

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to describe the socio-economic profile mineworkers in Philex Mines, Tube, Benguet. The social profiles of the mineworkers were their economic and social condition; the income and expenditure pattern and their needs and problems.

Results showed that mineworkers of Philex Mining Corporation (PMC) were receiving a lot of benefits such as free housing, electricity, water, medical and transportation within the area, rice allowance and half of the tuition for the mineworkers' children in elementary and high school. Thus, salary of mineworkers is spent on other basic needs such as food, clothing, and education for college, transportation outsides and other essential needs.

However, because of the large family sized the income of mineworkers is still not enough for their essential needs. There were problems/ needs identified by mineworkers. These problems include sanitation because of common facilities used by families/ occupants in bank houses, low salary/ wage, lacked of other livelihood projects, lacked of school buildings and clinics, lacked of medical assistance and

lacked of credit facilities. Lacked of school buildings and clinics and medical assistance was due to the large population of households in the area.

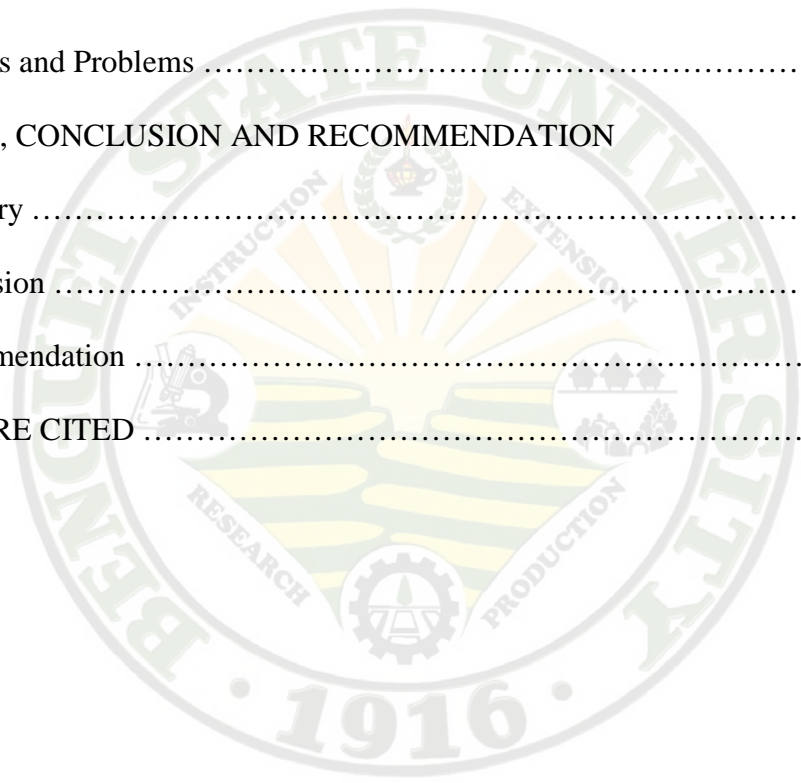
Therefore, I recommend that Philex Mining Corporation should conduct training to introduce other livelihood activities, improved housing facilities and increase school buildings and clinics to cater the needs of its worker.



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INTRODUCTION

Rationale of the Study

The National economic and Development Authority (NEDA) stated that most rural poor are farmers, laborers, loggers, hunters and related works. The primary income comes solely from agriculture, but in areas with scarce potentials for agricultural growth, farmers engage themselves in their other fields like handicraft and entrepreneurial activities to supplement their income.

Daily newspapers are filled with stories on crimes, violence, and graft and corruption. Some say social disorders, caused by drug addiction and some say they are due to poverty.

The upliftment of the social and economic conditions of the rural people is at present a vital concern. This is because many rural folks dwell in areas far from hospitals and learning centers. Moreover the lack of electricity, efficient transportation and communication facilities are contributory factors to their life which is characterized by poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and illness. Therefore, to them from poverty it is important to give attention to the needs and problems of the rural people.

Some other officials are reprioritizing the goals in order to respond to the needs of people in the rural areas so that they will not flock the city.

