

GOVERNANCE AND COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINED FLOOD MITIGATION AND RIVER MANAGEMENT

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Ormoc City Flash Flood of 1991: A Tragic Natural Disaster in the Philippines

- Tropical Storm Thelma (Typhoon Uring, Phil.) caused flash flood
- Inflicted damages on houses, infrastructure, agriculture, private properties, and commercial establishments
- About 8,000 people dead and missing (approximately 20% of urban population), which to date, has been the highest recorded casualty from a water-induced disaster in the country
- Most victims are urban poor who had dwelled in the riverbanks and flood-prone areas

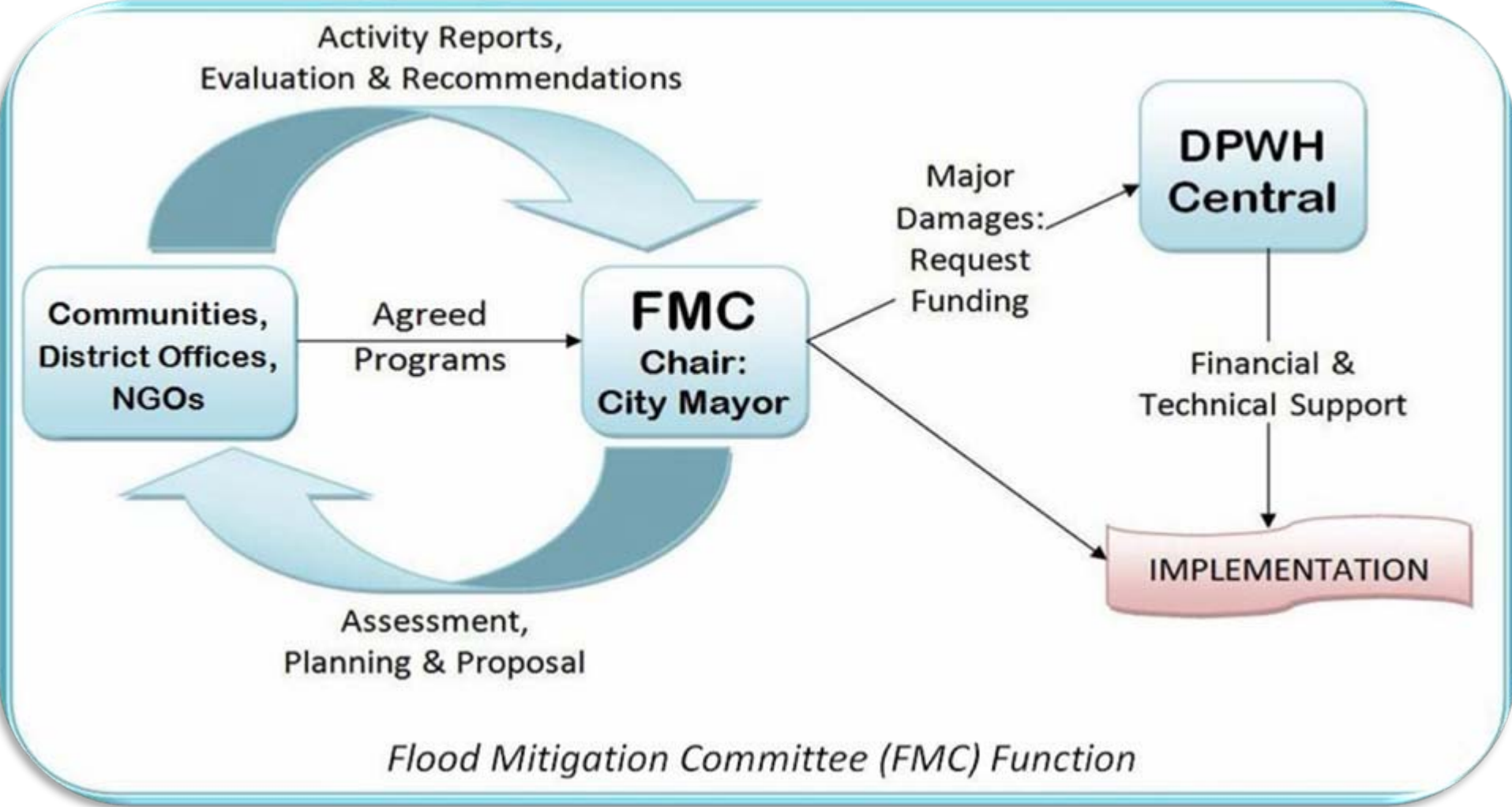


Flood Mitigation Measures with Assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency

- Improvement of Anilao and Malbasag Rivers (channel widening, construction of dikes, revetments, hydraulic drops)
- Construction of 3 slit dams to collect floating logs that flow down from mountain areas
- Reconstruction of 5 bridges to prevent clogging of logs and to fit new river alignment



Structures withstood in 2003 similar 50-yr flood



- FMC comprises of the city government and Dept. of Public Works & Highways (DPWH) District Office; delineates roles on maintenance & repair works of the structures
- Operates on annual maintenance budget of about US\$ 40,000

FMC River Management Activities

- Monitoring of illegal activities which affect river conveyance or damage structures (garbage, hauling of sand/gravel, wastewater disposal, etc)
- Implementation of programs enhancing beauty and use of structures (riverbank beautification, river festivals); watershed protection; and awareness campaigns, etc.
- Monitoring of water level during extreme events



River festival



Painting contest

Concluding Remarks

- Infrastructures provided residents safety from floods; contributed to improvement of river environment; triggered economic boost in the city; and induced local tourism
- Good governance through issuance of zoning ordinances, provision of funds and support to community-based river programs ensured sustained function of structures for flood mitigation and improved the river environment
- Collaboration of local government, community, local district offices, NGOs and DPWH central office ensured reports and proposals are assessed, acted, and considered in the programs; and enhanced community awareness & cooperation
- Because of these impacts, FMC framework is now being modeled by other local government units