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## **The Impact of the Cityhood of Tabuk on Human Development**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The study analysed the impact of Tabuk's transition to cityhood on various aspects of development, including economic, socio-cultural, political, and environmental dimensions. It sought to understand the demographic profile of respondents, encompassing age, gender, civil status, educational attainment, and employment status. It examined the city government's demographic profile, including population, land area, income, and internal revenue allocation. The study evaluated the city government's delivery of services and facilities and assessed the level of impact of Tabuk's cityhood on economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental development.*

*The research employed percentage analysis for respondents' demographic profiles, documentary analysis for the city government's profile, mean to gauge service and facility delivery, and regression to determine the cityhood's impact on economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental development. Data collection primarily relied on questionnaires. Diverse groups, including business, agriculture, healthcare, education, professionals, transportation*

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*sectors, and community groups, participated in the survey. Key findings revealed that a significant proportion of respondents were under 24 years old, with the majority being female, married, and holding at least a bachelor's degree. A substantial portion of degree holders reported unemployment. The Internal Revenue Allotment of Tabuk City exhibited substantial growth, and local income sustained growth. Population increased, and land area expanded.*

*The study affirmed the city government's effective provision of services and facilities, fostering socio-economic, political, cultural, and environmental development. Respondents' demographic profiles, particularly age and employment status, significantly influenced service delivery. Moreover, service and facility delivery significantly predicted the city's impact, particularly in infrastructure, tourism, low-cost housing, tourism promotion, and support for education, police, and fire services. Based on these findings, recommendations were made, such as crafting comprehensive communication plans, developing public-private partnerships, investing in green initiatives, promoting waste segregation, supporting entrepreneurship, initiating reforestation projects, creating a cemetery office, and establishing a gender and development office to enhance gender equality and inclusion.*

**Keywords:** *Tabuk cityhood, human development, service delivery, demographic profile, impact assessment.*

## **1. Introduction**

The conversion of a municipality into a city has always been the aspiration of every local government entity in the Philippines. Local government units are noted to go in such a direction, particularly

given that a virtual competition sanctions their functioning. The promised growth and development offered by “cityhood” is particularly tempting to all local government bodies. Accordingly, urbanization draws investors because of the belief that individuals in the city have greater buying power. Establishing different business entities in the city would result in greater work possibilities for those in that region. Consequently, the amount of money the local government entities produced in taxes would also increase.

### **1.1. Motivation for Cityhood**

The primary reason towns or municipalities aspire to be promoted to cityhood status is the higher internal income allocation from the national government. The above arguments contribute to the thesis that growth happens after a town or municipality has attained cityhood status. Studies have shown (Pacoy and Balais 2005) that budgetary differences in how the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) was divided were the main reason for the rush to become a city, but political factors also played a role.

### **1.2. Migration Challenges in European Nations**

One challenge the European nations face concerning the fast rise of cities is “migration.” People came to cities in America owing to economic opportunities. Industrialization has been viewed as the primary factor that stimulates offshore migration. The traditional life of the people was being destroyed by the shift of the inhabitants from agriculture to industry. The movement of economic supremacy from farming to industry led to the migration of personnel from the country to the city. With their diverse economic systems, expanding labor markets, busy streets, and bright lights, the great cities attracted a disproportionate share of millions fleeing farms and towns for a better life (Hamerow 1989).

### **1.3. Social Impact of Urbanization**

George Hansen, a German sociologist, was very worried about how lousy city life was for young people. Since both parents had to work all day, children were typically left to themselves. They grew up

in the narrow, muddy lanes of the working-class sections of the great metropolis. Finally, urbanization, or cityhood, was regarded as accountable for the increased pursuit of pleasure and the deterioration of morals. The city, with its brilliant lights and garish distractions, fosters self-indulgence; it stimulates a restless drive for conspicuous luxury and physical fulfillment. The moderating effect on human behavior exerted in the village by the church, family, and community collapsed in the city – the loosening of behavioral restrictions that the urban environment created was also reflected in a more significant crime rate. Moreover, expanding varied activities in the metropolis contributes to psychological confusion. More people in metropolitan settings commit suicide than in towns (Casant and Helbich 2022).

#### **1.4. America as a Nation of Immigrants**

America is regarded as a nation of immigrants because a large number of people come from other countries. The challenges they experience include severe traffic, smog, noise, crime, filth, pollution, and slums (Pettinger 2022).

#### **1.5. Tokyo: A Model City**

Japan, Tokyo. The history of the city of Tokyo stretches back some 400 years. Originally named Edo, it had grown into a massive city with a population of over a million by the mid-eighteenth century when it was renamed Tokyo. Thus, Tokyo became the capital of Japan. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government is now one of the world's best cities, where a balance between economic affluence and quality of life has been achieved, and anyone can fully enjoy life.

