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TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.

eNEWSLETTER

March - April 2021

TAO and community partners gather online for project assessment

by Geraldine Matabang

TAO'S PROJECT AREA TEAMS MET WITH THEIR respective target groups virtually, coming together to conduct the yearly assessment of the 3-year Misereor project, *Building Sustainable and Disaster-resilient Communities*, that was started in 2019. Three community partners participated in the assessment—Masagana HOA in Angat, Bulacan; APOLA federation in Lupang Arenda, Taytay; and PPVHOA in Binondo, Manila. Unlike in early 2020 when the first assessment was conducted on-site and in face-to-face gatherings, the assessment after the second year of project implementation was done entirely online.

Community activities for the second year

In the second year of project implementation, activities varied in the three communities. Masagana project activities focused on incremental site development and building community infrastructures in the resettlement site. The HOA also continues to operate and maintain solar-powered streetlights and rainwater purification system that provides clean and affordable drinking water in their area.

In Lupang Arenda, APOLA led efforts toward acquiring secure tenure through land proclamation. TAO has provided capability-building and technical support in structures mapping and data processing in preparation for carrying out people's planning workshops to reblock the area. The community has begun monitoring compliance to building regulations in their area, noting structures that are more than two storeys high and setback encroachments.

TAO and PPVHOA on the other hand, worked on completing the contract documents for the construction of a 5-storey 1,320-sqm building for housing 200 families. The documents will be submitted to SHFC for CMP loan financing and to the LGU for building permit approval. PPVHOA is now in negotiation with a building contractor.

Modified methods for project assessment

For this year's assessment, TAO modified the modules and tools for project monitoring and assessment in order to abide by community quarantine restrictions due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. TAO developed a three-part online assessment module which consisted of the deployment of a survey form, validation of survey



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Online project assessment with TAO community partners
Turnover of DAP project to Masagana community
Pandemic's effects on TAO community partners
TAO in PolyUrbanWaters conference
Staff training on basic GIS
Staff training on gender sensitivity

NETWORK ARTICLES

APOLA continues to fight for security of tenure
Post-Ulysses response of PMPI NCR-Urban cluster

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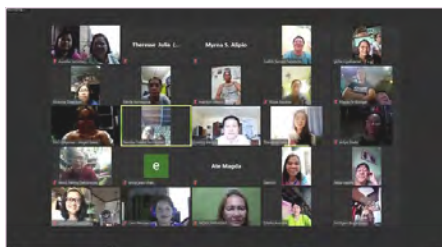
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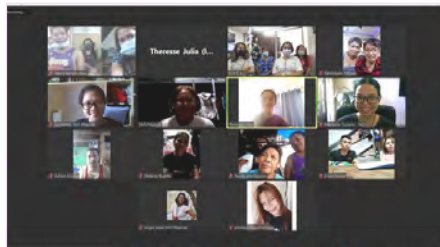
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results, and focus group discussions to monitor achievement of target indicators. Online activities were arranged using the KoBo Toolbox, an open-source application, and the

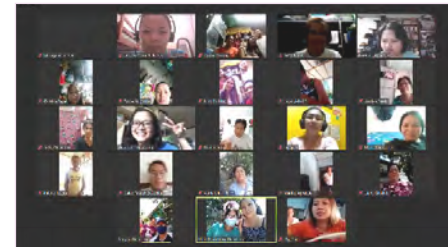
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Screenshot of participants on February 13 project assessment with APOLA community



Screenshot of participants on February 6 project assessment with PPVHOA community



Screenshot of participants on February 12 project assessment with Masagana community

Hybrid event held to turnover DAP project to Masagana community

by Min-Roselle Malunhao

UNEXPECTED LIMITATIONS AND CHALLENGES to project implementation were brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. Despite these, TAO-Pilipinas and the Masagana of Angat Homeowners Association Inc., were able to complete all the components of the Direct Aid Program 2019 (DAP) funded by the Australian Embassy in the Philippines.

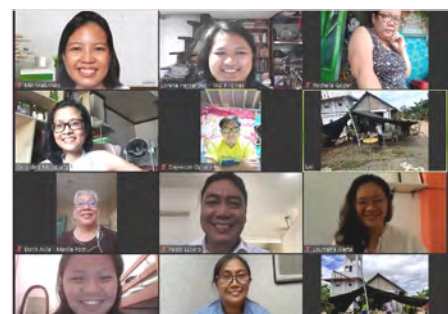
On February 28, 2021, a simple turnover ceremony was held to mark the end of the project and to celebrate another milestone for Masagana

HOA. The project, entitled *Sustainable Community Development of the Masagana of Angat Homeowners Association Inc.*, began in 2019 and was comprised of capacity-building activities and construction of community infrastructures. ([Read: YP eNewsletter February-September 2020](#))

Gathering on site and online

To comply with local guidelines on limited physical gatherings, the project turnover ceremony

[READ MORE: PAGE 3](#)



Screenshot of Zoom participants on February 28 turnover ceremony

TAO and community partners... CONTINUED FROM: PAGE 1

Zoom video-conferencing platform for community members to safely participate in the assessment.

Despite the new normal set-up, participant turnout was good. TAO received a significant number of survey responses and Zoom sessions were mostly well-attended since community members did not have to leave their homes to join the assessment activities. They participated using a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or computer desktop. To keep the virtual activities engaging and interactive, TAO used online facilitation tools such as Mentimeter, Google docs and Jamboard.

KoBo online survey

TAO uploaded online survey forms to be answered by community members starting January 27. The three area teams of TAO created the digital questionnaire that can be filled up thru any internet browser or in KoBoCollect app on Android devices. The survey was aimed at finding out community members' recollection of project activities—their participation and their perceptions of the results or

outputs from the activities and how these outputs were useful to their household and to the community as a whole. Respondents were also asked about observable effects on the living condition in their community after two years of project implementation. The survey also probed into the impact of the Covid19 pandemic on their families and community. TAO transferred pre-paid load (PHP50) to each respondent to offset the cost of cellphone load usage in answering the survey.

The second assessment activity was the survey results validation conducted in separate Zoom sessions with each community partner. In Masagana, 41 out of 61 families answered the survey. APOLA had 160 respondents out of 8,500 families; in PPVHOA, 79 out of 200 families completed the survey.

Validation of survey results

The second assessment activity was the survey results validation conducted via Zoom in separate sessions with each community partner. PPVHOA was first to undergo survey validation on February 6, with 16 attendees representing all of its four community associations. This was followed by the session with Masagana HOA on the morning of February 12 with 45 participants. Validation for APOLA federation was conducted on February 13 with 52 participants representing 24 member-HOAs.

