gmail.com

MARIANO, JOHN HENRYCK T.

henrikmariano22@gmail.com

MARQUEZ, ELAINE S.

elainesantiago@gmail.com

PANGANIBAN, JERIC T.

panganibanjeric12@gmail.com

RAYO, HYZIE JANICA G.

hyziejanicag@gmail.com

DR. REYES, ROBERTO JR.

DR. TARUC, ROLLIEZA GRACE D.

DR. ABAT, ROWENA B.

DR. CAMPOS. ROMEO B.

Nueva Ecija University Science And Technology Talavera Off-Campus

Abstract — This study assessed the Local Government Unit (LGU) services using the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach in selected urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija as a basis for empowering women and strengthening communities. The study focused on determining the demographic profile of the respondents, evaluating LGU services in terms of public order, education, health, labor and employment, housing and community development,

social welfare, and economic services, and proposing an intervention plan for community development.

A mixed-method research design was utilized combining quantitative and qualitative approaches. Data were gathered through survey questionnaires, interviews, and focus group discussions among women residents and selected LGU officials from selected urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija. Results revealed that most respondents were actively involved in community activities and recognized the importance of LGU programs in improving livelihood opportunities, health awareness, and women participation in community development. Findings further showed that the ABCD approach strengthened community participation by utilizing existing community resources, skills, and local leadership. However, challenges such as limited access to services, inadequate waste management, and insufficient livelihood opportunities were also identified. The study concluded that LGU services using the ABCD approach significantly contribute to women empowerment and community strengthening. A proposed intervention and livelihood program was recommended to improve women's participation, economic independence, and sustainable community development.

Keywords: Asset-Based Community Development, women empowerment, LGU services, community development, Talavera Nueva Ecija, urban barangays

I. INTRODUCTION

Women empowerment is considered an important factor in achieving sustainable and inclusive community development. Across the world, women contribute significantly to economic growth, social welfare, and community leadership. However, many women continue to experience limited access to resources, social services, livelihood opportunities, and participation in decision-making activities. Because of this, different governments and organizations continue to develop programs that support women empowerment and gender equality.

In the Philippines, Local Government Units (LGUs) play an essential role in implementing programs that support women and community development. Through the Local Government Code

of 1991 and the Magna Carta of Women, LGUs are encouraged to provide services related to health, livelihood, education, social welfare, and protection. These services aim to improve the quality of life of women and strengthen their participation in community activities.

One effective strategy used in community development is the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. Unlike traditional approaches that focus mainly on community problems and deficiencies, the ABCD approach emphasizes the strengths, resources, and capacities existing within the community. Through this approach, women are recognized not only as beneficiaries but also as valuable contributors in community development.

The Municipality of Talavera, Nueva Ecija is composed of urban barangays where LGU programs and services are continuously implemented. Women in these communities actively participate in livelihood programs, health campaigns, leadership activities, and community organizations. Despite these efforts, some women still encounter difficulties in accessing social services, economic opportunities, and community participation. This study aimed to assess the effectiveness of LGU services using the ABCD approach in selected urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija as basis for empowering women and strengthening communities.

Literature Review

Various international and local studies emphasized that women's empowerment plays an important role in community development, economic growth, and social participation. According to Lee et al., empowerment programs help improve women's economic participation, access to resources, and inclusion in society. However, the study also explained that these programs should go beyond giving assistance and instead focus on community-based strategies such as the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach (Lee et al., 2022). Similarly, Hapsari and Kristiyanti found that women's organizations strengthen social networks, encourage participation in decision-making, and improve community development despite cultural and governance challenges (Hapsari & Kristiyanti, 2025).

In support of this, Heaton et al. explained that community empowerment involves participation, power sharing, and recognition of local knowledge to address social inequalities (Heaton et al., 2024). Meanwhile, Suryani et al. stated that women's involvement in organizations

improves their confidence, skills, decision-making, and social relationships (Suryani et al., 2023). In addition, Sofiyah et al. proved that the ABCD approach helps women improve their productivity and economic stability through skills development and proper use of community resources (Sofiyah et al., 2025).