The Three Faces (“Cities”) of Tokyo are: first, it is a safe city; it protects the lives and assets of the Tokyo residents from all kinds of disasters. Second, it is a diverse city; it embraces diversity and is full of kindness and warmth, where everyone can lead vibrant lives and be active in society. Finally, it is a smart city because it creates a sustainable Tokyo that can solve the problems facing the megalopolis and keep growing to win the international competition between cities.

## **1.6. Legislative Creation of Cities in the Philippines**

Cities in the Philippines are legislative creations. The Congress of the Philippines gives life to a city through a legislative charter enumerating its functions, responsibilities, and powers as a social and political subdivision. Because of their services, cities today exert a significant socio-political influence on a nation's life. Calapan, the bustling provincial capital of Oriental Mindoro, marked a significant milestone as it celebrated its 20th cityhood anniversary and the Kalap Festival from March 2 to 21, 2019.

## **1.7. City Transformations: Calapan, Makati, and Baguio**

According to Mayor Arnan Panaligan, Calapan has experienced significant improvements in commerce and industry, infrastructure, social services, and governance since attaining cityhood. In 2014, the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry put Calapan in its Hall of Fame for being the most business-friendly city in the country three times (Supetran 2018).

Makati City, a first-rate, highly urbanized city in Metro Manila, had a citywide health care program that gave its residents full membership in PhilHealth, providing access to health care even for those who could not pay for it. The city now prides itself on spending more on health services (which include discounts on laboratory tests and medicine) than any other city in the Philippines. Makati was transformed from an ordinary municipality to its preeminent status as a modern city and the center of business, finance, and communications. Even the poor and underprivileged have an equal chance to receive quality education, health care, and employment opportunities. The City Government of Makati is now recognized as a leader in public service and innovative governance, constantly exploring new approaches and pursuing innovations that will help better serve its constituents. The National Nutrition Council also said that the city had the best programs for feeding babies and young children regarding how the nutrition program was set up and run.

Baguio City, formally established in 1909, is geographically located in the northern Philippines on Luzon Island. Although it

functions independently as a chartered city, Baguio, with a land area of about 57.49 km<sup>2</sup>, is physically situated within the province of Benguet. Politically and administratively, it is divided into 129 barangays (villages). As the only American hill station in Asia and the only hill station in the Philippines, Baguio City, the country's summer capital, has been economically, politically, and socially significant for over a century. According to the study conducted by Estoque and Murayama (2011) on Baguio's spatio-temporal urban land use, a significant finding is that the city has undergone a major physical landscape transformation in the last 21 years. Through the years, rapid population growth, the availability of basic and essential urban services and facilities, and economic opportunities have transformed the hill station into a highly urbanized city, suggesting that there has been an increase in residential space and other infrastructure developments like public facilities and business establishments in recent years (Estoque and Murayama 2011).

It is reasonably evident that the experiences of cityhood conversion both here and abroad tell stories that reflect the apparent effect of the conversion and its concrete and visible influence, such as growth in commercial establishments and fancy residential units. It is important to remember that these stories cannot discuss more profound effects, like how the change affected people and their well-being.

### **1.8. Tabuk: A Case Study**

Tabuk is the capital town of Kalinga Province. With a land area of 64,170 hectares, Tabuk is agricultural mainly due to its vast plains and abundant water supply for irrigation. Tabuk delivers quantities of rice to Manila, Baguio City, and other adjacent regions. Booming with business establishments, Tabuk is the commercial and educational core of the province.

The name "Tabuk" is derived from the word "*tobog*," which means "a living spring." It has 42 barangays. Ten barangays are mostly made up of Kalinga natives, and thirty (30) barangays are made up of people from different ethnic groups, including Ilocanos, Igorots, Tagalogs, Bagos, Ibanags, Muslims, Pampangos, and others (Tabuk City Government 2021).

During the 11th Congress (1998–2001), 33 bills were enacted into law, transforming 33 municipalities into cities, and Tabuk in the province of Kalinga was one of them. After Baguio, Tabuk became the Cordillera's second city on June 23, 2007. Some of the changes observed reflect the effect of cityhood on infrastructure initiatives. Newly constructed roads are concrete and enlarged, including city and barangay roads. Big enterprises, such as well-known fast-food chains, were launched in the city.

Moreover, the city has also been noticed to have affected the tourism economy of the place. Tabuk is currently reaping the rewards of becoming a city. Not only did Tabuk gain from economic development, but social development was also found to have changed significantly due to the city's growth, especially in human development.

### **1.9. Research Gap and Objectives**

Pacoy and Balais (2005) completed a study on the impact of cityhood on human development: *The Case of Tagum City in 2005*. The study's primary goal is to present a perspective on how a municipality's conversion might influence its citizens' lives, notably in the area of human development. The study of Pacoy and Balais (2005), is similar to the present study in two ways. Firstly, both looked into changes in the fiscal and workforce resources of the LGU. Secondly, these investigations looked into the impact of cityhood on human development. However, they differ significantly in that the earlier study dealt with three years post- and pre-conversion, whereas the present study supplied additional years with nine (9) years post- and pre-conversion.

