

Knowledge and Implementation of the Barangay Information Network (BIN)
Program as a Community Policing Mechanism in Abra

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Knowledge and Implementation of the Barangay Information Network (Bin) Program as a Community Policing Mechanism in Abra

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ABSTRACT

In the absence of proper collection, tracking, and implementation of local intelligence, community policing and the eventual security of citizens can hardly succeed. The other important program that connects the Philippine National Police (PNP) with community informants in the Philippines is the Barangay Information Network (BIN) program, which assists the police in promptly accessing crime prevention and reporting levels. This study assessed the level of knowledge among PNP personnel and BIN informants in the Province of Abra and assessed the realization of the BIN programs. The research design used was a descriptive-correlational design to investigate the level of knowledge among Philippine National Police (PNP) personnel and Barangay Information Network (BIN) informants, and to establish the level of BIN program implementation in the Province of Abra. The respondents included PNP employees from the Abra provincial intelligence unit, municipal police stations, and BIN informants from different barangays. The data collection was conducted using a validated researcher-designed questionnaire, and the data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, mean scores, and bivariate correlation analysis. The result indicated that the degree of knowledge and programmed action was rated as Very High both by the PNP staff members and the informants of the BIN. The positive relationship between informants' knowledge and the level of program implementation was also strong across all areas, with meaningful results in overall knowledge and the reporting system. Although the overall results were encouraging, indicators such as insufficient network connections and insufficient training in database systems and safe reporting practices were the most frequent issues that influenced the program's effectiveness. Depending on the results, the researcher suggests more training for PNP personnel and BIN informants, and paying greater attention to information security, crime production, and the efficient use of intelligence systems. Feedback mechanisms and orientation programs should be enhanced to instill trust and ensure the accuracy and timeliness of reports. Continuous capacity-building, technical support, and active community engagement are also necessary to improve the long-term sustainability and impact of the BIN program. This study provides empirical, province-level evidence on how informant knowledge relates to the implementation of community-based intelligence programs, contributing to the literature on community policing and intelligence-led policing in rural Philippine contexts.

Keywords: implementation, informants, poor network connectivity, information security, intelligence system

INTRODUCTION

Intelligence is the lifeblood of every police operation. The police have faced significant challenges, including perceptions of police effectiveness and procedural justice, which contribute to a breach of trust within the community. Conducting covert actions that are immoral, maintaining close ties to the politics, criminals, and human rights abusers, and other criminals, failure to safeguard operations, kidnapping, and torturing are some examples of misconduct that need to be addressed. Intelligence, as the brain in the quad Composition of Policing in the Philippine National Police, is crucial to police operations, as it preempts the commission of crime in the community and monitors the integrity of the entire organization (Na, Lee & Kang, 2023).

Crime is prevalent despite the existing laws, implementing agencies, and law enforcers that contribute to problems with the residents, families, children, and other vulnerable individuals, reducing the quality of life and financial difficulties (Sanchez, 2023). This phenomenon is not only prevalent globally but also significantly impacts national and local levels, including in the Philippines and in specific regions such as the Province of Abra. With total gun-related deaths reaching new highs in recent years, growing shares of Americans view both gun violence and violent crime as very big national problems (Pew Research Center, 2023). It remains one of the public's most significant safety concerns. The criminal legal system can make strides to address this concern by significantly improving the rate at which serious crimes are solved, tailoring solutions to community needs through improved data collection and sharing, and improving police-community relations (McLendon, 2024). The security situation of the Philippines continues to face the challenges brought about by the existence of threats from the Communist Terrorist Group (CTG), Local Terrorist Groups (LTGs), and other organized criminal organizations. Bernas (2021). The social and economic inequities have made the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its propaganda attractive to some citizens. Delays in providing security, healing, reconciliation, confidence-building, and socio-economic interventions in transformation programs could erode accomplishments. Further, impediments to the completion of the peace processes with the Cordillera Bodong Administration – Cordillera Peoples Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA) and the Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas / Revolutionary Proletarian Army / Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPM-P/RPA/ ABB) may result in decreased confidence in the process, trigger factionalism in the groups above, threaten the peace and transformation in the program areas, including the autonomy initiatives in the Cordilleras (National Security Policy Manual, 2023), (Pio et al., 2023).