The TAO teams explained graphs and charts that visually presented the data collected from the survey. Overall, the session participants agreed with the survey data analysis, validating the results. Some gave additional inputs and articulated their views concerning the survey results. Participants also expressed that conducting the online survey made many disengaged members become aware of project activities that have been implemented. One participant from Masagana commented after the validation session, *"Naging pamilyar ako sa proyekto, sa naging pag-unlad at epekto nito sa aming komunidad."*

Focus group discussions

The last assessment activity had online participants divided into two focus groups to discuss

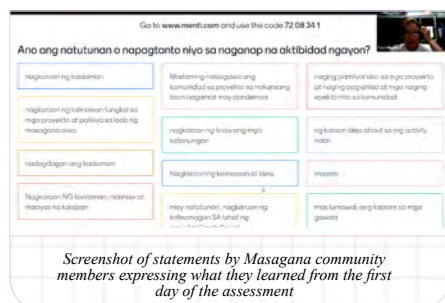
the changes in the community's situation since activities were implemented two years ago. This session was conducted on the afternoon of February 12 with 41 members of Masagana. The focus group discussion with PPVHOA was held on February 13 with 13 participants. APOLA had their session on February 20 with 38 members in attendance.

The groups examined their community situation in the context of the project's five target indicators, namely: (1) improved site condition; (2) formulation of a people's plan for housing and site development; (3) increased awareness on hazards; (4) increased awareness on the relationship between energy and settlements; and (5) application of low-carbon technologies and practices. Assigned in their respective Zoom breakout rooms, one group discussed changes in indicator 1 and 2, while the other group tackled indicators 3, 4 and 5. The results of their focus group discussion were presented in a plenary session afterwards. Every community assessment ended with a discussion of the work plan and steps that will be undertaken in the final year of the project.

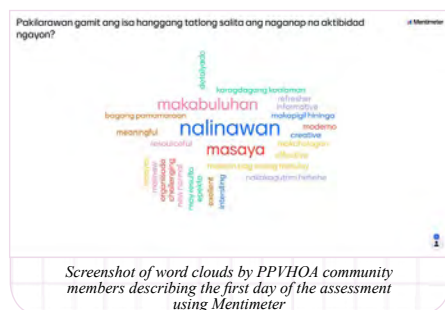
New learning approaches

The yearly assessment gives the TAO area project teams valuable information about changes that have been brought about by the project from the perspective of the target communities. Due to the pandemic, it has been difficult to have in-person interactions and do monitoring visits in the communities. Virtual platforms and interactive online apps have become necessary tools to maintain engagement with community partners.

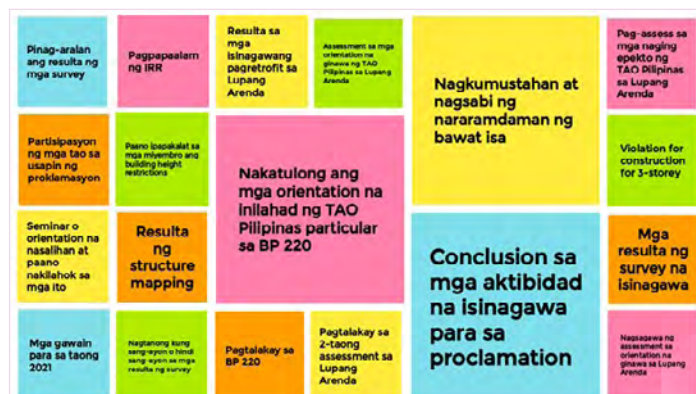
Community partners found the online assessment a rich learning experience. Some were just starting to be familiarized with online tools and were glad to know that meaningful discussion can be facilitated in virtual gatherings. As one participant from APOLA articulated his takeaway from the sessions, *"Nadagdagan ang kaalaman at naging malinaw para sa susunod na mga hakbangin, nalaman ang mga latest development ng lugar at naiparating ang nais namin para sa lugar ng Arenda."*



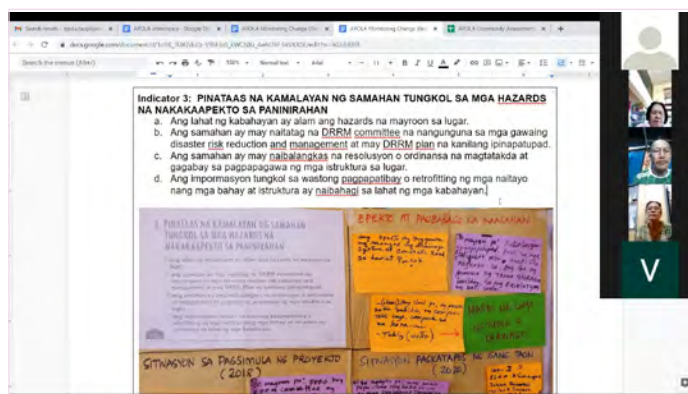
Screenshot of statements by Masagana community members expressing what they learned from the first day of the assessment



Screenshot of word clouds by PPVHOA community members describing the first day of the assessment using Mentimeter



Screenshot of statements by APOLA community members recalling the activities from the first day of assessment



Screenshot of focused group discussions by APOLA community members during the second day of assessment

Hybrid event held to turnover DAP... CONTINUED FROM: PAGE 1

was held simultaneously on site and through an online platform. Among the attendees present on site were some members and leaders of Masagana HOA, officials and representatives of Barangay Pulong Yantok and Municipality of Angat local government units, and other guests.

In solidarity with Masagana community, barangay councilors Nida Celestino and Raymond Agustin, along with public safety officer Chito Guarra, attended the ceremony. Angat mayor Leonardo De Leon briefly showed up at the resettlement site to grace the event.

Those that participated virtually in the occasion via Zoom were a few community members, along with staff members of TAO-Pilipinas and the Australian Embassy. The Australian Embassy was represented by Mr. Pablo Lucero, the governance portfolio manager, development section of DAP, and Ms. Doris Avila, the DAP manager in the Philippines.

The ceremony was a festive event, even though guests were attending from different places. It turned emotional at times as project stakeholders were commemorating the stories of hardship, triumphs, and lessons from the project.

Messages from project stakeholders

The ceremony started early in the morning with a prayer by Masagana community member Deolita de Paz. This was followed by an opening remark from Erlinda Tolero, treasurer of Masagana, expressing gratitude to DAP project partners.

A message from Mr. Lucero highlighted the thrust of the Australian Embassy to support the Philippines in different social dimensions. It includes community development which made the DAP project a reality in Masagana. Mr. Lucero expressed his joy at seeing the results of their partnership with TAO and the community—the capacity-building for livelihood focusing on permaculture and the beautification efforts of the community. He ended

his message with a warm gratitude to everyone and sincere wishes that project outputs will be sustained for the years to come.

Sharing the same spirit of gratefulness was TAO executive director Arlene Lusterio, who gave a heartfelt message on behalf of the organization. Architect Lusterio expressed that the DAP project was not just about the outputs. “More than the livelihood activities initiated, or the community infrastructures built, the project is a story of Masagana,” she stated. According to her, it highlighted the strengths of participatory process and organizational unity to achieve a common goal despite all the challenges, unforeseen or not.



Pastor Bong Lazaro blessing the community's greenhouse with community members.

