

1. BRIEF PROFILE OF PEÑARANDA

1.1 INFORMATION

1.1.1 LOCAL OFFICIALS

TABLE 1: Elected Officials, 2019 – 2022

Hon. Joselito A. Ramos	Municipal Mayor
Hon. Ofelia S. Manayao	Vice Mayor
Hon. Rosano A. Corpuz	SB Member
Hon. Sonny R. Reyes	SB Member
Hon. Herminia G. Castillo	SB Member
Hon. Melchor A. Paderes	SB Member
Hon. Samuel P. Vallarta	SB Member
Hon. Nerio M. Gonzales	SB Member
Hon. Jenny Lynn A. Alarilla	SB Member
Hon. Conrado M. Aberin, Jr.	SB Member
Hon. Noel E. Mercado	SB Member, ABC President
Hon. Mark Anthony A. Gonzales	SB Member, SK President



1.1.2 Income and classification

TABLE 2: Municipal Profile

Name of Government Unit	Municipality of Peñaranda
Province	Nueva Ecija
Congressional District	IV
Population - 2015 Census	29,882
Income Classification	4th class
Main Economic Activity	Agricultural

1.2 HISTORY

Peñaranda was formerly a barrio of Gapan. It was then called Mapisong which means “a place abounding in big stones”.

The distance between Gapan and Mapisong was considered remote during those days even if it is only about seven kilometers (7 kms). The poor road condition and means of transportation at that time stimulate the Cabeza de Barangay of Mapisong to persistently ask the cura parroco and town officials of Gapan to recommend the declaration of Mapisong as an independent municipality.

Public transportation improvements in Mapisong was constructed and supervised by a Spanish military engineer named Jose Maria Peñaranda. He played an important role not only in the infrastructure programs of the new town of Mapisong but also throughout the island of Luzon during the Spanish regime under the administration of his uncle Governor General Enrile, hence, the name “*Mapisong*” was changed to Peñaranda in his honor.



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In 1893, the change in the administrative system of the provinces had also changed the position title of Gobernadorcillo to Capitan Municipal.

In Peñaranda, Eusebio Padilla was the first Capitan. Next to him were Capitanes Ponciano and Isidro Abesamis.

The administration of Capitan Ponciano, the first Capitan under the revolutionary government was greatly handicapped by several calamities. A big fire razed many houses to the ground, and then, a cholera epidemic broke out in Papaya on June 13, 1902. The epidemic stretched to the town proper five days later, and lasted until October. It cost not only human lives but also those of the work animals.

It was during the administration of Pedro Villanueva as municipal president that the construction of the railroad station was completed, and inaugurated in February of the same year.

The educational progress had a setback when the cogon school houses at the site now occupied by the Gabaldon Building was destroyed by continuous hard rain and flood in April and May 1908. Undaunted by the circumstances, the teachers continued to teach but had to make sacrifices.

On October 4, 1908 another strong typhoon visited the town, it coincided with the celebration of the feast of the Patron Saint and it lasted for a week. Aside from typhoons, rice harvests in 1913 to 1915 decreased due to drought, locusts, and other insect infestation.

During the Japanese occupation in 1944-1949, Peñaranda was under the administration of Alcalde Municipal Dr. Aquilino Aberin. His administration was marred by the destruction of the municipal building which was then located at the present site of the Puericulture Center.

When the country was liberated in 1945, the Alcalde Municipal is Casiano M. Abes. He was the first alcalde under the Republic of the Philippines which was inaugurated on July 4, 1946.

Later in 1949, the railroad line connecting the town Peñaranda and Cabanatuan was destroyed.



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Amado B. Ramos was also appointed and later elected Alcalde Municipal in 1946-1947, then again in 1947-1951. During his administration, there are developments and improvement of public buildings and facilities, new industries were also introduced. Some of the noteworthy achievements of his administration were the construction of the Peñaranda High School Building in 1950, the Puericulture Center, and two additional public artesian wells.

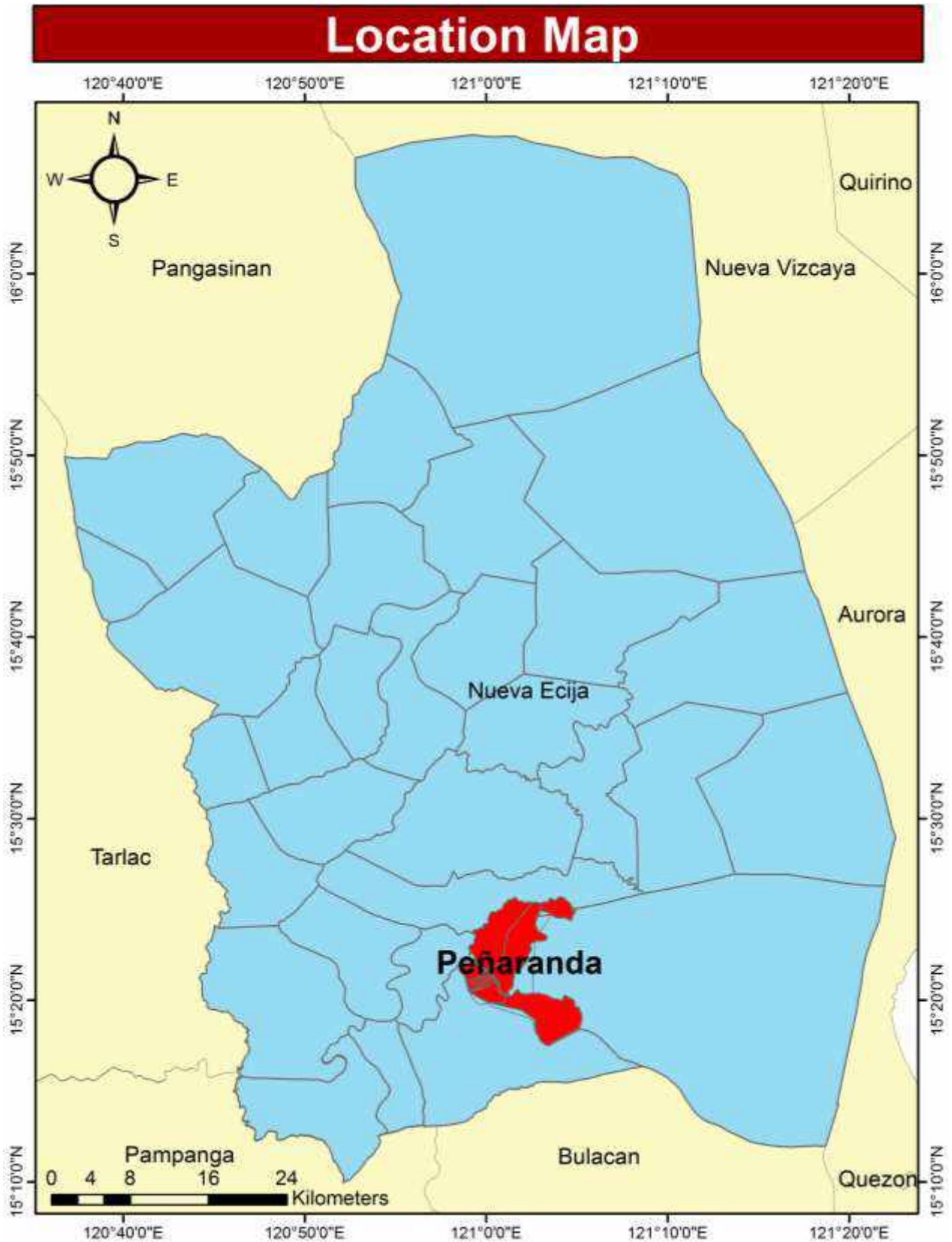
The belfry of the church was remodeled under the administration of the Parish Priest, Father Paterno Bernabe. Father Enrique Reyes who succeeded Father Bernabe completed other church improvements started by his predecessor.

