

ASSESSMENT OF BARANGAY PEACEKEEPING ACTION TEAM (BPATS): INPUT FOR A CAPABILITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**EDUARDO A. CABLAO, JR., PhD**

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ABSTRACT

This study assessed the implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) in selected barangays of Eastern Samar as the basis for a proposed Capability Enhancement Program. It focused on four critical dimensions, Management and Governance, Stakeholder Participation, Resource Availability, and Community Acceptability, to evaluate the overall performance and effectiveness of BPAT operations. The study involved 272 respondents composed of BPAT members, community residents, and Philippine National Police (PNP) personnel from the municipalities of Guiuan, Quinapondan, and Salcedo. Through a descriptive research design, data were gathered to identify the strengths and areas for improvement in the implementation of the BPAT program. Findings revealed an overall grand mean of 3.28, interpreted as Highly Implemented, demonstrating that the BPATs were generally effective in carrying out their peacekeeping responsibilities. In addition, the analysis of success and failure attributes produced a general mean of 3.21, categorized as Priority concerns requiring immediate attention. Moreover, ANOVA results indicated no significant difference among the ratings of the three respondent groups ($F(2, 269) = 1.154, p = .317$), signifying a consistent and unified perception of the BPAT program's performance. The study concludes that while BPATs are fulfilling their intended roles in maintaining peace and order at the grassroots level, continuous capacity-building, strengthened inter-agency coordination, and adequate resource support are vital to sustain and enhance their performance. In response, a comprehensive Capability Enhancement Program was developed to address operational gaps, promote professional growth, and improve overall efficiency. The study further recommends the institutionalization of regular training programs, sustainable funding policies, and stronger collaboration among the PNP, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), local government units, and academic institutions. These findings and recommendations collectively aim to ensure the long-term effectiveness of BPATs as key partners in community policing and local governance.

Keywords: Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPATs), Capability Enhancement Program, Management and Governance, Participation of Stakeholders, Availability of Resources, and Acceptability to the Community, Capability Enhancement Program

INTRODUCTION**Background of the Study**

Public safety relies on a strong partnership between law enforcement and the community. Community policing, as emphasized by Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux (1990), requires shared responsibility, trust, and collaboration. In the Philippines, limited police presence in many localities has led to the establishment of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs)—volunteer groups serving as force multipliers in grassroots security. Created under PNP's Letter of Instruction No. 22/09 "Bayanihan," BPATs assist in patrols, dispute mediation, emergency response, and maintaining order at the barangay level.

Global models of community policing, such as Japan's Koban system and Chicago's engagement strategies, demonstrate the value of sustained community participation and legitimacy. Locally, BPATs proved crucial during COVID-19 lockdowns, yet persistent challenges remain. Studies reveal gaps in legal knowledge, lack of standardized procedures, limited training, weak coordination, equipment shortages, and rising psychosocial concerns among volunteers.

Scholars stress that effective public safety depends on legitimacy, fairness, and strong community cooperation. In the Philippines, BPAT performance varies due to unclear roles, structural inconsistencies, and insufficient competency-building in law, communication, and disaster response. Emerging digital tools show potential to enhance community policing but require addressing technological access and data privacy concerns. Furthermore, peacekeeping must consider socio-economic factors, as sustainable security is linked to community development.

Despite CHED's call for universities to support community-based extension programs, research specifically targeting BPAT capability development remains scarce. Eastern Samar, characterized by disaster vulnerability, security issues, and socio-economic constraints, provides an important setting for examining BPAT operations. This study therefore assesses the status, strengths, and challenges of BPATs in selected Eastern Samar barangays and proposes a Capability Enhancement Program to support more effective community policing and contribute to local governance and academic discourse on public safety.

Statement of the Problem

The study aims to describe the essential role of BPAT in selected Barangays of Eastern Samar, anchored in the Community Oriented Policing System, as well as to provide inputs for formulating the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team Capability Enhancement Program in relation to police-community policing. Specifically, the study will seek to answer the following sub-questions:

1. Demographic profile of respondents in terms of:
 - 1.1 Age;
 - 1.2 Sex;
 - 1.3 Group Category; and
 - 1.4 Municipality
2. What is the level of implementation of BPAT in selected Barangays of Eastern Samar in terms of:
 - 2.1 Management and Governance;
 - 2.2 Participation of Stakeholders;
 - 2.3 Availability of Resources; and
 - 2.4 Acceptability to the Community
3. What are the respondents' perceptions on the attributes of the success and failure of BPAT in selected Barangay of Eastern Samar?
4. Is there a significant difference in the assessments between the three groups of respondents as to the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team implemented in Selected Barangays of Eastern Samar?

