

# MUNICIPAL PROFILE

1. **Region:** III
2. **Province:** Nueva Ecija
3. **Municipality:** Gabaldon
4. **Historical Background:**

**A glimpse of the town's history.** During the 1800's, the place was thickly forested and inhabited by wild animals. Foreigners and nature lovers frequented the place during the 1900's with Dumagats as guides. Because of its scenic Sierra Madre and fertile lands, wealthy people came to this municipality for ventures. They tried to convert the thickly cogonal lowland areas into fruit tree plantations such as coconuts, avocados, caimitos, papayas, citrus and many others. Vast areas with abundant supply of water were cleared and converted into rice paddies. It was during the Spanish era when a wealthy man was known to be the owner of the place. Strangers and businessmen sought his permission to till the land. His name was SABANI, the reason why the place once named Sabani. He left when the Americans came.

On May 10, 1920, the National Government took over the administration. Thus, National Development Company was born. It improved and developed the place for rice production. Later, a certain company came to lease. The group was composed of J. Tomacruz, A. Vasquez, J. Alejandrino, F. Busuega and G. Velarde. The lease lasted until 1935. The huge estate was returned to National Development Company. The government converted it to a homestead. Many families came as homesteaders. It was during this period when different barrios (from sitios) were created. Bitulok, now North Poblacion was the number one barrio under the Municipality of Laur, Nueva Ecija.

Sabani Estate became progressive and many settlers came to stay permanently. On June 12, 1950, by virtue of R. A. 496, Sabani Estate was separated from its mother town, Laur and adopted the name of the leading barrio, Bitulok, which became as independent municipality. In 1952, by virtue of R. A. 956, the name Bitulok was changed to Sabani (minus Estate). Then, Sabani was changed to Gabaldon by virtue of R. A. 1318 in honor of the late Don Isauro Gabaldon, who was once a governor of Nueva Ecija and one time resident commissioner to Washington, D. C.

## 5. Geographic Location:

Gabaldon is geographically situated southeast of the Province of Nueva Ecija. Bounded on the southeastern section of Dingalan, Aurora, on the northwestern section by the Municipality of Laur, on the northeastern part by the Municipality of Bongabon and on the southwestern side by the Municipality of General Tinio. It is a valley located at the footstep of Sierra Madre Mountains in the east and Caraballo Mountains in the west. This is traversed by the National Road which is 55.04 kilometers, more or less, from Cabanatuan City to Gabaldon passing Palayan City and Laur, Nueva Ecija and bordered at the end by Dingalan, Aurora.

6. **Land Area:** 36,623 hectares (366.23 sq. kms.)
7. **No. of Barangays:** Sixteen (16)

### Urban Barangays

1. North Poblacion
2. South Poblacion
3. Macasandal
4. Pantoc
5. Sawmill

### Rural Barangays

1. Bagting
2. Calabasa
3. Ligaya
4. Bugnan
5. Bagong Sikat
6. Tagumpay
7. Malinao
8. Camatchile
9. Bantug
10. Cuyapa
11. Pinamalisan

## 8. Topography

The area is mostly flat with hills and mountains. The continuous operation of illegal and legal logging and mining over the years resulted in the denudation of the mountains. It also resulted in by floods and erosion.

## 9. Soil Classification

Type of soil	Approximate Area (has.)	% distribution	Classification	Suitable crops grown
1. Annam Clay Loam	18,855.04	51.48	Rolling, slightly rolling to hilly	Upland rice, banana, sweet potatoes, corn, coffee & other root crops
2. Umingan Sandy Loam	8,690.85	23.73	Nearly level	Rice, vegetables, root crops, tomatoes, onion, radish, mustard & pechay
3. Annam Loam Gravelly Phase	6,759.55	18.46	Rolling, roughly	Upland rice, banana, corn, sweet potato, coffee, papaya, mango, citrus & root crops

4. Umingan Loam Deep Phase	1,351.91	3.69	Nearly level	Upland rice, corn, vegetables, mango, banana & root crops
5. Umingan Sand	965.65	2.64		Corn & vegetables
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,623.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>		

