



PARTICIPATION AND PERFORMANCE OF SANGGUNIAN KABATAAN IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN THE PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE: BASIS FOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluated the participation and performance of Sangguniang Kabataan in local governance in the province of Marinduque according to the perception of the respondents, identified the challenges and sought recommendations to enhance the level of participation and performance of SK Officials. A descriptive method of research was used in this study and appropriate statistical treatment were applied to attain its objectives. Two hundred eighty-six respondents composed of SK Chairpersons, Punong Barangays, and MLGOOs formed part of this study. The findings revealed that, the participation and performance of SKs in local governance are Very Good according to the perception of the SK Chairpersons and Punong Barangays while the MLGOOs rated them Good. Based on the findings, the researcher concluded that there is a need to enhance their participation and performance in local governance. The challenges also revealed various factors that affect their participation and performance. The conduct of a Special Election of SKs is mostly recommended by the respondents, with a percentage of 73.07%. Further, the researcher recommended conducting Leadership Enhancement Training for SK Officials to reorient the SKs on their mandated duties, apply the necessary leadership styles, strengthen team and collaboration, and formulate leadership individual development plans.

Keywords: local governance, participation, performance, Sangguniang Kabataan

INTRODUCTION

The undying words of the national hero Dr. Jose Rizal about the youth pinned our hopes on them as future leaders. The youth is believed to be the crest of the future. Moreover, Pope Francis said, "we run the risk of becoming museums of young people that have everything but without knowing what to do with them." A nation has no ideal way to prepare for its future other than to equip the upcoming generations effectively and intentionally. With the creation of Sangguniang Kabataan, a platform for youth participation in governance was established.

Republic Act 7160, or the Local Government Code of 1991 (LGC), incorporated Sangguniang Kabataan provisions which envisioned that it would be the best way for youth to participate in barangay leadership and government. The Sangguniang Kabataan is rooted in a series of government efforts to involve the youth in the national building of local and national affairs.

The current situation of the Sangguniang Kabataan in Marinduque could be said to be incomplete in its entirety. There are still barangays with insufficient SK Kagawads, although each has an SK Chairman. The Sangguniang Kabataan cannot use their funds because of the lack of their membership. With that, Sangguniang Kabataan's plans, programs, and activities are not implemented. As observed, the Sangguniang Kabataan is only in its name, and their participation in governance cannot be felt. In this premise, this particular study will be conducted to determine the status of the extent of participation of the SK in governance.

Under Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that:

"The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-

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being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.”

The Constitution expresses that the youth is vital in restoring the nation (Malaluan et al., 2014). And this led to the creation of the Sangguniang Kabataan, or SK, embodied in the Local Government Code of 1991. Likewise, it has been highlighted that "there shall be in every Barangay a Sangguniang Kabataan SK) to be composed of a chairman, seven members, a secretary, and a treasurer."

For the past ten years, the SK's performance has been seen as weak, and this was revealed in the study conducted by United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds and the DILG entitled "The Impact of Youth in the Local Government Process," especially in terms of legislation and promotion of youth development programs as well as submission of reports and consultations with the youth constituents.

Palomares (2021) stated that Sangguniang Kabataan was re-established under Republic Act No. 10742, known as Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act. According to De Jesus (2022), its purpose is for youth representatives to implement programs and influence decision-making. Those young individuals who want to run for positions in the SK can receive privileges. The implementing rules and regulations of the Republic Act No. 10742 also incentivizes young people who wish to participate in politics for various reasons or motivations.

Republic Act 10742, also known as the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015, also provided structure for the composition of SK. In the political aspect, youth are provided with an opportunity to become public servants

To support the SK programs, the Local Youth Development was created under the SK Reform Law. This harmonizes and strengthens the programs and initiatives of the local government including the non-governmental organizations for the youth sector. It comprises representatives from community-based youth groups, community youth organizations, youth-serving organizations, student councils, church, and youth faith groups.

