

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Brief History of the Municipality

Bataraza is named after a locally influential Muslim Chieftain, Datu Bataraza Narrazid who was the father of the town's first mayor, Datu Sapiodin Narrazid. Datu Sapiodin Narrazid was a former mayor of the municipality of Brooke's Point, the mother municipality of Bataraza.

The municipality of Bataraza was created on June 18, 1961 by virtue of Republic Act 3425. However, it officially functioned as an independent municipality on January 1, 1964 and established its seat of municipal government in barangay Tarusan by virtue of a municipal resolution with concurrence from the provincial board.

During the term of Mayor Hadjes P. Asgali in 1971, the seat of municipal government was transferred to barangay Marangas which was the official municipal site as stipulated in RA 3425.

During that period, big haciendas started various agricultural activities and brought in farm laborers recruited from other parts of the country. Modern agricultural technologies were introduced and the government provided irrigation and post harvest facilities. This increased rice production areas and yield of the municipality which eventually make Bataraza as one of the rice granaries of Southern Palawan.

Likewise, the municipality is endowed with large mineral deposits. Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC) is one of the pioneer mining companies that explore and utilize the mineral deposits of the municipality.

1.2 Human Resource

1.2.1 Population Distribution

From 2000 to 2007 the population of Bataraza rose from 41,230 to 53,430, indicating a growth rate of 3.69 percent. Barangay Rio Tuba, being the site of a mining industry (Rio Tuba Nickel & Mining Corp.) absorbs the largest share of municipal population at 13,112 persons or 24.54% of the total municipal population, followed by barangays Marangas

(Poblacion) and Tarusan with a population of 6,275 (11.74%) and 3,463 (6.48%) persons respectively. Malitub had the smallest population at 538 persons or only 1% of the total municipal population. Barangay Tagolango is the second less populated barangay at 700 persons or 1.31% of the total population of Bataraza. These barangays are situated in the southernmost end of the municipality and less accessible compared to other barangays of Bataraza.

Table 1: Population Distribution & Number of Households by Barangay, CY 2007

Barangay	Population	Number of Household	Average Household Size
A. Urban			
1. Marangas (Pob.)	6275	1195	5.25
2. Rio Tuba	13112	2517	5.21
Sub total	19387	3712	5.22
B. Rural			
1. Bono-bono	2873	628	4.57
2. Bulalacao	1708	325	5.26
3. Buliluyan	1168	209	5.59
4. Culandanum	2705	587	4.61
5. Igang-igang	1077	243	4.43
6. Inogbong	2865	586	4.89
7. Iwahig	1649	363	4.54
8. Malihud	1651	357	4.62
9. Malitub	538	141	3.82
10. Ocayan	1486	304	4.89
11. Puring	1039	248	4.19
12. Sandoval	2286	498	4.59
13. Sapa	1553	392	3.96
14. Sarong	1460	328	4.45
15. Sumbiling	2388	563	4.24
16. Tabud	910	208	4.38
17. Tagnato	806	168	4.80
18. Tagolango	700	196	3.57
19. Taratak	1718	359	4.79
20. Tarusan	3463	735	4.71
Sub total	34043	7438	4.58
Total	53430	11150	4.79

Source: NSO Census of Population 2007

1.2.2 Languages/Dialects

Of the total household population in 2007, Pala’wan was the most widely spoken dialect of about 16,040 persons or 30% of the total population of Bataraza. Tagalog dialect is spoken by almost 18% or 9,578 persons while Ilonggo has a share of 10.37% or 5,542 persons, followed by Jama Mapun with 9.86% or 5,269 persons. Ilocano and Tausog dialects were next in rank with 3,447 and 3,130 persons respectively.

This data indicates that Bataraza is a melting pot of different ethnic groups in the country as further revealed by the distribution of population by mother tongue in table 2.

