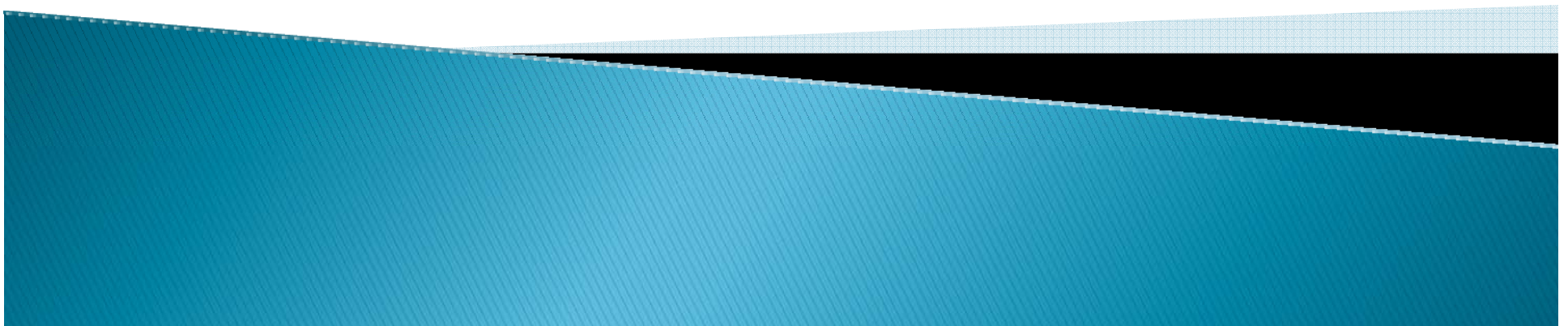


Results of Regional Validation Session

Carmel V. Abao



Informants: Region V

- ▶ Bernadette Gumba, Ateneo de Naga University
- ▶ Renne Gumba, CAMSURNET/Institute of Policy, Ateneo de Naga University
- ▶ Charlemagne Seechung, Metro Naga Chamber of Commerce Inc.
- ▶ Edilberto San Carlos, Naga City People's Council (NCPC)
- ▶ Nelia Bergancia Sapalicio, Naga City People's Council (NCPC)
- ▶ Jorge Naag, Laboc Norte
- ▶ Jose Arnel A. Endionela, GMPC
- ▶ Rowena Olayta, ALPRODEV
- ▶ Melinda Babagay, SPACFI
- ▶ Jimmy Molina, SPACFI-Daet
- ▶ Aurora de Guzman, MALAYA-KA Inc.
- ▶ Phebe Figueroa, BNSG
- ▶ Jesus Ernesto Delfin, MAMPCO
- ▶ Vicente Ensano, Malinao GPTU
- ▶ Cristina Rabulan, DVSAFI



Informants: Region VI

Aklan:

- ▶ Sally Coliseo, KAMMANA
- ▶ Aissa Amerella, AGMRMFI

Antique:

- ▶ Tomdoly Antonio, AFCCUI
- ▶ Ruben Nerecima, CAMPTODA
- ▶ Dean An, AFON

Guimaras:

- ▶ Felisa Espiso and Emy Calaycay, NVMPCI
- ▶ Iloilo:
- ▶ Mariluz Guana, LCDP-MPC



Informants: Region X

Misamis Oriental:

- ▶ El Cisco Jun B. Ramos, GROUP-GBM
- ▶ Lezlee Escalante, KKP-SIO, Xavier U
- ▶ Kirby Beleta, KKP-SVPC, Xavier U
- ▶ Noel Bacoto, An Maglipayon
- ▶ Waldo Sablayan, An Maglipayon
- ▶ Adelaida Mabayan, Group Foundation

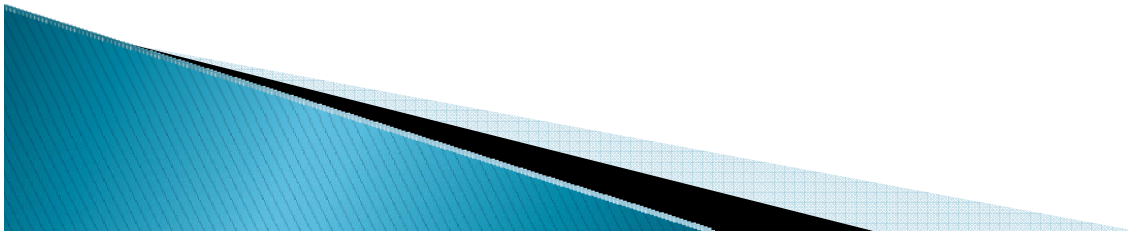
- ▶ Dell Zamora, GBM/Lambo Bayan
- ▶ Noel G. Butad, A4 Mindanao Alliance

Bukidnon:

- ▶ Bienvenido Narciso Jr, Abag Kalambuan
- ▶ Wilhelmian S. Caton, Bukidnon Women's Orgs, Inc.