Another element of difference resides in the field of study. The researcher employs an input-output-impact procedure, whereas the former employ various methodologies. Pacoy and Balais (2005) focused on the general indicators of the human development index. At the same time, the researchers' study is directly related to the city government services that affect the people's social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental development. In the previous studies conducted by Pacoy and Balais (2005) on the impact of cityhood on

human development, there was a problem with the approach or studies they made. They did not include the city government as the main driver for human development; instead, they used Human Development Index indicators to look at cityhood's impact on the people's well-being. It should be the Local Government Unit (LGU) that will be the center of the study as it looks at the conversion of the municipality into a city; hence, this research was made to fill in the gap between the LGU as the primary provider of services and its impact on the well-being of the people.

### **1.10. Research Questions and Methodology**

The researcher would like to study how cityhood has impacted the development of the people of Tabuk, using the Human Development Index to know whether the people have felt the consequences of cityhood on their well-being. Part of the study also aims to assess the changes in the fiscal and workforce makeup of the local government after gaining cityhood status, with the assumption that the expected improvement in the financial standing and the increase in the workforce structure of the local government would have an impact on the development of the locality and its people.

### **1.11. Significance of the Study**

The outcomes of the study will be immediately advantageous to all LGUs in enhancing their capabilities to address the requirements of their residents. It will undoubtedly help them reassess their priorities and raise their developmental agenda by offering them ideas on where to increase expenditures and expenses to attain the desired human development in their jurisdiction.

This study will assist in shaping the financial priorities of the city's Social Services Department and update demographics, e.g., assess social service needs, use, and satisfaction, and seek community opinion on housing, health, education, employment, and economic variables. LGUs will have a reasonable basis for urban profiles and development agendas. LGUs would eventually gain from policies and strategies addressing cityhood challenges and issues. LGUs can examine and make prescriptions based on this study as they relate to



the numerous areas of local government finance, delivery of essential services, urban poverty, and thriving local governance. Therefore, the study's findings enable the LGUs to formulate policies that would be insightful in need-driven development in terms of health, education, and employment that fit the requirements of the people. Urbanization is a phenomenon that is particularly important to politicians and planners. Trends and patterns of urbanization have significance for socioeconomic development and vice versa.

It may also expose some of the best practices in “governance” being adopted in the province of Kalinga and the city of Tabuk, which might be duplicated by other government units in the Philippines. Furthermore, it could disclose particular strengths of the government that they can develop and some shortcomings they can improve when delivering essential services.

### **1.12. Policy Implications**

The study “The Impact of the Cityhood of Tabuk City on Human Development” gives essential information about how Tabuk City becoming a city has affected different parts of human development. The results of this study can be used in several ways to help make decisions about policy, planning, and growth in the city.

### **1.13. Some Possible Uses**

*Policy Making:* The study's results can help policymakers develop specific policies and strategies to deal with the challenges and possibilities in Tabuk City's human development. For example, if the study shows gaps in schooling or health care, policymakers can make plans to improve access to and quality of these services.

*Allocating Resources:* The study can help successfully allocate resources by pointing out the most critical areas for investment and development. The results can help decide how to divide up resources to meet specific goals in human development, such as building infrastructure, providing social services, or creating economic opportunities.

*Program Design and Implementation:* The study's results can help design and implement specific programs and initiatives in Tabuk City to improve human growth. For example, if the study shows high unemployment or poverty rates among a particular group, programs can help those people find work or escape poverty.

*Monitoring and Analyzing:* The study's results can be used as a starting point for monitoring and analyzing the effects of policies and programs in Tabuk City that aim to improve human development. By comparing success to the set indicators regularly, policymakers can see how well their plans are working and make any necessary changes.

*Advocacy and Awareness:* The study's results can be used to raise awareness among government officials, community leaders, and civil society organizations about the unique challenges and opportunities for human development in Tabuk City that can help get people on board with changing policies, allocating resources, and making focused interventions.