Significance of the Study

This study also discusses the need to formulate new programs for the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team Capability Enhancement Program. Further, this study provides information that is very important for the society and community of Eastern Samar, and the people of the Municipality of Guiuan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan Eastern Samar, who are the constituents and main beneficiaries of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team Capability Enhancement Program. This study provides some practical significance for the following groups:

The Philippine National Police. The PNP has developed and promoted the idea of a Community Oriented Policing System which includes the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) for several years now. This study contributes to the collage of information available to provide inputs to the viability and sustainability of these policing initiatives. Especially to the Guiuan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan Municipal Police Station in Eastern Samar and to the Eastern Samar Provincial Police Office. Community linkage and cooperation is an important aspect not to be neglected in policing specifically in anti-crime activities.

The Local Government Units, especially to the different Barangay of Eastern Samar, and to the Municipal Government of Guiuan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan Eastern Samar. The data provided by the study can provide inputs for legislation and the development of programs in peace and order initiatives. The data can be used for proposing like-minded initiatives on police-community relations.

Students and Researchers. The students and researchers will benefit from this study because they can be provided with suggestions that could lead to future research.

Policy Makers. Legislators and people involved with policy-making can gain insights from this study. They can use the data to back up the proposition or to commission further inquiry.

The College of Criminal Justice Education. This study can be part of the University Library, and can be used by Bachelor of Science in Criminology students of the Eastern Samar State University (ESSU) and of other colleges as reference material for future studies related to this endeavor.

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The study seeks to assess the current state of BPAT implementation in selected barangays of Eastern Samar, inputs for Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team Capability Enhancement Program, that can bridge the identified gaps and bolster the capacity of BPATs to perform their duties more effectively. This study will be conducted in selected Municipalities and Barangay of Eastern Samar and will be participated composed of three groups, the first group are PNP personnel; the second group are the members of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team; and the third group are the member of the community of the said Municipalities and Barangay. The study further delimited on the nature of BPATs in terms of legal basis, philosophy, features, organizational set-up and management and operation and how BPAT is implemented. Likewise, the researchers opted to focus on the mentioned programs since it is one of the recommendations of accrediting bodies such as Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP).

Related Literature

Public safety and effective policing are widely understood as collaborative endeavors that require both state actors and active citizen participation. The literature converges on the idea that volunteerism and community involvement can complement formal law enforcement efforts to promote local well-being and public order. Alternative or community-oriented policing models trace their intellectual roots to modern ideas about individual agency and civic responsibility; empirical results, however, remain mixed—some contexts report crime reduction and improved police–community relations, while others show limited impact. The philosophy and practice of community policing provide a theoretical foundation for grassroots peacekeeping initiatives like the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs). Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux (1990) articulate the core principles of community policing: partnership, problem solving, and trust building between police and citizens—principles that inform BPAT operations. Bayley (2005) adds that democratic accountability and legitimacy are essential for local policing to gain public confidence. Evaluations of community policing in urban settings—such as Skogan’s (2006) work in Chicago—demonstrate that structured, sustained engagement with residents can improve perceptions of safety. Meta-analytic and cross-national reviews (e.g., Gill et al., 2014) caution that community-based models are effective only when supported by clear policy frameworks, adequate training, and institutional backing. Technology also figures in the literature: Elphick et al. (2020) find that mobile platforms and digital tools can improve reporting and coordination in neighborhood safety efforts, though such interventions require attention to access and data privacy. Philippine studies and policy documents position the PNP’s barangay-level initiatives—such as the Barangay Peacekeeping Operation (BPO) and BPATs under LOI “Bayanihan”—as responses to localized capacity gaps in peace and order. Scholars and evaluators have repeatedly identified strengths and constraints in BPAT implementation. Reports from different localities indicate that BPATs have been instrumental during emergencies (e.g., COVID-19 checkpoints) but often lack PPE, health training, and standardized operating procedures (Castro et al., 2024; Fabrigar et al., 2019). Several studies highlight critical capability shortfalls: insufficient legal knowledge and human-rights awareness (Baon et al., 2017; Baisac et al., 2015; Ledesma, 2022), unclear command structures and coordination problems (Doquilla et al., 2023), and inconsistent protocols that confuse the public about BPAT roles (Fabrigar et al., 2019). Research on disaster preparedness shows gaps in emergency response training (Martinez & Olivar, 2024), while technology studies note benefits from mobile communication but warn about unequal access and privacy concerns (Fernandez & Santos, 2023). Psychosocial dimensions are increasingly noted: youth volunteers exhibit emotional fatigue and burnout in the absence of psychological support, prompting calls for integrated psychosocial care in training modules (Vergara & Estrella, 2023; Sanchez & Alindogan, 2025). Visibility and sustained community outreach are linked to greater trust (Quintos & Cañete, 2025), reinforcing the need for institutionalized engagement strategies.