Despite the institutionalization of the Barangay Information Network (BIN) Program, several *local* challenges in the Province of Abra hinder its optimal implementation and highlight the need for an in-depth empirical assessment. Abra

continues to experience complex security conditions, including political violence, insurgency-related threats, clan feuds, and armed groups, creating a heightened need for accurate and timely community-based intelligence (Pio et al., 2023; National Security Council, 2023). These security pressures are further intensified by socio-economic vulnerabilities that influence the operations of local government units and law enforcement agencies (Bernas & Lapura, 2021).

The other issue that has been leading to continuous challenges in the operations of Abra is the absence of an effective communication network, especially in upland communities such as Lacub, Baay-Licuan, Malibcong, and Tineg, where poor signal coverage slows down the delivery of intelligence information by BIN informants to their handlers (Pio et al., 2023). Additionally, it provides training, logistical support, and a secure reporting system, but its loopholes affect the reliability and consistency of intelligence gathering at the barangay level (De Mesa et al., 2024; Sanchez, 2023). The other possible factor that led to the unwillingness of the community to participate in intelligence activities fully is also the effects of the political influence and the fear of retaliation, which is also aligned with the nationwide issues of trust, accountability, and relationships between the police and the community (Cimene et al., 2022; McLendon et al., 2024).

The significance of the research is that policymakers can use it to improve the implementation of community-based policing policy. This study will aid in the formulation of programs to enhance the Barangay Information Network by identifying areas for improvement. These would improve crime prevention efforts and community-police relations, and ultimately, the residents of Abra would have a safer environment. This paper complies with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes inclusive and peaceful societies, access to justice for all individuals, and the creation of effective, responsible, and inclusive institutions at all levels. By enhancing confidence in the police and maximizing their communication and crime control, the study will result in the establishment of better institutions and safer communities. The lessons learned in this research can also be applied to other fields that address the same security concerns, leading to broader progress in community policing operations in the Philippines and other regions. To ensure that the police are more trusted and enhance the relationship with the citizens, the police should control crime and report it.

The special attention in this study was paid to the more active involvement of the community, which is increasingly becoming important in modern policing practices. By examining the existing system of BINs and their effectiveness, the study aimed to test the assumption that expanding their capabilities and integrating them into formal law enforcement operations would be effective. This study does not evaluate crime reduction outcomes but focuses on the knowledge, implementation, and operational challenges of the BIN program. Despite the institutionalization of

the Barangay Information Network (BIN) Program, there remains limited empirical evidence examining how knowledge levels of both PNP personnel and community informants relate to the extent of program implementation, particularly in high-risk and upland provinces such as Abra. Thus, the present paper provided significant insights into the success of community-based intelligence collection by assessing the working conditions of the current practice, its advantages and shortcomings, and the correlation between the practice and the police's intelligence activity.

Objectives of the Study

This study aimed to assess the knowledge of PNP personnel and BIN informants regarding the Barangay Information Network (BIN) Program and to determine the extent of its implementation in the Province of Abra. Specifically, it sought to: (1) Determine the level of knowledge of PNP personnel and BIN informants regarding the BIN program; (2) Assess the extent of implementation of the BIN program as perceived by PNP personnel and informants; (3) Examine the relationship between the level of knowledge and the extent of implementation of the BIN program; and (4) Identify the problems encountered in the implementation of the BIN program.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design. This study employed a descriptive-correlational research design. Descriptive correlational research is a research design that seeks to explain the relationship between two or more variables without making claims about cause and effect (Bhat, 2023). Specifically, the study described the Barangay Information Networks (BINs) in the PNP's police intelligence operations, their relationship to crime prevention and solution, and numerical responses from a sample. The limited number of PNP intelligence personnel respondents was due to operational demands and frequent field deployments, which may affect the generalizability of the findings. As such, the descriptive-correlational design is the appropriate one to use. As a descriptive-correlational study, this research examines associations between knowledge and implementation but does not establish causal relationships.