At present, **Peñaranda** is a **4th class** municipality in the province of Nueva Ecija. According to the latest census, it has a population of 29,882 people in 6,857 households. It is bordered by the municipalities of General Tinio (Papaya), Sta. Rosa, San Leonardo and the City of Gapan.

Peñaranda was once known for its high quality crops, the betel leaf locally called *ikmo*. This leaf was used by older folks as a chewing substance. The cultivation of the betel leaf or *ikmo* have steadily declined, over the years and only a handful of farmers now propagate the *ikmo* leaf. However, rice remain a flourishing farm produce.

Every month of May, Peñaranda residents stage a musical drama called "Araquio", a re-enactment of Christians' quest led by Queen Helena and King Constantini for the Holy Cross where Jesus Christ was nailed. In this cultural show, actors and actresses garbed in colorful costumes dramatize the millenium old tradition which features swordfights between the Christians and Moros.

Peñaranda is also known for its mouth-watering, native cakes such as espasol, putong puti and sapin-sapin.





1.3 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

1.3.1 Geographic Location

Peñaranda is one of the Municipalities in the province of Nueva Ecija. It is strategically located, being at the central portion of the Fourth Congressional District.

It is bounded on the north by the Municipality of Sta. Rosa, on the west and the northwest by the municipality of San Leonardo, on the south and southwest by the City of Gapan and on the east by the municipality of General Tinio.

Peñaranda is about thirty-one (31) kilometers from Cabanatuan City by way of Gapan and one hundred-three (103) kilometers from Manila, also via Gapan.

1.3.2 Political Subdivision

The Municipality of Peñaranda is composed of ten (10) barangays, four (4) barangays comprise the urban area namely; Poblacion I, Poblacion II, Poblacion III, and Poblacion IV. The remaining six (6) barangays which composed the rural area are : Callos, Las Piñas, Sto. Tomas, Sinasajan,. San Josef and San Mariano.

Among the barangays in the municipality, Callos and Las Piñas are the largest in terms of land area with 3,430.07 hectares and 2,573.67 hectares respectively. The smallest is barangay Poblacion II with a land area of only 96.12 hectares.



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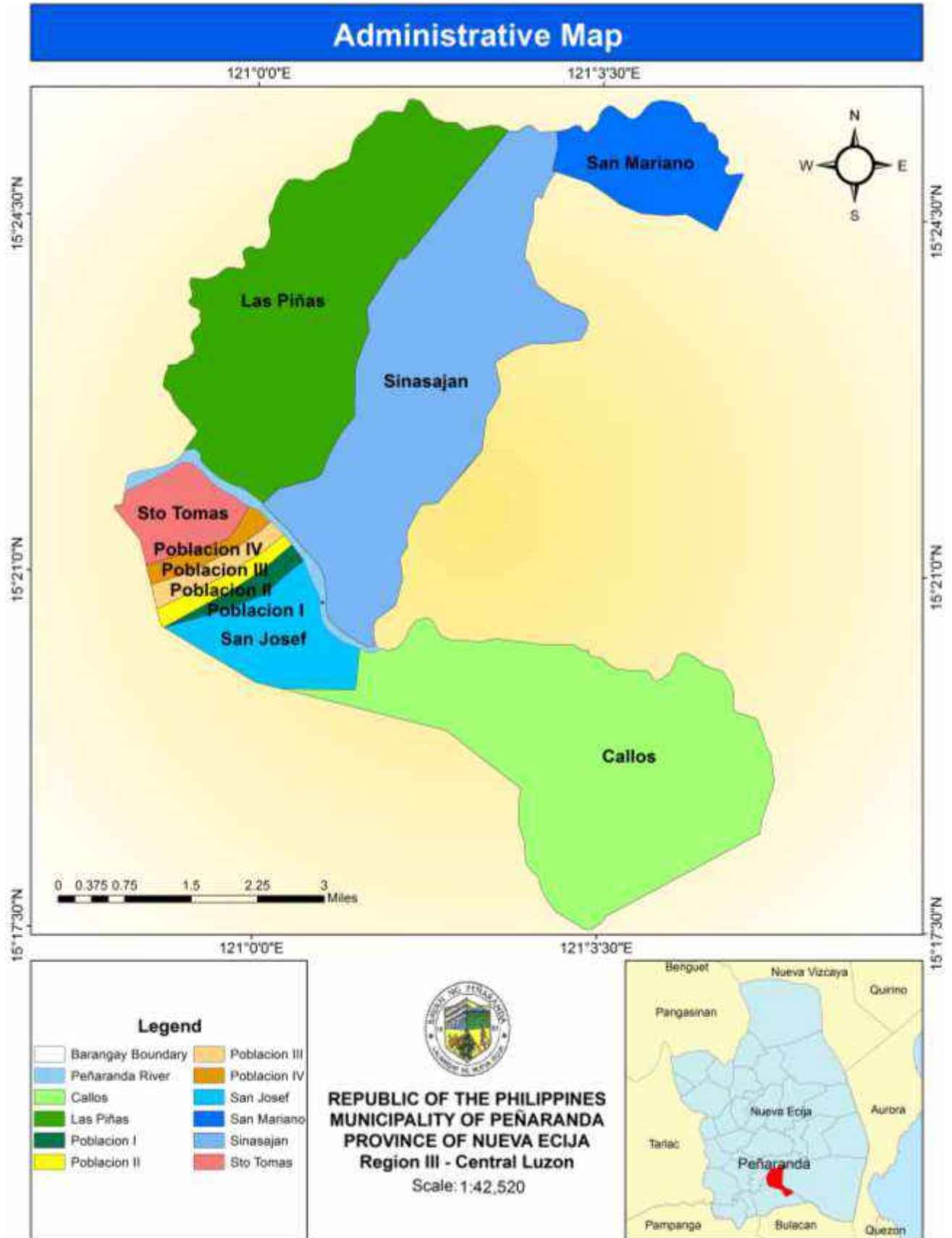
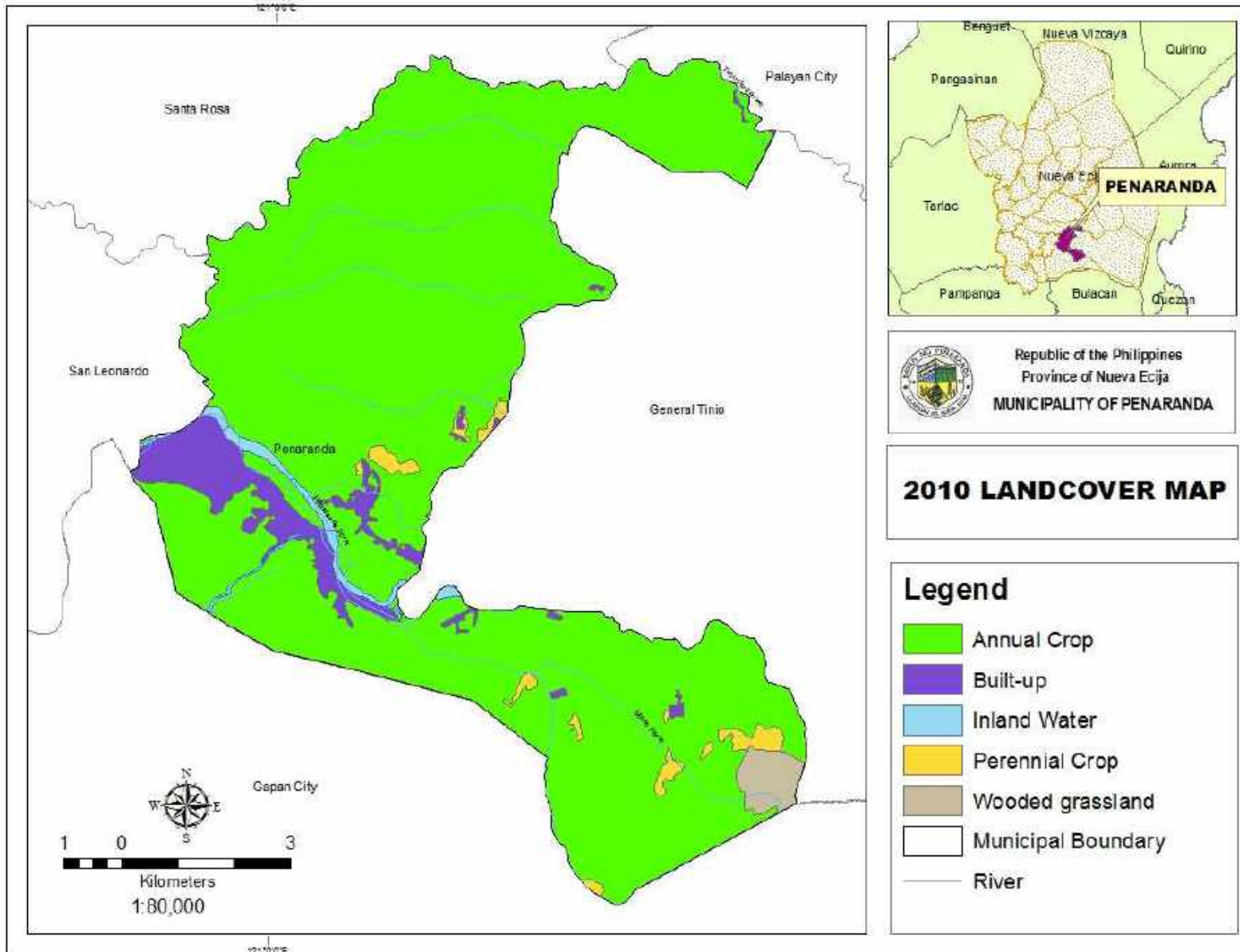