According to Republic Act 7160, the SK is tasked to formulate its three-year plan or Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan. This serves as a basis for preparing the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Plan and must be aligned with the Philippine Youth Development Plan and other Youth Development Plans. This shall be done through consultation and concurrence of the SK. Any changes in the annual budget shall be change according to the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan and the applicable provision of RA 10742; The SK shall also promulgate resolutions necessary to carry out the objectives of the youth; initiate and implements SK Projects and programs to enhance the social, political, economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and physical development of the members.; holds fundraising activities for the purpose of youth development projects and programs; creates regular and special committees and other such bodies whose chairpersons and members shall come from among the members of the SK or from among the members of the KK which is according to its Implementing Rules and Regulations and as it may deem necessary to effectively carry out programs and activities; submits annual and financial report to SK and present them during the KK assembly or from among the members of KK; partner with the LYDC in planning and executing projects and programs of specific advocacies like good governance, climate



change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resiliency, youth employment and livelihood,

health and anti-drug abuse, gender sensitivity, and sports development; adopt and implement a policy on full disclosure of all its transactions and documents involving public interest; exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as the Sangguniang barangay may determine or delegate or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

The youth is the shoulder of good governance. Young people should actively participate in their development and the development of their communities. Being part of the SK helps young leaders to reach and engage their fellow youth in the changing society.

Few studies stressed and revealed the significance of strengthening the Sangguniang Kabataan which is considered the mass base of young people in each barangay from which the Sangguniang Kabataan is elected.

A study by Mahinay (nd) reveals that a positive correlation infers that higher good governance would mean higher performance if the Sangguniang Kabataan officials plan their activities under their mandated duties and functions. With the right application of knowledge on fiscal responsibility and accountability, their activity will be successful.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The SK is an opportunity for the youth to step up, lead, and be heard. Today's leaders should create an environment for youth engagement and empowerment to help the youth leaders in shaping their future. With this, the research has the following objectives:

- 1) Determine the level of participation and performance of SK Officials in local governance pursuant to Sec 8 of RA 10742 according to the perception of SK Chairpersons, Punong Barangays and MLGOOs;
- 2) Provide recommendations on how to enhance their participation and performance;

METHODOLOGY

This research employed the descriptive method of research and was conducted in the six municipalities in the province of Marinduque namely; Municipality of Boac, Municipality of Gasan, Municipality of Buenavista, Municipality of Torrijos, Municipality of Sta. Cruz and Municipality of Mogpog, with the participation of SK Chairpersons, Punong Barangays, and MLGOOs.

This study was composed of 286 respondents, which consisted of 140 SK Chairpersons, 140 Punong Barangays, and six MLGOOs. And the barangays were selected using simple random sampling through a name picker at comment picker website to avoid bias among the perception of the respondents and for them to get an equal chance to participate in the study. The study includes 39 barangays in Boac, 16 in Gasan, 10 in Buenavista, 16 in Torrijos, and 35 in Sta. Cruz and 24 in Mogpog.

A self-administered questionnaire was used in the gathering of data for this study. The questionnaire was constructed based on the statement of the problem in the Local Government Code. This questionnaire was also validated by a DILG Representative.

Participation and performance were rated on a numeric scale on the questionnaire, which was presented in English. Responses varied on a numeric scale from 5 to 1, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest.

The data gathered were interpreted using descriptive statistics. Frequency, percentage weighted mean was used to determine their participation and performance. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) System was also used in this study. This study also utilized quantitative data analysis on the gathered data from the survey.

In determining participation and performance of the SK Officials, the following numerical scale in Table 1 was used (see Table 1).

Table 1

Numerical Scale for Participation and Performance

Numerical Value	Descriptive Rating	Qualitative Description
5	Outstanding	The SK always represents an extraordinary level of achievement and commitment. Demonstrates exceptional job mastery in all areas of mandated duties and functions. (More than 5 initiated actions)
4	Very good	The SK exceeded expectations, and the duties and functions were achieved above the established standards. (3-4 initiated actions)
3	Good	The SK met the expectations, and the duties and functions were met. (2-3 initiated actions)

2

Poor

The SK failed to meet expectations, and one or more critical functions were not met (1-2 initiated actions)

1

Needs Improvement

The SK demonstrates below expectations, and the mandated duties and functions were not met. (no initiated action)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 2 shows that the participation of SKs in local governance is *Very Good* in terms of basic services according to Sec 8 of RA 10742 according to the perception of the SK Chairpersons and Punong Barangays with a grand mean of **3.60 and 3.55** respectively. This means that the SK has exceeded the expectation, and the duties and functions were achieved above the established standards with 4-5 initiated actions (see Table 2).