Population and Sample. This study involved the Abra Police Provincial Office as one of the provincial offices of the Police Regional Office-Cordillera Administrative Region, located at Camp Juan Villamor, Barangay Calaba, Bangued, Abra. It covers 27 municipalities with an estimated total population of 50,382, according to the PSA Census of Population on 01 May 2020. The researcher used cluster sampling. The respondents in this study are the ten (10) PNP Personnel of the Abra Police Provincial Office assigned to the Provincial Intelligence Unit, fourteen (14) PNP Personnel from the Municipal Police Station, and two (2) intel PNCOs per municipality.

Furthermore, the PNP intelligence personnel from PIU and MPS were selected as respondents because of their specialized intelligence training relevant to the study.

However, the frequent field assignments of intelligence personnel posed difficulties in reaching and coordinating with them during the study, resulting in a limited number of PNP personnel respondents. Twenty-eight (28) BINs, four (4) per municipality, were selected from clusters of upland and lowland municipalities of Abra, specifically Cluster 1-Upland municipalities of MaLaTiBa (Malibcong, Lacub, Tineg, Baay-Licuan, Abra) and Cluster 2- Lowland municipalities of DoLaSan (Dolores, Lagangilang, and San Juan, Abra), with a total of fifty-two (52) respondents. Moreover, the number of BIN informants is not fixed, as informants may be terminated when they are no longer deemed effective, leading to fluctuations in their numbers.

Research Instrument. The researchers utilized questionnaires, the questionnaire for the level of knowledge of the PNP personnel and informants in relation to the BIN Program of the PNP, and the extent of implementation of the BIN in crime prevention, and solutions that will be derived from various electronic sources, more specifically crafted from Intelligence Directive No. 01-2017. The questionnaire is a five-level scale. The first section of the questionnaire asked about the informants' and PNP personnel's level of knowledge of the PNP's BIN Program. The level of implementation of the BIN Program was the subject of the second section.

Data Gathering Procedure. The researchers used a questionnaire checklist to gather the necessary information needed for the study. A request letter to conduct the study at the Abra Police Provincial Office was forwarded to the Provincial Director. Upon approval, the researcher personally administered the questionnaire to ensure 100 percent retrieval.

Data Analysis. The data collected from this study are rigorously analyzed using the Weighted mean to evaluate the degree of implementation and awareness of the PNP's BIN Program among barangay informants and PNP officers; Frequency Count to ascertain the issues faced during the BIN Program's implementation in the province of Abra, and 3. Bivariate correlation analysis- to investigate the association between the degree of implementation of the PNP's BIN Program and the knowledge of BIN informants.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents, analyses, and interprets the data gathered to answer the problems raised in evaluating the Barangay Information Networks in the province of Abra.

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1. Level of knowledge of PNP personnel and informants in the implementation of the BIN Program in the province of Abra.

The PNP personnel's level of familiarity with the BIN Program is displayed in Table 1.

Table 1

Level of Knowledge of the PNP Personnel in the Implementation of the BIN Program

	Statement	Mean	DR
1.	I understand the importance of monitoring and supervising the implementation of Intelligence Directive 01-2017.	4.75	Strongly Agree
2.	I am aware of the guidelines for recruiting, training, and managing BIN informants.	4.63	Strongly Agree
3.	I know the procedures for consolidating and maintaining records of BIN informants.	4.54	Strongly Agree
4.	I understand the role of BIN informant handlers in training and supervising informants.	4.63	Strongly Agree
5.	I am familiar with the process of validating, evaluating, and analyzing intelligence information.	4.67	Strongly Agree
6.	I know the importance of producing accurate, reliable, and timely intelligence products.	4.75	Strongly Agree
7.	I understand the role of database systems in intelligence operations	4.50	Strongly Agree
8.	I am aware of the security protocols for handling sensitive intelligence information.	4.79	Strongly Agree
9.	I understand the ethical considerations involved in intelligence gathering and analysis.	4.83	Strongly Agree
10.	I am confident in my ability to apply the principles of intelligence analysis to real-world scenarios.	4.75	Strongly Agree
	Overall	4.68	Very High