Architect Lusterio also gave special mention to the leaders of Masagana, especially elderly residents who served their community undaunted by Covid-19, and the TAO project team. TAO's Angat area project team is composed of Engr. Lorena Hernandez and Dessica Salvador who served as team leader and staff, respectively. She attributed the overall success of the DAP project to all. Her message ended with a hopeful tone and she reminded everyone of the pursuit of sustainability in every project.

The last to give a message was Juana Cavallida, the current president of Masagana HOA. More fondly called Nanay Juaning by everyone, she was not able to contain her emotions as she delivered her message on behalf the community. Composing herself, Nanay Juaning gave thanks to everyone, particularly to the Australian Embassy and TAO-Pilipinas, for their support in achieving a community milestone. Words were lost when Nanay Juaning began to cry while reminiscing stories of hardship they went through especially in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. Her earnest words reflect the community sentiment about the project and a positive outlook on Masagana development.

Showcasing community facilities built through DAP

After messages were delivered, community member Edelyn Dela Cruz facilitated a tour of the community infrastructures developed under the DAP project. She led them inside the completed multipurpose community facility (MCF) and then to the greenhouse while explaining how Masagana

plans to subsequently make use of these facilities. Pastor Avelino “Bong” Lazaro Jr. presided over the ribbon-cutting ceremony and blessing of the new structures. These were livestreamed over Zoom and viewed by the online guests.

Ms. Dela Cruz explained how the 4-storey MCF will be useful for food preparations during bayanihan activities, with a community kitchen at the first floor. This area could also be utilized for livelihood programs of the community. The second and third floors will be used by Masagana leaders as office spaces, storage for community documents, and conference area. A ladder leading to the community's overhead water tank is located at the roof deck of the MCF.

On the way to the community's greenhouse, Ms. Dela Cruz shared how a concreted road segment, which was also developed under DAP, serves as an efficient link to different community facilities. Community members also appreciate that the road helped speed up the delivery of materials to and from the site during building construction. Upon arrival at the greenhouse, Pastor Lazaro blessed the structure which will serve as support facility for community gardening activities initiated by the DAP project.

Effecting change in the community

As the tour ended, a sense of optimism was palpable in everyone, both in-person guests and online viewers, as they witnessed the realization of Masagana community's aspirations. Engr. Hernandez closed the ceremony with a message of gratitude to everyone especially the members of Masagana community. She recounted the challenging yet fulfilling journey they took, toiling together to bring about change in the community through the DAP project.

With smiles on everyone's faces, people thanked, congratulated, and bid farewell to each other while sharing the same wish of growth and sustainable development for the people of Masagana. Undeniably, the DAP project implementation faced the most unfavourable circumstances, but the patience and perseverance of Masagana community and TAO's Angat project team, and spurred by their shared trust and commitment, carried the project to fruition. At its completion, TAO-Pilipinas and Masagana see the project as a continuing effort towards community sustainability.



Community members gather in front of the MCF with physical distancing for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and blessing of the structure.



Participants on site gather for a meal after the blessing of structures.

Masagana multi-purpose community facility (MCF)



Masagana community greenhouse



Masagana concreted road segments

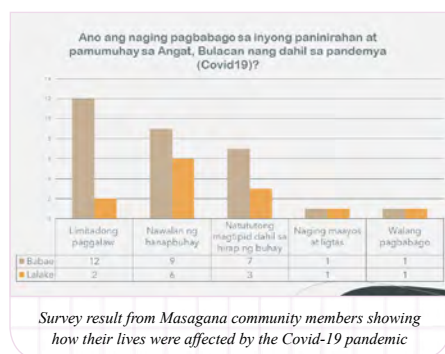


Survey looks at the pandemic's effects on TAO partner communities

by Marianne Turiano

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS SEVERELY affected the country since the past year. While it has proved to be challenging for everyone, it is undoubtedly all the more difficult for people in poor communities. Their already fragile conditions are further threatened by the health crisis.

As part of its yearly project assessment with community partners, TAO-Pilipinas conducted a digital survey to gather data from the members and leaders about the situation in their respective communities. TAO used the KoBo Toolbox application to administer the online survey from January 27 to February 12. One part of the survey inquired about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and other new developments in the communities of Masagana of Angat, Bulacan; Lupang Arenda of Taytay, Rizal; and PPVHOA of Binondo, Manila.



Changes brought about by the pandemic

Majority of the survey respondents from the three communities shared that they lost their jobs during the pandemic which made their situation even harder. Without stable sources of income, the participants noted that they experienced financial hardships and extreme poverty.

Most of female survey respondents from Masagana noted that one of the significant effects of the pandemic is the restriction in their movement around and outside the community. Many respondents from Lupang Arenda also shared the same sentiment about travel restrictions as it adds to the hurdle of finding jobs during the crisis.

Some participants from Lupang Arenda also shared that the pandemic brought negative impact on their mental health as they experience anxiety and depression. In PPVHOA, some participants mentioned that they became more fearful of getting sick and they even stopped children from playing outside their homes.

Community needs during the pandemic

Since many participants noted that they lost their jobs because of the pandemic, survey results show that food and employment are the primary needs of each partner community. Secondary to these needs are financial assistance and hygiene kits to comply with Covid-19 health and safety protocols.

These pandemic-related needs were primarily addressed through financial assistance and relief provided by the government and private organizations. Many respondents from all three partner communities also mentioned that they met their needs on their own by finding alternative sources of income and strictly managing their finances. In Masagana, some members harvested their self-planted crops as means of food security.

In Lupang Arenda, the pandemic deferred land proclamation proceedings so the respondents felt actions are needed to pursue efforts toward tenure security. Community leaders in Lupang Arenda are consistently following-up and coordinating with assisting organizations and national government agencies to move the proceedings for security of tenure.

PPVHOA survey respondents also cited delays in the implementation of their housing project due to the pandemic. This diminished confidence in the project and negatively impacted the participation of some community members.

Aside from the pandemic impacts on their livelihood and well-being, participants from Masagana also recalled the devastating effects of typhoon Ulysses (Vamco) last November amidst the pandemic. They likewise acknowledged that despite the difficulties of community quarantine measures, it allowed them to attend to and focus on on-site project implementation. They managed to complete the DAP project activities during this period. ([Read article on DAP project turn-over on page 1](#))

Survey respondents from Lupang Arenda also shared that the community became quiet and orderly since people are discouraged to go outside. They also noted of other improvements in the area such as concreted roads and newly-installed streetlights which increased the security in the neighborhood.

Community solidarity amidst the pandemic

The pandemic has brought about financial, physical, mental, and social changes in the lives of the people from TAO's partner communities. Although each people's organization has its own distinct situation and needs, the impact of the pandemic did not vary that much among the three communities. Most of the survey respondents agree that they need economic stability to weather the crisis. In these unprecedented times, families need their immediate and basic needs met before they can focus on other issues outside their homes. Incredibly, these people are getting by each day while fighting for their community causes and advocacies.

