

Innovations

Utilizing Community Needs Assessment for Baguio Central University's Extension Program Planning

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Abstract: *This study delves into the assessment of the needs within the adopted community of Baguio Central University at Purok 27, Irisan, Baguio City. The research primarily aims to unveil the demographic characteristics of the respondents and evaluate the community's pressing requirements. Employing a descriptive mixed-method approach, the study incorporates survey questionnaires and interviews with key informants. The findings reveal that a significant portion of the respondents falls within the age range of thirty-five to forty-four, possesses elementary-level education, and holds employment as laborers. Furthermore, a majority of the community members own their residences. Notably, the community expresses a high demand for projects related to livelihood and financial literacy, organizational planning, management, and food safety. Additionally, there is a pronounced necessity for initiatives focusing on Sustainable Livelihood and Financial Literacies, Strategic Planning and Effective Management, Wellness and Environment Stewardship, Education and other Literacies and Civic Awareness. In light of these findings, it is recommended that Baguio Central University and the Barangay Irisan local government unit collaborate to offer projects tailored to the identified community needs. Moreover, the establishment of robust connections with relevant agencies is advised to ensure the successful execution of these initiatives. This research abstract underscores the significance of addressing the community's multifaceted needs and the importance of strategic collaboration and agency partnerships in achieving these objectives.*

Keywords: *community, needs analysis, extension program, outreach, mix-method research*

Introduction

Community development and progress thrive on a profound understanding of the specific needs and challenges faced by the residents. As an integral part of our commitment to fostering positive change and meaningful impact, we conducted a comprehensive Community Needs Analysis Evaluation. This evaluation aims to identify, assess, and prioritize the pressing needs of our community, thereby guiding the formulation of strategic extension initiatives.

Higher Education Institutions in the Philippines were given a role to become centers of research and development and extension services of the country. They serve as the prime mover of nations' socio-economic growth and sustainable development (CHED M.O. No. 32, s. of 2005). This initiative is motivated by its pursuit to encourage human growth while preserving and protecting the environment. Mental, physical, and financial were among its purpose. Involvement is necessary to enhance the voice of the people in the community and make the government more responsive to their needs and desires.

This research is dedicated to addressing critical gaps in our understanding of various aspects, including community needs analysis, the roles of higher education institutions in the Philippines, community development approaches, and methods, along with strategies for enhancing community participation. Our goal is to contribute to a more comprehensive comprehension of the challenges faced by residents and to assess the effectiveness of initiatives undertaken by higher education institutions and community development approaches in the Philippines (CHED, 2005).

The first focus area, Community Needs Analysis Evaluation, prompts exploration into the effectiveness of identifying and prioritizing pressing community needs. This research will evaluate the efficacy of the evaluation process, examining its capability to capture emerging trends and evolving requirements. Additionally, we will assess the collaborative and participatory approach in collecting diverse perspectives from community members, stakeholders, and local organizations (Borbon, 2020).

Turning attention to the role of Higher Education Institutions in the Philippines, a thorough analysis is warranted. This research aims to investigate the impact of these institutions' initiatives on socio-economic growth and sustainable development in the country. Moreover, we will scrutinize the effectiveness of these efforts in promoting human growth while ensuring environmental sustainability (Yang et. al, 2020).

In the realm of Community Development Approaches and Methods, our focus is on integrating these practices into both research and practitioner domains. This research will explore the macroeconomic effects of intellectual property rights (IPR) on community development, offering valuable insights into the intersection of legal frameworks and community well-being (Porquis, 2017).

A crucial priority is addressing gaps in Strengthening Community Participation, particularly through community-driven development (CDD) as a mechanism for poverty reduction and community involvement in local development programs. This research will critically review the flagship Philippine government program on CDD, the Kapit-bisig Laban saKahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS), evaluating its progress and identifying areas requiring attention (Hirai, 2016).

