



CODE-NGO@25:
Networking, Empowering
and Transforming for
Social Justice and
Sustainable Development

2016 ANNUAL REPORT





12 CODE-NGO MEMBER NETWORKS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Our 25th year has been pivotal for CODE-NGO as we continue to pursue our mission to be a trusted national voice of civil society and to advance the capacities of our members for transformative leadership. Our silver anniversary has been shaped by historical events that happened to our country this year: this FY 2015-16 also marks the 30th year of the People Power Revolution, 25th year of the Local Government Code, historic signing of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, ratification of the Climate Change Agreement and, more critically, a change in the country's political leadership.

We continued to stay focused on our agenda at the 4th year of our Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and accomplished the following as we pursued our Key Result Areas (KRAs).

On our KRA 1: Resource Generation Assistance for Member Networks, we have:

- ▶ Supported the processes by which 10 of 12 of our member networks have updated their operations manuals and strategic plans, and 7 of them have crafted their financial sustainability plans
- ▶ Received grants for 5 of 7 consortium project proposals developed amounting to PhP 27 million to support our work on participatory governance, transparency and accountability of public institutions, CSO (civil society organization) good governance and disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM).

On our KRA 2: Strategic Capacity Building for Governance, Networking and Advocacy Effectiveness:

- ▶ We have raised our performance in terms of our internal CSO Good Governance targets, with 68% of members renewing their commitment to our Code of Conduct, from 45% last year. Also, all member networks are now applying the CSO Good Governance Checklist for their member organizations, so far covering 25% of the network's total membership. Four (4) member networks - PBSP, AF, CBD, PHILSSA - are certified by the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC), one network – NATCCO - by ISO; while 3 others are processing their application.
- ▶ We have continued to strengthen the capacities of our member networks and key base organizations on organizational development, DRRM processes and humanitarian principles and participatory governance. By working with our 12 member networks, we have organized 76 CSO capacity building programs and consultation processes in 56 provinces in 16 regions this year through our projects on Citizens' Monitoring of LGU Performance (CML), Strengthening Decentralized Governance (Strengthening DG), Data Access towards Accountable Governance (DataGov), Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB) 383, DRRM Fund Watch, and Advancing CSO Engagement in DRR-CCA (ACED).

On KRA 3: Knowledge Development and Management:

- ▶ We have launched our 25th anniversary coffee table book. This is our network's humble contribution to the stories of everyday heroism of our community leaders and the painstaking work of our member organizations for people empowerment and sustainable development.
- ▶ We are getting the hang of social media campaigning by organizing our public forums on Facebook; sharing 77 articles through 4 issues of our online newsletter and conducted the ICT Capacity Assessment and Planning Workshop for 11 of our member networks.
- ▶ We have organized 2 research-based processes of assessing the environment for the CSO sector in the country through the Enabling Environment National Assessment (EENA) supported by Civicus and the International Center for Non-Profit Law (ICNL) and the 2015 CSO Sustainability Index (CSOSI) supported by Management Systems International (MSI) and USAID.
- ▶ We have been more prolific in terms of producing KDM products by releasing 7 online and printed publications and preparing the printing of 5 more related to our work on CSO governance and policy advocacies.

- ▶ We have updated our membership database, with 642 profiles received from members. The database will soon be available online at the CODE-NGO website.

On our KRA 4: Increased Effectiveness of Development Advocacy:

- ▶ Our advocacy campaigns and organizing work on participatory governance, monitoring government budgets and inclusive and responsive DRRM plans and programs at the local levels have collectively reached 1,467 CSOs in 16 regions and 56 provinces.
- ▶ We have also been active in various campaigns and coalitions pre- and post-May 2016 elections, such as the Right To Know Right Now (R2KRN), #ListaNayan, and Task Force Eleksyon (TFE) 2016. We also worked with other CSOs to conduct the Civil Society Assessment of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) for 2011-16, crafted the Development and Reform Agenda for 2016-19 and published the profiles of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates.
- ▶ We participated actively in global advocacy for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Beyond 2015 and thru Civicus, Asia Development Alliance (ADA), International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP) and in the newly formed Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD). Our officers are also steering committee members of Affinity Group of National Associations (AGNA) and ADA.
- ▶ We continued to influence the government's Bottom Up Budgeting (BUB) program by participating in the formulation of the Joint Memorandum Circular for Year 2017 BUB. We continue to be vigilant about its transformation into the Assistance to Disadvantaged Municipalities (ADM) program.

At the homefront, we are finally starting the construction of the CODE-NGO's own office, which is expected to be completed in April 2017.

There were also painful downsides this fiscal year and in the recent months. We're back to square one on the peace negotiations for the Bangsamoro. As a network, we disagreed with allowing Marcos' burial at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB), but the Supreme Court decided otherwise. Some of our community-based partners have been victimized by the government's fierce war against drugs and we expressed our concern by issuing a statement against extra judicial killings (EJK). We haven't fully assessed yet the impact of President Duterte's word wars against the United Nations (UN), European Union (EU) and United States (US), but we expect that these will affect the environment in which Philippine CSOs work and relate with development organizations from these countries.

But we will overcome. As we have overcome in the past 25 years. As the stories of successes and of rising from challenges in the succeeding pages of this report will prove.

It is knowing that our network, CODE-NGO, remains committed to Networking, Empowering and Transforming for Social Justice and Sustainable Development that keeps us hopeful for the future.

Padayon!

Sylvia Okinlay-Paraguya
CODE-NGO Chairperson



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VISION FOR THE PHILIPPINE SOCIETY



We dream of a society...

That promotes the total well-being of the Filipino people and the full realization of our human rights,

Where social justice and equitable distribution of wealth prevails,

Where the basic needs of the broad majority are met and fulfilled, along with maintaining the sustainability of human survival,

Where all spheres of national development are participated in by all sectors,

Where the culture of the Filipino peoples are continuously promoted and enhanced.



VISION

CODE-NGO is the largest coalition of competent, credible and committed development CSOs in the Philippines that influences public policies, shapes development and creates tangible impact in its partner communities.

MISSION



To be a trusted national voice of civil society and to advance the capacities of CSOs to exercise transformative leadership.



CODE-NGO

2016 NATIONWIDE PROJECTS IN NUMBERS

Citizens' Monitoring of LGU Performance

4 regions ♦ 7 provinces
 24 municipalities
 892 CSOs ♦ 24 CSO networks
 5 training workshops/consultations

Bottom-up Budgeting 383

16 regions ♦ 52 provinces
 453 municipalities
 48 CSO networks
 4 training workshops/consultations

Data Access towards Accountable Governance

5 regions ♦ 5 provinces
 19 municipalities
 322 CSOs ♦ 10 CSO networks
 5 training workshops/consultations

Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM

10 regions ♦ 22 provinces
 92 CSOs*/CSO networks
*involved in scoping study
 26 training workshops/consultations

Strengthening Decentralized Governance

3 regions ♦ 9 provinces
 12 CSOs/CSO networks
 35 training workshops/consultations

DRMM Fund Watch

5 regions ♦ 5 provinces
 9 municipalities ♦ 1 city
 29 CSOs/CSO networks
 1 training workshop/consultation



Building Capacity of Member Networks through Workshops and Trainings

- ▶ **Training on Child Protection** - The two-part training attended by over 100 participants gave an overview of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Concept of Child Protection; Street Children Situationer; Protocol, Self-Awareness, Innovative Approaches and Strategies.
- ▶ **Case Management Training** - Thirty (30) participants, composed majorly of social workers, attended the Case Management Training using the Caring, Healing and Teaching (CHT) framework. Through a demonstration of the Case Presentation/Analysis and Case Management Conference, participants clearly understood the task/functions of every member of the case management team using the CHT framework. In that training, they realized the importance of documentation, that every child should have a case study, especially when the child is based in a residential care or center.
- ▶ **Road Safety Training** - As part of the Training on Child Protection, the Road Safety Training attended by 27 member organizations aimed to train workers to introduce what is child injury and how to make children safer while at home, in school and on the road, especially when the child is based in a residential care or center.
- ▶ **Child Led Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Training (CLDRRM)** - The training attended by 40 participants aimed to involve youth and children in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (CLDRRM-CCA).

Online e-Learning

- ▶ In order to successfully run co-ops, leaders, managers and staff must manage the resources of their members. This is why the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) requires all of them to attend specific seminars on how to run the co-op. But due to restraints, geographical, financial and time among many, not everyone can easily join seminars.
- ▶ In response to this challenge, the Education, Training and Consultancy Group (ETCG) of the National Confederation of Cooperatives developed an e-learning program which offers interactive self-paced courses which are available online.
- ▶ Courses available cover virtually every aspect of co-op management and operations and can be accessed anytime, anywhere using a desktop or laptop computer, or even a tablet or cellphone.
- ▶ From January to September 2016, 121 individuals from 16 cooperatives completed the training. This is a 30 percent increase compared to 2015, so far.

Citizens' Participation in Monitoring of LGU Performance and Development Planning for Poverty Reduction

- ▶ The Citizens' Participation in Monitoring of LGU Performance and Development Planning for Poverty Reduction (CML) Project is implemented by MINCODE and its member networks PHILDHARRA-Mindanao, AF, and PAKISAMA-Mindanao in ten (10) municipalities across three (3) provinces and two (2) regions in Mindanao. With support from the European Union, this four-year project commenced in September 2012 and will culminate in November 2016. It aimed to improve planning and budgeting processes and improve service delivery in health and agriculture by strengthening social accountability of local government units (LGUs), and enhancing or institutionalizing mechanisms for local poverty reduction action planning and budgeting.
- ▶ As a result of the interventions supported by the CML Project, there are more active and participatory local governance planning and budgeting processes in the 10 municipalities, largely due to increase in number and enhanced capacity of CSOs participating in local development processes. Some municipal CSO networks have developed into independent NGO networks duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and have been able to access grants for the conduct of their priority projects. The project has also contributed to building mutual respect between local governments and CSOs.
- ▶ The CML Project also gave way to the adoption of a useful and user-friendly tool for citizens' monitoring of LGU performance. Called CSRC (civil society report card), the tool provided for evidence-based monitoring of the performance and service delivery of their respective LGUs.

Capacity Building Programs

- ▶ The Association of Foundations (AF) is keen on its mission of building foundations, building a better future. Consequently, Capacity Building continues to be the network's flagship program, with mentoring serving as its cornerstone.
- ▶ **Forum on Design Thinking** - participants learned how to combine creative and analytical approaches and to collaborate across disciplines to meet people's real-world needs.
- ▶ **Building a Culture of Resilience, Strengthening Disaster Preparedness** - learning event on disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) provided the opportunity for participants to develop a better understanding of DRRM, know the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders/different sectors in mitigating disasters and responding to different calamities, and gain knowledge on the importance of having a comprehensive DRRM plan that is effective, sustainable and applicable.

Nurturing Indigenous Capital for Resiliency and Sustainability

- ▶ There is a growing recognition that indigenous knowledge systems and practices (IKSP) reflecting indigenous peoples' holistic view of community and environment are also a major resource for building resilience and adapting to climate change.
- ▶ CORDNET base organizations and community partners are revitalizing and nurturing indigenous resources to enhance community coping and adaptive mechanisms to climate impacts such as using traditional rice farming techniques with the modern System for Rice Intensification (SRI) technique, among others.

Advancing Community-based Engagement on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Climate Change Adaptation with the Youth (AdvancED Youth)

- ▶ In partnership with R3ADY-Asia Pacific, the project aims to advance the engagement of the youth in DRRM-CCA through a youth-initiated DRRM-CCA project in Barangay Basak, Lapu-Lapu City towards a disaster resilient community. The direct beneficiaries of the project are the members of the Federation of Youth Organizations in Barangay Basak (FYOB).
- ▶ The youth went through different seminar-workshops on Basic DRRM-CCA Concepts and Laws, Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Analysis (PCVA), Humanitarian Response, Basic Public Planning and Budgeting Process, Basic Project Planning, Implementation and Monitoring, First Aid and Basic Life Support, to name a few.
- ▶ The members of FYOB were able to reach out to other 153 youth from the 10 sitios of their barangay to share their learning, validate a 3-in-1 (Hazard, Resources and Evacuation) map they prepared, and orient other youth groups on DRRM-CCA basic concepts.
- ▶ The youth organization also had an activity entitled "Takbo sa Kabataan: Basak Amazing Race on DRRM," participated in by 45 youth leaders who were selected from among the 153 youth. Currently, the FYOB members are finalizing their project, "Safety Awareness on Flood Emergencies" or SAFE which has been fully implemented in October 2016.

Strengthening the Resiliency of Local Government Units and Local Communities to adapt to the Impact of Climate Change

- ▶ The project, also known as the Agusan Marsh Climate Change Adaptation Project or AMCCAP, a grantee of the United States Agency for International Development or USAID, seeks to address the challenge imposed by climate change by increasing capacity of stakeholders in 61 barangays of Agusan Marsh in Agusan del Sur to adapt to its adverse impacts.
- ▶ From November 2012 until January 2016, the Project increased the adaptive capacity of 7,962 stakeholders, with the knowledge and skills imparted by the Project. Of the 7,962 stakeholders, 5,008 increased their capacity to practice Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM), decreasing the risks created by a potential hazard or by actual disasters in their community.
- ▶ 2,954 of the 7,962 stakeholders increased their capacity to use information that improved their ability to adjust or make changes in ways and practices that mitigate the potential damage, or help them take advantage of opportunities or cope with consequences.
- ▶ During the same period, the Project developed, tested or adopted different Climate change tools, methodologies and technologies in CSA such as AAFDF, Climate Smart Field Schools, Climate Smart Farms, Community Seed Banks and Farmer-Based Agro-meteorological Stations. Moreover, it also developed, tested or adopted different methodologies that facilitate the adaptation process, or help the stakeholders to take advantage of opportunities or to cope with the consequences of climate change.