## 10. Water Resources:

	NAME	LOCATION
<b>LAKE:</b>	1. Cabangalan Lake	: Malinao
<b>RIVERS:</b>	1. Dupinga River	: Ligaya
	2. Coronel (Santor) River	: Upper Pinamalisan to Bagting
<b>CREEKS:</b>	1. Segum	: Bagting
	2. Segum na Munti	: Bagting
	3. Amalungan	: Sitio Bateria, Bagting
	4. Bitunin	: Calabasa
	5. Calabasa	: Calabasa
	6. Inasan	: Ligaya
	7. Malinao	: Malinao
	8. Aligoog	: Malinao
	9. Digmala	: Pantoc
	10. Asan	: Macasandal
	11. Danglan	: Sawmill
	12. Cuyapa	: Cuyapa
	13. Macaldasa	: Cuyapa
	14. Banay-Banay	: Bantug
	15. Baag	: Bantug

16. Mangcuyog	:	Camatchile
17. Bugnan	:	Bugnan
18. Sapang Kulong	:	Bugnan
19. Abusan	:	Bugnan
20. Antipa	:	Calabasa
21. Tinuktukan	:	Pinamalisan
22. Kasanglalan	:	Pinamalisan
23. Alop	:	Pinamalisan
24. Sabuyo	:	Bantug
25. Malawi-lawi	:	Bantug
26. Butag	:	Bantug
27. Uling	:	Bantug
28. Labuyo	:	Camatchile
29. Makaliki	:	Camatchile
30. Sabuna	:	Camatchile-Bugnan
31. Tina	:	Camatchile
32. Apaya	:	Camatchile
33. Malasna	:	Camatchile
34. Cola-Cola	:	Bugnan
35. Macalao	:	Bagting
36. Kamuning	:	Bagting
37. Alintutuan	:	Calabasa
38. Dimgulog	:	Calabasa-Ligaya
39. Lingod	:	Tagumpay
40. Bateria	:	Bagting-Calabasa

### 11. Climate and Rainfall:

The climate of the municipality consists of two (2) distinct seasons. Dry season starts from November and ends by April while the wet season starts from May and ends by October with a monthly average of 202.22 cms. (rainfall). Temperature during this period ranges between 20.5°C to 34.4°C.

### 12. Natural Hazards:

#### FLOOD PRONE AREAS

Barangay	Frequency	Remarks
1. Calabasa – along National Road	Annually (during typhoons)	Not accessible for vehicles/commuters
2. Ligaya – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion
3. Bagong Sikat – portion along fault line area	-do-	Flood goes into the barangay proper
4. Bugnan – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion
5. Tagumpay – within Brgy. Proper	-do-	Flood height rises up to knee-high
6. Macasandal – along Asan Creek	-do-	Soil erosion and flood goes to Poblacion area
7. North Poblacion – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion
8. South Poblacion – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion
9. Camatchile – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion

10. Bantug – along Santor River bank	-do-	Soil erosion
11. Sawmill – along Danglan River bank	-do-	Soil erosion/flood goes into the barangay proper
12. Cuyapa – along Cuyapa Creek	-do-	Flood goes into the barangay proper

## SOCIAL:

### 13. Population Size and Growth

The total population of Gabaldon is 32,246 as per 2010 Census of Population compared to 29,619 as of 2007 Census. Although population increased by 2,627 with an average growth rate of 1.09%, population growth rate was declining due to out-migration and decrease in birth rate. Out-migration is a result of job opportunities and labor demand in other places and abroad. Declining birth rate is a result of effective implementation of Family Planning Program.

### 14. Sex – Age Structure

The number of males is more than the females which is indicated as follows:

POPULATION AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE, 2011

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	% OF POPULATION
Below 15 years old	6,255	5,942	12,197	37.50
15 to 64 years old	9,724	9,305	19,029	58.50
Above 64 years old	574	727	1,301	4.00
TOTAL	16,553	15,974	32,527	100.00

In terms of age structure, majority belongs to the productive age (15 to 64 years old) numbering 19,029 or 58.50% while dependent age which is (Below 15 years old) numbering 12,197 or 37.50% and (Above 64 years old) numbering 1,301 or 4.00% having a total of 13,498 or 41.50%.

### 15. Literacy

The population is predominantly literate which is 98% ranging from elementary to tertiary levels.

### 16. Employment Status

Based on the LGPMS generated e-Report on the State of Local Development 2010-2012 of the municipality, unemployment rate is 3-5% which is relatively low compared to the benchmark that should not be higher than 7%. Meanwhile, underemployment rate situation is 5-15% which is not yet alarming considering the benchmark that should not be higher than 20%.

### 17. Household Population by Age Group, Sex

Majority of the household population is in the rural areas comprising 65.11% while urban areas have 34.89%.

