

HMCCC Stories from the Ground:

From Fragmented Efforts to Institutionalised Action

Strengthening Data Use Through Mandates

Fragmented System and Limited Ownership

In the past, Tanay municipality in the Philippines operated without an institutionalised and regularly used data management system. The use of the Registry of Barangay Inhabitants and Migrants (RBIM) was inconsistent, relying heavily on the initiative of the Municipal Population officer (MPO) and barangay volunteers, instead of being regularly mandated into the work of all Local Government Unit (LGU) departments and barangays.

As a result, participation was uneven, and compliance could not be systematically ensured. The MPO faced persistent challenges in securing cooperation and in demonstrating the broader value of the RBIM to other departments.

Turning Point: Institutionalising RBIM

This began to change through targeted support under the HMCCC II programme. By strengthening local planning processes and advancing the digitalisation of the RBIM, the project enabled the MPO to elevate the registry's importance within the municipality. Crucially, this led to the issuance of an Executive Order by the Mayor, formally institutionalising both the RBIM and the Migrant Information Center (MIC).

Lasting Impact: Coordinated Local Action

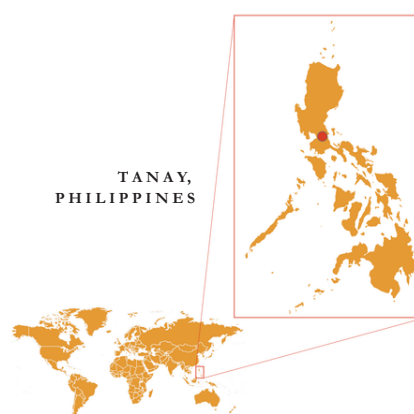
With this mandate in place RBIM was no longer an optional tool but a required system for data collection, planning and service delivery. This shift created clearer accountability and significantly improved participation from barangays and LGU departments. What had previously been seen largely as a tool of the Municipal Population Office came to be recognized as a useful data system for multiple departments and sectoral offices, not only in

relation to climate migration but also for broader local governance in the LGU.

The impact of this transformation is both practical and systemic. RBIM is now institutionalised and increasingly digitalised, ensuring its sustained use beyond individual champions or project timelines. LGU offices that once viewed RBIM as the sole responsibility of the MPO have begun to recognise its relevance to their own mandates.

What was once a fragmented, underutilised system has evolved into a shared resource supporting multiple sectors, from service delivery to broader governance and planning, including responses to climate-related mobility.

This experience highlights a critical lesson: data systems alone do not drive change – mandates do. By embedding tools like RBIM into formal institutional frameworks, LGUs can move from ad hoc usage to sustained, coordinated action. In doing so, they unlock the full potential of data to inform decisions, allocate resources more effectively, and respond to both immediate crises and long-term development challenges.



This factsheet presents implementation experiences from the GIZ Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change