



March 2017 Issue

Continuing CSO Participation in the Bicol Region

Jessica Capricho

Once again, civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Bicol Region proved their unwavering commitment to active involvement in the regional development as they launched the CSOs' Regional Poverty Reduction Development Agenda (RPRDA 2017-2022) during the CSO Regional Summit held last February 28, 2017 at Hotel St. Ellise, Legazpi City. The activity carried the theme "Continuing CSOs' Participation towards Poverty Reduction in the Bicol Region." This CSO Summit was organized by the Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD) under the Strengthening Decentralized Governance (DG) project together with CODE-NGO as funded by MISEREOR.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/continuing-cso-participation-bicol-region/>

NATCCO Network Celebrates Ruby Anniversary

QUEZON CITY — The National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO Network) celebrated on January 23 its Ruby Anniversary or 40th years, in simple toast ceremony at the Richmonde Hotel ballroom attended by 314 delegates from 124 cooperatives nationwide.

Prior to the ceremony, early leaders of the NATCCO Network gave their recollections on the beginnings of the organization that has endeavored to live and teach the cooperative philosophy, improve co-op operations through education and the provision of a wide array of products and services, and advance the cooperative cause through advocacy.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/natcco-network-celebrates-ruby-anniversary/>

Bisitahan, Kamustahan & Socio-economic Profiling of the relocated informal settler families

In 2010, the National Technical Working Group for Informal Settler Families (ISF-NTWG), with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) as lead agency, was established with the order of then President Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III, to operationalize the covenant he made with urban poor groups. 50 Billion Pesos was allotted for the conceptualization of an Alternative Housing Program and People's Plan Fund (AHPPPF).

The DILG Informal Settler Families – Project Management Office, in partnership with the National Council of Social Development (NCSD), conducted the "Bisitahan, Kamustahan, and Socio-economic Profiling of the relocated informal

settler families (ISFs) under the P50B Alternative Housing Program and People’s Plan (AHPPP)” from February to March 2017.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/bisitahan-kamustahan-socio-economic-profiling-relocated-informal-settler-families/>

We Oppose the Death Penalty, Call for Justice Reform

February 23, 2017

We, the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO), the largest network of development civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Philippines, oppose the proposed reinstatement of the death penalty in the country.

In CODE-NGO’s Philippine Development Covenant, we declared our commitment to protect and promote fundamental freedoms and human rights. We oppose the death penalty in order to safeguard the fundamental right to life.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/02/oppose-death-penalty-call-justice-reform/>

CODE-NGO Strongly Opposes the Proposed Law to Criminalize Children

February 23, 2017

We, the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO), strongly oppose House Bill No. 2, an effort in Congress to lower the minimum age for criminal liability from fifteen to nine years old. This is in conflict with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 1987 Philippine Constitution and the Child and Youth Welfare Code, which clearly state that the promotion and protection of children must be the State’s main priority.

As the largest network of development civil society organizations (CSOs), we are deeply worried about this attempt to put younger children in jail supposedly to solve the increasing number of juvenile cases. We believe that this will not solve the problem but will instead only create a bigger problem both for children development and for Philippine society as a whole. Putting children in jail will steal their future – the country’s future for development.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/code-ngo-strongly-opposes-proposed-law-criminalize-children/>

Strengthening Decentralized Governance National Conference held

Clarence Faye Salvador

Marking its first year of project implementation, the Strengthening Decentralized Governance (DG) Project conducted its first National Conference at Madison 101 Hotel, Quezon City last March 7-8, 2017. The two-day event aimed at affirming the partnership of the regional and provincial implementing partners among each other; assessing their engagements with partner government agencies; and discussing plans for the strengthening of local civil society organizations and participatory governance.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/strengthening-decentralized-governance-national-conference-held/>

CODE-NGO Accredited by DSWD as an Implementing Entity of Government or Public Funds

Dimple Labios-Demata

It was indeed another remarkable and rewarding moment as the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) received its certificate of accreditation from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as an Implementing Entity of Government or Public funds.