Strengthening Aksyon sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) in the Local, Regional and National Levels for DRRM-CCA Advocacy

- ▶ The project aims to sustain the national Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA) advocacy by strengthening Aksyon para sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) formations and promoting its advocacy agenda in local, regional and national levels.
- ▶ The project brought about the following results/changes:
 1. Local and Regional Federations of Community-Based/ People's Organizations formed under AKKMA in 10 regions with expansion efforts in 4 other regions
 2. Regional and National AKKMA Structures as Mechanisms/ Platforms for DRRM-CCA Advocacy
 3. DRRM-CCA Advocacy Agenda Formulated
 4. DRRM-CCA Advocacy Plans Made and Campaign Activities Implemented
 5. AKKMA venturing into social enterprises to strengthen its resource mobilization capacity and sustainability of its programs and advocacies

Establishment of CSO DRRM Coordination and Resource Hub

- ▶ Partnership-building towards improved systems and services to avoid duplication of assistance and facilitate sharing and complementation of good practices
- ▶ Project goals: Legislative and Policy Advocacy; Institutionalization; Capacity Development of CSO and LGU Partners; Support for Development Agenda of Partners; Promotion of DRRM-CCA
- ▶ CSOs have come up with the framework for a Proposal for the Establishment of the DRRM Coordination and Resource Hub. The proposal will be submitted to identified INGOs, Resource Agencies supporting this action by December 2016.

Regional CSO DRRM Hub

- ▶ To facilitate learning exchange and advocacy during peace times and coordinate humanitarian response in times of disaster and strengthen the hubs' capacity to engage the local government units (LGUs) in crafting needs-responsive local DRRM plans and budgets
- ▶ Set-up the Regional CSO DRRM Hub together with its Provincial and City network members and formulated a strategic plan to define the programs and services of the Hub using the protocols on coordination, communication, resource-sharing

Micro-Enterprise Disaster Assistance Fund for Resiliency

- ▶ The Micro-Enterprise Disaster Assistance Fund for Resiliency (MIDAS) Program aims to help micro-entrepreneurs affected by Typhoon Yolanda in Leyte rebuild their livelihood and their lives. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided a seed fund to help establish the resiliency fund that can be accessed by micro-finance institutions (MFIs) for on-lending to affected clients.
- ▶ 48% of participating micro-entrepreneurs posted a 14% increase in average household income from Php12,400 to Php14,500. It was inferred that 31% of respondents reflected a Php2,237 (52%) increase in business income which contributed to the growth of their income levels. Diversification was also evident as 33% of respondents utilized their MIDAS loans for new businesses. On savings mobilization, 81% of respondents practiced regular savings, generating an average of Php795 per month or Php4,773 over a period of six months. About 60 to 70% of respondents became knowledgeable on disaster risk reduction and management, participated in community DRRM activities, and are perceived to be ready to face future disaster risks.



THE YEAR IN FOCUS: DRRM-CCA, CAPACITY-BUILDING AND PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

In the past fiscal year, six (6) of CODE-NGO's twelve (12) member networks have continued to pursue initiatives on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management – Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA).

CENVISNET's Advancing Community-based Engagement on DRRM-CCA with the Youth Project conducted seminar workshops on basic DRRM concepts and laws which reached 153 youth from 10 sitios in Barangay Basak, Lapu-Lapu City. PHILDHARRA focused on strengthening the resiliency of local government units (LGUs) and local communities to adapt to the impact of climate change. Their Agusan Marsh CCA Project increased the adaptive capacity of 7,962 stakeholders in terms of knowledge and skills on DRRM. PHILSSA also went with strengthening Aksyon sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) in the local, regional and national levels for DRRM-CCA advocacy. Local and regional federations of community-based/people's organizations were formed under AKKMA in 10 regions with expansion efforts in 4 other regions. WEVNET and CBD centered on establishing their respective regional DRRM Coordination Hubs where plans and proposals were made to facilitate policy advocacy, capacity development, communications and resource-sharing. PBSP, on the other hand, has ventured on Micro-Enterprise Disaster Assistance Fund for Resiliency where 48% of participating micro-entrepreneurs posted a 14% increase in average household income from among those affected by Typhoon Yolanda.

In terms of capacity-building, CORDNET put emphasis on nurturing indigenous capital for resiliency and sustainability to enhance community coping and adaptive mechanisms to climate impacts such as using traditional rice farming techniques with the modern System for Rice Intensification. AF's learning events were on 'Design Thinking' and 'Building a Culture of

Resilience, Strengthening Disaster Preparedness', while NCSA's training workshops were on 'Child Protection', 'Case Management', 'Road Safety' and 'Child Led DRRM'. NATCCO tried to address the geographical and financial constraints of members to attend their seminars by developing an e-Learning program which offers self-paced courses on co-op management and operations available online. From January to September 2016, 121 individuals from 16 cooperatives completed the training, a 30% increase from 2015.

MINCODE, through the Citizens' Participation in Monitoring LGU Performance and Development Planning for Poverty Reduction (CML) Project, had more active and participatory local governance planning and budgeting processes in 10 municipalities across 3 provinces and 2 regions in Mindanao. The CML project also paved the way to the adoption of a useful and user-friendly tool for citizens' monitoring of LGU performance through the CSO Satisfaction Report Card (CSRC).

CODE-NGO, through its projects, has also been vigilant in advocating good governance and people empowerment. In the past fiscal year, its 6 projects reached 16 regions and 56 provinces. As the country has embarked on a change of administration, CODE-NGO will continue to network, empower and transform for social justice and sustainable development. ■

Influencing Public Policy



STRENGTHENING DECENTRALIZED GOVERNANCE: A NEW BEGINNING, A NEW HOPE

The year 2016 is a year of challenges and opportunities in the political and social landscape of the Philippines. The national and local elections bring with them uncertainties in the plans, policies and programs of the new administration. It will also test the sustainability of reforms in participatory and decentralized governance introduced by the previous administration.

On the other hand, the change in leadership opens new windows of opportunities to civil society organizations (CSOs) for constructive engagement with the government towards participatory governance, people empowerment and poverty reduction. The institutionalization of participatory processes will also be seen this year as the local governments are mandated to reconstitute local special bodies, which include local and regional development councils. They are also required to formulate their 3-year executive-legislative agenda and 6-year regional development plans.

Along with these developments, the Strengthening Decentralized Governance Project has started to sustain the gains of engagement and continue the hopes towards achieving democratization and development. This is a continuing initiative from the previous project, “Decentralized Governance and Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for Regional Development” (November 2012 – November 2015). It is currently implemented in 3 regions and 9 provinces, namely: Region 5 (Bicol), with Albay, Camarines Sur and Sorsogon provinces; Region 7 (Central Visayas), with Bohol, Cebu and Negros Oriental and in Region 11 (Southern

Mindanao) with Compostela Valley, Davao Del Norte and Davao Oriental. The Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD), Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET) and Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE) are the regional partners responsible for implementing the project in their respective areas. This project is being supported by Misereor.

This project intends to promote the sustainability of participatory and decentralized governance that is responsive in addressing poverty and inequality and in strengthening the participatory governance structures at the regional and provincial levels. Its specific outcomes focus on CSO network strengthening and alliance building with youth groups; constructive engagement and advocacy; and transparency and people’s participation in governance.

To realize these goals, various activities have been implemented. One of these was the National CSO Organizational Diagnostic Workshop where 12 regional and provincial networks identified their capacity gaps and determined the kinds of capacity building interventions that the organizations should undertake using the Capacity Assessment Tool. The baselines set were used in coming up with their respective action plans and initial capacity building plans. Then, validation workshops were also conducted to serve as an avenue for the CSO leaders to present and confirm the results of the organizational diagnosis to their respective Board members and staff. Mentors’ training in 3 island clusters were conducted to create a pool of 5 mentors, which would help out the provincial networks in further

improving and achieving their desired organizational capacities. Aside from these, the implementing partners with their member base organizations started the process of reviewing and enhancing their respective Regional and Provincial Poverty Reduction and Development Agenda (R/PPRDAs). Results of these initiatives will guide them in establishing their targets and plans for engagement with the new government’s regional and development councils.

Since there are newly elected or appointed officials at the regional and provincial levels, various linkages have also been re-established with regional government agencies and local government officials through courtesy visits and exploratory meetings. They identified potential partners from Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), National

Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and other government agencies. They have been assessing how to advocate for more effective decentralization through participation in local/ regional development councils and local special bodies. They have already identified and lobbied for their CSO representatives to become part of these governance bodies. In the past few months, they have been busy with the preparation for their applications for accreditation, particularly in the regional and provincial development councils (RDCs/PDCs) and other local special bodies.

Through this project, the commitment to reduce poverty, address inequality and ensure good governance will have a strong foundation in achieving genuine regional development. ■

CSO ACCREDITATION PROCESS FOR 2016

- 1** The Sanggunian, thru the Presiding Officer, shall issue a Notice of Call for Accreditation to every organization in the locale.

Invitations shall be sent out to all organizations participating in different government programs, and those representing various local boards or councils. Copies of the Notice of Call for Accreditation shall be posted in at least three conspicuous places within the local.
- 2** Every organization seeking for a new accreditation or renewal shall submit a copy of the mandated requirements.
- 3** The Sanggunian shall evaluate all applications for accreditation on the basis of the criteria mandated by the memorandum. The Sanggunian shall accredit CSOs which comply with all the administrative requirements and satisfy the criteria mandated.
- 4** The Sanggunian shall accredit CSOs which comply with all the administrative requirements and satisfy the criteria mandated.

A Certificate of Accreditation to every qualified CSO shall be given. A notice shall be issued to organizations which failed to make it to the deadline or did not apply.
- 5** A notice from the local Operations Offices shall be issued to all accredited CSOs for a meeting on the selection of representatives to the local special bodies.

Source: Department of Interior and Local Government Memorandum Circular 2013-70

Strengthening DG Project



To cap off the series of trainings seminars, workshops and other activities since the project started in September 2012, the regional and national project teams have organized, in this fourth and final year, a number of activities aimed at heightening and expanding the awareness and skills of over 800 civil society organizations (CSOs) from the 24 marginalized municipalities which are direct beneficiaries of the Citizens' Participation in Monitoring Local Government Units' (LGUs') Performance and Planning and Development for Poverty Reduction (CML) project supported by the European Union (EU).

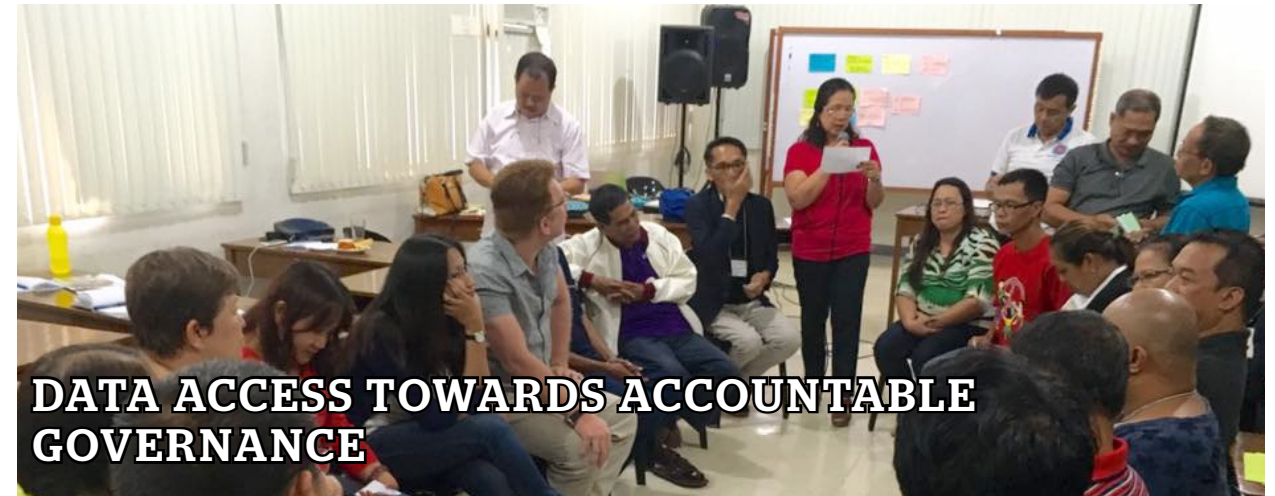
The Inter-regional Learning Exchange visits (IRLE), done in the Bicol region last September 30 to October 03, 2015 and in Cebu last November 13, 2015, have exposed the CSOs to the good practices and success stories of the different organizations visited.

On the other hand, the National Conferences (NC), which featured the sharing of various challenges, lessons learned and suggestions among the participants and resource persons, have made an impact on the CSOs. The first NC was conducted in Cebu last November 14, 2016 and the second one was organized in Quezon City last September 1-2, 2016.

Moreover, Capacity Development Workshops were implemented in the project sites in 2016. These workshops were intended to boost further the capacities of the CSOs in participatory governance.

This project has enabled the participating CSOs to be far better than they were before not only in terms of knowing how to properly assess, plan and develop their poverty reduction and development agenda, but also how to advocate and effectively influence their local government officials so that they will listen, negotiate and act on reducing poverty in their areas.

CODE-NGO partnered with the Eastern Visayas Network of NGOs and POs (EVNET), the Western Visayas Network of Social Development NGOs (WEVNET) and the Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE) for this project. ■



Armed with lessons and experiences from the first year of project implementation, CODE-NGO and its partner organizations are geared to continue strengthening capacities of municipal and provincial civil society organization (CSO) networks to engage in democratic governance processes so that they are better able to meaningfully engage and propose measures to strengthen local governance.

Amidst the changing of guards at the local and national level, the second phase of project implementation will continue in 5 provinces and have now even expanded to 19 municipalities (from 15 sites in year 1) with Albay and Zamboanga del Norte adding two more sites each given the openness and existing engagements with other partner local government units (LGUs).

With the end goal of making local governance processes more relevant and responsive to the needs and priorities of CSOs and communities, the second phase of the project, supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and which started implementation in April this year, is focused on strengthening the demand for democratic governance reforms and deepening democracy at the grassroots level. More specifically, its two-fold objectives are:

1. Improving LGU compliance to the Full Disclosure Policy (FDP), especially on the use of prescribed templates, budget terminologies and effective compliance to disclosure guidelines and to CSO participation in local planning and budgeting processes; and

2. Strengthening the capacity of CSOs in selected municipalities, especially building knowledge and skills on Public Financial Management and Constructive Engagement.

Halfway through the year, the partner CSOs and participating municipalities have already undergone two capability-building workshops, sought accreditation to participate in local planning and consultative processes and conducted data gathering on budget documents relevant to evidence-based advocacy. In the coming months, partner CSOs are expected to be heavily engaged in the formulation of their municipal and city development plans, 2017 budget and other similar engagements. From out of these experiences, lessons will be documented and shared during a national conference to be held in March 2017.

