

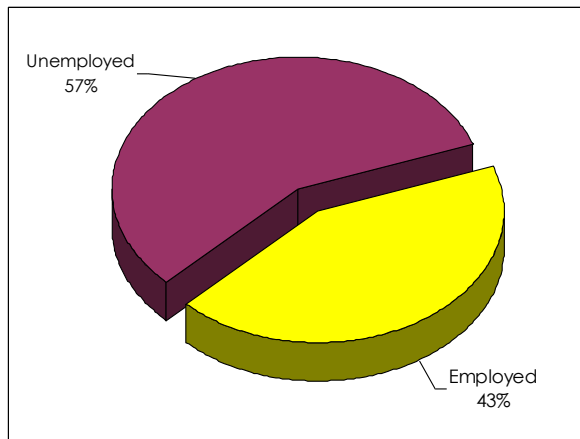


CHAPTER 4 **ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT SECTOR**

This section of the ecological profile presents the economic sector of the Municipality of Orion, Bataan. Whereas the common practice in presenting the economic sector is by looking at its growth across time, this section focuses on the current situation of the economy in the municipality. Hence, data presented hereunder will serve as baseline data which could be used for comparison in the future. Further, majority of the data to be presented were collected through an actual household survey conducted by the Technical Working Group (TWG).

4.1 Employment-Unemployment Ratio

Figure 4.1: Employment-Unemployment Ratio



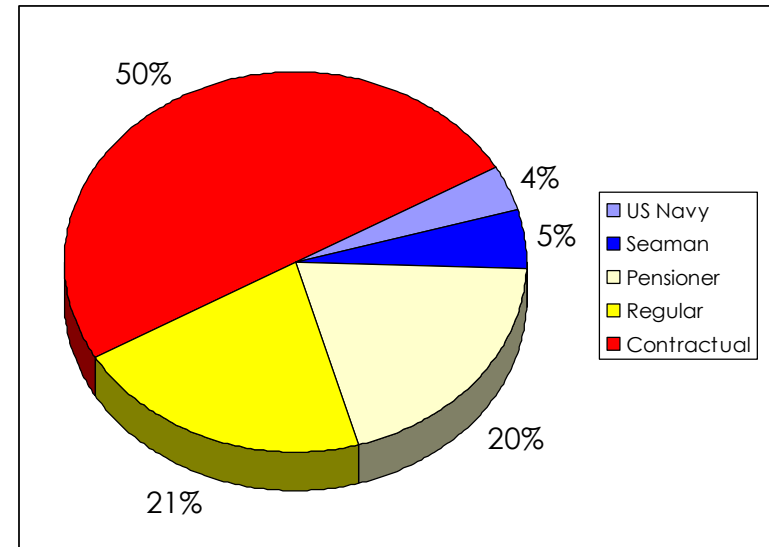
One of the basic measures of an economy's health is the percentage of the labor with current employment. In the same line, it is often the aim of most economic planner and governments to bring the unemployment rate at the lowest possible level. However, for the case of Orion, a good portion of its

households have at least one (1) member working overseas. Hence, the employment-unemployment ratio does not present a good picture of its economic health. Figure 4.1 shows the employed-unemployed distribution for the entire municipality.

4.2 Overseas Filipino Workers

Majority of the unemployed are dependents of overseas workers and pensioners. Hence, in spite of not having employment of their own, these people play a significant part in the economy of the municipality. Of those surveyed, 50% stated that their household has at least one (1) contractual OFW. 20% have members who are regularly employed overseas, while 21% have at least a member who receives a pension. The figure below shows the distribution of the type of OFW from the municipality.

Figure 4.2: Type of OFW's





4.3 Informal Employment

Another factor contributing to the relatively high rate of unemployment in the municipality is the abundance of those working in the informal sector. Most of these are seasonal workers and, hence, do not have regular employment. These include farm and fisheries-related workers, and vendors. 51% of those in the informal sector work in fisheries related jobs, while 29% are in farm related work. The figure below shows the distribution of workers in the informal sector.