Related Studies

Tyler and Fagan’s study, *Why Does the Public Cooperate with Law Enforcement*, examined the relationship between legitimacy and cooperation with authorities. They defined legitimacy as the perception that legal authorities are entitled to be obeyed. While earlier research focused on legal compliance, Tyler and Fagan explored how legitimacy influences cooperation—such as assisting police or reporting incidents—highlighting that cooperation depends not just on obedience but on trust in fair procedures. In the field of volunteerism and safety operations, Kwak et al. (2021) assessed volunteer groups involved in disaster response and found that role clarity and prior training significantly improved response efficiency. This finding is directly relevant to BPATs, which require clearly defined responsibilities in emergency scenarios. Wolff et al. (2021) examined community monitors in informal settlements across Africa and Asia and concluded that volunteer-based safety teams can effectively reduce crime when properly trained and supported by their communities. Their findings reinforce the need for BPAT capability-building and trust-building activities. Hastings and Ubilava (2023) explored how economic hardship contributes to social unrest, suggesting that peacekeeping efforts must integrate livelihood programs to address deeper roots of instability. This perspective implies that BPAT initiatives should align with barangay-level development efforts. Likewise, the *Nonviolent Peaceforce* (2025) reported that local volunteers trained in conflict mediation effectively de-escalated tensions in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao and Thailand, emphasizing the value of nonviolent communication and mediation skills for local peacekeepers. Comparatively, Tran and Serrano (2024) reviewed Southeast Asian peacekeeping systems and commended the Philippine BPAT model for its grassroots integration. However,

they identified a lack of national accreditation and policy support, recommending legal formalization and centralized funding to ensure long-term sustainability. Local research highlights both the strengths and challenges of BPAT operations in different Philippine communities. Roxas (2020), in a study conducted in Dagupan City, found that BPAT members contributed significantly during public emergencies but lacked health protocol knowledge and adequate safety equipment. This underscores the necessity of integrating health-related instruction in BPAT training. Laroza et al. (2022) examined BPAT volunteers in Ozamiz City and found that while members were motivated to serve, the absence of allowances and formal recognition hindered morale. This suggests that incentive mechanisms could sustain volunteer engagement. Garcia and Dizon (2022) observed that trained and well-organized BPAT teams helped reduce disorderly conduct during town fiestas in Nueva Ecija, indicating the need for crowd control and event management training. Navarro and Reyes (2023) compared online and blended training models for BPATs and reported that hybrid training approaches enhanced knowledge retention and real-world application—supporting the integration of digital tools in BPAT capability development. Ortega and Cruz (2024) studied BPAT involvement in local anti-drug campaigns and found gaps in documentation and referral procedures, recommending formal training in reporting and case referral. Sanchez and Alindogan (2025) implemented psychological first aid (PFA) training for BPATs in Pampanga and found it effective in helping volunteers manage emotionally charged interactions. Their study affirms the importance of integrating mental health support components into BPAT programs. Studies affirm the critical role of community-based volunteer teams in grassroots peacekeeping and emergency response. BPATs are frequently the first responders during crises and essential partners in community policing efforts. However, recurring challenges, insufficient training, lack of legal and procedural knowledge, inadequate equipment, unclear roles, and absence of psychological support, limit their effectiveness. Research consistently calls for a comprehensive capability enhancement program grounded in consistent training, inter-agency coordination, legal and human rights education, proper logistics, and mental health preparedness. These studies provide a strong empirical foundation for the proposed Capability Enhancement Program, which aims to strengthen BPAT performance, sustainability, and community impact.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study employed a quantitative descriptive research design to assess the performance and effectiveness of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) in their roles related to conflict resolution and peacekeeping. The quantitative approach was used to gather numerical data that can be statistically analyzed to determine trends, relationships, and levels of performance among BPATs across selected barangays. The descriptive method was appropriate for this study because it aimed to present the current status of BPAT operations, their involvement in the barangay justice system, and the community's perception of their effectiveness. The data obtained served as the basis for identifying gaps and designing a targeted capability enhancement program.