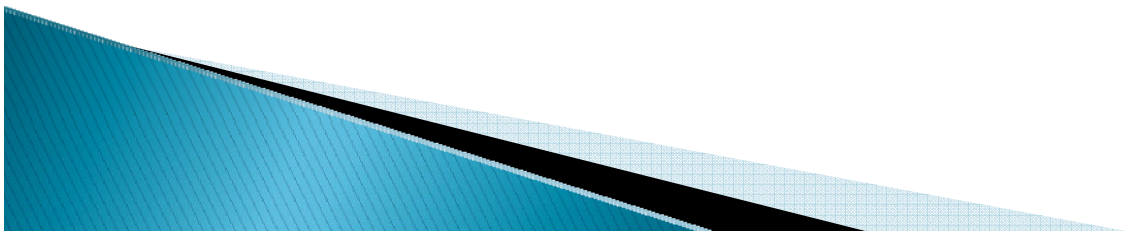
This Session

- ▶ Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring
- ▶ Involvement in Procurement
- ▶ Bidding vs. Contract Monitoring
- ▶ Issues and Concerns



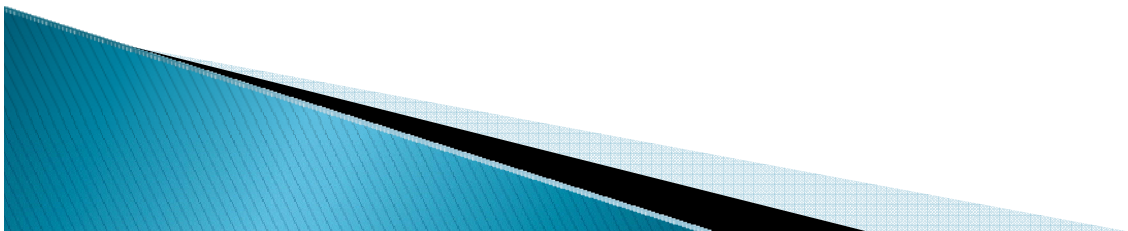
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (1)

- ▶ Level of confidence/readiness of CSOs is low.
 - CSOs may not want to risk being ridiculed or viewed as incompetent by government.



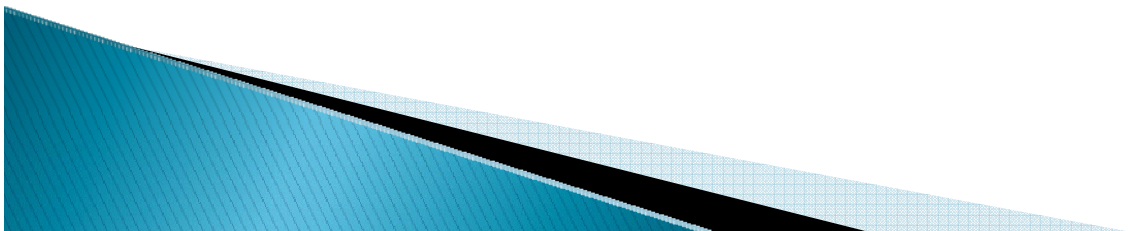
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (2)

- ▶ CSOs may not understand or feel that procurement monitoring can (or should) be part of their scope of work.
 - “Hindi namin project ito” (*This is not our project so why participate?*)



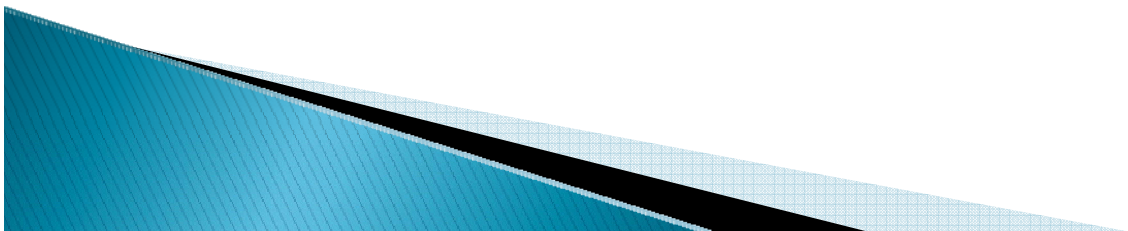
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (3)