Table 2. Household Population by Mother Tongue and Sex

Mother Tongue	Both Sexes	Male	Female	% to Total
Aklanon	266	141	125	0.51
Badjao	232	126	106	0.45
Bicol	809	441	368	1.56
Bisaya	561	294	267	1.08
Boholano	257	142	115	0.49
Cebuano	1917	1066	851	3.69
Cuyunon	516	279	237	0.99
Ilonggo	5542	2925	2618	10.66
Ilocano	3447	1831	1617	6.63
Jama Mapun	5269	2574	2695	10.13
Cagayanen	542	284	258	1.04
Karay-a	689	375	314	1.33
Maranao	534	250	284	1.03
Masbateño	199	102	97	0.38
Molbog	1548	787	761	2.98
Pal’awan	16040	8170	7870	30.85
Rombloanon	335	163	173	0.65
Sulod	290	161	129	0.56
Tagalog	9578	4905	4673	18.42
Tausug	3130	1595	1535	6.02
Waray	288	157	130	0.55

Source: Municipal Estimates based on 2000 NSO Census of Population

1.2.3 Religious Affiliation

Bataraza’s population is predominantly Roman Catholic. Classified according to religion, 35.25% percent of the residents are Roman Catholics, 23.57 percent are Islam while 23.31percent adhere to any tribal religions. Table 3 shows the distribution of municipal population by religious affiliation.

Table 3: Population Distribution by Religious Affiliation, CY 2007

Religion	Both Sexes	% to Total
Roman Catholic	18835	35.25
Aglipayan	30	0.06
Islam	12593	23.57
Iglesia Ni Kristo	1930	3.61
United Church of Christ in the Philippines	35	0.07
Lutheran Church in the Philippines	9	0.02
Philippine Episcopal Church	1	0.00
Iglesia Evangelista Methodista en Las Filipinas	97	0.18
United Methodist Church	351	0.66
Other Methodist	61	0.11
Salvation Army, Philippines	5	0.01
Convention of the Philippine Baptist Church	89	0.17
Other Protestant	292	0.55
Buddhist	10	0.02
Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints	65	0.12
Jehova’s Witness	148	0.28
Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association	119	0.22
Sevent Day Adventist	533	1.00
Evangelicals	4390	8.22
Bible Baptist	137	0.26
Southern Baptist	1	0.00
Asso. of Fundamental Baptist Church in the Phil.	134	0.25
Missionary Baptist Churches in the Philippines	26	0.05
Other Baptist	54	0.10
Tribal Religions	12454	23.31
Others	628	1.18
None	245	0.46
Unknown	159	0.30
TOTAL	53430	100

Source: Municipal Estimates based on 2000 NSO Census of Population

1.2.4 Age Group and Sex

Bataraza has a young population. The estimated median age of the population in Bataraza as of 2007 was 17 years old. This means that one-half of the population of the municipality was below 17 years old, of which 40% comprise persons under the 1-14 age bracket. The population of each age group decreases with the increase in age as indicated in figure 1 below. The age –sex structure of the population of Bataraza formed a pyramid shape with a broad base of children under 5-9 years old which made up 16 percent of the total population of the municipality. There were 27,550 males and 25,880 females in the municipality. This gave a sex ratio of 106 males for every 100 females. Figure 2 illustrates the population pyramid of the municipality.

