

# BRIEF ECOLOGICAL PROFILE

## A. Socio-Economic

### 1. Location, Boundaries and Land Area

The municipality of Aritao is located at the southern part of the Province of Nueva Vizcaya, bounded on the north by Bambang and Kayapa, on the East by Dupax del Sur, on the South by Carranglan, Nueva Ecija, and on the West by Sta. Fe.

It lies within the North Latitude 16° 10' to 16°-20', East Longitude 120°-55' to 121°-06' of the earth's surface. It is around 30 kilometers South of Bayombong, the capital town, 235 kilometers North of Manila, 249 kilometers South of Tuguegarao City, and 107 kilometers East of Baguio City.

The municipality has a total land area of 40,415 hectares based from the Land Management Bureau-Department of Environment and Natural Resources (LMB-DENR). The municipality is composed of twenty-two barangays, nine upland and thirteen lowland. Aritao is considered mountainous.

### 2. Demography

The population of Aritao per 2020 Philippine Statistics Authority census is 42,197 with an 8.48 % share to the total population of the province.

| <b>Province, City, Municipality, and Barangay</b> | <b>Total Population</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| <b>NUEVA VIZCAYA</b>                              | <b>497,432</b>          |
| <b>ARITAO</b>                                     | <b>42,197</b>           |
| Banganan  | 3,419                   |
| Beti  | 2,172                   |
| Bone North  | 2,609                   |
| Bone South  | 4,390                   |
| Calitlitan  | 2,488                   |
| Comon   | 4,229                   |
| Cutar   | 1,853                   |
| Darapidap   | 2,760                   |
| Kirang  | 3,210                   |
| Nagcuartelan                                      | 1,321                   |
| Poblacion   | 4,354                   |
| Santa Clara                                       | 1,219                   |
| Tabueng   | 655                     |
| Tucanon   | 1,556                   |
| Anayo   | 453                     |
| Baan  | 590                     |
| Balite  | 796                     |
| Canabuan  | 774                     |
| Canarem   | 946                     |
| Latar-Nocnoc-San Francisco                        | 632                     |
| Ocao-Capiniaan                                    | 940                     |
| Yaway   | 831                     |

The top three most populated barangays are Bone South (4,390), Poblacion (4,354) and Comon (4,299) while Anayo posted the least populated barangay with a total of 453. The gross population density of the municipality is 104 persons/sq.km.

### **3. Social Development**

#### ***Health and Nutrition***

Health facilities in Aritao are accessible. Barangay health stations and rural health clinics are strategically located within the municipality. The Botika ng Bayan is located at the Municipal Health Office. Due to the topography of the municipality and the distances of the facility to the households, midwives are stationed at the different barangays.

One private infirmary hospital the Indigenous People Hospital is located at Banganan with 15 hospital bed manned with 16 doctors, 6 nurses, 2 midwives, 4 medical technologists. There are eight private clinics, four diagnostic center, four private dental clinics and seven pharmacies situated in the municipality.

#### ***Education***

The literacy rate of the population based from PSA 2015 census, 10 years old and over registered at 99% in which male contributed 50% while female post a contribution of 49%. Only 1% was unable to read and write a simple message in any language. Least number of literate falls in the age bracket of 55-64 of the both sexes.

Aritao is divided into two educational zones, District I and District II. All the 22 barangays of Aritao have preparatory school facilities and/or Day Care Centers (DCC). There are also three private preparatory schools. For elementary schools, there are 23 public elementary schools and 2 private schools. There are 2 public and 3 private secondary schools. There is one SPED school and sole technology-vocational school the Southern Cagayan Valley School of Technology Inc. (SCVSTI) school located at Aritao. Majority of college students are studying outside the municipality since SCVSTI offered limited courses and focus on technology-vocational alone. All the educational facilities of Aritao are accessible.

#### ***Housing***

There are 8,501 occupied housing units wherein 8,134 or 96% are single house, 284 or 3% are duplex and the remaining 83 or 1% are multi-unit residential and commercial/agricultural. The 8,191 household resides at 8,134 single house, 288 household in 284 duplex and 83 household resides in 83 are multi-unit residential and commercial/agricultural. Meaning there are more than one household residing in one housing unit.

*Residential Subdivision.* There are 277 household in Patricia Village Subdivision I and II located at barangay Banganan.

*Socialized Housing.* The municipal government has implemented core housing projects located at Banganan, the Gawad Kalinga Village with an area of two hectares with 53 household. Another area is in Barangay Beti with an area of 13 hectares with 8 households. There is still available space for future resettlement.

#### ***Social Welfare and Development***

The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Aritao is manned by a full pledged social worker. All social welfare facilities and services of the municipality are accessible.

*Day Care Center.* The 22 barangays of Aritao extend day care services. Aside from Canarem utilizing home-based center all of the 21 barangays have existing day care center and some of the barangays has more than one Day Care Center like Bone South, Comon and Poblacion. Almost all these Day Care Center are strategically located adjacent the barangay halls in every barangay.