The partner networks for this project are Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD), Albay Provincial Network of Development NGOs (ALPRODEV), Central Visayas Network of Development NGOs (CENVISNET), Kaabag sa Sugbu, Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE), Kahugpungan sa Mindanaw (KAMI) – Group Foundation, Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA), Center for Social Concerns and Development (CESCOD), National Council of Social Development (NCSD) and Open Heart Foundation. ■



BOTTOM-UP BUDGETING 383

The Bottom-up Budgeting 383 (BUB 383) initiative gathers civil society organizations (CSOs) and CSO networks committed to engage and enhance the Bottom-up Budgeting program (BUB). Spearheaded by CODE-NGO since 2013, the initiative taps CSO networks and key point persons and organizations at the municipal, provincial and regional levels for coordination and communication of related BUB activities, new guidelines and policies, feedback and information on BUB projects, processes and various concerns. To date, the BUB 383 is present in 16 regions including NCR, spread across 453 municipalities in 52 provinces.

Based on the BUB 383 experience, CODE-NGO inputted into the formulation of the Joint Memorandum Circular 7, the BUB guidelines issued by the government in 2015. CODE-NGO also shared the BUB 383 lessons and recommendations for stronger people's participation in planning and budgeting at the Regional BUB Summits held in late 2015.

BUB 383 continued to monitor priority projects at different levels. The results of the monitoring and assessments of the processes of project development and monitoring were discussed in a National Meeting held in Quezon City last January 13-14, 2016. The National Meeting also aimed to provide suggestions to improve and sustain the BUB program. Some suggestions included regular coordination of BUB personnel such as the BUB municipal focal person or the Community Mobilizer with CSOs as part of their terms of reference, and the promotion or

advancement of local ordinances establishing a BUB system in the municipality.

CODE-NGO also participated in RePubliKo: Ang Republika, ang Publiko at Ako sa Pagbabago – A 3D Policy Advocacy Campaign on Decentralization and Democracy for Development and contributed the efforts of members and partners on BUB to this campaign. RePubliKo is spearheaded by the United Nations Development Programme Governance Team in partnership with government agencies and CSOs and was launched last October 2015. Its aim was to advocate for policy reforms related to democratic governance and the Sustainable Development Goals to be adopted by the next set of local and national leaders as well as identifying champions for reforms and engaging the youth for these governance reforms.

By the end of this fiscal year in July 2016, preparations were underway for the regional workshops on participatory local governance and BUB in Luzon-Visayas, ARMM and Mindanao to be held in August- September 2016.

(Post-script: By September 2016, the BUB program was effectively stopped as other development programs are rolled-out by the Duterte administration. One such program is the Assistance to Disadvantaged Municipalities (ADM). The ADM practically replaced the BUB as it used the funds initially allocated for BUB (but cut it in half); as of now the ADM will only cover limited types of projects in all municipalities (excluding ARMM municipalities and all cities). The

ADM guidelines for FY2017 has been released by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and it authorizes the mayor and one CSO to be selected by the mayor to decide on the projects to be funded by ADM

BUB 383 is challenged by this development. CSOs are now calling on the DILG, DBM, and the Cabinet Secretary for programs that promote citizens' participation in planning and budgeting especially at the local level, including a more

participatory and poverty-focused Assistance to Disadvantaged Municipalities (and Cities). This participation hopes to bring about better delivery of services and improved accountability, ensuring that resources go to where they are most needed.) ■



SETTING UP AND EQUIPPING THE CSO REGIONAL DRRM COORDINATION HUBS

In its third year of implementation, the Advancing CSO (civil society organization) Engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (ACED) Project focuses on setting up and equipping the Regional CSO DRRM Coordination Hubs. The DRRM Coordination Hubs is the network's platform for advocacy and learning exchange during "peace times" and the mechanism to effectively coordinate emergency response during disasters. Currently, there are 10 regional DRRM Hubs and their membership includes the regional networks and their members, members of national networks in the regions and other development partners that have DRRM initiatives. Each of the DRRM hubs has designated a lead organization and governance structure, as well as priority DRRM-CCA agenda and general protocols for coordination.

As part of continuous capacity building on DRRM-CCA, Island Cluster Training Workshops were conducted in Quezon City (April 5-8, 2016), Cebu (May 16-19, 2016) and Davao (June 13-17, 2016). The participants of the Island Clusters Training were the core members of the Regional CSO DRRM Hubs. To date, there are 107 CSO leaders trained on DRRM-CCA 101, Community-based DRRM, Mainstreaming DRRM-CCA in local planning and budgeting process, and Humanitarian Principles in Emergencies.

The DRRM Coordination Hubs also conducted a scoping study on the local CSOs' surge capacities – or ability to increase manpower and resources to effectively respond to emergencies. This study, with funding support from START Network, was able to cover 92 organizations in 9 regions with such capacities, albeit at various levels, and the

initial findings were presented at a National Conference last September 30, 2015.

In terms of advocacy, the DRRM Coordination Hubs were actively involved in the campaign to amend Republic Act (RA) 10121 or the DRRM Act of 2010. In ACED Year 2, the implementing partners participated in several consultations and fora for the sunset review of RA 10121. The recommendations that arose from the consultation were presented in a Policy Forum

Part of the agreed role of the DRRM coordination hubs is to provide damage and needs assessment (DANA) reports after disasters. The consolidated DANA report from the hubs is forwarded to member networks, development partners and funders to aid in planning for response. After Typhoon Lando hit Northern Luzon in October 2015, Muslim Aid provided assistance to Pampanga (c/o Center for Emergency Aid and Rehabilitation), Benguet (c/o Cordillera



facilitated by Christian Aid. This later became the draft CSO Amendment Bill that was filed in the House of Representatives as House Bill 6183 or the Enhancing the Inclusiveness and Strengthening the DRRM Bill. The principal authors are Representatives Kit Belmonte of Quezon City, Kaka Bag-ao of Dinagat Islands and Isidro Ungab of Davao City. With funding support from Scaling Up Resilience in Governance (SURGE), the DRRM Coordination Hubs, Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA) and Aksyon sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) teamed up to launch public awareness campaign and lobby for legislators' support for HB 6183. The activities were done in 11 key areas, utilizing commemoration anniversary of the past disasters that affected the country.

Network of Development NGOs) and Aurora (c/o Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka) based on the DANA submitted to the DRRM Coordination Hub.

Meanwhile, at the national level, CODE-NGO is active in building linkages with the following agencies, international NGOs, and other civil society organizations for DRR-CCA learning exchange and advocacy:

- ▶ Office of Civil Defense for the sunset review of RA 10121, review of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) and guidelines for the selection of CSO Representatives in the DRRM Councils;

- ▶ START Network's Transforming Surge Capacity Project where CODE-NGO is part of the National NGO Platform together with Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines-National Secretariat for Social Action (CBCP-NASSA), Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC) and National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP);
- ▶ Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) with Simbahang Lingkod ng Bayan (SLB), Philippine Disaster Recovery Foundation (PDRF), League of Corporate Foundations

- (LCF) and Association of Foundations (AF) on collaboration during emergencies;
- ▶ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA) as a core group member of the Community of Practice on Community Engagement; and
- ▶ DRRNetPhils, People's Disaster Risk Reduction Network (PDRRN), NASSA, NCCP, PHILSSA and AKKMA on advocating for locally-led humanitarian response. ■



There are 33 ways civil society organizations (CSOs) can participate in the local government budget process, according to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

However, the DBM Public Financial Management Assessments completed by more than 500 local government units show that the degree or quality of CSO participation in the budget process is low and that CSOs' technical knowledge on local budget process is lacking.

With the same observations, CODE-NGO commenced a new project where CSO leaders in nine municipalities and a city would take up the cudgel to participate in at least seven ways!

The local budget in focus: their local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Fund.

Through the DRRM Fund Watch Project, CSO leaders would check if this fund is allocated according to what the DRRM Law prescribes: 70% for disaster mitigation and preparedness, and 30% for quick response during a state of calamity. They would monitor how it is utilized.

They would further inquire, "Is our local government spending on the right DRRM priorities? Is our local government spending for DRRM with measurable results? Is the DRRM Fund based on inclusive and responsive DRRM plans?"

This one year project (April 2016 - March 2017) would assist them to access and analyze budget-related information, to present the results to local government units (LGUs) and CSOs, and to influence DRRM planning at the local level.

Last July, the project implementing partners came together, bringing related data sets sourced from LGUs and/or downloaded from the Full Disclosure Policy Portal (managed by the Department of Interior and Local Government). Using these data sets, they crafted the DRRM Fund Monitoring Tool – content, scope, format, and analyses. An internet-based platform would be subsequently developed.

The project implementing partners are Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD), Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET), Eastern Visayas

Network of NGOs and POs (EVNET), Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA), and Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE), together with their member organizations Caritas Diocese of Libmanan (CDL), Bohol Alliance of Non-Government Organizations (BANGON Bohol), Eastern Samar Social Development Organizations (ESSDOG), Palawan Advocates on Good Governance and Empowerment (PAGE), and Agri-Aqua Development Coalition-Mindanao (AADC).

The ten project sites are in Palawan, Camarines Sur, Bohol, Eastern Samar, and Zamboanga Del Norte.

The DRRM Fund Watch Project is supported by the Making All Voices Count global initiative of the Hivos Foundation. ■

CODE-NGO chairperson Patricia Sarenas attended the United Nations (UN) Summit on the SDGs and the CSO events when the global agenda and framework for development was signed by UN member states in New York last September 2015.

At the national level, the network and some of its members participated in two (2) multi-sectoral Technical Workshops on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators organized by NEDA in November 2015 and May 2016. The workshops clarified the SDG indicators approved by the UN assembly and assessed the availability of data on these indicators at the national level, classifying them into various tiers – Tier 1 being indicators with available data, Tier 2 with available data but are not regularly produced, and Tier 3 with no available data. The workshops also provided a venue to identify which of these and other additional indicators identified by the consulted groups can be mainstreamed in the next Philippine Development Plan. CODE-NGO also continues to sit as one of the CSO members of the NEDA's Multi-sectoral Committee on International Human Development Commitments (MC-IHDC), which monitors



ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

government action on implementing the SDGs, among other international commitments.

Furthermore, CODE-NGO continues to participate actively in the SDG-related CSO processes at the global and regional levels through its membership in the Asia Development Alliance (ADA), International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFN) and Civicus. In May 2016 in Bogota, Colombia, CODE-NGO joined the launch of the Action for Sustainable Development (Action4SD), an open and inclusive CSO global platform to raise awareness, build a community, hold governments accountable and share knowledge on the new agenda. Agreeing on the Action4SD mission, CODE-NGO signed up as a member of this platform. ■

CSO VOICE IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CODE-NGO continued to actively participate in the civil society organization (CSO) processes for the crafting and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or Agenda 2030 at the global and national level this year.



Last August 2015, CODE-NGO, together with the CSO basic sector representatives of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), convened

CSOs for a workshop that aimed to look at the SDG targets and identify which ones the government and CSOs in the country should focus on. At the forum, Mr. Mon Falcon of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) provided the highlights of the process of how the 17 SDGs and corresponding targets were formulated at the global and national levels. Former NAPC Vice Chairperson for the Basic Sectors Marlon Manuel, on the other hand, stressed the inter-relatedness of the SDGs and therefore the need for inter-related and comprehensive actions to pursue these, the need to integrate SDGs in the next Philippine Development Plan 2016-2022, and the need for CSOs to be part of these processes. The CSO participants in the forum also discussed the importance of clarifying the SDG targets across these themes where they work: a) Basic Services and Addressing Poverty, b) Socio-Economic Development, c) Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA) and Environment and e) Governance.



United Nations' Global Goals for Sustainable Development

SETTING THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FOR 2016 AND BEYOND



Aside from its Code of Conduct for Development NGOs, the other major document which CODE-NGO's founding members approved in 1991 was the Covenant for Philippine Development, which contained the network's development goals and principles for the country.

Based on the Covenant, CODE-NGO has regularly defined its proposals for the priority policies, programs and projects of the government in order to guide its advocacy work. In November 2015, CODE-NGO approved the Development and Reform Agenda (DRA) for 2016-19. This Agenda is the product of a review of the status of actions on the previous DRAs (2010-13 and 2013-16), the then on-going CSO review of the Philippine Development Plan for 2011-2016, six (6) regional consultations in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, and consultations and discussions with various

CSOs. The DRA for 2016-19 is also cognizant of and is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals for 2016-2030, which have been adopted by the United Nations in September 2015.

The Agenda is based on four (4) pillars: (a) Ensuring Empowerment and Democratization, (b) Reducing Poverty and Inequality, (c) Building Peace and (d) Promoting Sustainable Economic Development and Environmental Protection.

The DRA for 2016-19 recognized that much has been done since 2010, particularly in the fight against top level corruption, in promoting transparency and people's participation in governance, in building peace, in improving access to improved health, education and other social services and in supporting economic growth.

It notes, however, that much still remains to be done, especially in reducing poverty and inequality, which, together with the attendant empowerment of ordinary citizens, should then be the focus on the new national and local government officials.

Aside from the member networks of CODE-NGO, the DRA 2016-19 signatories number more than 50 CSOs, including 5 other national CSO networks (Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka, Pilipina, NGOs for Fisheries Reform, People Power Volunteers for Reform and Change Politics Movement) and 21 regional and provincial CSO networks.

Another agenda setting initiative of CODE-NGO is the assessment of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) for 2011-16 by civil society organizations (CSOs). CODE-NGO has coordinated the CSO review of the Philippine Development

Plans of the previous administrations starting with the Ramos Administration in the late 1990s. In mid-2015 to early 2016, CODE-NGO again undertook the coordination of this review. This is part of its commitment to the promotion of the accountability of government and the active participation of citizens in governance.

CODE-NGO started the PDP assessment process in July of 2015 with its partners: Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PHILDHARRA), Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA), Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA), Ateneo School of Governance (ASOG), Health Alternatives for Total Human Development Institute (HealthDev) and Mindanao Coalition

of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE). This endeavour was supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).

Eight (8) key thematic assessments of the PDP were made: (a) agriculture and fisheries, (b) asset reforms focusing on agrarian and fishery reform and ancestral domain, (c) good governance, (d) housing and urban development, (e) disaster risk reduction and management, (f) environment and climate change, (g) health and (h) peace.

