

DENR-MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU-CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION  
**National Geohazards Assessment and Mapping Program**

The DENR-MGB-CAR has been implementing its National Geohazards Assessment and Mapping Program since 2005 with the primary objective to identify areas in the region that are susceptible or prone to various geologic hazards and provide the vital information to various stakeholders in order to lessen or mitigate the impacts of these events. These geohazards are numerous, although MGB-CAR focused its effort mainly on landslide.

MGB-CAR has already completed the assessment and mapping of the City of Baguio and municipalities regionwide at a scale of 1:10,000. MGB-CAR personnel have issued advisories to barangays mapped particularly on critical areas relative to geohazards such as landslides or flooding. This is being complimented by finalization and production of geohazard maps for distribution to mining stakeholders.

MGB-CAR has conducted information and dissemination seminars and workshops to the provinces of Abra, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mt. Province and Apayao and provided geohazard maps to concerned LGUs , other stakeholders, local disaster management and planning agencies such as Office of the Civil Defense, National Economic and Development Authority, Municipal and Barangay level information dissemination and disaster awareness and preparedness campaigns were also conducted as well as technical assistance to proposed relocation sites of natural disaster-affected areas.

Considering the possible adverse impact of the La Niña weather phenomena, heavy precipitation during rainy season and extreme weather conditions over much of the country, particularly the eastern seaboard, the DENR Secretary instructed the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) to provide all Local Government Units (LGUs) within their respective jurisdiction a list of possible areas (municipalities/barangays) that could be seriously affected by various hazards, both natural and man-induced arising from the abnormal climatic event. The local government officials are likewise to be advised of the most appropriate measures to take in the event their areas are affected.

For CY 2011, MGB-CAR started its multi-year program on the detailed mapping at a scale of 1:10,000 for the identified critical areas particularly those that are frequented by intense rainfall and typhoon. For CY 2014, assessment of the 77 municipalities in CAR were completed. MGB-CAR is currently finalizing the GIS-based geohazard maps to facilitate the dissemination of information through the MGB-CAR website.

The National Geohazards Assessment and Mapping Program contributed to the following outcomes:

- Increased awareness and capacities of communities in their disaster preparedness and management activities;
- Geohazard maps and reports are now used by the LGUs in their Community-based Disaster Preparedness and Management Plans reducing loss of lives and properties;
- Geohazard maps are now being considered by LGUs for more rationale local development and zoning and as guide in updating their Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPS);
- Identified safer relocation sites in various provinces for people affected by the flooding and landslides; and
- Provided support to LGUs and other stakeholders in the identification of safer areas for housing development.