- ▶ Training on procurement is key.
- ▶ Procurement requires highly specialized skills and “expert” knowledge.
 - Procurement law
 - Engineering know-how
 - Financial analysis skills
 - Technical writing skills



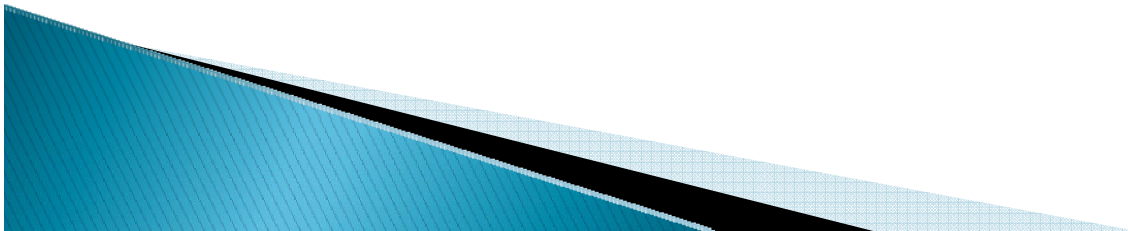
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (4)

- ▶ History of CSO engagement matters.
 - Involvement in procurement yet another level of “institutionalization” of CSO participation.



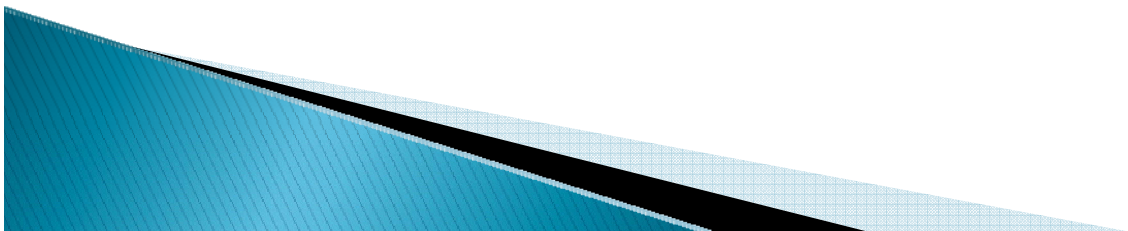
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (5)

- ▶ Level of networking/cooperation among CSOs also a “push” factor.



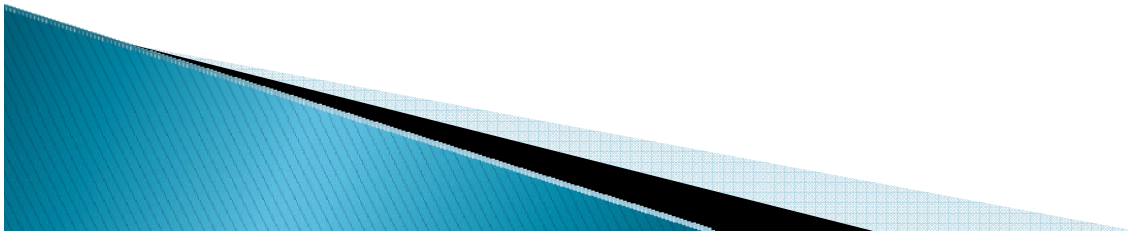
Minimal Involvement in Procurement Monitoring (6)

- ▶ Developments in the external environment compel CSOs to participate.
 - “Invitation” by local public officials who view procurement as non-threatening
 - Openings under the Aquino administration (e.g NAPC)
 - Boom in infrastructure: there is a lot to monitor



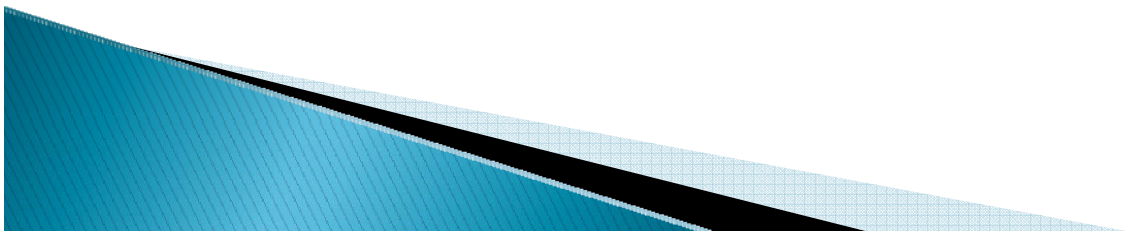
Involvement in Procurement (1)

- ▶ “What to monitor” often depends on CSOs existing programs and linkages.
 - Local champions
 - Pre-existing membership in local bodies such as the LDCs, local special bodies
 - Pre-existing partnerships with national line agencies such as DPWH, DAR, DepEd