In spite of the fact that surveys of the social and economic conditions have been undertaken in some provinces, very little emphasis has been given to rural folks. Hence this study will be conducted



Statement of the Problem

This study sought to find out the socio-economic profile of mineworkers at Philex Mines Tuba Benguet and to seek answers to the following:

1. What is the socio-economic profile of mineworkers at philex Mines, Tuba, Benguet.
2. What is their average level of income?
3. What are their living conditions?
4. What are their needs and problems?

Objectives of the Study

This study aimed:

1. To describe the social profile of mineworkers in terms of their socio-economic conditions.
2. To determine the income and expenditure pattern
3. To identify their needs and problems

Importance of the Study

An accurate knowledge of the rural conditions is necessary before an effective program and improvement can be implemented by the government. To support such program and to aid in the formulation of plans and polices, a benchmark information related to the current socio-economic conditions of the rural people is needed.



This research could lead to finding solutions to the problems prevailing over the rural areas. Further research is an essential factor for insights to the life situation of the mineworkers. Hence this study was conducted

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The study is limited to the socio-economic conditions of mineworkers in Philex Mines, Tuba, Benguet, the income and expenditure patterns, and their needs and problems.



REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The Mining Industry

The mining industry has played a significant role in the Philippine economy by contributing consistently high inputs to the country's gross domestic product. It has boosted the Philippine in terms of foreign exchange, earnings, taxes, and employment contributions. In 1990, foreign from mineral exports accounted 10.6% of the country's total exports receipt. Despite its role in the economy, the mining sector is facing a lot of criticism due to the nature of mining operations not being environmentally friendly (Lagunilla, 1992 as cited by Alcedo 2000)

Cerilles, (2000) stated that the mineral industry as it is today is one sector often accused as among the culprits in the destruction of the environment. Yet modern mining can play a crucial role in our economy as the counting positions itself toward globalization.

Dressher, (1983) as cited by Alcedo (2000) stated that mining is a fascinating and difficult task because the earth does not give its mineral resources easily. People must tear them from the earth with picks and shovels, drills and exposure. But the work is well worthy the trouble because our modern civilization could not exist without the materials provided for mining. Furthermore, Courtney (1973), state d that the ultimate challenge to man is to maintain the stability and magnificent diversity of life. Man himself is inexorably and utterly dependent o natural resources and is directly a product of biological evolution. He must learn to maintain a reasonable balance with non-nature based on the facts of ecology. Revillera, (1996) added that mining is perceived by conservationist as essentially destructive to natures ecological balance and the



Environment. Revillera also claimed that mining changes the natural order of things and is not conducive to ecological balance and that it depletes the water sources around the mine site. Botengan, (1997) stated that mining is not bad as long as the contours of the ore for mining is clearly defined however the mining industry is not exempted from having problems.

Effects of Mining Operations to the Society

Mining operations is very detrimental to the environment because of the activities that are practically destructive to its immediate surrounding and beyond its area. These effect is called the “transboundary,” meaning the effect are not only concentrated in the area where it comes from. Activities like soil moving can create pollution in the form of dust and particles carried by the air, which can travel to other places. Likewise, the blasting activities being done and the “drone of running engines of heavy equipment” are contributory to noise pollution. One great effect is the pollution of rivers and sedimentation triggered by the mine wastes dumped into the rivers. There is also the displacement of the indigenes from their ancestral and communal lands, on which activities basically farming are undertaken to support the economy of their household. This causes strains on the livelihoods of the people and also causes high unemployment rates in the rural communities within the catchments of the mines, particularly as the mining companies do not provide enough jobs to make up for the number of people displaced from agriculture (Adjei,2007)



Surface mining entails heavy use of cyanide, a highly toxic substance that causes adverse effects on the environment and the health of residents in mining communities. Aside from expanding operations to lands on which the locals are Farming for a living, the capital intensive surface mining methods employ a relatively small labor force in its operations. This brings the livelihoods of many dwellers in the mining communities directly under pressure and strains (Adjei, 2007).