Through a thorough examination of these research gaps, our study aims to inform the government and other stakeholders. This information can facilitate the development of responsive and sustainable community extension programs aligned with the aspirations and requirements of residents in the Philippines. The provided citations serve as foundational literature supporting the research framework (Ayeo-eo and Repoyo, 2020).

The community extension report serves as a vital tool in channeling resources, expertise, and support toward areas that hold the greatest potential for transformative growth. This evaluation not only delves into existing concerns but also explores emerging trends and evolving requirements that demand attention. Through a collaborative and participatory approach, we engaged with community members, stakeholders, and local organizations to capture diverse perspectives and insights. Listening to the voices of those who experience these needs firsthand has been crucial in developing a holistic understanding of the challenges that must be addressed. In this study, we present the findings of the Community Needs Analysis Evaluation, analyzing the data collected and summarizing the key points that emerged from the process. The goal is to create a blueprint for responsive and sustainable community extension programs that align with the aspirations and requirements of our residents.

Review of Related Literatures

Conducting a community needs analysis is an essential component in the development of extension programs that are tailored to the specific demands of a given community. To facilitate this process, an in-depth review of pertinent literature on community needs assessment and extension programs is imperative. This comprehensive review delves into essential concepts, methodologies, and outcomes to foster a profound comprehension of this vital subject.

The foundation of any successful community extension program is rooted in a thorough and systematic assessment of the unique needs of the community it aims to serve. Nutbeam (1998) emphasizes the pivotal role of understanding the specific needs of a community as it forms the basis for crafting interventions that are not only effective but also contextually relevant. This process of needs assessment involves a methodical and comprehensive approach to data collection and analysis.

In the context of community needs assessment, this typically includes the utilization of

various data collection techniques to gather pertinent information. Surveys, for instance, are a commonly employed tool for gathering quantitative data, enabling the researcher to quantify the extent of certain needs within the community (Nieswiadomy, 2012). Focus groups, on the other hand, provide a qualitative dimension to the assessment process by facilitating in-depth discussions and insights from community members. Interviews, as another technique, allow for one-on-one interactions, enabling a deeper understanding of individual perspectives and needs.

By meticulously employing these data collection techniques, the needs assessment process becomes comprehensive and multifaceted. It enables the researchers to triangulate data from various sources, ensuring the reliability and validity of the findings. This systematic approach aligns with the principles of evidence-based practice, which is essential in the development of interventions and programs that are not only theoretically sound but also practically effective in addressing the identified needs of the community.

Therefore, Nutbeam's emphasis on understanding a community's specific needs, as supported by the methodological guidance of Nieswiadomy, underscores the foundational role of community needs assessment in the development of effective extension programs. It is through this meticulous assessment, incorporating various data collection techniques, that contextually relevant and evidence-based interventions can be crafted to meet the unique requirements of the community.

Participatory approaches have gained prominence in the realm of community needs assessment. Such approaches, as highlighted by Marin and Camilo (2015), promote community engagement and instill a sense of ownership within the extension program. By involving community members in the assessment process, there is an increased likelihood of identifying needs that align with the community's aspirations and concerns. Crucial to the success of extension programs is their alignment with the assessed needs. Israel, Schulz, Parker, and Becker (2008) stress the importance of tailoring programs to be culturally and contextually sensitive. Extension programs that account for socio-cultural and economic factors specific to the community are more likely to yield positive outcomes.

Sustainability and community empowerment are also key considerations in extension program design. Sustainability ensures that the program's impact is enduring, while empowerment enables communities to take control of their own development, possibly through capacity-building and the development of local leadership (Laverack, 2001). Furthermore, assessing the impact of extension programs is indispensable. Fisher and Shinn (2010) underscore the need for rigorous evaluation to determine whether the program effectively addresses identified needs. Impact assessment ensures that resources are efficiently utilized and that the community benefits as intended.

Thus, conducting a community needs analysis stands as a pivotal step in crafting extension programs that effectively respond to the distinct requirements of the target community. The incorporation of a participatory approach, coupled with a focus on program design, sustainability, empowerment, and impact assessment, is integral to the

success of these programs. By integrating insights from the literature, extension practitioners can develop programs that genuinely cater to the needs and aspirations of the communities they seek to serve.

