

Effectiveness of the Architectural Technical Assistance Program of Bachelor of Science in Architecture of Sorsogon State University to their Beneficiaries in the Province of Sorsogon

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Abstract— This study assessed the effectiveness of the architectural technical assistance program offered by Bachelor of Science in Architecture of Sorsogon State University (SorSU) as an architectural extension services to the community beneficiaries and clientele in the Province of Sorsogon from 2014 to 2020. Specifically, it aims to describe the architectural technical assistance provided for the four (4) projects implemented based on clients' needs; assess the level of satisfaction; and determine what can be proposed extension program enhancement as input to the extension manual. The study used the descriptive evaluation of research. The architectural technical assistance projects were requested by the clients and not done thru assessment of needs. The collection of pertinent data was done thru data gathering, observation, and interviews. The data were presented, analyzed and interpreted with the use of statistical tools such as percentage distribution, weighted mean and average mean. Based on the findings, the following conclusions were that the architectural technical assistance services implemented based on clients' needs generally produced the desired effects to the beneficiaries; the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries generally was highly responsive and; the proposed extension program enhancement as input to the extension manual were the architectural community extension program should be continued and extended; to continue to strengthen their partnership with the other non- government organization and government agencies; should be well disseminated and controlled so as not conflict to private technical professional's practices; the implementers be encouraged to take TESDA accreditation; may give the community residents seminars, trainings and other relative activities based on their assessment of needs and expertise as part of their extension activities and; regular visitation, monitoring and evaluation of the extension projects may be conducted to have a better impact and relationship to the beneficiaries.

Keywords— Architectural technical assistances, Architects' regular services, Effectiveness, Beneficiaries.

I. INTRODUCTION

A school extension program is defined as an extension of an educational program that facilitates the transfer of knowledge, technology, and innovation from research and academic institutions to the end-users, taking into consideration their actual needs and problems. The general objective of having an extension program is to influence people to make changes in their way of life and in making a better living (Google Search).

In the Philippines, extension programs in higher education institutions provide the place to discover practical, evidence, and science-based answers that can address real-world social, economic, and environmental challenges of partner citizens and communities (CHED CMO 52, s 2016). Likewise, SorSU commits to quality education anchored on its mission and vision for the development and growth of the community. The basic objective of extension education is to elevate the standard of the people living in rural areas by helping

them in using their natural resources in the right way, Google (2012).

The community needs technical professional expertise in their dreams of having an infrastructure shelter and environment-friendly. It encompasses the architecture pre-design services for funding, design services, construction services, consultancy, and training on building construction methods. It presents some architecture development activities in partnership with non- government organizations, national and local governments by providing regular architectural services and training

A study conducted by Sermona et al. (2020) explored the nature of extension services in select state universities and colleges (SUCs) in the Philippines and revealed that most of the extension services implemented ran for a short-term year. Also, the study of Bidad and Campiseño assessed SUC's community extension along with education, livelihood generation,

health and nutrition, good governance, and environmental awareness revealed that there was no significant difference in the ratings of the implementers and beneficiaries. This was supported by the study of Gipit et al. (2019) where engaging stakeholders' participation is highly practiced. Similarly, Llenares and Deocarís (2018) highlight key development activities such as the partnership with local government, training needs assessment through grassroots-level participation, and the design of practical education-training programs.

This study assessed the effectiveness of the architectural technical assistance program of B.S. Architecture of Sorsogon State University to the beneficiaries in the Province of Sorsogon where this study wishes to bridge the gap.

II. OBJECTIVES/ PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study measured the effectiveness of Bachelor of Science in Architecture of SorSU in their architectural technical assistance program in terms of community extension services from 2014 to 2020 in the Province of Sorsogon. It presents the value of volunteerism and the extent of the architects' regular services efficiency of SorSU faculty thru the architectural technical assistance program to its beneficiaries or clientele. Specifically, it aims to describe the architectural technical assistance given to the four (4) projects implemented based on clients' needs; the level of satisfaction; and what can be proposed for extension program enhancement as input to the extension manual. The following were the projects: 1. Technical assistance for the design of the proposed office building of the AFP retirees and pensioners association in the province of Sorsogon; 2. SSC, DSWD, TESDA training cum-production for the proposed construction of a two-storey multi-purpose and hostel building; 3. SSC architectural pre-design services for the proposed Holy Family Center of Studies (HFCS) school building; and 4. SSC architectural pre-design services for the proposed construction of multi-purpose building and rehabilitation/ addition of health center and DRRM office.