While TAO-Pilipinas alongside other partner organizations provide assistance to the partner communities in ways they can, there is much that other sectors and the government can do to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. The current situation needs to be improved not only for them, but also for other communities facing similar issues. The Covid-19 pandemic necessitates stronger and more efficient crisis response that works for everyone, especially for communities in need.

ED shares TAO experience in PolyUrbanWaters Conference

by Ma. Lorena Hernandez

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TAO-PILIPINAS, architect and environmental planner Arlene Lusterio, was invited to share a presentation in an international conference entitled *PolyUrban Waters: Polycentric management of urban waters in fast-growing cities and peri urban areas in Southeast Asia*, held on March 25, 2021. The first international PolyUrbanWaters conference was conducted online through Zoom and was streamed live on YouTube.

The conference was a two-day event held last March 24 and 25. The first day consisted of project workshops and was accessible only for the consortium partners of PolyUrbanWaters. The consortium included academic institutions, municipalities, local and national government agencies, civil society and private-sector stakeholders from Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Germany. Meanwhile, the second day of the conference was made available to the public and was divided into three sessions. The sessions included lecture presentations from keynote speakers and panel discussion with the experts.

Ar/Enp. Lusterio was last to present on the third and final session which focused on utilizing tools for planning a sustainable urban development. For her presentation, she shared TAO's involvement in creating the people's plan of different urban poor communities along, or within the periphery of the Pasig River in Metro Manila and along the east and west banks of the Manggahan Floodway in Taytay, Rizal. The featured Pasig River communities were Baseco in Manila and Pineda in Pasig City.

The case studies presented by Ar/Enp. Lusterio offered first-hand experiences of working through difficulties in the participatory approach. Those difficulties include considerations on the socio-political context of the area and the community's willingness to relocate and find a safer place to live, among others. During the roundtable discussion, she highlighted the essence of mainstreaming community participation through the people's planning process now required by housing agencies in the Philippines. She also emphasized the importance of good governance, and increasing the risk awareness of the people.

To watch the public conference, you may visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ah0BgrnTIZ0>.

TAO staff undergoes workplace training on GIS

by Min-Roselle Malunhao

IN THIS INFORMATION AGE, WE LIVE IN A society that is largely data-driven. Decision makers are faced with creating solutions in the midst of vast, tangled webs of information. Information technologies like geographic information systems or GIS help us make sense of complex data. GIS is both a system and a tool for organizing, managing and visually representing geographic data. It is a useful tool for database management and especially for built environment professionals that do research and analysis of spatial data.

With this in mind, TAO-Pilipinas conducted a series of intra-organizational workshops on Basic GIS for all of its 11 staff members, with and without technical orientation, who have not yet undergone GIS training. The learning objectives for the Basic GIS workshop were to understand the basic concepts of GIS; familiarize the staff with the user interface of QGIS, an open-source GIS software; learn the basic functions of QGIS; and make simple maps using QGIS.

Workshop sessions were done online once a week from February 18 to March 4. These were facilitated by two GIS-trained staff members of TAO, architect Angel Sales and engineer Lorena Hernandez. They both have course certificates on GIS from the University of the Philippines Training Center on Applied Geodesy and Photogrammetry.

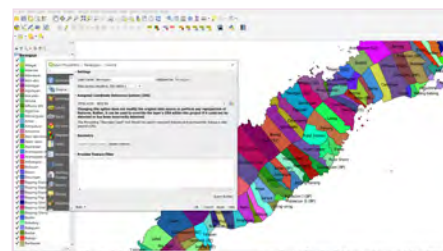
Arch. Sales and Engr. Hernandez developed a 3-part module on Basic GIS that would cater to learning by even the non-technical staff of TAO. The module also integrates hands-on application of QGIS. The first session covered an overview of GIS and introduction to spatial data. The second session discussed data acquisition and maps, coordinate systems and projections. Topics covered on the third session included database, attribute data and basic table operations in GIS.

The Basic GIS workshop included homework assignments, lecture inputs, and laboratory exercises. During the online sessions, Arch. Sales facilitated the lecture inputs and evaluated submitted assignments, while Engr. Hernandez guided the participants in the exercises using QGIS. At the end of the weekly sessions, each participating staff member was assigned a specific task that directly applies GIS in TAO's current operations. These tasks were expected to be completed within a month.

GIS is already being used in connection with TAO's technical services (eg in community hazards mapping, structures mapping, and construction monitoring). TAO is currently exploring the application of GIS to improve database management for internal operations. For example, a scatter map for interns is being map for interns is being created

which can serve as reference for the academic network of the organization. Furthermore, scatter maps can also be used to assess the communications strength of TAO by showing the audience reach of its publications and social media campaigns. This particular endeavor is a result of the staff development workshop on GIS.

With staff members who are capable of using GIS, TAO-Pilipinas intends to enhance delivery of technical assistance to its project and network partners. Improvement of technical assistance also involves efficient database management in the organization's operations.



Screenshot of laboratory exercise on February 18 GIS workshop



Screenshot of participants on March 17 Gender sensitivity training session

TAO conducts staff training on gender sensitivity

by Marianne Turiano

IN TIME WITH THE CELEBRATION OF International Women's Month, TAO-Pilipinas conducted an online Gender Sensitivity Training (GST) via Zoom video conferencing on March 15-19, 2021 as part of its staff development activities. The resource person for the training workshop was Lourdes Turiano, a gender and development (GAD) consultant certified by the Philippine Commission on Women and a social development practitioner. All TAO staff members and 4 representatives from partner communities of Masagana HOA of Angat, Bulacan, and APOLA of Lupang Arenda, Taytay attended the online training.

The general objective of the training workshop was to build and enhance the awareness and understanding of the participants on GAD concepts, laws and policies towards becoming gender-sensitive individuals and social development workers. The results of the training needs assessment showed that the organization expressed interest on how to integrate GAD concepts into TAO policies and apply them in technical assistance work with partner communities. Ms. Turiano advised that GAD integration falls into higher level of training but further noted that the training course was modified to include an overview of GAD mainstreaming.

The first and second sessions focused on gender as a social construct. The initial activities had participants assess their gender perspectives and

understanding of gender concepts. Afterwards, Ms. Turiano gave an enlightening discussion on the difference between sex and gender, and the associated roles and expectations. She explained how expectations on women to pick up the work of childcare are rooted in their sex roles. However, she emphasized that all work that do not require biological attributes (eg giving birth) can be done by either men or women. Ms. Turiano also discussed how social institutions—family, school, church, and media—influence and contribute to gender stereotypes and biases. Gender stereotypes ultimately result to gender issues where the inequality disfavors women.

In the third session, each participant shared how an institution influenced their biases or principles as an adult. Ms. Turiano then discussed an overview of GAD and the elements and processes of gender mainstreaming. She also gave a brief introduction on gender analysis and the elements of a gender-responsive program.

By the fourth session, each participant was able to share their action points true to what they have learned after three sessions of GST. Afterwards, Ms. Turiano proceeded with the discussion on gender equality as a tool for development. She presented the global and local situation of men and women which

showed the disparity of opportunities (eg gender wage gap, more women living in extreme poverty). She also discussed the international and local mandates that uplift the rights of women.