Local studies also showed similar findings regarding women empowerment in the Philippines. Mantuhac revealed that community-based programs helped women develop confidence, leadership skills, and participation in local governance (Mantuhac, 2022). Likewise, Eunice Tabitha B. Trinidad found that women involved in community development programs became more active in governance and decision-making (Trinidad, 2023). Furthermore, Castro-Bernardo and Cruz highlighted that cooperatives and training programs improve women's leadership abilities, confidence, and economic participation (Castro-Bernardo & Cruz, 2022).

Local Government Units (LGUs) play a critical role in delivering social services such as livelihood programs, health services, protection mechanisms, and access to education. Effective LGU service delivery depends not only on institutional capacity but also on community engagement and responsiveness to local needs. Studies conducted in Talavera, Nueva Ecija emphasize that LGU programs are more effective when they are grounded in community-based assessments and participatory planning.

Campos and Rivera (2024) demonstrated that community needs assessments provide essential inputs for designing responsive local interventions, suggesting that LGU services become more sustainable when aligned with community strengths and participation

Local Government Units (LGUs) play a critical role in delivering social services such as livelihood programs, health services, protection mechanisms, and access to education. Effective LGU service delivery depends not only on institutional capacity but also on community engagement and responsiveness to local needs. Studies conducted in Talavera, Nueva Ecija emphasize that LGU programs are more effective when they are grounded in community-based assessments and participatory planning.

Campos and Rivera (2024) demonstrated that community needs assessments provide essential inputs for designing responsive local interventions, suggesting that LGU services become more sustainable when aligned with community strengths and participation

Local Government Units (LGUs) serve as primary providers of social services, including health, education, livelihood, and social protection programs. The effectiveness of these services largely depends on community engagement and user experience. Studies assessing public service systems in Nueva Ecija reveal that stakeholder feedback and community participation significantly influence service quality and satisfaction.

Mina, Campos, Reyes, Garcia, and Torres (2021) found that users' experiences and assessments are essential in evaluating institutional service delivery systems, emphasizing the importance of responsiveness and accessibility in public services . This finding supports the need for LGUs to design services that are community-centered and aligned with local contexts, particularly in urban barangays.

Lastly, the Philippine Statistics Authority reported that many Filipino women still experience violence and inequality, showing the need for stronger support systems and services for women (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2021). Overall, the reviewed studies suggest that women's empowerment becomes more effective through community participation, skills development, strong social networks, and the use of the ABCD approach, which are relevant to the present study in evaluating LGU services for women empowerment.

II. METHODOLOGY

This study used a mixed-method research design, combining both quantitative and qualitative approaches to understand LGU services using the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach in empowering women and strengthening communities in selected urban barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

The respondents were female residents aged 18 and above who were beneficiaries or participants of LGU programs, along with selected LGU officials and community leaders.

Purposive sampling was used to choose participants who had relevant experience and knowledge about community programs.

Data were collected through survey questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions. The survey helped gather numerical data about awareness and use of LGU services, while interviews and FGDs provided deeper insights into women's experiences and participation in community development.

For data analysis, frequency, percentage, and weighted mean were used for the survey results, while thematic analysis was applied to interview and FGD responses to identify common ideas and experiences.

To ensure credibility, different data sources and methods were compared through triangulation. Ethical standards were followed by securing informed consent, ensuring voluntary participation, and maintaining confidentiality of all respondents.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the results, analysis, and interpretation of data gathered from the respondents regarding the assessment of Local Government Unit services using the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach in selected urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

TABLE 1
WORKSHOP 1: WEALTH, STRENGTH, COMMUNITY CAPACITY IN URBAN BARANGAYS IN TALAVERA, NUEVA ECIJA (ANDAL ALINIO, ESGUERRA, MAESTRANG KIKAY, MARCOS, MATIAS, PAG-ASA, POBLACION SUR, PULONG SAN MIGUEL)

Barangay	Key Strengths	Main issues/Needs
Andal Alinio	Stable community, basic services, access to education	Poor waste management, limited livelihood, weak health access, low participation
Esguerra	Stable population, farming & small business, high school attendance	Sanitation issues, limited livelihood opportunities, inadequate health access
Matias	Strong family support, basic utilities, good school attendance	Limited livelihood, healthcare access issues, low participation
Marcos	Mixed education levels, some urban development	Poor sanitation, unstable income, weak infrastructure, limited health services
Pag-asa	Strong community cooperation, growing small businesses, high school attendance	Waste management issues, need for livelihood expansion, environmental concerns
Poblacion Sur	Urbanized, diverse jobs, good infrastructure, better health & education	Waste management, congestion, urban environmental issues
Maestrang Kikay	Strong social cohesion, cooperation among residents	Limited livelihood, weak health services, poor facilities, low resources
Pulong San Miguel	Growing population, active schooling, developing utilities	Flooding, waste issues, weak livelihood programs, limited health services

The table shows that the urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija generally share similar development conditions, with agriculture and labor-based livelihoods as the main source of income and only a few areas experiencing urbanized economic growth such as Poblacion Sur. Most barangays have access to basic education and exhibit relatively high school attendance, but they still face limitations in educational facilities, resources, and consistency in learning conditions.