TABLE 3: List of Barangays and Land Area

BARANGAY	AREA
Sto. Tomas	360.30
San Josef	396.55
Sinasajan	2,184.13
Callos	3,430.07
San Mariano	461.76
Las Piñas	2,573.67
Poblacion I	127.87
Poblacion II	96.12
Poblacion III	102.26
Poblacion IV	116.27
TOTAL	9,849.00



1.3.3 Current Land Use

The Municipality of Peñaranda has a total land area of 9,849 hectares divided into the following uses:

TABLE 4: LAND USE			
Land Classification	Area in Hectares		% Share
1. Built-up		286.37	2.91
Residential	241.19		
Commercial	18.39		
Institutional	18.47		
Cemetery	6.71		
Parks and Recreational Spaces	1.61		
2. Agricultural		5,799.87	58.89
3. Fishponds		48.70	0.49
4. Agri-industrial		700.00	7.11
5. Industrial		195.70	1.99
6. Pastureland		1,277.76	12.97
7. River/Creeks/Irrigation canals		1,304.00	13.24
8. Roads		236.60	2.40
TOTAL		9,849.00	100.00

The land area devoted to agriculture is approximately 5,799.87 hectares or 58.89% of the total land area of the municipality.

The agricultural area is utilized for planting rice, vegetable, corn and citrus. Allocated for palay production is 3,388.9 hectares or 58.43% of the total agricultural land, 2,410.97 hectares or 41.56% are suitable for vegetable and citrus production.

However, only 1,605 hectares of agricultural land devoted to palay are irrigated, leaving 1,783.9 hectares utilized only during the rainy season.



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Pastureland has an area totaling 1,277 hectares or 12.97% of the total land area, which makes the municipality an ideal place for livestock. This area is located in Barangay Callos.

Rivers, creeks and irrigation canals occupy 13.24 % of the municipality's land area while built up is composed of 286.37 hectares or 2.91% of Peñaranda 's land resource.

1.3.4 Topography, Slope and Elevation

The terrain of the municipality is generally flat with a portion in the eastern part located in barangay Callos which is somewhat hilly.

1.3.5. Drainage, Tributary Patterns and Catchment Areas

The municipality has a built-in drainage with the presence of the Peñaranda Irrigation system on the southern portion of the municipality, Peñaranda River on the central part and Tabuating River on the northern portion.

1.3.6 Water Resources

The municipality's water resources is composed only of surface waters – Tabuating river on the northern portion and Peñaranda River on the south, and ground waters. These water resources are being used for aquaculture production, irrigation, recreation and for domestic consumption.