In the final session, Ms. Turiano presented the salient provisions of landmark legislations in the Philippines including RA 11313 (Safe Spaces Act), RA 8353 (Anti-Rape Law of 1997), RA 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children), RA 8972 (Solo Parent Act of 2020), RA 10354 (Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law), and RA 9208 (Anti-Trafficking Act of 2003). To close the session, the participants drew their vision and formulated their personal action plan for a gender-fair household, workplace, and community.

The International Women's Month is the time to remind ourselves of the progress and accomplishments made on women's rights and to call for an equal future. The GST helped TAO staff members and community representatives to understand and identify on a personal level their gender perspectives. As a women-led organization, TAO-Pilipinas took a significant step forward to truly embody its advocacy of being gender-sensitive and gender-responsive.

APOLA continues to fight for security of tenure

by Angelus Maria Sales

THE ALLIANCE OF PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS in Lupang Arenda (APOLA) is one of the partner communities of TAO-Pilipinas. Located in Taytay, Rizal, the confederation is composed of 27 homeowner associations (HOA) that work together for the development of Lupang Arenda. Despite the pandemic and lockdown, APOLA has not wavered in its fight to secure tenurial rights in the 91-hectare land that they occupy under Proclamation 704, along with the 5-hectare DENR-owned property occupied by Samahang Masigasig ng Tapayan Association Inc. (SAMATHOA), one of its member HOAs. Last year, they have continued to follow-up government agencies involved in the processing of their application for land title under the Free Patent Law or RA10023 which they have submitted in 2018.



Participants in the stakeholders forum discuss APOLA plans with TAO representatives

Stakeholders forum

On February 17, 2021, APOLA participated in a stakeholders' forum attended by barangay and municipal local government officials of Taytay to present on-going and planned activities in their area. TAO-Pilipinas with its architects, Arlene Lusterio, Angelus Sales, and Theresse Julia, presented the on-going technical support being provided by the organization. This included digitizing their structures survey and drafting of guidelines for development regulations.

Also present in the forum was Jessica Amon, community organizer from Community Organizers Multiversity (COM), a partner organization of TAO-Pilipinas that deals with organizational strengthening and development of APOLA. The Taytay local government unit (LGU) was represented by Municipal Engineer Ronaldo San Juan, Municipal Planning and Development Office head Fatima Garcia, and Urban Poor Affairs Office head Milagros Monis.

Briefly present in the forum was Taytay mayor Joric Gacula who extended his support in their fight for security of tenure. TAO-Pilipinas also presented the upcoming people's planning workshop to be done with APOLA and COM.

Multi-agency meeting

Aside from the forum, APOLA participated in a multi-agency meeting with officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), and Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP) on March 11, 2021. Present in this meeting were representatives from Taytay LGU, TAO-Pilipinas, and

and COM. The meeting was intended to resolve issues in APOLA's application for land title under the Free Patent Law and to determine the cause of delay despite having the endorsement of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD).

The meeting ended with LLDA officials agreeing to honor the certification that they issued in 2007 for SAMATHOA of APOLA. In the 2007 certification, LLDA agreed to give clearance to 20,100 square meters of land that was certified above the 12.5 meters mean lake level (without human intervention). This clearance is the only thing needed by the DENR Provincial Office to process and issue the land titles for SAMATHOA.

Representatives from the DENR Provincial Office agreed to process the land titles within 60 days after receiving data from LLDA showing the exact coverage of the 20,100 square meter land. LLDA has promised to provide the data within one week after the meeting.

Determination in the face of obstacles

Despite the small victory, APOLA's fight for security of tenure is still filled with numerous obstacles.

There are land claimants suddenly coming out of nowhere after all the decades of land occupation in the area. But through it all, the resolve of APOLA is unwavering.

It has continuously supported the capacity building of its members to increase their knowledge on disaster risk reduction and management. They have worked hand in hand with the municipal government to gradually improve the infrastructures in the area. APOLA leaders have also reached out to their network to gain access to basic social services for their members, such as livelihood opportunities and scholarship programs.

From having occupied the land in the late 90s when it was just a mere rice field, to gradually developing the area by their own means, APOLA members have invested so much in Lupang Arenda. Giving up the fight is never an option for them. This is something the national government must realize when considering APOLA's clamor for security of tenure.

UPDATE: Post-Ulysses response of PMPI NCR-Urban cluster

by Arlene Christy Lusterio

TYPHOON ULYSSES (INTERNATIONAL name: Vamco) entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on November 8 as a tropical depression. On November 11, it made its first landfall in Patnanungan, Quezon Province as a typhoon. It has recorded 10-minute sustained winds of 130 km/h and 1-minute sustained winds of 176 km/h; thereby raising its classification to a high-end category 2 equivalent typhoon as it made two more landfalls in Burdeos in Polillo Island and General Nakar in Quezon Province. It weakened into below typhoon category as it emerged in West Philippine Sea on November 12. It strengthened into category 4 equivalent typhoon as it traversed the West Philippine Sea in November 13; but weakened as a category 1 equivalent typhoon as it made its last landfall in Vietnam. Eventually, Vamco dissipated in northern Laos.

The whole of Central Luzon and National Capital Region was placed under signal number 3, twelve hours before its first landfall in November 11. The typhoon left PAR on November 11 with Marikina and areas surrounding the Laguna Lake submerged in deep level of flood. Many people were left stranded on the roof of their house. Residents exclaimed how it was reminiscent of Typhoon Ondoy (Ketsana) which devastated the area back in 2009. Central Luzon experienced the worst flooding exacerbated by the opening of Magat Dam.



Residents of a barangay in Montalban, Rizal receiving relief packs

The Partnership Mission for People's Initiative (PMPI) NCR-Urban Cluster led by Community Organizers Multiversity conducted a rapid disaster needs assessment to determine the impact of Typhoon Ulysses to its partner communities. Areas affected included Pasig, Manila, Quezon City and Taguig in Metro Manila; Rodriguez (Montalban), Taytay and Tanay in Rizal province; Binan, Calamba and Sta. Rosa in Laguna; and Calumpit in Bulacan. A total of 18,523 families were affected.

A call for support was released by PMPI in November 2020. Support from Misereor came in January 2021; after which the procurement and relief distribution was organized immediately. The relief packs included food and hygiene kits, water and masks. Relief distribution ran from January 31 until February 13 and was facilitated in collaboration with local community partners and the barangay officials. Distribution ensured physical distancing and prevented congregation in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Title: **R.A. 9262: Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act**
Editor: **Amelia Lourdes Mendoza**
Publisher: **Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal (SALIGAN) (2006)**

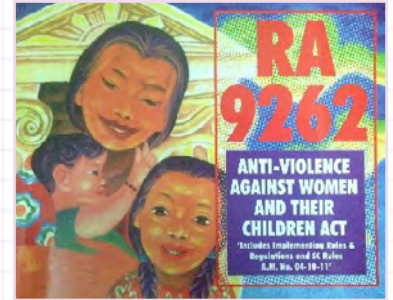
Republic Act No. 9262, also known as the “*Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC) Act of 2004*”, is a law that recognizes VAWC as a public crime and provides remedies for women and their children who suffer from violence committed by their intimate partners. Previously viewed as a private matter of intimate relationships, VAWC is now legally recognized as a societal problem and a clear violation of basic human rights. R.A. 9262 affords relief and protection to victim-survivors, especially women who remain in abusive relationships “for the sake of their children” (as conditioned by society) or in fear of their lives.