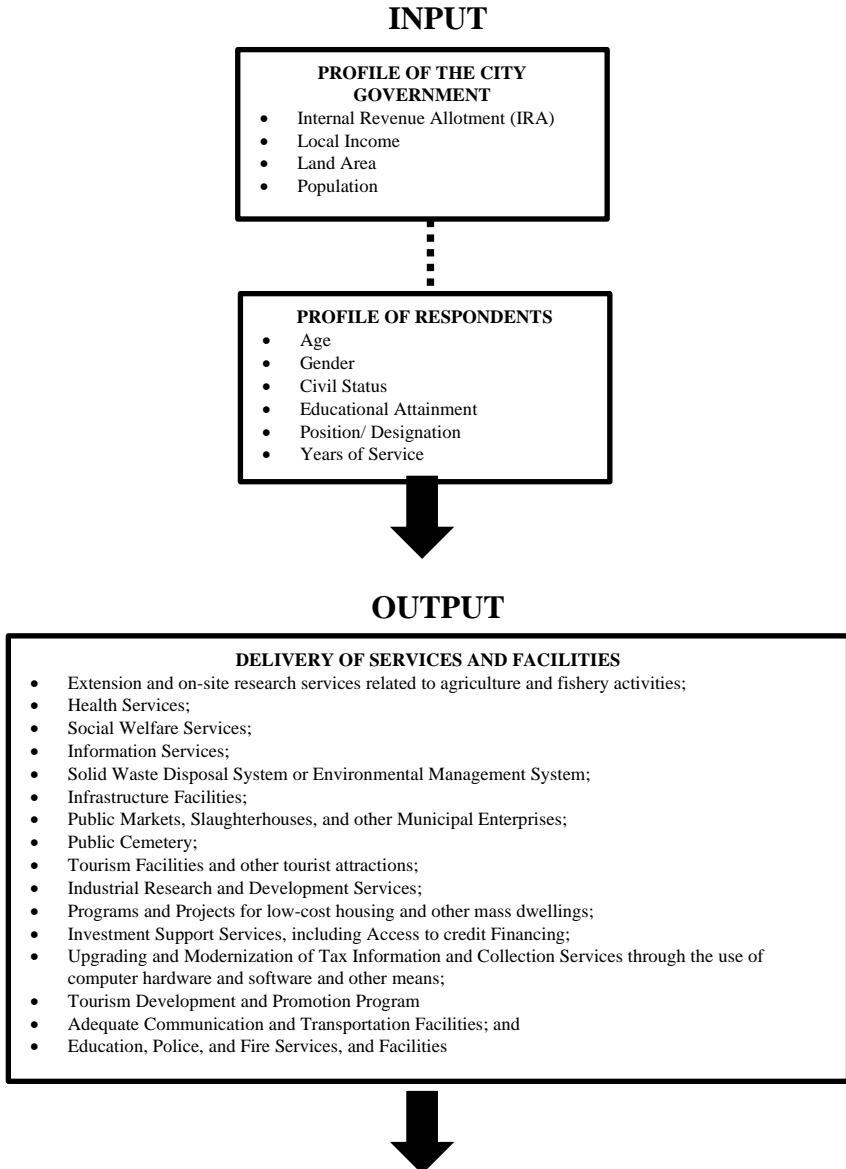
*Collaboration and Partnerships:* The study's results can make it easier for government agencies, NGOs, academic schools, and community groups to collaborate and form partnerships. The study's findings about the problems and possibilities can help people work together to solve the problems.

*Benchmarking and Comparing:* The study's results can be used as a standard to compare the human development indicators of Tabuk City with those of other cities or areas. This comparison can help find best practices, lessons learned, and places to improve, which can help people share and learn from each other's knowledge.

Getting the study results out to as many people as possible, such as policymakers, government officials, community leaders, and civil society organizations, is essential, ensuring the results are used in decision-making, program development, and policy implementation. Continuous monitoring, evaluation, and changes based on the study's results can help with ongoing attempts to improve human growth in Tabuk City.

## 2. Conceptual Framework

The study operates based on the paradigm illustrated in Figure 1. It uses the “input-output-impact” approach to determine the impact of the cityhood of Tabuk on the political, sociocultural, and economic development of the residents of Tabuk.



## IMPACT



**Figure 1- The Research Paradigm**

### 3. Research Design

This study employs a mixed-methods approach involving quantitative surveys and documentary analysis. Four primary research objectives guide our investigation:

1. Assess the demographic profiles of respondents and the city government.
2. Evaluate the delivery of services and facilities by the city government.
3. Examine the influence of demographic factors on service delivery.
4. Analyse the overall impact of Tabuk's cityhood on various dimensions of development.

### **3.1. Population and Sample**

The study population consists of Tabuk City residents from 2002 to 2019, totalling 121,033 individuals. A random sample of 782 respondents was selected to ensure representation across different societal sectors.

### **3.2. Data Gathering Instrument**

Data was collected using questionnaires and documentary analysis. Questionnaires gathered demographic information about respondents, city government service delivery assessment, and impact assessment. Documentary analysis involved reviewing population data, land area, internal revenue allotment, and local income records.

### **3.3. Data Gathering Procedures**

Ethical research practices were followed:

1. Authorization was obtained for data access.
2. Questionnaires were administered in-person with opportunities for clarifications.
3. Google Forms facilitated data collection from various groups.
4. Face-to-face interviews utilized quota sampling for sector representation.

### **3.4. Statistical Treatment of Data:**

Data analysis employed various statistical tools:

1. Frequency distribution for demographic profiles.
2. Mean and standard deviation for impact indicators.
3. Mean for assessing service delivery.
4. Multiple regression analysis to understand variable relationships.