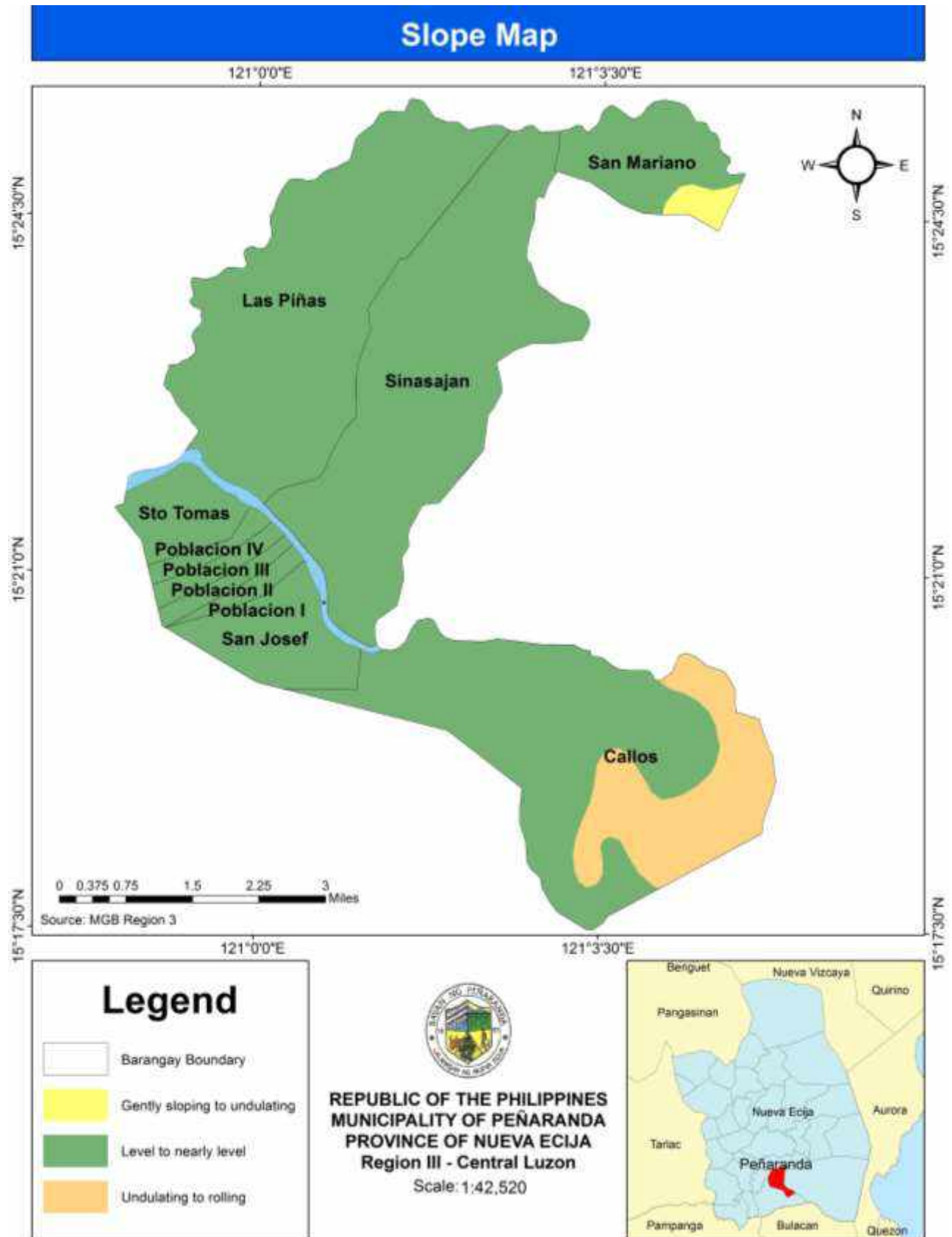
1.3.7 Climate and Rainfall

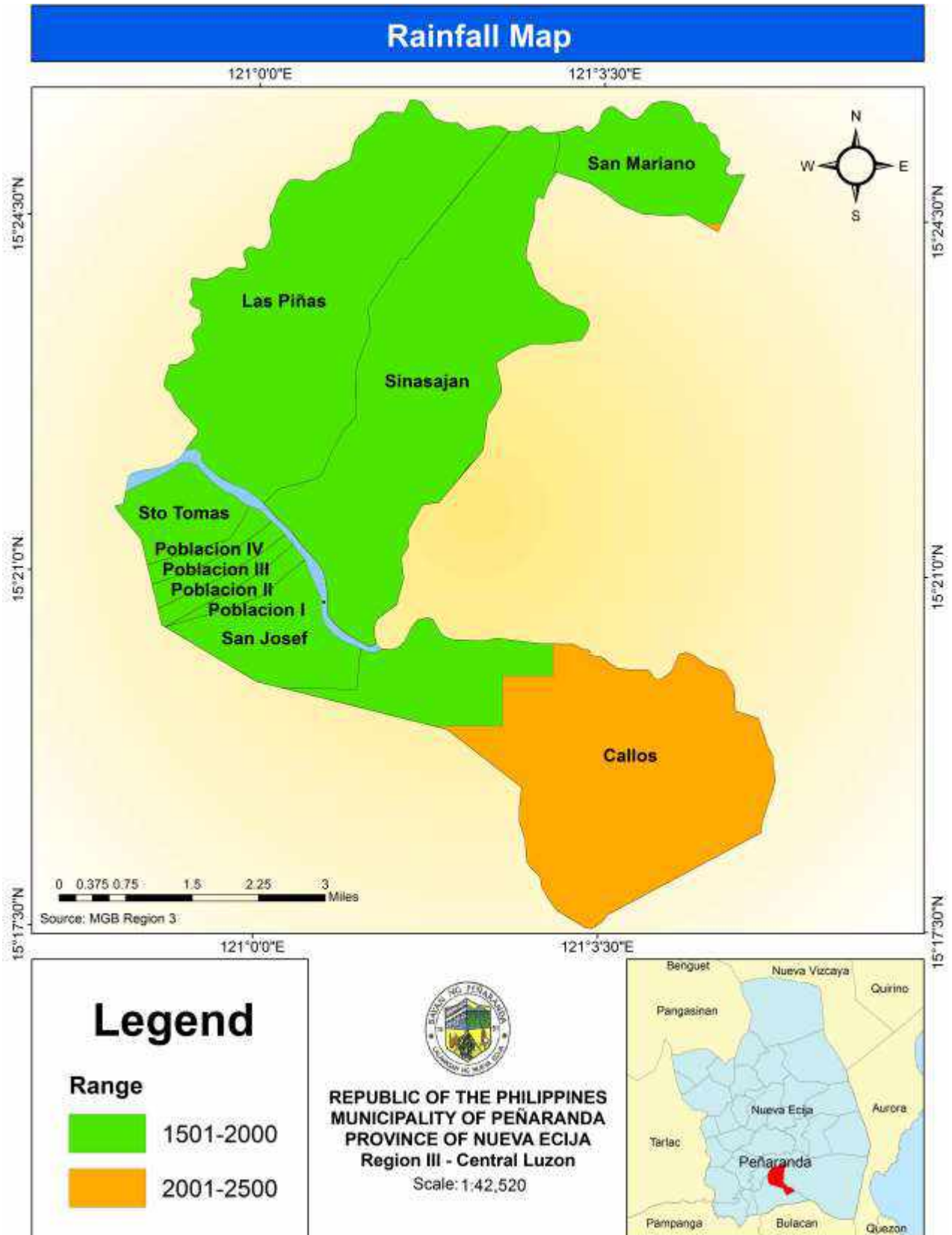
Generally, the climate in Peñaranda is similar to other municipalities and provinces in Central Luzon. Climate is an important factor to be considered in planning for development since it influences men's activities, cropping and soil capabilities.

The climate in Penaranda is characterized by two pronounced seasons; the dry and wet seasons. The dry season starts on the month of April. Wet season covers the month of May to October.



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The hottest period of the year is during March, April, and May while the coolest part of the year is during December, January and February. The most rainy starts in May and peak during the months of July, August, and September.

1.3.8 Soil Characteristics/Classification

There are six (6) types of soil found in the municipality. The major types are; Annam Loam (gravelly phase), Prensa Silt Loam and Sibul Clay. A comprehensive description of the relevant features of the preceding soil types follow:

1. Annam Loam, gravelly phase – is a reddish brown, coarse granular and friable, gravelly loam. The depth ranges from 25 to 35 centimeters. The subsoil is reddish – brown to chocolate-brown gravelly clay loam. There is more gravel in the subsoil than in the surface soil as the depth increases down in the substratum. The amount of gravel become less and the color becomes lighter.

Banana, corn, sweet potato, papaya, mango citrus and other fruit trees are grown. A portion of the hilly open land is terraced for rice and other portions are used for pasture.