Figure 1: Age Distribution of Municipal Population, 2007

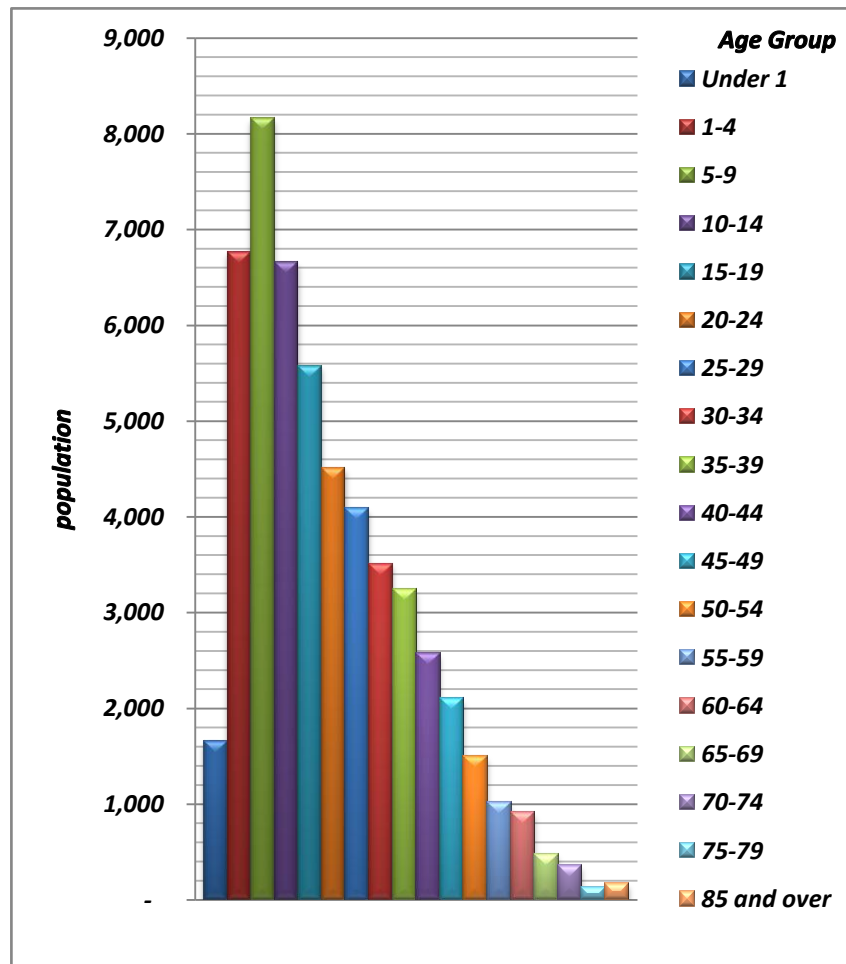
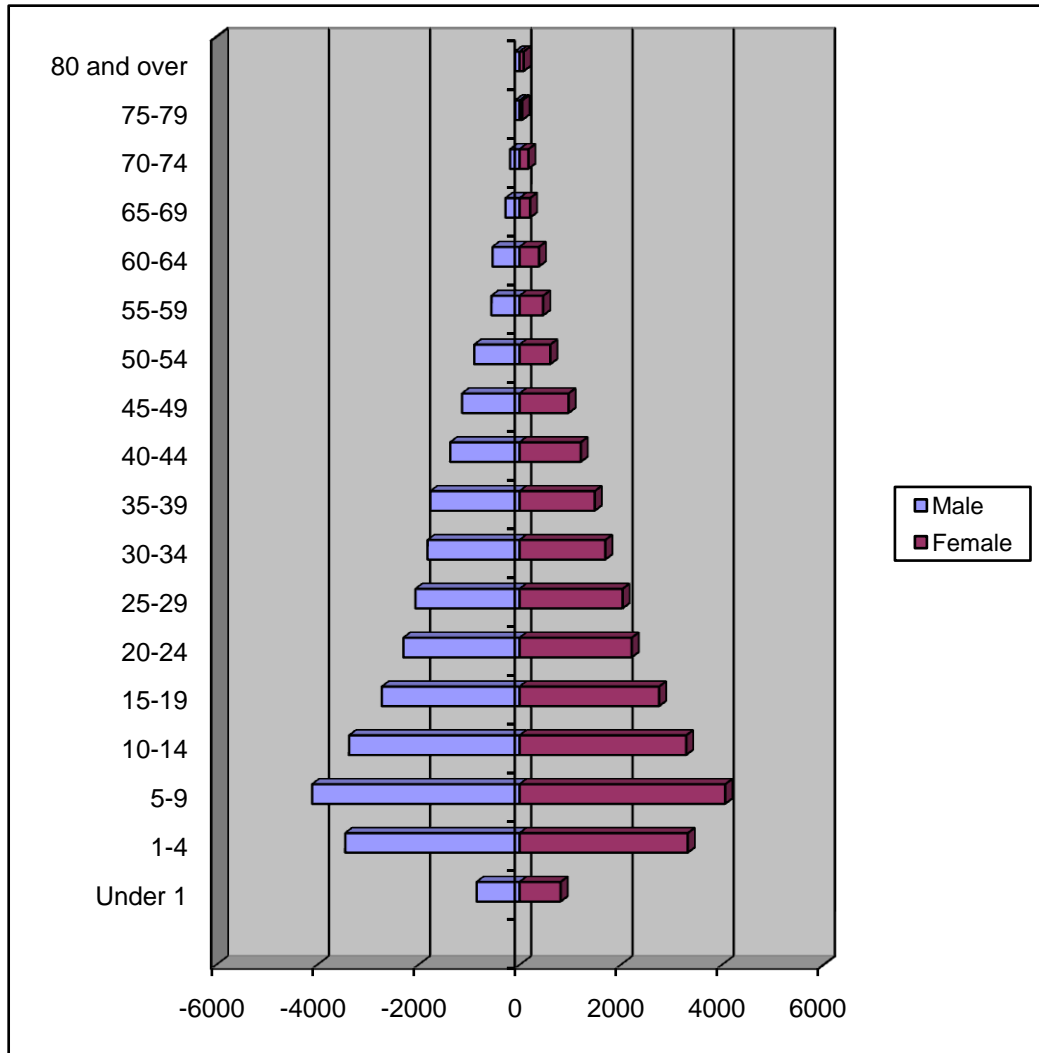