## 4. Results and Discussions

### 4.1. What is the Demographic Profile of the Respondents?

1. *Age*: Tabuk City, Kalinga, boasts a youthful population, with a significant majority (29.41%) under 24 years old, reflecting the city's youthful vigor.
2. *Gender*: Females dominate the respondent pool, constituting 70.97% of participants.
3. *Civil Status*: A substantial portion (57.93%) of participants is married, indicating family-oriented demographics.
4. *Educational Attainment*: An impressive majority (64.96%) hold undergraduate degrees or higher, reflecting a well-educated populace.
5. *Status of Employment*: Significantly, 38.49% of respondents are unemployed, highlighting the need for employment-focused initiatives.

Socio-demographic factors	f	%
<b>Age</b>		
18 - 24 years old	230	29.41
25 - 34 years old	139	17.77
35 - 44 years old	153	19.57
45 - 54 years old	148	18.93
55 - 64 years old	93	11.89
65 years old and above	19	2.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	227	29.03
Female	555	70.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Civil Status</b>		
Single	290	37.08
Married	453	57.93
Widowed	39	4.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Highest Educational Attainment</b>		
No Schooling	14	1.79
Primary Level (Elementary)	56	7.16

Secondary (High School)	108	13.81
Vocational (Skilled)	7	0.90
Tertiary Level (College)	508	64.96
Postgraduate (Masteral or Doctorate)	89	11.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Status of employment</b>		
Unemployed	301	38.49
Self-employed	288	36.83
Employed	193	24.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>100.00</b>

#### 4.2. What is the Profile of the City Government of Tabuk After Its Conversion?

1. *Internal Revenue Allotment:* Tabuk City witnessed substantial growth in Internal Revenue Allotment, rising from 69.32 million pesos in 2002 to 1.1 billion pesos in 2020. This financial upswing signifies the city's developmental potential.
2. *Local Income:* Tabuk City's local income reached 179.69 million pesos one year after achieving city status, demonstrating consistent growth and financial stability.
3. *Population:* Over the last 18 years, Tabuk's population surged by 108,659 individuals, indicating a thriving community and opportunities for further development.
4. *Land Area:* The city's land area expanded from 64,170 hectares to 77,447 hectares since becoming a city, offering space for urban planning, infrastructure, and land use development.

Population		
Years	Population	Classification
2002	78,663	Municipality
2007	87,912	Municipality
2010	105,912	Municipality
2011	106,614	City
2012	111,880	City
2013	120,083	City
2014	126,018	City
2015	132,242	City
2019	152,367	City
2020	187,322	City

Source: City Planning and Development Office- City Government of Tabuk

**Land Area**

Years	Land Area	Classification
2002-2007	64,170 has.	Municipality
2008-2010	77,447 has.	Municipality
2011-2021	77,447 has.	City
2022-Present	77,447 has.	City

*Source: City Planning and Development Office- City Government of Tabuk*

**Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of Tabuk City**

Years	Municipality	Years	City
2002	69,326,836	2011	150,348,312
2003	75,611,884	2012	482,036,460
2004	74,002,611	2013	526,461,782
2005	78,743,204	2014	592,506,560
2006	92,909,449	2015	677,963,888
2007	96,831,643	2016	742,272,361
2008	255,935,095	2017	838,965,098
2009	255,935,095	2018	901,236,782
2010	139,035,043	2019	999,316,166
		2020	1,122,497,634

*Source: Department of Finance-Bureau of Local Government Finance*

**Local Income of Tabuk City**

Years	Municipality	Years	City
2002	77,990,498	2011	179,693,381
2003	85,407,414	2012	514,399,918
2004	83,254,404	2013	560,194,231
2005	78,743,204	2014	633,737,344
2006	105,228,665	2015	724,653,266
2007	127,322,805	2016	785,052,108
2008	401,109,392	2017	900,631,356
2009	257,690,132	2018	957,763,230
2010	139,488,539	2019	1,070,743,605

*Source: Department of Finance-Bureau of Local Government Finance*

**4.3. What is the Level of Delivery of Services and Facilities of the City Government of Tabuk?**

Tabuk City’s performance in delivering services is commendable, with “good” ratings in various areas, including agriculture and fishery services, health, social welfare, information



services, environmental management, infrastructure facilities, public markets, and more.