Table 2: *Level of Participation of SK in Local Governance According to SK Chairpersons, Punong Barangays, and MLGOOs*

Duties and Responsibilities	SK Chairpersons		Punong Barangays		MLGOOs	
	Mean	Interpretation	Mean	Interpretation	Mean	Interpretation
a. Formulate a three (3) year rolling plan or the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan which serve as the basis in the preparation of Annual Barangay Youth Investment Plan which shall be aligned with the Philippine Youth Development Plan and other Youth Development Plan. This shall be done through consultation and concurrence of the Katipunan ng Kabataan	3.74	Very Good	3.75	Very Good	3.83	Very Good

b. Approve the annual budget which is the annual slice of the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Program before the start of the succeeding fiscal year, if the SK Fund allows, a supplemental budget. Any changes in the annual budget shall be in accordance with the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan and the applicable provision of RA 10742	3.67	Very Good	3.66	Very Good	4.00	Very Good
c. Promulgates resolutions necessary to carry out the objectives of the youth	3.64	Very Good	3.58	Very Good	3.67	Very Good
d. Initiates and implements SK Projects and programs to enhance the social, political, economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and physical development of the members.	3.64	Very Good	3.49	Very Good	3.67	Very Good
e. Holds fund raising activities for the purpose of youth development projects and programs	3.39	Very Good	3.54	Very Good	3.17	Good
f. Creates regular and special committees and other such bodies whose chairpersons and members shall come from among the members of the SK or from among the members of the Katipunan ng Kabataan, as it may deem necessary to effectively carry out programs and activities.	3.48	Very Good	3.51	Very Good	3.00	Good
g. Submits annual and financial report to Sangguniang Barangay and present them during the KK assembly or from among the members of KK	3.59	Very Good	3.48	Very Good	2.83	Good

h. Partner with the LYDC in planning and executing projects and programs of specific advocacies like good governance, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resiliency, youth employment and livelihood, health and anti-drug abuse, gender sensitivity, and sports development	3.62	Very Good	3.52	Very Good	2.83	Good
i. Adopt and implement a policy on full disclosure of all its transactions and documents involving public interest	3.55	Very Good	3.51	Very Good	2.83	Good
j. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as the Sangguniang Barangay may determine or delegate or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance. (Attendance to session, lobbying project proposals, attendance to seminars and trainings, attendance to LYDC Planning preparation, involvement in community service)	3.74	Very Good	3.55	Very Good	3.67	Very Good
Grand Mean	3.60	Very Good	3.55	Very Good	3.35	Good

According to their SK Chairpersons, it can be gleaned int the table that they got the highest score in formulating a three-year rolling Comprehensive Development Plan with a mean score of **3.74**, which should be anchored in the Philippine Youth Development Plan (PYDP). And although all the duties and functions of SK show a *Very Good* result, it can be seen that in holding their fundraising activities has the lowest rating with a mean score of **3.39**.

In section 18 of the SK Reform Act, failure to formulate the CBYDP and ABYIP within the prescribed period without justifiable reason shall be a ground for suspension and removal



from office of any selected SK Officials for not more than six months or removed from office by

a majority vote for all members of the Sangguniang Bayan or Sangguniang Panlungsod which has jurisdiction in the barangay of the concerned Sangguniang Kabataan official which shall be final and executory.

In order to maintain the mission and purpose of the organization, an efficient strategy must be done, like holding fundraising activities (Davis, 2013). According to Davis, there may be challenges encountered while holding fundraising activities, but there are also various approaches to pursue it. And one of the influential instruments that can be used is for conducting special events. Through this, the organization can identify its resources.

Punong Barangays see the Sangguniang Kabataan actively participating in their mandated duties and functions and that their active participation is essential to aid them in their role as a political unit in a barangay. This includes primary planning and implementation of programs, projects, and activities.

In this table, it can be seen that the SK garners the highest mean score in formulating their 3-year Comprehensive Plan however, the SK got the lowest mean score in the submission of annual and financial reports to the Sangguniang Barangay and presenting them to the Katipunan ng Kabataan during their assembly. According to the Provincial Youth Development Office, the reason they were not able to submit and present their financial report is that they were not able to access their funds because their Sanggunian is incomplete. They were not able to implement their projects and programs. Under RA 7160, otherwise known as LGC, the SK shall be composed of a chairman, seven members, a secretary, and a treasurer, and to transact its business, such as passing a resolution that will approve their budget, and in order to constitute a



quorum, there shall be a majority of all the members of the Sanggunian present.