Methodology

This study used a mixed-method approach utilizing both quantitative and qualitative methods to obtain information concerning the community needs in Purok 27, Irisan, Baguio City. The area is occupied by people belonging to ethnic groups such as Ibaloy and Kankanaey. Respondents were selected based on the initial site visit and their living conditions. The researchers used a questionnaire to gather quantitative data about their needs. It was followed by a random selection of respondents as key informants who had undergone interviews about their needs. The data was gathered through surveys, interviews, and community consultations conducted over a period of one month (January 21- February 21, 2023).

The researcher-made survey questionnaire was validated by experts in the field of research and extension. It has three (3) parts namely the demographic profile, five-point survey questionnaire, and open-ended questions for the interview. Qualitative data were used to enrich the results and discussion. Quantitative data gathered were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequency, mean, and percentages. Frequency and percentages were used to determine the demographic profile of the respondents. Moreover, the weighted mean was utilized to assess the needs of the community regarding education, environmental stewardship, livelihood, human rights and violence awareness, and organizational planning.

The letter to conduct the study was approved by the purok leader. Before answering the survey, participants were informed about the purpose of the study. Since all participants were at least 18 years old, their participation was attested by informed consent that has been duly certified. The participants' identities were kept a secret in order to protect their confidentiality and privacy. All possible conflicts of interest were noted, and the researchers verified that there were none.

Results and Discussions

Table 1 serves as a gateway to understanding various demographic aspects of the surveyed population, providing valuable insights into their characteristics. This information lays the foundation for a comprehensive analysis of the study's participants. Firstly, when considering the respondents' ages, it becomes evident that the largest group falls within the 35-54 years old category, making up 62% of the sample. However, the data also presents a somewhat balanced distribution among other age groups, with 18-24- and 45-54-years old groups accounting for 14% and 34% of the respondents,

respectively. Age categories of 25-34, 55-64, and 65 and above each contribute smaller proportions, at 4%, 12%, and 8%, respectively.

In terms of educational attainment, half of the respondents have achieved elementary graduation, and an additional 20% have completed education up to the elementary level. Furthermore, 20% possess education only up to the high school level, with just 10% having completed high school. Regarding occupation, it's notable that nearly half of the respondents, precisely 46%, work as hired labor, indicating a significant employment segment within the surveyed population. An additional 20% are employed in a seasonal capacity, while the remaining 34% are not currently employed. Lastly, the data unveils information about shelter and residence. The majority of respondents, constituting 78%, own the places they live in, while the remaining 22% rent their homes.

Nonetheless, the surveyed population primarily consists of individuals aged 35-54 with varying levels of educational background. The majority are homeowners, and a significant portion work as hired labor. These demographic insights provide valuable information for the customization of community programs and services to better address the unique needs of this population.

The findings indicate that a significant proportion of the residents fall within the middle adult age category compared to other age groups. As noted by Majee, Anakwe, and Jooste (2020), the presence of resources and opportunities plays a significant role in motivating adults to engage in community initiatives. Similarly, the study by Shinan-Altman and Werner (2019) found that the participants aged 44-64 years reported a subjective age that was younger than their chronological age, indicating that middle-aged adults may perceive themselves as younger than they actually are.

The results also demonstrate that most of the participants have elementary-level educational backgrounds as opposed to high school or college graduates, aligning with a previous study where 56.67% of indigenous respondents in the Philippines had completed elementary education (Eduardo & Gabriel, 2021). The article by Infurna et al. (2020) discusses the major opportunities and challenges of midlife, including career development, job insecurity, and changes in social relationships, which could contribute to one's chances of caring for others and being creative and productive.

