CODE NGO

Networking. Empowering. Transforming.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The Future of Democracy and Prospects for Civil Society

2016-17 Annual Report Team:

Celia de Jesus
Joie Cruz
Roselle Rasay
Tanya Zaldarriaga
KR Raposas
Justine Figueroa
Clare Salvador

12 CODE-NGO
Member Networks

ASSOCIATION OF FOUNDATIONS
Building Foundations, Building A Better Future

CBD
COALITION FOR BICOL DEVELOPMENT

CENVISNET
Central Visayas Network of NGO's

cordnet

EVNET
Eastern Visayas
Network of NGOs and POs

MINCODE

coop
NATCCO NETWORK

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
ICSW Member
NCSD
Founded 1949
FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.

PBSP
Philippine Business for Social Progress
Business United. Lives Uplifted.

PhilDHRRA

PHILSSA
Partnerships for sustainable communities.

WesNet
WESTERN VISAYAS NETWORK OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NGOs, INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Our Context

This fiscal year, covering the period of August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017, marked the last year of implementation of the CODE-NGO Strategic Plan 2012-2017. The year ushered in a newly-elected President and the need to build a stronger CSO-led multi-sectoral alliance for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which significantly influenced the work of CODE-NGO. We also jumpstarted our fiscal year with a strategic assessment of our past 5 years to create a roadmap for CODE-NGO's strategic directions from 2017 to 2022.

The following summarizes our accomplishments for the year on the key result areas:

Resource Generation Assistance

Regular and Expanded Capacity Building Fund (CBF) grants to our Member Networks (MNs) amounting to PhP13 million supported their operational stability and the crafting of their strategic plans and corresponding financial sustainability and resource mobilization plans. Through consortium projects collectively raising PhP17 million, CODE-NGO also enabled MNs to access resources, allowed them to build their reputation capital with donors and partners and developed their capacities in project management and implementation. Our consortium projects were supported by our trusted partners for years, such as the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Christian Aid Philippines, Misereor and our new partner Humanitarian Leadership Academy (HLA).

Strategic Capacity Building for Members on Governance, Networking, and Advocacy Effectiveness

Through the Expanded CBF project, MNs were able to update their strategic plan, operations and finance manuals, membership policies and monitoring of member's performance. The members also continued to work on their respective network's good governance campaigns targets. To date, 682 or 32% of member base organizations (MBOs) have accomplished our Good Governance Checklist and 98 or 8% are PCNC-certified. Further, 1,368 or 63% of our MBOs have renewed their commitment to our Code of Conduct, upholding our pledge to demonstrate transparency and accountability in our own operations. The 35 volunteer mentors of the networks, whom we trained last year, already started mentoring the other member organizations of their network on organizational development.

Our various consortium projects with MNs also delivered 34 capacity building and training events which have directly reached 243 CSO leaders from our member organizations and partner communities:

The Strengthening Decentralized Governance project supported by Misereor has trained CSO leaders in Advocacy and Networking, Program/Project Development Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation, Finance and Administration Management, Strategic Visioning, and Youth Leadership. The DataGov project supported by NED trained partner CSOs in Constructive Engagement and Public Financial Management. The DRRM Fund Watch project supported by Hivos Making All Voices Count capacitated CSO leaders on monitoring of local DRRM budget. The Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM-CCA (ACED) project with Christian Aid trained DRRM champions on monitoring shelter rehabilitation projects in Yolanda- and Sendong-affected areas and provided support in the establishment of 10 regional CSO hubs. Through this initiative, additional P5.15 million was also raised to support the MNs' emergency response activities during Typhoon Lawin in October 2016, Typhoon Nina in December 2016 and for those affected by the Marawi armed conflict in May 2016.

Our network will continue to work on strengthening local CSOs to engage in governance processes and to respond to emerging concerns of the sector. We recognize the contributions of the Commission on Institution and Capacity Building (CICB), Commission on Internal Reform Initiatives (CIRI), and Advocacy Commission (Advocom) in these.

Knowledge Development and Management

We conducted 2 learning exchanges and online fora among members and the broader public on topics such as Board-Executive Director Relations and Volunteer Management. We published 10 knowledge products such as the CSO Perception Survey, Guidebook for CSO Network Sustainability, 25th Anniversary Book titled "Higit Pa", Storytellers' Journey written by CODE-NGO volunteer writers, Strength in Unity and Addressing Concerns and Facing Challenges, case studies of the Citizen's Monitoring of LGUs project, and Scoping Study on Surge Capacity of Philippine CSOs. These were shared publicly through our website and social media pages. We completed our research on CSO Sustainability Index 2016 with support from the Management Systems International and USAID. We presented to the national government agencies our recommendations resulting from the Enabling Environment National Assessment, a research supported by CIVICUS and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law. We have updated our membership database, now with 1,408 profiles of our members, accessible through http://code-ngo.org/network-members.

Increased Effectiveness of Development Advocacy

Through our consortium projects with MNs, we focused on advocating CSO good governance, people empowerment, and disaster risk reduction and management. Collectively, our 5 consortium projects reached 12 regions and 38 provinces, involving 235 organizations and 256 CSO and community leaders. Our MNs were influential in their regions and sectors in assessing and influencing local development agenda and implementation of full disclosure policy were they are and on communicating project results and analysis to government at local and national levels. We have advanced policy recommendations on DRRM not only to local and national government, but also to UN, business and international NGO communities.

At the national level, we were able to communicate our network positions on People's Fund Bill, Strengthening the Political Party System, Social Welfare and Development Agency (SWDA) Bill, Assistance to Disadvantages Municipalities and our statements against Marcos Burial, Death Penalty, and Minimum Age for Criminal Liability. At the local level, our members through our consortium projects worked on strengthening linkages with the youth sector, the local governments and the development councils and continued the constructive engagement at the provincial and regional level. This year, we renewed our PCNC certification for another 5 years. And finally, we moved to the new CODE-NGO office.

Our new Strategic Plan for 2018-2022 builds on the gains we have made in our first 26 years. It renews our aspirations for a Philippine society that promotes the total well-being of the Filipino people and the full realization of our human rights.

Our strength as a network comes from our reach, our presence in the communities, our commonalities and our unity. There will be a number of issues where our consensus will be required; where we will have to engage in more dialogues to better understand our respective positions. Let our 26 years of coming together, our vision of the society unite us and help us unify our voice.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!

Sylvia Okinlay-Paraguya
CODE-NGO Chairperson

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VISION FOR 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.

DEATH PENALTY, WAG IPASA!
NO TO DEATH PENALTY!
/madison101ph

CODE-NGO 2017 NATIONWIDE PROJECTS IN NUMBERS

Strengthening Decentralized Governance

3 *regions* **9** *provinces*
12 *CSOs/CSO networks*
15 *training workshops/ consultations*

Executive Order on Freedom of Information

4 *regions* **17** *provinces*
5 *CSOs/CSO networks*
2 *training workshops/ consultations*

Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM

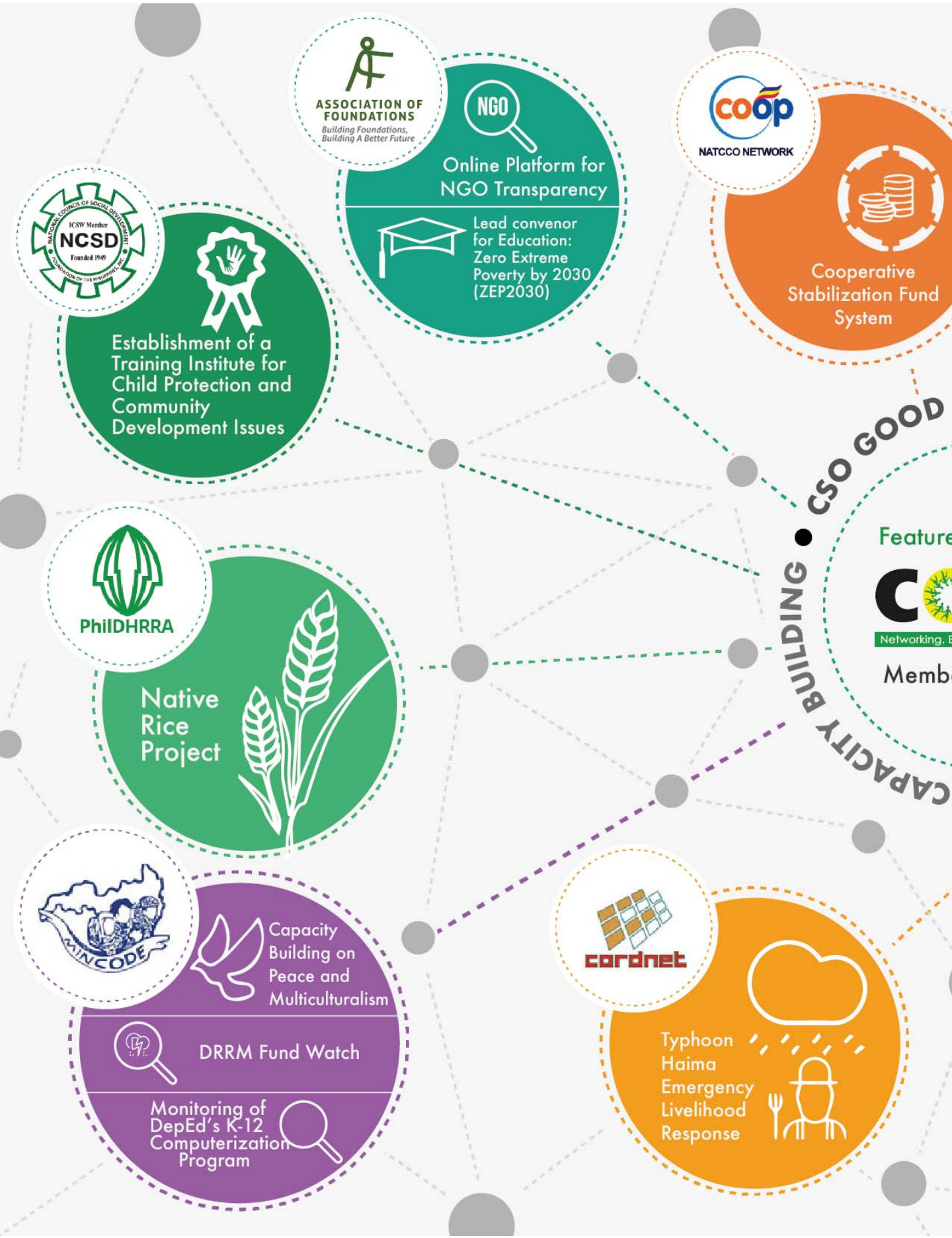
10 *regions* **22** *provinces*
180 *CSOs – members of DRRM Hub*
2 *training workshops/ consultations (national level)*

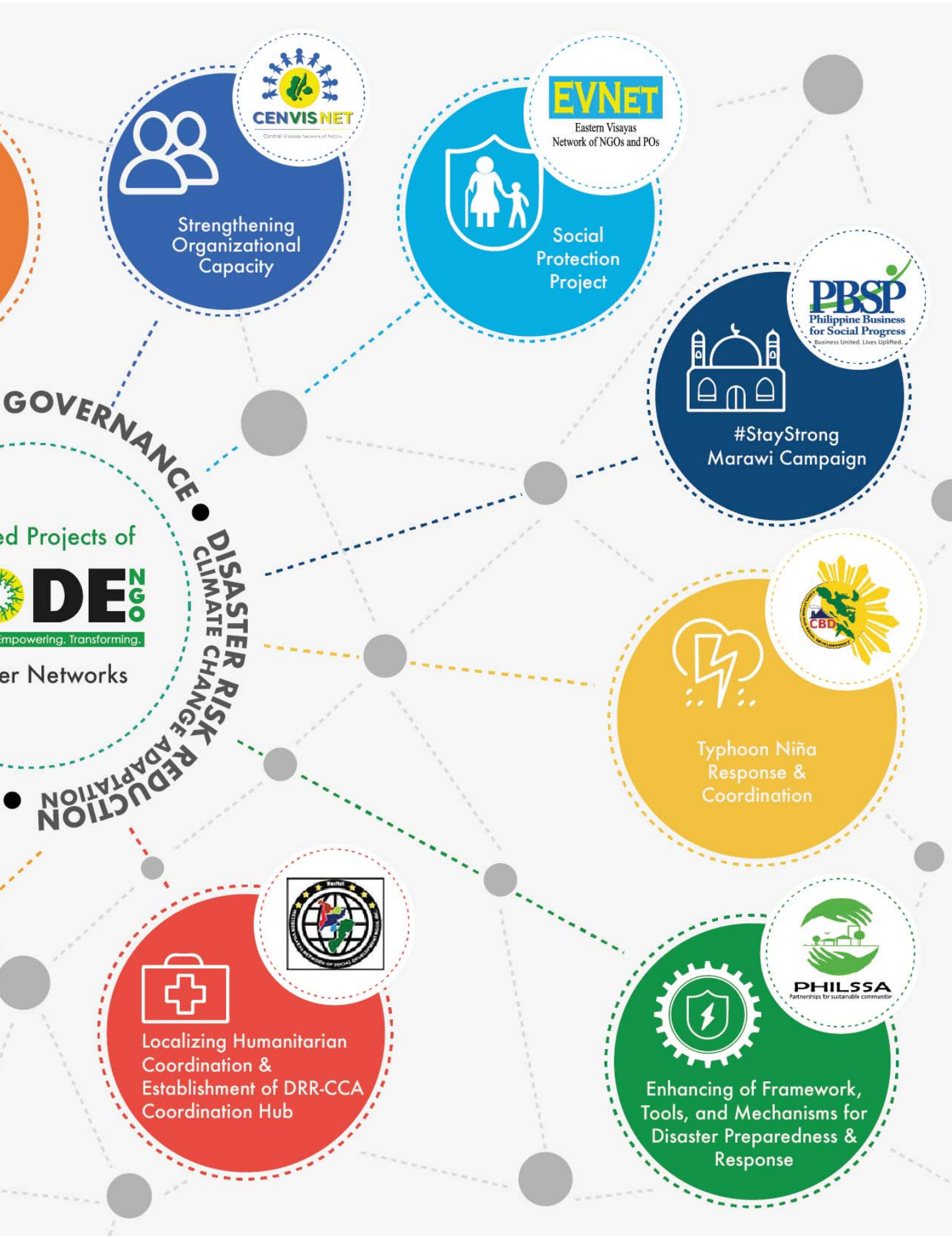
DRRM Fund Watch

5 *regions* **5** *provinces*
9 *municipalities* **1** *city*
29 *CSOs/CSO networks*
11 *training workshops/ consultations*

Blended Learning Approach to STrengthening DRRM

3 *regions* **9** *provinces*
9 *CSOs/CSO networks*
3 *training workshops/ consultations*


ASSOCIATION OF FOUNDATIONS
Building Foundations, Building A Better Future
NGO
Online Platform for NGO Transparency
Lead convenor for Education: Zero Extreme Poverty by 2030 (ZEP2030)
coop
NATCCO NETWORK
Cooperative Stabilization Fund System
ICSW Member
NCSD
Founded 1949
Establishment of a Training Institute for Child Protection and Community Development Issues
CSO GOOD
CAPACITY BUILDING
Feature
Networking.
Memb
PhilDHRRA
Native Rice Project
MINCODE
Capacity Building on Peace and Multiculturalism
DRRM Fund Watch
Monitoring of DepEd's K-12 Computerization Program
cordnet
Typhoon Haima Emergency Livelihood Response


CENVISNET
Central Visayas Network of NGOs
Strengthening Organizational Capacity
EVNET
Eastern Visayas Network of NGOs and POs
Social Protection Project
PBSP
Philippine Business for Social Progress
Business United. Lives Uplifted.
#StayStrong Marawi Campaign
GOVERNANCE
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
ed Projects of
DE NGO
Empowering. Transforming.
er Networks
CBD
Typhoon Niña Response & Coordination
Localizing Humanitarian Coordination & Establishment of DRR-CCA Coordination Hub
PHILSSA
Partnerships for sustainable communities
Enhancing of Framework, Tools, and Mechanisms for Disaster Preparedness & Response

CODE-NGO continues to support CSOs and communities in need

In the past fiscal year, the twelve (12) member networks of CODE-NGO have pursued initiatives on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management – Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA), CSO (civil society organization) Good Governance and Capacity-building.