III. METHODOLOGY

The study used the descriptive evaluation of research to assess the effectiveness of the architectural technical assistance program of B.S. Architecture of SorSU. The four (4) architectural technical assistance projects were requested by the clients and not done by assessment of needs. The collection of pertinent data was done thru documentary analysis, observation, and interviews.

Documentary analysis was used to describe the kind of architectural technical assistance provided to the four (4) projects based on the client's needs in terms of the number of beneficiaries; professional services rendered; period of implementation and; linkage objective. It also investigated the level of satisfaction in terms of responsiveness of the extension project; extent of implementation; outcomes (development) and; effectiveness of implementation.

IV. RESEARCH DESIGN

The data were presented, analyzed, and interpreted with the use of statistical tools such as percentage distribution, weighted mean, and average mean. Further, the researcher also surveyed, observed, and interviewed some extension project personnel, local officials, and community residents.

V. RESPONDENT

The interview and survey were done with the selected head of offices and the direct persons involved in the extension projects. Employees and residents nearby were asked what they felt about the architectural technical assistance project. The observation was done on one project where construction activity was implemented and participated by some beneficiaries. Immersion on the project site is very important to see and experience the needs of the beneficiaries.

VI. RESEARCH INSTRUMENT

Documentary analysis was used to describe the kind of architectural technical assistance projects implemented based on the client's needs in terms of the number of beneficiaries; professional services rendered; period of implementation and; linkage objective. It also investigated the level of satisfaction in terms of responsiveness of the extension project; extent of implementation; outcomes (development) and; effectiveness of implementation.

To obtain information on the level of satisfaction in terms of responsiveness, the extent of implementation, outcome development, and effectiveness of implementation, a four-point scale was adopted as seen below,

Level of Satisfaction of the Beneficiaries

| Scale | Interpretation |
|-------|------------------------|
| 4 | Most highly responsive |
| 3 | Highly responsive |
| 2 | Responsive |
| 1 | Less responsive |

VII. DATA COLLECTION AND PROCEDURES

The researcher asked permission and approval from the director of the research and extension, and other local and proper authorities before the conduct of data gathering. Personal interview was conducted with some employees and persons involved in the extension project to strengthen the study.

VIII. STATISTICAL TREATMENT OF DATAS

The data gathered were tabulated and subjected to various statistical measures like weighted mean and percentage. This study does not have statistical analysis since there is no correlation among the variables.

IX. RESULTS AND DICUSSION

The study revealed the following findings: In the regular architect services provided in the SorSu architectural technical assistance on every projects implemented base on client's needs were the following: a. Based on the client's needs in terms of the number of beneficiaries, there were four (4) architectural extension projects were implemented from the year 2014 to 2019 in the span of five (5) years, with an average of 735 beneficiaries per project. Duration of 4 months is the shortest time and 5 years of longest time. b. Based on the professional services rendered in the architectural technical assistance projects, all four (4) projects cover pre-design services (100%), and only 1 of the SSC, DSWD, and TESDA training cum production projects (25%) covers wide architectural regular services. c. Based on the periods of implementation, the four (4) architectural extension project duration relies on the magnitude, complexity, and number of architectural services provided by the extensionist as requested by the beneficiaries. One project (25%) covers only 4 months, two projects (50%) over a year and one project (25%) covers almost 5 years as the longest, and based on the linkages of SorSU architectural technical assistance projects to the different beneficiaries in the province of Sorsogon, the program is designed thru collaboration between faculty and community partners, such as non-governmental organizations or government agencies, and religious groups. There were two (2) government agencies (50%), one (1) non-government institution (25%), and one (1) religious organization as the linkage groups of the program.