For MLGOOs, the SK met their expectation but does not exceed their expectation when it comes to holding fundraising activities, creating regular and special committees, submission of annual and financial reports to Sangguniang Barangay, partnership with Local Youth Development Council in planning and executing projects and programs and adoption and implementation of a policy on full disclosure.

Further, the result shows that SKs were also rated *Good* by the MLGOOs in creating regular and special committees because of their current situation and that they cannot balance the representation of its members due to an incomplete set of officials.

According to Foster (2021), the creation of special committees is one of the best practices in corporate governance. Creating committees in the SK arena can help youth leaders test their skills and be a training ground for them as future leaders because it involves decision-making and interaction with their group members.

It was also revealed that the SK has only a *Good* rating in the submission of the annual report. Malaluan et al. (2014) mentioned that "the subsequent mandated responsibility is to submit annual and end-of-term reports to the Sangguniang Barangay on their projects and activities for the survival and development of the youth in the barangay". They also found out that study SK councils do not submit reports, or these reports fall short of reaching NYC because there was no standard format used in the reports as SK councils do not get guidelines on preparing them.

It was also stated in the study of Malaluan et al. (2014) that because of their young hood and immaturity, as well as lack of consultation and coordination, affects them to make wrong



Moreover, SKs are rated only Good in partnering with the Local Youth Development Council. As per an interview with the Provincial Youth Development Officer, the LYDC is not fully established/functional in every municipality in Marinduque and only one out of six municipalities have their Local Youth Development Plan (LYDP), and this is only the Municipality of Torrijos. The LYDP cannot be finalized without the approval of the LYDC because they check if this is anchored in the Philippine Youth Development Plan.

Lastly, the MLGOOs rated them Good in the implementation and adoption of the full disclosure policy. As per interview with some of the Punong Barangays, SK officials are not able to report their financial transactions to Barangay and Katipunan and Kabataan members due to no activities that were implemented that involve SK Fund, or they were not able to utilize their SK Fund.

Castillo and Gabriel (2020) stated that transparency is a matter that should be open to the government because this encourages the participation of the citizens in governance by scrutinizing the public fund. With this, it embraces accountability. Results here revealed that the presentation of the annual report garnered a lower weighted mean compared to others which can be interpreted that this may somehow affecting their participation and performance in local governance. If the SK is unable to present its financial transaction to the public, it may result in public distrust.

Table 3 presents the level of performance of Sangguniang Kabataan in local governance. It can be seen that the SK's performance perceived by their SK Chairpersons and Punong Barangays appears to be *Very Good* with a grand mean of **3.67** and **3.51** respectively. On the

other hand, the MLGOOs rated the SK's performance as *Good*, with a mean score of **3.25** (see Table 3).

Table 3: *Level of performance of Sangguniang Kabataan in local governance according to SK Chairperson, Punong Barangays, and MLGOOs*

Duties and Responsibilities	SK Chairpersons		Punong Barangays		MLGOOs	
	Mean	Interpretation	Mean	Interpretation	Mean	Interpretation
a. Formulate a three (3) year rolling plan or the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan, which serves as the basis in the preparation of the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Plan, which shall be aligned with the Philippine Youth Development Plan and other Youth Development Plan. This shall be done through consultation and concurrence of the Katipunan ng Kabataan.	3.62	Very Good	3.69	Very Good	3.67	Very Good
b. Approve the annual budget, which is the annual slice of the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Program before the start of the succeeding fiscal year, if the SK Fund allows, a supplemental budget. Any changes in the annual budget shall be in accordance with the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan and the applicable provision of RA 10742.	3.58	Very Good	3.58	Very Good	4.00	Very Good
c. Promulgates resolutions necessary to carry out the objectives of the youth	3.59	Very Good	3.44	Very Good	3.50	Very Good

d. Initiates and implements SK Projects and programs to enhance the social, political, economic, cultural, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and physical development of the members.	3.61	Very Good	3.49	Very Good	3.33	Good
e. Holds fundraising activities for the purpose of youth development projects and programs.	3.41	Very Good	3.49	Very Good	3.17	Good
f. Creates regular and special committees and other such bodies whose chairpersons and members shall come from among the members of the SK or from among the members of the Katipunan ng Kabataan, as it may deem necessary to effectively carry out programs and activities.	3.53	Very Good	3.52	Very Good	2.83	Good
g. Submits annual and financial reports to Sangguniang Barangay and present them during the KK assembly or from among the members of KK.	3.64	Very Good	3.46	Very Good	3.00	Good
h. Partner with the LYDC in planning and executing projects and programs of specific advocacies like good governance, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and resiliency, youth employment and livelihood, health and anti-drug abuse, gender sensitivity, and sports development.	3.62	Very Good	3.55	Very Good	2.67	Good
i. Adopt and implement a policy on full disclosure of all its transactions and documents <u>involving public interest.</u>	3.44	Very Good	3.45	Very Good	3.00	Good

j. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as the Sangguniang Barangay may determine or delegate or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance. (Attendance to a session, lobbying project proposals, attendance to seminars and training, attendance to LYDC Planning preparation, involvement in community service).	3.65	Very Good	3.44	Very Good	3.33	Good
Grand Mean	3.67	Very Good	3.51	Very Good	3.25	Good

As revealed, the SK got the highest mean score of **3.65** in exercising such other powers and performing such other duties and functions determined/delegated by their Sangguniang Barangay like attendance to the session, lobbying project proposals, attendance to seminars and training, attendance to LYDC Planning preparation, involvement in community service. On the other hand, it got a lower mean score of **3.41** in the holding of fundraising activities, consistent results to their participation according to the Punong Barangays and DILG Representatives/MLGOOs, which was previously discussed.

But the overall mean score indicates the performance of SK manifests that they still make an impact on their respective barangays. The performance of SK (Tersol & Domingo, 2012), as cited in the study of Malaluan et al. (2014), mentioned that through the performance, there have been numerous projects of SKs that were organized and made an impact on the communities or barangays. It has been a big aid in executing the functions of the barangay council and can able to accommodate the major needs of the youth.

For Punong Baragays, the SK also got the highest mean score of **3.69** in formulating their three-year Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan, which means that the SK can perform to promote youth participation in governance. In an article by Castillo (2010), Rep. Raymond V. Palatino (Party-list, Kabataan) mentioned that the Sangguniang Kabataan aims to encourage the youth to take an active part in governance and to serve as an educational experience for them.

On the other hand, the SK got a lower mean score in promulgating resolutions and exercising other powers and duties. Consistent with the study of Balanon et al. (2017), they found out that the SK's performance is weak, especially in coming up with legislation. However, the outputs showed SK representatives could come up with highly relevant ordinances.

The SK's performance in approving their annual budget garnered the highest mean score of **4.00**, which is *Very Good*. This is the annual slice of the Annual Barangay Youth Investment Program before the start of the succeeding fiscal year, if the SK Fund allows, and is a supplemental budget. Any changes in the annual budget shall be per the Comprehensive Barangay Youth Development Plan and the applicable provision of RA 10742.

Meanwhile, it also appears that the SK's partnership with the LYDC in planning and executing projects and programs of specific advocacies like good governance, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resiliency, youth employment and livelihood, health and anti-drug abuse, gender sensitivity, and sports development obtained a low mean score of **2.67** which is also equivalent to *Good* performance.

It was also cited in the study of Malaluan et al. (2014) that the SK must consult and



coordinate with all youth organizations to formulate their policy and implement their programs.

It was revealed in the study that the SK has little consultation with the youth, especially in planning, monitoring, and evaluation.

Despite criticisms faced by the SK in the performance of their duties, Espiritu (2018) revealed in his study that having experience as an SK proved to be a worthy ground for leadership and management functions.

Table 4: Recommendations of Respondents

Recommendations	F	Percentage	Rank
Special SK Election to complete the set of SK Officials	209	73.07%	1
SK Mandatory Training	192	67.13%	2
Meeting on SK Fund Utilization	163	56.99%	3
Training on disbursement of funds for SK Treasurers	71	24.83%	5
Honorarium for all SK Officials (from Chairperson to Kagawad)	145	50.70%	4
Regular Meetings of SK Federation President Officers	70	24.48%	6
Regular Meeting of SK Chairpersons	69	29.13%	7
Regular Meeting of the SK of each barangays	74	25.87%	8
Support from the Local Government Unit, particularly additional funds to realize their projects and programs	48	16.78%	9
Others	8	2.80%	10

Table 4 revealed that rank 1 is the Special SK Election to complete the set of SK Officials, which has a percentage of **73.07%**. The reason behind this is that some SK Chairpersons have already resigned from their post, and some SK Officials are incomplete, this is according to the data provided by the Provincial Office of the Department of the Interior and Local Government. Moreover, the respondents least recommended Others which is ranked at 10 with a percentage of 2.80%, and these are: 1) The political dynasty shall not be allowed, 2) Capability Development Training/Seminar, 3) Training of Duties and Responsibilities, 4)

Training on SK Funding, 5) SK Innovation to support KK and people's organization, 6) Abolition of SK, 7) Conduct of SK Election again, and 8) Amendment of some provisions of RA 10742.