For DRRM-CCA, CBD's Typhoon Nina Response Coordination, through the Bicol DRR CSO HUB, led the response planning and coordination for Typhoon Nina Emergency Response. The team conducted initial damage and needs assessment in all 6 provinces of Bicol and distributed food and non-food relief packages to 200 households in Camarines Sur and Catanduanes. CORDNET, on the other hand, focused on Typhoon Haima Emergency Response by distributing emergency livelihood kits to organic farmers who belong to the indigenous tribes of Ifugao, Benguet and Mountain province so they can restart their faming activities. A total of 1,497 individuals who received water hose for irrigation, drums to store water for watering vegetables and vegetables seeds benefited from the project. #StayStrong Marawi Campaign is PBSP's ongoing relief mission for home-based evacuees, teachers and frontliners (including volunteers) affected by the Marawi conflict. It was able to raise Php19.4 million in cash and in-kind donations to reach at least 54,235 individuals who were displaced by the Marawi conflict in four successful relief missions.

Through PHILSSA's consortium project on Urban Disaster Preparedness, Response and resilience in Greater Manila Area, the following were developed and implemented in select barangays in Metro Manila and Taytay, Rizal: Framework and Strategy Paper on Urban Disaster Preparedness and Response; Tools for Community Profiling; Module on Community DRRM Planning; and Experience, Lessons and Recommendations on Stakeholder Engagement. WEVNET initiated the localization of humanitarian coordination in Region VI through the Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM-CCA Project. It formed the CSO DRR-CCA Coordination Hub for Region VI, adopted a plan of action for the Hub, and strengthened capacities of network members.

In terms of CSO Good Governance, AF developed the NGO Transparency Initiative (NGO-TI) to promote the integrity, transparency and accountability of the non-government organization (NGO) sector. NGO-TI makes public the status of AF members' compliance to basic reportorial requirements set by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), among others. CENVISNET continued to strengthen organizational capacity for CSO good governance through mentoring interventions to the network and its members. Several training workshops on

organizational management and development were conducted to achieve program objectives. EVNET's Social Protection Project "harnesses the capacities of the vulnerable sectors to be active advocates of their own issues and concerns and bring these to the attention of the duty bearers for their own action in the form of policies, programs and projects". EVNET sets up and runs the coordination mechanism at the regional level and provides technical support for the project in the form of organizational development and strengthening and capacity building of organized CSO from among the basic sectors. NATCCO's Cooperative Stabilization Fund System, a form of "solidarity fund" as cooperatives contributing to it, help one another to prevent insolvency. It provides co-ops with supervision and monitoring, awareness of the cooperative's risk level and recommendations to control and mitigate risks, and it increases public trust and confidence in cooperatives.

For Capacity-building, MINCODE's Increasing CSO Capacity to Promote Peace and Multiculturalism Project built capacities of managers and officers of 11 CSO networks and 45 NGOs/POs/cooperatives. With a total of 137 participants in the various activities, the project saw CSO leaders practicing non-violent communications, and increased awareness of various cultures and narratives of Mindanao. NCSD established a Training Institute for Child Protection and Community Development Issues. The training program enhanced the capacities of 351 representatives from its member organizations in the areas of child protection and participation. Lastly, PHILDHRRA's Native Rice Project which aimed to improve the economic condition of the rice farmers and to improve agricultural biodiversity in Agusan Marsh in Agusan del Sur and Mt. Balatucan Range in Misamis Oriental, served 157 direct beneficiaries. These are farmer-cooperators who received inputs and participated in the capacity building activities of the project.

As the country is faced with threats to democracy, CODE-NGO will adhere to its commitment to help build a just and humane society.

CODE-NGO, through its projects, has also focused on advocating CSO good governance, people empowerment, and disaster risk reduction and management. In the past fiscal year, its 5 projects reached 12 regions and 38 provinces. As the country is faced with threats to democracy, CODE-NGO will adhere to its commitment to help build a just and humane society.

Influencing *Public Policy*

Our Advocacy Work beyond Boundaries

2016 was a challenging year in terms of the political and social landscape in the Philippines. Our political context has changed dramatically since the new administration came in last June 30, 2016. Our country encountered a lot of controversial and divisive issues that impact on social justice and the protection of democracy. One of these issues is the disregard for human rights and extrajudicial killings (EJKs) related to the government's all-out war against illegal drugs. There are also on-going discussions on the restoration of the death penalty and lowering the minimum age for criminal liability that threaten humanitarian law and respect for life. The government allowed the remains of former authoritarian president Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in the Heroes' Cemetery despite the criticisms and outcry of those who had painful experiences during the dark years of his dictatorship. The scenario worsened when Martial Law was declared in the entire Mindanao and extended for another 6 months to fight terrorism following the Marawi incident, which is seen as a threat to democracy.

Moreover, the new administration has been active in the campaign to amend the constitution towards Federal government - but intends to do this change through a less participatory mode – Constituent Assembly - instead of the Constitutional Convention where delegates would be elected by the people.

Recently, President Duterte announced the postponement of barangay elections. Instead, he declared he will just appoint the officials, which is seen to obstruct our constitutional right to vote. The atmosphere for open dialogue and discussion has been damaged by the hate and intolerance dominating social media, together with fake news and distorted information.

Nevertheless, CODE-NGO commits to continue promoting fundamental freedom and human rights as enshrined in our Covenant on Philippine Development. From August 2016 – July 2017, we issued 11 statements against Extra-Judicial Killings, Marcos Burial, Death Penalty and Minimum Age for Criminal Liability, and on monitoring the Assistance to Disadvantaged Municipalities (ADM) and other participatory governance bills. We sent these to concerned agencies to voice out our collective positions in advocating for respect for human rights, democratic processes and participatory governance. Several meetings, mobilizations and learning sessions were organized and participated in by network members and partners to support the statements and respond to these challenges in relation to the key advocacies of CODE-NGO.

Furthermore, regional consultations on the status and future of Philippine democracy were held at Cagayan De Oro, Quezon City, Iloilo and Cebu last February 28, March 14, 28 and April 28, 2017 respectively, in partnership with Group Foundation of MINCODE, WEVNET and CENVISNET. In these consultations, various development workers, youth leaders and others deepened their understanding of the various current national issues and their implications to our democracy. The sessions helped them build a clear and unified position and come up with critical steps on how to protect social justice and democracy at the local and national levels.

CODE-NGO, together with Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA) and other 11 national organizations, conducted the 21- day march-caravan, known as Lakbay Buhay (LB), to oppose the passage of the death penalty bill at the Senate and other related sectoral issues affecting social justice, freedom and marginalization last May 2017. Two regional member networks

(CENVISNET and CBD) spearheaded the LB leg in Cebu last May 8 and Bicol in Sorsogon to Naga City last May 12 -14. Numerous leaders from member networks of CODE-NGO also actively participated in the "salubong" and culmination of LB activities in Quezon City and Manila last May 19, 20 and 24.

Despite these challenges to Philippine democracy, CODE-NGO continues to work beyond our boundaries in order to achieve a transparent, accountable and participatory government. It remains as an active member of the Multi-Sectoral Committee on International Human Development Commitments (MC-IHDC), an inter-agency subcommittee of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board – Social Development Committee whose primary task is to monitor and review the Philippine's compliance to international human and social development commitments. Upon NEDA's request, CODE-NGO convened other civil society organizations (CSOs) to review and consolidate the draft guidelines of CSO selection on MC-IHDC to effectively address the various concerns related to CSO memberships in the committee.

CODE-NGO and member networks AF, NATCCO, MINCODE, PHILDHRRA and PHILSSA participated in the crafting of the Philippine Development Plan 2017 – 2022 through offline and online consultations even with limited space provided by the administration for CSO participation in the planning process. To continue to advocate for an open space for engagement, they have undertaken initial CSO reviews of the new Philippine Development Plan (PDP) targets, particularly on

participatory governance, transparency, DRRM, agriculture, agrarian reform, health and education in order to assess how responsive these new plans are to the development agenda of CSOs, particularly of the poor and marginalized sectors.

Further, CODE-NGO attended a series of consultations on ADM implementation and monitoring, in which it raised the need to ensuring effective CSO participation including capacity building on planning and monitoring. These events also served as a venue to provide comments on the Memorandum Circular (MC) on Strengthening the Functionality of Local Development Councils (LDCs) in the Local Development Planning Process to Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), particularly on the definition of terms, identification of CSOs, inclusion of the capacity building of CSOs and the establishment of monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Recently, CODE-NGO through Task Force Participatory Local Governance (TFPLG), strengthened our partnerships with DILG – Bureau of Local Government Supervision (BLGS) and planned to conduct two policy forums on participatory governance in October and November 2017.

Despite these challenges to Philippine democracy, CODE-NGO continues to work beyond our boundaries in order to achieve a transparent, accountable and participatory government.

At the legislative arena, CODE-NGO participated in meetings organized by the House Committee on People's Participation to present and advocate for the positions on HB 568 – Enhanced Participatory Governance Act and HB 191 - Institutionalizing Citizens Participation in the Budget Process that provide an inclusive mechanism for the citizens to participate in the planning and budgeting processes. At the Senate, CODE-NGO also attended a series of hearings to strongly advocate for the immediate passage of the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill, as an active member of the Right To Know, Right Now! Coalition.

CODE-NGO and its members are actively involved in Zero Extreme Poverty (ZEP) Movement, society-led movement to End Poverty and Inequality by 2030, to which AF is the cluster head for education, PHILDHRRA for agriculture and PHILSSA for housing.

Developing Civil Society Organizations and Reinforcing Democratic Values for Local Governance

CODE-NGO with partner member networks (MNs) is on its second year of implementing the "Strengthening Decentralized Governance and Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for Addressing Poverty and Inequalities at Regional and Provincial Levels in Bicol, Central Visayas and Southern Mindanao" project, or simply Strengthening Decentralized Governance project (S-DG). The S-DG aims 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. To accomplish this, partner civil society organizations (CSOs) and CSO networks will work together reviewing their Poverty Reduction and Development Agenda and engaging the various mechanisms of governance in 3 regions and 9 provinces. This is done while CSOs and CSO networks build their own capacities through identified training workshops which are based on the needs of the CSOs such as Constructive Engagement and Local Planning, Project Development, CSO Networking and Governance and Resource Mobilization.

Since the beginning of FY 2016-17 of CODE-NGO, training workshops addressing the capacity building needs of implementing partners were conducted almost every month. These training workshops were tailored-fit to the CSO partners based on the Organizational Diagnostic Workshop conducted last fiscal year. The OD Workshop examined the organizational capacities of the CSOs using the Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) of CODE-NGO which gives ratings in five areas of organizational development including organizational Governance, Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization.

The implementing partners, namely the Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD) with their partner Provincial Networks (PNs) in Camarines Sur, Albay, and Sorsogon in the Bicol Region, the Central Visayas Network of NGOs and POs (CENVISNET) with their partner PNs in Negros Oriental, Cebu, and Bohol, and the Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE) with provincial CSO networks formed and based in Davao del Norte, Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental in Southern Mindanao, totaling 3 regional networks and 9 PNs, each has their self-rated CAT rating and has been working on improving their respective organizations since then. To date, out of the 15 identified training workshops, 14 have been completed, plus one workshop on youth leadership which was an unintended output resulting from the initiatives of project partners.

The project conducted its first national conference and evaluation, participated in by 31 CSO leaders, 7 of which are youth representatives. This 3 day event served as avenue for the implementing partners to exchange their ideas and insights on how they have successfully engaged in the participatory governance mechanisms. The gathered recommendations on participatory local governance were presented to the invited representatives from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

Through workshop sessions, the implementing partners enhanced their plans on capacity building, advocacy and refining their respective Regional Poverty Reduction and Development Agenda (RPRDAs) and Provincial PRDAs (PPRDAs). CBD had their agenda focused on CSO Good Governance and Agriculture; CENVISNET on youth local governance, and MINCODE on reducing poverty and inequality.

The agenda is used by the implementing partners in their engagements with the provincial development councils, regional development councils, provincial government and national government agencies. These actions strive to reinforce democracy through participation in governance at the local level.

With a year and a half remaining in the project, the team with its implementing partners are thriving towards the institutionalizing of transparency and people participation in governance processes and structures at the regional and provincial level. In addition, good practices observed and sustained will be collated and documented to be shared and replicated by other CSOs.

Using the EO on FOI to Monitor PRRD's Key Promises

Using the Executive Order on Freedom of Information to Monitor President Rodrigo Duterte's Key Promises is a 12-month project funded by National Endowment for Democracy (NED). Its overall objectives are: to strengthen CSO's capacity to engage in participatory governance, hold government accountable and help ensure that government programs achieve the desired results and to test the efficacy of the 2016 Executive Order on Freedom of Information in enabling CSOs to access public information.

EO on FOI project is the continuation of DATAGov, a project that was also supported by NED to enhance the citizen participation in local governance. The DATAGov project enabled the CSOs to utilize the government data and directly engage with the government in all of its processes including LGU (local government unit) spending priorities. Similarly, the project Using the EO on FOI to Monitor PRRD's Key Promises is another intervention to conduct constructive engagement with the government that would pave way for a more equipped CSOs and most importantly increased participation of the citizens in the local level. The project is currently being implemented in 4 regions together with 4 Partner Networks, namely: Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD), Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET), Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE) and Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society (CBCS), and Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA). As President Duterte campaigned for greater transparency in the government processes and increased citizen participation, the CSOs are even enabled to strengthen their capacities and reinforce more constructive engagement. With the signing of EO on FOI, documents and other government data are made publicly available for the citizen's understanding and further analysis. Moreover, it paved way for the Philippine National Agencies, and government offices under the Executive Branch to be held accountable as they are mandated to strictly comply with the FOI Manual that shall clearly show the agencies' guidelines and operating procedures in requesting data.