Table 1. Demographic Profile of the respondents

Profile Variables	Frequenc y	Percentage
Age		
18-24 years old	7	14%
25-34 years old	2	4%
35-44 years old	14	28%
45-54 years old	17	34%
55-64 years old	6	12%
65 above	5	8%
Educational Attainment		
Elementary Level	10	20%
Elementary Graduate	25	50%
High School Level	10	20%
High School Graduate	5	10%
Work/ Occupation		
Employed (Seasonal)	10	20%
Hired Labor	23	46%
Not Employed	17	34%
Housing		
Owned	39	78%
Rented	22	22%

Table 2 offers a comprehensive evaluation of the community's educational and literacy-related needs, along with mean scores that provide valuable insights. Firstly, "Enhancing Reading comprehension of children" stands out with the highest mean score of 4.98, signifying an "Extremely Needed" demand within the community for programs aimed at improving children's reading comprehension skills. Similarly, "After school tutorial for children" and "Community library / resource learning center" both garnered mean scores of 4.90, placing them in the "Extremely Needed" category. These results emphasize the community's strong desire for additional educational support and resources for its children.

Additionally, "Arts and Crafts for children" and "Mathematical Reinforcements for children" secured mean scores of 4.86, reinforcing their classification as "Extremely Needed." This underscores the paramount importance of enhancing both the creative and mathematical capabilities of the community's children. On the other hand, "Adult literacies enhancement" achieved a mean score of 4.12, classifying it as "Much Needed." Although not as critical as children's education, there remains a substantial demand for improving adult literacy within the community.

The data also indicates that a "Time and stress management seminar" is deemed "Much Needed" with a mean score of 4.02. This highlights the community's interest in programs dedicated to enhancing time management and stress coping skills. Lastly, the "Responsible Parenting Seminar" received the lowest mean score of 3.28, placing it in the "Somewhat Needed" category. While there is some interest in such a program, it is not as urgent as other educational requirements.

Table 2. Community Needs in relation to Education and other literacies

Indicators	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Enhancing Reading comprehension of children	4.98	Extremely Needed
After school tutorial for children	4.90	Extremely Needed
Community library / resource learning center	4.90	Extremely Needed
Arts and Crafts for children	4.86	Extremely Needed
Mathematical Reinforcements for children	4.86	Extremely Needed
Adult literacies enhancement	4.12	Much Needed
Time and stress management seminar	4.02	Much Needed
Responsible Parenting Seminar	3.28	Somewhat Needed
Overall Mean	4.49	Extremely Needed
Legend:	<u>Range</u>	<u>Descriptive Interpretation</u>
<u>Rating</u>	54.21-5.00	Extremely Needed
	43.41-4.20	Much Needed
	32.61-3.40	Somewhat Needed
	21.81-2.60	Slightly Needed
	11.0-1.80	Not Needed

In summary, the overall mean score of 4.49 suggests that the community places a high priority on educational and literacy-related services. These services are considered "Extremely Needed" for both children and adults, reflecting the community's strong commitment to enhancing education and literacy levels. Table 3 provides a comprehensive analysis of the community's preferences regarding wellness and environmental stewardship initiatives. Each item is accompanied by a mean score and its associated interpretation. Notably, the "Community clean-up drive" stands out with the

highest mean score of 4.82, classifying it as "Extremely Needed." This result underscores the strong interest within the community for endeavors focused on cleanliness and environmental care.

Following closely, "Tree planting and maintaining" obtains a mean score of 4.80, also categorizing it as "Extremely Needed." This finding highlights the community's dedication to the preservation and expansion of green spaces. Similarly, "Environment Sustainability: Reuse, Reduce, recycle" achieves a mean score of 4.76, solidifying its status as "Extremely Needed." This result underscores the significant importance placed on sustainable practices within the community. "Food Safety Measures in Every Household" secures a mean score of 4.74, indicating it is also "Extremely Needed," emphasizing the top priority accorded to ensuring household food safety within the community. "Zumba/Aerobics/Taebo" receives a mean score of 4.72, classifying it as "Extremely Needed," demonstrating a strong desire for physical wellness activities among community members.