Legend:

Range	Item DR	Overall DR
4.21 – 5.00	Strongly Agree (SA)	Very High (VH)
3.41 – 4.20	Agree (A)	High (H)
2.61 – 3.40	Neutral (N)	Fair (F)
1.81 – 2.60	Disagree (D)	Low (L)
1.00 – 1.80	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Very Low (VL)

As shown in Table 1, the PNP personnel's overall mean score on the BIN program's implementation was 4.68, which is considered Very High in terms of expertise. This suggests that the BIN Program's implementation is well known to the PNP staff.

Item No. 9 had the highest mean, 4.83. ***"I understand the ethical considerations involved in intelligence gathering and analysis."*** and interpreted as Strongly Agree. This suggests that PNP personnel possess a high level of perceived knowledge of BIN program principles and procedures. However, high self-rated knowledge does not necessarily equate to uniform technical proficiency, particularly in specialized areas such as database systems. The article by Verreault (2023) supports this observation, stating that intelligence is a prerequisite for making big decisions. Police intelligence gathering and analysis is an area with numerous ethical issues, primarily related to ensuring public trust and ensuring that operations are conducted lawfully and ethically.

However, Item No. 7, ***"I understand the role of database systems in intelligence operations,"*** had the lowest mean score, 4.50. Although most respondents may say yes, and the result of 4.50 is still considered Strongly Agree, this suggests a slight lack of understanding of the role of database systems in intelligence operations relative to other fields. This means that a few individuals may not fully comprehend the existence of database systems in the collection, structuring, and processing of intelligence data. The results indicate that they should receive ongoing training and adjustments to current technological advances, and may lack the skills needed to properly fulfill their role in intelligence operations.

2. Level of knowledge of informants in the Province of Abra regarding the implementation of the BIN program

Table 2 presents the level of knowledge of informants in the Province of Abra regarding the implementation of the BIN program, categorized into three sub-indicators: Information Gathering, Monitoring Criminal Activities, and Reporting System.

Table 2

Level of Knowledge of the Informants in the Implementation of the BIN Program

Statement		Mean	DR
A. Information Gathering			
1.	I understand the importance of gathering accurate and timely information about suspicious activities in my community	4.71	Strongly Agree
2.	I have been trained on how to collect and report information securely.	4.54	Strongly Agree
3.	I know that I should not share information with anyone outside of my handler.	4.75	Strongly Agree
4.	I understand the importance of my role in helping to keep my community safe.	4.93	Strongly Agree
5.	I am committed to providing accurate and timely information.	4.79	Strongly Agree
Sub Indicator Mean		4.74	Very High
B. Monitoring Criminal Activities			
1.	I understand that I should be observant and report any unusual activities in my community.	4.71	Strongly Agree
2.	I know how to identify potential threats to public safety.	4.54	Strongly Agree
3.	I am willing to participate in regular training and updates on security issues.	4.57	Strongly Agree
4.	I understand the importance of maintaining accurate records of my activities.	4.71	Strongly Agree
5.	I am committed to working with law enforcement to address crime and security issues in my community.	4.71	Strongly Agree
Sub Indicator Mean		4.65	Very High
C. Reporting System			
1.	I know how to report information to my handler securely.	4.79	Strongly Agree

Knowledge and Implementation of the Barangay Information Network (BIN)
Program as a Community Policing Mechanism in Abra

Rojas, R. G.
Cerna, E. Q.