On the other hand, at a local level, a mine has the potential to significantly benefit the local population through the creation of direct and indirect employment; skills transfer, enhancing the capacity of health and education services, improved infrastructure, and small and medium business opportunities (Awas, 2005

Balacua, (2000) as cited by Bawas (2005 stated that complete rehabilitation of the disturbed area directly affected by mining operations measure are properly placed in the right perspective thereby reducing the direct impact of these activities reducing further the risk involve.

President Arroyo, (2004) mentioned in her meeting with the mining presidents that remediation and rehabilitation should be accorded top priority to address the negative effect of the post mining activity. Urbano, (2003) as cited by Awel (2006) believes also that we should face the challenge to protect and conserve, develop and utilize the natural resources of the stable for the benefit of the present and future generation.



Matter of Life and Limb

The mineworkers are exposed to dust, smoke, falling rocks and boulders, intense vibration and loud blast. There were numerous reported fatal accidents among the mineworkers especially those in the underground operations, manifesting unsafe mining practices. They work for 8 hours according to their calendared shift. They have staggered rest days every week.

A worker daily pay is p350 additional benefits computed in monetary terms is p260, which is why in monetary terms, the benefit per worker amount to p260, which is why the daily wage is p610 per day. Then again, the benefit, like allowances, and rubber boots, are not given daily but once a month or a year only. The National Coordinating Board and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) report that in the Cordillera region, a family of 6 needs at least p573 to survive daily. How could a descent survival possibly be in this exploitative state of affairs?

Social and Economic Problems

The major problem faced by the Philippine today is the rapid population growth, which is getting larger and larger particularly in the rural areas. The rapid growth of the population leads to social and economic problems like poverty, and lack of employment (Adawi, 2005)

Dulinen, (1997) also stated that daily newspapers are filled with stories on crimes, violence, graft and corruption. Some say social disorders are caused by drug addiction. Some say they are due to poverty. Eslao, et .al, (1979) as cited by Navarro, (1983) reported that the specific problems that hamper socio-economic progress of a community



are; big sized families, low income, unemployment, financial incapability to start a chosen career, and tenancy system.

Therefore, to improve the communities, there must be a realistic plan of development program in the following areas; adult education, visual program, radio broadcast, transportation facilities, communication networks, infrastructure, health and sanitation, and religious development.

List of Abbreviations:

BPSO- Barangay Peace Safety Officer

PISA- Philex Integrated Sewers Association

NEDA- National Economic Development Authority

PMC-Philex Mining Corporation

Definition of Terms:

Profile- pertains to all the information and data that are gathered from the Philex Mining Corporation.

Income- this is the money received by a mineworker from various sources.

Expenditure- this refers to the cash outlay incurred by a mineworker. It only includes regular expenditure.

Household-commonly perceived as referring to a group of people who pool resources or “eat from the same pot”.



METHODOLOGY

Locale and Time of the Study

The study was conducted at Philex Mines, Tuba; Benguet from January to February 2008.

Respondents of the Study

The respondents of this study were 50 mineworkers in Philex Mines, Tuba, Benguet with at least 25 to 50 years old. The respondents were selected through a random sampling and were asked to answer the survey questionnaire.

Data Collection

The researcher gathered relevant information through interview with the aid of open and close ended questionnaire. The questionnaires were distributed to the chosen respondents allowing ample time for them to answer each question completely.

Data Gathered

Secondary data were gathered to validate and supplement primary data. The data gathered were average monthly income, and average monthly expenditure and the needs and problems of mineworkers in Philex Mines, Tuba, Benguet.



Data Analysis

The data gathered were tabulated, analyzed and interpreted according to the objectives of the study using simple statistical tools such as frequency counts, mean and percentage.