Research Locale

The study was conducted on the selected Barangays within selected Municipalities in the Second District of Eastern Samar, which includes the Municipality of Quinapondan, Salcedo, and Guiuan, Eastern Samar. These municipalities were purposively chosen due to their strategic importance in community-based peacekeeping and their active implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) program. This includes Guiuan Municipal Police Station, Salcedo Municipal Police Station, and Quinapondan Municipal Police Station. Barangays such as (1) Barangay Camparang, Barangay 08, Barangay Cantahay, Barangay Salug and Barangay Lupok, of Guiuan, Eastern Samar; (2) Barangay 13, Barangay Naparaan, Barangay Palanas, Barangay Camanga and Barangay Carapdapan, of Salcedo, Eastern Samar; and (3) Barangay Sta. Margarita, Barangay 05, Barangay San Vicente, Barangay Valley and Barangay Sto. Nino, of Quinapondan, Eastern Samar.

Research Respondents

The respondents of the study were composed of three groups, the first group is PNP personnel, which includes the (1) Chief of Police; (2) Police Community Relation Officer; and (3) Intelligence chief; the second groups are the members of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team; and the third groups are the member of the community of the said Municipalities and Barangay for a total of 272 respondents.

Sampling Procedure

The study employed a combination of purposive and stratified sampling techniques. Purposive sampling was used to select key informants from the Philippine National Police (PNP), including the Chief of Police, Police Community Relations Officer, and Intelligence Chief in each municipality, due to their direct involvement in local peacekeeping operations. Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) members were also purposively chosen as they are the main focus of the study.

Meanwhile, stratified sampling was applied to select community members, with a quota of 50 respondents per municipality to ensure equal representation across Guiuan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan. This approach ensured that perspectives from all key stakeholder groups were adequately represented in the total sample of 272 respondents.

Research instrument

This study used a self-administered questionnaire to collect information from the respondents. In the survey questionnaire, the entire question was designed to assess the roles, implementation, strengths, and weaknesses, and perceived success or failure of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) in selected barangays of Eastern Samar, in the context of the Community-Oriented Policing System (COPS).

To ensure the validity of the instrument, its content was evaluated by a panel of experts composed of academicians and practitioners in the fields of public administration, criminology, and community policing. They reviewed the questionnaire to determine its appropriateness, clarity, and alignment with the study objectives. Revisions were made based on their recommendations to improve the wording, structure, and relevance of the items, thereby establishing content validity.

Furthermore, the reliability of the instrument was established through a pilot test conducted among a small group of respondents with similar characteristics to the actual participants. The responses from the pilot test were analyzed using Cronbach's Alpha, yielding a value of 0.873. This high reliability coefficient indicates that the items in the scale demonstrated strong internal consistency and are suitable for full-scale data collection.

Data Gathering Procedure

Communication letters were addressed to the Municipal Police Stations and barangays within the Municipality of Quinapondan, Salcedo, and Guiuan, Eastern Samar, asking permission for the questionnaire to be distributed among PNP personnel, members of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team, and selected members of the community as respondents of the study. Data collection was facilitated using a self-structured questionnaire. The information generated from the questionnaire was verified and cross-checked against the information collected using other data collection techniques.