With EO on FOI, it is hoped that CSOs will have more capacity for constructive engagement, increased and strengthened participation and provide meaningful and broad-based policy recommendation.

With EO on FOI, it is hoped that CSOs will have more capacity for constructive engagement, increased and strengthened participation, and provide meaningful and broad-based policy recommendation.

Last June 13-14, 2017, the CODE National Secretariat convened all the Partner Networks for a two-day National Orientation Workshop to level off on the primary project objectives, key activities, research design of the project, and the regional working plan. The partners agreed to focus on the following government programs to test the operability of the EO: the Assistance to Disadvantaged Municipalities (ADM) and the War against Drugs (WAD). As agreed, the project with its key themes, will be conducted simultaneously in 3 provinces per region.

In order to increase the knowledge and skills of the Partner Networks to continue meaningful intervention, the CODE National Secretariat conducted a Capacity-Building Workshop on FOI last July 12-13, 2017. The two-day workshop was organized to familiarize the participants with the EO on FOI specifically its Manual as issued by the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), and to identify the opportunities and mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with other CSOs and networks advocating for the effective implementation of Freedom of Information. Resource persons from the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, PCOO and Right to Know, Right Now! shed light on the 1) Advocacy of FOI, its History, Challenges and Opportunities, 2) Mechanics for Implementing the EO on FOI, and 3) Opportunities for Collaboration and Coordination.

In sum, the project envisions to hold government accountable with all its undertakings especially in ensuring that government programs are being achieved accordingly, to test the effectiveness of the Freedom of Information in guaranteeing that the public has full access to government information and to capacitate CSOs on constructive engagement with government.

Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM-CCA (ACED) Project Year 4: Strengthening Regional CSO DRRM Coordination Hubs **#CSOs4ResilientPH**

The 10 regional CSO 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. On its 4th year of implementation, the Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM-CCA (ACED) Project, as supported by Christian Aid, focuses on establishing systems and protocols in order to strengthen the DRRM Hubs. This includes building governance structure for each coordination hub, establishing points for unity, and setting up standard operating procedures on communication, coordination and conduct of DRRM initiatives.

These DRRM Hubs were actively involved in conducting local damage and needs assessment, emergency response and resource mobilization. Cordillera Hub conducted Typhoon Lawin Emergency Livelihood Response (supported by Christian Aid) in Typhoon Lawin-affected provinces: Mountain Province, Benguet and Ifugao. Bicol Hub were able to extend relief assistance to Camarines Sur and Catanduanes which are damaged by Typhoon Nina (supported by Peace and Equity Foundation). Region 10 Hub and ARMM Hub are now working with local CSOs in response to the Marawi crisis. CODE-NGO was able to access PhP9.6 Million pesos support for emergencies

Partnerships for Community Resilience in photo L-R: Ms. Lot Felizco of Christian Aid, Dir. Gloria Jose of COA, Ms. Sylvia Paraguya of CODE-NGO, Mr. Rene Meily of PDRF and Ms. Joyce Pilapil of HLA.

since the establishment of DRRM Hubs in 2014: Typhoons Ruby, Lando, Lawin, Nina, Surigao Earthquake and Marawi.

Four (4) DRRM Hubs are currently implementing CSO-led Monitoring of Government Shelter Projects for Disaster-affected families. The areas covered are Lanao del Norte, Eastern Samar, Palawan and Iloilo. The CSO-led monitoring is part of the hub's advocacy for a Rehabilitation and Recovery program that is responsive to the needs of the affected communities. Results of the monitoring will be finalized in December 2017.

The DRRM Hubs are also the network's commitment to the advocacy for locally-led humanitarian response. CODE-NGO is part of the Philippine Partnership for Emergency Response and Resilience (PPERR), which is a coordination mechanism for humanitarian response among 4 large networks: National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA – CARITAS Philippines), National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC) and CODE-NGO. PPERR started building partnerships among its members at the local level through Localizing Humanitarian Response activities in Region 6 (led by WEVNET) and ARMM (led by HRC). In addition to coordination for emergency response, PPERR is also working together on establishing a fundraising mechanism for emergency response called the Joint Humanitarian Appeals, which is set to be launched by December 2017. PPERR and Joint Humanitarian Appeals are supported by START Network's Transforming Surge Capacity Project.

CODE-NGO is also involved in the Balik-Lokal Advocacy Group (formerly Balik-Bayan) which monitors the government's commitment to the World Humanitarian Summit and push for support to locally-led response. This is composed of PPERR and Disaster Risk Reduction Network (DRRNet). A forum entitled "Balik-Bayan: One Year after WHS" was co-organized by CODE-NGO in May 2017 and attended by regional and provincial CSO networks and government.

The ACED Project also serves as the lead DRRM initiative of CODE-NGO from which other DRRM projects stemmed from, such as DRRM Fund Watch (supported by Making All Voices Count) and BLAST-DRRM (supported by Humanitarian Leadership Academy).

DRRM FundWatch: Using Technology and Innovative Approach to Promote Accountability and Transparency in Governance

The DRRM FundWatch Project's objective was to give an avenue for civil society organizations (CSOs) to check on their Local Government's DRRM (Disaster Risk Reduction and Management) Plan and Fund Utilization. It was implemented across 10 LGUs (local government units) in (3) major island regions namely Palawan: Busuanga & Linapacan; Bicol: Pamplona & Pasacao; Bohol: Tagbilaran City & Cortes; Eastern Samar: Oras & Dolores; Zamboanga Del Norte: Liloy & Labason. The project anchored its innovation through a tool that assists CSOs in checking their LGU DRRM Budget. The tool was developed starting with a simple Excel worksheet, eventually evolving to a fully operational website which assists in generating charts and information for CSOs to use in presenting to their Local Governments. The project ran from June 2016 until July 2017.

Prior to the intervention, CSOs did not have the capacity to check their DRRM Funds due to lack of funding and mechanisms to collaborate with LGUs. Although there is the RA 10121 to guide LGUs in proper utilization and allocation of the DRRM Fund and mandates the composition of the DRRM Council, there is a lack of mechanism to hold LGUs accountable to actually implement this. Also, there is a clear deficiency in capacity of most LGUs to conceptualize a DRRM Plan, hence there is a need to consult with local CSO practitioners and include them in the DRRM Councils for an inclusive approach to DRRM Planning.

Currently, the LGUs are also mandated to use the Full Disclosure Portal (FDP) to present data on fund usage and utilization to the public. These documents should be readily accessible at the Portal, though some LGUs still have not been compliant with this.

The project was able to introduce a user-friendly tool that would allow CSOs to easily ask pertinent documents from the LGUs, which eventually evolved into a website with an ecosystem designed to support CODE-NGO's DRRM Hubs on the ground. CSOs were also able to recommend actions to address some concerns regarding the DRRM Plans of the Local Government with most LGUs able to accept these recommendations.

One particular LGU which had a big impact in change was Cortes in Bohol. Prior to the intervention, there was actually no DRRM Council constituted in the LGU. It was a surprising find for our Local CSO Partners and a lack that was addressed swiftly as the LGU was able to execute an EO (Executive Order) constituting the DRRM Council less than a month after the LGU-CSO dialogue. Because it had no DRRM council, the DRRM Plan was amiss and budget remained underutilized. The project helped change the mindset of the Mayor to prioritize projects that would enhance their DRRM Plan and would go on to fully embrace their Local CSO implementer by having one of the project coordinators as a DRRM Consultant.

The facilitating factors that made the project more effective were the already present relationship with the target LGU and the local CSOs, and their openness to dialogue, which was important due to the fact that the LGU will be sharing some documents and, if needed, shed light on some discrepancies. The toolkit was also developed to be straightforward to make it easy for CSOs to assess gaps in the LGUs' development of a comprehensive DRRM Plan.

Relationship with the LGU was the biggest factor in making or breaking the project since it relies heavily on the LGUs' willingness to be open and transparent to CSOs and also heed their recommendations. Although as previously stated, there were strong relationships with most of the LGUs, there were also some which turned sour especially in cases of changes in posts due to political and electoral conflicts. The transitions made it was difficult for the local CSOs to continue with the project.

The project has shown relevance especially with the push to address inclusiveness, accountability, and transparency in governance. It was able to also promote the Core Humanitarian Standards and the use of it in aiding plans and implementations with DRRM.

CODE-NGO is looking for opportunities to further scale up the project and introduce the tool and online website to other DRRM Regional Hubs. To date, the tool has been introduced to CAR Regional DRRM Hub during their annual general assembly.

The DRRM FundWatch Project was supported by Making All Voices Count. Its Regional Member Networks / Local CSO Partners include:
Region IVB: PhilSSA – PAGE / Angat Calamianes Federation,
Region V: CBD / Caritas Diocese of Libmanan,
Region VII: CenVisNet / Bangon,
Region VIII: EvNet / EsDev, and
Region IX: Mincode / Agri Aqua Development Coalition.

Face-to-Face Workshops and Distance Learning: A Beautiful Mix in the BLAST DRRM Project

What better way than to herald technological advancement in the 20th century than embracing the benefits that new age media can provide, especially if it can facilitate humanitarian response and understanding of Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (CBDRRM) for our members on the ground. Hence CODE-NGO, together with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy (HLA), have collaborated to provide e-learning modules to civil society organizations (CSOs) both in and outside of the network. The project is also led by four members of CODE-NGO's network that champion DRRM namely, Iloilo Caucus of Development Network NGOs (ICODE), Agri-Aqua Development Coalition (AADC), Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PhilSSA), and National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO).

The e-learning course that is being developed by the Blended Learning Approach to Strengthening DRRM (BLAST DRRM) Project is composed of 5 modules that will be updated versions of the original CODE-NGO community-based DRRM Training Course, developed through its earlier project with Christian Aid. It will blend components from the training course that may be digitized to shorten the needed time to conduct face-to-face training by maximizing the use of HLA's e-learning platform KayaConnect.org. The project also aims to develop more engaging materials for the training course such as case studies, video production, and smart infographics for its audience.

This CBDRRM Training Course is the first among a two-part approach to strengthening DRRM under the BLAST DRRM Project.

The training aims to capacitate CSOs in basic DRRM-CCA Concepts, Community-based DRRM, and Mainstreaming DRRM in the workplace and community, among others. It will also come with a Training of Trainers component ultimately fortifying existing DRRM Champions and generating new ones for communities. The training will be done in three pilot regional hubs, namely the Cordillera Administrative Region, Region 7, and Region 13.

This CBDRRM Training Course is the first among a two-part approach to strengthening DRRM under the BLAST DRRM Project. The second approach is a Service Continuity Planning (SCP) workshop for existing DRRM Hubs of CODE-NGO which aims to help better coordinate humanitarian response for CSO Networks. Once developed, the series of face-to-face workshops aim to come up with a Service Continuity Plan to ensure that network hubs can continue humanitarian operations during times of calamity.

In Solidarity with the Global CSO Community

CODE-NGO continues to be a Steering Committee member representing Asia of the Affinity Group of National Associations (AGNA), a cluster of membership of the Civicus World Alliance for Citizen Participation. As AGNA Steering Committee member, it actively participated in the SWOT assessment for AGNA to inform the formulation of its 5-year plan and succeeding processes. It also participated in the Civil Society Global Exchange with other Civicus members representing social movements, individual advocates and other NGOs (non-government organizations) to strengthen solidarity and address disconnect within the sector on topics such as global trends in civic space and campaigning for change. It also participated in the Civicus' consultations with members in formulating its 5-year strategic plan. These events were organized last November 30 to December 2, 2016 in Civicus House in Johannesburg, South Africa. Civicus also sought CODE-NGO's views on the troubling cases of extra-judicial killings in the government's war against illegal drugs and its implication on human rights situation in the country, which was published in the Civicus' website, AGNA newsletter and CODE-NGO e-newsletter.

CODE-NGO also participated in the AGNA peer learning exchange activity on campaigning for civic space in Johannesburg, South Africa last May 19 – 20, 2017. The activity was organized so that members can learn new tools on campaign planning and share lessons on effective campaigning with participants around the globe. Grounded on the recent Civicus State of Civil Society Report, the peer learning activity featured discussions on the state of civic space in various countries and the strategies and tools CSOs use to fight for basic freedoms.

Last June 26-28, 2017, CODE-NGO hosted in the Philippines the Civicus Regional Capacity Development Workshop for its members in Asia. Civicus members from India, Nepal, Pakistan, Cambodia, Kyrgyztan and CODE-NGO member networks CENVISNET (Central Visayas Network of NGOs) and PHILSSA (Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies) participated in this workshop. The Civicus team also gave feedback to its Asian members on the results of its capacity assessment survey for members in the region and facilitated training and learning exchange with members on advocacy and campaigning, information management and digital security.

CODE-NGO also continues to be an active Steering Committee member of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) and represents the regional network in the Facilitation Group of the global CSO coalition called Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD). Last February 24-26, 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand, CODE-NGO shared the Philippine CSO experience in engaging government and other groups on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in ADA's conference on the High Level Policy Forum (HLPF) Process and Voluntary Reporting (VNR) on the SDGs. CODE-NGO also supported the drafting of the ADA and Asia CSO Platform on Sustainable Development's statement on the findings and recommendations of CSOs from 11 countries on their engagements with their governments on the SDGs and VNR, which has been later circulated to the regional UN-led Asia-Pacific Forum on Social Development and the global A4SD platform. CODE-NGO also shared to the Asian Democracy Network the ratings of participating countries in the 2015 CSO Sustainability Index for Asia, as well as the deteriorating state of democracy and constricting civic space in the country under the new administration of President Rodrigo Duterte. CODE-NGO was also part of the team which screened and hired the ADA Coordinator last March 2017 and has been ADA's fiscal agent or project holder for its capacity building project with the International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP).

Strengthening the *Capacities of Member Networks*

Membership Programs

I. Capacity Development Interventions

On the 5th year of the CODE-NGO Strategic Plan 2012-17, the network continued to implement strategic initiatives under the Membership Program to strengthen the capacities of its member networks as accountable and effective civil society organizations (CSOs). These interventions, overseen by the Commission on Institution and Capacity-Building (CICB), included the following:

a) Regular Capacity Building Fund

For FY 2016-17, the Board of Trustees approved a total grant of PhP 3,261,577.00 to support member network's initiatives on organizational development, membership relations, network sustainability, and strengthening of advocacies.

b) Expanded Capacity Building Fund

Continuing on from the previous fiscal year, CODE-NGO through the support of the Peace and Equity Foundation, completed the implementation of the project "Jumpstarting the CODE-NGO Strategic Capacity Building Program for the Sustainability of Member Networks" in December 2016 and started the implementation of its successor project "Strategic Capacity Building Program for the Sustainability of Member Networks and Base Organizations" on January 1, 2017. The former project concluded with 36 volunteer mentors within the network who were trained on mentoring CSOs in organizational development. These trained mentors proceeded with conducting mentoring visits to their identified mentee CSOs in 2017 and administering the Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) to determine the capacity building needs of the mentee CSOs. In August to December 2017, the project is set to conduct capacity building workshops on priority organizational development areas of the mentee CSOs.