Table 3. Community Needs in relation to wellness and environment stewardship Indicators

Interpretation	Mean	Descriptive	
Community clean-up drive.	4.82	Extremely Needed	
Tree planting and maintaining	4.80	Extremely Needed	
Environment Sustainability: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle	4.76	Extremely Needed	
Food Safety Measures in Every Household	4.74	Extremely Needed	
Zumba/ Aerobics/ Taebo	4.72	Extremely Needed	
Safe and Alternative food preservation	4.70	Extremely Needed	
Medical Mission (General Consultations)	4.70	Extremely Needed	
Cooking workshops	4.66	Extremely Needed	
Sports Clinic/ Tournaments	4.54	Extremely Needed	
Overall Mean	4.72	Extremely Needed	
Legend:			
	Rating	Range	Descriptive Interpretation
	5	4.21-5.00	Extremely Needed

	4	3.41-4.20	Much Needed
	3	2.61-3.40	Somewhat Needed
	2	1.81-2.60	Slightly Needed
	1	1.0-1.80	Not Needed

Furthermore, "Safe and Alternative food preservation" and "Medical Mission (General Consultations)" both achieve mean scores of 4.70, signifying their "Extremely Needed" status and highlighting their crucial roles in community well-being. "Cooking workshops" achieve a mean score of 4.66, placing them in the "Extremely Needed" category, indicating the community's appreciation for programs aimed at enhancing culinary skills.

Finally, "Sports Clinic/Tournaments" attains a mean score of 4.54, also regarded as "Extremely Needed," emphasizing the importance of sports and physical activities within the community. The overall mean score for the table is 4.72, indicating a consistent and strong community need for wellness and environmental stewardship services, all falling within the "Extremely Needed" category. This collective demand underscores the community's unwavering commitment to activities that promote health, environmental sustainability, and overall well-being.

Significantly, community clean-up drives, according to Jernigan (2021) have been proven to be an effective strategy in preventing pollution, particularly addressing issues related to plastic pollution. This not only contributes to environmental sustainability but also promotes the creation of a healthier and cleaner neighborhood. Moreover, environmental stewardship has been found to go beyond mere physical cleanup, as shown by a study of Vermoortel (2021). It has the potential to instigate a cultural shift in the neighborhood, reshaping residents' self-perception and fostering a sense of community pride. These drives are deliberately designed to be enjoyable activities, as supported by Yang et. al (2020) which encourage community engagement and motivate citizens to take a more active role in maintaining their local environment on an ongoing basis.

Nonetheless, the cumulative evidence supports the notion that environmental stewardship are essential initiatives for communities, offering numerous advantages such as pollution prevention, cultural transformation, enjoyment, and tangible rewards. This need of the community further underscores the significance of these drives in fostering cleaner, more engaged, and healthier neighborhoods.

The table 4 presents an array of indicators related to civic and community-related activities, each accompanied by mean scores and descriptive interpretations. Notably, Civic Rights and Responsibilities Drives lead the list with a mean score of 4.94, signifying that the community places exceptional importance on these initiatives, categorized as "Extremely Needed." Similarly, Basic Life Support Seminar-Workshops, Mock Elections

and Voting Drives, Youth Leadership Summits, and Basic Self-Defense Seminar-Workshops all receive mean scores above 4.78, indicating a strong demand for these activities, with "Extremely Needed" interpretations. Even Earthquake and Fire Prevention Drills/ Measures, with a mean score of 4.68, are considered "Extremely Needed." In contrast, Substance Abuse Symposia obtain a lower mean score of 3.16, signaling that they are "Somewhat Needed."

Nevertheless, the overall mean score for all indicators is 4.58, emphasizing the community's consistent and unwavering commitment to these endeavors, collectively promoting civic engagement, safety, and personal development. In summary, this table underscores the community's high regard for civic and personal development activities, with a strong emphasis on civic rights and responsibilities, basic life support, and youth leadership, while acknowledging a somewhat lower priority for substance abuse-related initiatives.