Shedding light on this landmark legislation is a primer by SALIGAN that breaks down the Anti-

VAWC Act, along with its implementing rules and regulations, into a more digestible reference. The primer translates the legal jargon and utilizes a Q&A (question and answer) format, charts, and illustrations to explain and highlight salient provisions of the law in a way that a layperson like myself can easily absorb.

The primer underscores important definitions in the law, such as the various forms of VAWC (ie physical, sexual, psychological, and economic) and the battered woman syndrome. It also tabulates the prohibited acts and corresponding penalties; different protection orders and their procedures; and the roles of courts, LGUs, and government agencies in responding to VAWC. Furthermore, attached at the annex of the primer are protection order forms that serve as reference for victim-survivors or other concerned parties.

Social preparation is key for women who experience various forms of violence at the hands



of their intimate partners. This preparation includes understanding one’s rights and knowing the remedies that can be done. Given that VAWC is recognized as a public offense, the law also outlines what concerned citizens can do to intervene and support the victims, especially those who are hesitant to pursue legal action against their abusers. This essential publication from SALIGAN helps us better understand the law that seeks to empower victims of VAWC and ultimately break the cycle of violence. (Therese Julia)

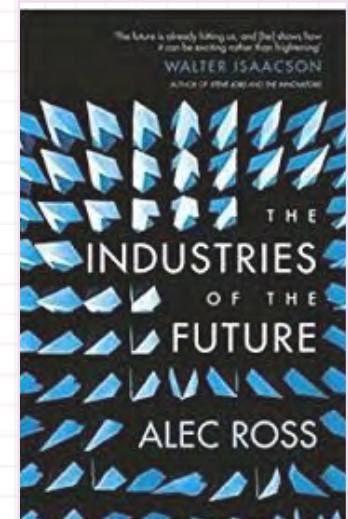
Title: **The Industries of the Future**
Author: **Alec Ross**
Publisher: **Simon & Schuster UK (2016)**

What does the future hold? In this book, technology policy expert Alec Ross describes key industries that will shape the world’s economic future – robotics and artificial intelligence, genomics, digital currency, and cyber security. He also explains how coding and big data will impact almost every industry, from global banking to precision agriculture. Considering that this book was written in 2016, it becomes obvious that we are already halfway into the future that the author envisions here.

For a lay reader, this book is written in accessible language. Technical subjects such as the complexities of big data and cryptocurrencies are well-explained. But perhaps what I found most relatable is how it is written also from the perspective of a Gen Xer who lived through the transition from analog to digital life and witnessed the advent of internet and cellphones. The book looks at generational changes driven by technological advances. It explores data as the raw material of the information age how codification of everything brings in new opportunities, as well as inequalities and risks (eg erosion of privacy, cyberattacks).

The book discusses the geographic centers for these industries of the future and which countries are best positioned to compete and succeed (ie those with economically, politically and culturally open systems). In this discussion, the author brings attention to the benefits of empowering women in the workplace and the cost of marginalizing half of every country’s potential workforce.

Today we are living more algorithmic lives and norms are shifting. This book helps us understand how technology is changing the world and attempts to provide guidance on how to prepare for future trends. As an architect-planner, I find that this book is a good place to start in looking at the driving forces and implications of developing a built environment that is ready for the industries of the future. (Geraldine Matabang)



Learning Sessions on Labor Laws for NGO Workers

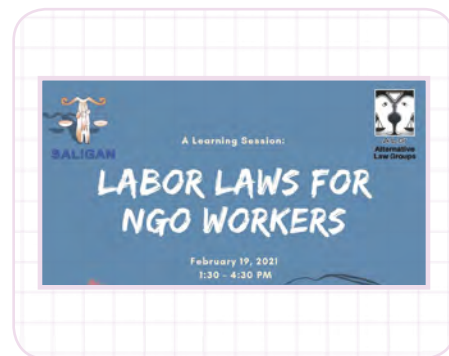
Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal (SALIGAN) | Feb 19, 2021

This webinar, facilitated by SALIGAN (Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal) and attended by different NGOs, discussed existing labor laws in the Philippines in the context of civil society organizations. The discussion was led by lawyers JC Tezano and Maya Abdullah. They began with an overview of the 1987 Constitution to show the constitutional basis of all existing labor laws. Afterwards, they facilitated a thorough discourse on the Labor Code of the Philippines.



Generally speaking, the Labor Code applies to all entities whether for profit or not. The discussion, however, was focused on the implications of various labor law provisions in an NGO work environment. Labor standards for NGO workers were defined such as employee's social benefits, standard working hours, and leave policies among others. Furthermore, additional labor laws from the Department of Labor and Employment were also presented to explain some concepts such as classification of employees, security of tenure, and employment termination.

The webinar was a good opportunity for NGOs to assess its existing policies on labor and employment to ensure the protection of rights of its employees. (Cecilia Del Rosario)



People-led housing: Theories from practice

AdMU Department of Sociology and Anthropology | February 22, 2021

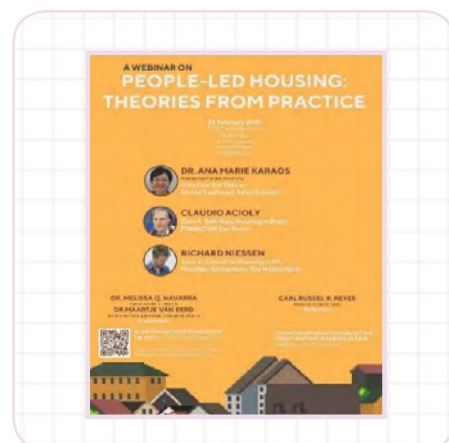
This session was the first part of the webinar series by the Ateneo Department of Sociology and Anthropology-Anthropological and Sociological Initiatives (DSA-ASIA) and the Erasmus University Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) on the topic of international experiences in people-led housing.

Setting the theme of the webinar, Dr. Ana Marie Karaos presented the evolution of people-led housing in three Southeast Asian nations (Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines). Dr. Karaos posited people-led housing as a citizenship-building project among

the urban poor. As a first case study, architect Claudio Acioly Jr. discussed the Funacom self-help housing program in São Paulo in Brazil. A second case study was presented by graphic designer Richard Niessen who shared his experience of being part of a collective housing project in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

The webinar provided a thorough comparison of processes and practices in people-led housing in the countries presented. It gave great insights on the economic, social and political influences that shape people-led housing. Most importantly, the webinar was able to capture how capacity-building programs

integral to people-led housing empower people to address their needs and turn their dreams into reality. (Dessica Marie Salvador)



Responses To COVID-19: Standing Together Makes Us Stronger

UP College of Social Work and Community Development | March 23, 2021

In line with the celebration of its college week, the UP College of Social Work and Community Development (UP CSWCD) through the Department of Social Work conducted a webinar highlighting the importance of social work amidst the pandemic.