In this study, the results in participation and performance of SK may be varied, but what is deemed important is the respondents' perception of the participation and performance of SK in local governance. It only shows that the study is anchored with the theory of Typology of Youth Participation and Empowerment (Wong et. al, 2010). The results of the study revealed that youth participation is important in the organizational and community decision-making process. The said theory discusses the three categories of youth participation, Adult Control, Youth Control, and Shared Control. Adult and Youth Control lie at the lowest part of the pyramid because the Youth (SK) and Adult (Local Government Officials) are considered equal or have the same level of empowerment. Shared control is attained when adults are not merely dominant or under-involved to hinder youth development and empowerment. With this, it further builds on the youth-focus participation by incorporating intergenerational linkages and considering recent research development in youth-adult partnerships.

Moreover, the results also showed the theory of reasoned action and behavior performance postulated by Martin Fishbein and Icek Ajzen, which stated that the primary determinant of behavior is the intention of the person to perform the act (Taylor, 2000). The study also reveals that the SK has a strong commitment to their roles and functions, which can be shown in the result of their participation and performance but only limited because of the challenges that affect their participation and performance.

Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution recognizes the significant role of the youth in nation-building and that the government shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, and social well-being aspect. They shall be taught youth patriotism, nationalism, and involvement in public and civic affairs.

The Constitution expresses that the youth is vital in refurbishing the nation. This led to the creation of the Sangguniang Kabataan, or what all of us know as SK, which is embodied in the Local Government Code of 1991.

It is believed that through the democratic process, young people will be empowered. The skills and experience will make them more responsible and accountable, develop confidence and connect with other youth and adults.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the researcher concluded that although the SKs of Marinduque are rated *Very Good* in their participation and performance, the DILG Representatives/MLGOOs only rated them *Good*, which means that there is a need to enhance the level of their participation and performance in local governance. The challenges also revealed that there are various factors that affect their participation and performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusion formed in this study, the researcher endorses the following recommendation to the concerned officials and persons.



International Journal of Arts, Sciences and Education

Volume 4 Issue 1 | March 2023

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ISSN: 2799 - 1091

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- Provide subsidy or financial support to SKs activities. It can be charged as a Subsidy to Other Local Government Units, GAD Fund, DRRM Fund, and other possible sources of fund.
- Monitor and assess the participation and performance as well as the implementation of the projects, programs, and activities of SK. This can be implemented through the Provincial Youth Development Office and in partnership with DILG. They can improvise a monitoring tool and organize a monitoring team for SKs.
- Endorse SK to foundations, NGOs, and philanthropists that can aid them in the implementation of their projects and activities

To DILG Officials

- Provide SK Mandatory Training that includes the following training modules: (1) Decentralization and Local Governance, (2) SK History and Salient Features, (3) Meetings and Resolutions, (4) Planning and Budgeting, and (5) Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards.
- Provide leadership enhancement training for SK Officials.
- Provide other capacity-building programs for the youth, like preparation of Comprehensive Development Plans and SK Financial Accounting and seminars and workshops in partnership with the Department of the Interior and Local Government.
- Meet the SK's Office once a month or every quarter to discuss their concerns together with representatives from concerned agencies like COA, COMELEC, NYC, and DBM.

To SK Officials

- Coordinate with their local officials to assist them in holding fund-raising activities for youth development projects.
- Coordinate with their barangay officials to guide them in the creation of regular and special committees to effectively carry out their programs and projects.
- Submit their annual and financial report on time. They can also avail of training related to financial literacy in order for them to efficiently carry out this mandate. They can write a letter to COA and other concerned agencies to request the conduct of free training.
- Communicate with the Local Youth Development Council in the planning and execution of their PPAs.

To the Future Researcher/s

- Conduct a more profound understanding/research on the challenges that affect youth participation and performance in local governance.
- Consider the perception of the Katipunan ng Kabataan Members or other youth-serving organizations in the evaluation of participation and performance of SK.

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