The CODE-NGO partners worked on draft assessments which were presented to and reviewed by

its advisers, namely: Mr. Peter Perfecto of the Makati Business Club (MBC), Dr. Francisco Magno of the Jesse Robredo Institute of Governance - DLSU, Atty. Christian Monsod of the Philippine Agrarian Reform For

Development (PARFUND), Dr. Anna Marie Karaos of John J. Carroll Institute for Church and Social Issues (JJC-ICSI), and Dr. Mary Racelis of the Institute of Philippine Culture (IPC). The comments and recommendations of the advisers helped to improve the thematic assessments. Focused group discussions were also held to validate and enrich these assessments.

CODE-NGO and its partner organizations use the CSO assessment of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) in its participation in and advocacy viz the process of crafting the PDP for 2016-22 by the Duterte Administration, a plan which we hope will be more responsive to the needs of Filipinos, especially the poor and marginalized. ■





NETWORKING AND ADVOCACY ACROSS BORDERS

CODE-NGO engages in international networks and advocacy to support its civil society organization (CSO) capacity building and advocacy work in the country. It learns from the experience and efforts of CSOs in other countries and shares with them the network's lessons. Together with them, CODE-NGO advocates to enhance global agreements and institutions that affect people's lives in the Philippines and elsewhere.

CODE-NGO is an active member of the Civicus World Alliance for Citizen Participation, the Affinity Group of National Associations (AGNA), the International Forum of NGO Platforms (IFP) and the Asia Development Alliance (ADA). In April 2016, at the Annual General Meeting of AGNA, CODE-NGO was elected as a member of its Steering Committee. Earlier, in January 2016, it was re-elected as one of the Co-Convenors of ADA.

Together with Beyond 2015, Civicus, IFP and ADA, CODE-NGO actively participated in the process of crafting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CODE-NGO Chairperson Patricia Sarenas joined the Civicus delegation at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2015 when the SDGs were formally ratified. Since then, CODE-NGO has engaged in the international and Philippine processes of clarifying the SDG indicators, including workshops and consultations organized by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA). In 2016, with the folding up of Beyond 2015 as earlier agreed upon, CODE-NGO

joined the Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), an international coalition focused on monitoring and advocacy for the SDGs.

As part of the global effort to enhance the environment for CSOs, CODE-NGO, in partnership with Civicus and the Alternative Law Groups (ALG), implemented in late 2015 to early 2016 the Enabling Environment National Assessment (EENA). The EENA is an action-oriented research project that assessed the legal, regulatory and policy environment and its practice in 8 dimensions - (a) Formation of CSOs, (b) Operation of CSOs, (c) Access to Resources, (d) Freedom of Expression, (e) Freedom of Peaceful Assembly, (f) Government-CSO Relations, (g) CSO Cooperation and Coalitions and (h) Taxation.

Civicus, in collaboration with the International Center for Non-for-Profit Law (ICNL) and under the Civic Space Initiative (CSpl), has rolled out EENAs in 16 countries around the world in the past three years, while another seven was started in 2015, including in the Philippines, where it was done for the first time.

CODE-NGO was also represented at the Regional Meeting and NGO Coordination Fora of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) in October 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand, the World Movement for Democracy Assembly in November 2015 in Seoul, Korea, the G7 Civil Society Meeting in March 2016 in Kyoto, Japan and the International Civil Society Week and Civicus Assembly in April 2016 in Bogota, Colombia. ■

Strengthening the Capacities of Member Networks

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

I. Capacity Development Interventions

As a membership organization for civil society organization (CSO) networks, CODE-NGO implements programs to strengthen the capacities of its members as accountable and effective CSOs under the Membership Program. Interventions and capacity building grants under this program are developed and overseen by the Commission on Institution and Capacity-Building (CICB). For FY 2015-16, support to Member CSOs to achieve its capacity building goals were delivered through the following mechanisms:

a. Capacity Building Fund

In its fourth year of implementation, parallel to the CODE-NGO FY 2012-17 Strategic Plan, the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) provided a total of P 3,593,000 in grants to the 12 member networks to support their initiatives on network sustainability, organizational development and human resource development. The grants ranged from a minimum of P144,000 for the more established networks to P478,000.



CORDNET General Assembly

b. Expanded Capacity Building Fund

In FY 2015-16, CODE-NGO through the support of the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF), rolled out a modified replication of the "Strengthening the Capacity of CSOs Project" for its member networks and selected base organizations. This project strengthened the members' organizational governance and management systems, policies and programs.

Under this project, a total of 36 volunteer mentors for organizational development (OD) were trained and 62

mentee CSOs were identified. The initial step of entry contracting for OD assessment was undertaken, i.e. clarifying of mentoring framework and process, administration and/ or validation of the capacity assessment tool (CAT) and results, drafting of the capacity-building plan in preparation for the mentoring interventions in the succeeding months. Through this project, support to the CODE-NGO core programs and to core operations of the member networks were also provided to enable them to work on:

- Updating their Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) records and accreditation with relevant regulatory agencies;

- Updating their respective members' directory/profiles to adequately inform their programming;

- Attaining their respective targets committed to the CODE-NGO Good Governance Campaigns for Signing the Renewal of Commitment to the Code of Conduct, for Good Governance Checklist and for Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) or Cooperative Annual Performance Report (CAPR) certification of their member base organizations (MBOs);

- Updating/clarifying their membership policies and implementing a system to monitor the performance of their respective MBOs;

- Reviewing/revisiting or updating their Strategic Plan; and

- Clarifying their respective Financial Sustainability Plans.

A total of Php 9,387,339 was invested in this project.



MENTORS Training



CENVISNET Strategic Planning

c. Technical Assistance

In a concerted intervention with the capacity building grants for member networks, CODE-NGO implements technical assistance for its seven priority member networks, CBD, CENVISNET, CORDNET, EVNET, MINCODE, NCSD, and WEVNET. This type of support allows CODE-NGO to work closely with the MNs and their mentor on their priority OD areas and provides an avenue for monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the MNs towards their organizational and network goals for good governance.



CBD Crafting of Member's Monitoring System

II. Internal Reform Initiatives

As a network that was forged 25 years ago with the intention to scale up CSO impact on national development and to promote accountability of CSOs in the country, CODE-NGO continuously endeavors to uphold its commitment to the Code of Conduct for Development CSOs as guided by the Commission on Internal Reform Initiatives (CIRI). For FY 2015-16, the following CSO good governance campaigns were implemented:

a. Renewal of Commitment to the Code of Conduct

The Renewal of Commitment to the Code of Conduct was a CODE-NGO campaign for members to reaffirm their responsibility to uphold the development principles led to the formation of the network. By July 31, 2016, more than 1,150 member base organizations had signed and renewed their commitment to the Code of Conduct.

b. Certification by Philippine Council for NGO Certification

CODE-NGO believes that it is vital for CSOs to ensure good governance among themselves to improve effectiveness in their work and to safeguard the integrity and credibility of the sector. A peer evaluation and certification process employing established criteria for financial management and accountability plays a major role in this. It is in these pretexts that CODE-NGO has continued to campaign for members to get certified and has provided technical assistance to members.

c. Compliance with the Basic Good Governance Checklist

In order to assist members who are not yet ready for the PCNC certification process, CODE-NGO crafted a tool containing minimum measures for good governance for CSOs. The good governance checklist, containing indicators under the assessment areas of legal status, governance, systems, programs, finance and human resources, allows members to conduct self-assessment and quickly identify priorities for organizational development. As of July 31, 2016, 462 member organizations have conducted self-assessment using this tool.

On top of these campaigns, CODE-NGO continued to engage the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Commission on Audit (COA) on the guidelines for the accreditation of CSOs accessing public funds. ■



CIRI Meeting

Developing a knowledge base of CSO initiatives

KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (KDM) PROGRAM

CODE-NGO's Knowledge Development and Management (KDM) Program has continued to facilitate more meaningful learning exchange among civil society organizations (CSOs). This was done through the Communities of Practice (CoP) online forums, creating knowledge products on CSO activities, updating the CODE-NGO members' database, and regularly communicating development efforts of CSOs through the CODE-NGO website, Facebook page, Twitter account, e-newsletters and Annual Report.

Four (4) online forums were organized among communities and CSOs: "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Transforming our World"; "Citizen-Led Monitoring Program (CLMP)"; "SDGs for the Environment"; and "CSO Good Governance". The first three (3) were via the CODE-NGO Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/caucusofdevelopmentngonetworks>) and the last one through an email group. These discussions were co-organized with the Advocacy and Membership Programs, as well as with the Citizens' Monitoring of LGU Performance Project. These were participated in by several member networks (MNs), member base organizations (MBOs), and partners of CODE-NGO, coming from different regions and sectors in the Philippines. The syntheses of these fora are being compiled along with the other summaries of discussion and will soon be published.

This year was a breakthrough for CODE-NGO's KDM Program as it produced six (6) publications through online and print: CODE-NGO Annual Report 2015; Decentralized Governance Good

Practices (DG Project); Civil Society Organizations Sustainability Index (CSOSI) 2014 Report; Perception Survey of CSOs 2014 and 2015; CSO Assessment of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2011-16; and Development and Reform Agenda (DRA) 2016-19 (popular and full versions). These materials are accessible at the CODE-NGO website www.code-ngo.org. The online Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) for CSOs was also uploaded on the website.

In addition, CODE-NGO conducted a research to assess the Enabling Environment for CSOs in the Philippines which is part of the Civic Space Initiative, implemented by CIVICUS and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, in partnership with ARTICLE 19, and the World Movement for Democracy, with support from the Government of Sweden. The report assessed the legal, regulatory, policy, financial and social environment in which CSOs operate and covered 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.

A 40-question survey was conducted to update the profiles of the networks' member base organizations. As of fiscal year-end, six hundred forty-two (642) forms were received from the member networks and 92% of these have been encoded. The data will be processed, uploaded on the website's Member Database and used for mapping and programming purposes.

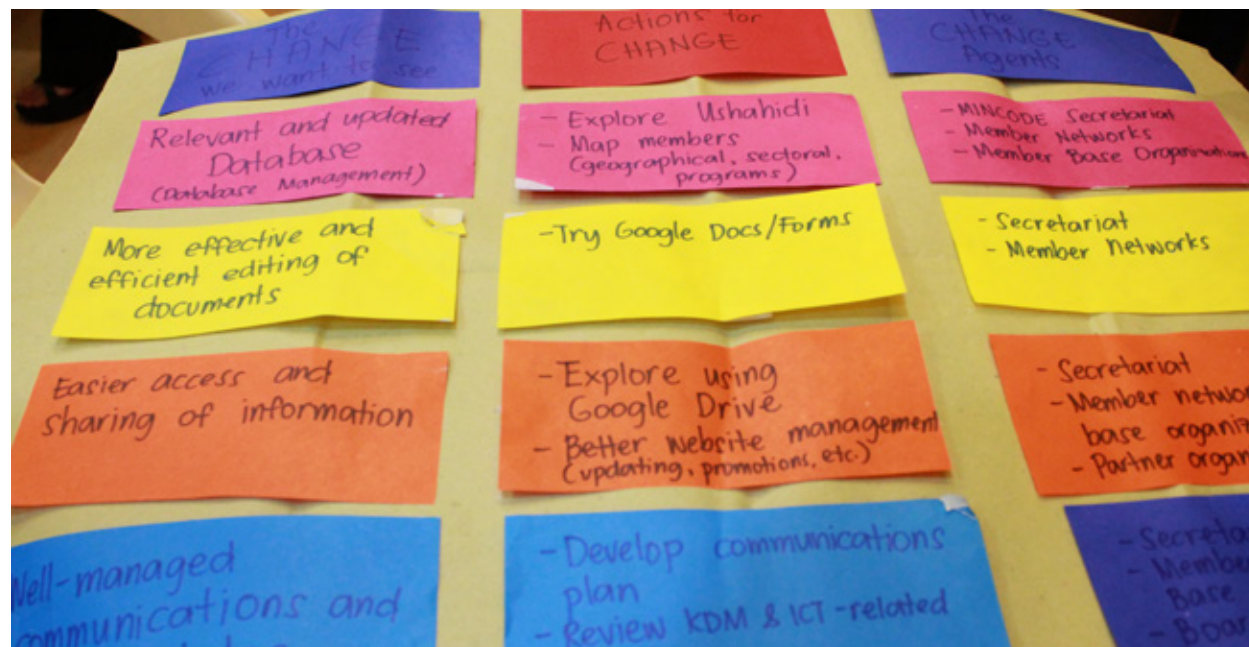
An Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Survey was also conducted among the twelve (12) member networks of CODE-NGO. The results were processed and presented during the ICT Capacity Assessment and Planning of MNs (with 15 participants from 11 MNs) last June 29, 2016. The participating MNs were able to draft their respective ICT plans after assessing their capacities and needs.

The following projects have developed knowledge products for this fiscal year: Decentralized Governance – Policy recommendations on CSO feed backing mechanisms and representation in the Regional Development Councils from their national conference in October 2015; CML Project – Lessons, good practices and recommendations from their national conference last November 2015; DATAGov Project – Successful strategies, practices and problems in obtaining and analyzing the Full Disclosure Policy (FDP) which were communicated to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) FDP staff at their National Conference last February, 2016. The Volunteer Service Program (VSP) of CODE-NGO also conducted a mini-research on volunteering and volunteer management among selected MNs and provincial networks (PNs). The results of which will be used to direct the next

steps of the program given the identified needs of the networks.

With CODE-NGO’s celebration of its 25th Anniversary, collaterals and a video were produced and sent to the MNs, along with the logo guidelines. To communicate its accomplishments to the public, CODE-NGO has continuously updated its website to feature member, project and program activities and events, posting 77 articles and statements in the past year. It released four (4) issues of the e-Newsletter, which has more than 2,500 recipients. As of July 2016, the CODE-NGO Facebook page got 2,295 “likes”. It met the target of 2-3 posts per week, and went beyond target during activities and events.