## **HEALTH**

### **18. Percentage of Children below Normal Weights**

Children nutrition, in general, is assured. MTPDP 2010 Target is exceptionally met. Malnourished children range below 10% compared to the benchmark that should not exceed 25%. Supplemental feeding must always be given priority.

### **19. Morbidity Rate**

Morbidity rates for the identified leading illnesses, in general, are within acceptable conditions. The challenge is, at the very least, to keep the rates lower. Collated morbidity rate for specific illnesses, i.e., Tuberculosis, HIV, Malaria, Heart diseases, Diarrhea, Dengue, is between the index of 3 - 3.99

### **20. Crude Death Rate**

Crude death rate is tolerable LGU condition is somewhat the same as the national situation which is 4-5 per 1,000 population.

### **21. Maternal Mortality Rate**

Maternal mortality is not an issue. The situation is far better than the national situation. Sustain programs that ensure maternal and child care. 0.3 or below per 1,000 live births compared to the benchmark which is 0.7-0.9 per 1,000 live births.

### **22. Infant Mortality Rate**

Infant mortality is currently not a problem. Local condition is far better than the national which is 0-5 per 1,000 live births compared to the benchmark 15-17 per 1,000 live births

### **23. Children Mortality Rate (under 5 yrs. old)**

Children mortality rate in the LGU is far better than the national situation. Sustain programs that ensure child care. 10 or below per 1,000 live births compared to the benchmark which is 30-33 per 1,000 live births.

## **EDUCATION**

### **24. Elementary Participation Rate**

Elementary participation rate is very high. Rate is higher than the 2010 Target. Access to primary education is assured. 100 % participation rate is ideal. LGU data is 95-97% compared to 92-94% benchmark.

### **25. Elementary Completion Rate**

Elementary completion rate is high. Sustaining primary education is of importance. 100% completion rate is ideal. 89-95% compared to 78-88% benchmark.

### **26. Secondary Completion Rate**

Secondary completion rate is high. Secondary education appears to be well supported. Rate is far higher than the national target. 85-95% compared to 71-84% benchmark.

## **27. Tertiary or Technical Education Completion Rate**

More than 75% of the population completed tertiary or technical education. The quality of human capital is evident. Benchmark is 50-75%.

## **28. Simple Literacy Rate**

Simple literacy rate is high. 95-97 % compared to 92-94% benchmark.

## **SPORTS AND RECREATION**

Existing sports facilities merely consist of basketball courts located in all sixteen (16) barangays. There are two (2) basketball courts, one (1) softball field and one (1) track & field oval located in the NEUST Gabaldon Campus while Gabaldon Central School has one (1) track & field oval. Another basketball court is also situated within the GVAHS Campus. Among the recreational facilities of the municipality are Playgrounds, Public Library, one (1) reading Center and a Botanical garden.

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

### **29. Incidence of index crime**

Incidence of index crime such as murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery and theft is low. 1-4 per 10,000 population compared 5-6 per 10,000 population benchmark.

### **30. Incidence of non-index crime**

Incidence of non-index crime such as crimes against national security, fundamental laws of the state, public order, public morals, violations of special laws, illegal gambling, illegal possession of firearms, carnapping, illegal drugs, kidnapping, serious illegal detention, and smuggling is within the tolerable level. LGU data is the same with the benchmark which is 3-4 per 10,000 population. The lower the crime incidence, the better.

### **31. Incidence of rebellion**

Incidence of rebellion is undesirable. 1 or 2 encounters have been reported for the past 3 years.

## **SOCIAL WELFARE**

The municipality has 20 Day Care Centers and 20 Barangay Health Workers. It shall be the priority of the municipality to carry out social welfare services through intensive programming of available resources within the locality, citizens' participation, utilization of existing facilities and intensifying pertinent programs on proper nutrition, family planning and day care services. The capability building of various personnel through training, seminars and workshops should also be taken into consideration in order to deliver effectively basic social services in depressed and remote barangays for this purpose.

## **AGRICULTURE**

### **32. Agricultural Crops**

Gabaldon is basically an agricultural town, therefore agriculture does play a significant role in the economy of the municipality. Out of the total land area, 20,590 hectares or 56 percent is devoted to agricultural purposes. These areas are either irrigated or non-irrigated riceland, cornland, onion land, pastureland, coconut land and orchard.