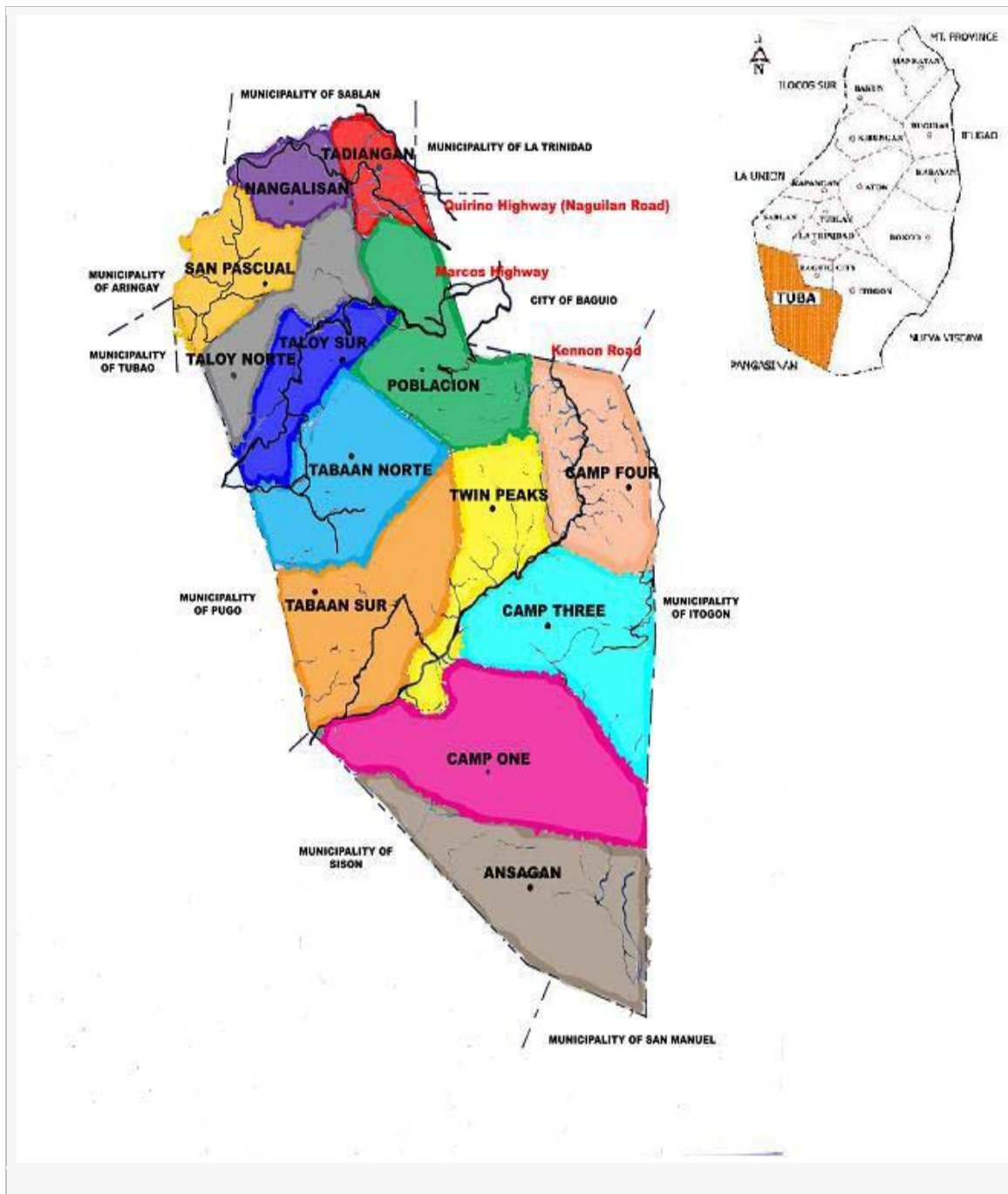


Figure 1. Map of Tuba, Benguet showing the location of the study

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Respondent's Profile

Age. As shown in Table 1, majority of the respondents belonged to the age bracket of 46 to 55 years old with a percentage of 42%, 38% belonged to the age bracket of 36 to 45 years old and 20% belong to the age bracket of 25 to 35 years old. The average age of the respondents was 32.72.

Educational attainment. The educational attainments were categorized into four as follows: primary, secondary, vocational and tertiary. Majority of the respondents pursued secondary level with a total of 60 %, 10 % claimed that they finished tertiary, and 30 % claimed they finished vocational. The findings showed that all the respondents had formal education.

Civil status. In the study, all of the respondents were married and are mostly males which are eighty percent (80 %) of the total respondents, and twenty percent (20 %) were Females. This indicates that all of the respondents have families to support.