In terms of housing and utilities, there is a mix of development, where some households already have concrete houses and stable access to electricity and water, while others are still experiencing incomplete or uneven infrastructure.

Health and sanitation remain a common concern across all barangays due to issues such as poor waste management, flooding, and limited access to healthcare services. Community participation also varies, with stronger involvement in more organized or developed barangays, while others show lower engagement due to lack of programs or awareness.

Overall, the findings suggest that while there are signs of progress and community stability, there is still a strong need for improved livelihood opportunities, better health and sanitation systems, enhanced infrastructure, and more active community programs to achieve balanced and sustainable development across all barangays.

TABLE 2
WORKSHOP 2: LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT SERVICES IN URBAN BARANGAYS

Barangay	LGU Service Strengths	Key Issues/Gaps
Andal Alinio	Generally peaceful, available basic services, education and welfare programs, livelihood trainings	Limited manpower, flooding, poor drainage, weak health supplies, lack of capital for businesses
Esguerra	Peaceful community, scholarships, health services, LGU skills training, support for small businesses	Inconsistent rule enforcement, overcrowded schools, limited health resources, lack of business skills
Matias	Strong cooperation, education support, health services, livelihood training	Limited manpower in security, financial barriers in health/education, lack of loans and business capital
Marcos	Good coordination in peace & order, accessible schools, entrepreneurship support, infrastructure development	Poverty-related dropouts, weak healthcare capacity, job mismatch, slow infrastructure progress
Pag-asa	Strong community cooperation, education programs, LGU livelihood and welfare assistance	Insufficient manpower, weak waste management, limited jobs, lack of housing and business capital
Poblacion Sur	Strong governance, good education and health services, developed infrastructure, active economy	Overcrowding, congestion, high competition in jobs and businesses, service pressure
Maestrang Kikay	Strong community cooperation, welfare outreach, livelihood and education support	Weak infrastructure, limited health services, lack of resources, insufficient capital and facilities
Pulong San Miguel	Active LGU programs, education access, livelihood support, welfare assistance	Flooding, weak drainage, limited employment, financial constraints, inconsistent service coverage

The table presents that Local Government Unit (LGU) services across the urban barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija are generally present and functioning, particularly in areas such as peace and order, education, health, livelihood, social welfare, and economic support. Most barangays maintain a generally peaceful environment and provide access to basic services like schools, health centers, and livelihood programs, showing the LGU's continuous effort to support community development.

However, despite these strengths, several common challenges are evident across barangays, including limited manpower for security, overcrowding in schools, insufficient medical supplies and facilities, inadequate funding for housing and infrastructure, flooding and drainage problems, and lack of capital for small businesses. These issues often affect the efficiency and accessibility of services, especially in more populated or less developed barangays.

Overall, the findings suggest that while LGU services are actively implemented and contribute to community stability and development, there is still a need for stronger resource allocation, improved infrastructure, increased staffing, and enhanced livelihood and health support programs to ensure more equitable and sustainable service delivery across all barangays.

TABLE 3
WORKSHOP 3: PROPOSED PROJECTS

Barangay	Proposed Project (Key Focus Area)
Andal Alinio	Livelihood training (food processing, entrepreneurship), health services improvement, waste management, drainage repair, increased barangay personnel
Esguerra	Skills development, livelihood stability programs, improved sanitation and health services, classroom expansion, better security monitoring
Matias	Alternative livelihood & microfinance, health service access improvement, educational resources (digital tools), infrastructure and housing development, added security personnel
Marcos	Business/skills training, job matching programs, health awareness, infrastructure upgrading, waste management, improved coordination in security
Pag-asa	Livelihood programs, improved health services (medicines, assistance), better school facilities, environmental management, increased manpower for security
Poblacion Sur	Entrepreneurship support, additional classrooms, health facility expansion, urban planning improvements, waste and congestion management, stronger security systems
Maestrang Kikay	Skills training, financial assistance, expansion of health centers, improved school facilities and learning materials, infrastructure development, increased security personnel
Pulong San Miguel	Livelihood support programs, health outreach services, educational assistance, flood control, waste management systems, improved infrastructure, stronger security coverage

The table presents the proposed projects for the urban barangays in Talavera, Nueva Ecija, which are mainly focused on addressing recurring community problems in livelihood, health, education, infrastructure, environmental management, and public safety.