As the Strategic Plan 2018-2022 will be crafted in the coming FY, CODE-NGO’s KDM Program will review the gains and gaps it has encountered at first run in order to become more efficient and effective on gathering and producing data and lessons from the work of the network and its partner organizations to contribute to building a body of knowledge on CSO development work in the Philippines, particularly on civil society’s contributions to and impact on national development. ■



Actions for Change



Nearly 200 civil society organization (CSO) leaders convened last November 11-13, 2015 at the annual Social Development Celebration (SocDev) of the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) held at the Vista Mar Resort, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu. Co-hosted by the Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET), the SocDev2015 also included the General Assembly of CODE-NGO.

In line with the theme of the celebration, “Citizens’ Call: Sustainable, Equitable and Inclusive Development”, the SocDev2015 focused on discussing critical and urgent issues which need to be addressed and reforms which need to be considered as the leadership changes through the 2016 national and local elections.

The 3-day SocDev2015 event opened with a Learning Visit organized by CENVISNET member provincial networks – Bohol Alliance of NGOs (BANGON) and Kaabag sa Sugbu (Cebu) to feature participatory governance initiatives as actually practiced in their respective partner communities. In the evening, a “Cultural Night and Cebu Festival” featured the colorful dance and musical traditions of Cebu.

On Day 2, November 12, Former Constitutional Commission member and COMELEC Chairperson Atty. Christian Monsod gave his keynote speech on “National Situationer: Key Challenges for CSOs Today” – a political, economic and social situationer which helped frame the discussions all throughout the SocDev events. Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in

the Philippines Mr. Ola Almgren presented the highlights of Philippine’s performance on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the highlights of its successor document the Agenda 2030: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to provide a global perspective on key development issues confronting Philippine society. CODE-NGO Chairperson Patricia Sarenas shared the network’s response to the challenges posed by the keynote person by highlighting the CSO Development and Reform Agenda 2016-19 and the network’s plan to disseminate information on the SDGs and to campaign for the translation of these goals to concrete programs and projects by the network’s member organizations and by the government at local and national levels. CODE-NGO’s Executive Director Dodo Macasaet and Project Manager Paul Paraguya also shared about the CSOs’ key lessons in their engagement with government through its various projects and advocacy initiatives.

CODE-NGO invited the top 4 Presidential and top 5 Vice Presidential Candidates for a dialogue on November 12. However, only former DILG Secretary then Presidential candidate Mar Roxas confirmed and attended. Venue host was the University of San Jose Recoletos (USJR) in their campus in downtown Cebu City. The 200 SocDev2015 delegates were joined by around 700 students of voting age and registered as voters and faculty from the university, who engaged Mr. Roxas on key development concerns of CSOs and students. CODE-NGO Advocacy Commission Chairperson Bert Aquino of PHILDHARRA presented the highlights of the CSO Development and

Reform Agenda 2016-19 for comments of Mr. Roxas. SocDev2015 event partner MEGA Cebu, led by its Chairperson Dondi Joseph, also presented their Roadmap for a Sustainable Cebu 2025 for the candidate's comments.

On Day 3, November 13, there was a Gallery Walk to showcase CSOs' good practices and simultaneous learning sessions organized by CODE-NGO member networks and partners. Before the Business Meeting, CODE-NGO/EVNET Board Member, Mario Ian Mosquisa, presented the synthesis of the just concluded Simultaneous

Learning Sessions. This was followed by CODE-NGO Deputy ED Roselle Rasay's presentation of the Highlights of the CSO Sustainability Index (CSOSI) 2014 – Philippines Report. Lastly, Knowledge Development and Management Program Officer Celia de Jesus shared with the body the topline results of CODE-NGO's CSO Perception Survey 2015 on Government and Civil Society.

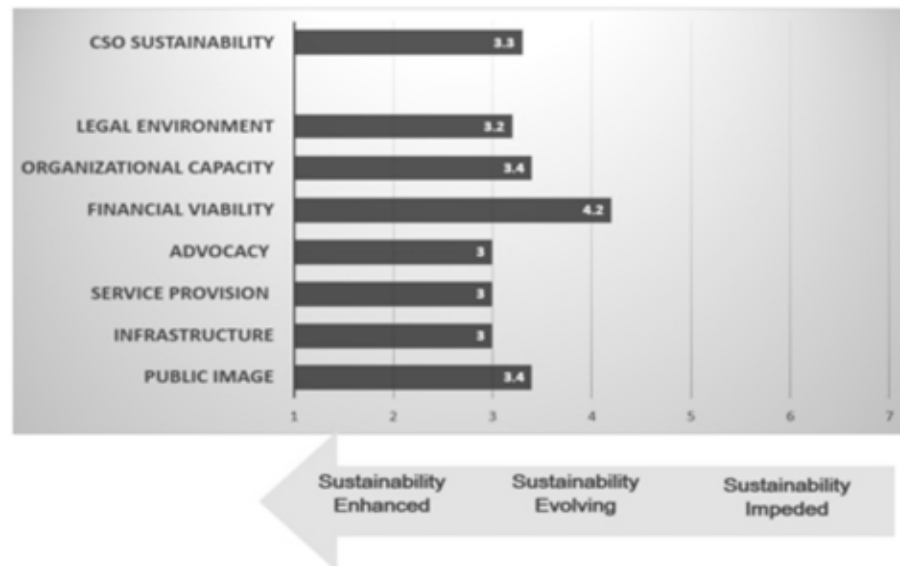
The CODE-NGO General Assembly followed later that day. ■



The Philippine civil society sector rated itself as 3.3 or with "sustainability evolving", using the USAID's Civil Society Organizations Sustainability Index (CSOSI) methodology. The CSOSI uses a 7-point rating scale, with 1 representing the

highest and 7 as the lowest level to measure seven (7) interrelated dimensions of CSO sector sustainability: legal environment, organizational capacity, financial viability, advocacy, service provision, infrastructure, and public image.

2014 CSO Sustainability Scores for Philippines



The CSOSI is a tool developed by USAID to report on the strength and overall viability of CSO sectors in 75 countries across 5 regions: Eastern Europe and Eurasia (E&E), Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Afghanistan and Pakistan and, just recently in 2014, in Asia.

The first CSO Sustainability Index for Eastern Europe and Eurasia report was produced in 1998; in 2009 for Africa, and 2011 for MENA and Afghanistan- Pakistan. For the 2014 report, USAID expanded the index to Asia, more specifically to 7 more countries: Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Nepal, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

The Index has been an established tool used by NGOs, governments, donors, academics and others to better understand the sustainability of the NGO sector in each country and allows cross-country comparisons.

The methodology relies on a panel of around 8 to 12 CSO practitioners and experts in each country who assess and score the sector on given scales in 7 dimensions of sustainability. An Editorial Committee, organized by Washington-based Management Systems International (MSI) and the International Center for Non-Profit Law (ICNL), and composed of technical and regional experts reviews each country panel's findings. Based on the final scores, the CSO sector of each country is grouped within one of three sustainability categories: sustainability enhanced, sustainability evolving, and sustainability impeded.

The Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) conducted the 2014 CSOSI study for the Philippines. For the Philippine report, rural and urban CSOs, networks, advocacy and service-oriented CSOs and perspectives from government, business and media were considered. It was

noted that a serious issue that affected the CSO sector's public image in 2014 was the involvement of Napoles' fake NGOs in the PDAF scam, but this perception has already subsided, with the more discerning sectors of the public being able to differentiate legitimate from bogus NGOs. Raising financial resources to sustain their programs and services continue to be the biggest challenge of many CSOs, whether big or small.

Nevertheless, Philippine CSOs continue to be strong in the areas of advocacy, service provisions and infrastructure, garnering scores of 3.0 or "sustainability enhanced" in these dimensions. Also, CSOs always work together in coalitions to pursue common advocacies.

The Philippine CSO sector also garnered the highest over-all rating among the 7 countries which participated in 2014 CSOSI for Asia.



However, in a round table discussion which convened representatives from donor agencies, academia, media

and national and local CSOs in March 2016, several participants, particularly from donor agencies, remarked that the Philippine CSO sector is known for its vibrancy and should have received higher ratings, particularly on the Legal Environment dimension.

The succeeding round or the 2015 CSOSI Philippines and Asia have rolled out starting March 2016, with the panel of experts convening to review and update the CSO ratings and reports, and with the Editorial Committee reviewing the country reports in June to September 2016. USAID and the Management Systems International are expected to publish the 2015 reports in last quarter of 2016. ■



Building Financial Resources for Sustainability

BUILDING RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT WORK

CODE-NGO recognizes that generating and mobilizing financial and other resources for development work is a challenging yet crucial part of the work of development civil society organizations (CSOs) and CSO networks.

In order to meet this challenge, the organization has encouraged exchanges of experience and lessons on financial sustainability among its member networks, and has worked to help the latter raise resources through consortium projects and other means.

CODE-NGO has also engaged in advocacy to create a more supportive legal and policy environment for CSOs' efforts to build their resource base. In particular, the network continued to advocate for the approval of the People's Fund Bill. This proposed law, filed in the last Congress by Senator Bam Aquino, Cong. Teddy Baguilat (Ifugao) and also by Cong. Cris Paez and Cong. Tony Bravo (Party List: COOP-NATCCO), is based on similar laws in several European countries. Once enacted, the law will allow taxpayers to allocate up to 5% of their annual income tax to a qualified CSO of their choice. This will empower taxpayers, promote local philanthropy and also strengthen CSO governance.

The bill was approved by the Committee on People's Participation in the House of Representatives in March 2015, but time ran out before it could be approved by both houses of Congress. The bill has been re-filed in the 17th Congress (2016-19) by Cong. Tony Bravo and Cong. Ben Canama of COOP-NATCCO and Sen. Bam Aquino, and CODE-NGO will continue to advocate for its approval by Congress.

CODE-NGO also advocated for amendments to Joint Resolution No. 1 – 2014 of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and

Commission on Audit (COA), which provides the guidelines on the accreditation of CSOs which will receive funding support from government for their programs and projects. These guidelines were seen by CODE-NGO and many other CSOs as being too restrictive. In November 2015, DBM, DSWD and COA accepted a number of CODE-NGO's recommended amendments, and incorporated this in the supplemental guidelines contained in their Joint Resolution No. 1 – 2015, including (a) clarifying that only CSOs that would be engaged as "implementing entity" and "beneficiary CSOs" that will "implement or co-implement government program using public funds" are required to be accredited by DSWD – so that CSOs that are only beneficiaries and who do not implement or co-implement clearly do not need to be accredited; (b) removing "incorporators or organizers" of CSOs in the list of those not allowed to be related within the 4th degree to any DSWD official involved in the accreditation process or official of the Government Agencies (GA) funding the program; (c) allowing photocopies (not certified true copies) of required documents to be submitted; (d) clarifying that applications may be filed with the DSWD Field Offices; and (e) extending the validity period of the accreditation from 1 year to 3 years. ■

Financial Highlights

Valdes Abad & Associates

certified public accountants

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108 Aguirre Street
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Branches: Cebu and Davao
PRC BOA Reg. No. 0314
SEC Reg. No. 0282- F

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Associate firm of
gmm
international

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Directors
CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC.
69 Esteban Abada Street,
Loyola Heights, Quezon City

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE-NGO)** which comprise the statement of financial position as of July 31, 2016 and 2015 and the statements of receipts and disbursements, changes in fund balances and of cash flows for the fiscal years then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Philippine Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC (CODE-NGO)

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(With comparative figure as of July 31, 2015)
(In Philippine Peso)

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE-NGO) as of July 31, 2016 and 2015 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

Report on Bureau of Internal Revenue

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information on taxes, duties and license fees in Note 21 to the financial statements is presented for purposes of filing with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as whole.

Other Matters

The financial statements for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2015 were audited by another independent auditor whose report dated October 21, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.


ALFONSO L. CAY-AN
Partner

CPA Registration No. 99805
Issued on September 26, 2014, Valid until December 14, 2017
TIN No. 213-410-741-000
PTR No. 5330739, Issued Date: January 8, 2016, Makati City
BOA/PRC Reg. No. 0314
Issued on November 2, 2015, Valid until December 31, 2018
SEC Accreditation No. 0282-F
Issued on September 19, 2013, Valid until September 18, 2016
BIR Accreditation No. 08-002126-0-2014
Issued on October 29, 2014, Valid until October 29, 2017

Makati City, Philippines
November 11, 2016

| ASSETS | July 31, | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 9,465,989 | 8,053,144 |
| Receivables | 6,566,856 | 6,510,560 |
| Short - term investments | 23,830,236 | 22,496,874 |
| Other current assets | 62,023 | 792,255 |
| | cc vc | |
| Total Current Assets | <u>39,925,104</u> | <u>37,852,833</u> |
| NON - CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Long - term investments | 156,095,760 | 154,932,213 |
| Property and equipment, Net | 19,811,205 | 19,186,956 |
| Total Non-Current Assets | <u>175,906,965</u> | <u>174,119,169</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>215,832,069</u> | <u>211,972,002</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 7,598,229 | 4,536,976 |
| Deferred grants | 9,871,170 | 8,328,250 |
| Total Current Liabilities | <u>17,469,399</u> | <u>12,865,226</u> |
| NON - CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Retirement payable | 542,296 | 1,816,961 |
| FUND BALANCES | | |
| General fund - unappropriated | 22,169,110 | 22,176,055 |
| General fund - appropriated | 82,647 | 169,647 |
| Membership fund | 2,855,407 | 2,765,407 |
| Endowment fund | 172,571,687 | 171,971,687 |
| Equipment fund | 9,324 | 93,162 |
| Emergency response fund | 132,199 | 113,857 |
| Total Fund Balances | <u>197,820,374</u> | <u>197,289,815</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES | <u>215,832,069</u> | <u>211,972,002</u> |

The Notes to Financial Statements are available from the CODE-NGO Secretariat upon request and may be viewed at or downloaded from the CODE-NGO website www.code-ngo.org.

CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE - NGO)

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

(With comparative figure for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2015)
(In Philippine Peso)

| For the Years Ended July 31, | 2016 | | 2015 | | Total |
|--|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Unrestricted | Restricted | |
| RECEIPTS | | | | | |
| Grants and donations | 1,164,779 | 31,792,913 | 32,957,692 | 21,413,572 | 46,419,578 |
| Investment income -net | 10,269,181 | - | 10,269,181 | 14,319,563 | 14,319,563 |
| Foreign exchange gain | 418,664 | - | 418,664 | 695,766 | 695,766 |
| Others | 287,890 | 1,472 | 289,362 | 68,261 | 77,876 |
| Total receipts | 12,140,514 | 31,794,385 | 43,934,899 | 36,497,162 | 61,512,783 |
| DISBURSEMENTS | | | | | |
| Project expenses | - | 31,794,385 | 31,794,385 | - | 25,015,621 |
| Program expenses | 6,773,603 | - | 6,773,603 | 8,053,409 | 8,053,409 |
| Operating expenses | 4,755,513 | - | 4,755,513 | 4,178,352 | 4,178,352 |
| Total disbursements | 11,529,116 | 31,794,385 | 43,323,501 | 12,231,761 | 37,247,382 |
| EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS | 611,398 | - | 611,398 | 24,265,401 | 24,265,401 |

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CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE - NGO)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

(With comparative figure for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2015)
(In Philippine Peso)

| BALANCES AS OF JULY 31, 2014 | General Fund | | Membership Fund | Endowment Fund | Equipment Fund | Emergency Response Fund | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| | Unappropriated | Appropriated | | | | | |
| | 2,227,801 | 352,500 | 2,675,407 | 167,471,687 | 177,001 | 113,857 | 173,018,253 |
| Additional funds received | - | - | 90,000 | - | - | - | 90,000 |
| Depreciation for the year | - | - | - | - | (83,839) | - | (83,839) |
| Funds used for program expenses | 182,853 | (182,853) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net income for the year | 24,265,401 | - | - | - | - | - | 24,265,401 |
| Transfer to Endowment Fund | (4,500,000) | - | - | 4,500,000 | - | - | - |
| BALANCES AS OF JULY 31, 2015 | 22,176,055 | 169,647 | 2,765,407 | 171,971,687 | 93,162 | 113,857 | 197,289,815 |
| Additional funds received | - | - | 90,000 | - | - | - | 90,000 |
| Depreciation for the year | - | - | - | - | (83,839) | - | (83,839) |
| Funds used for program expenses | - | (87,000) | - | - | - | - | (87,000) |
| Net income for the year | 611,398 | - | - | - | - | - | 611,398 |
| Transfer of funds | (618,343) | - | - | 600,000 | - | 18,343 | - |
| BALANCES AS OF JULY 31, 2016 | 22,169,110 | 82,647 | 2,855,407 | 172,571,687 | 9,323 | 132,200 | 197,820,374 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are available from the CODE-NGO Secretariat upon request and may be viewed at or downloaded from the CODE-NGO website www.code-ngo.org.

CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC (CODE-NGO)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(With comparative figure as of July 31, 2015)

(In Philippine Peso)

| For the Fiscal Years Ended July 31, | 2016 | 2015 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Excess of receipts over disbursements | 611,398 | 24,265,401 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation | 88,709 | 94,446 |
| Investment and interest income | (10,413,513) | (14,468,521) |
| Net retirement expense | 261,739 | 280,557 |
| Unrealized foreign exchange gain | (418,664) | (695,766) |
| Premium amortization | 126,360 | 125,226 |
| Operating income before working capital changes | (9,743,971) | 9,601,343 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: | | |
| Receivables | (62,440) | (368,972) |
| Other current assets | 730,232 | (724,064) |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 3,061,253 | (372,604) |
| Deferred grants | 1,542,920 | 480,401 |
| Cash provided by (used in) operating activities | (4,472,006) | 8,616,104 |
| Investment and interest income received | 6,620,387 | 2,636,664 |
| Net cash from operating activities | 2,148,381 | 11,252,768 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Withdrawals or maturities of investments | 1,500,000 | 8,750,000 |
| Acquisition of property and equipment | (796,796) | (18,979,493) |
| Contribution for retirement plan asset | (1,536,404) | - |
| Net cash from investing activities | (833,200) | (10,229,493) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Additional funds received | 90,000 | 90,000 |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 1,405,181 | 1,113,275 |
| EFFECT ON EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 7,664 | 11,766 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning | 8,053,144 | 6,928,103 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End | 9,465,989 | 8,053,144 |

The Notes to Financial Statements are available from the CODE-NGO Secretariat upon request and may be viewed at or downloaded from the CODE-NGO website www.code-ngo.org.

Member Networks





ASSOCIATION OF FOUNDATIONS (AF)

Building Foundations, Building a Better Future!



The Association of Foundations (AF) is a vibrant community of respected foundations dedicated to building a just and equitable society. AF commits to enhance the capacity of its members to deliver relevant, quality programs for Philippine development. As such, AF focuses its programs, projects and activities towards capacity-building, information-sharing, networking and advocacies related to fostering an enabling environment for Philippine philanthropy and social development.

With 150 active member organizations involved in an array of development programs including education, health, social enterprises, arts and culture, governance, and environment, to name a few, AF is the largest and most diverse NGO network in the country today. AF is PCNC-certified and is currently the network that has the most number of certified member organizations in its roster.

A Mission to Enable

The Association of Foundations (AF) is keen on its mission of building foundations, building a better future. Consequently, Capacity Building continues to be the network's flagship program.

To this end, AF organized activities that looked at innovative frameworks such as Design Thinking.

Ms. Sarah Stein Greenberg, Executive Director of Stanford School, discussed the concept of Design Thinking in a forum organized by AF on August 19, 2015. In this event, participants learned how to combine creative and analytical approaches and to collaborate across disciplines to meet people's real-world needs.

AF also organized learning events that were practical and useful. One such activity was a learning event on disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM). With the theme Building a Culture of Resilience, Strengthening Disaster Preparedness, this event held on October 13-15, 2015 was an opportunity for participants to develop a better understanding of DRRM, know the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders/different sectors in mitigating disasters and responding to different calamities, and gain knowledge on the importance of having a comprehensive DRRM plan that is effective, sustainable and applicable.

Also, during the 44th AF General Assembly held in Baguio City on April 15-16 2016, the program included a session where 14 member organizations shared their experiences in implementing certain programs or projects from which other AF members could learn from.

A cornerstone of AF's Capacity Building program is mentoring. AF assists members in very specific needs particularly those on institutional strengthening and organizational development vis-à-vis the network's campaign for civil society organizations (CSOs) to meet and adhere to standards of good governance. A monitoring system complements these efforts where the requirements to maintain membership in AF ensures that each member organization likewise complies with the reportorial requirements of oversight agencies particularly the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). Related to this, AF will soon launch the NGO Transparency Initiative Project— an online platform that shall promote integrity, transparency and accountability not just of AF members but of the larger NGO community.

Another important component of capacity building is keeping members updated on materials, regulations and policies that are relevant to the work that they do. To manage the information shared with members, AF regularly sends out the weekly e-newsletter AF Exchange. AF likewise provides members the opportunity to share their own programs and projects not just within the network but with the general public through exposure in AF's monthly public e-newsletter AF Links which has over 3,500 local and international recipients on its mailing list.

Above all these, AF shall constantly be looking for more opportunities that will make its member organizations stronger, relevant and reliable development partners.

••••



Contact Details

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Facebook: facebook.com/Association.of.Foundations

Total number of base members: 150



COALITION FOR BICOL DEVELOPMENT (CBD)

Taking part in sustaining peace and development in Bicolandia through CSOs' collective action



Coalition for Bicol Development was established in November 14, 1996. CBD is non-stock, non-profit, and non-partisan organization duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on November 14, 1996. It is being governed by its member networks composed of those operating in the provinces and chartered city. CBD's core programs include Institutional Stability, Capacity Development of its provincial and city network members and Regional Engagement and Partnership Development.

CSO DRR HUB IN BICOL - FINALLY SET UP

Everyone knows that Bicol Region is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the country due to its geophysical location. Per record, the natural hazards in Bicol are mainly storms and floods that put the lives of the Bicolanos especially the vulnerable sectors at risk. They said these hazards seem to be ordinary to most Bicolanos despite the damages brought about by the said occurrences. However, it should be stressed that response to any disaster involves several phases and everything should be well-coordinated from pre-, during and post disaster interventions and

with greater emphasis that civil society organizations (CSOs) must continue to capacitate themselves as humanitarian actors during "peace times".

Last year, with funding support from Christian Aid through CODE-NGO, the Coalition for Bicol Development had the opportunity to receive another project grant and implemented the Advancing CSO Engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (ACED) 3 Project that supported the setting-up of a Regional CSO DRR Hub and advocating for full implementation of Republic Act (RA) 10121 in Region 5.

This was a 7-month project implemented at the regional level from August 2015-April 2016 which hoped to set up and equip the regional DRR Coordination Hubs to facilitate learning exchange and advocacy during peace times and coordinate humanitarian response in times of disaster and strengthen the hubs' capacity to engage the local government units (LGUs) in crafting needs-responsive local DRRM plans and budgets.

Though the project timeframe was brief, CBD

is delighted to share its key achievement, which is the organizing and setting-up of the CSO DRR REGIONAL HUB together with its Provincial and City network members. Also, a STRATEGIC PLAN was formulated that defined programs and services of the Hub using the protocols on Coordination, Communication, and resource-sharing. Finally, CBD was able to come up with an updated and organized database of CSOs and Private Groups working towards the Advocacy Direction of the Regional DRR CSO HUB and awareness raising on RA 10121 in Bicol Region.

The Regional culture of volunteerism is still strong among the CBD stakeholders, but hopes that these actions will have to be continued so as not to discourage the fire of commitment among its member base organizations. CBD also needs to be more aggressive in making its presence and impact among other DRR stakeholders and government structures in the provinces/region.

To sustain the generous gains in the project, CBD will continue to work on capacitating and organizing DRR-relevant structures at the provincial and city networks; agree on a system of monitoring and feedbacking, so as to better facilitate mentoring and technical assistance of the Regional Hub to its provincial networks; do aggressive fund sourcing to support the strategic plan and to scale up its Hub initiatives in the Region.

Ultimately, CBD continues to build partnerships with other agencies and CSOs, especially those from outside the circle of CBD network, in order to further assess the capacity and strength of the Regional DRR Hub and its ability to respond in favor of the provincial and city networks' needs.

••••



Contact Details

Contact person: Marjorie Francia Oropesa-Banares

Designation: Executive Director

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Telephone number: (0998) 8602652

Email address : cdbicol@gmail.com

Website: www.coalitionforbicoldev.publish.com

Facebook: facebook.com/cdbicol

Total number of member base organizations (MBOs): 232



CENTRAL VISAYAS NETWORK OF NGOS (CENVISNET)



The Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET) is a coalition of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Central Visayas. CENVISNET is celebrating its 10th year having been formally registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in June 2007 as an offshoot of the 1991 Local Government Code. It is affiliated with Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) and has three provincial network members that are active in local participatory governance such as Bohol Alliance of NGOs (BANGON), Negros Oriental Network of NGOs (NEGORNET) and Kaabag sa Sugbo in Cebu. With its member organizations, CENVISNET aids in improving the quality of services provided by NGOs in ensuring transparency and accountability in their work processes as well as improving the relationship between their members and various partners and stakeholders. Its members offer varied development programs serving different sectors in the region including fisherfolk, urban workers, farmers, women, children, youth, agrarian reform communities, senior citizens, people's organizations and academe.

AdvanCED Youth

The **Advancing Community-based Engagement on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation with the Youth or AdvanCED Youth** is a project of CENVISNET in partnership with R3ADY-Asia Pacific which aims to advance the engagement of the youth in DRRM-CCA through a youth-initiated DRR-CCA project in Barangay Basak, Lapu-Lapu City towards a disaster resilient community. The AdvanCED Youth project started last January 2016 and will end in December 2016. The direct beneficiaries of the project are the members of the Federation of Youth Organizations in Barangay Basak (FYOB). FYOB is a youth serving organization located at the heart of Lapu-Lapu City, Barangay Basak which is also the biggest barangay in the city. It is considered to be a champion in youth empowerment through socio-civic consciousness, active engagement and participation in nation building since 1988.

Under this project, the youth went through different seminar-workshops on Basic DRR-CCA

Concepts and Laws, Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Analysis (PCVA), Humanitarian Response, Basic Public Planning and Budgeting Process, Basic Project Planning, Implementation and Monitoring, First Aid and Basic Life Support, to name a few. The members of FYOB were able to reach out to other 153 youth from the 10 sitios of their barangay to share their learning, validate a 3-in-1 (Hazard, Resources and Evacuation) map they prepared, and orient other youth groups on DRRM-CCA basic concepts. The youth organization also had an activity entitled "Takbo sa Kabataan: Basak Amazing Race on DRR," participated in by 45 youth leaders who were selected from among the 153 youth. Currently, the FYOB members are finalizing their project, "Safety Awareness on Flood Emergencies" or SAFE which will be fully implemented in October 2016.

Through the AdvanCED Youth project, some of the FYOB members had now become resource persons as they were tapped to conduct a two-day DRRM-CCA training to the youth of Aksyon Kabataan, a DRR-CCA project in Sitio Kadasig, Barangay Tisa, Cebu City. Some of their members were also invited as guest speakers to present the AdvanCED Youth project in youth assemblies, DRRM-CCA seminars and other talks. This project is eyed to be replicated in other barangays in Lapu-Lapu City. Moreover, CENVISNET is looking forward to the next phase of the project which is an exchange program with the youth from Seattle, USA. Truly, seeing the youth channel their energies to doing something productive such as addressing pressing issues in their community is impelling not just for the adults to act, but other youth as well. This project serves as a model that the youth can do so much more when given the opportunity to learn and maximize their capacities.

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Total number of member base organizations (MBOs): 56



CORDILLERA NETWORK OF DEVELOPMENT NGOS AND POS (CORDNET)

Nurturing the Roots of Resiliency and Sustainability



The Cordillera Network of Development NGOs and POs (CORDNET) is a regional network composed of (4) provincial networks and (7) Baguio-based non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and member base organizations of 36 people's organizations (POs) and 6 Cooperatives. It is a pro-active and culture-inspired network that advocates and implements development models tailored to the unique and multicultural landscape of the Cordillera region, Northern Luzon. As a grassroots dominated network of NGOs and POs, CORDNET's continuing thrust is catalyzing social development in the region that is responsive to the Indigenous Peoples context. It does so through sustained advocacy for an IP sensitive development agenda in the region as it empowers its base organizations to effectively participate in local political as well as economic governance to reduce poverty incidence. It also promotes and supports the development of social enterprises for the sustainability of its members and community partners.