Figure 4.3: Types of Seasonal/ Informal Workers

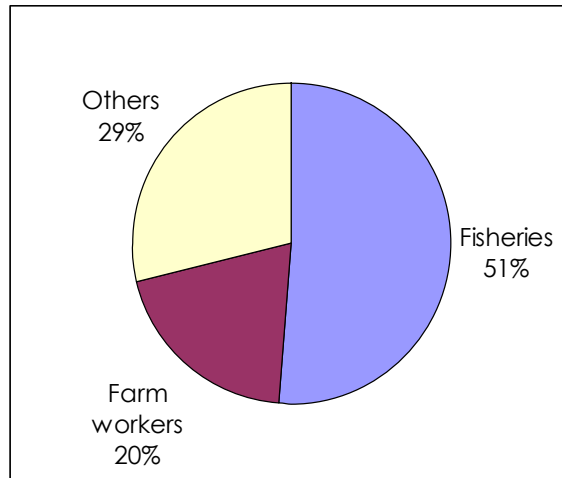


Figure 4.4: Drying fish at Bgy. Wawa

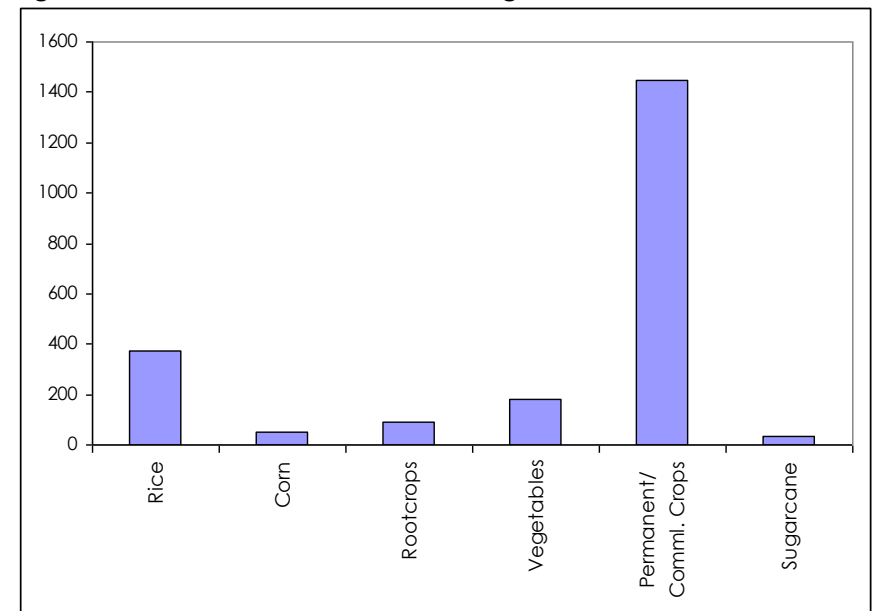


4.4 Agriculture

4.4.1 Labor Force

One of the important sub-sectors of Orion's economy is agriculture. This is evident in both land-based agriculture and fisheries. Land-based agriculture is mostly concentrated on farming. Permanent and commercial crops are the primary produce, while rice comes in at a distant second. Permanent and commercial crops include mangoes, bananas and other kinds of fruits. Approximately 210 hectares of land is devoted to land-based agriculture. The distribution of households involved in land-based agriculture as to their type of produce is shown below.

Figure 4.5: Number of Households in Agricultural Production





4.4.2 Agrarian Reform Program

Agrarian Reform Communities (ARC) of Orion (ARCO) is a cluster of four barangays namely Gen. Lim, Bilolo, Sabatan and Daan Pare. It has a total area of 5,325.76 hectares or 81% of the total Orion land area. Farming is the predominant occupation of the residents. ARCO has three farming zone classifications namely: palay farming zone, mango farming zone and labor zone (off and non-farm).

Figure 4.6: Farmlands in Barangay Sta. Elena



A total of 248 households are involved in palay farming. The average farm size in the palay zone is approximately 1.61 hectares. About 99% of palay farms are actually cultivated and utilized. Annual production of palay averages 180 cavans per hectare. Only 53% of the yearly harvest is being sold and converted to household cash. Remaining harvest are allotted for lease rental, for household consumption, payment for threshing services and

reserved for seed. Palay farmers are mostly dependent on hired labor to perform their operations. The farm activities being done by the household labor are water management, seed broadcasting and crop management. Palay farmers have an average net income of PhP16, 374.00 per hectare per year.

The riceland output of ARCO of 3,970 MT/ha covering 396.7626 has. comprises 43% municipal total Riceland output of 9,260 MT/ha. Also the ARC has a total agricultural area of 3,603 has. which is 72% of the total municipal agricultural area of roughly 5,000 has.

For mango zone, 465 farmers are engaged in mango production. The average farm size of mango farm is 5 hectare and is planted with an average of 24 mango trees yielding 25 kaings per tree. All harvested mango fruits are sold and converted to cash. Most of the mango farmers are engaged in "contract spraying" with a 60-40 sharing arrangement in which 60% goes to the sprayer and 40% is the share of the mango farmer. Mango farming is quite profitable compared to palay farming but the production cost is relatively high and proper timing is critical. Based on the ARC study, a hectare of farmland planted to 40 mango trees can give a total annual income of PhP 269,000.00 as against the production cost that can reach up to PhP 155,491.00. However, a net income of PhP 113,508.00 can still be gathered by the farmers.