Data Analysis

The data for this study were tallied, categorized, tabulated, and analyzed using appropriate statistical treatments to interpret the findings accurately. Descriptive statistics such as frequency counts, percentages, and rating scales were applied to assess the strengths and weaknesses,

as well as the successes and failures, in the implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) in selected barangays of Eastern Samar. To determine whether significant differences existed among the assessments of the three respondent groups regarding BPAT implementation, the study utilized Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), which served as the most suitable statistical tool for identifying variations in perceived effectiveness and highlighting areas for improvement. The variables of the study were measured using standardized scales: for strengths and weaknesses, ratings ranged from Strongly Agree (3.26–4.00, Highly Implemented) to Strongly Disagree (1.00–1.75, Not Implemented); and for the attributes of success and failure, the same scale range applied, with interpretations varying from Highly Priority to Not Priority. This integrated approach ensured a comprehensive analysis of BPAT operations to support the development of targeted capability enhancement programs.

Ethical Considerations

This study was subjected to ethical considerations. First, participation was entirely voluntary, with participants informed of their right to withdraw at any time without any negative consequences. The researchers ensured the confidentiality of the data sources such that the names of the participants were optional and treated as anonymous. Additionally, researchers engaged with local leaders and respected the cultural norms of the barangays in Eastern Samar, conducting the study with cultural sensitivity and respect. Efforts were made to minimize potential risks and maximize the benefits of the proposed capability enhancement program, contributing positively to community safety and well-being. Moreover, the researchers utilized a technique known as member checking, also known as participant or respondent validation, to test the results' trustworthiness (Birt, Scott, et.al 2016). The study's findings and conclusions were given to participants to confirm that their responses were correctly interpreted.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presented the answers to the research questions addressed in this study based on the data collected.

Demographic Profile

In terms of age which indicates respondents from the age group of 26 – 35 years old have the higher frequency counts of student interns with 102 or 38%. While the age group of 56 and above has the lowest frequency counts with 11 or 4% of the total population. 144 or 52.9% of the respondents were male and 128 or 47.1% were female. This indicates a higher frequency count of males in the total population. Among the three (3) groups, Community members have the highest frequency of 150 or 55.1%, followed by the BPATs Member with 110 or 40.4%. Meanwhile, PNP Personnel has the lowest frequency counts of 12 or 4.4% of the total population. Guiuan has the highest frequency count of respondents with 93 or 34.2% of the total population, followed by Quinapondan with 91 or 33.5% of the population. And lastly, 88 or 32.4% of respondents were from Salcedo the lowest frequency among the municipalities.

Implementation of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPATS)

The implementation of BPATs in terms of Management and Governance obtained a mean score of 3.20, interpreted as Implemented, indicating that respondents view these aspects as satisfactorily carried out. The highest-rated indicator was the encouragement of community participation in crime prevention ($M = 3.29$), highlighting its strong emphasis in governance efforts. Meanwhile, the lowest-rated item was the deployment of additional personnel to cover crime-prone areas ($M = 3.08$), suggesting a need for improved resource allocation in high-risk zones.

In terms of stakeholder participation, highest-rated indicator was consultation with barangay officials on crime-related concerns ($M = 3.38$), emphasizing the importance of strong coordination between the PNP and local leaders in developing effective crime prevention strategies. The lowest mean ($M = 3.11$) pertained to sustaining visitations for crime reporting and updating community members on case progress, suggesting a need to strengthen follow-through and feedback mechanisms. With a grand mean of 3.25, stakeholder participation is generally Implemented, though improvements in communication and consistent community engagement are recommended to further enhance BPAT effectiveness.

Availability of Resources revealed a general mean of 3.21, interpreted as Implemented. The highest-rated indicator was the training and retraining of rescuers for flood disaster operations ($M = 3.35$), highlighting the emphasis on capacity-building for effective disaster response. The lowest mean ($M = 3.03$) was for sustaining food control awareness during preventable disasters, indicating relatively less focus in this area. Overall, resource allocation is moderately implemented, with balanced support across training, health services, food aid, and public education being essential for a well-rounded disaster response.

In terms of Acceptability to the Community yielded a grand mean of 3.44, interpreted as Highly Implemented. The highest-rated indicator was the cooperation of the community in maintaining peace and order ($M = 3.65$), reflecting strong collaboration between residents and BPATs. The lowest-rated item was dissemination and awareness of BPAT activities ($M = 3.26$), suggesting that community outreach could be further strengthened. Overall, the results indicate that BPATs are widely accepted and supported by the community, reinforcing the legitimacy and effectiveness of their operations.