Figure 2: Population Pyramid

Figure 2 shows the population pyramid of Bataraza. In the pyramid, the percent of females is displayed to the right, and the males to the left.



1.2.5 Educational Attainment

Of the total household population five years old and over, nearly 50 percent attended or completed elementary education, 18.09 percent, secondary education, and 3.78 percent attended college. Only 1.53 percent were academic degree holders.

There were more males among those who attended or finished elementary (54 percent) and secondary education (52 percent) as compared to females. On the other hand, there were more females among those who attended post secondary course (51 percent), college (52 percent), and with academic degrees (56 percent). Table 4 shows the distribution of population 5 years old and over by highest educational attainment.

Table 4: Population 5 years Old & Over by Highest Educational Attainment, CY 2007

Highest Educational Attainment	Male		Female		Both Sexes	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
No Grade completed	4982	48	5372	52	10354	100
Pre school	499	50	498	50	997	100
Elementary	11763	54	10029	46	21792	100
1st-4th grade	6753	57	5747	57	12500	57
5th-7th grade	5011	43	4282	43	9293	43
High School	4149	52	3811	48	7960	100
Undergraduate	2563	62	2325	61	4888	61
Graduate	1586	38	1485	39	3071	39
Post Secondary	296	49	306	51	602	100
Undergraduate	107	36	121	40	228	38
Graduate	188	64	185	60	373	62
College undergraduate	805	48	857	52	1662	100
Academic degree holder	294	44	379	56	673	100
Post- Baccalaureate	5	56	4	44	9	100
Not Stated	445	46	512	54	957	100

Source: Municipal Estimates based on 2000 & 2007 Census of population

1.2.6 Labor Force and Employment

The potential labor force of Bataraza as of 2007 (those belonging to the 15-64 age group) stood at 30,183, constituting 56.49 percent of the total population. The potential labor force is classified into two distinct groups, those that are economically-active and those who are not economically-active. About 15,982 (53%) belonged to the economically active group while 14,201 (47%) belonged to the non-economically active group.

Among the economically active, 88 percent were employed (14,090) while 12 percent were unemployed (1,892).

Those potential workers but were not actually economically active were composed of housekeepers, students and persons who were not physically/mentally fit to work. Housekeepers constituted the majority which explains why women in the municipality are not as economically productive as the male population.