Across all barangays, there is a strong need for livelihood and skills training programs to improve income stability, as many residents rely on limited and unstable sources of employment. Health-related proposals emphasize the improvement of medical services, provision of medicines, and expansion of health facilities to address inadequate healthcare access.

In education, the common recommendations include improving school facilities, providing learning materials, reducing overcrowding, and increasing educational support such as scholarships and digital resources. Infrastructure and environmental concerns are also prominent, particularly issues on flooding, waste management, drainage systems, and housing development, indicating the need for sustainable environmental planning.

Lastly, public safety and governance proposals highlight the need for increased manpower, stronger monitoring systems, and improved coordination among barangay officials to ensure peace and order. Overall, the proposed projects reflect a comprehensive effort to address the identified gaps in LGU services and aim to promote sustainable development, improved quality of life, and balanced community growth across all barangays.

PROPOSED PROJECT PLAN

Proposed Initiatives and Intervention Plans for empowering women strengthening communities of Urban Barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija

General Objective:

To empower women and strengthen community development in the urban barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija by improving access to livelihood opportunities, basic services, infrastructure, governance systems, and inclusive programs that promote sustainable and resilient communities.

Specific Objectives:

1. To enhance livelihood and economic opportunities through skills training, microfinance, and support for small enterprises, especially for women and marginalized groups.
2. To improve access to quality healthcare, education, and social welfare services for all community members.
2. To develop and upgrade infrastructure, housing, water systems, sanitation, and transportation for better living conditions and safety.
3. To strengthen disaster preparedness, risk reduction, and post-disaster recovery systems to increase community resilience.
4. To promote environmental protection and sustainable waste and water management practices in the barangays.
5. To increase community participation, transparency, and access to information through digitalization and active engagement programs.

6. To support women, youth, senior citizens, PWDs, and other vulnerable sectors through targeted empowerment and welfare programs.
7. To strengthen local government capacity and service delivery through training, monitoring, and improved governance systems.
8. To promote mental health awareness and psychosocial support services for community well-being.
9. To encourage inclusive and sustainable local economic development, including agriculture, tourism, and micro-enterprises.

TABLE 4
PROPOSED INITIATIVES AND INTERVENTION PLANS FOR EMPOWERING
WOMEN STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES OF URBAN BARANGAYS OF
TALavera, Nueva Ecija

Intervention Needed	Goals/Objectives	Activities	Involved Person/Unit	Time Frame
Strengthen Livelihood and Economic Development	Improving the living standards and employment opportunities, including those of women	Skills training, microfinance, barangay livelihoods programs	LGU, Barangay Council, TESDA, DTI, Women's Groups	Short-Medium Tern
Improve Healthcare Services	Health care provision for the citizens	Medical missions, health information, equipment provision	LGU, RHU, Barangay Health Workers	Continuous

Enhance Education Support	Improving educational opportunities	School Buildings, Digital Learning, Scholarship	DepEd, LGU, School Administrators, NGOs	Medium-Long Term
Develop Infrastructure and Housing	Improving living standards and reducing vulnerability to hazards	Improve Drainage, Housing Assistance, Infrastructures Maintenance	LGU, DepEd, Barangay Council	Medium- Long Term
Promote Community Participation	Improving civic engagement and community management	Campaigns for Information Dissemination, Projects and Consultation	LGU, DPWH, Barangay Officials	Continuous
Expand Social Welfare Services	Ensuring equal access to relief projects	Distribution of Social Assistance, Programs Orientation	LGU, Barangay Council, Community Leaders	Short-Medium Term
Support Women and Family Development	Women empowerment and better family relations	Empowerment Training for Women, Livelihood Support and Family Counseling	LGU, DSWD, Barangay Officials	Continuous
Improve Environmental Management	Environment preservation and sustainability	Waste Segregation, Cleaning Drive,	LGU, DSWD, Women's Organizations	Continuous