Four topics were presented. The first presenter was Dir. Gemma Gabuya, national program manager of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. She discussed the role of social workers at the Covid-19 frontline and shared the challenges in

providing assistance to program beneficiaries. The second topic was given by Atty. Maria Adraneda-Filio of the Public Attorney's Office who explored the legal framework of social justice in which the importance of social work is magnified. She gave a comprehensive review and analysis of various laws instrumental to the pandemic response. The third topic was presented by Ms. Daisy Manlangit, acting head of Philippine General Hospital's Medical Social Service. She shared about the resilience and well-being of social workers especially those working in hospitals. The last speaker was Dir. Justin Nicolas of the UP CSWCD. He discussed various conceptual

tools that can be used to develop a social work approach that is more responsive to pandemic conditions.

This webinar proved that the pandemic is not just an issue of health but an issue of social justice. As different facets of society are being affected by the pandemic, social workers serve as front liners who cater to various social needs of people. (Min-Roselle Malunhao)





“As the long-awaited COVID-19 vaccines are being rolled out, do you plan to get vaccinated or not? What are the factors and considerations that led you to make such decision?”

In my opinion, the potentials outweigh the uncertainties of what may or may not happen when I get the vaccine. If there's one lesson I've learned in the past year, it's our personal decisions that affect the welfare of the people around us. We have to remember that we are capable of saving other lives just by making this decision. Vaccination is not the perfect remedy and will not magically solve our problems - but being vaccinated brings us one step closer to beating this pandemic.

Joshua Chris Lleo, 25, male, Junior architect

At first I was worried of getting the vaccine as well. But I thought about a couple of things. One I'm working in a healthcare industry. Dental, to be specific. Anyone who is working at any healthcare field, is always exposed to different diseases. I too live with my parents who have pre existing conditions which makes them at high risk of contracting the virus, if ever I got it and was asymptomatic.

Two, if I'm really concern about the well being of my parents, I need to think of a way to protect them but still be able to provide for them as well. At first I was worried because I didn't have an idea or knowledge about the vaccine. But later on, reading and researching about the vaccines, on legit websites, CDC website, and my states website (State of Alaska website) helped me understand what it can do to help me protect my family and myself. Educating ourselves is really really important.

Now I'm fully vaccinated, it's been over a month already I think, since my 2nd shot of the vaccine. Side effects that I had were sore arm and a slight fever. I was also able to encourage my parents to get the vaccines themselves. My mom got hers almost 2 weeks now and my dad just got his today. This is of course after their consultation from their medical provider. Again, I encourage people to educate themselves through reliable websites and sources, and consult your medical providers if you have any allergies and pre existing conditions.

**Nicole Torino, 25, female
HR generalist**

I am willing to be vaccinated as long as the vaccines are FDA-approved and have backup data and analysis that it is safe to be consumed. Vaccines are one of the greatest discoveries in the medical field, and it has been proven in many generations that it can help people be immune in certain types of diseases or be at low-risk if not totally immune. Technological advances has already brought us so far that versions of vaccines in this era are developed to be much safer. Yes, there might be a miniscule chance that the vaccine might manifest a major side effect, but the gains overly outweigh the risk. Medical experts are also actively promoting vaccines by taking their own shots and “risking” their own lives. So, I don't think it is deadly and dangerous just like anti-vaxers are claiming it to be. Though if you are prone to allergies or currently have medical issues, I believe a consultation with a doctor before taking the vaccine may help you gauge if taking the vaccine would be fine.

**Gail Dela Vega, 25, female,
freelance architectural designer**

I personally believe that it is my social responsibility to get vaccinated as not to contribute to the spread of the disease to others. Furthermore, a reason closer to home, I live with my senior parents who are more at risk and I don't want to expose them with the disease as I go in and out of our house. Although I want to get vaccinated, I have reservations with the vaccines itself. I have an allergy with a certain type of antibiotic and I'm afraid how would my physiology react with the vaccine. I am also thinking that maybe I need to boost my health first so that whatever side effects I may encounter, my body is ready for it.

**Min-Roselle Malunhao, 25, female,
architectural designer**

I will take a vaccine, but not right now. Given that all vaccines are somehow still on beta testing, despite its permit to be released globally, the vaccine might still pose risks. Moreover, other variants of the COVID-19 are appearing every day. I don't know what implications will that impose on the vaccine but I'm certain that adjustments will still be made, despite the new variants' existence.

Another reservation I have is that during the year 2020, not once have I been affected by the flu and/or fever, or anything that might be a symptom of the COVID-19. Given that I did stay inside the house the whole of 2020, my father was constantly outside and at risk due to his job as a barangay kagawad. This kind of job risks him as a carrier.

It has been a year now, and I still am surviving really well. I have been commuting everyday for 2 weeks now. I have been constantly in contact with people as well. I'd be lying if I were to say it doesn't make me anxious at all. It does. Whenever I feel a certain cold coming, I try to eat something tasty, just to ensure that I am just fatigued and have not contracted COVID-19.

I'm certain I'd feel the same way even when I'm vaccinated. Luckily, our local government will acquire a different vaccine from what the national government will; they will even provide it for free, as they should, to be honest. So yes, I will get myself vaccinated. But I might also just prefer to be cautious at the moment.

**Rhodievie Chrystell A. Camposano,
24, female, student/architectural designer**



Pakikiisa at Pagkakaisa: Panganganinag sa mga Karanasan kasama ang Pamayanan ng MASAGANA

by Luna Salanio

Luna Salanio is a graduate of the UP College of Social Work and Community Development under their undergraduate program for Social Work. She joined the YP Internship program in 2020 to assist Masagana HOA in their organizational development activities. Her internship work in Masagana is part of her curriculum requirement to earn her bachelor's degree.

Sa panahon ng mas lumalalang mga krisis na nagpapaigting sa malaon nang pag-iral ng kahirapan, diskriminasyon at bulnerabilidad ng ating mga pangangatawan, hindi matatawaran ang papel na ginagampanan ng pamayanan sa pagtugon sa iba't iba nating mga pangangailangan tungo sa pagkamit ng ating pinakamatayog na potensyal sa lipunan. Gayunpaman, hindi lamang ito umiinig sa usapin ng kung ano ang maihahatid ng isang komunidad sa bawat indibidwal na pumapabilang dito. Higit ding mahalaga ang usapin ng kung papaano nililikha, binubuo at itinataguyod ng mga mamamayan ang kanilang pamayanan lalo na sa konteksto ng kasalukuyan. Ang isang ito ang siyang aking natunghayan at nakadaupang palad kasama ang pamayanan ng MASAGANA sa Angat, Bulacan.

