

## Learning from Good Practices in Disaster Risk Management:

### The Case of Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office (APSEMO)

#### Description of the Practice:

This case study is a story of how the government and people of Albay managed to create a permanent mechanism for preparing and responding to various types of disasters. APSEMO is now on its twelfth year of existence, and has had enough experience and lessons learned in disaster management.

#### Concerns and issues:

Albay is a calamity prone area. These include volcanic eruptions, typhoons, floods, landslides, storm surges, droughts and earthquakes.

Millions of pesos worth of damages to both economic and social infrastructures have most often reported during such calamities.



#### Objectives of the Practice:

##### Primary Objective:

Establish a pro-active, permanent, comprehensive, rational disaster management system in Albay in order to lessen and mitigate the disastrous effects of natural and man-made calamities.

##### Secondary Objectives:

Institutionalization of Albay Disaster Management office (now APSEMO) as one independent department of the provincial Government of Albay and serve as the technical and administrative arm of the PDCC>

APSEMO is a provincial government department focused on effective implementation of the PDCC objectives per Presidential Decree 1566 and other related/existing laws.

##### Steps in Implementing the Practice:

1. Preparation and submission of the justification for the Institutionalization of Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office.
2. Review and approval by the Regional Offices of the Civil Service Commission and Department of Budget and Management relative to the qualification standards, organizational and functional structures and budgetary implications.
3. Approval by the Local Legislative Body through a Provincial Resolution Institutionalizing the APSEMO.
4. Approval by the Local Chief Executive of the enacted Provincial Resolution.
5. Integration of approved budget to the regular provincial appropriation.
6. Hiring of personnel

##### Results/Benefits:

1. Formulation of Albay Disaster Management Manual integral part of which are Action Plans by types of hazards.
2. Establishment of Disaster Operation Center.
3. Establishment of good working relations with PDCC and Warning Agencies (PHIVOLCS, PAGASA).
4. Develop Warning Criteria, Communication Protocol and Evacuation Procedures.
5. Barangay Disaster preparedness and Response Manual.
6. Developed Risk and Resources Maps.
7. Heightened public awareness on the nature and effects of hazards through the conduct of IECs, trainings, seminars/workshops, etc.



**Who can replicate this practice?**

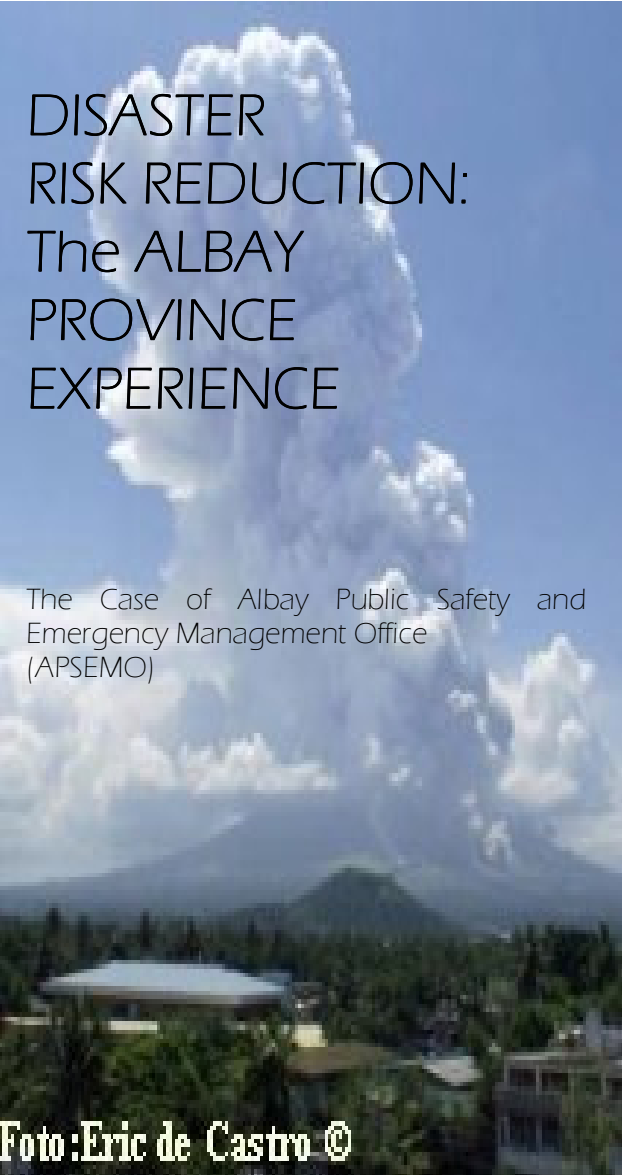
Any Local Government Units at the provincial, city or municipal level may replicate this practice to apply similar objective aside from the applied governance in disaster management.

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# DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: The ALBAY PROVINCE EXPERIENCE

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Emergency Management Office  
(APSEMO)

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