Nurturing Indigenous Capital for Resiliency and Sustainability

CORDNET mindfully blends indigenous knowledge systems and practices and social entrepreneurship to nurture resiliency in the face of

social as well as climate challenges in its initiatives for poverty reduction and sustainable development in the region. It continues to advocate and promote a kind of development that is aligned with the Cordillera Indigenous Peoples' context and undertakes initiatives to harness the ecosystems, technological and social capital among its partner communities and member base organizations.

While indigenous peoples are considered to be among the poorest and most vulnerable sectors of society who are now adversely impacted by climate change, a growing recognition that indigenous knowledge systems and practices (IKSP) reflecting indigenous peoples holistic view of community and environment are also a major resource for building resilience and adapting to climate change.

During the recent disasters that struck the region including Typhoon Lando in the last quarter of 2015 and the dry spell in the first quarter of 2016 severely affecting agricultural productivity in the region, the affected indigenous communities have time and again drawn strength from their deeply embedded social as well as natural and technological resources for rebuilding their devastated communities, effectively integrating

limited yet much needed external inputs from outside partners. Yet, while indigenous knowledge systems and practices provide communities with capabilities of dealing with past and present vulnerabilities, it is also a sad fact that the long period of denigration and neglect has effectively weakened the appreciation of these valuable assets.

CORDNET base organizations and community partners are revitalizing and nurturing indigenous resources to enhance community coping and adaptive mechanisms to climate impacts. The practice of ogpe or baballo by the Tuwali sub-tribe in Ifugao is reinforced by the System for Rice Intensification (SRI) technique in today's organic rice farming in Hungduan, Ifugao. The belief in lawa and inayan among the Kankana-eyes in Mountain Province and Benguet provides an ethical mandate to raise crops in ways that are not harmful to humans and the environment providing models for integrated and natural farming systems. The customary laws regulating the access and prohibiting the exploitation of forest resources in the ancestral domains are now viewed as effective measures in maintaining carbon sinks and biodiversity. The strong sense of intergenerational responsibility for land care demonstrated by indigenous peoples and other nurturing societies provides foundations for sustainable development.

CORDNET also continues to advocate for the recognition of ancestral land rights as a foundation for self-governance and social justice long aspired for by indigenous peoples. For indeed, the sustainability of the region's ecosystems and its diverse cultural characteristics not only benefits the indigenous communities and the local population but the wider global community as well.

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Total number of member base organizations (MBOs): 53



MINDANAO COALITION OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS (MINCODE)

The Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE), the largest coalition of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Mindanao was organized in 1992 but was formally registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on January 18, 1993. As the largest coalition of united CSOs, it has been in the forefront of peace and development work in Mindanao. It influences public policy, provides leadership in civil society and increases the effectiveness of social development work in Mindanao and serves as a forum for discussion, dialogue and coordination among Mindanao CSO networks concerning development programs and their impact to the Mindanao community. It continues to play an important role as capacity builder, knowledge manager, bridge builder, and advocacy center towards addressing poverty, protecting the environment, and promoting social justice.

Today, MINCODE is composed of 11 CSO networks with 661 member base organizations - 6 of the member networks are Mindanao affiliates of national networks – namely: Association of Foundations (AF), Mindanao Alliance of Self-Help Societies-Southern Philippines Educational Cooperative Center (MASS-SPECC), Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PhilSSA), Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in the Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA), Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA) and 5 are homegrown Mindanao networks – namely: Agri-Aqua Development Coalition (AADC), Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society (CBCS), Coalition of Social Development Organizations – South Cotabato (CSDO-SC), Kahugpungan sa Mindanaw (KAMI) and the Mindanao Coalition of Development NGOs and NGOs (MINCON).

Citizens' Participation in Monitoring of LGU Performance and Development Planning for Poverty Reduction (CML) Project

In partnership with CODE-NGO, the Citizens' Participation in Monitoring of LGU

Performance and Development Planning for Poverty Reduction (CML) Project is implemented by MINCODE and its member networks PHILDHRRA-Mindanao, AF, and PAKISAMA-Mindanao in ten (10) municipalities across three (3) provinces and two (2) regions in Mindanao. With support from the European Union, this four-year project commenced in September 2012 and will culminate in November 2016. It aimed to improve planning and budgeting processes and improve service delivery in health and agriculture by strengthening social accountability of local government units (LGUs), and enhancing or institutionalizing mechanisms for local poverty reduction action planning and budgeting.

Through the CML Project, CSOs were organized at the municipal level. As such, they are better able to lobby for basic sectors' development agenda and priority projects considering their number, geographical area coverage and sectors they represent. The project also contributed significantly in building capacities of local CSOs on constructive engagement, local governance, planning and budgeting, agenda building and lobbying. These capacities are useful in negotiating with local government officials in various structures and mechanisms such as the Bottom Up Budgeting (BUB), local special bodies, and local development councils. The CML Project also facilitated the development of local CSO agenda. The local CSO agenda is composed of priority projects and initiatives that may be undertaken to promote well-being and progress in their respective municipalities. These agenda bind the CSOs together and are being lobbied by CSOs for adoption and budgeting of their local governments. Through the CML Project, networking and collaboration among CSOs – from municipal to regional and national levels – are promoted. This provides better coordination and information sharing among CSOs locally and nationwide. Institutional partnerships are also strengthened by formal linkages between government and CSOs. For instance, MINCODE is recognized by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in Region X as a partner for development. Similarly, the local CSO networks (i.e. MINCODE member networks and the municipal

CSO networks organized through the CML Project) are also recognized by their respective municipal governments as partners for development.

As a result of the interventions supported by the CML Project, there are more active and participatory local governance planning and budgeting processes in the 10 municipalities, largely due to increase in number and enhanced capacity of CSOs participating in local development processes. Members of the municipal CSO networks sit in various governance mechanisms (e.g. LPRAT – local poverty reduction action team -, local special bodies and local development councils). Some municipal CSO networks have developed into independent NGO networks duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and have been able to access grants for the conduct of their priority projects. Development plans and local projects and their corresponding budgets are now more reflective of the needs in the communities. Probably as a result of more interactions between CSOs and LGUs, the project has contributed to building mutual respect between local governments and CSOs. Where government and CSOs previously hold strong negative perceptions against the other, it has been observed that the two are now able to work side by side. Both parties now acknowledge that development may only be had if they work together for the common good.

The CML Project adopted a useful and user-friendly tool for citizens' monitoring of LGU performance. Called CSRC (CSO Satisfaction Report Card), the tool provided for evidence-based monitoring of the performance and service delivery of their respective LGUs. Although some of the local CSOs have previous experience on monitoring local government projects, the conduct of the CSRC further enhanced their capacity and technical skills on monitoring. It will be good to institutionalize the conduct of citizens monitoring of LGU performance. Perhaps the most significant realization and lesson learned from CML refers to the Bottom Up Budgeting (BUB). In all project areas, the BUB is recognized as an innovative government program that enshrines citizens' meaningful participation in development planning and budgeting. By providing wider space for citizens to participate in governance, the BUB empowered citizens and basic sectors to identify and prioritize local projects that directly benefit them and their communities. It is thus fervently hoped that such programs continue to be adopted by government. After all, it is high time for development to be felt on the ground. As experienced in the CML Project and in many other development initiatives, MINCODE, its members and partner communities believe that involvement of organized citizens in planning and budgeting processes must be sustained.

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Total number of member base organizations: 11 Networks with 661 member CSOs



NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES (NATCCO)

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To register, just email:
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Why NATCCO E-Learning?

The NATCCO Network is composed of 824 member-cooperatives in 76 provinces and 130 cities, reaching 3.5 million individual members – farmers, small entrepreneurs, self-employed, housewives, professionals, teachers, soldiers, policemen, and workers.

NATCCO aims to make co-ops viable, providing them primarily financial services such as deposits, loans, training and consultancy, conditional cash transfer and money remittance. Allied services include a) Information Technology services, such as financial software, automated teller machines, and IT compliance with the Credit Information System Act, b) enterprise development, c) life insurance, and networking and advocacy.

NATCCO Online E-learning

Co-op leaders, managers and staff must manage the precious and hard-earned resources (deposits and Share Capital) of co-op members. Their task is not easy that is why the Cooperative

Development Authority (CDA) requires all of them to attend specific seminars on how to run the co-op.

There are about 24,000 cooperatives in the country. Multiply that by the number of leaders and staff each co-op has, you get a very big number . . . say half a million.

Training half a million people is a challenge – and very costly.

So starting 2013 the Education, Training and Consultancy Group (ETCG) of the National Confederation of Cooperatives developed an e-learning program which offers interactive self-paced courses which are available online.

All a student needs is to do is go online, visit the website www.natcco-lms.com to enroll, watch the videos, and then take the assessment tests. Upon passing the test, a certificate will be e-mailed to the new graduate.

While the courses are not free, they are definitely cheaper than participants having to travel to training sessions. They also save time.

The video lessons are prepared by experienced and highly qualified co-op managers with successful track records, and are very engaging. The lessons can be accessed anytime, anywhere using a desktop or laptop computer, or even a tablet or cellphone.

Internet availability in rural areas where many co-ops are located and availability of computers are the main factors in the success of the e-learning program. However, it is safe to expect that internet availability, reliability and speed will spread to more areas in the next few years.

Courses available cover virtually every aspect of co-op management and operations: Fundamentals of Cooperative, Coop Management and Governance, Financial Management, Risk Management, Rules Formulation, Leadership and Values Re-orientation, Audit Management, Basic Accounting for Non-Accountants, Conflict Management and Governance, Entrepreneurial and Business Management, Internal Control, Parliamentary Procedure, Records Management and Strategic Planning. Eventually, all of the CDA's compliance courses will be available and more courses will be created and offered.

From January to September 2016, 121 individuals from 16 cooperatives completed the training. This is a 30 percent increase compared to 2015, so far.

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NCSDFP)

The National Council of Social Development Foundation of the Philippines, Inc. (NCSDFP) was formally known and organized as the Council of Welfare Agencies in the Philippines (CWAPFI) in 1952 when a group of Filipino leaders of various welfare and civic organizations bonded together to respond to the aftermath of World War II. The formation of the Council can probably be considered as the beginning of NGO networking in the Philippines. NCSDFP is a co-founder of the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) and is an active member of various technical working committees of the Council for the Welfare of Children, International Labour Organization - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) and the National Coalition of NGOs for the Promotion of the Rights of the Child.

As a network, NCSDFP is composed of social service and social development agencies and people's organizations based in the National Capital Region (NCR) and various provinces in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. It was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on April 1977, under SEC registration number 73711. Today, NCSDFP is certified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as an Auxiliary Social Welfare Resource Agency and by the Philippine Council of NGO Certification (PCNC) as a donee institution. NCSDFP is a close partner of the DSWD, the Council for the Welfare of Children, UNICEF Philippines and the International Conference of Social Work (ICSW) in advocating for the rights of children, women and families.

NCSDFP is continuously building up the capacity of its member organizations with gained/ manifest knowledge and skills to better serve their beneficiaries.

1. Training on Child Protection

Training on Child Protection was conducted in two (2) batches, dated December 17 & 19, 2015 (51

participants) and January 13 to 15, 2016 (50 participants), at Makati Palace Hotel, Makati City. In partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the training gave an overview of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Concept of Child Protection; Street Children Situationer; Protocol, Self-Awareness, Innovative Approaches and Strategies. Saving the children and protecting them from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence in all regions is the prime mandate of DSWD as well as NCSDFP. Thus, they advocate for improved laws and systems to prevent occurrence of child abuse and also to address its negative impact.

Children need to be well taken care of; they need to be nourished not only by food and shelter but most especially by love. But then it's sad to note that even though many of our children are being loved and cared for, still there are so many who are not being protected by their parents, siblings and by the communities. Children always become the victims. They are vulnerable to the harsh situations of life. The training became a big help to all participants to act legally correct when the situation calls for it and at the same time teach the participants the different types of services which their clients can avail of.

2. Case Management Training

Thirty (30) participants, majority were social workers, attended the Case Management Training using the Caring, Healing and Teaching (CHT) framework. It was held at Rajah Soliman Hotel, Bokawkan Road, Baguio City last April 19-20, 2016. Through a demonstration of the Case Presentation/Analysis and Case Management Conference, participants clearly understood the task/functions of every member of the case management team using the CHT framework. In that training, they realized the importance of documentation, that every child should have a case study, especially when the child is based in a residential care or center.

3. Road Safety Training

Twenty Seven (27) member organizations attended the three-day Training on Child Protection: At Home, In School, on the Road (Communities) that was held in the New Rajah Soliman Hotel, Baguio City last May 26-28 2016. The general objective was to train workers to introduce what is child Injury and how to make children safer while at home, in school and on the road. The specific objectives included – a) to determine the extent of the problem on child and adolescent injuries; b) to determine the government's efforts in preventing child and adolescent Injuries; and c) to introduce how duty bearers can make the children safer: The resource person, Amalia Rolloque, Program Officer of Safe Kids Philippines, provided a common understanding of the context of injury as "the physical damage that results when the body is suddenly subjected to levels of energy beyond the body's ability to absorb, or the result of lack of vital elements such as air, water or warmth". She discussed the main categories of injury such as unintentional injuries for which traffic collisions, burns, falls and drowning are the leading causes and intentional injuries which result from deliberate acts of violence or neglect such as all forms of child abuse, homicide cases, etc.

4. Child Led Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Training (CL-DRRM)

The training was attended by forty (40) participants last June 6-8, 2016 at Villa Adelle, Silang, Cavite. The primary objective was to involve youth and children in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (CLDRRM-CCA). The resource speaker facilitated the topic concerning the legal basis of DRRM in order for children to understand their rights as stated by the international/national instruments and framework in promoting the needs and involvement in any developmental programs and initiatives including DRRM. Two (2) other resource persons discussed the basic concept of DRRM, the similarities and differences between DRRM-CCA and Child Led DRRM-CCA. Action Planning was done by each member organization who attended, followed by a presentation of their plans.

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Total number of member base organizations (MBOs): 110



PHILIPPINE BUSINESS FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS (PBSP)

Business United, Lives Uplifted

Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) is the largest business-led NGO at the forefront of strategic corporate citizenship and business sector leadership contributing to sustainable development and poverty reduction. Established in 1970, PBSP remains a consultant and partner of choice of companies and donors.