Number of household members in the family. Among the fifty respondents, 50% claimed that their family consists of 3-6 members, 46% respondents claimed that their family consist of 7-10 members and 4% respondents claimed that their family consist of 11-14 members as shown in the result, most of the respondents have big family sized.

Social Condition Of Mineworkers

Religion. Table 1 indicated that Roman Catholic and Baptist were the religious sects existing on the locality, 80% of the respondents were Roman Catholic and 20% of



the respondents were Baptist. The biggest membership was Roman Catholic and all of the 50 respondents were all Christians.

Membership in any organization and recreational activities. Among the 50 respondents interviewed 20 % were members of any type of cooperative, 10% were member of Philex Integrated Sewers Association (PISA), 2% was member of Barangay Peace Safety Officer (BPSO) ,2% was member of Gintong Malay and 66% were none members in any organization.

As to recreational activities of the respondents, ballgames specifically volleyball was the most common form of recreation among the mineworkers with a total percentage of 50%, 18% prefer going to movies, 10% choose reading any article, books etc. and 12% choose outing during their free time.

Table 1. Profile of the Respondents

PARTICULAR	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Age		
25-35	10	20
36-45	19	38
46-55	21	42
TOTAL	50	100
Mean=32		

Table 1. Continued

PARTICULAR	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Educational attainment		
Secondary	30	60
Vocational	15	30
Tertiary	5	10
TOTAL	50	100
Civil status		
Single	0	0
Married	50	100
Separated	0	0
Widowed	0	0
TOTAL	50	100
Sex		
Male	40	80
Female	10	20
TOTAL	50	100
Family sized		
3-6	23	46
7-10	25	50
11-14	2	4
TOTAL	50	100



Table 1. Continued.....

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Religion		
Roman Catholic	40	80
Baptist	10	20
TOTAL	50	100
Organization		
Cooperative	10	20
PISA	5	10
BPSO	1	2
Gintong Malay	1	2
None Members	33	66
TOTAL	50	100
Recreational activities		
Going to movies	9	18
Ball games	25	50
Reading	10	20
Outing	6	12
TOTAL	50	100



Economic Condition

Type of house. All the respondents are residing in bank houses built by the Philex Mining Corporation for their employees. It is a three or more stores's made up of galvanized iron and cement. Each employee is given a room space for them to stay. Bathroom and toilet facilities were common for all the occupants of the bank house. An average of 20 families stays in one bank house. Water is pump to the big water tank and distributed to the different bank houses on a scheduled time and day.

Source of light. All the respondents used electricity as their source of light. Electricity is free; occupants are not required to pay.

Level of income. From the survey, it was found out that most of the mineworker or 68 % of the respondents have an income ranging from Php 10,001 to Php 15,000, 20 % of the respondents have an income ranging from Php 5,000 to Php10, 000, 10 % of the respondents have an income of below Php 5,000, and only 2 % have an income ranging from Php 15,001 to Php 20,000. The average monthly income of the respondents was Php 8070. The National Coordinating Board and NEDA reported that in the Cordillera Region, a family of six members needs at least Php 573.00 to survive daily or Php 17,190.00 pr month. Since their average income is Php 8,070 per month, this indicates that most of the respondents are living below poverty line. Their income is not enough to support their family most especially that respondents have a big sized, in their case most of the respondents have seven to ten members in the family. All respondents have no other source of income.



Home facilities and convenience . The data in Table 3 shows that almost all the respondents have radio, television (TV) set, gas stove, and refrigerator. Television set and radio were priority among the respondents and they usually bought on installment basis because this is the recreation and source of information especially that about more than one hour drive from Baguio City. Refrigerator is also a necessity because the main source of goods for consumption was from Baguio City and goods in the area are expensive. There were also 10 respondents or 20% of the respondents have their own sewing machine.

Table 2. Average monthly income received by the respondents

LEVEL OF INCOME (Php)	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
5,000 and Below	5	10
5,001-10,000	10	20
10,001-15,000	34	68
15,001- 20,000	1	2
Total	50	100
Mean=8,070		

Table 3. Home facilities and convenience.

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Home facilities and convenience		
Radio	50	100

Table 3. Continued.....