Statement	Mean	DR
2. I understand the importance of timely reporting.	4.75	Strongly Agree
3. I am comfortable using technology to communicate with my handler.	4.50	Strongly Agree
4. I understand the confidentiality requirements of my role.	4.93	Strongly Agree
5. I am committed to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and ethics.	4.93	Strongly Agree
Sub Indicator Mean	4.78	Very High
Overall	4.72	Very High

Legend:

Range	Item DR	Overall DR
4.21 – 5.00	Strongly Agree (SA)	Very High (VH)
3.41 – 4.20	Agree (A)	High (H)
2.61 – 3.40	Neutral (N)	Fair (F)
1.81 – 2.60	Disagree (D)	Low (L)
1.00 – 1.80	Strongly Disagree (SD)	Very Low (VL)

As shown in Table 2, the perceived level of knowledge among the informants regarding the implementation of the BIN program is described as “Very High,” supported by the overall mean rating of 4.72.

The information shows that the informants are most likely to report criminal activity safely and promptly, but there is a need to enhance surveillance of criminal activity within their societies. Moreover, vigilance in the areas should be emphasized by handlers, as police intelligence must be objective, accurate, and reported promptly to be effective in preventing crime. The evidence indicates that the respondents perceive all three indicators as very effective, with a mean of 4.72. The most positive feedback was received by the Reporting System (4.78), and the lowest by Monitoring of Criminal Activities (4.65), indicating room for improvement. The relatively lower rating for monitoring criminal activities suggests the need for enhanced situational awareness training and clearer indicators of suspicious behavior at the community level. Second in the ranking was Information Gathering (4.74) with a high degree of confidence, though with a slight margin less than confidence in the reporting system. This means that the respondents are well-informed about their major roles as community informants, such as being observant, keeping accurate records, and actively working with law enforcement. Their perception, determination, and engagement in assisting the community with safety and security are very high, as reflected by the highest mean score of 4.71,

which can be viewed as Strongly Agree.

In the study by Domínguez et al. (2021), it was further argued that initiatives that bolster community ties in disadvantaged neighborhoods can reduce local crime rates, especially for crimes not driven by monetary incentives. Moreover, this supports the finding of the study of McLendon et al. (2024) that increasing safety goes well beyond the absence of crime and includes factors such as improving health care, creating better police-resident dynamics, increasing access to stable housing, building well-maintained public spaces, and ensuring safe schools, among other things.

3. Extent of implementation of the BIN program in the province of Abra as perceived by the PNP personnel and informants.

Table 3 presents the level of implementation of the BIN program as perceived by the PNP Personnel.

As shown in Table 3, the overall PNP personnel perceived the level of implementation of the BIN program as “Very High”, as backed up by an overall mean rating of 4.76. It implies that respondents have a very positive perception of the BIN program's implementation, indicating strong approval, effective execution, and possibly high levels of engagement or satisfaction with the program.

Table 3

Extent of Implementation of the BIN Program as perceived by the PNP Personnel

	Statement	Mean	DR
1.	The intelligence directive regarding BINs is effectively implemented in my unit.	4.75	Strongly Agree
2.	There is a systematic process for recruiting, training, and managing BIN informants.	4.83	Strongly Agree
3.	All barangays in my area of responsibility have at least two BIN informants.	5.00	Strongly Agree
4.	BIN informants are properly documented and registered.	4.96	Strongly Agree
5.	BIN informants receive regular training and orientation.	4.29	Strongly Agree
6.	A master list of BIN informants is maintained and updated regularly.	4.75	Strongly Agree

Statement	Mean	DR
7. Required reports on BIN activities are submitted on time.	4.63	Strongly Agree
8. Regular communication and coordination with BIN informants are maintained.	4.75	Strongly Agree
9. Actionable intelligence information from BINs is promptly acted upon.	4.83	Strongly Agree
10. The BIN program has significantly contributed to improving intelligence gathering and analysis.	4.96	Strongly Agree
Overall	4.76	Very High