**Summary of the Mean Ratings on the Delivery of Services**

<b>Services</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Descriptive Rating</b>
1. Extension and On-Site Research Services Related to Agriculture and Fishery Activities	3.17	Good
2. Health Services	3.17	Good
3. Social Welfare Services	3.18	Good
4. Information Services	3.15	Good
5. Solid Waste Disposal System or Environmental Management System	3.17	Good
6. Infrastructure Facilities	3.17	Good
7. Public Markets, Slaughterhouses, and other Municipal Enterprises	3.16	Good
8. Public Cemetery	3.02	Good
9. Tourism Facilities and other tourist attractions	3.16	Good
10. Industrial Research and Development Services	3.15	Good
11. Programs and Projects for low-cost housing and other mass dwellings	3.08	Good
12. Investment Support Services, including access to credit Financing	3.14	Good
13. Upgrading and Modernization of Tax Information and Collection Services through the use of computer hardware and software and other means	3.08	Good
14. Development and Promotion Programs	3.16	Good
15. Adequate Communication and Transportation Facilities	3.21	Good
16. Support for Education, Police and Fire Services, and Facilities	3.21	Good
<b>Overall</b>	<b>3.16</b>	<b>Good</b>

#### **4.4. What is the Level of Impact of the Cityhood of Tabuk in Terms of Economic, Socio-Cultural, Political, and Environmental Development?**

1. *Economic Development:* The city's economic development is considered "moderately developed," reflecting positive progress but also highlighting areas for further enhancement.
2. *Social and Cultural Development:* Tabuk's social and cultural development is also "moderately developed," indicating promising growth opportunities in these dimensions.
3. *Political Development:* The city's political development is assessed as "Moderately Developed," suggesting areas for improvement and strengthening of political processes.
4. *Environmental Development:* Tabuk City's environmental development is considered "Moderately Developed,"

emphasizing the need for continued efforts in environmental protection and sustainability.

**Summary of the Mean Rating on the Impact of the Cityhood of Tabuk**

Indicators	Mean	Descriptive Rating
<b>A. Economic Development</b>	<b>3.04</b>	<b>Moderately Developed</b>
<b>B. Social and Cultural Development</b>	<b>3.07</b>	<b>Moderately Developed</b>
1. Health	3.00	Moderately Developed
2. Education	3.14	Moderately Developed
3. Housing	3.03	Moderately Developed
4. Cultural	3.18	Moderately Developed
<b>C. Political Development</b>	<b>2.97</b>	<b>Moderately Developed</b>
<b>D. Environmental Development</b>	<b>3.06</b>	<b>Moderately Developed</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>3.04</b>	<b>Moderately Developed</b>

#### **4.5. Does the Profile of the Respondents Significantly Influence the Level of Delivery of Services and Facilities?**

1. *Age Significance:* Age (t-value = 2.246, p-value = 0.025) significantly influences the level of service and facility delivery by the city government, underlining the importance of tailoring services to different age groups.
2. *Gender Inconclusive:* Gender does not significantly impact service and facility delivery, ensuring equitable service provision regardless of gender.
3. *Civil Status Inconclusive:* Civil status does not significantly affect service and facility delivery, indicating consistent service quality across marital statuses.
4. *Educational Attainment Inconclusive:* The level of education does not significantly affect service and facility delivery, affirming equitable service quality across education levels.
5. *Employment Status Significance:* Employment status (t-value = -4.437, p-value = 0.000) significantly influences service and facility delivery, with unemployed individuals more likely to express lower satisfaction.

**Regression Analysis on the Level of Delivery of Services and Facilities in Tabuk City and the Profile of the Respondents**

Variable	Beta Coefficients	t-value	Sig.	Remarks
(Constant)	3.258	38.640	.000	Significant
Age	.033	2.246	.025	Significant
Sex	-.024	-.824	.410	Not Significant
Civil Status	-.040	-1.123	.262	Not Significant
Highest Educational Attainment	.019	1.442	.150	Not Significant
Status of Employment	-.088	-4.437	.000	Significant

Dependent Variable: *Level of Delivery of Services*

Model Summary:  $R = 0.1812$ ,  $R^2 = 0.0328$

$F\text{-value} = 5.269$ ,  $F\text{-prob} = 0.000$

#### 4.6. Does the Delivery of Services and Facilities Significantly Influence the Level of Impact?

1. *Infrastructure Facilities Significance*: Infrastructure facilities ( $t\text{-value} = 2.030$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .043$ ) significantly influence socio-cultural, economic, political, and environmental development, emphasizing their pivotal role in overall city development.
2. *Tourism Facilities Significance*: Services related to tourism facilities and attractions ( $t\text{-value} = -2.963$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .003$ ) significantly influence various dimensions of development, underscoring their contribution to Tabuk's progress.
3. *Low-Cost Housing Programs Significance*: Programs for low-cost housing and mass dwellings ( $t\text{-value} = 2.492$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .013$ ) significantly impact socio-cultural, economic, political, and environmental development, addressing housing needs.
4. *Tourism Development and Promotion Programs Significance*: Tourism development and promotion programs ( $t\text{-value} = 2.034$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .042$ ) significantly influence multiple aspects of development, promoting Tabuk's tourism potential.
5. *Support for Education, Police, and Fire Services Significance*: Services supporting education, police, and fire departments ( $t\text{-value} = 3.641$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .000$ ) significantly contribute to socio-cultural, economic, political, and environmental development, enhancing public safety and education.