Hence, the results suggest that the community places a strong emphasis on civic engagement, including civic rights and responsibilities. The overall mean score of 4.58 (on a rating of 1 to 5) reflects a consistent and unwavering commitment to these endeavors. This underscores the community's recognition of the importance of actively participating in civic life Bartolome et al. (2017). It indicates that the community is dedicated to promoting civic rights and responsibilities as a core aspect of their initiatives, potentially leading to increased community involvement and better representation in local governance (Luna, 2023).

Table 4. Community Needs in relation to Civic Awareness

Indicators	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Civic Rights and Responsibilities Drives	4.94	Extremely Needed
Basic Life Support Seminar-Workshop	4.86	Extremely Needed
Mock Elections and Voting Drives	4.84	Extremely Needed
Youth Leadership Summit	4.80	Extremely Needed
Basic Self-Defense Seminar-Workshop	4.78	Extremely Needed
Earthquake and Fire Prevention Drills/ Measures	4.68	Extremely Needed
Substance Abuse Symposia	3.16	Somewhat Needed
Overall Mean	4.58	Extremely Needed

Furthermore, the lower priority assigned to substance abuse-related initiatives, as indicated by the somewhat lower score in the results, highlights an area that may require additional focus and resources within the community. While the community demonstrates strong support for various other activities, such as basic life support and youth leadership, addressing substance abuse-related challenges may need to be addressed more comprehensively to ensure the well-being of its members (UNESCO, 2014). This result emphasizes the need for targeted efforts to raise awareness and provide resources for

substance abuse prevention and treatment, aligning with the broader goals of promoting personal development and safety in the community. Moreover, the results indicate that the community values civic engagement and personal development activities, with a particular focus on civil rights and responsibilities, basic life support, and youth leadership. However, there is room for improvement in prioritizing substance abuse-related initiatives, underlining the importance of addressing this issue to ensure the overall well-being and safety of the community Sidiq (2023).

Table 5 comprises a series of indicators, each accompanied by a mean score and a corresponding descriptive interpretation, offering insights into the community's preferences and requirements concerning skill-building and educational seminars. Notably, the "Bread and Pastry Production Seminar" stands out with the highest mean score of 4.92, indicating an exceptional level of importance accorded to this specific skill-building seminar, classifying it as "Extremely Needed."

Table 5. Community Needs in relation to Sustainable Livelihood and Financial Literacies

Indicators	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Bread and Pastry Production Seminar	4.92	Extremely Needed
Product Packaging and Labeling Seminar	4.86	Extremely Needed
Basic of Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping	4.80	Extremely Needed
Financial Literacy Awareness Seminar	4.80	Extremely Needed
Food Processing Seminar (Kimchi, Longganisa etc)	4.78	Extremely Needed
Sabon Making Seminar (detergent etc)	4.76	Extremely Needed
Human Resource Operations	4.74	Extremely Needed
Income Administration Mechanisms	4.70	Extremely Needed
Investing Schemes	4.38	Extremely Needed
Overall Mean	4.75	Extremely Needed

Similarly, the "Product Packaging and Labeling Seminar" receives a high mean score of 4.86, underscoring its significant importance and "Extremely Needed" categorization. Moreover, "Basic of Accounting, Auditing, and Bookkeeping" and "Financial Literacy Awareness Seminar" both attain a mean score of 4.80, signifying a strong community demand for financial literacy and accounting knowledge, also labeled as "Extremely Needed." Additionally, the "Food Processing Seminar (Kimchi, Longganisa, etc)" is highly

regarded with a mean score of 4.78, reiterating its "Extremely Needed" status. The "Sabon Making Seminar (detergent, etc)" and "Human Resource Operations" also hold substantial importance, both scoring above 4.74, with "Extremely Needed" interpretations. "Income Administration Mechanisms" is valued at 4.70, still categorized as "Extremely Needed," while "Investing Schemes" receives a slightly lower score of 4.38 but is considered "Extremely Needed," indicating community interest in financial and investment knowledge.