Table 5: Total Population of Labor Force CY 2007

Municipality/ Province	Pop'n. 15 yrs & Over	Labor Force				Not in the Labor Force
		Employed	%	Unemployed	%	
Municipality						
Male	15997	11554	92	1060	8	3384
Female	14186	2536	75	832	25	10817
Total	30183	14090	88	1892	12	14201
Province						
Male	264327	180480	93	13878	7	69970
Female	239919	49810	80	12392	20	177717
Total	504246	230290	90	26270	10	247687

Source: Municipal Estimates based on 2000 & 2007 Census of Population

1.3 Physical Features

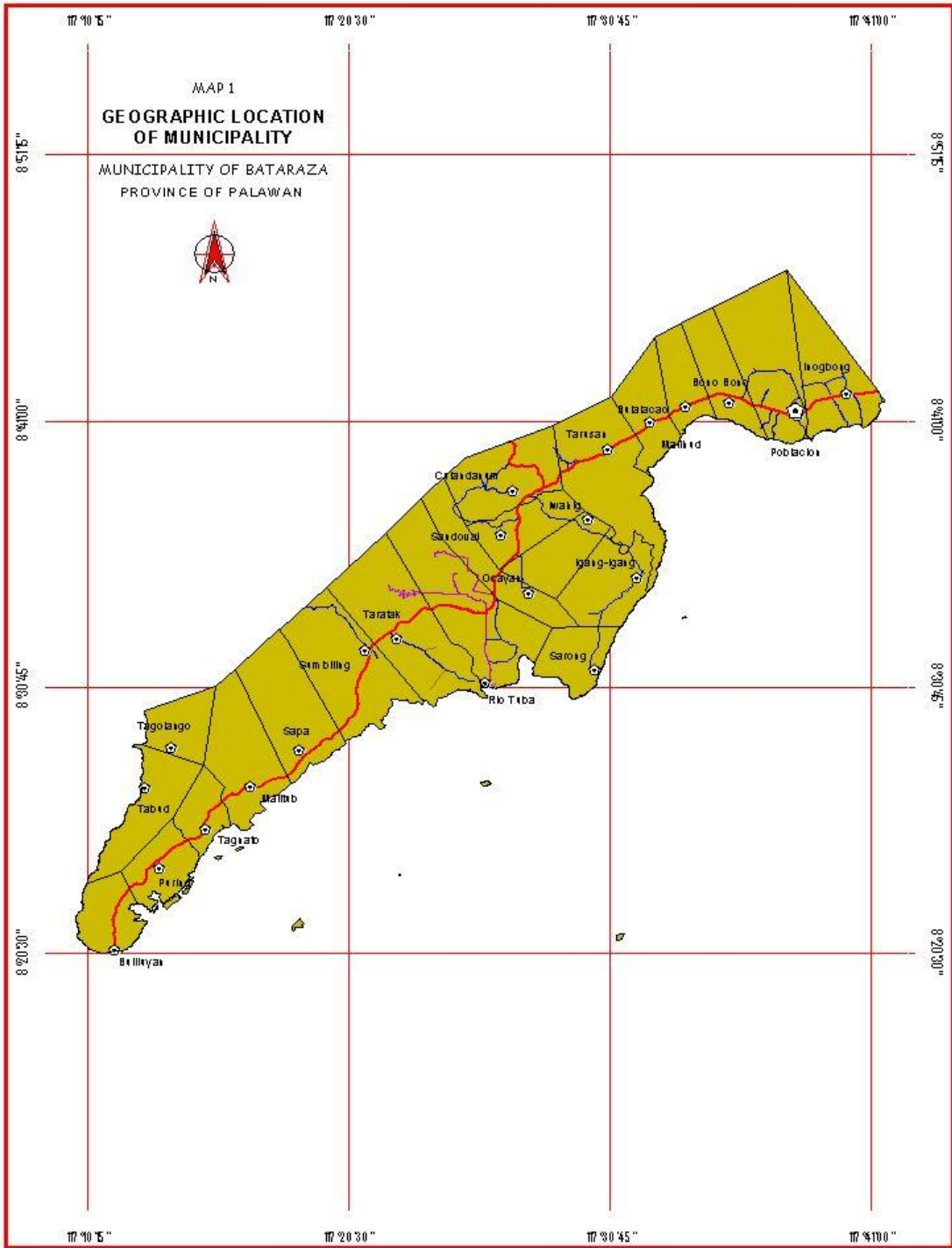
1.3.1 Geography, Location and Area

The municipality of Bataraza is situated in the east coast and southernmost frontier of Palawan mainland. It lies about 117 degrees 62 minutes longitude and 8 degrees 68 minutes latitude. It is bounded on the north by the municipality of Brooke’s Point, on the south by the island municipality of Balabac, on the east by Sulu Sea and on the west by the municipality of Rizal. It is some 236 kilometers south of