After the Member Networks (MNs) worked on updating their Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) records, their membership policies, and their monitoring system for the performance of their members in the former project, the MNs started working on preparing documents for the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) application and implementing their financial sustainability plans in the later project that will be implemented until December 31, 2017.

The MNs also continued updating their member's database and as of July 31, 2017, a total of 654 member's profile were already uploaded in the CODE-NGO database. An additional PhP 10,000,000.00 was invested in 2017 for this project.

c) Technical Assistance

Supplementary to the capacity building grants for member networks, CODE-NGO implements a technical assistance intervention for its seven priority member networks, CBD, CENVISNET, CORDNET, EVNET, MINCODE, NCSD, and WEVNET. This allows the MNs to work closely with their volunteer mentor on their priority organization development plan for the year.

II. Internal Reform Initiatives

As a network whose basis of unity is deeply anchored in the Code of Conduct for Development CSOs and in safeguarding the integrity of the CSO sector, CODE-NGO persistently endeavors to uphold good governance among its members through the Commission on Internal Reform Initiatives (CIRI).

For FY 2016-17, the following CSO good governance campaigns were implemented:

a) Renewal to the Code of Conduct

The network continued to implement its campaign for members to renew Commitment to the Code of Conduct to reaffirm their responsibility to uphold the development principles that led to the formation of the network 26 years ago. On July 31, 2017, 52% of members have already signed the renewal to the Code of Conduct.

b) Certification by Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC)

CODE-NGO continued to campaign for PCNC among its members. The network has remained firm in its belief that ensuring CSOs operate within the standards of good governance is key to improving CSO effectiveness in their work and to safeguarding the integrity of the sector. Included in the CODE-NGO campaign is the provision of technical assistance to members in order to achieve this standard of certification.

c) Compliance to Good Governance Checklist

CODE-NGO continued to conduct assessment of members that are not yet ready for the certification process through its Good Governance Checklist. This internally crafted tool contains minimum measures for good governance for CSOs under legal status, governance, systems, programs, finance and human resources, and allows members to quickly identify priorities for organizational development. As of July 31, 2017, 529 member organizations have conducted self-assessment using this tool.

On top of these internal campaigns, CODE-NGO has also started reaching out to the sector by conducting an online forum on the role of the CSO Board and Executive Director and has drafted the framework for an enabling government – CSO relationship to ensure that both sectors interact in a healthy and productive manner that is vital for the development of society. The network aims to initiate consultations on this framework in the next fiscal year.

New CODE-NGO Strategy responds to development challenges as the national voice of civil society

As the current strategy of CODE-NGO draws to a close in 2017, the largest coalition of organizations working for social development defines its measures to achieve its desire to sustain its influence in public policy and more effectively respond to development challenges affecting communities.

Looking back: The last five years

In the last quarter of 2016, CODE-NGO began a series of surveys to assess the network's effectiveness in achieving the goals it has set with the member networks and external partners. Respondents included people who have held key positions within CODE-NGO between 2013 and 2017; partners and other external stakeholders of CODE-NGO from government agencies, development agencies, academe, other civil society organizations (CSOs) outside of the member networks of CODE-NGO who were familiar with the network. Opinions of member base organizations were also collected during the Social Development celebration in November 2016.

Based on the assessment results, CODE-NGO had continued to fulfill its mission to be a trusted voice of civil society and to advance capacities of CSOs to exercise transformative leadership. Members and partners are generally satisfied in the network's management of its programs (i.e., Advocacy, Membership, Knowledge Development and Management) and rated its conduct of activities (e.g., building capacity of members, developing and sharing knowledge, and implementing programs and projects) as generally effective. Furthermore, the performance of CODE-NGO's Secretariat was rated satisfactorily. Moving forward, there are still areas for improvement for CODE-NGO, which include building credibility and reaching out to the current administration, engaging non-member CSOs more, better visibility among donor institutions, and helping its member networks in terms of membership and financial sustainability.

Crafting the scorecard

Heads of the member networks, members of the Board, and key staff of the Secretariat met on February 23 to 25, 2017 in Tagaytay City, Cavite to craft the strategy map and the balanced scorecard. A Balanced Scorecard is a widely popular management tool to appraise how an organization is achieving its desired result through a quantifiable and comprehensive set of objectives and performance measures. The workshop was facilitated by an external consultant, Edel Guiza. The group went through the results of the internal and external assessments, constructed the strategy map that translated the CODE-NGO mission and vision statements into performance categories, and developed effective measures and meaningful standards. The draft strategy map and balanced scorecard would be further refined by the Strategic Planning Committee composed of key Secretariat staff and Board members.

Determining results and contributions

The Strategic Planning Committee met several times between March and July 2017 to work on the performance measures ensuring that these truly articulate the network's vision and strategy. Then, the draft strategy map and balanced scorecard were presented to the Board of all the member networks to ensure network-wide acceptance of the measures and to gain commitment on their contributions to the measures. At the same time, the Secretariat and the Board of Trustees also developed their own balanced scorecards that reflected their contributions to the measures.

Cascading and communicating change

As CODE-NGO transitions into its new and updated strategy, many new processes will be introduced to improve the realization of the network's goals. Management of this change will involve formulating change initiatives, engendering network-wide sponsorship, and ensuring that implementing the initiatives is as seamless as possible.

In the next five years then, CODE-NGO will continue to pursue its strategic direction of ensuring significant influence in public policy formulation, programming and implementation; ensuring effective governance and management of the coalition and strengthening engagement among its Board, Secretariat and members.

Developing a Knowledge Base *of CSO Initiatives*

Knowledge Development and Management (KDM) Program

On its fifth year of implementation, CODE-NGO's Knowledge Development and Management (KDM) Program has pursued to facilitate more meaningful learning exchange among civil society organizations (CSOs). This was realized 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.

The syntheses of ten (10) online forums from 2013 to 2016 were compiled and transformed into infographics under four (4) thematic areas: Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, CSO Good Governance, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Citizen-led Monitoring Program. These publications may be downloaded from the CODE-NGO website (www.code-ngo.org). This year, two (2) online forums were organized among communities and CSOs: "Volunteer Management" and "Board-ED Relations", via the CODE-NGO Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/caucusofdevelopmentngonetworks) and an email group. Co-organized with the Volunteer and Membership Programs, several member networks (MNs), member base organizations (MBOs), and partners of CODE-NGO, coming from different regions and sectors in the Philippines participated in these online forums. The syntheses of these forums will also be converted to infographics and published online. As an offshoot of a face-to-face peer learning exchange last fiscal year, a Guidebook on "Building Capacities Towards CSO Network Sustainability" was produced (http://code-ngo.org/2017/01/building-capacities-towards-cso-network-sustainability/).

FY 2016-17 was prolific for CODE-NGO's KDM Program as it produced additional eight (8) publications through online and print: CODE-NGO Annual Report 2016; Higit Pa 25th Anniversary Book; Civil Society Organizations Sustainability Index (CSOSI) 2015 Report; Perception Survey of CSOs on Government and Civil Society 2016; Storytellers' Journey: Volunteer Stories on Social Development; Strength in Unity: The Citizen's Monitoring of LGU Performance Project Experience; Addressing Concerns Overcoming Challenges: A Handbook on CSO Participation in Government Planning and Budgeting 2016; and Scoping Study on Surge Capacity of Philippines CSOs (Advancing CSO Engagement in DRRM-CCA). These materials are accessible at the CODE-NGO website www.code-ngo.org. Additional copies of the CSO Assessment of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2011-16; Development and Reform Agenda (DRA) 2016-19 (popular and full versions); and the Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT) for CSOs were printed and distributed to network members and partners. The CODE-NGO e-Library has also been updated with 53 additional CODE-NGO publications (from 1991 to 2013) available for downloading at http://code-ngo.org/publications/.

To update the profiles of the networks' member base organizations, the survey responses of 654 MBOs have been encoded, cleaned and processed. With a directory of more than 700 cooperatives added, the CODE-NGO database now runs at 1,408 MBOs. The data was mapped out and initially uploaded to the CODE-NGO website (http://code-ngo.org/network-members/). A second batch of profiles are currently being encoded and processed and will be uploaded to the website as well. This database was developed primarily for mapping and programming purposes. The contact details will be updated every year, while the full survey will be run every 3 years after the national elections.

With CODE-NGO's celebration of its 25th Anniversary, two (2) videos were produced to launch the coffee table book, Higit Pa (http://code-ngo.org/2017/01/higit-pa-reaching-beyond-aim/) and capture the highlights of the 25th celebration (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4r7egJ_vk4). With the conduct of the first ever Youth Video Awards in November 2016, five (5) profile videos have been produced by the youth of some member networks and a base organization to showcase what they do for social development (http://code-ngo.org/2017/01/socdev2016-youth-video-awards-winners/). The CODE-NGO History/ Timeline was also converted into infographics and presented during SocDev2016.

Further, through the DRRM Fund Watch Project, the online platform CODE-NGO DRRM iHub was developed (http://drrm.code-ngo.org/) to "better monitor local government units and how they manage and use their local budgets for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management". The 2016 round of the CSO Sustainability Index (CSOSI) for Asia research (wherein CODE-NGO spearheads the Philippine report) was also conducted to "measure the strength and viability of the CSO sector in the following dimensions of sustainability: legal environment, organizational capacity, financial viability, advocacy, service provision, infrastructure and public image", and will be published soon.

To communicate its accomplishments to the public, CODE-NGO has continuously updated its website to feature member, project and program activities and events, posting 44 articles and statements in the past year. It released six (6) issues of the e-Newsletter, which has more than 2,600 recipients. As of July 2017, the CODE-NGO Facebook page got 3,677 "likes", a big increase of 1,382 from July 2016. 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 ratified in the coming fiscal year, CODE-NGO's KDM Program is up to another challenge and evolution in 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.

CODE-NGO Celebrates 25 Years of Collaboration and Impact for Social Development

CODE-NGO held its 25th anniversary and Social Development Celebration (SocDev2016) at the Sequoia Hotel in Quezon City from November 23-24, 2016. More than 200 representatives from the coalition's 12 member networks, along with esteemed resource persons from the political, economic, and socio-civic sectors attended this largest annual gathering of CSOs.

Taking Perspective

Kicking off Day 1 of SocDev2016 was the Glo-Cal ("global-local") Development Environment Scan, a panel discussion where Anna Marie Karaos of the John J. Carroll Institute for Church and Social Issues (JJC-ICSI), Men Sta. Ana of the Action for Economic Reform (AER), Mahar Mangahas of the Social Weather Stations (SWS), and Rolando Lansigan of the National Privacy Commission discussed pressing issues in the development sector. Among the topics tackled were the potential effects of authoritarianism on CSO work, the responsible sharing of information on social media, and the importance of listening to people's needs to come up with viable, long-term strategies.
The day was capped off with a celebration titled "Night of 25 Years," where past and present chairpersons and executive directors were brought together in a talk show format to discuss the challenges and triumphs that CODE-NGO has faced during its 25-year journey.

A Day of Highlights

Vice-President Ma. Leonor Gerona-Robredo attended Day 2 of SocDev2016, where she was the honored guest during the unveiling of CODE-NGO's 25th anniversary coffee table book, Higit Pa. The Vice-President also delivered the summit's keynote speech, remarking that:

"The book launched today is really an expression of hope. That despite all the difficulties, there's really much reason for each one of us to hope. *Ayun ang role ng NGOs: Hindi nakukuntento sa kung anong nariyan, patuloy na lumalaban, at naghahanap ng paraan para mas mapagaan ang paghihirap ng ating mga tinutulungan.*"

As a former NGO worker, VP Leni has the same track of mind as the CSOs who would like to engage with the government to help the marginalized. She knows that the desire to help is far greater than the frustration from the restrictions of development and

noted that the best years of her life were with her former NGO Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal (SALIGAN), a member of PHILSSA. She reiterated that there is reason to hope despite the struggles. The NGOs' role is not to be content and change the situation; but to provide inspiration and hope for those who lost hope.

Her keynote was followed by the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing for the Partnerships for Community Resilience between CODE-NGO, Christian Aid, Commission on Audit (COA), Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and Humanitarian Leadership Academy (HLA). Delegates also had the opportunity to attend seven learning sessions paneled by experts who led thought-provoking discussions on matters such as social enterprises, federalism, human rights, and even social media communication.

To protest the burial of Former President Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani, CODE-NGO members also staged a noise barrage at the corner of Timog Avenue and Mother Ignacia Avenue, encouraging motorists to honk their horns in opposition to the travesty. The coalition also issued a formal statement on the matter, which can be read on CODE-NGO's website via this link: http://code-ngo.org/2016/09/oppose-burial-remains-ferdinand-marcos-libingan-ng-mga-bayani/.

SocDev2016's second day concluded with the announcement of winners of CODE-NGO's first-ever Youth Video Awards. The competition recognized exceptional storytellers aged 18-25 who were able to compellingly convey the great work done by CODE-NGO member organizations in a three-to-five-minute video. Winners were chosen by taking into account the judges' scores along with the number of "likes" each video garnered on CODE-NGO's Facebook and YouTube pages. Maria Jeremy Nogra took home the P50,000 grand prize for her film titled "PhilDHRRA: Empowering Rural Communities Towards Sustainable Development."

General Assembly Resolutions

The following were the resolutions approved during the 25th General Assembly:

1. Resolution Calling for Participatory Planning and Budgeting in the Preparation of the National Government Budget for 2018 and Succeeding Years. Sponsored by Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET).

2. Resolution Urging the House of the Representatives to Re-File House Bill 4296 or "An Act Mandating the Completion of the Land Component of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Pursuant to Republic Act 6657, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law, As Amended" to Complete the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms (CARPER) targets. Sponsored by Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA).

3. Resolution Urging the Government and Its Appropriate Agencies to Establish A Technical Working Group for the Harmonization of Land Use Plans as Mandated by Joint DAR-DENR-LRA-NCIP Administrative Order No. 1, 2012 to Avoid Further Marginalization of the Poor and Vulnerable Sectors Especially the Indigenous Peoples. Sponsored by Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA) and Cordillera Network of NGOs and POs (CORDNET).

4. Resolution Strongly Condemning the Burial of the Remains of Former President Ferdinand Marcos in the "Libingan ng mga Bayani" Sponsored by Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE), Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET), and Eastern Visayas Network of NGOs and POs (EVNET).

5. Resolution calling the government to stop extra judicial killings and uphold human rights in the government's campaign against illegal drugs. Sponsored by National Council of Social Development (NCSD).