The labor zone covers 1,480 households comprising the seasonal farm workers and daily income wage earners. Seasonal laborers are hired farm workers while the daily wage earners include drivers, vendors and factory workers. The average working days of seasonal farm workers total to 189 days per year with an earning of PhP 140 per day.

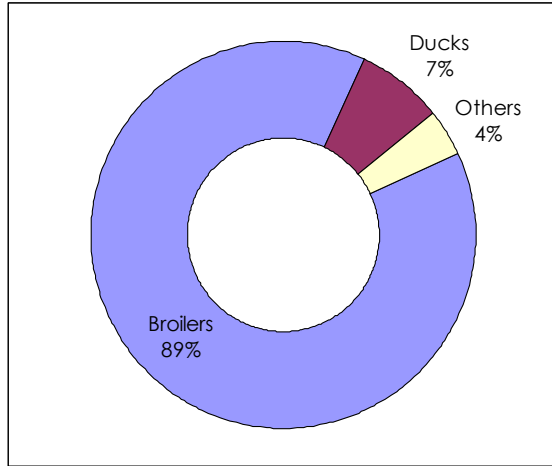
4.4.3 Livestock Production

Livestock-raising is another important aspect of the land-based agriculture of the municipality. Broilers (89%) are the primary type of livestock being raised, followed by ducks (7%). Carabaos, pigs and goats are also raised albeit in relatively lower quantity. The



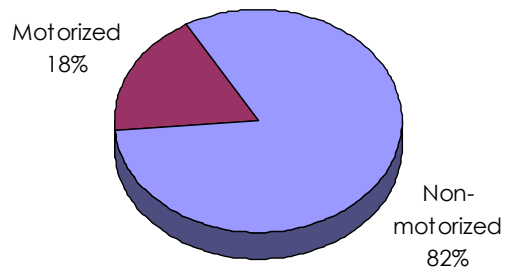
figure below shows the distribution of the type of livestock being raised.

Figure 4.7: Type of Livestock



4.4.4 Commercial Fishing

Figure 4.8: Types of Banca Used



The Municipality of Orion has coastal waters suitable for commercial fishing. These waters are utilized as evident by the importance of fisheries in the local economy. Nine hundred thirty one (931) households are involved in brackishwater fishing while six (6) are involved in freshwater fishing.

Approximately 255.5 hectares of Orion waters are utilized for fisheries. There is an estimated catch of 625 metric tons per year. The fisherfolks of Orion utilize 424 bancas, 82 % of which are motorized while the rest are non-motorized.

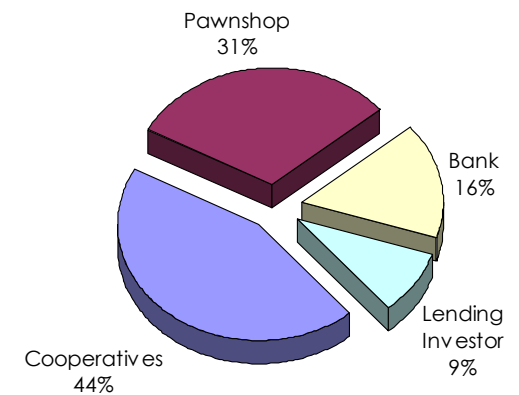
Figure 4.9: Bancas docked along Bagumbayan River



4.5 Financial Institutions

There are thirty two (32) financial institutions in the Municipality of Orion. There are 14 cooperatives, 10 pawnshops, 5 banks, and 3 lending investors. However, none of the five banks are national commercial banks.

Figure 4.10: Type of Financial Institutions





4.6 Business Services

There are several types of business services in the municipality. There are approximately 444 business services in Orion. These could be classified into 14 types. 86.71%, or 385 out of the 444 are sari-sari stores. Other types of business services include school and office supplies, groceries, and agricultural equipment and supplies. There are also three (3) gasoline stations in the municipality.

Figure 4.11:
Warehouse-
type
supermarket



Figure 4.12:
Commercial
stalls



4.7 Personal Services

There are a total of seventy four (74) establishments offering personal services in Orion. These types of establishments include eateries, beauty parlors, funeral parlors, and video game shops. The figure below shows the distribution of establishments offering personal services in the municipality.

4.8 Vehicle Ownership

There are a total of 1884 motorized vehicles owned by the people of Orion. 1040 of these are tricycles, majority of which are used as public transport. There are also fifty nine (59) "weapons". Weapons are vehicles equipped with power sprayers used in farms. The figure below shows the distribution of vehicles in the municipality of Orion.

Figure 4.13: Type of Vehicles Owned