Involvement in Procurement (2)

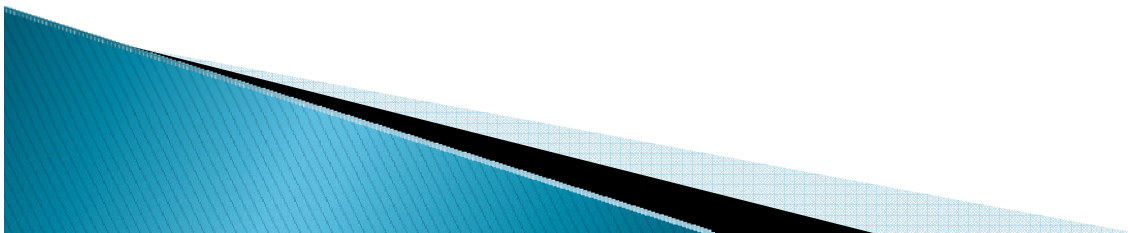
- ▶ There is some confusion as to what “constitutes” procurement monitoring.
 - Some CSOs are actually service providers; they still view themselves as observers and monitors.
 - Government activity that does not necessarily entail procurement is still viewed as “monitoring” (e.g identification and monitoring of beneficiaries of NAPC’S CCT).



Bidding vs. Contract Implementation (1)

Bidding Only:

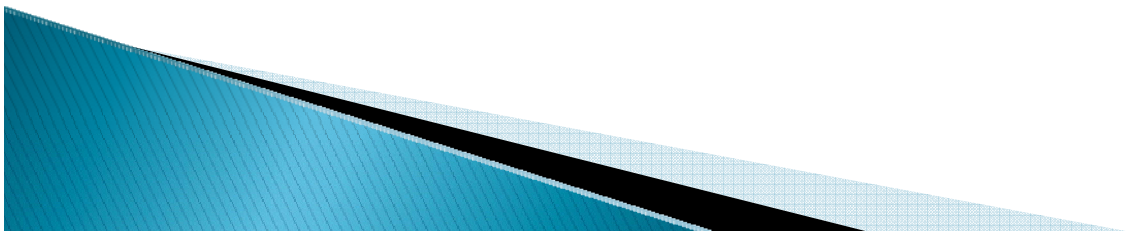
- ▶ Most are “invited” to observe bidding.
- ▶ CSOs monitor only up to the point allowed by LGUs.
- ▶ Schedule of bidding processes more predictable.
- ▶ Less time-consuming than contract monitoring.
- ▶ Less monitors needed.



Bidding vs. Contract Implementation (2)

Contract Implementation Only:

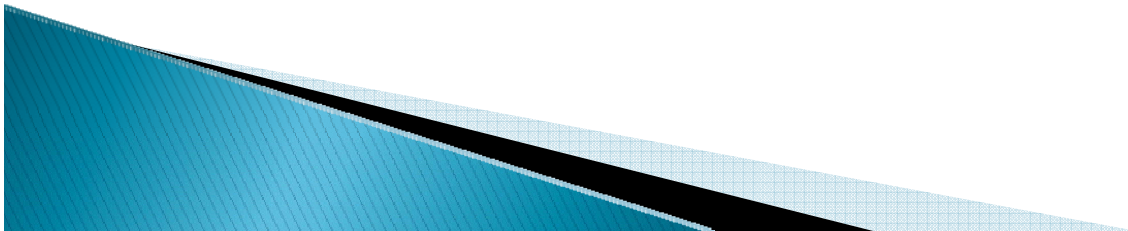
- ▶ Bidding requires more technical capability.
- ▶ Contract implementation entails clear indicators for monitoring.
- ▶ POs are more predisposed to participate in monitoring contract implementation owing to their “mobilizable” nature.
- ▶ Most CSOs feel that bidding is pre-determined and there is little room for influence.
- ▶ Channels for accountability is clearer than in the bidding process.



Bidding vs. Contract Implementation (3)

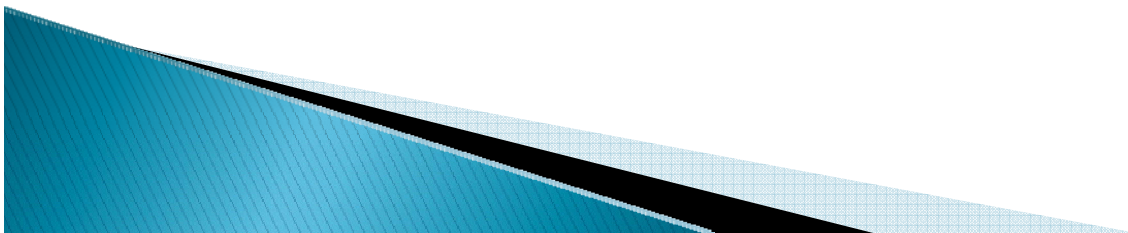
Choice also depends on:

- ▶ Availability of human and financial resources.
- ▶ Predisposition of CSO leaders.