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
TV Set	50	100
Gas Stove	50	100
Sewing Machine	10	20
Refrigerator	50	100

* Multiple responses

Expenditure. Table 4 presents the average expenditures per time of respondents on the specific items. The average expenditure of the respondents on food was Php 4,750 per month, Php 5,500 per year for clothing, Php 6,000 per child per sem, and for other personal expenses they spent Php 4,500 per month. Other expenses include cosmetics, parlor, haircut, soap and other luxuries. The bills for water and electricity were being paid by Philex Mining Corporation. Thus the expenses were concentrated on these above mentioned items. Medical assistance is also provided by the corporation. However transportation is free only when inside mining and residential area of the respondents, the corporation is also providing one cavan of rice every two months per family for free. Thus, food expenses were more of grocery items, fish, meat, and vegetables. The respondents or mineworkers only pay half of the tuition fees of their children for elementary and secondary the other half of the tuition fees were being paid by the Philex Mining Corporation.



Needs/ Problems. Despite of te benefits like free medical, transportation, rice allowance, free electricity and water the respondents still enumerated some needs and problems. Problems identified includes low salary or wage with a total percentage of 60 %, followed by lacked of any other livelihood project with 40 % of the total respondents, then lacked of sanitation facilities (common bathroom and toilet) with 20 % of the total respondents, 10 % of the respondents claimed that they lacked school buildings and clinics, 6 % of the respondents claimed that they lacked credit facilities and 4 % of the respondents claimed that they lacked medical assistance. Lacked of medical assistance maybe due to the large population in the area that not everybody is catered.

Table 4. Expenditure on different items by the respondents per time.

PARTICULARS	AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER TIME
Food	Php 4,750 per month
Clothing	Php 5,500 per year
Education	Php 14,000 per child per sem
Transportation	Php 1,500 per year
Other personal expenses	Php 4,500 per month

* Multiple responses



SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

This study was primarily conducted to (1) describe the social profile of mineworkers in terms of their economic and social condition, (2) to determine the income and expenditure pattern and (3) to identify their needs and problems.

The mean age of the respondents was 32 years. Among the respondents 80% were males and 20% were females with high educational attainment and were all married. Majority of the respondents have 7-10 members in the family.

All of the 50 respondents were Christians, 80% were Roman Catholic and 20% were Baptist. As to membership in any organization, 66% were not a member of any organization, 20% were member of any type of cooperative, 10% were member of PISA, 2% were member of BPSO and 2% were member of Gintong Malay. All of the respondents were engaged in different types of recreational activities like going to movies, ballgames, reading, outing during weekends.

All of the mineworkers lived in a bank house made of galvanized iron and cement owned by the Philex Mining Corporation and they derived their water mainly from the big water tank at a scheduled time and day. As to the source of light, they all utilized electric lights provided by the Philex Mining Corporation.

Radio, television (TV) set, gas stove, and refrigerator was the most common home facilities of the mineworkers, some have sewing machines with 20% of the total respondents. The respondents used flush system toilet but is shared with other occupants of the bank house.



The income of the mineworkers ranges from Php 5,000 to Php20, 000 with an average income of Php 8,070. Their income was obtained primarily from wages as mineworkers. Majority of the respondents don't have other sources of income since they work for eight hours a day according to their calendar shift. The majority of the mineworkers spent Php 5,000 and below per month for each of their family living expenses such as food, clothing, education, transportation and other personal expenses. Medical is given free by the Philex Mining Corporation (PMC); also transportation is given free when inside Philex Mines at Padcal, Tuba Benguet. Electricity is not included in their monthly expenditures since all electric bills were being paid by the PMC.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were made:

1. Majority of the respondents were males and are all married having an average number of seven to ten household members. This indicates that they all have families to support.
2. The source of family income was derived mainly from mining.
3. Monthly income is not enough to support their families.
4. Expenditures on various items were constrained within the expense bracket of Php 6,000 and below per time.



Recommendation

1. Increase income by introducing other livelihood activities especially the wives who are not employed/ working.
2. Philex Mining Corporation should provide training for livelihood activities.
3. Improve housing facilities and increase school buildings and clinics to cater the needs of its workers.



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