6. A Resolution Urging CODE-NGO and Its Member Networks to Conduct Massive Learning Sessions and Orientations on Federalism as a Proposed Form of Government and Provide Resources Thereof. Sponsored by Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD).

7. Resolution Calling on President Rodrigo Duterte and Congress to Reconsider their Support for Con-Ass and to Go Back to their Original Position that Con-Con is the Better Way to do Charter Change Towards Federalism. Sponsored by Western Visayas Network of Social Development NGOs (WEVNET).

"We would like to thank everyone who took part in making SocDev2016 happen, including the hardworking team of CODE-NGO and our co-organizer, Association of Foundations; our co-presenter, the Peace and Equity Foundation; our esteemed panelists and speakers; and of course all our delegates this year. I hope this was as enlightening and inspiring an experience for them as it was for us, and we hope they will join us again next year when we hold CODE-NGO's national congress," said Sixto Donato C. Macasaet, executive director of CODE-NGO.

SocDev2016 video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4r7egJ_vk4

Building Financial Resources *for Sustainability*

Building Resources for Development Work

The vital role of networks of civil society organizations (CSOs) in strengthening CSOs and in advocating for an enabling environment for development and social justice is widely acknowledged. This is true when government agencies are open to partnerships with civil society and there is a need for CSOs to be more effective in maximizing opportunities to advance their development agenda. It is equally true when the space for civil society is constricted and threatened, and has to be defended. However, most donors prefer to support short-term projects which can show tangible results and are not affected by conflict. CSO networks thus find it very difficult to get funding for the capacity building and advocacy work that they do.

Recognizing this predicament, CODE-NGO has been endeavoring to mobilize resources for its member networks (MNs) as part of its strategic plan. In the past years, we had initiated discussions with several local NGO foundations on this concern. We continued our dialogue with the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) and it has now expressed its commitment to providing financial and other support for the MNs of CODE-NGO. As a first step, an impact assessment of the member networks is now being undertaken. The results of this assessment, expected by the end of 2017, will inform the support program for the MNs.

CODE-NGO and its member networks have also worked on proposals for consortium projects. In the past year, four projects were approved with a total grant of P 22 Million.

We have also continued our advocacy for the People's Fund Bill. This bill was filed by Senator Bam Aquino in the Senate and Congresspersons Ben Canama and Tony Bravo of the COOP-NATCCO Party-List in the House of Representatives (HoR). The proposed law, patterned after similar laws in Europe, will enable taxpayers to allocate up to 5% of their income tax to qualified CSOs of their choice. It aims to empower taxpayers, promote local philanthropy and development work and strengthen the governance of CSOs. CODE-NGO submitted to the HoR Committee of People's Participation a position paper supporting the bill and sent a copy of related research to the bill's authors in the Senate and HoR. CODE-NGO also initiated discussion about the bill with the NGO Sector Council of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC).

Financial *Highlights*

Valdes Abad & Company, CPAs
(Formerly: Valdes Abad& Associates)

CJV Building 108 Aguirre Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City, Philippines

Branches:
Cebu and Davao

Phone: (632) 892-5931 to 35
(632) 519,2105
Fax: (632) 819-1468
E-mail: valdes.abad.associates@gmail.com
BOA/PRC Reg. No. 0314

SEC Accreditation No. A-142-F

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Trustees
CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE-NGO)
(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)
69 Esteban Abada Street, Loyola Heights, Quezon City

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE-NGO)** ***(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)*** which comprise the statements of financial position as of July 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of support, donations and expenses and statements of fund balances, and statements of cash flows for the fiscal years then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NGO NETWORKS, INC. (CODE-NGO)** ***(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)*** as of July 31, 2017 and 2016 and of its financial performances and its cash flows for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with Philippine Standards on Auditing (PSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the NGO in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audits of the financial statements in the Philippines, the *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in the Philippines (Philippine Code of Ethics)*, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the NGO's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the NGO or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the NGO's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with PSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements

The auditor's responsibilities include the following:

(i) To identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and to obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the auditor's opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

(ii) To obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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. In circumstances when the auditor also has a responsibility to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, the auditor shall omit the phrase that the auditor's consideration of internal control is not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

(iii) To evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

(iv) To conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If the auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, the auditor is required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. The auditor's conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern

(v) To evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may be reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Report on Bureau of Internal Revenue Requirement

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information on Note 25 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 and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

VALDES ABAD & COMPANY, CPAs
BOA/PRC Reg. No. 0314
Issued on November 2, 2015, Valid until December 31, 2018
SEC Accreditation No. A-142-F
Issued on September 7, 2017, Valid until January 7, 2018
BIR Accreditation No. 08-002126-0-2014
Issued on October 29, 2014, Valid until October 29, 2017

For the firm:

ALFONSO L. CAY-AN
Partner
CPA Registration No. 99805
Issued on September 26, 2014, Valid until December 14, 2017
TIN 213-410-741-000
PTR No. 5912773, Issued Date: January 5, 2017, Makati City
BOA/PRC Reg. No. 0314
Issued on November 2, 2015, Valid until December 31, 2018

Makati City, Philippines
October 20, 2017

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

(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(In Philippine Peso)

ASSETS	Notes	July 31, 2017	2016
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	**6,252,614**	9,465,989
Receivables	7,20	**8,245,058**	6,566,856
Short-term investments	8	**55,318,129**	23,830,236
Other current assets	23	**88,500**	62,023
Total Current Assets		**69,904,301**	39,925,104
NON - CURRENT ASSETS			
Long-term investments	8	**125,209,874**	156,095,760
Property and equipment, net	9	**32,392,590**	19,811,205
Total Non-Current Assets		**157,602,464**	175,906,965
TOTAL ASSETS		**227,506,765**	215,832,069
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	10	**7,931,202**	7,598,229
Deferred grants	11	**12,633,287**	9,871,170
Total Current Liabilities		**20,564,489**	17,469,399
NON - CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Retirement contributions payable	16	**1,072,832**	542,296
FUND BALANCES			
General fund - unappropriated	17	**17,232,087**	22,169,110
General fund - appropriated	17	**82,647**	82,647
Membership fund	18	**2,945,407**	2,855,407
Endowment fund	19	**172,571,687**	172,571,687
Equipment fund	20	**-**	9,324
Emergency response fund	21	**132,199**	132,199
Donated fund	22	**12,905,417**	-
Total Fund Balances		**205,869,444**	197,820,374
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		**227,506,765**	215,832,069

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

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

(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT, DONATIONS AND EXPENSES

(In Philippine Peso)

For the Fiscal Years Ended July 31,	Note	2017 Unrestricted	2017 Restricted	2017 Total	2016 Unrestricted	2016 Restricted	2016 Total
SUPPORT AND DONATIONS							
Grants and donations	12	**815,103**	**28,176,465**	**28,991,568**	1,164,779	31,792,913	32,957,692
Investment income, net	12	**5,513,378**	**-**	**5,513,378**	10,269,181	-	10,269,181
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	12	**1,049,884**	**(1,700,486)**	**(650,602)**	418,664	-	418,664
Others	12	**2,919,324**	**-**	**2,919,324**	287,890	1,472	289,362
Total support and donations		**10,297,689**	**26,475,979**	**36,773,668**	12,140,514	31,794,385	43,934,899
EXPENSES							
Project expenses	13	**-**	**28,176,465**	**28,176,465**	-	31,794,385	31,794,385
Program expenses	14	**8,455,983**	**-**	**8,455,983**	6,773,603	-	6,773,603
Operating expenses	15	**5,078,243**	**-**	**5,078,243**	4,755,513	-	4,755,513
Total disbursements		**13,534,226**	**28,176,465**	**41,710,691**	11,529,116	31,794,385	43,323,501
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF SUPPORT AND DONATIONS OVER EXPENSES		**(3,236,537)**	**(1,700,486)**	**(4,937,023)**	611,398	-	611,398

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

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

(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

(In Philippine Peso)

	General Fund		Membership	Endowment	Equipment	Emergency	Donated	
	Unappropriated	Appropriated	Fund	Fund	Fund	Response Fund	Fund	Total
	(Note 3,17)	(Note 3,17)	(Note 3,18)	(Note 3,19)	(Note 3,20)	(Note 3,21)	(Note 3,22)	
BALANCES AS OF JULY 31, 2015	**22,176,055**	**169,647**	**2,765,407**	**171,971,687**	**93,163**	**113,856**	**-**	**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**	**9,324**	**132,199**	**-**	**197,820,374**
Additional funds received	-	-	90,000	-	-	-	-	90,000
Depreciation for the year	-	-	-	-	(9,324)	-	-	(9,324)
Net income for the year	(4,937,023)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,937,023)
Donated fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,905,417	12,905,417
BALANCES AS OF JULY 31, 2017	**17,232,087**	**82,647**	**2,945,407**	**172,571,687**	**-**	**132,199**	**12,905,417**	**205,869,444**

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

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

(A Non-Stock, Not-for-Profit Organization)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(In Philippine Peso)

For the Fiscal Years Ended July 31,	Notes	2017	2016
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Excess (Deficit) of receipts over disbursements		**(4,937,023)**	611,398
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation	9,15	**74,618**	88,709
Investment and interest income	12	**(5,533,573)**	(10,413,513)
Net retirement expense	14,15,16	**1,072,832**	261,739
Unrealized foreign exchange gain		**637,282**	(418,664)
Gain on sale of property and equipment		**(25,385)**	-
Premium amortization	8,12	-	126,360
Operating income before working capital changes		**(8,711,249)**	(9,743,971)
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Receivables		**(1,862,613)**	(62,440)
Other current assets		**(26,477)**	730,232
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		**332,973**	3,061,253
Deferred grants		**2,762,117**	1,542,920
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities		**(7,505,249)**	(4,472,006)
Investment and interest income received		**2,465,375**	6,620,387
Net cash from operating activities		**(5,039,874)**	2,148,381
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Withdrawals or maturities of investments		**2,000,000**	1,500,000
Acquisition of property and equipment	9	**(12,688,186)**	(796,796)
Disposal of property and equipment	9	**48,244**	-
Contiribution for retirement plan asset	16	**(542,296)**	(1,536,404)
Net cash from investing activities		**(11,182,238)**	(833,200)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Additional funds received	18	**90,000**	90,000
Donated fund	22	**12,905,417**	-
Net cash from financing activities		**12,995,417**	90,000
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		**(3,226,695)**	1,405,181
EFFECT ON EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		**13,320**	7,664
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning		**9,465,989**	8,053,144
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End		**6,252,614**	9,465,989

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

Member *Networks*

Association of Foundations (AF)

Building Foundations, Building a Better Future

Established in 1972, the Association of Foundations (AF) is currently the largest national network of NGOs and Foundations in the Philippines. Its over 160 members based in 16 regions across the country implement a variety of programs and projects on education, health and nutrition, livelihood, and environment, to name a few. Essentially, AF strengthens its members through capacity building, information sharing, networking, and advocacy. AF prides itself not only in promoting but also practicing good governance.

Capacity Building & CSO Good Governance

AF's topmost priority is to provide support to its members in enhancing their capacities for good governance and program effectiveness. Thus, Capacity Building, AF's flagship program, has focused on technical interventions, consultations, and other mentoring activities with the objective of helping members become stronger and more sustainable. AF provided technical assistance to members seeking PCNC certification and advice on institutional strengthening or program implementation matters. Activities included one-on-one mentoring, strategic planning facilitation, and consultation meetings with member organizations' management teams or boards of trustees. AF also hosted some learning sessions including a donors' forum, a wellness session, a fundraising/resource mobilization seminar, and a monitoring and evaluation workshop.

This focus on building members' capacities remains important as AF continues its advocacy for CSO good governance. AF looks to further operationalize this through the NGO Transparency Initiative or NGO-TI.

The NGO-TI is an online platform developed by AF as part of the collective efforts to promote the integrity, transparency and accountability of the non-government organization (NGO) sector. With the NGO-TI, AF is taking its advocacy on good governance a step higher by making public the status of its members' compliance to basic reportorial requirements set by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), among others. NGO-TI is accessible via http://afonline.org/transparency.

Development Agenda Participation

Through its engagements and partnerships with colleagues in civil society and with government, AF has taken an active role in supporting poverty eradication advocacies as one of the lead convenors of the Zero Extreme Poverty by the Year 2030 (ZEP2030) Movement.

ZEP2030 is a product of the Poverty Summit in 2015 which holds this vision of the Philippines by the Year 2030: "A Philippines where every Filipino enjoys the necessary goods that define and sustain human dignity, life, security, and engaged citizenship." In pursuit of this vision, ZEP2030 convenors agreed on a 15-year agenda to help reduce poverty and inequality in the country. Along this line, seven (7) thematic clusters were identified: (a) Health; (b) Education; (c) Environment; (d) Livelihood; (e) Agriculture and Fisheries; (f) Housing and Shelter; and (g) Peace and Human Security. An eighth theme, Social Justice, is an over-arching theme across the 7 thematic clusters.

AF is the lead convenor of the Education Cluster. As such, AF facilitated the development of the ZEP2030 Education Agenda and is currently working to operationalize its action plan. Related to this, AF secured the support and commitment of the following organizations to be local convenors for ZEP2030 in the following priority areas:

- Coalition for Better Education – Region VII (Cebu Province)
- Del Monte Foundation, Inc. – Region X (Bukidnon)
- Ayala Foundation, Inc. – Region X (Lanao del Norte)
- Conrado and Ladislawa Alcantara Foundation, Inc. with the Sarangani Province Empowerment and Community Transformation Forum, Inc. (SPECTRUM) as Secretariat – Region XII (Sarangani)

Partners based in other ZEP priority regions will soon be identified to see through the full implementation of the Education Agenda and contribute to the overall goal of ZEP2030.

Institutional Sustainability

The stability of the network is crucial for AF to achieve its mission. To gain the trust and confidence of its targeted stakeholders, AF walks its talk on CSO good governance. It has renewed its accreditation with the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) and, in December 2016, received its third consecutive 5-Year PCNC certification. Consequently, the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) issued a Certificate of Registration to AF as a Donee Institution effective February 2017.

The reputation and credibility that AF has built as a reliable source of information on social development and philanthropy were key considerations of the Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society (CAPS) when it chose the network as its local partner in a research project to create the "Doing Good Index" (DGI) involving 16 economies in Asia. The project seeks to analyze the policies and best practices that enable the social development sector in each of the 16 Asian economies to thrive; the analysis will focus on the regulations, tax policies, procurement and environmental factors that affect philanthropy in Asia. The research study commenced in 2017 and included interviews with local social development experts both in the NGO sector and government, and the conduct of the Doing Good Index Survey among CSO leaders. The result of the study is expected to come out in the first quarter of 2018.