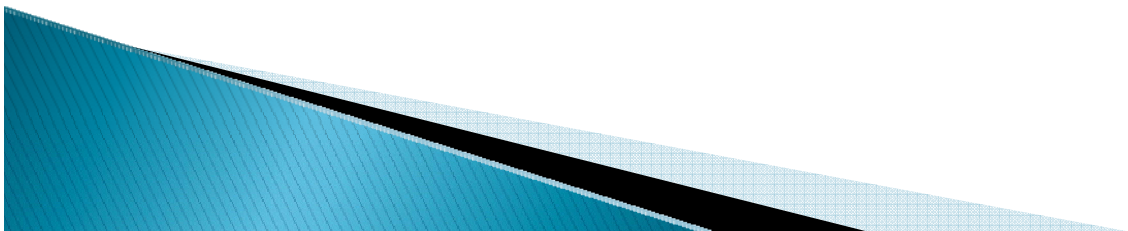
Issues and Concerns (1)

- ▶ Skill-and-knowledge requirement
 - How to write technical reports after observing.
 - What to do with “observations”; “saan kami mag-re-report?”



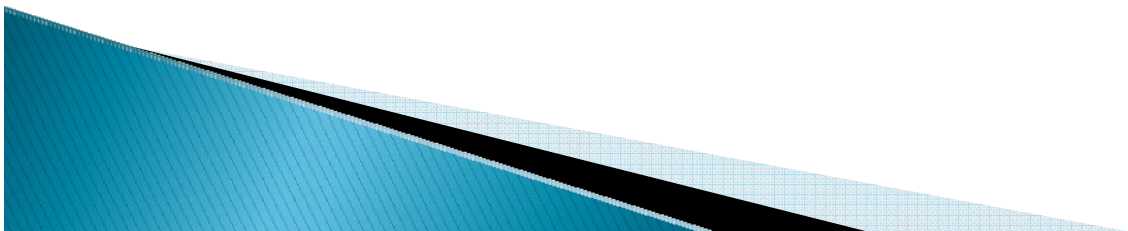
Issues and Concerns (2)

- ▶ Human-and-financial-resource requirement.
 - Only a few leaders or staff members involved.
 - Financial resources earmarked for procurement monitoring limited.
 - LGU pays for some logistical needs but doesn't this compromise the independence of observers/monitors?



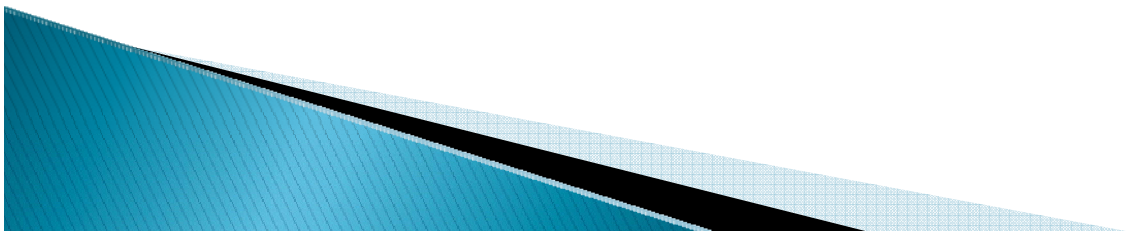
Issues and Concerns (3)

- ▶ Possible conflict-of-interest
 - “monitors” as “bidders”.
- ▶ Political dynamics on the ground.
 - ▶ “Markado na” ng Mayor/LGU. (“Blacklisted” by LGU).
- ▶ National–local dynamics, especially new rules on procurement.



Issues and Concerns (4)

- ▶ How to frame limits and possibilities of procurement monitoring as mechanism for social accountability.
 - Why participate in bidding process if this is largely pre-determined?
 - Monitoring of contract implementation meanwhile is time consuming.
 - Procurement monitoring allows for monitoring of what has already been budgeted but does not question the budget process itself.



Issues and Concerns (5)

- ▶ How to draw in other CSOs?
 - Only NGOs, POs and Cooperatives are involved. What about professional groups? (e.g. engineers)
 - What about ARMM?
 - What about IPs?
 - Network with other CSOs rather than monitor as individual/separate organizations?

