

Young Professionals Orientation and Training Program

Capability-building / Training services

Location : Greater Metro Manila Area and Provinces of Rizal, Quezon, and Albay

Date : 2006 –2008

Project partners

- Polytechnic University of the Philippines – College of Architecture and Fine Arts
- University of the Philippines – Geodetic Engineering Department
- University of Santo Tomas – Faculty of Engineering
- Mapua Institute of Technology – School of Architecture, Industrial Design and the Built Environment
- Miriam College – Environmental Studies Institute
- University of the Philippines Task Force Arki (UP-TFA)
- Mapua United Architects of the Philippines Student Auxiliary (Mapua-UAPSA)



Participants of the 2006 Young Professionals Workshop on Social Housing in Antipolo, Rizal

Funding support

- SELAVIP (Latin American and Asian Low-income Housing Services)

Contract / agreement value

- USD 12,300

Project brief

The Young Professionals was created as a sub-program of the Education and Training Program to provide a venue for young technical design professionals to engage in social housing and community development work. Inspired by the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR) program for young professionals (YPs), TAO sought to build social awareness among young architects, planners and engineers, train them in the participatory development approach, and hone second-liners of socially-oriented design professionals. Beginning 2005, the Young Professionals Orientation and Training Program (YP-OTP) has been implemented nearly every year, training new batches of YPs and exposing them to community-based technical assistance. The program has two main components: the YP Workshop on Social Housing and the YP Internship.

The YP Workshop is a week-long training activity that orients YPs, mostly university students and new graduates of architecture and engineering, in social housing issues and facilitates their immersion in urban poor communities with shelter needs. The YP Internship, on the other hand, provides opportunities for more intensive involvement in TAO projects through two to six months of apprenticeship work experience. Other YP-OTP activities include the conduct of university lectures, student design competitions, mobilization of student volunteer groups for technical assistance; and the regular publication of an e-newsletter.

Selavip co-financed the implementation of YP-OTP activities from 2006 to 2008. (Other funders included Misereor, ACHR and PHILSSA.) In that period, two runs of the YP Workshop (2006 in Rizal and Quezon Provinces and 2008 in Albay Province) were conducted which trained twenty-three (23) young professionals and three batches of interns comprising twelve (12) senior students who underwent internship at TAO. Agreements with the student-interns' home universities (PUP, UP, Mapua, UST, and Miriam College) were made to recognize the internship at TAO as accredited on-

the-job training for their graduating students. The interns assisted in several TAO projects including the SANAGMANA site development planning; SAPSPA house design and construction; research on alternative building materials and technologies for social housing; research on land acquisition, registration, survey and titling processes; and development of participatory planning toolkits and three-dimensional scaled model-making. Student organizations like UP-TFA and Mapua-UAPSA also enlisted as volunteer groups to help out communities with technical needs. Support for YP-OTP also made possible the successful implementation in 2008 of the YP Design Challenge, a design ideas competition for architecture students participated by several universities in Metro Manila. (See *Project 0703*.)

From 2006 to 2008, TAO expanded its YP network as more academic institutions engaged in YP-OTP activities and future collaborations were further explored. The program offered the academe opportunities for students' meaningful exposure to socially-responsive practices as part of their academic training.

Project outputs

- 2006 YP Workshop on Social Housing (Rizal, Quezon)
- 2008 YP Workshop on Social Housing (Bicol)
- YP Design Challenge
- YP Internship Program
- YP Volunteers Pool
- YP Lecture Series
- YP E-newsletters

{ End of Project **1601** Profile }