The exceptionally high mean score of 4.92 for the "Bread and Pastry Production Seminar" suggests an overwhelming demand within the community for culinary skill-building opportunities. This skill-building seminar is classified as "Extremely Needed," emphasizing the community's strong desire to acquire knowledge and expertise in the field of bread and pastry production (Garcia, 2017). Such a high level of interest in culinary skills may have implications for community development, entrepreneurship, and addressing the demand for bakery products and pastries. In addition, the "Product Packaging and Labeling Seminar" receiving a high mean score of 4.86 and being categorized as "Extremely Needed" indicates that the community places significant importance on effective product packaging and labeling skills. This underscores the relevance of this seminar in meeting the community's needs and preferences in terms of skill-building and educational seminars (Ayeo-eo and Repoyo, 2020). The high demand for such knowledge may have implications for local businesses and entrepreneurs in ensuring the quality and presentation of their products.

The results in Table 5 demonstrate a consistent and unwavering community commitment to a diverse range of educational and skill-building endeavors, with an overall mean score of 4.75. These initiatives, encompassing areas such as baking, financial literacy, and human resource operations, are collectively deemed "Extremely Needed" (Centeno and Vargas, 2021). This underscores the community's strong emphasis on skill-building and educational seminars, reflecting their enthusiastic pursuit of knowledge and expertise in various domains. Additionally, the exceptional importance accorded to the "Bread and Pastry Production Seminar" and the high demand for the "Product Packaging and Labeling Seminar" highlight the community's specific interests in culinary skills and product presentation. These findings can inform the development of tailored educational and training programs to meet the community's needs (Garcia, 2017).

Table 6 offers a comprehensive view of the community's priorities related to organizational and leadership skills. It comprises a range of indicators, each associated with a mean score and a descriptive interpretation, demonstrating the community's interests and needs. Notably, "Parliamentary Procedures" stands out with the highest mean score of 4.88, emphasizing the community's exceptional commitment to understanding and implementing proper parliamentary procedures, categorized as "Extremely Needed." Following closely, "Business Letters and Correspondence" scores 4.84, highlighting the strong demand for effective written communication in the business context, also deemed "Extremely Needed." Additionally, "Minutes of the Meeting Techniques and Styles" and "Organizing and Facilitating Meetings" both attain a mean score of 4.80, underscoring the community's keen interest in maintaining effective meeting records and conducting meetings efficiently, both classified as

"Extremely Needed." "Organizing Associations and How to Apply" achieves a mean score of 4.76, reflecting the community's desire to understand association establishment and operation, also considered "Extremely Needed." "Fundamentals of Running an organization" is rated at 4.58, reinforcing the community's strong need for foundational organizational knowledge, categorized as "Extremely Needed." Even "Leadership Seminar," with the lowest score of 4.42 in this table, signals the community's eagerness for leadership development and skills, classifying it as "Extremely Needed."

The overall mean score for all indicators is a robust 4.73, consistently illustrating the community's unwavering dedication to enhancing organizational and leadership skills. Lastly, the table reveals the community's profound commitment to various aspects of organizational and leadership skills, with all indicators classified as "Extremely Needed." This showcases the community's strong motivation to enhance their proficiency in parliamentary procedures, written communication, effective meeting management, association operation, organizational fundamentals, and leadership development.

The remarkable mean score of 4.73, with all indicators classified as "Extremely Needed," underscores the community's robust commitment to improving their organizational and leadership skills (Chili &Ngxongo, 2017). This finding implies a significant desire within the community to enhance proficiency in various areas, such as parliamentary procedures, written communication, effective meeting management, association operation, organizational fundamentals, and leadership development. The community's collective motivation to strengthen these skills suggests a potential for increased community engagement and leadership capacity. This result aligns with the research of (Naganag,2019) which highlighted the importance of leadership development and organizational skills in community development. The strong emphasis on these skill sets in the community's preferences further substantiates the significance of these areas for empowering the community and fostering effective civic participation (Scapigliati, 2021).