2. Prensa Silt Loam – the surface soil of this type is light-brown slightly friable and fine granular silt loam. When cultivated, it is loose and gritty in feel.

The depth ranges from 20 to 30 centimeters. The subsoil to a depth of 30 to 80 centimeters is molted gray, dark gray to light gray clay, with specks, sticky and hard when dry.

The substratum from about 80 centimeters to a considerable depth, is brownish-gray, gravelly clay loam grading to tuffaceous materials.

The best crop in this type is lowland rice. The plant depend upon the rain for water.

Soil Map



Legend	
	Annam loam gravelly phase
	Bantog clay loam
	Mountain soil (undifferentiated)
	Prensa silt loam
	Quingua fine sand
	Sibul clay



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PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIOJA
Region III - Central Luzon
 Scale: 1:42,520





3. Sibul Clay – the surface soil ranging in depth from 25 to 30 centimeters in dark-brown to light grayish-brown heavy clay loam to clay with whitish and dark brown spherical concretions. The soil is fine granular when dry and somewhat porous but sticky when wet.

The upper part of the subsoil is dull grayish brown and almost compact in places that have an appreciably heavier texture of calcareous material. The substratum is whitish-gray or light-brown highly weathered tuffaceous material which is calcareous. The upper part of this substratum is of light gray clay with grayish-white specks of limestone concretion.

This type is similar to the sibul clay found in Bulacan Province.

TABLE 5: Soil Classification

Soil Classification
Annam Loam, Gravelly Phase
Prensa Silt Loam
Sibul Clay
Bantog Clay loam
Mountain soil
Quingua fine sand



I.3.9 HAZARDS AFFECTING THE LOCALITY

Drought

Is a situation of limited rainfall substantially below what is established as 'normal' value for the area concerned, leading to adverse consequences to human welfare. Despite of the presence of the NIA irrigation canals in the municipality, it is also affected by drought and the agricultural produce is significantly affected.

Typhoons/Super Typhoons

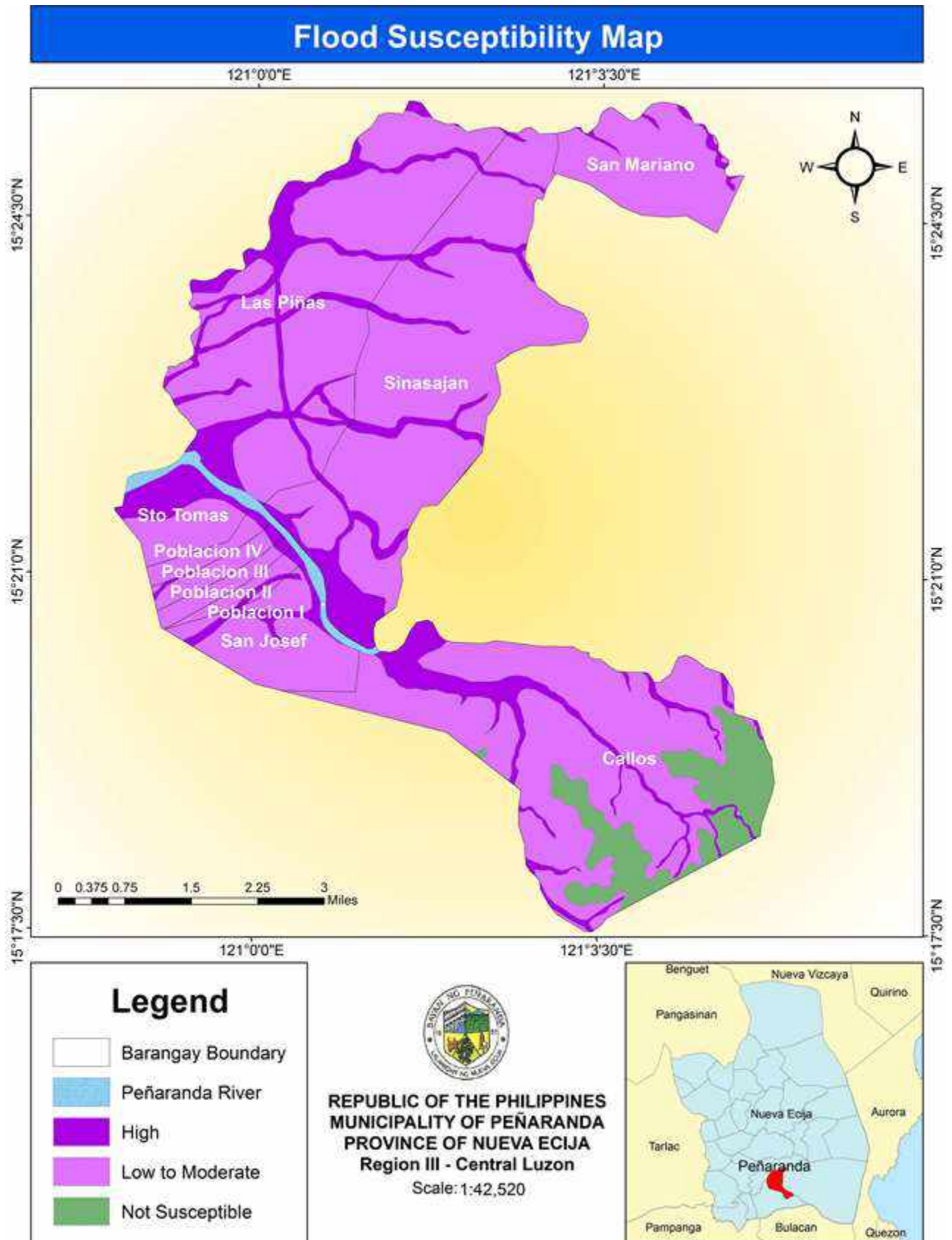
The province of Nueva Ecija is a province frequently visited by typhoons. In late September and early October of 2009, Typhoon Ondoy and Pepeng two of the most destructive typhoons hit the province.