Due to its vast fertile soil, relatively favorable climate conditions and availability of some irrigation facilities, various crops are grown and produced. In lowland areas, rice is considered the primary crop and the secondary crops being planted are onion, corn, garlic, ampalaya and other vegetables while fruit-bearing trees are planted in the upland areas.

In 1998, the total area planted to rice is 2,455 hectares which represent one (1) percent of the total area of the province planted with rice. In the same year, the provincial production is recorded at 19.78 million cavans and Gabaldon has produced less than one (1) percent.

However, for the past five (5) years, Gabaldon remains in the first four (4) producers of onion province-wide, with the Municipality of Bongabon as lead producer, followed by City of San Jose and the Municipality of Laur. Gabaldon shares no less five (5) percent annually to the total provincial production of 60 thousand metric tons of onion.

### **33. Livestock and Poultry**

Animal production, both poultry and livestock, in this area are limited for domestic consumption. Backyard raising of animal becomes an alternative source of livelihood of households. As per 1999 records, there are 2,189 heads of carabao being utilized as draft animals and 2,534 hogs commercially raised to serve as additional source of income.

### **34. Fish Production**

The inland fishery production for the Province of Nueva Ecija is estimated at 2,951 metric tons per hectare per year and the Municipality of Gabaldon shares an estimated production of 24 metric tons per hectare per year or less than one (1) percent. There is an estimated area of 109 hectares located at Cabangalan Lake, Mangcuyog Creek, Aligoog Creek and swamps that are being used as fishing grounds. These communal fishing grounds represent one (1) percent to the total communal area available in the province, estimated at 9,921 hectares. Marine related products are being derived either from Dingalan, Aurora or Cabanatuan City.

The average income per household is registered at 84,854 pesos per year, which is broken down as follows: 50.4 percent is derived from farm income, 25 percent is sourced from off-farm activities and 24.6 percent is taken from non-farm income.

## **TOURISM**

There are seven (7) tourist spots that could be found in the municipality. These are: **1)** the Dupinga Water Reservoir, located near the Dupinga Bridge, where families and friends may find enjoyment and relaxation especially during summertime; **2)** Sitio Tanawan, located at Barangay. Pinamalisan, where one could enjoy the panoramic view of Dingalan Bay; **3)** the famous Sierra Madre Mountains, a haven for adventurers and nature-loving people; **4)** Mainit Hot Springs, located at Barangay Bugnan; **5)** Little Baguio at Barangay Malinao; **6)** Cabangalan Lake, potential for inland fishery **7)** some waterfalls that could be found in the southeastern part of Sierra Madre Mountains; and seven (7) resorts namely: a) Sierra Madre Farm and Plantation Cove – Brgy. Ligaya; b) Stone 8 Resort – Brgy. Tagumpay; c) Valley Breeze Resort – Brgy. Malinao; d) Leivy Lance Resort – Brgy. Pantoc; e) Ecopark – NEUST Gabaldon Campus; f) Pontigon Resort – Brgy. Sawmill; and g) Krestas Resort – Brgy. Pinamalisan.

## **COMMERCE**

Gabaldon, at present, has 279 commercial establishments. General retail stores and shops constitute the predominant form of trading; accounting for 196 or 70.25% of the total number of establishments.

The present level of commercial activities in the Municipality of Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija has been built along the National Road and within the Municipal Public Market with an outlying





### **38. Telecommunication**

Presently, the communication services available for public use in the municipality are the following: one (1) Postal Service Office, and several cellular phone relay station sites that can be used in local and international calls.

Mass communication facilities and services such as broadcast media and telex are not available in the area. Print media like newspaper are delivered from Cabanatuan City to the municipality by means of buses and jeepneys.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

### **39. Forestry**

The municipality, being situated on the foot of the Sierra Madre Mountains, covers vast upland and forest areas. These consist of Agro-forestry Zone - 5,606 hectares (15 percent); Watershed/Forestry Zone - 10,185 hectares (27.8 percent) and Military Reservation Area - 3,800 hectares (10.4 percent). Majority of these forest areas are badly denuded except those highly forest protected areas located in the inner portion of the Sierra Madre Mountains.

Production forest accounts for 31.55% or an equivalent of 11,557.04 hectares that can be developed as source of supplemental income of the people. These areas are being utilized for the production of high value vegetables and fruit-bearing trees. Meanwhile, production forest constitute about 9.52% of the total land area of the municipality or an equivalent of 3,484.68 hectares which is prioritized in the reforestation programs.