

## House Repair Alternatives for FH Philippines

*Post-disaster response | Professional / Consultancy services*

**Location** : Barangays Tibag and Curayao in Rodriguez, Rizal  
**Date** : July to October 2008  
**Client** : Food for the Hungry Philippines, Inc.

### Project partners

- Food for the Hungry Philippines, Inc.
- University of Santo Tomas Association of Civil Engineering Students (UST ACES)

### Funding support

- Food for the Hungry Philippines, Inc.

### Contract / agreement value

- PHP 12,000



*Structures mapping of typhoon-damaged houses by student volunteers from UST ACES*

### Project brief

Typhoon Frank (Fengshen) which hit Metro Manila and its nearby provinces in June of 2008 brought on floods and landslides, causing severe damage to agriculture and infrastructure. Food for the Hungry (FH) Philippines, an NGO that supports a child sponsorship program, provided humanitarian assistance to its typhoon-affected program beneficiaries. After typhoon Frank, houses of 18 sponsored families who are informal settlers in Barangay Tibag and Curayao in Rodriguez, Rizal were damaged. FH Philippines received a grant to assist them in shelter repair and reconstruction. They requested TAO-Pilipinas to provide technical assistance in the self-help repair of damaged houses.

TAO conducted ocular visits to assess the damage and the reconstruction work that needs to be done. TAO also posted a call for volunteer-students who can assist in the project. The University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Engineering and Association of Civil Engineering Students (ACES) responded to the call. UST students were mobilized and they helped in mapping out the houses, interviewing the families, and in proposing house repair schemes.

With very limited repair budget of only PHP 10,000 per family, the plan was to design a modular system of semi-permanent, lightweight and demountable building elements that can be built by the community members incrementally. TAO developed house repair options from the schemes proposed by UST ACES and were presented to FH Philippines and the community. Meetings with the municipality of Rodriguez LGU were conducted to clarify permit requirements and temporary tenure security for the informal settler families.

The LGU decided to accommodate 15 FH-sponsored families from Barangay Tibag in its housing project, pending their submission of documentary requirements for the LGU housing program. TAO provided a typical architectural design for a 25 square meter core house with toilet. The scheme was used for the construction of 15 row houses (shell houses only without toilet) from funds raised by FH Philippines. Each beneficiary will build their own toilet as their counterpart. Sweat equity was also contributed by each household in hauling materials from the drop-off point to the construction site and in the excavation of foundations. Volunteers also joined in the construction of houses. TAO-Pilipinas extended additional support in the preparation of cost estimates, canvass and purchase of materials, and construction monitoring of the shell houses.

### Project outputs

- House repair schemes
- Typical core house design

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