Puerto Princesa, the provincial capital and has a total land area of approximately 72,621 hectares. Bataraza’s land area is roughly about 4.8 percent of the province’s 1.5 million hectares. The municipality is subdivided into 22 barangays. Politically, the municipality belongs to the 2nd congressional district of the province.

Table 6: Municipal Area Distribution By Barangay (in Hectares)

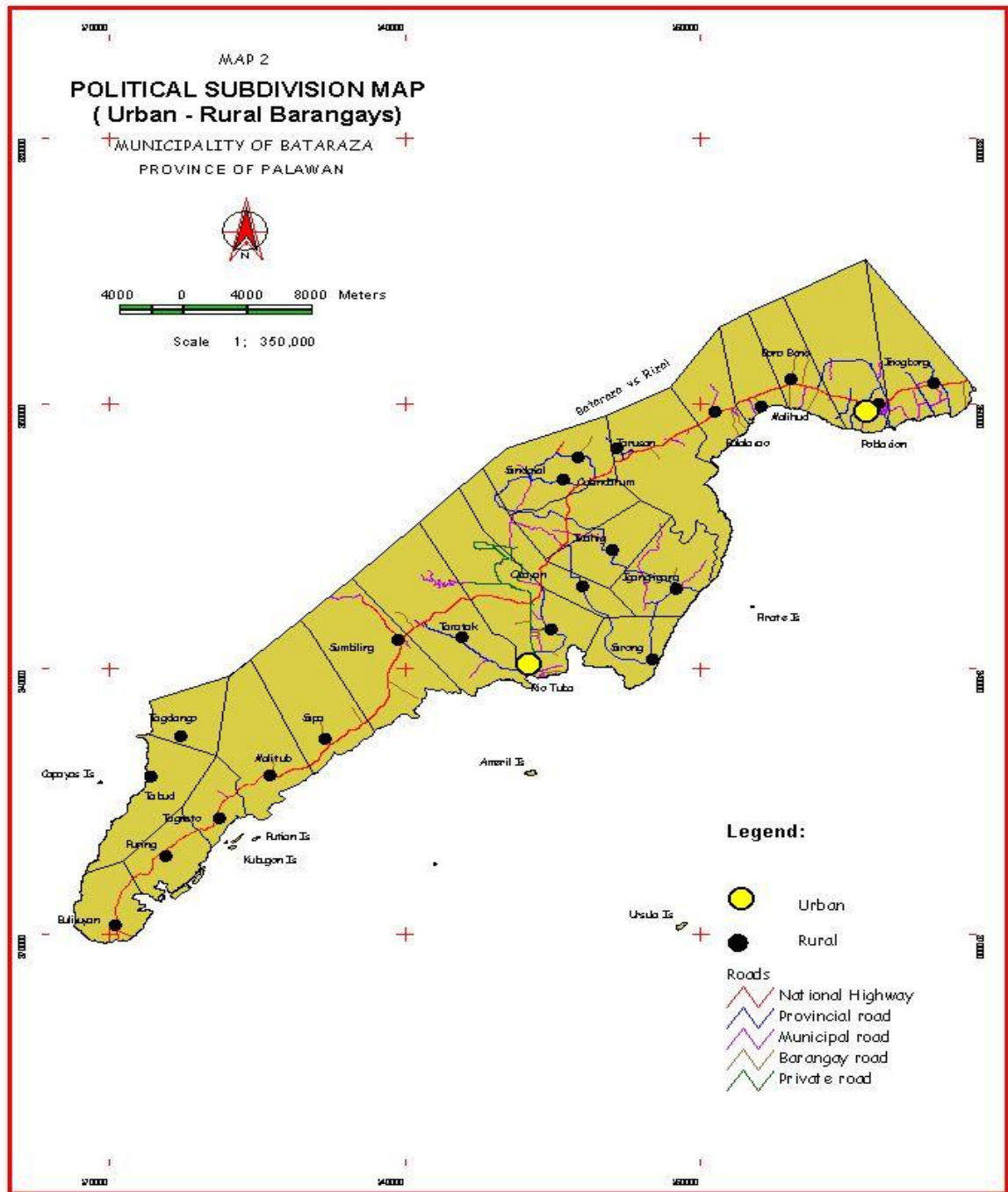
Barangay	Area (has)	% to Mun. Area
Bono-bono	2,783.13	3.83
Bulalacao	2,372.32	3.27
Buliluyan	1,637.21	2.25
Culandanum	3,117.00	4.29
Igang-Igang	3,136.43	4.32
Inogbong	8,547.00	11.77
Iwahig	2,158.96	2.97
Malihud	1,379.16	1.90
Malitub	3,497.00	4.82
Marangas	4,018.00	5.53
Ocayan	1,802.52	2.48
Puring	2,041.54	2.81
Rio Tuba	5,545.29	7.64
Sandoval	3,139.14	4.32
Sapa	3,204.33	4.41
Sarong	2,270.27	3.13
Sumbiling	5,715.36	7.87
Tabud	2,591.97	3.57
Tagnato	2,393.00	3.30
Tagolango	1,389.00	1.91
Taratak	5,351.00	7.37
Tarusan	4,531.97	6.24
Total	72,621.61	100.00

