

# Executive Summary

The Bayaoas Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (BSRIP) is a critical initiative led by the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Region I - Pangasinan Irrigation Management Office. The project aims to enhance agricultural productivity by improving irrigation infrastructure in Aguilar, Pangasinan. By constructing a zoned embankment dam and a gravity-fed irrigation system, the project seeks to address seasonal water shortages and support sustainable farming practices.

## Objectives

- •Evaluate the feasibility, sustainability, and impact of the BSRIP.
- •Identify key challenges and opportunities in project implementation.
- •Document best practices and lessons learned.
- •Provide strategic recommendations to enhance governance, operations, and long-term project effectiveness.

## Methodology

The study utilized a mixed-methods approach, including document reviews, environmental impact assessments, stakeholder consultations, and field surveys. Data collection involved:

- •Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with local officials, farmers, and NIA representatives.
- •Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with affected communities and irrigation users.
- •**Desk Review** of feasibility studies, environmental compliance reports, and hydrological assessments.
- •Site Inspections to evaluate construction progress, water management systems, and environmental safeguards.





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### **Key Findings**

### **Project Implementation and Operations**

•Pre-Implementation Phase: Planning and coordination among NIA, local government units (LGUs), and other stakeholders ensured regulatory compliance and funding allocation.
•Implementation Phase: Construction of the dam and irrigation canals proceeded with adjustments to accommodate environmental and logistical constraints.

•Post-Implementation Phase: Monitoring mechanisms are in place, but challenges remain in data collection, water distribution equity, and infrastructure maintenance.

### **Challenges Identified**

•Governance and Coordination: Bureaucratic delays and policy misalignments affect project execution.

•Infrastructure and Technology: While the gravity-fed system is efficient, maintenance and climate resilience need improvement.

•Environmental Impact: The project affects forest lands and river channels, requiring strong mitigation measures. •Socio-Economic Impact: Increased agricultural productivity is evident, but concerns over equitable water access persist.





(c) Water Flow Measurement Using Simple Float

### Recommendations

## **Governance and Coordination**

 Strengthen inter-agency collaboration to enhance decisionmaking and streamline policy execution.

•Develop a centralized project management and reporting system.

### Infrastructure and Maintenance

•Implement long-term maintenance plans for irrigation canals and dam structures.

 Incorporate climate adaptation measures to enhance project resilience.

### **Environmental and Social Safeguards**

 Develop a watershed rehabilitation program to offset ecological impacts.

•Engage local communities in water resource management to promote inclusivity and sustainability.

### Monitoring and Data Management

•Improve data collection systems through digital tools for realtime monitoring and reporting.

•Conduct periodic impact assessments to refine project strategies and address emerging challenges.

### Conclusion

The Bayaoas Small Reservoir Irrigation Project significantly benefits agricultural sustainability and water resource management in Pangasinan. Continued improvements in governance, infrastructure maintenance, environmental protection, and data-driven decisionmaking are essential to maximize its impact. Through proactive management and sustained collaboration, the project can serve as a model for future irrigation initiatives in the region.

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