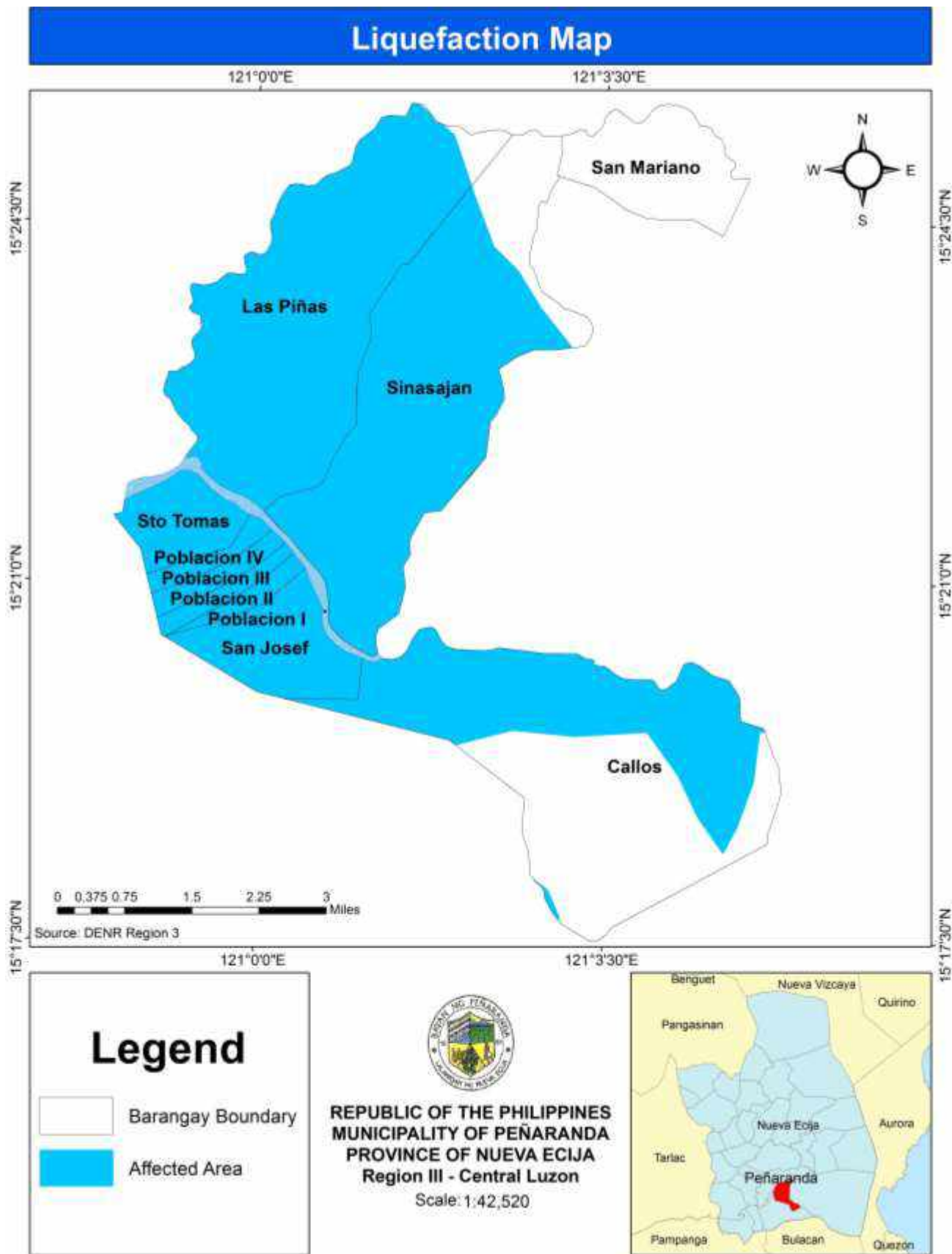
In 2011, heavy rains brought by typhoon Pedring have caused severe flooding of all the waterways of the municipality, more so the Peñaranda River which serves as the catch basin to most of the canals, creeks and rivers of the town.

On October 12, 2013, one of the most destructive typhoons in decades wrought havoc on the Province of Nueva Ecija. Super Typhoon Santi (Nari) carries with it maximum sustained winds of over 150 km./ hr. and gustiness of over 185 km./hr. Super Typhoon Santi has left behind crops, livestock and homes destroyed, many families were brought to the evacuation centers and needed help.

Flooding

Peñaranda is basically not a flood prone municipality. It is located in an area that is elevated and flooding mostly occurs during long and heavy rains where water coming from the mountains of General Tinio (Papaya) pours down to the Peñaranda River. In 2011, during the onslaught of typhoon Pedring, severe flooding of the Peñaranda River and the Tabuating River in San Mariano required the evacuation of families to higher ground.







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1.4 DEMOGRAPHY

1.4.1 Population

The population of Peñaranda in the 2015 Census was registered at 29,882. It is 2,472 persons higher compared to the 27,410 total population recorded in 2010. This reflects an average yearly increase of 494.4 at a growth rate of 1.80% using the Geometric Rate Formula of population projection.

If this growth is maintained, population of the municipality will increase to 37,385 by the year 2027 assuming in-migration is equal to out-migration.

Table 6: Population per Barangay, 2015

POPULATION PER BARANGAY	
BARANGAY	2015
Sto. Tomas	7,417
San Josef	4,862
Sinasajan	4,681
Callos	3,322
San Mariano	847
Las Piñas	3,219
Poblacion I	1,731
Poblacion II	1,047
Poblacion III	1,139
Poblacion IV	1,617
TOTAL	29,882



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Population of the urban barangays is 5,534, while the total rural population is 24,348. Poblacion I has the largest population with 1,731, followed by Poblacion IV which has 1,617 residents. The least populated is Poblacion II with only 1,247.

Population density of Peñaranda is 2.3 persons per hectare. Sto. Tomas has the highest population density of 16.48 persons per hectare as it has the biggest population but the land area is quite small compared to other barangays. The lowest in terms of population density is Barangay Callos with 0.64 followed by Las Piñas with 0.66.

Peñaranda has a very young population. Statistics show that 15,129 are people with the ages 24 years old and below. This figure is more than half (50.63.%) of its entire population.

In terms of the sex ratio, there is a preponderance of males over females. For the year 2010 the masculinity proportion is 50.54%, and in 2015, there are 15,247 males, equivalent to 51.02% as against 14,635 females representing 48.98% of the total population.

The dominant religion in the municipality is Roman Catholic with 27,943 believers, which is about 93.51 percent of the total population, 816 belong to the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, 462 are members of Iglesia ni Cristo and 661 belong to other religious groups.

1.5 ECONOMIC PROFILE

1.5.1 Agriculture

Peñaranda has a total land area of 9,849 hectares. The land area devoted to agriculture is approximately 5,799.87 hectares or 58.89% of the total land area of the municipality.

The agricultural area is utilized for planting rice, vegetable, corn and citrus. The area devoted to palay production is 3,388.9 hectares or 58.43% of the total agricultural land, but only 19.27% or 1,605 hectares are



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irrigated, the remaining 1,783.9 hectares are rainfed. These are the uplands that are not covered by the irrigation program of the government and are being planted only during the rainy season.

For vegetable and fruit production, 2,410.97 hectares are being utilized and 48.7 hectares are fishponds.

Irrigation canals, rivers, creeks and private deepwells are the source of water for agricultural crops. Irrigated lands have an average yield of 120 cavans per hectare and the average yield of the non-irrigated agricultural area on the other hand, is 80 cavans per hectare.

Vegetable crop grown in Peñaranda are string beans, okra, ampalaya, cabbage, peanut, raddish and corn. The total production for 2016 wet season is 52.90 metric tons.

The municipality is suited for livestock production as it has a huge area for pasture totaling 1,277.76 hectares. The area is located in Barangay Callos. The farmers raise animals for personal consumption and as alternative source of income. Chicken is being produced in large quantities followed by swine, ducks, cattle and goat.

Only 48.7 hectares of fishponds has been recorded in the Municipal Agriculturist Office and the species are mudfish (bulig) and tilapia. Other communal bodies of water that produce various species of fish are the Las Piñas creek, Peñaranda River, and the Bical-Bical creek.

1.5.2 Commerce and Trade

The municipality has no major commercial establishment yet. Commercial activities are being done by sari-sari stores, carinderia and refreshment parlors, footwear stores, agricultural supplies shops, video center, giftshops, school and office supplies, etc. that substantially contribute to the economic progress of the municipality.



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Most of these commercial establishments are situated and clustered around the Poblacion and along the main road. These stores carry a variety of consumer goods that are necessary for everyday living.