**Regression Analysis on the Level of Impact of Cityhood of Tabuk City and the Different Services**

Variable	Beta Coefficients	t-value	Sig.	Remarks
a. Extension and On-Site Research Services Related to Agriculture & Fishery Activities	.080	1.790	.074	Not Significant
b. Health Services	.040	.842	.400	Not Significant
c. Social Welfare Services	-.030	-.500	.617	Not Significant
d. Information Services	.044	1.059	.290	Not Significant
e. Solid Waste Disposal System or Environmental Management System	.000	-.008	.994	Not Significant
f. Infrastructure Facilities	.118	2.030	.043	Significant
g. Public Markets, Slaughterhouses, and other Municipal Enterprises	.015	.394	.694	Not Significant
h. Public Cemetery	.028	.870	.384	Not Significant
i. Tourism Facilities and other tourist attractions	-.149	-2.963	.003	Significant
j. Industrial Research and Development Services	.010	.238	.812	Not Significant
k. Programs and Projects for low-cost housing and other mass dwellings	.105	2.492	.013	Significant
l. Investment Support Services, including access to credit financing	-.009	-.156	.876	Not Significant
m. Upgrading and Modernization of Tax Information and Collection Services	.037	1.024	.306	Not Significant
n. Development and Promotion Programs	.083	2.034	.042	Significant
o. Adequate Communication and Transportation Facilities	.014	.407	.684	Not Significant
p. Support for Education, Police and Fire Services, and Facilities	.205	3.641	.000	Significant

Dependent Variable: *Level of Impact*

Model Summary:  $R = 0.5811, R^2 = 0.3377$

$F\text{-value} = 24.380.269, F\text{-prob} = 0.000$

These findings collectively highlight Tabuk City’s dynamic demographics, robust financial growth, population expansion, and significant influence of service delivery on various development dimensions, laying the foundation for informed policy and decision-making to ensure continued progress and prosperity.

## 5. Conclusion

### 5.1. Demographic Insights (Profile of Respondents)

This study provides valuable demographic insights into Tabuk’s population. Notably, a significant portion of respondents are under 24 years old, with a majority being female. A substantial percentage of respondents are married, and most hold at least a bachelor’s degree. However, a significant portion of degree holders

reported unemployment, highlighting the need for tailored employment initiatives.

## **5.2. Demographic Insights (City Government of Tabuk)**

### *5.2.1. Internal Revenue Allotment Growth*

Tabuk City's transition from a municipality to a city has led to a remarkable increase in its Internal Revenue Allotment (now National Tax Allotment). The allotment surged from 69.32 million pesos in 2002 to 1.1 billion pesos in 2020, signifying substantial growth and providing ample financial resources for public services and infrastructure projects.

### *5.2.2. Local Income Surge*

The study reveals significant growth in Tabuk City's local income one year after attaining city status, reaching 179.69 million Philippine pesos. This upward trajectory continued until 2020, showcasing sustained progress and economic development. This capacity to generate revenue from various sources underscores financial stability and potential expansion.

### *5.2.3. Population Growth*

Over the past 18 years, Tabuk City has witnessed remarkable population growth, with an increase of 108,659 individuals, from 2002 to 2020. This surge highlights the city's burgeoning community and its potential for further development. The data suggests a continuous rise in population, indicating improved living standards, increased job opportunities, and attractive amenities that draw people to settle in Tabuk City.

### *5.2.4. Expanded Land Area*

Since its transition to a city, Tabuk's total land area has expanded from 64,170 hectares to 77,447 hectares. This expansion signifies the city's growth and development, opening doors for urban planning initiatives, infrastructure projects, and land use

developments. The increased land area provides space for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes, accommodating a growing population and fostering economic activities.

### **5.3. Government Performance**

The evaluation affirms that the Tabuk city government excels in providing services and facilities. Tabuk's city administration does a decent job of delivering its many services to its citizens. This is demonstrated by the overall mean rating of 3.16 that the respondents gave. Tabuk's populace generally expresses a high level of contentment with the quality of services the city government provides.

### **5.4. Impact of Cityhood**

The Tabuk City government plays a pivotal role in fostering development across various dimensions—economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental. Its influence is distinctly significant, as exemplified by an overall mean rating of 3.04, signifying a “moderately developed” level of impact. This underscores the city government's capacity to consistently deliver high-quality services, thereby positively shaping the city's socioeconomic fabric, cultural richness, political landscape, and even contributing to environmental growth.

### **5.5. Demographics as Predictors**

The respondents' demographic profile, particularly age and employment status, significantly predicts the level of service and facility delivery by the Tabuk city government. This is supported by statistical findings age (t-value = 2.246, p-value = 0.025) and status of employment (t-value = -4.437, p-value = 0.000), emphasizing the importance of tailored services for different demographic groups.