PBSP scales up impact by using the Collective Impact strategy to solve large and systemic problems. Its brand of corporate citizenship taps into the core business competencies of companies and promotes inclusive business as a strategy. PBSP also creates sustainable solutions in Health, Education, Environment, and Livelihood while strategically engaging companies through social investment, responsible business practices, and philanthropy.

Micro-Enterprise Disaster Assistance Fund for Resiliency (MIDAS) Program

The Micro-Enterprise Disaster Assistance Fund for Resiliency (MIDAS) Program was launched in December 2014 to help micro-entrepreneurs affected by Typhoon Yolanda in Leyte rebuild their livelihood and their lives. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided a US\$4.0 million (Php176 million) seed fund to help establish the resiliency fund that can be accessed by micro-finance institutions (MFIs) for on-lending to affected clients.

The long-term goal is to build a Php5 billion resiliency fund in five years for 500,000 micro-enterprises nationwide and across all types of calamities. It is further envisioned that the micro-enterprises will generate 20% additional income and Php5,000 savings, as well as learn and adopt Disaster Risk Management measures to achieve resiliency.

Post-Yolanda assessments revealed the extreme economic vulnerability of Leyte communities. With majority of the households below poverty threshold, assessment showed severe deficiency in money due to lack of savings. This led victims to negative coping measures such as buying food and essential household items on credit. Thus, opportunities to revive their livelihood to obtain basic needs and repay loans were much needed. Restarting the local economy through microcredit will boost the entrepreneurial spirit of communities as they realize the distinction between relief response and self-help to recovery.

Some Php164.8 million in loans were released to the four MFIs at 123% of loan fund and each MFI was granted Php40 million credit line. Loans were extended to 30,228 micro-enterprise borrowers engaged in farming, fishing, livestock, trading and services. Other borrowers used the loan to repair their business sites.

PBSP also released Php8.9 million in grants to the MFIs for program administration and business support to borrowers.

In a performance survey of sampled accounts conducted in May to June 2016, 48% of respondents posted a 14% increase in average household income from Php12,400 to Php14,500. It was inferred that 31% of respondents reflected a Php2,237 (52%) increase in business income which contributed to the growth of their income levels. Diversification was also evident as 33% of respondents utilized their MIDAS loans for new businesses.

On savings mobilization, 81% of respondents practiced regular savings, generating an average of Php795 per month or Php4,773 over a period of six months.

About 60 to 70% of respondents became knowledgeable on disaster risk reduction and management, participated in community DRRM activities, and are perceived to be ready to face future disaster risks.

PBSP collected Php94.9 million from the MFIs, representing 100% collection efficiency. About Php46.117 million were relent while Php48.783 million remained available for lending as of end of July 2016.

In fulfillment of the MIDAS goal, the Restart Micro-Enterprise, Inc. (RestartME) was established as a non-stock, non-profit corporation to sustain the resiliency fund. RestartME will continue building the fund and expand services nationwide to cater to livelihood recovery needs of clients affected by future calamities.

PBSP is the main implementer together with USAID, while its partners are the Center for Agriculture and Development, Inc., ASA Philippines Foundation, Taytay sa Kauswagan, Inc., and Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation, Inc.

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Total number of member organizations: 267



PHILIPPINE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN RURAL AREAS (PHILDHRRA)

Empowering Rural Communities Towards Sustainable Development



Organized in 1984, PhilDHRRA is a network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are involved in a wide range of activities geared towards sustainable development. PhilDHRRA reaffirms the Sustainable Integrated Area Development (SIAD) as its overall framework in implementing programs in rural communities. It is anchored on the need to integrate the various initiatives in a geographically defined area to address diverse yet interrelated issues of the people. The role of PhilDHRRA as a network is to support the capacity building initiatives of its members so they can more effectively implement their programs and projects. Such support is being signified by the five (5) key result areas: 1) SIAD Operationalization; 2) Research and Policy Advocacy; 3) Membership Development; 4) Network Development and Management; and 5) Resource Mobilization.

Strengthening the Resiliency of Local Government Units and Local Communities to Adapt to the Impact of Climate Change

The Agusan Marsh covers an area of 110,069 hectares comprising of lakes, freshwater swamp

forest, secondary scrub, herbaceous swamp, pools and rivers, rice paddies and other agricultural land and small settlements. Majority of the people living in the marsh are indigenous people and mostly belong to the Manobo tribe. Farming, fishing, logging and firewood gathering, hunting and trapping, and gathering of forest products are the main sources of income and livelihood in the area. In recent years, communities in Agusan Marsh have become increasingly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as flooding and drought.

The project, also known as the **Agusan Marsh Climate Change Adaptation Project** or **AMCCAP**, a grantee of the United States Agency for International Development or USAID, seeks to address this challenge by increasing capacity of stakeholders in 61 barangays of Agusan Marsh in Agusan del Sur to adapt to adverse impacts of climate change.

From November 2012 until January 2016, the Project increased the adaptive capacity of 7,962 stakeholders, with the knowledge and skills imparted by the Project. Of the 7,962 stakeholders,

5,008 increased their capacity to practice Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) that helped them prevent, prepare and/or cope with disasters, or as a result, decreased the risks created by a potential hazard or by actual disasters in their community. Stakeholders were able to acquire knowledge and skills from various activities of the project, such as Community Forums on CCA-DRR and the Workshops on Community-Based Flood Early Warning System (CBFEWS) and Community-Based Multi-Hazard Mapping using Geographic Information System (CBMHM/GIS) implemented by the Project.

Meanwhile, 2,954 of the 7,962 stakeholders increased their capacity to use information that improved their ability to adjust or make changes in ways and practices that mitigate the potential damage, or help them take advantage of opportunities or cope with consequences. Applied in decision making especially in the stakeholders' farms, the information is derived from various project activities that generated climate and weather data. These include the Agusan Marsh Agro-Hydrological Information (AMAHIN) Workshops, Community Forums on Agricultural Water and CSA, Study tour to Agri-Aqua-Forestry Demonstration Farms (AAFDF) as well as to barangays with CCA strategies and projects, Training of Para-Agro-meteorologists and Para-Technicians and Training on Weather Observation, Data Collection, and Meteorology.

During the same period, the Project developed, tested or adopted different Climate change tools, methodologies and technologies in CSA such as AAFDF, Climate Smart Field Schools, Climate Smart Farms, Community Seed Banks and Farmer-Based Agro-meteorological Stations. Moreover, it also developed, tested or adopted different methodologies that facilitate the adaptation process, or help the stakeholders to take advantage of opportunities or to cope with the consequences of climate change.

AMCCAP fuses indigenous knowledge, scientific knowledge and local governance in developing innovative ideas and, at the same time, uses the Open Data approach to improve the interoperability of organizations working in CCA-DRR in Agusan Marsh.

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PARTNERSHIP OF PHILIPPINE SUPPORT SERVICE AGENCIES, INC. (PHILSSA)

Partnerships for Sustainable Communities

PHILSSA envisions itself as a partnership network and resource center of committed and competent social development practitioners who advocate and work towards an inclusive, transformative and sustainable urbanization with preferential option for poor communities.

PHILSSA Goals (2016-2020)

- Strengthened network competencies as a resource center for inclusive, transformative and sustainable urbanization
- Enhanced network capacity in assisting members towards good governance and sustainability
- Developed multi-stakeholder partnership models for delivery of integrated social services for disadvantaged sectors and communities
- Pursued policy environment that enables inclusive, transformative and sustainable urbanization

Strengthening Aksyon sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) in the Local, Regional and National Levels for DRRM-CCA Advocacy

Supported by Christian Aid and CODE-NGO, the project aims to sustain the national Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA) advocacy by strengthening Aksyon para sa Kahandaan sa Kalamidad at Klima (AKKMA) formations and promoting its advocacy agenda in local, regional and national levels. Specific objectives include: (1) To strengthen AKKMA as **the national people's organization (PO)** network of local DRRM/CCA groups by sustaining and consolidating the 13 regional groups; and (2) To push AKKMA national DRRM/CCA advocacy agenda by sustaining national actions and campaigns.

AKKMA was formed in Greater Manila Region from 2010 – 2012. It has been undergoing expansion

and strengthening since 2013. It was initially implemented in Greater Manila Region (NCR and Region IV-A). Currently, AKKMA is present in 10 Regions (NCR, Reg III Central Luzon, Reg IV-A CALABARZON, Reg IV-B MIMAROPA, Reg V Bicol, Reg VII Central Visayas, Reg X North Mindanao, Reg XI Davao, Reg XII SOCSKSARGEN, Reg XIII Caraga).

The target sector/beneficiaries are communities affected and threatened with disasters (Urban Poor, Fisherfolk, Farmers, IPs, Women). Prior to project implementation, local communities affected and threatened with disasters have no voice and little participation in planning and decision-making on community disaster preparedness, response and rehabilitation.

The project brought about the following results/changes:

- Local and Regional Federations of Community-Based/ People's Organizations formed under AKKMA in 10 regions with expansion efforts in 4 other regions
- Regional and National AKKMA Structures as Mechanisms/ Platforms for DRRM-CCA Advocacy
- DRRM CCA Advocacy Agenda Formulated
- DRRM CCA Advocacy Plans Made and Campaign Activities Implemented
- AKKMA venturing into social enterprises to strengthen its resource mobilization capacity and sustainability of its programs and advocacies

The Facilitating Factors were:

- Disaster Preparedness, Response and Rehabilitation as Common Concern among the various groups
- Disaster Preparedness, Response and Rehabilitation as a Soft issue for Easier Engagement with LGU and Government Agencies

- Clear Advocacy Agenda and Participatory Process for Planning, Decision-Making and Action
- Active and Capable Local Community Leaders on Community-based DRRM and Community Damage and Needs Assessment

The Hindering Factors were:

- Difficulty of Consensus-Building among Groups from Different Sectors and Areas with Diverse Interests
- Limited Funds and Resources
- Local and National Politics Affecting Relationships and Dynamics

In terms of replicability and scalability, AKKMA is currently strengthening its regional presence and expanding its membership in the existing regional formations and in other regions. AKKMA regional groups are coordinating with CODE-NGO CSO Coordination Hubs, and it is strengthening engagement and partnership with government (both in local and national levels), private sector and with other stakeholders.

Some Lessons and Recommendations:

- Local communities are important in DRRM-CCA as the real front-line responders to disasters, it is important that they be organized and given a voice in planning, decision-making, implementing and evaluating local disaster preparedness, response and resilience strategies. AKKMA acts as a platform to raise and amplify local community voices.
- Information are important tools for awareness-raising, consensus-building and capacity development. AKKMA acts as channel for access of local communities to needed information and materials.
- DRRM-CCA is a soft issue that can facilitate engagement and partnership among many local stakeholders and actors. AKKMA seeks to build, strengthen and sustain local and national partnerships for DRRM-CCA.

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Total number of member base organizations (MBOs): 61



WESTERN VISAYAS NETWORK OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NGOs, INC. (WEVNET)

Rebuilding Better Communities of Resilience and Preparedness in Western Visayas

Organized and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in 2005, WeVNET is a Regional Network of 6 Provincial NGO Caucuses namely: Iloilo CODE NGOs, Negros Caucus, Antique Federation of NGOs (AFON), Aklan CSO Alliance (ACA), Capiz CODE, and Guimaras Alliance of CSOs (GACSO). All in all, WeVNET has a total of 61 Base NGO members in the 6 provinces.

WeVnet envisions itself as SELF-SUSTAINING and responsive Regional NGO Network, as a Resource Center for PARTNERSHIP, with a mission in strengthening capacities and advocacies towards EMPOWERED, TRANSFORMED AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES in Western Visayas.

Establishment of CSO DRR Coordination and Resource Hub

WeVNet continues to be an active player in the CODE NGO project, Advancing CSO Engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (ACED). Now on its 3rd year, the ACED 3 Project aimed at the creation of DRR Coordination Hub and strengthening the Hub's capacity to engage the local government units (LGUs) in DRR Governance and development plans.

Through a series of multi-stake holder dialogues, meetings and workshops, the imperative for the development of DRR Resource Hub in the Panay Region and the local provincial down to the municipal level (in Iloilo, Aklan, Antique and Capiz) was finally agreed on August 25, 2016. The contributing factor was the cooperation of civil society organizations (CSOs), LGUs, national government agencies (NGAs), academic and community partners. The profound experiences of CSOs in responding to Typhoon Yolanda in 2013 brought out learning and insights, gaps and needs analysis, to wit:

- ▶ Avoid duplication of programs/ interventions-synchronization of programs of LGUs and

- international Non-governmental organizations (INGOs), government agencies (GAs)
- ▶ Address deficiency in community information database
- ▶ Share and complement on resources (human, technical, financial, material)
- ▶ Continue to serve as a forum/platform for knowledge exchange
- ▶ Help establish information clearinghouse within the region
- ▶ Facilitate and expedite response actions
- ▶ Clarify roles and responsibilities of stakeholders through formal agreements
- ▶ Institutionalize participation of CSOs in DRR/CCA Councils/Committees
- ▶ Promote and localize international humanitarian standards

As a result, the CSOs have come up with the framework for a Proposal for the Establishment of the DRR Coordination and Resource Hub. The proposal will be submitted to identified INGOs, Resource Agencies supporting this action by December 2016.

Purpose: Partnership-building towards improved systems and services to avoid duplication of assistance and facilitate sharing and complementation of good practices

Goal: Legislative and Policy Advocacy; Institutionalization; Capacity Development of CSO and LGU Partners; Support for Development Agenda of Partners; Promotion of DRR-CCA

Proponent: Western Visayas Network of Social Development NGOs, Inc. (WeVNet)

Target Beneficiaries: LGUs, CSOs (within and outside WeVNet), GAs, partner communities

Duration: 1 year



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Total number of members: 6 Provincial Network Members; 61 MBOs



EASTERN VISAYAS NETWORK OF NGOS AND POs (EVNET)

Your local CSO network for the resiliency and prosperity of Eastern Visayas

The Eastern Visayas Network is the only regional coalition of local NGOs & POs working in the six (6) provinces of Eastern Visayas which aims to heighten the level of involvement and build the capacities of member base organizations (MBOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) to constructively engage with development partners towards ethical governance and sustainable development.

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The National Board of Trustees



Not in photo: Sylvia Okinlay-Paraguya, Bernadette Toledo, Felix Tonog

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