Contact Person: Norman Jiao
Designation: Executive Director
Office Address: Room 1102, 11/F Aurora Tower, Aurora Boulevard, Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 911-9792, 913-7231
Email Address: af@afonline.org
Website: www.afonline.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Association.of.Foundations
Total Number of Base Members: 166

Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD)

Coalition for Bicol Development Inc. is a non-stock, non-profit, non-partisan organization duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on November 14, 1996. It continues to draw its strength from its member provincial networks and 1 city network: Albay NGO/PO Network for Development (ALPRODEV) in Albay, Camarines Sur CSOs Network for Development (CAMSURNET) in Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte for Opportunity, Resources and Enhancement for Development (COREDEV) in Camarines Norte, Provincial Alliance of NGOs/POs for Development (PANGOPOD) in Sorsogon, Bugkos Catandungan in Catanduanes and Naga City People's Council (NCPC).

CBD is now 21 years in existence with a new set of Board members installed in April 2017.

Bicol DRRM Coordination HUB Tested by Typhoon Nina

The Civil Society Organization Disaster Risk Reduction (CSO DRR) HUB in Region 5 turned one (1) year old in July 2016. Its operability was tested when Typhoon Nina devastated the Region by a category 4 Typhoon on the night of Christmas day up to the early hours of December 26, 2016 leaving Catanduanes and Camarines Sur the two (2) hardest hit provinces.

Armed with some knowledge on disaster response planning and management, the CBD secretariat activated the Bicol DRR CSO HUB and led the response planning and coordination for Typhoon Nina Emergency Response, together with Caritas Diocese of Libmanan in Camarines Norte and Bugkos Catandungan in Catanduanes.

The teams conducted critical activities on initial damage and needs assessment in all 6 provinces of Bicol, prioritizing Camarines Sur and Catanduanes based on need and capacities of local members, response planning meetings for food and non-food relief distribution, procurement, relief packing and distribution, monitoring of response intervention and post-utilization assessment. All these were made possible by a grant provided by the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) as facilitated by CODE-NGO.

The CSO DRR Hub followed the criteria for selection of areas and beneficiaries by prioritizing the municipalities and barangays that have the most need but are receiving less attention from government or other partners. The presence of CBD members with existing engagement with LGUs (local government units) in the area ensured the monitoring and possible links to post-disaster actions, families with vulnerable household members (children, pregnant women, elderly and persons with disabilities) and households headed by women or solo parents.

The Bicol CSO DRR Coordination hub distributed food and non-food relief packages following the Sphere standard to barangays Sto. Domingo and Pajo Baguio in Bato, Catanduanes and barangays Sta. Rosa del Sur and Caranan in Pasacao, Camarines Sur considering the criteria mentioned above.

Challenges and Insights

In every step of the way, the Hub hurdled a lot of challenges from getting information on needs analysis from local members, finalizing the list of beneficiaries, procurement and to actual relief distribution. Electricity was shut down and communication signals were unstable in most areas of the provinces, thus it was difficult to communicate the on-the-ground situation to the Hub. In Catanduanes, some goods were purchased in Naga City as there were no available supplies

in the island. The pressure of negotiating with cargo and trucking service providers for minimal shipment fees was also an exigent task. It was both "energy and pocket draining" transporting the goods from the mainland just to reach the affected communities. The power of networking and tapping colleagues and previous connections in development work made it possible for the Hub to address these challenges.

This Emergency Response was a test for the organization and the people within the Hub. No matter how hard the challenges were, valuable insights from the experience were identified, such as the need to clarify beneficiary selection criteria, giving primary importance to participation of the community in the beneficiary selection process, crafting the distribution and logistics plan and implementation of the response action. These are essential to ensure success of the entire emergency response process.

It was a week-long, taxing moment for the Hub members involved in the response action, but greatly satisfying that the help reached affected families in a timely manner during the Christmas holidays of 2016. It was really a test that inspired CBD to improve in its systems to make it a stronger CSO DRR Hub in the Region.

Contact Person: Joy Oropesa-Banares
Designation: Executive Director
Office Address: 2/F Renacimiento St., Tabuco, Naga City
Telephone No.: (0998) 860-2652
Email Address: cbdbicol@gmail.com
Website: coalitionforbicoldev.publishpath.com
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/cbd.bicol
Total Number of Base Members: 170

Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET)

The Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET) is a coalition of CSOs (civil society organizations) in the region composed of provincial CSO networks from the three provinces: Kaabag sa Sugbo, Inc. (provincial network in Cebu province), Bohol Alliance of NGOs (BANGON), and Negros Oriental Network of NGOs and POs (NEGORNET). The coalition aims to build on the strength of its member-networks in effecting good governance and achieving sustainable development in the region. The network's members offer various development programs serving different sectors in the region including fisherfolks, farmers, urban workers, women, children, youth, agrarian reform communities, senior citizens, people's organizations and academe. Aside from local governance engagements, the network's members are involved in community organizing, disaster risk reduction and management advocacy, sustainable agriculture, cooperative development, enterprise development, agrarian reform, primary health care, gender and development, coastal resource management, water and sanitation, nutrition, basic education, youth and child development and labor advocacy.

Strengthening Organizational Capacity

When CENVISNET started its operations, it did not have its own staff to execute its mandate to its members. In its first seven (7) years of existence, the secretariat functions were then assumed by its member Provincial Networks (PNs) which took turns in performing the day to day operations of the network. In 2012, CENVISNET, with only one staff then, underwent an organizational diagnostic process using the capacity assessment tool (CAT), as supported by CODE-NGO's Capacity Building Fund (CBF) program. CENVISNET used the results of the assessment as basis for the program's interventions such as mentoring and seminars and reference in crafting its Capacity Building Plan (CBP).

In all of these CBF support mechanisms, the mentoring intervention has become the most critical for CENVISNET. With Norman Jiao of the Association of Foundations as the program's assigned mentor for the network, organizational diagnostics, strategic planning and other change management processes were facilitated and

has motived CENVISNET to improve on its organizational competencies. The fact that the mentoring intervention was done on a voluntary basis has made CENVISNET appreciate the program more. In fact, it provided inspiration to the network in achieving the program's objectives compared to other more structured and compulsory processes.

The program has also empowered CENVISNET in pursuing its goal of providing capacity-building for its members and replicating these initiatives to them. Through this program, complemented by other projects, CENVISNET was able to organize several training workshops on organizational management and development.

In CODE-NGO's Training for Mentors on Strategic Capacity Building for Network Sustainability, CENVISNET sent three (3) representatives who in turn were paired with Provincial Networks/ Member Base Organizations which expressed commitment in undergoing the mentoring process. Using the CAT and with assistance of their mentors, these organizations are on their way to implementing their CBPs in addressing gaps in organizational development.

The success of the program starts with the network appreciating the value of these initiatives and acceptance for its need for such support. The support of the Board and commitment of its Secretariat jointly shaped the network to be competent in achieving its vision, mission and goals.

Contact Person: Aldwin Joseph Empaces
Designation: Regional Coordinator
Office Address: Z1-013, Door 1 Ramona Village Dawis, Tabunok, Talisay City, Cebu
Telephone No.: (032) 272-1642
Email Address: cenvisnetcoordinator@gmail.com
Website: www.cenvisnet.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/centralvisayasnetwork/
Total Number of Base Members: 50

Cordillera Network of NGOs and POs (CORDNET)

CORDNET is an organization of Cordillera-based development-oriented non-government organizations and people's organizations. Located in a region that is predominantly indigenous people, the vision of CORDNET is: A model regional network that is sustainable, respects cultural diversity and is pro-active in the development of marginalized and underserved communities of the Cordillera Region.

CORDNET's mission is to advocate and facilitate the sustainable development of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) through culturally appropriate programs and projects with its dynamic members, in partnership with stakeholders. Currently, CORDNET has 56 MBOs (member base organizations), 6 NGOs and 1 religious group. CORDNET's advocacy is to develop Social Enterprises and Sustainable Farming.

Typhoon Haima Emergency Livelihood Response

Region 1 and the Cordillera Administrative Region are among the worst hit by Super Typhoon Haima on October 19 and 20, 2016 which devastated agri-based livelihood of affected communities. Crops such as vegetables and rice were ready to be harvested when the storm came. These crops were flooded or carried away by flashfloods. Others were buried by landslides.

The objective of the project is to provide emergency livelihood packs with transportation support or conditional cash transfer within four (4) weeks after disaster to prevent negative coping mechanisms.

The emergency livelihood response was given to organic famers who belong to the indigenous

tribes of Ifugao, Benguet and Mountain province who do not have access to capital to restart their faming activities.

Farming households with vulnerable members were given priority. Two hundred nineteen (219) female farmers, 141 male farmers, 918 children, 158 elderly, 30 PWDs (persons with disabilities) and 31 households headed by solo parents benefited from the project, for a total of 1,497 individuals.

The project was implemented from November 11, 2016 to February 25, 2017. Water hose for irrigation, drums to store water for watering vegetables and vegetables seeds were among the assistance given to farmers. To date, farmers served by the project have fully recovered. The immediate impact of the project is relief from anxiety among the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are happy that they did not have to resort to borrowing money with high interest rates.

Facilitating factors for the success of the project include: thorough needs assessment, setting of selection criteria, clear procurement process, systematic distribution process, established feedback mechanism, monitoring and evaluation.

Among CORDNET's recommendations to improve project implementation are as follows:

- The need to develop the capacity of responders for stress management and conflict management
- The need to enhance reporting system to effectively guide intervention planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Contact Person: Maria Tita P. Butz
Designation: Executive Officer
Office Address: Good Shepherd Compound, 15 Gibraltar Road, Mines View, Baguio City
Telephone Nos.: (074) 444-7197, 424-1246
Email Address: cordnet@gmail.com
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/Cordillera-Network-of-Development-NGOs-and-POs-Inc-896715627005509/
Total Number of Base Members: 56

Eastern Visayas Network of NGOs and POs (EVNET)

EVNET is the only regional coalition of local NGOs (non-government organizations) & POs (people's organizations) working in the six (6) provinces of Eastern Visayas. It aims to heighten the level of involvement and to 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.

Social Protection Project

In partnership with the International Center for Innovation, Transformation and Excellence in Governance (INCITEGov) and Plan Philippines, EVNET is venturing on the project Strengthening social protection, resilience and inclusive development for marginalized people through citizens and civil society empowerment and partnership development, from 2016 to 2018.

As a regional network of NGOs and POs, EVNET's reason for being has always been advancing the causes of the disadvantaged and marginalized people, sectors and communities. True to its calling, it has been an active advocate against the wanton destruction of the environment, human rights violations, and excesses of social institutions – government and private - that aggravate the situation of deprivation among peoples and among communities. However, it has not totally closed its door in collaborating with government and private sector entities that promote human development and addressing pressing issues and concerns that challenge people and communities.

Most recently, EVNET has entered into a collaborative project with INCITEGov and Plan Philippines in enhancing social protection among the most vulnerable sectors – women, children and youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, marginalized farmers and fisherfolks in the four poverty-stricken provinces of Northern Samar, Samar Province, Eastern Samar all of Eastern Visayas, and the Province of Masbate in the Bicol region. By design, the Social Protection project harnesses the capacities of the vulnerable sectors to be active advocates of their own issues and concerns and bring these to the attention of the duty bearers for their own action in the form of policies, programs and projects. The role of EVNET in this project is to set up and run the coordination mechanism at the regional level as well as provide technical support for the project in the form of organizational development and strengthening and capacity building of organized civil society organization (CSO) from among the basic sectors. INCITEGov's role is on policy formulation for advocacy at the national, regional and local levels. Plan Philippines for its part facilitates the formation of the community-based monitoring and advocacy group (CBAM-G) as the main vehicle for participation and community engagement with duty bearers, particularly those from government

such as the local government units (LGUs, and national agencies like the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and Philhealth among others.

The Social Protection (SP) project opened up opportunities for all project stakeholders. In the case of the basic sectors, through the CBAM-G, there is now a greater chance for them to exact accountability from duty bearers through the monitoring of services such as the social health insurance from Philhealth and social pension for senior citizens provided by the DSWD. There is also increased participation in local special bodies through policy advocacy that enhance social protection mechanisms. On the part of the implementers or the SP Consortium, the project provides them greater opportunity to work on enhancing local and national policies for social protection through engagement with duty bearers at the national level (i.e. national agencies, congress and national network of CSOs), at the regional level (i.e. Regional Development Council and other regional bodies) and local level (i.e. LGUs and Barangay Development Councils). On the part of the duty bearers, the project provided more grounded programs and services since its very nature works towards bridging the gap between the concrete situation of the most vulnerable sectors and that of how government delivers its services to these sectors.

Contact Person: Mario Ian Mosquisa
Designation: Chairperson/Officer-in-Charge
Office Address: Door 1 Salinas Apartment, 3rd Street, Sampaguita Village, Tacloban City, 6500 Leyte
Telephone No.: (053) 325-2613
Email Address: evnetr8@gmail.com
Total Number of Base Members: 22

Mindanao Coalition of Development NGO Networks (MINCODE)

MINCODE is the largest coalition of networks of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Mindanao and is at the forefront of peace and development work in the area. It was organized in 1991 and was formally registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on January 18, 1993.

MINCODE serves as a forum for discussion, dialogue and coordination among Mindanao CSO networks concerning development programs and their impact to the Mindanao community. To achieve its vision of a Mindanao society where its peoples live with equity and peace, respectful of cultural diversities, and caring of its rich natural resources, MINCODE commits to take the lead in advocacy and action for peace and multiculturalist development in Mindanao. MINCODE focuses on four thematic areas, namely (a) Peace and Multiculturalism, (b) Economics and Environment, (c) Politics and Governance, and (d) CSO Good Governance and Network Strengthening.

Peace and Multiculturalism

To contribute to peace building and promotion of multiculturalism and mutual respect among various peoples in Mindanao, MINCODE implemented the project "Increasing CSO Capacity to Promote Peace and Multiculturalism" in August 2016 to March 2017 with the support of Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI). It built capacities of managers and officers of 11 CSO networks and 45 NGOs/POs/cooperatives. The project saw CSO leaders practicing non-violent communications, increased awareness of various cultures and narratives of Mindanao. A total of 137 participated in the various project activities.
The capacity building activities included discussions on Mindanao History, Peace Process updates and implementation processes, Techniques on Effective and Peaceful Communication, Multiculturalism, and Conflict and Management Resolution for Mediation and Negotiation skills, Integration of Peace and Multiculturalism in Development Work.