### **5.6. Service Delivery as a Predictor**

The delivery of services and facilities by the city government of Tabuk emerges as a strong predictor of the city's overall impact. Notably, infrastructure, tourism facilities, low-cost housing programs,

tourism development, and support for education, police, and fire services (*infrastructure facilities* ( $t\text{-value} = 2.030$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .043$ ), *tourism facilities and other tourist attractions* ( $t\text{-value} = -2.963$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .003$ ), *programs and projects for low-cost housing and other mass dwellings* ( $t\text{-value} = 2.492$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .013$ ), *development and promotion* ( $t\text{-value} = 2.034$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .042$ ), *support for education, police and fire services, and facilities* ( $t\text{-value} = 3.641$ ,  $p\text{-value} = .000$ )) play crucial roles in shaping the city's development trajectory.

## **6. Recommendations**

### **6.1. Improve Communication and Outreach**

To enhance communication and outreach in Tabuk, a comprehensive strategy must be implemented, focusing on tailoring messages to engage with diverse demographics, including low-income families, displaced individuals, and seniors. Collaborative efforts with community leaders and local celebrities will be employed to endorse city government services and boost their credibility across various platforms. Additionally, daily outreach programs such as town hall meetings, community forums, and mobile service centers will be organized to facilitate in-person interactions for residents to ask questions, offer feedback, and exchange personalized information. User-friendly feedback channels, such as dedicated phone lines and online forms, will be introduced to gather suggestions and address concerns promptly, nurturing trust within the community. Moreover, acknowledging Tabuk's linguistic diversity, the city will provide information in multiple languages through translated messages, bilingual social media content, and multilingual materials in public spaces, aiming to create a more inclusive and accessible environment for all residents.

### **6.2. Enhanced Public Services**

To improve the overall quality of life in the city, a comprehensive strategy should be implemented. This strategy entails the establishment of cemetery office to regularly assess and enhance the city's public cemetery, generating employment opportunities and

government revenue. Additionally, a needs assessment will be conducted to address the specific requirements of low-income families, exploring mixed-use building options to provide housing and stimulate economic growth. Housing projects will prioritize eco-friendly and sustainable features, incorporating energy-efficient materials, solar panels, rainwater collection systems, and green spaces to ensure long-term cost savings and community well-being.

Furthermore, collaboration with NGOs and the private sector will be actively pursued to bolster resources, community development, and housing project expertise, with residents actively engaged in decision-making processes to foster a sense of ownership. Public-private partnerships will also be explored to efficiently provide essential services such as centralized public transportation, contributing to economic growth. Additionally, investments will be made in green and sustainable projects, including waste-to-energy programs and renewable energy sources like solar farms, reducing reliance on non-renewable resources and promoting environmental sustainability. Lastly, collaboration with educational institutions will enable the provision of vocational training and workshops tailored to local business needs, empowering residents with employable skills and strengthening the local economy.

### **6.3. Waste Management and Environmental Conservation**

To promote effective waste management, a multifaceted approach must be adopted. This approach involves launching public awareness campaigns to emphasize the significance of waste segregation and the “No Segregation, No Collection” policy, with workshops, seminars, and information sessions conducted across neighborhoods through various communication channels. Clear rules and standards for waste separation at homes and businesses will be developed, accompanied by guidance on sorting different types of waste, and fees or fines will be enforced for non-compliance. Routine checks and audits of waste collection and disposal practices will be conducted to identify and rectify non-compliant areas. Furthermore, reward and incentive programs will be established to recognize and motivate residents and businesses for their consistent waste separation



efforts, with success stories shared to inspire broader participation in the initiative.

#### **6.4. Empower Small Businesses**

Introduce training and mentorship programs to equip individuals with entrepreneurial skills, coupled with access to low-interest microloans and grants to support business start-ups.

#### **6.5. Enhance Environmental Stewardship**

To enhance environmental sustainability and address ecological concerns, a comprehensive strategy must be implemented. This strategy entails the initiation of large-scale reforestation and afforestation projects, with a focus on planting native trees to stabilize soil and engage local groups, schools, and organizations. Additionally, the promotion of organic farming practices will reduce chemical pollution in land and water bodies, contributing to improved environmental health. Flood control infrastructure, including levees, dams, and retention ponds, will be developed to mitigate flood risks and protect communities. Furthermore, regulations and enforcement measures will be strengthened to address industrial emissions, vehicle pollution, and open burning, ensuring enhanced air quality for the region.

#### **6.6. Establish Gender and Development Office**

Create a Gender and Development (GAD) office within the city government to prioritize gender equality, address gender-based issues, and empower women in the local community. This office will serve as a hub for gender analysis, awareness campaigns, and collaboration with civil society organizations.

These strategic recommendations encompass a holistic approach to address diverse community needs, enhance services, promote sustainability, and empower residents in Tabuk City, ultimately fostering inclusive and progressive development.

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