The overall assessment of BPAT implementation yielded a grand mean of 3.28, interpreted as Highly Implemented. This indicates that the program is functioning effectively and achieving its goals in the studied barangays. Continuous monitoring, training, and stakeholder engagement are recommended to sustain and enhance BPAT's impact on community peace and security.

Attributes of BPATS Success and Failure

The perceived attributes of BPATs yielded a general mean of 3.21, interpreted as Agree and categorized as Priority, indicating overall positive performance with areas needing improvement. The highest-rated indicators ($M = 3.36$) included adequate equipment, clearly defined duties with rotations, and strong relations with LGUs and other organizations, highlighting the importance of logistical support, structured task delegation, and inter-agency collaboration. The lowest-rated item ($M = 3.04$) was the adequacy of crime prevention capabilities, suggesting a need for enhanced skills and training. These findings underscore that BPAT success relies on proper organization, equipment, collaboration, and continuous capacity-building.

Difference between Groups on the Implementation of BPATS

The ANOVA results indicated no statistically significant differences in BPAT assessments among the three stakeholder groups ($F(2, 270) = 1.154, p = .317$). This suggests that perceptions of BPAT performance and implementation were generally consistent across community members, BPAT members, and PNP personnel, reflecting a shared understanding of the program's efforts and impact.

Summary

This chapter presents the key results of the study, focusing on the demographic profile of respondents and their assessment of the implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) across selected barangays in Eastern Samar. The findings highlight the extent to which BPAT strategies, operations, and community engagement efforts are perceived to be carried out.

Demographic Profile

The results revealed that most respondents were aged 26–35 (38%), predominantly male (52.9%), and mainly community members (55.1%). Guiuan accounted for the largest share of respondents (34.2%), followed by Quinapondan and Salcedo.

Assessment of the Implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs)

In terms of Management and Governance, BPAT implementation was rated as Implemented (grand mean = 3.20), with strong emphasis on encouraging community participation. Similarly, Stakeholder Participation obtained a grand mean of 3.25, highlighting effective consultation with barangay officials, although feedback mechanisms in crime reporting need further strengthening. For Availability of Resources, the grand mean of 3.21 indicated adequate implementation, particularly in training responders for disaster operations. However, sustaining food control awareness received the lowest score. The highest implementation rating emerged under Acceptability to the Community (grand mean = 3.44), demonstrating strong community cooperation, effective partnerships, and high confidence in BPAT efforts. Overall, the combined grand mean of 3.28 signifies that the BPAT program is highly implemented in the covered areas.

Attributes of BPATS Success and Failure

Respondents emphasized key success factors such as adequate equipment, clear duties, and strong inter-agency linkages, while identifying the need to enhance crime prevention skills. With the overall general mean of 3.21, this suggests that while most indicators are perceived as being positively addressed, some aspects still need prioritization for the BPAT program to achieve optimal performance.

Difference between Groups on the Implementation of BPATS

Finally, the ANOVA results showed no significant differences in assessments among the three stakeholder groups ($F = 1.154, p = .317$), signifying a common and consistent perception of BPAT performance. This suggests that the BPAT program is uniformly experienced and evaluated across community members, BPAT members, and PNP personnel.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the implementation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) in selected barangays of Eastern Samar has been generally effective, as reflected by the overall grand mean of 3.28, interpreted as Highly Implemented. The findings across the four key dimensions—Management and Governance, Stakeholder Participation, Resource Availability, and Community Acceptability—demonstrate that while foundational systems are in place and functional, there remains room for improvement in terms of logistical support, resource allocation, and stakeholder engagement. The high level of community acceptability suggests strong public trust in the BPATs, reinforcing their relevance in grassroots peacekeeping efforts. Moreover, the absence of significant differences in the assessments among the respondent groups indicates a shared and consistent perception of the program's implementation across different sectors. In sum, the study affirms that the BPATs are fulfilling their intended roles in promoting peace and order at the barangay level. However, to ensure sustained success and greater impact, continuous capacity-building programs, strengthened inter-agency coordination, and enhanced support systems must be prioritized as part of a comprehensive capability enhancement program.

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