Economics and Environment

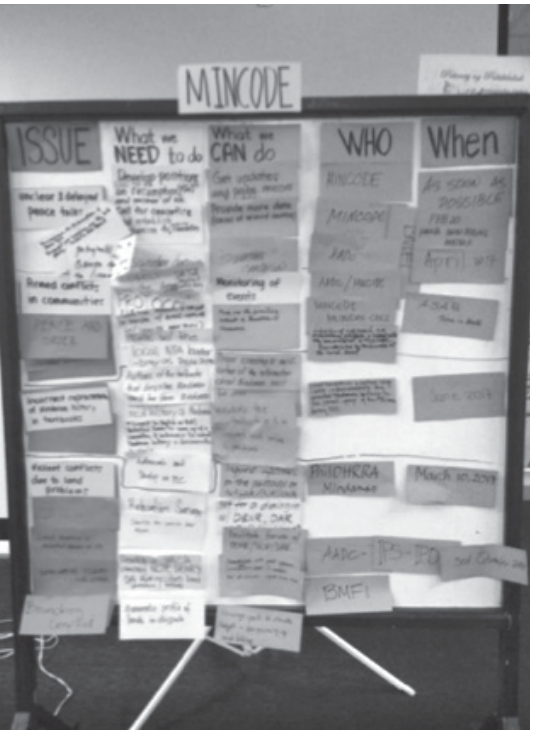
MINCODE intends to contribute to poverty reduction through promotion of asset reform and sustainable economic programs. Relatedly, it aims to promote conservation, restoration and sustainable management of resources and risk reduction measures including climate change adaptation. Seven of its 10 member networks implement asset reform programs, and one member network, i.e. PAKISAMA, takes the lead in the advocacy for the establishment and sustainable use of Coco Levy Trust Fund. Three member networks of MINCODE, particularly AADC, PAKISAMA-Mindanao and PHILDHRRA-Mindanao implement programs on sustainable management of natural resources. MINCODE was also one of the pillar organizations that facilitated and influenced the development of World Bank's Mindanao Jobs Report which highlighted the promotion of more and better jobs in Mindanao, taking into consideration the varied nature of Mindanao areas where some are urban centers, others are agricultural hubs, while some areas are conflict affected. MINCODE convened its members to establish Regional CSO DRRM Coordination Hubs in the six regions of Mindanao to ensure better coordination of preparedness, response and rehabilitation efforts. In partnership with CODE-NGO, MINCODE implemented the DRRM Fund Watch project in the Municipalities of Liloy and Labason in Zamboanga del Norte from July 2016 to March 2017. Through this project, local CSO leaders and community members were able to monitor their respective LGU's DRRM Funds and its utilization.

Politics and Governance

Among concrete manifestations of MINCODE's commitment to transparent, accountable and participatory governance, it implemented the "Strengthening Governance and Empowering Communities through Social Accountability and Third Party Monitoring Project" in November 2016 to April 2017 with the support of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This project aimed to contribute to the efficient and effective implementation of DepEd's K to 12 Computerization Program. The project provided technical assistance to DepEd Regional Offices through the conduct of public financial managements (PFM) diagnostic assessment, and established social accountability mechanisms through third party monitoring teams to ensure timely and quality service delivery. At the end of the project, 40 senior high schools in Davao Region received computer packages to the delight of school officials and students, and program and policy recommendations were endorsed to DepEd regional and national offices.

To promote CSO good governance and strengthen member networks and MINCODE itself, MINCODE regularly monitors compliance to fiduciary requirements as CSOs. All of MINCODE's member networks have Annual Reports and Audited Financial Statements (AFS) for 2016 and submitted General Information Sheet (GIS) to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in 2016 and 2017. All member networks participated in MINCODE's General Assembly in 2016 and 2017, and all MNs paid their annual dues for 2016. An average of 9 MNs participated in Board meetings in 2016. All MNs have signed renewal of commitment to the Code of Conduct, and 10 MNs complied with CSO Good Governance Checklist. MINCODE itself as an organization complied with the regulatory requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in 2016 and 2017 and has submitted its Audited Financial Statement 2016 to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). It has been certified by SEC to have no derogatory record and is compliant with its laws and regulations.

Contact Person: Ms. Raizsa Mae M. Anayatin
Designation: Executive Director
Office Address: No. 3 Juna Avenue corner Camia Street, Juna Subdivision, Matina, Davao City
Telephone No: (082) 299-0625
Email Address: mincodesecretariat@gmail.com
Website: www.mincode.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/mindanaocoalition
Members: 10 Networks with 643 member CSOs



National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) Network

Our future. Today.

The National Association of Training Centers for Cooperatives was established in 1977 to provide and standardize the education and training components of cooperatives. Today, the National Confederation of Cooperatives' (NATCCO Network's) Mission is to "build the socio-economic capabilities of cooperatives through the delivery of superior financial products and allied services."

For co-ops to be able to help their members rise out of poverty, the NATCCO Network offers training to co-op leaders, managers and staff in Financial and Risk Management to Bookkeeping, from Marketing to Information Technology, from gender & development and Disaster-Readiness for business continuity, and every aspect of a co-op's operations.

Other services include Financial Intermediation (taking deposits and providing loans), Information Technology (Financial software, ATMs, POS, mobile payment platform) Conditional Cash Transfer, Stabilization Fund, Life Insurance, and Advocacy & Networking.

Cooperative Stabilization Fund System

Twenty-six thousand (26,000) cooperatives in the Philippines with memberships ranging from 15 to 100,000 manage the hard-earned money of their members. Their foundation is trust. When trust is gone, co-ops are gone.

The Stabilization Fund System (SFS) is a form of "solidarity fund" as cooperatives contributing to it, in effect, are coming together to help one another to prevent insolvency (or bankruptcy) – thus maintaining the trust and confidence of depositors.

Following the models in Germany, Netherlands, Canada and South Korea, NATCCO Network established the SFS in 2008 with 3 elements:

1) SUPERVISION AND MONITORING through on-site Risk-Based Evaluation (RBE) of member-cooperatives by the SFS Team
2) OFF-SITE MONITORING AND FOLLOW-THROUGH of compliance to RBE recommendations

3) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, or use of the Stabilization Fund, as a last resort to prevent co-op run/bankruptcy.

Overseeing the Fund is the SF Committee comprising the NATCCO CEO, NATCCO Chairperson, the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), the Department of Finance or the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, and the Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions.

The SFS provides co-ops:
1) Supervision and monitoring of cooperatives, and if necessary, remedial measures
2) Awareness of the cooperative's risk level and recommendations to control and mitigate risks
3) Self-Regulation to protect cooperatives against insolvency, thus protecting the investments of individual members
4) Increase of public trust and confidence in cooperatives
5) Cooperatives recognized as a self-regulated financial provider of choice to the marginalized
6) If all co-ops participate in the SFS, this displays Solidarity

The approaches of the SFS are: 1) pro-active prevention, avoiding problems in the first place, and 2) holistic, evaluation of a co-op's financials, investments, credit, cash, controls and systems, governance, compliance and human resources.

A cooperative under the SFS agrees to:
• Contribute 0.5% of Total Assets to the Fund which the cooperative builds up over time
• Submit financial data for monitoring
• Open books for inspection

The SFS has 50 member co-operatives nationwide, contributing P24.3 Million to the Stabilization Fund.

Holy Child Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Bato, Leyte) joined the SFS in 2008. General Manager Lorna Gesultura, says: "We never regret investing in the SFS. Aside from securing co-op assets, it earns interest. At inspections, we're guided and monitored in our operations."

St. Vincent Ferrer Parish MPC (Odiongan, Romblon) Chairperson Martin Lasaga says: "We're happy to know the areas in our operation where we need to focus!"

NATCCO's technical partner for SFS is the German co-op federation Deutsche Genosenschafts Raiffeissen Verband (DGRV).

Contact Person: Sylvia O. Paraguya
Designation: Chief Executive Officer
Office Address: 227 J. P. Rizal Street, Project 4, 1109 Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 913-7011 to 15
Email Address: ceo@natcco.coop
Website: www.natcco.coop
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/natcconetwork/
Total Number of Base Members: 850 cooperatives, co-op federations, co-op banks, NGOs

National Council of Social Development Foundation of the Philippines (NCSD)

The National Council of Social Development (NCSD), formerly known as the Council of Welfare Agencies in the Philippines, Inc. (CWAPI), was established in 1949 and organized in 1952 when a group of Filipino leaders from various welfare and civic organizations bonded together to respond to the aftermath of World War II. The formation of the Council was recorded as the beginning of NGO network in the Philip-pines and NCSD is recognized by CODE-NGO as its longest running member network.

A network of 110 non-government social development organizations, NCSD undertakes capability-building, advocacy and social mobilization activities towards influencing policies and development pro-grams for the protection and promotion of the rights of Filipino children. Now on its 68th year, NCSD has expanded its focus from children's concerns during the past years to "total family and community development" to be more responsive to the thrust of its member organizations.

NCSD is governed by 15 members of Board of Trustees who are elected by the general assembly during its annual meeting. It is a member of international Council of Social Welfare and national organizations and is duly registered with the Philippine Security Exchange Commission and by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as an Auxiliary Social Welfare Resource Agency.

Capability-Building Program

The Capability Building program of NCSD consists of the establishment of a training institute that is meant to coordinate all the capability-building activities of the network. It involves designing and actual conduct of training workshops and conferences and to serve as a revenue arm of the network that will be open to local and international organizations. Under the program, a total of 351 participants from selected member organizations have availed of training workshops on disaster risk reduction and man-agement (DRRM) in the context of child protection, case management using the Caring, Healing and Teaching Framework for service providers, road safety training, orientation on RA 9344 or Juvenile Jus-tice and Welfare Act, CSO articulation in local governance to influence policies and programs on children and inputs and discussions on child-led DRRM and responses to situations of children affected by the war on drugs.

The program provides an opportunity for the design and implementation of training workshops that aim to enhance the skills, knowledge and attitudes of member organizations in relation to selected child pro-tection concerns and community development issues. As such, the awareness created among the member organizations will contribute to their capacity to advocate for the protection and promotion of children's rights and towards community development. Skills in training children for their participation in child-led disaster risk reduction and management have also been developed among selected member organizations.

The program was implemented from January to December 2016 in Metro Manila with the member organizations as beneficiaries. A training needs analysis was conducted by NCSD among its member or-ganizations that served as the basis for the design of training curricula.

The capability building program has paved the way for the enhancement of the capacities of 351 member organization representatives in the areas of child protection and participation. However, the training institute has not been fully established yet because of the lack of the necessary financial and man-power resources of NCSD, although initial actions have been made towards its institutionalization.

NCSD has applied with the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC) for accreditation as Continuing Professional Development (CPD) provider in order to train more organizations that can avail of training in order to replicate in their own areas and set of beneficiaries.

NCSD has just finished its strategic planning and new key result areas have been identified including the full operationalization of the training institute. All capability-building activities will be coursed through the institute and NCSD will capitalize on the potential pool of trainers from among its member organizations and the network's collective experiences in working with the different sectors of society.

NCSD collaborates closely with CODE-NGO as the main source of its capability building funds, its member organizations, which provide their financial counterparts during training workshops, Peace and Equity Foundation thru CODE-NGO, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) for the devel-opment of a training program for the organization and reactivation of Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) and the local government units (LGUs) areas where the member organizations are operating.

Contact Persons: Norman Franklin Agustin/ Marian L Opena
Designation: President/ Executive Director
Office Address: Unit 12, 12th Floor Kassel Condominium, 2625 Taft Avenue cor. P. Ocampo (Vito Cruz) Street Malate, Manila
Telephone Nos.: (02) 354-2903; (02) 353-8466 (Telefax)
Email Address: ncsd_phils@yahoo.com
Website: http://ncsdphils.com/
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/ncsdphils
Total Number Base Members: 110

Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP)

Business United. Lives Uplifted.

Philippine Business for Social Progress 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. It has a proven track record in creating sustainable solutions in Health, Education, Environment, and Livelihood while strategically engaging companies through social investment, responsible business practices, and philanthropy.

#StayStrong Marawi Campaign

The #StayStrong Marawi Campaign is PBSP's ongoing relief mission for home-based evacuees, teachers and frontliners (including volunteers) affected by the Marawi conflict. As the country's largest business-led NGO, we are committed to solving societal problems together with the business sector and other stakeholders. One way of doing this is to help our Marawi brothers and sisters cope with their situation and slowly rebuild their lives.

We began the campaign on the first week of June, mobilizing our member-companies, partners and donors to provide the much-needed assistance to people affected by the conflict. Our initial donation consisted of non-food items for home-based evacuees because we wanted to complement the numerous food relief drives of the government and other organizations.

Later, we decided to respond to the specific needs of the evacuees which we call "gifts" instead of donations. These were categorized into three kinds. The Gifts that support basic needs are food items, medicines, and water purifiers for the provision of clean, and safe drinking water. The Gifts that help families are non-food items like pots and pans, utensils, plates, blankets, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, mats, etc. These enable host families to support their home-based evacuees. The Gifts that uplift the spirit are items that boost the morale of families who are suffering from trauma due to the conflict. Toys and cosmetics are given to enable the people to stay strong, drawing strength from these things that help bring a sense of normalcy amid the chaos, confusion and hopelessness.

Whenever disasters strike, addressing the psychosocial aspect of the victims/survivors is often the least priority of responders/aid agencies and organizations. But PBSP believes that this aspect is equally important as basic needs and is necessary to help affected people rise up, live through each day as they slowly rebuild their lives.

We were able to help at least 54,235 people who were displaced by the Marawi conflict during our four successful relief missions in Iligan, Balo-I and Pantar in Lanao del Norte, and Saguiaran and Butig in Lanao del Sur last June 14-16, July 8-10, Sept. 13-15, and Oct. 7 and 8, 2017. The outpouring of support from 84 companies and 102 individuals enabled us to raise Php19.4 million (cash and in-kind donations).

The successful missions were accomplished with the help of local government and NGOs. For the relief distribution, our local NGOs help us with the selection of sites, identification of beneficiaries, logistics, and management of the deployment of goods.

Our partners are Al Mujadilah Foundation, Inc., ARMM Regional Government, Hinelaban Foundation, Maranao People Development Center (MARADECA) Inc., Ranao Rescue Team, DepEd in Marawi City, Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur, DTI Iligan, and the Marawi Task Force Bangon.

PBSP is continuously raising funds for the second phase of the campaign which will focus on the early recovery of the survivors.

Contact Person: Reynaldo Antonio Laguda
Designation: Executive Director
Office Address: PBSP Building, Magallanes corner Real Streets, Intramuros, Manila
Telephone No.: (02) 527-3741
Email Address: pbsp@pbsp.org.ph
Website: www.pbsp.org.ph
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/pbsp.org/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/pbsporg
Total Number Base Members: 278

Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA)

Empowering rural communities

PhilDHRRA is a national network of NGOs that seeks to build the capacity of its members to become relevant and self-reliant in order to address agrarian reform and rural development in the countryside, and thereby contribute to national transformation. In undertaking its mission, PhilDHRRA is guided by the principles of social justice, active non-violence, participation, social equity, gender equality, environmental sustainability, cultural sensitivity, national sovereignty and peace.

INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

A PhilDHRRA Experience in Agusan Marsh, Agusan del Sur, Caraga Region

From September 2016 to August 2017 the program on Conflict Sensitive Resource and Asset Management (COSERAM), a joint undertaking of the German and Philippine governments, implemented by Duetsche Gesselschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), partnered with the Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA-Mindanao) for the implementation of the native rice project titled "Promoting Native Rice to Strengthen Agrobiodiversity and Livelihoods in the Agusan Marsh" (Native Rice Project).

