

## Needs And Aspirations of Indigenous Peoples in Central Luzon

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### Abstract

This study investigated the needs and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples in Central Luzon. First, it described the profile of the Indigenous People along with: Area of Habitation, Groups or Tribes, Population, Political Structure, Income, Health, Education, Housing, Mobility and Safety, Culture and Traditions, and Rest and Recreation. This also discussed the Needs and Aspirations of the Indigenous Peoples and identify the issues, problems, and concerns they experience in attaining such. Through this, the study formulated programs, projects, and activities to solve such problems. The study used descriptive research design and three (3) instruments in gathering data namely: interview guide; observation and documentary analysis. It was found out that the presently, there are a total of nine (9) Ancestral Domains within TAPAZ with the total land area of 90,151.62 hectares with a total population of 20,834. In addition, there are three (3) factors commonly considered in identifying a tribal member for Aytas: Ancestry, Parental Consanguinity and Ethnolinguistic. Moreover, the sources of income of the Ayta people are a mix of traditional and modern. Almost all of it revolves within the Ancestral Domains of the Ayta people. These are: Farming, Livestock raising, Planting, Hunting, Fishing, Gathering or foraging, Tourist guide. However, some of them have found livelihood outside (i.e. Public, private offices, construction and factory work and others). As synthesize in the findings of the interview the needs and aspiration of the Indigenous People in Central Luzon are as follows: Livelihood, education, clean water source, road improvement, health services, legal services, ancestral domain, respect and implementation of rights, preservation and showcasing of arts, culture and tradition and leadership. The Problems Encountered Affecting the Needs and Aspirations of the Indigenous Peoples in Central Luzon are as follows: Conflicting Claims, Issues in Relocation, Leadership, Isolated Area of Habitat and Injustices, Presence of Lawless Elements and Recruitment of Communist Terrorist Groups. Lastly, the proposed recommendations to address the problems encountered affecting the needs and aspirations of the Indigenous Peoples in Central Luzon are as follows: Resolution of Conflicting Claims, Relocation, Leadership Guidance and Training, Education, Culturally Sensitive Development within Isolated Area of Habitat and Justice, Implementation of the Law and Protection and Education regarding the dangers of the communist terrorist struggle.

*Keywords: Indigenous People, Needs and Aspirations of IPs, IPs in Central Luzon, Culture and Traditions*