*Senior Citizen Care Center.* The Senior Citizen Care Center is located at Mabini Street, Poblacion while the Office for Senior Citizen Affair (OSCA) is at the municipal compound headed by a Chairperson. The senior citizens are organized in a municipal federation.

*Women's Center.* Crisis Intervention Unit under the Municipal Social, Welfare and Development Office is located at LGU compound to promote understanding of the evolving roles of women.

The following social welfare programs and services catered by the Local Government Unit of Aritao, are:

1. Child and Youth Welfare
2. Family and Community Welfare
3. Women's Welfare
4. Person with Disabilities and Elderly Welfare
5. Others
  - Socialized Housing
  - PhilHealth
  - Socialized Pension
  - 4P's Cash Transfer

## **4. Infrastructure Development**

### ***Transportation***

The municipality of Aritao is traversed by the Maharlika Road cutting across from Darapidap at the north-eastern part to Calitlitan of the south-western part. Along this main backbone line, there are lateral roads that branched out and these are the Aritao-Baguio Road and NV-Quirino Road originating at Banganan and now, the on-going eastern route Aritao-Caranglan, Nueva Ecija originating at Banganan going to Canabuan.

Internal circulation and access road to barangays are provided by the CVR-Comon-Sta. Clara-Canabuan Road, a provincial road originating from the Poblacion, the Banganan-Tucanon Tabueng originating at Banganan and terminating at Barangay Comon and the Bone North-Gasajas-Comon Road, the one originating at Barangay Bone North -joining the provincial road at Comon provided access for the adjoining barangays of Tucanon, Tabueng, Comon, Latar, Beti, Sta Clara, Anayo, Canarem and Canabuan. Other road circulations are Barangay Beti – Yaway – Santa Clara providing access to Barangay Yaway to the provincial road. Barangay Balite – Calitlitan and Oca-Capinian to Bone North are access roads linking remote Barangays of Oca-Capinian and Balite to the Urban Centers.

The municipality has a total road network of 308.516 kms classified as National Road – 40.80 kms, Provincial Road – 30.3009 kms, Municipal Road – 14.3456 kms and Barangay Road – 223.07 kms. 132.288 kms or 42.88% are gravel roads; 50.229 km or 16.28% are concrete roads; 11.05 kms or 3.58% are tirepaths and 114.627 kms or 37.15% are earth roads which are mostly barangay roads.

All types of vehicles like buses, minibuses, vans, jeeps and tricycles provide public transport services in the municipality of Aritao. Tricycles generally serve short distance trips within the municipality with some trips being made to outlying barangays.

### ***Power***

The Power supply for the municipality came from Luzon Grid of TRANSCO which was being distributed by the Nueva Vizcaya Electric Cooperative Inc. (NUVELCO) through its 15 MVA substation at Gabut, Dupax del Sur. The 22 barangays of the municipality had already been energized however, with the topography of the municipality as mostly hilly to mountainous and the sporadic clustering of houses, there are still sitios that are not served with electricity or households have difficulty accessing electricity due maybe to affordability. Of the 10,549 total households of the municipality, 9,446 households (90%) have access to electricity.

### ***Water***

Barangays Poblacion and Banganan are served by ARWASA and BALIBAGO Waterworks. With the Sagana at Ligtas na Tubig para sa lahat (SALINTUBIG) PROJECT of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in coordination with the Local Government Unit, eleven barangays (Bone South, Bone North, Calitlitan, Comon, Cutar, Darapidap, Kirang, Latar, Nagcuartelan, Tucanon and Yaway) are recipients of said project. And it serves as the major source of potable water in their area of responsibility.

However, seven out of 11 are operational and manage by the registered Barangay Waterworks and Sanitation Association (BAWASA). The other four are not yet operational in nature due to lack of water supply and water system rehabilitation.

Aside from the SALINTUBIG project and private waterworks, another sources of water supply for drinking are the 17 water refilling stations, shared tubed/piped deep well and protected spring. There are 7,556 household or 72% of the total household of Aritao with access to potable water.

### ***Information and Communication Services***

Information and communication are mostly provided by private service providers. Internet connectivity and wireless telephone system is through Smart, Globe and Sun Cellular through the seven cell site facilities distributed in the municipality. However, since the cell site facilities of these companies are located at barangay Poblacion, Banganan, and Bone South, the reach of their signal is limited, leaving much of the outskirts barangays without access to cellphone communication.

The municipality is reached by broadcast media (Radio and Television) and print media.

## **5. Environmental Development**

### ***Waste Management***

Only five barangays are within the waste collection system for residual waste. These are the barangays of Banganan, Calitlitan, Cutar, Darapidap and Poblacion. Waste collection is subsidized by the Local Government Unit, household waste generators are not paying any fee for their garbage.

Barangay Local Government Unit of Poblacion conducts regular collection of bio-waste (house to house or within a designated collection point) while for the other 21 barangays, backyard composting is being practiced. While, recyclable materials are directly sold to ambulant junk buyers.

For residual waste and special waste, it was regularly collected by the local government unit establishment to establishment or within designated collection point and being disposed at the category 1 sanitary landfill and municipal septic vault, respectively located at the Municipal Ecological Park, Barangay Kirang.