Peñaranda's public market is located in Barangay Poblacion I. The total area of 0.96425 hectare is relatively small and is insufficient in terms of commercial space for the growing population. However, the location is strategic and is readily accessible to the buying public.

The lone financial institution in the municipality is the Community Bank of Peñaranda located in the town proper. Financial and commercial activities, however are on the upward trend as such needs are being met with the active and flourishing cooperatives in the municipality, these are Munting Nayon Cooperative, Samahang Pangkabuhayan ng mga Kristiyano Cooperative and San Mariano PMKB.

1.5.3 Industry

There are seventeen (17) industrial establishments in the area. These are hollow blocks making, small scale furniture making and agri-based industries such as poultry and piggery. These establishments are scattered in the different barangays of the municipality.

1.6 SOCIAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES

1.6.1 Health

One major thrust of the Municipality of Peñaranda is to promote preventive health care. This is aimed at promoting maternal and child health care as it includes family planning, nutrition and prevention of communicable diseases.

This is the task of the Rural Health Unit (RHU) located at Barangay Poblacion I composed of one (1) physician, one (1) nurse, four (4) midwives and one (1) sanitary inspector. The municipality has five (5) barangay health centers located in barangays Sto. Tomas, Sinasajan, Las



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Pinas, San Josef and Callos. These health centers are being manned by midwives on scheduled days.

The main health center, the RHU, complement hospital services with the implementation of the referral system in health care delivery. They also give special services like general, emergency, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology.

Trained midwives stationed at their respective Barangay Health Centers serve as first contact of patients. They are allowed to give advice and medication in accordance with the guidance of a doctor and those cases not within their scope are referred to a nurse or doctor.

The mode of human waste disposal for all barangays are flush and water sealed sewer septic tank, sanitary pit privy type, open pit, and there are still others who do not have proper means of disposal. In general, health problems can also be attributed to poor sanitation and improper waste disposal.

1.6.2 Social Welfare

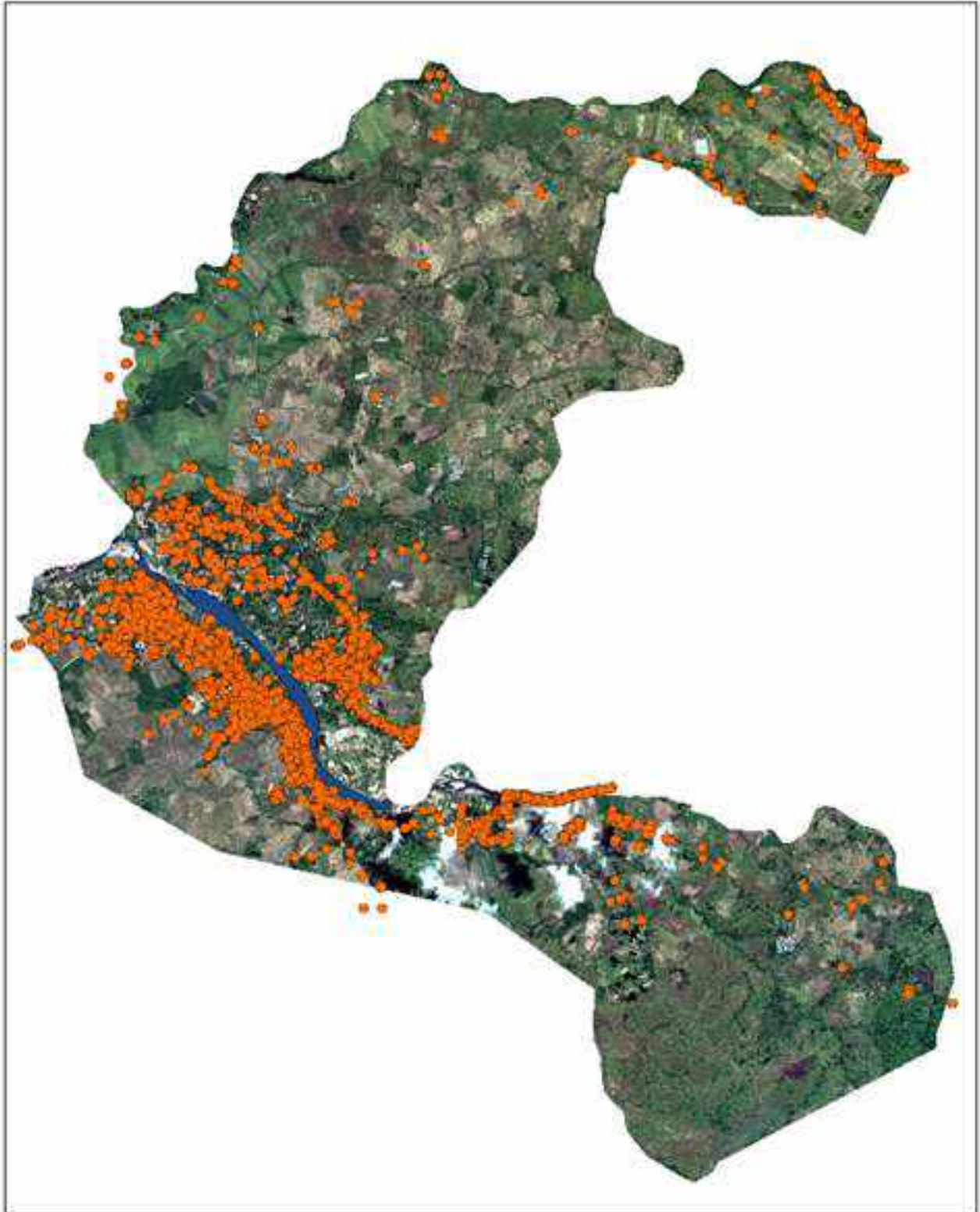
Peñaranda has a local DSWD office which is located within the municipal building. The social welfare programs and assistance are being implemented by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office personnel. The following are the services provided for the residents:

- Pre- Marriage counseling
- Practical skills development
- Livelihood assistance
- Day care services
- Supplemental Feeding
- Nutrition monitoring
- Disaster relief etc.

To cater to the needs of the pre-school children, there are Day Care Workers (DCW) manning the Day Care Schools in the municipality.



HOUSEHOLDS IN PEÑARANDA





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1.6.3 Education

There are 8 public elementary and secondary schools and 4 private schools in the municipality. The existing elementary schools are evenly distributed in the different barangays and are capable to accommodate the increasing number of school children in their respective areas. Total enrolment for 2017 is 11,341 .

1.6.4 Housing

Peñaranda has a population of 29,882. The total number of Households is 6,847. Houses in the barangays are concentrated along the transportation routes. Some houses are scattered, especially in the remote barangays.

1.6.5 Sports and Recreation

Sports and recreational activities in the municipality are being held at school playgrounds and at the mini-park located in Poblacion II, in front of the Parish Church.

Basketball, volleyball and softball are the favorite outdoor games in the municipality. There are Basketball courts in all the barangays and the municipal gym/auditorium is a venue for inter-barangay tournaments.

1.6.6 Protective Services

The Peñaranda Police Station and the Municipal Fire Marshall's Office are the lead agencies maintaining peace and order in the whole municipality. The police to population ratio is 1 policeman for every 1,317 persons. Though this statistics is below the ideal 1:500 ratio, there are force multipliers to augment the present police force, and the peace and order in the locality is generally peaceful.