In the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries were the following: a. In terms of the responsiveness of the architectural technical assistance, there were four (4) projects that displayed a descriptive rating of most highly responsive with a total rating of 16 and an

average mean of 4. Architectural extension projects by the architects and allied professionals were willing to help the beneficiaries, the response was quick and both the school and the beneficiaries work actively to solve their problems. b. In terms of the extent of implementation of the architectural technical assistance, the four (4) projects display a descriptive rating of highly responsive with a total rating of 15 and an average mean of 3.75. The beneficiaries are highly satisfied with the implementation of SorSU architectural extension services to them. c. In terms of the outcome development of the architectural technical assistance, the four (4) projects display a descriptive rating of highly responsive with a total rating of 13 and an average mean of 3.25. The SorSU architectural extension services display 3- short term changes and 1- longer term change, and d. In terms of the effectiveness of the implementation of SorSU architectural technical assistance, the four (4) projects display a descriptive rating of the most highly responsive with a total rating of 16 and an average mean of 4. This can be attributed to the fast and active decision to help the community with their basic needs of technical building documents for funding (Pre-design Services). Two (2) of the projects (50%) were constructed and the remaining under a solicitation for funding by the beneficiaries.

The proposed architectural technical assistance program enhancement as input to the extension manual.

As a result of the interviews with the beneficiaries and program beneficiaries, the suggestions were as follows: The architectural technical assistance program should be continued and extended; The SorSU community extension office should continue to strengthen its partnership with the other non-government organization and government agencies in the implementation of the community extension program through factual and consistent monitoring and evaluation of the program and its beneficiaries; The architectural technical assistance program should be well disseminated and controlled so as not conflict to private technical professional's practices; and; The architects and allied professionals should be encouraged to take TESDA accreditation on construction technical education and skills development.

X. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings, the following conclusions were drawn: The regular architect services provided in the SorSu architectural technical assistance programs implemented based on the client's needs were the

following: a. Based on the client's need in terms of the number of beneficiaries, there were four (4) architectural extension projects implemented from the year 2014 to 2019 in the span of five (5) years, with an average of 735 beneficiaries per project; b. Based on the professional services rendered in the architectural extension projects, all four (4) projects cover the pre-design services (100%) and only 1 (one) project (25%) covers wide architectural regular services; c. Based on the periods of implementation, one project (25%) covers only 4 months, two projects (50%) over a year and one project (25%) covers almost 5 years as the longest; d. Based on the linkages of SorSU architectural extension to the different beneficiaries in the province of Sorsogon, there were two (2) government agencies (50%), one (1) non-government institution (25%), and one (1) religious organization (25%) as the linkage groups of the program.

The level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries were the following: a. In terms of the responsiveness of the extension project, it displays a descriptive rating of the most highly responsive; b. In terms of the extent of implementation of the architectural extension projects, it displays a descriptive rating of highly responsive; c. In terms of the outcome development of the architectural extension projects, it displays a descriptive rating of highly responsive; and d. In terms of the effectiveness of the implementation of SorSU architectural extension projects, the four (4) projects display a descriptive rating of the most highly responsive.

Generally, the SorSU architectural technical assistance program produced the desired effects for the beneficiaries.

The proposed extension program enhancement is input to the extension manual. As a result of the interviews with the beneficiaries and program beneficiaries, the suggestions were as follows: a. The architectural community extension program should be continued and extended; b. The SorSU community extension office should continue to strengthen its partnership with other non-government organizations and government agencies; c. The architectural community extension program should be well disseminated and controlled so as not to conflict privately with technical professional practices; d. The architects and allied professionals should be encouraged to take TESDA accreditation on construction technical education and skills development; e. The SorSU community extension office may give the community residents seminars, training,

and other relative activities based on their assessment of needs and expertise as part of their extension activities; and f. Regular visitation, monitoring, and evaluation of the extension projects may be conducted by the school to have a better impact and relationship with the beneficiaries.

XI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusions the following recommendations were hereby offered: 1. The SorSU architectural extension may continue, strengthen and extend the program to the beneficiaries; 2. The school may consider the proposed extension program enhancement as input to the extension manual; and Further research on architectural extension projects that may be conducted to have better active participation and involvement of both implementers and beneficiaries.

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