



## March 2018 Issue

### CSO GOOD GOVERNANCE

#### **Kaya Payment Platform makes cellphone transactions available to co-ops**

One of the Declarations agreed upon by the 4,000 participants of the October 2016 Cooperative Summit held at the SMX Convention Center was for co-ops to adopt the Kaya Payment Platform.

With the Kaya Payment Platform, co-op members can use their smart phones to transact. The transactions include purchases, bills payments (with EC Pay), e-loading of cellphones, transactions through the BancNet ATM Network, inter-cooperative transfers, inter-branch transfers, bulk payments like payrolls and CCT disbursements (by co-ops), deposits and withdrawals.

#### **Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/kaya-payment-platform-makes-cellphone-transactions-available-to-co-ops/>

#### **The Challenges and the Work Ahead for Philippine CSOs**

*Sixto Donato C. Macasaet*

What is the general status of civil society organizations in the Philippines today and what are some ways by which the development partners may support and work with CSOs?

#### **A) The Philippine CSO Landscape**

The broad definition of civil society organizations (CSOs) include all those that are non-government, non-profit and have voluntary membership.

#### **Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/the-challenges-and-the-work-ahead-for-philippine-csos/>

## NCSO holds its 68th Annual General Assembly

*Marian Opeña*

The National Council of Social Development (NCSO) Foundation, Inc. held its General Annual Assembly on December 7, 2017 at the Bayview Park Hotel, Manila with the theme: “NCSO @ 68: Re-affirming NCSO’s Advocacy on Child Protection and Participation”. Some 140 participants representing NCSO’s member organizations and other stakeholders attended the assembly. Parts of the stakeholders were children and youth, whose participation was very significant on that day.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/ncsd-holds-its-68th-annual-general-assembly/>

## Capacity Building for Mentee CSOs

*Justine Figueroa*

Under the Strategic Capacity Building for Networks’ Sustainability (Expanded CBF Year 2) Project, CODE-NGO expedited Capacity Building for its mentee organizations from NCR/Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. From the initial results of the Capacity Assessment Tool (CAT), two training workshops were identified per island cluster.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/capacity-building-for-mentee-csos/>

## Civil Society groups continue to thrive in the Philippines despite uncertainty of freedoms

*Tanya Zalzarriaga*

The Philippines continue to score higher compared to its neighboring Asian countries in the 2016 Civil Society Organizations Sustainability Index (CSOSI). In the recently released study conducted by the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO), supported by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Washington-based Management Systems International (MIS), Philippine CSOs sustainability scored an overall of 3.3 where 1.0 is the highest and 7.0 is the lowest. It has maintained a rating of 3.3 for the past 3 years and has remained the highest rate in Asia since 2014. Bangladesh CSOs remain at second rank with the score of 3.6 and Thailand is at the lowest rank scoring 4.7.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/civil-society-groups-continue-to-thrive-in-the-philippines-despite-uncertainty-of-freedoms/>

## DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT (DRRM)

### **Bicol Regional CSO DRR-Hub in Action: A Mayon Level 4 Emergency Response for the IDPs in Albay**

*Jessica Capricho*

As Mayon alert level 4 (hazardous eruption imminent) was raised in the province of Albay last January 22, 2018, the Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD) initiated to write an appeal for its partners to be able to raise funds and support for Mayon eruption IDPs (internally displaced people) especially to its member base organizations (MBOs) in the province of Albay.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/bicol-regional-cso-drr-hub-in-action-a-mayon-level-4-emergency-response-for-the-idps-in-albay/>

### **PHILSSA Learns from Taiwan's DRRM Efforts**

*Rhea Aguilar*

PHILSSA conducted a three-day Learning Exchange with the National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR) in Taiwan last January 8-10, 2018.

The Learning Exchange was part of the Financial Enablers Project: Urban Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Resilience in Greater Manila Region. Funded by START Network, this consortium project was implemented by the PHILSSA Secretariat and its nine (9) member NGOs such as ALTERPLAN, COM, FDA, FDUP, HEALTHDEV, IDEALS, SIKAT, TAO-Pilipinas, and UPA. ALTERPLAN served as the consortium lead of the project while PHILSSA was the project secretariat.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/philssa-learns-from-taiwans-drrm-efforts/>

### **Shared Aid Fund for Emergency Response**

SAFER or Shared Aid Fund for Emergency Response is the brainchild of three of the country's largest NGO networks – the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO), Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC), and NASSA/Caritas Philippines.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/shared-aid-fund-for-emergency-response/>

## PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

### **Timbayayong Award now institutionalized**

*Greg Fernandez, Jr.*

The Timbayayong Award for Outstanding LGU & NGO/PO Partnership hatched in 2005 with the passing of a Resolution by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Negros Oriental is now going to be institutionalized as a regular Provincial Award Program with the enactment of the Provincial Ordinance No.60 series of 2017 (October 23, 2017 Regular Session). The Ordinance is authored by Hon. Ma. Antonia E. Villegas.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/timbayayong-award-now-institutionalized/>

### **#IstoryaTa: Transparency and Accountability Conference**

*Hennesy Ozawa*

The Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET) recently held a two-day back-to-back FOI and Strengthening Decentralized Governance Regional Conference entitled #IstoryaTa: Transparency and Accountability Conference at Diamond Suites Hotel, Cebu City last March 15-16, 2018. CENVISNET is a Project Implementing Partner of the projects, Using the EO on FOI to Monitor PRRD's Key Promises (FOI Project) and Strengthening Decentralized Governance and Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Addressing Poverty and Inequalities at Regional and Provincial Levels in Bicol, Central Visayas and Southern Mindanao (Strengthening DG Project).

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/istoryata-transparency-and-accountability-conference/>

### **CODE-NGO Strengthens FOI Engagements with PCOO and R2KRN**

*Hennesy Ozawa*

The Freedom of Information (FOI) campaign in the Philippines is eminent both in the government and in the civil society organizations (CSOs). CODE-NGO has been an advocate of a free and open access for information. It is currently implementing the FOI project "Using the EO (Executive Order) on FOI to Monitor PRRD's (President Rodrigo R. Duterte) Key Promises" with its four implementing partners in the country and continuously deepening engagements with other FOI champions such as R2KRN (Right to Know Right Now! Coalition) and PCOO (Presidential Communications Operations Office).

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/code-ngo-strengthens-foi-engagements-with-pcoo-and-r2krn/>

## EO on FOI Project Conducted Three Project Monitoring Visits

Hennesy Ozawa

Using the EO on FOI to Monitor PRRD's Key Promise project is currently being implemented in 4 regions with the 4 implementing partners – Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD), Central Visayas Network of NGOs (CENVISNET), Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society (CBCS) and Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies Inc. (PHILSSA) in partnership with Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/eo-on-foi-project-conducted-three-project-monitoring-visits/>

## PEACE & MULTICULTURALISM

### B'laan rebel returnees find peace in education

Lun Masla had been known for its notorious past in Malapatan town, Sarangani. The community was threatened by the presence of rebels who were extorting to collect revolutionary taxes. Locals from the B'laan tribe were the favorite recruits of armed groups in the 1980s.

**Read more:**

<http://code-ngo.org/2018/03/blaan-rebel-returnees-find-peace-in-education/>

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

Our mailing address is:

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