The police station is equipped with 1 mobile patrol, 1 motorcycle and 36 guns. For the Fire Department, there are 5 personnel, and 1 firetruck being used to attend to emergencies.



1.6.7 Solid Waste Management

The municipal government acquired a three hectare land at Barangay Callos, Peñaranda, Nueva Ecija to serve as the future site for the Municipality's Ecological Solid Waste Management Facility and will also serve as a temporary transfer station of solid waste before being transported to the sanitary landfill of WACUMAN Inc. in Norzagaray Bulacan.

Nine (9) out of ten (10) Barangays are currently being serviced by the garbage collection equipment/ dump trucks of the municipal government. Solid waste is collected every Wednesday and Saturday in the areas of Poblacion I, II, III and IV, Callos, San Josef, Las Piñas, Sto Tomas and Sinasajan. Every barangay has an MRF, and recyclables are sold to junkshops.

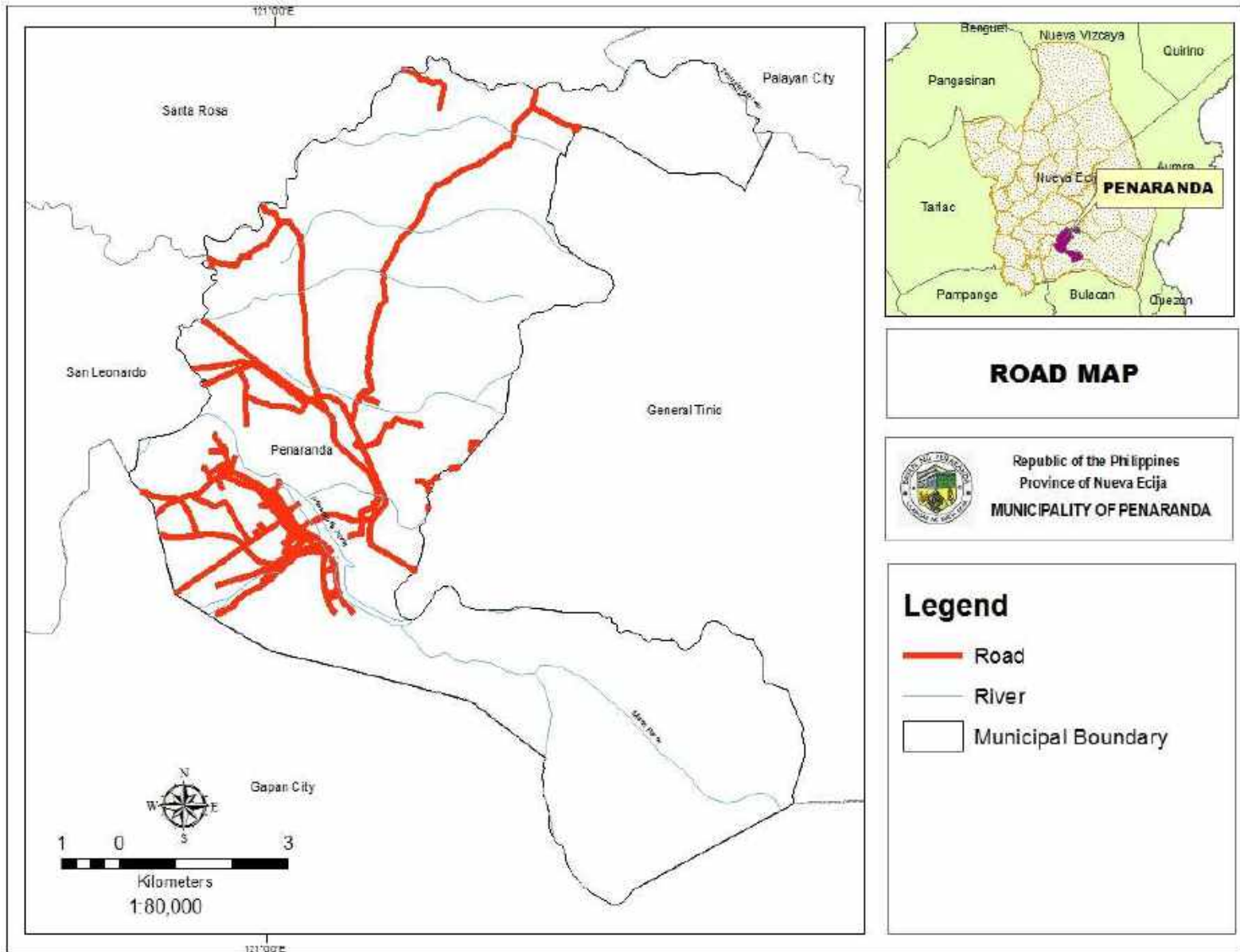
1.7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

1.7.1 Roads and Bridges

Peñaranda has a total road length of 106.90 kilometers, classified as follows: 2.60 kms national roads, 13.0 km. provincial roads, 10.0 kms municipal road and 81.30 kms barangay road. The municipality is accessible by land transport provided by jeepneys and tricycles. Jeepneys are still the most popular transportation which serves the riding public to and from Gapan and Cabanatuan City where bigger establishments are located. Gapan is also the regular stop of the major transportation companies that ply Manila, Pampanga and Cabanatuan City. Tricycle is the main transportation used by the public within the urban area and other parts of the municipality and adjacent barangays.

1.7.2 Water

Peñaranda has an existing waterworks system that supplies potable water to the populace. Level II system of the Peñaranda Water District in cooperation with the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) supplies water to seven (7) barangays for domestic, industrial and commercial uses.





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There are still three (3) barangays that do not enjoy the services of Level II water system, these are Callos, Las Pinas and San Mariano. The residents of these barangays depend on hand pumps for their domestic consumption.

There are also some households that use water from irrigation canals for washing clothes and other cleaning purposes.

1.7.3 Power

The power needs of the municipality of Peñaranda is being supplied by the National Electrification Administration (NEA) through the Nueva Ecija Electric Cooperative 2 (NEECO 2). All ten (10) barangays within the municipality are with electricity, servicing approximately 95% of the total number of households.

Households that have no electrical connections use candles and kerosene lamps for their lighting needs. Power facilities and services are quite efficient except for the occurrence of occasional brown-outs especially during typhoons.

1.7.4 Communication

Communication services in Peñaranda that are available for public use are:

- **Telegram and Telegraphic transfer** - being provided by the Telecommunication Office (TELOF) under the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC). The Office is within the Municipal Compound and is operated by two (2) Staff. It offers two types of services: telegram (message) and telegraphic transfer (money).
- **Telephone Service** - being provided by the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company Philippines (PLDT) in the urban barangays.
- **Internet and Cellular phone Service** - provided by big cellular phone companies like PLDT, Globe, Smart, TM, Talk and Text and Sun



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- **Postal Service** - is the cheapest way of communication and is readily available even in the small areas. Most of the residents still rely on the postal services, as well as private companies and government agencies. The municipality has a postal office located at the ground floor of the municipal building. It is being manned by one (1) postmaster and two (2) letter carriers.

- **Radio Communication System** - means of communication of the PNP within the province. The Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office also have an available radio communication system in placed.