Legend:**Range**

4.21 – 5.00

3.41 – 4.20

2.61 – 3.40

1.81 – 2.60

1.00 – 1.80

Item DR

Very Much Implemented (VMI)

Implemented (I)

Neutral (N)

Slightly Implemented (SI)

Not Implemented (NI)

Overall DR

Very High (VH)

High (H)

Fair (F)

Low (L)

Very Low (VL)

Meanwhile, most of the received means were on the high end, with 5.00 on Item No. 3, ***“All barangays in my area of responsibility have at least two BIN informants,”*** and were viewed as Strongly Agree. It means that respondents strongly agree that all barangays are accountable for having the required number of BIN informants, indicating that they fully comply with the program's expectations. These results are consistent with the Intelligence Directive Number 01-2017, which states that no less than two BIN informants are required to be recruited into the barangay in a month, as outlined in the guidelines. This also supports Sanchez's (2023) conclusion, yet the study does not clearly indicate that at least two informants will be recruited in each barangay each month. It highlights the importance of effective implementation and operational planning in the BIN program. This follows the Intelligence Directives, which provide guidelines on the recruitment and management of informants to supplement intelligence activities.

The weakest mean rating was also in Item No. 5, ***“BIN informants receive regular training and orientation,”*** where respondents averaged 4.54, still within the strongly agree range. The data suggest that respondents agree there is an irregularity in the training and orientation received by informants in a particular division of the organization, and that this is an area for improvement relative to other divisions. This does not imply that these training programs will shape participants' knowledge and skills. Training programs shape the very spirit of the profession. Training programs cultivate a police culture that is deeply professional, flexible, and innovative while also making police organizations able, caring, and

reliable partners to the community. It is a culture that reflects the society the police organizations serve. Investing in training is investing in the community's culture of safety and order.

Pastrana et al. (2024) indicated a positive relationship between the implementation of training programs and the performance of an organization's personnel. The focus of the study was the PNP personnel, but the training principles and practices identified are transferable to informant management. Informants should be provided with structured training programs promptly and continuously to ensure they understand their responsibilities.

4. Extent of implementation of the BIN program as perceived by the informants.

Table 4 presents the extent of implementation of the BIN program as perceived by the informants.

Table 4

Extent of Implementation of the BIN Program as perceived by the Informants

	Statement	Mean	DR
1.	The informant has received adequate training and orientation on his/her role as a BIN informant.	4.50	Strongly Agree
2.	The informant is aware of the security protocols and guidelines for handling sensitive information.	4.68	Strongly Agree
3.	The informant is regularly contacted by his/her handler to receive instructions and report information.	4.57	Strongly Agree
4.	The BIN program has effectively addressed security concerns in the informant's community.	4.71	Strongly Agree
5.	The informant is confident in his/her ability to gather accurate and timely information.	4.79	Strongly Agree
6.	The informant believes that his/her contributions as a BIN informant are valued and appreciated.	4.75	Strongly Agree
7.	The informant receives timely feedback and recognition for his/her efforts as a BIN informant.	4.79	Strongly Agree

Knowledge and Implementation of the Barangay Information Network (BIN)
Program as a Community Policing Mechanism in Abra

Rojas, R. G.
Cerna, E. Q.

Statement	Mean	DR
8. The BIN program has effectively addressed security concerns in my community.	4.79	Strongly Agree
9. The informant is satisfied with the support and assistance provided by the PNP.	4.75	Strongly Agree
10. The informant is committed to continuing his/her involvement in the BIN program.	4.82	Strongly Agree
Overall	4.71	Very High

Legend:		
Range	Item DR	Overall DR
4.21 – 5.00	Very Much Implemented (VMI)	Very High (VH)
3.41 – 4.20	Implemented (I)	High (H)
2.61 – 3.40	Neutral (N)	Fair (F)
1.81 – 2.60	Slightly Implemented (SI)	Low (L)
1.00 – 1.80	Not Implemented (NI)	Very Low (VL)

Overall, as shown in Table 4, the informants' perceived level of implementation of the BIN program is "Very High," as supported by an overall mean rating of 4.71. It indicates that respondents have a strongly affirmative perception of the BIN program's implementation, indicating strong approval, effective execution, and possibly high levels of engagement or satisfaction with the program. While implementation is generally rated as very high, variability in training regularity indicates uneven operational reinforcement across program components.