Waste water generated at the Sanitary Landfill CELL 2 has a total of one cu m per day and it is treated through leachate treatment system consists of a holding tank and stabilization ponds (Facultative and Maturation Ponds).

### ***Forest Management***

The total area of the municipality of Aritao is dominated by forestland. From the total land area, only 25.84% or 9,022.68 hectares is classified as Alienable and Disposable Lands (A&D). The remaining 25,879.78 hectares or 74.16% is classified as Forestlands.

The total area of protection forest of the municipality of Aritao is 17,400.48 hectares or 67.24% of the total forestlands while the total production forest of Aritao is 8,479.39 hectares or 32.76% of the total forestland. As to sub-category and primary use of the production forest, the area devoted to agro-forestry registered the largest area of 5,399.19 hectares or a percentage of 63.67% of the total production forest. This includes areas of open grasslands/brushlands that are seasonally planted with agricultural crops such as tomatoe, beans and other short-term crops. Large areas of this sub-category are located at Baan, Darapidap, Kirang, Bone North and South and Calitlitan.

### ***Watershed Management***

Watersheds condition of existing springs and wells are deteriorating. Based from the Forestland Land Use Plan of Aritao, the municipality's forest cover is declining affecting the watersheds of these water sources. The existing Level III water system of Aritao has difficulty delivering the water requirements of its coverage area and its expansion is hindered because of limited water being pump out from ground water aquifer. The watershed cover of this groundwater source is open grassland with some brushlands which are located at Barangay Banganan, Darapidap and Poblacion.

The watersheds of other sources are also threatened of denudation due to timber poaching, charcoal making, kaingin and forest fire. It is not far fetch that the municipality will be having problem in accessing water in the future or will be investing more funds to look for water deeper on the ground.

## **6. Economic Development**

***Agriculture.*** Agriculture is known as the backbone of the economy and it has been the traditional economic base of Aritao, as such will remain to be a significant sector in the economic development of the town.

A total of 3,778.30 hectares are devoted to rice production which able to produce 43,752.20 metric ton with an average annual production of 5.78 metric ton per hectare. There are 450 hectares devoted for onion production

with 6,750 metric ton volume of produce, tomato area with 250 hectare producing 500 metric ton and 280.60 hectare are planted with mango. These major crops of the municipality are marketed locally.

Other crops planted are vegetables which are cultivated intermittently. Rice, tomato and mango are planted in almost all of the barangays while onion in 9 barangays. The secondary crops are mainly planted during the dry season and irrigated primarily by pumps.

**Commerce.** The top two barangays functioning as Neighborhood Commercial Center (Retail Trade) are Barangay Poblacion (2,007 sq. m.) and Barangay Banganan (1,320.50 sq. m.). Barangay Banganan is the expansion area for the commercial area. The most prominent and active economic activity in the municipality is Wholesale and Retail Trade.

In terms of financial deepening, there is one universal/commercial bank, four savings bank, three rural banks, seven cooperatives, nine pawnshops, five Money Changers/Foreign exchange dealers, seven remittance centers and two microfinance institutions operating within the locality.

**Industry.** The municipality has agro and economic activities and mostly are swine production, furniture making, metalcrafts, concrete products, handicrafts, auto-assembly and pottery. Other agro-economic activities in the municipality are livestock and dairy, poultry production, rice milling, food processing and goat/sheep raising. The existing industries in the municipality are classified as light to medium industries meaning the industries are either non-pollutive/ non-hazardous to pollutive/ hazardous.

**Tourism and Culture.** Most of the tourism sites, existing and potential are nature based. There are some man-made but still it capitalizes or blends with its natural environment. Most of the existing tourism establishments are accessible by land transportation from the Poblacion and are owned and operated by private developers. Hotel and restaurants are also available. There are three registered Indigenous Cultural Community in Aritao, the Kalanguya-Ikalahan ICCs/IPs, Naitahuan Peyo si Isinai Aritao and Kalanguya, Iwak and Ibaloi ICCs/IPs whose culture are worthy of preservation and conservation.

## B. Organizational Structure

The municipal government employees totaled to 265. There are 118 permanent employees, 1 temporary, 3 co-terminus, 13 elective and 130 job orders. Female employee (55%) outnumbered the male employee (45%) of Aritao.

The LGU has two branches, the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch.

*Organizational Profile of the LGU*

| Nature of Appointment  | Number     |            |            | Percentage    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
|                        | Male       | Female     | TOTAL      |               |
| <b>Permanent</b>       |            |            |            |               |
| -Head of Offices       | 1          | 8          | 9          | 3.39          |
| -1 <sup>st</sup> Level | 44         | 31         | 75         | 28.30         |
| -2 <sup>nd</sup> Level | 10         | 24         | 34         | 12.83         |
| <b>Temporary</b>       | 1          |            | 1          | 0.37          |
| <b>Co-terminus</b>     | 3          |            | 3          | 1.13          |
| <b>Elective</b>        | 12         | 1          | 13         | 4.90          |
| <b>Job Order</b>       | 48         | 82         | 130        | 49.05         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>119</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>265</b> | <b>100.00</b> |