		Environmental Education		
Strengthen Local Government Unit Capacity	Efficiency and effectiveness in service provision	Personnel Training, Increasing Budget, Monitoring and Evaluation	LGU, Barangay Council, Community Volunteers	Continuous
Enhance Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction	Reduction in disaster-related risks	Drills for Disasters, Early Warning systems, Evacuation Center Preparation	LGU, Barangay Officials	Continuous
Improve Public Safety and Security	Security and safety	Installation of Streetlights, Coordination of Security	LGU, MDRRMO, Barangay DRRM Committees	Continuous
Strengthen Youth Development Programs	Youth Empowerment and Youth Involvement	Leadership Training, Skill Training, Youth Projects	LGU, Barangay Tanod, PNP	Medium Term
Promote Small and Local Enterprises	Local Economic Development	Business Training, Financial Assistance, Market Linkages	SK, LGU Barangay Council	Medium Term
Improve Access to Information and Communication	Transparency and Information Dissemination	Digital Communication, Community Bulletin Boards	LGU, DTI, Private Sector	Short Term

Strengthen Programs for Senior Citizens and PWDs	Inclusivity and Welfare Provision	Accessibility Improvements, Wellness and Livelihood Activities	LGU, Barangay Informations Officers	Continuous
Strengthen Agricultural Support Programs	Increasing Farm Yields and Income	Input Distribution to Farms, Sustainable Agriculture Skill Training	LGU, OSCA, PWD Affairs Office	Medium Term
Improve Water Supply and Sanitation Services	Availability of Water and Toilets	Water Systems Improvement, Sanitation Drives	LGU, DA, Farmers' Associations	Medium Term
Enhance Transportation and Road Safety	Safety and Mobility	Road Maintenance, Traffic Management Programs	LGU, Barangay Council, Health Units	Medium-Long Term
Promote Digitalization of Government Services	Service Efficiency and Accessibility	Information Portals Online, Digital Skills Training	LGU, DPWH, Traffic Units	Medium Term
Strengthen Anti-Poverty and Inclusive Development Programs	Poverty Alleviation and Inclusiveness	Income Generation Projects, Inclusive Planning	LGU, IT Office, Barangay Staff	Continuous
Strengthen Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services	Psychological Wellness	Counseling and Awareness Campaigns	LGU, Health Offices, NGOs	Continuous

Improve Wastewater and Drainage Management Systems	Prevention of Flooding and Pollution	Construction of Drainage, Repairs on Canals, Information, Education and Communication Drives	LGU, DPWH, Barangay Council	Medium- Long Term
Expand Tourism Development Initiatives	Income Generation and Employment Opportunities	Infrastructure Development for Tourism, Skills Training	LGU, Tourism Office, Local Groups	Medium Term
Strengthen Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation Programs	Effective and Rapid Post-hazard Recovery Efforts	Financial Assistance, Housing Assistance, Inter-agency Collaboration	LGU, DSWD, National Agencies	As Needed
Enhance Data Collection and Community Profiling Systems	Evidence-based planning	Surveys, Digital Information Systems, Periodic Profiling	LGU, Brangay Officials	Continuous

This proposed project is aligned with global and national development frameworks that promote inclusive growth, gender equality, and sustainable community development. It emphasizes women empowerment while also addressing broader community needs such as livelihood, health, education, infrastructure, and disaster resilience. The initiative supports the Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities) by ensuring that no sector is left behind in development efforts (United Nations, 2030; UN Women, 2022).

Through collaboration between LGUs, barangay councils, and national agencies such as DSWD, TESDA, DILG, and DPWH, the project promotes an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach that maximizes local strengths and community participation in planning and implementation (Kretzmann & McKnight, 1993; DILG, 2023). Overall, it aims to build empowered, resilient, and self-sustaining communities in urban barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, the researchers concluded that Local Government Unit services using the Asset-Based Community Development approach significantly contribute to women empowerment and community strengthening in the selected urban barangays of Talavera, Nueva Ecija.

The study revealed that LGU programs related to health, livelihood, social welfare, education, and community participation positively affected the lives of women and improved their involvement in community development activities. The ABCD approach was effective in recognizing the strengths, resources, and capabilities of women and the community.

