

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

I. General Information

One of the emerging major players in the economic development of MIMAROPA is the province of Occidental Mindoro. A 40-minute plane travel from Manila or a 2-hour boat ride from Batangas International Port will take you to this enormous province.

a. Climate

Alternate wet and dry season, wet season extends from June to October while dry season extends from November to May. The province lies within the typhoon belt.

b. Boundaries and Topography

Mindoro Island, the seventh largest in the Philippines, is contained in the quadrangle bounded by 1209' and 13054' north latitude and 12001' east longitude. Occidental Mindoro is one of the two provinces comprising Mindoro Island. It is located 45 km. South of Batangas and north of Visayas. The entire eastern portion of the province is bounded by Oriental Mindoro and the western portion by the Apo East Passage. On the north, it bounded by the Calavite and Verde Island Passage and on the south by Mindoro Strait. The southern most tip of Occidental Mindoro lies in the area of Sibuyan Sea. Like most of the province in the Philippines, the lack of technical description defining the boundaries of the province will cause territorial dispute with in neighboring province Oriental Mindoro.

The terrain of the province is characterized by mountain ranges, intermittent valleys and elongated plateaus with rolling prairie lands along the coastal regions. The entire coast of the province has two principal rivers, namely, Busuanga and Lumitao.

c. Slope and Soil: Maranlis sandy; San Miguel Silt; loam

d. Land Area and Land Resources*:

Total land Area	Residential Land Area	Agricultural Land Area	Forest Land Area	Barren/ Idle Land	Quarrying Area	Other Use
670,125.87	5,485.19	196,883.97	382,985.62	16,473.64	574.25	67,723.20

* BAS data as of 2006

e. Size and Distribution by Province

Capital	-	Mamburao
Key Towns	-	San Jose, Sablayan, and Mamburao
No. of municipalities	-	11
No. of barangays	-	162

First District

Abra de Ilog
 Looc *
 Lubang*
 Mamburao
 Paluan
 Sta. Cruz
 Sablayan

Second District

Magsaysay
 Calintaan
 Rizal
 San Jose

* island municipalities

II. Agricultural and Market Information**a. Principal Market Centers**

Municipality	Market Day
Abra de Ilog	Everyday
Calitaan	Sunday
Looc	Everyday
Magsaysay	Everyday
Mamburao	Everyday
Paluan	Everyday
Rizal	Everyday
Sablayan	Wednesday
San Jose	Everyday
Sta. Cruz	Everyday
Lubang	Sunday, Wednesday

III. Support Services**a. Infrastructures**

Occidental Mindoro is the western half of the island of Mindoro. Some 25 kilometers south of Batangas, its potential lies in its proximity to Batangas and Manila. Road arteries within the province total some 1,633 kilometers concentrated along the coastal areas. Roads are constructed using a combination of concrete, asphalt, gravel and earth. About 200 bridges span various creeks and rivers built mostly of concrete and steel.

Electric power is supplied by the National Power Corporation and the Island Power Corporation (IPC) through the Occidental Mindoro Electric

Cooperative (OMECCO) while the island municipalities of Lubang and Looc are supplied by the Lubang Electric Cooperative (LUBELCO). The power plant is still inadequate. Plans are underway to increase supply through private capital intervention.

b. Communication

In key municipalities, the direct dial telephone systems are in place, providing easy access to other provinces and countries. The use of cellular phone and two-way radios is popular among business with operations in the interior of the province. Smart Communications Inc., GLOBE Communications, Bayantel, PT&T and DIGITEL offer cellular, landlines, internet and email access and fax services. The provincial government has also installed radio systems in the nine towns of the province’s mainland. Currently, the provincial government is now on-line via Digitel’s DSL services.

c. Transport

∅ **Land:** Land transport within the province is facilitated by 3,500 public utility vehicles (buses, cargo trucks, jeepneys, airconditioned FXs & vans and tricycles). A number of jeepneys offer door-to-door direct transport and cargo services from the different municipalities to Manila and neighboring provinces.

∅ **Air:** Air link is provided by three airports in San Jose, which could accommodate B737-300 jets, and the Sablayan airport that can accommodate small chartered planes and the Mamburao and Lubang airports suited for military aircraft, commercial planes and Fokker 50s.

∅ **Sea:** The province has four (4) ports of entry. The port of Abra de Ilog could accommodate medium-sized Roll-on/Roll-off (Ro-Ro) passenger cargo ships. It is two hours away by ship from Batangas and 31.4 km from the capital town of Mamburao. Other ports are located in Mamburao, Sablayan and the busy town of San Jose. It now has a fastcraft vessels operating at the speed of 1 hour and 15 minutes from Abra de Ilog to Batangas, vice-versa.

VESSEL NAME	FREQUENCY	PORTS OF CALL
MV Ma. Sophia	2 trips daily	Batangas – Abra de Ilog
MV Ma. Erlinda	M – W – F	Batangas – San Jose
MV Ma. Gloria	2 trips daily	Batangas – Abra de Ilog
MB Don Francisco	2 trips/week	Batangas – Abra de Ilog
MV Guadalupe	2 trips daily	Batangas – San Jose
MV Maria Queen	Wed. & Sat.	Batangas – San Jose
MV Sta. Maria	Tues., Fri., & Sat.	Batangas – San Jose
Sea Rider 3	No fixed schedule	Bauan – Abra de Ilog
San Pedro II	No fixed schedule	PPC – Bauan – San Jose
Gaming	No fixed schedule	Iligan – Bauan - Lubang
Julienne Ruby 2	No fixed schedule	San Jose – Bauan – Palawan
San Vicente	No fixed schedule	Bauan – Mamburao - Masbate
NSDR	No fixed schedule	Bauan – Samar - Mamburao

San Agustin, Agnes R, Socorro 2	No fixed schedule	San Jose - Palawan
Aida 1&2, Socorro1, B. Liner4, Ma. Isabel	No fixed schedule	San Jose - Semirara
Ma. Carmela, Peñafrancia8, Sta. Maria	No fixed schedule	San Jose – Batangas
Masikap	No fixed schedule	Batangas- San Jose – Batangas
Nikki	No fixed schedule	Manila – San Jose

d. Educational/Research Institution:

A total of 381 schools operate in Occidental Mindoro for the school year of 2006 - 2007, 342 of which were government-owned or public schools and 39 were private-owned.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS		PRIVATE SCHOOLS		
Elementary (annexes included)	Secondary	Pure Elementary	Two-level (primary & elem.)	Three-level (primary – sec.)
293	49	9	18	12

*DepEd data

Collegio de San Sebastian in Sablayan, Divine Word College of San Jose and the Occidental Mindoro National College, a state college in San Jose offers tertiary education.

e. Banking/Credit

- ∅ Land Bank of the Philippines
 - San Jose Branch
 - Sablayan Branch
 - Mamburao Branch
- ∅ Philippine National Bank
 - San Jose Branch
 - Mamburao Branch
- ∅ Development Bank of the Philippines
- ∅ United Coconut Planters Bank
 - San Jose Branch
 - Sablayan Branch
- ∅ First Allied Bank
- ∅ Rural Bank

IV. Agribusiness Investment Opportunities

a. Costs and Returns of Priority Commodities

b. Geographical Flow of Community

c. List of Technical Experts

d. Directory of Suppliers/Buyers

e. Other Related Information