Meanwhile, the highest mean was 4.82, which was interpreted as Strongly Agree and was recorded for the item with No. 10, ***"The informant is committed to continuing his/her participation in the BIN program."*** This kind of data suggests that the informants were highly committed to their participation in the BIN Program, indicating strong commitment, belief in the program, and willingness to contribute to the intelligence collection process. In support of this, the article by Stanier et al. (2021) presented a structure that helped law enforcement and intelligence agencies understand and recognize informants' motivations. By properly determining what drives an informant, handlers would be in a better position to manipulate the informant in ways that reduce their risk exposure.

However, Item No. 1, ***"The informant has received adequate training and orientation on his/her role as a BIN informant,"*** recorded the lowest mean of 4.50, which is still classified as Strongly Agree. There is a perception among all informants that they have sufficient training, but the 3-year cycle may not receive adequate emphasis in practice, necessitating some tweaks to education. There are still informants who have not well mapped the role of Informant BIN. The way the data is shown suggests that handlers may do training, while informants have other duties aside from BIN informants, such as barangay tanods, or they could be tricycle drivers

and other related jobs. These findings indicate that informant commitment remains high despite logistical and training constraints, underscoring the importance of institutional support in sustaining participation. Therefore, handlers must make greater efforts to find time slots suitable for informant training. Thus, this result confirms the study by Salindo et al. (2024), which underscores the value of continuing training for law enforcement officials, asserting that officers who receive such education perform better in life-and-death situations. This also adds another layer to the argument that poor training of informants is harmful in an all-encompassing sense within intelligence operations. The study advocates that handlers must adequately plan and perform scheduled training to ensure that informants are confident.

5. Significant relationship between the level of knowledge and the extent of implementation of the BIN Program.

Table 5 presents the significant relationship between the level of knowledge and the extent of implementation of the BIN Program.

Table 5

Correlation Coefficients Between the Level of Knowledge of the Informant and the Extent of Implementation of the BIN Program in the Province of Abra

Level of Knowledge	Extent Implementation	
	R	p
Information Gathering	.579**	0.001
Monitoring Criminal Activities	.571**	0.002
Reporting System	.610**	0.001
As a Whole	.630**	0.000

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

As shown in the table, the correlation coefficients between informants' levels of knowledge and the degree of implementation of the PNP BIN Program in the Province of Abra are positive across all dimensions. The highest coefficient is in the overall knowledge level ($r = .630$, $p = 0.000$), followed by the reporting system ($r = .610$, $p = 0.001$), information gathering ($r = .579$, $p = 0.001$), and monitoring criminal activities ($r = .571$, $p = 0.002$). associated with higher levels of BIN program implementation. The fact that this step correlates with the status of participation in the reporting system is why awareness of it is a natural part of eventual program efficacy. This relationship highlights the central role of continuous knowledge-building in sustaining effective community-based intelligence systems. The results

showed that comprehensive training programs are important for the PNP in improving, at least in the reporting system of the Barangay Information Network Program in Abra.

6. Problems encountered in the implementation of the BIN program.

Table 6 presents the challenges and issues faced during the implementation of the Barangay Information Network (BIN) Program. These problems reflect operational, logistical, and coordination concerns that may affect the program's effectiveness in crime prevention and community engagement.