Table 6. Community Needs in relation to Strategic Planning and Effective Management

Indicators	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Parliamentary Procedures	4.88	Extremely Needed
Business Letters and Correspondence	4.84	Extremely Needed
Needed Minutes of the Meeting Techniques and styles	4.80	Extremely Needed
Financial Literacy Awareness Seminar	4.80	Extremely Needed
Food Processing Seminar (Kimchi, Longganisa etc)	4.78	Extremely Needed
Organizing and facilitating meetings	4.80	Extremely Needed

Organizing Associations and how to apply	4.76	Extremely Needed
Fundamentals of running an organization	4.58	Extremely Needed
Leadership seminar	4.42	Extremely Needed
Overall Mean	4.73	Extremely Needed

Table 7 offers a comprehensive overview of the community's needs, as reflected by mean scores and their descriptive interpretations. It is clear that the community places a high premium on a diverse range of development and educational areas. In the realm of economic sustainability and financial knowledge, "Sustainable Livelihood and Financial Literacies" takes the lead with a mean score of 4.75, denoting its pivotal importance and categorizing it as "Extremely Needed." This underscores the community's strong desire for financial literacy programs and opportunities for creating sustainable livelihoods. Following closely is "Strategic Planning and Effective Management," with a mean score of 4.73, highlighting the community's commitment to sound decision-making and efficient resource management. "Wellness and Environment Stewardship" also ranks high with a mean score of 4.72, signaling a significant interest in health and environmental initiatives.

Even in areas where mean scores are slightly lower, such as "Education and Other Literacies" and "Civic Awareness," the "Extremely Needed" categorization suggests a compelling demand for educational programs, literacy enhancement, and civic engagement. The overall mean score for all categories is a robust 4.65, underlining the community's steadfast dedication to a broad spectrum of development and awareness programs, all of which are considered "Extremely Needed." These findings underscore the community's holistic approach to development and its desire for tailored programs in the areas of financial literacy, strategic planning, wellness, environmental stewardship, education, and civic engagement. Community organizations, government agencies, and educational institutions should take heed of these priorities to better serve and empower the community.

Table 7. Summary of Community Needs

Summary of Community Needs	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Sustainable Livelihood Program and Financial Literacies	4.75	Extremely Needed
Strategic Planning and Effective Organization Management	4.72	Extremely Needed
Health and Wellness and Environment Stewardship	4.49	Extremely Needed
Education and other Literacies (3Rs)	4.58	Extremely Needed
Civic Awareness and Citizenship	4.58	Extremely Needed
Overall Mean	4.65	Extremely Needed

Conclusion

The survey results reveal key demographic information about the community, primarily composed of middle-aged workers with limited educational attainment who own homes. It is evident that the community faces significant challenges, particularly in the areas of financial literacy, strategic planning, effective management, and environmental stewardship, in addition to sustainable livelihood. There is also a clear need for improved civic awareness, education, and other literacies. To address these pressing needs, collaboration between Baguio Central University and the Barangay Irisan local government unit in Baguio City is essential, with a strong connection to relevant agencies for successful implementation.

Recommendations

1. Baguio Central University and the Barangay Irisan local government unit should partner to develop and implement initiatives aimed at improving the identified areas of concern. These initiatives should be tailored to the specific needs of the community and designed to provide practical skills and knowledge.
2. Implement programs that focus on financial literacy, sustainable livelihood opportunities, and strategies for managing resources effectively. These programs should empower community members to make informed financial decisions and generate sustainable income.
3. Offer educational and practical initiatives related to environmental stewardship and wellness to promote health and sustainability within the community. This may include workshops, clean-up drives, and activities that encourage environmental responsibility.
4. Develop programs that enhance civic awareness and provide educational opportunities beyond elementary school. This could involve workshops on civic responsibilities, community engagement, and broader literacy programs, including digital and media literacy.
5. Establish strong connections with relevant government agencies, non-profit organizations, and local businesses that can support and contribute to the success of these initiatives. Collaborative efforts can amplify the impact of these programs.
6. Regularly assess the effectiveness of the initiatives to ensure that they meet the evolving needs of the community. Seek feedback from community members to refine and enhance the programs as necessary.

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