Last March 6, 2017, during the DSWD flag ceremony, CODE-NGO formally received the certificate as awarded by no less than Sec. Judy Taguiwalo. Mr. Sixto Donato C. Macasaet, Executive Director, and Ms. Rowena Caverte, Finance and Administration Manager, represented the organization in the said awarding.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/code-ngo-accredited-dswd-implementing-entity-government-public-funds/>

DRRM Fund Watch

John Joel de Guzman

Managing disasters from preparedness to response is a daunting and oftentimes costly task for local government units (LGUs). When lives are at risk there can be no allowance for inept officials, inefficiency and mismanagement of funds.

The DRRM (Disaster Risk Reduction and Management) Fund Watch was conceptualized to strengthen the stringency of monitoring of the DRRM funds of an LGU by including citizen participation. The project utilizes a specially conceptualized FundWatch tool. Aside from the monitoring of DRRM Funds, the tool also features a survey which gives importance to the Core Humanitarian Standards and its application to the LGU's DRRM Plan.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/drrm-fund-watch/>

Building Partnerships for Organizational Change

Tanya Zaldarriaga

The year 2015 was ushered in with the *"Strengthening the Capacity of Philippine CSOs"* project culminating event for participating civil society organizations (CSOs) after its 3-year implementation supported by the USAID. Recognizing the gains that the project brought in building the capacities in organizational development of the participating CODE-NGO members, the network resolved to adopt the project's capacity building framework and its interventions, and enhance the framework to include Advocacy Effectiveness and Member Relations and Networking, two capacity areas underpinning the nature and typical role that are intrinsic to CSO networks. Included in the network's decision to adopt the enhanced framework is the intent to replicate the project to cover more members of CODE-NGO.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/building-partnerships-organizational-change/>

Report on the Enabling Environment for CSOs in the Philippines Published

Sixto Donato C. Macasaet

The Civicus World Alliance for Citizen Participation published last January 2017 the Philippine Report on the Enabling Environment National Assessment (EENA). This report provides an assessment of the legal, regulatory, policy, financial and social environment in which civil society organizations (CSOs) operate in the Philippines.

This national level assessment for the Philippines is part of the Enabling Environment National Assessments (EENA), a methodology developed jointly by Civicus and the International Center for Not-for-Profit law (ICNL). The EENAs are action-oriented research projects in different countries. This assessment covers the following eight dimensions: (1) formation of CSOs; (2) operation of CSOs; (3) access to resources; (4) freedom of expression; (5) peaceful assembly; (6) CSO-government relations; (7) CSO cooperation and coalition; and (8) taxation.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/report-enabling-environment-philippine-csos-published/>

Jarryn Katia – Civicus Fellow to the Philippines

Meet Jarryn – the new Capacity Development Fellow here at CODE-NGO! Jarryn has been commissioned by international NGO CIVICUS to assist CODE-NGO with Knowledge Development and Management frameworks, as he is a specialist in trainings, instructional design, media and innovation for social impact. He began his Fellowship with us in February 2017, and will work across programme areas helping to institute good knowledge management policy and practice.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/02/jarryn-katia-civicus-fellow-philippines/>

Three things you should know about Innovation for Social Impact

Jarryn Katia

It seems you can't pick up a development publication or read a funder newsletter these days without stumbling across the word 'innovation'. Broadly defined as 'novel solutions to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than current solutions', social innovation has become the new fashionable catch-all term for out-of-the-box thinking and creative problem solving in the development sphere.

Read more:

<http://code-ngo.org/2017/03/three-things-know-innovation-social-impact/>

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The Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) is the country's largest coalition of civil society organizations (CSOs) working for social development, with its 6 national networks and 6 regional networks representing more than 1,600 development NGOs, people's organizations (POs) and cooperatives nationwide. It is the trusted national voice of CSOs and it exercises transformative leadership.

Our mailing address is:

4/F Llanar Building, 77 Xavierville Ave., cor. B. Gonzales St., Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines

We are interested to hear about social development initiatives of non-profit organizations from all over the Philippines. If you are willing to share your news or resources through the CODE-NGO e-News, we invite you to submit your contributions to caucus@code-ngo.org. Materials should not be more than 1MB and can be in Open Office, MS Word or PDF format. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the CODE-NGO e-News, or for any comments, e-mail us at caucus@code-ngo.org.