Table 6

Problems encountered in the Implementation of the BIN Program in the province of Abra

Problem	PNP Personnel		Informants	
	f	%	F	%
1. Limited logistical and intelligence communication capabilities	8	33.3	9	32.1
2. Mismanagement of classified documents	1	4.2	5	17.9
3. Insufficient funding for the program implementation	3	12.5	4	14.3
4. Lack of Cooperation from the local community	2	8.3	4	14.3
5. Limited Public Awareness and education about the program	0	0	3	10.7
6. Inadequate informants and intelligence personnel	2	8.3	0	0
7. Poor network signal is affecting timely information reporting	16	66.7	20	71.4
8. Political influence and interference	6	25.0	6	21.4
9. Misinformation and false reporting	15	62.5	11	39.3
10. Lack of follow-through and monitoring	8	33.3	0	0

The other challenge is poor network signal, where weak mobility and internet connectivity are termed poor network signal, making it hard to communicate with informants on time. It restricts the scope of community-based policing by blocking information and slowing the authorities' response time. Our results imply that low signal levels in the network are a key limiting factor for timely program delivery when rapid reporting is required. There is, too, the courage of misinformation and falsehoods to overcome, but there remains a vital need for frequent briefings so that our rulers can be certain.

As shown in the table, the major problems felt by both groups were "Poor network signal affecting timely information reporting," which scored 66.7% for PNP officers (n=16) and 71.4% for informants (n=20). It seems that this communication structure is the major barrier to the program's success. The information indicates that PNPs' own personnel base relies on open or closed sources. Thus, intelligence officers need to conduct timekeeping of activities to orient PNP personnel on how to validate information, so that misinformation and false reporting can be avoided. The dominance of communication and connectivity issues indicates that structural and technological constraints, rather than individual commitment, pose the greatest threat to the effectiveness of the BIN program. As Pojuner (2022) argues, good communication is not the transmission of a message from one to another. Before trading facts, the simplest yet often overlooked element of good communication is verifying and validating them.

CONCLUSIONS

Both PNP Personnel and informants tend to have a very high level of knowledge. Nevertheless, certain areas of study, such as understanding the role of database systems in intelligence operations and in monitoring criminal activities, exhibit only marginally reduced knowledge. The BIN program is highly implemented and has a significant number of barangay informants, according to PNP Personnel. Nevertheless, regular training and other aspects can be enhanced to improve outcomes. According to informants, the program is highly rated and has a strong commitment, although its training quality is slightly lower. A significant correlation exists between the informants' level of understanding and the PNP's execution of the BIN program in Abra. To improve the BIN program, it is necessary to address identified deficiencies. Additional factors, both quantitative and qualitative, should be considered in further research to achieve a better understanding. The study demonstrates that the effectiveness of community-based intelligence programs such as the BIN is strongly associated with the knowledge capacity of informants and handlers. Operational challenges, particularly poor network connectivity and training gaps, highlight the need for systemic rather than individual-level interventions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the PNP strengthen continuous capacity-building for both personnel and BIN informants, with emphasis on database systems, secure reporting, and ethical intelligence practices. Investments in communication infrastructure, particularly in upland areas, are critical to ensure timely intelligence flow. Regular feedback mechanisms and refresher training should be institutionalized to sustain informant engagement and reporting accuracy. Future studies may employ mixed-method or longitudinal designs to examine how the BIN program implementation evolves.

ETHICAL STATEMENT

In accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012, the study was reviewed and approved by the Ethics Review Committee of the University of Northern Philippines and was recorded in the database under ERC Code **A-2025-052**. Accordingly, the researchers prioritized voluntary participation when recruiting research participants. Hence, each participant and their guardian have the right to decide whether to participate or decline the researchers' invitation. Additionally, they are informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any point if they feel uncomfortable after participating in the researchers' data gathering. Researchers ensure that anonymity and privacy rights are protected for all respondents at all costs. It is important to keep in mind that all data obtained from participants is confidential and used only for the study, as agreed upon by both participants and researchers.

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