Map 1: Geographic Location of Bataraza



Source: Municipal Planning & Development Office

Map 2: Political Subdivision Map (Urban & Rural Barangays)



Source: Municipal Planning & Development Office

1.3.2 Climate and Rainfall

The climate of Bataraza is typical of Western Pacific Islands in the southwest monsoon belt area. A relative cool, dry period, with occasional rains from November to February, is succeeded by a hot season, with thunderstorms in the mountainous areas which last until June. From late June to September or October, the southwest monsoon delivers most of the annual rainfall, averaging about two meter, usually with a highest in August or September.

1.3.3 Soil Types & Fertility

Bataraza is one of the richest agricultural areas in the province. Having a slight advantage of a more phosphorous soil compared to the northern municipalities, the coastal and rolling terrains on the eastern side can be planted with rice, corn, fruit trees and other agricultural crops. At present, these crops constitute five percent of the total municipal land area. The soil configuration along this portion of the municipality consists mostly of Bolinao clay, Tagburos clay and Brooke's clay, all of which are highly suited to intensive agricultural production.

1.3.4 Topography

Bataraza's physical configuration varies from flat rolling terrain to mountainous. The western portions are hilly while at the east are level plains and valleys, narrow beaches, swamps and gently rolling terrain.

The physical features of the northern portion of the municipality are mountainous with slope greater than 50 percent. It has numerous meta-volcanic hills of high relief (30-50% slope), alluvial terraces and bread plains (0.3%). The Central portion of the municipality is constituted mainly by residual terraces (8-18%) slope and alluvial and infilled valley

(0-3%) slope. Significant quarry areas are also present. The southern portion however, is made up of limestone hills of low relief (18-30%) and high relief (30-50%) and residual terraces (8-18%).

1.3.5 Mineral Resources

The municipality has a rich deposit of mineral products consisting of nickel and laterite iron. These are currently being explored by several mining concessionaires.

1.3.6 Water Resources

There are fourteen (14) rivers found in the municipality of Bataraza; they are the Marangas River, Iwahig River, Tuba River, Bulalacao River, Tarusan River, Culandanum River, Bono-Bono River, Ocayan River, Malitub River, Malatub River, Sayab River, Tagamac River, Ongong River and Wangle River.

There are also ten (10) creeks found in the municipality namely; the Tagpisa Creek, Pinamsaan Creek, Pandan Creek, Latop Creek, Dadumpukan Creek, Imnuman Uwak Creek, Bayak Creek, Mundungon Creek, Caburian Creek and Pipiniton Creek in barangay Taratak. (Please refer to surface drainage map).