Furthermore, women were not only beneficiaries of LGU services but also active participants in leadership, livelihood, and community programs. However, challenges such as limited access to services, inadequate sanitation, and insufficient livelihood opportunities still need improvement.

REFERENCES

- [1.] Awi, E. (2020). *Women empowerment in local governance: The Gender and Development Program in Barangay San Nicolas, Cebu City*. Letran Reseachr Center.
- <https://research-manila.lettran.edu.ph/article/136>
- [2.] Bredenkamp, C., Buisman, L. R., & Van de poel, E. (2020). Persisten inequalities in health care Utilization in low- and-income countrie. *Health Policy and Planning*, 35(7), 879-889.
- <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czaz03>
- [3.] Brillantes, A. B., & Fernandez, M. T. (2020). Restoring trust and building integrity in government: Issues and concerns in the Philippines. *International Review of Administrative Science*, 86(2), 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020852318776795>
- [4.] Buitrago, R. E., García-Suaza, A. F., & Garzón Restrepo, J. E. (2024). Exploratory analysis of the determinants of informality in emerging and frontier economies. *Development Studies Research*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/21665095.2023.2291004>
- [5.] Campos, R. B. (2024). The impact of digitanlization on credit risk management in microfinance institutions in Nueva Ecija, Philippines. *Indian Journal of Information Sources and Services*, 14(3), 145-156. <https://doi.org/10.51983/ijiss-2024.14.3.20>
- [6.] Castro-Bernardo, M. T. M., & Cruz, L. S. (2022). How do cooperatives enable empowerment among rural women? Evidence from the municipality of Cavinti, Laguna. *Journal of Economics, Management and Agricultural Development*, 8(2). <https://www.ukdr.uplb.edu.ph/jemad/vol8/iss2/2>
- [7.] Dovey, Kim, & Recio, Romeo B.. (2024). Inventraset assemblages: The spatial logic of informal street vending, transport and settlement. *Urban Studies*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00420980231223060>

-
- [8.] García, G. A., Badillo, E. R., & Aristizábal, J. M. (2024). Housing informality and labor informality in space: In search of the missing links. *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*, 17, 923–949. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12061-024-09569-8>
- [9.] Hapsari, R., & Kristiyanti, A. (2025). Towards community-driven rural development: Path of women group in empowering rural women's capacities and role in rural development. *World Development Perspectives*, 24, Article 100610. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2025.100610>
- [10.] Heaton, L., Halliday, E., Wheeler, P., Ring, A., Kaloudis, H., & Popay, J. (2024). Strengthening community empowerment initiatives as a route to greater equity: An English case study. *Community Development Journal*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdj/bsae046>
- [11.] Lee, L., Balding, N., & Pappas, G. (2022). Strengthening women's empowerment and gender equality in fragile contexts towards peaceful and inclusive societies: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Campbell Systematic Reviews*, 18(3). <https://doi.org/10.1002/cl2.1214>
- [12.] Li, X., Wang, Y., Zhang, J., & Liu, Y. (2024). Social capital and internal migrant entrepreneurship: Evidence from urban China. *Cities*, 152, Article 105222. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2024.105222>
- [13.] Mantuhac, P. B. (2022). Empowering women as leaders among relocated informal settlers. *Journal of BIMP-EAGA Regional Development*, 7(1), 66–79. <https://doi.org/10.51200/jbimpeagard.v7i1.3696>
- [14.] Mina, J.C., Campos, R. B., Reyes, E. J. G., Garcia, M. D., & Torres, R. A. G. (2021). Students' assessment of the online enrollment system of Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology: An experience-based study. *International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology*, 6(1) 1200-1205.
-

-
- [15.] Ramos, V. J. (2024). Extreme lockdowns and the gendered informalization of employment: Evidence from the Philippines. *Work, Employment and Society*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09500170241247121>
- [16.] Romero, R., Paulino, E., Tan, R., & Cortez, D. M. (2024). Urban entrepreneurship on the fringe: Action research on the challenges of street vendors in Manila. *Journal of Business and Management Studies*, 6(5). <https://doi.org/10.32996/jbms.2024.6.5.20>
- [17.] Su, Y., Xu, H., & Zhang, X. (2024). How can public spaces contribute to increased incomes for urban residents: A social capital perspective. *Land*, 13(7), Article 945. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land130709>