The project aimed to improve the economic condition of the rice farmers and to improve agricultural biodiversity in Agusan Marsh in Agusan del Sur and Mt. Balatucan Range in Misamis Oriental. The specific objectives of the project are: 1) To promote native rice as a source of income and livelihood; 2) To enhance the long-term sustainability of native rice in the communities by consolidating and strengthening Community Seed Banks (CSB); 3) To establish native rice value chain that provides better value to the farmers.

The Project covered a total of 14 Barangays and, at the same time, three (3) Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADT) areas that overlap 4 Barangays.

The Project served 157 direct beneficiaries. The direct beneficiaries are the farmer-cooperators who received inputs and participated in the capacity building activities of the project such as the Validation of Tested Varieties, Community Seed Banking, Rice-Duck Demonstration, On-site Training on Participatory Supply Capacity Analysis, Training on Participatory Market and Value Chain Analysis, Participatory Market Research, Workshop on Enterprise Plan Formulation, Test Markets and Post-Test Markets Evaluation.

The Project also indirectly benefited 576 community members, 7 Peoples Organizations (POs), 7 municipal local government units (MLGUs), and 15 barangay local government units (BLGUs). The indirect beneficiaries are individuals/ entities who participated in the Community Consultation and Orientation sessions, Farm Planning & Budgeting, and Community Information Drive activities.

Project Results

The project has resulted to the following outcomes:

• The farmer-cooperators are gradually adopting a market-oriented approach to native rice production and are gradually improving the quality of their products in order to meet the standard of their target market.

• The farmer-cooperators are gradually improving the packaging of their products to meet the demands of the market and increase the mark up of their products. Also, they are gradually building vertical linkage for market development as well as horizontal linkage product development.
• More farmers are inclined to become self-reliant of their seed supply and not dependent on conventional seed growers and government support. More farmers are open and interested to plant native rice varieties after they realized that these varieties are more resilient to varying climate patterns and at the same time command better prices.
• There is more farmer-to-farmer sharing of information and exchange of seeds. More farmers are aware of the cultural practices on how to conserve the native rice varieties, as individuals and as a group.

Project impacts

a. Economic impact
In general, the beneficiaries of the project have improved their resilience to the impacts of the variable, if not extreme, weather. They now have more options or choices to choose from, i.e., which rice variety to plant, and no longer limited to what they can buy from the regular supplier of seeds or from the Department of Agriculture. This means that they are learning to become more self-reliant and, at the same time, less dependent from external sources.

b. Socio-economic and, if applicable, socio-cultural impact
In general, the beneficiaries are more appreciative of the richness of their culture and practices and how it is contributing to the socio-economic development of society. The beneficiaries are experiencing a sort of cultural revival being the "original seed keepers" of the native rice varieties but also because of the growing interest of the public to promote native rice varieties not only as more healthy alternatives but also as a way of promoting food security for many.

c. Ecological impact
The native rice varieties have had no impact on the environment. However, the project has contributed in increasing the biodiversity in the areas. There is now more diversity in terms of rice varieties in the areas. Aside from the modern rice varieties that are found everywhere, there are other varieties that are present in the areas. Many of these varieties are also observed to adapt better in local condition, more resilient to climate stress, and more responsive to Sustainable Agriculture methods of farming.

Contact Person: Caridad R. Corridor
Designation: National Coordinator
Office Address: #59 C. Salvador St. Varsity Hills Subdivision, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
Telephone No.: (02) 426-6740
Email Address: national@phildhrra.net
Website: www.phildhrra.net
Facebook: https://web.facebook.com/phildhrra.nationalsecretariat
Total Number of Base Members: 46

Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies, Inc. (PHILSSA)

Partnerships for Sustainable Communities

The Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies, Inc. (PHILSSA) is a national network of social development organizations working primarily on urban issues and concerns. It 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 aims to:
1. Strengthen network's competencies as a resource center for sustainable urbanization;
2. Enhance network's capacity in assisting the members achieve good governance and sustainability;
3. Build and promote multi-stakeholder partnership models for delivery of integrated social services for disadvantaged sectors and communities; and
4. Pursue policy environment that enables inclusive, transformative and sustainable urbanization.

"Enhancing PHILSSA's Framework, Tools and Mechanisms for Disaster Preparedness and Response"

This year, PHILSSA continues to enhance its work in DRRM-CCA (Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation) by enhancing its capacity for disaster preparedness and response.

Through its consortium project on "Urban Disaster Preparedness, Response and resilience in Greater Manila Area" under the Financial Enablers Project of START Network and DFID/UKAid, PHILSSA worked with nine of its members (ALTERPLAN as consortium lead, together with COM, FDA, FDUP, Healthdev, IDEALS, SIKAT, TAO-Pilipinas, UPA) to enhance its framework and tools for disaster preparedness and response.

Among its output are:
• Framework and Strategy Paper on Urban Disaster Preparedness and Response;
• Tools for Community Profiling;
• Module on Community DRRM Planning; and
• Experience, Lessons and Recommendations on Stakeholder Engagement.

The framework and strategy paper summarized PHILSSA and its members' work on DRRM-CCA and urbanization concerns and defined the situation and characteristics of the urban context, connecting these with the Core Humanitarian Standards towards identifying options and directions for humanitarian interventions and innovations in community-based disaster preparedness and response.

The tools for community profiling included a comprehensive household survey using Kobo Toolbox and smartphones, as well as participatory hazard mapping and assessment, leading to community analysis of their situations and the risks that they face as families and communities.

The module on DRRM planning uses the community analysis to identify ways of addressing their situations and risks towards community awareness-raising, Early Warning Systems, community preparedness and risk mitigation measures and improved local emergency response systems. Materials had been developed focusing on key concerns on Emergency Shelter and Health.

The project also worked on stakeholder engagement for CSO (civil society organization) coordination and multi-stakeholder partnership, focusing not just on government-CSO engagement, but exploring also working with other groups and institutions such as church, schools and colleges, private sector groups and others.

These knowledge output were developed and implemented in selected pilot areas in:
- Barangay BASECO in Manila,
- Barangays Coloong and Mapulang Lupa in Valenzuela City,
- Barangay Tandang Sora in Quezon City, and
- Barangays Damayan and Lupang Arenda in Taytay, Rizal.

Along side this consortium project are internal network mechanisms for timely action in disasters and emergencies through the PHILSSA Disaster Quick Response Fund (DQRF) and Emergency Volunteer Deployment.

Every year, PHILSSA allots a portion of the earning of its Endowment Fund into the PHILSSA DQRF. The PHILSSA DQRF can be accessed by members for damage and needs assessment, first response interventions and counterpart/ leveraging fund for bigger response interventions, especially for process and logistical support. Maximum amount that can be accessed by a member in an emergency is P30,000.00.

PHILSSA also mobilizes its staff, as well as volunteers from member-NGOs and partner organizations to provide technical support and supplemental personnel in emergency response work.

Contact Person: Benedict Balderrama
Designation: National Coordinator
Office Address: 3rd Floor, Joseph Cardinal Hoffner Building, Social Development Complex, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: (02) 426-4328; 426-4327 (Telefax); 426-6001 local 4854
Email Address: secretariat@philssa.org.ph
Website: www.philssa.org.ph
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PHILSSA
Total Number of Base Members: 61

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

Western Visayas Network of Social Development NGOs, Inc. (WeVNet) is a regional network of NGOs formed from the Visayas-wide Regional Network of NGOs or VISNet. Its members are the six (6) provincial NGO caucuses in the region, namely: Aklan Caucus of NGOs (Aklan CAN), Antique Federation of NGOs (AFON), Guimaras Alliance of CSOs (GACSO), Iloilo Caucus of Development Non-Government Organizations, Inc. (Iloilo CODE-NGOs) and Negros Caucus. It has a total of 59 member base organizations as of October 7, 2017. WeVNet's vision is to become a self-sustaining and responsive Regional NGO Network as resource center for partnership, strengthening capacities, and advocacies towards empowered, transformed, and sustainable communities in Western Visayas.

Localizing Humanitarian Coordination in Region VI

The Western Visayas Network of Social Development NGOs (WeVNet) initiated to localize humanitarian coordination in Region VI through the project: Advancing Civil Society Organizations' Engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Year 4 (ACED-4).

Implemented from September 1, 2016 to July 30, 2017, the over-all goal of the project was to amplify the voices of civil society organizations (CSOs), especially the vulnerable groups, in monitoring national government's resettlement projects and by advancing inclusive local and national Disaster Risk Reduction and Management-Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA) plans and budgets. Its implementation was also aimed to articulate policy recommendations by CSOs and vulnerable groups to local and national government for inclusive DRRM plans, programs, and projects that are responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable sectors during disaster situations.

The task that WeVNet carried was to form the Regional CSO DRR-CCA Coordination Hub in Region VI which will serve as a platform for advocacy and learning exchange during "peace" times; to establish mechanism for effective coordination for humanitarian response during and after disaster situations; and, to strengthen members through capacity building interventions.

Accomplishments:

1. Formed the CSO DRR-CCA Coordination Hub for Region VI.

In July 2017, WeVNet was able to hold a regional Strategic Planning and Workshop which eventually resulted in the formation of a Localized Regional DRR-CCA Coordination Hub for Region VI. It is a major accomplishment under the ACED 4 Project by CODE-NGO and funded by Christian Aid.

2. Adopted plan of action for the Regional Coordination Hub.

The members of the Regional DRR-CCA Coordination Hub has agreed to continue the progress of working for the improvement of coordination system through meetings and consultations within their respective network and by adopting a plan of action based from the result of the regional planning and workshop. The key areas in the plan of action are the following: to hold a follow through meeting, organize database, sharing of database among network members, discuss result of the planning and workshop among decision-makers in respective networks in order to gather policy support and resources, to individually gather data on post Super Typhoon Yolanda initiatives and projects implemented by CSOs and government agencies, to share output of the workshop to other DRR-CCA players in other networks, and sharing of opportunities for capacity development among coordination hub members.

3. Strengthened capacities of network members through training workshops, seminars, and learning sessions.

To build the capacities of members in the Regional DRR-CCA Coordination Hub is a major objective for Region VI. Through WeVNet, hub members were

able to participate in capacity building activities conducted in 2017 like the following:

• Futures Mapping – conducted in Iloilo City on February 27-28, 2017 by Christian Aid, Iloilo CODE-NGOs and WeVNet.

• Transforming Surge Capacity Project – conducted in Manila on March 7-11, 2017 by 13 humanitarian networks.

• Module Writeshop on Localizing Community-based DRRM Training and Coordinating Humanitarian Response for CSO Network – conducted in Manila on August 9-11, 2017 by CODE-NGO and Humanitarian Leadership Academy.

• Core Humanitarian Standard Training for NGOs under the Transforming Surge Capacity Project – conducted in Manila on September 12-15, 2017 by Start Network, Christian Aid, Humanitarian Leadership Academy Philippines, CHS Alliance, and Lutheran World Relief.

• Humanitarian Logistics and Management – conducted in Iloilo City on October 10-13, 2017 by the University of the Philippines School of Urban and Regional Planning, HELP Logistics AG, and Kuehne Foundation.

4. Established linkage with other networks and advocates.

WeVNet has likewise established linkages with other national networks that carry campaigns and advocacy on DRR-CCA. In August 2017, WeVNet became a member of Aksyon Klima Pilipinas and has reached out to other national networks like the DRR Net in order to share capacities and knowledge to deepen its work on DRR-CCA in Region VI.

5. Took active role for sharing knowledge on DRR-CCA and humanitarian standards for NGOs.

Knowledge sharing is another essential element in furthering the DRR-CCA work of WeVNet together with its provincial networks and partners. The rich experience gathered by its members and partners in the Regional Coordination Hub in humanitarian work in Region VI is considered a valuable input for knowledge sharing and for development of projects and initiatives.

For 2017, WeVNet has contributed in two module development projects, namely: Localized Community-Based DRRM Training called BLAST DRRM or the Blended Learning Approach to Strengthen Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, participated in by Iloilo CODE-NGOs' executive director Emmanuel C. Areno. Moreover, Areno and WeVNet's program manager Ted Aldwin E. Ong are also part of the module development on Core Humanitarian Standards on Quality and Accountability for NGOs, particularly Commitments 6 and 8, which focuses on humanitarian response coordination and complementation and staff support to do their jobs effectively, and are treated fairly and equitably, respectively.

Contact Person: Rosendo D. Parreñas / Ted Aldwin E. Ong
Designation: Executive Director / Program Manager
Contact Details: (0995) 670-6338 / (0917) 721-5750
Office Address: G/F CPBC Centennial Building., Fajardo Street, Jaro, 5000 Iloilo City
Telephone No.: (033) 320-3590
Email Address: wevnet@gmail.com / noyparrenas@yahoo.com / ted.codengo@gmail.com
Total Number of Base Members: 59

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(Front, L-R) Rosella Camte-Bahni (CORDNET), Norman Agustin (NCSD), Alma Monica de la Paz, Vice-Chairperson (PHILDHRRA), Arturo Nuera (PHILSSA), Agnes Bolaños, Treasurer (MINCODE)

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CODE-NGO Commissions and Committees

The following CODE-NGO Commissions and Committees provided advice and recommendations on crucial decisions made by the Board in the last fiscal year:

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(L-R): Tanya Faye Zaldarriaga (Program Officer for Membership), Mariefe Del Mundo (Program Officer for Advocacy), Sixto Donato C. Macasaet (Executive Director), Roselle Rasay (Deputy Executive Director), Celia Fatima de Jesus (Program Officer for Knowledge Development and Management)

The Projects Team

(Front, L-R): Sandino Soliman (Project Manager, Strengthening DG), Deanie Lyn Ocampo (Project Manager, DRRM Fund Watch, BLAST DRRM), John Joel De Guzman (Project Officer, DRRM Fund Watch, BLAST DRRM)

(Back, L-R): Ivy Marian Panganiban (Project Advocacy Officer, ACED 4), Jenny Lyn Hernandez (Researcher/Coordinator, Strategic Assessment & Planning), Clarence Faye Salvador (Project Officer, Strengthening DG), Hennesy Ozawa (Project Assistant, EO on FOI), Justine Joyce Figueroa (Project Officer, Expanded CBF 2)
Not in photo: Wadel Cabrera III (Project Manager, EO on FOI)

The Finance and Admin Unit (FAU)

(L-R): Fe Ajoc (Project Finance Assistant), Dimple Demata (Finance and Administrative Assistant), Emmanuel Opiña (Office Assistant), Aileen Bucasas (Project Finance Assistant), Rowena Caverte (Finance Manager)

CODE NGO

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Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO)

146-B B. Gonzales Street, Loyola Heights,
1108 Quezon City Philippines

Tels. (+632) 9202595, 4356616, 9209310
Fax (+632) 9202595 loc 101
Email: caucus@code-ngo.org
Website: www.code-ngo.org
Facebook: caucusofdevelopmentngonetworks
Twitter: @CODE_NGO