Enero ng taong 2020 nang una akong bumisita at pormal na nakibahagi sa mga gawain ng pamayanan ng MASAGANA. Bahagi ito ng aking huling pagsasanay sa programa ng Batsilyer ng Agham sa Gawaing Panlipunan sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas kung saan sinasapantaha ang aming pakikibahagi sa pag-oorganisa ng mga pamayanan kasabay ng aming makabuluhang pagkatuto sa iba't ibang katangian at proseso nito kasama ang mga mamamayan ng komunidad. Upang maisakatuparan ito, kinakailangan muna ang malalim at malawak na pagkilala at pag-unawa sa naturang pamayanan. Kabilang dito ang pakikipagkilala kasama ang mga taong bumubuo ng pamayanan, pagsiyasat sa iba't ibang mga katangian at suliraning kanilang kinakaharap, at maging ang pagtukoy sa kanilang mga kakayahan, kaalaman, kahinaan at kalakasan na mahalagang salik sa pagpapaunlad ng kanilang pamayanan.

Mainit ang naging pagtanggap sa akin ng pamilyang aking tinuluyan sa tanan ng pananatili sa loob ng pamayanan ng MASAGANA. Sa kabila nito, tangan-tangan ang aking posisyon at mga pagkakakilanlan bilang "taga-labas" ng pamayanan, hindi madali ang naging gawain ng pakikipagkilala at pakikisalamuha kasama ang mga mamamayan ng MASAGANA. Tulad ng inaasahan, sa umpisa'y nangangapa pa ako sa pakikisalamuha at nakikiramdam sa tugon ng aking mga nakakausap sa loob ng pamayanan. Dahil dito, malayo pa ang aming loob sa isa't isa sa tuwing nakikilahok ako sa mga pagpupulong, nag-iikot-ikot sa pamayanan at nakikisalamuha sa kanilang pangaraw-araw na pamumuhay.

Upang tugunan ang hamong ito sa aking karanasan, susing kawing ang pagtukoy at pagkilala sa aking katayuan bilang "taga-labas" ng pamayanan upang maging gabay sa kung paano ko susuungin ang makabuluhang pakikipag-ugnayan at pakikipagkapwa kasama ang mga mamamayan ng MASAGANA. Hugpungan ito ng malay at kritikal na pagkilala sa isang ng kapangyarihan sa proseso ng pakikipag-ugnayan at pagbubuo ng relasyon kasama ang iba. Sa gayong paraan, nananatiling tapat ang gawain sa mga pagpapahalaga ng pagkakapantay-pantay, pagsasakapangyarihan, at pagkilala sa taal na halaga at dignidad ng bawat mamamayan ng MASAGANA. Hindi naglaon ay naging banayad din ang gawain at naging bukas at maluwag ang mga taga-MASAGANA sa pagbabahagi ng kanilang mga kwento at saloobin. Dahil dito, nakilala ko ang mga masigasig na myembro ng pamunuan at ng samahan, nadinig ang kani-kanilang mga karanasan, suliranin at kwento ng buhay, at higit na natunghayan ang kanilang masidhing pagnanais na mabago ang mga buhay at mapaunlad ang kanilang pamayanan.

Sa ganang ito, isa marahil sa pinaka malinaw na aral na aking natutunan sa naging pagsasanay ang kahalagahan ng pakikipagkapwa bilang salalayan ng pagtataguyod ng makahulugang ugnayan kasama ang iba. Nakatimo rito ang tiwalang iginawad ng mga mamamayan ng MASAGANA upang umusbong ang isang bukas at mapagpalayang kapaligiran na siya ring salik sa pagtataguyod ng relasyon sa isa't isa. Sa pakikipagkapwa ding ito sumisibol ang pakikiisa at pagkakaisa na siyang aking natunghayan sa pamayanan ng MASAGANA lalo na sa mga kababaihan at kabataan na ilan sa mga grupong pinaka aktibo pagdating sa mga gawaing pampamayanan. Maliliming madalas mga kababaihan at kabataan ang siyang naiwan sa tahanan sapagkat nagtatrabaho ang karamihan sa mga kalalakihan sa labas ng pamayanan. Dahil dito, ang mga kababaihan at kabataan ang madalas na gumagampan sa gawaing reprodutibo sa loob ng tahanan kasabay ng ilan pa nilang gawain sa buong maghapon — matrabaho ngunit madalas hindi kinikilala ang halaga. Sa kabila nito, nanatiling masigasig at aktibo ang mga kababaihan at kabataan sa anumang gawaing pampamayanan ng MASAGANA at ang pagpapahalagang ito sa kalinga sa loob ng tahanan ay naisasalin din sa kanilang mga gawain sa loob ng pamayanan. Binubuo nito ang kalakasan ng pamayanan na siyang aking natunghayan sa pagsasanay na ito.

Nang dumating ang Marso sa kaparehong taon, tila tumigil ang pagkilos hindi lamang ng buong bansa kundi ng buong mundo dahil sa pandemya. Nangahulugan din ito sa aming mga mag-aaral ng pagtigil ng aming pakikipamuhay sa mga pamayanan at pagtuloy ng mga gawain sa loob ng aming mga tahanan. Hindi naging madali ito para sa akin dahil kinailangan kong hatiin ang buong araw sa paggawa ng mga gawaing bahay, mga gawain sa paaralan at maging ang pag-aalaga sa aking lolang may sakit. Naging mahirap din ang pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga mamamayan ng MASAGANA sa pamamagitan lamang ng Facebook at Messenger kung saan lamang kami konektado sa isa't isa. Sa kabila nito, nagawa pa ring makayanan ang pakikipag-ugnayan dahil na rin sa pagiging masigasig ng mga myembro ng samahan.

Sa kubuuan, bagama't maikli lamang ay naging mayaman pa rin ang aking karanasan kasama ang mga mamamayan ng MASAGANA. Sa kabila ng natunghayang kahirapan, kakikitaan pa rin ang pamayanan ng kalakasan sa usapin ng pagkakaisa at pakikiisa lalo na sa mga kababaihan at kabataan na ilan sa mga pinakabulnableng grupo sa lipunan. Isang malinaw na patunay ito sa potensyal ng MASAGANA pagdating sa pagpapaunlad ng pamayanan at ng buhay sa loob nito.



Luna (standing at extreme left, in yellow shirt) with community members at the Masagana community-based resource center in Angat, Bulacan.



Recuperating from the Covid-19 pandemic impacts will prove to be a challenge for the country. No one knows how long we will be able to go back to normal or be able to build a better normal. Nevertheless, one thing for sure is that the nation will be needing capable and trustworthy government officials to lead us. With the upcoming 2022 elections, the Partnership Mission for People's Initiatives (formerly Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc) has launched an awareness campaign and encourages everyone, especially the youth, to register and exercise their right to vote. PMPI will release several content related to voter's registration until September 30, 2021.

Follow PMPI Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/philmisereor> and know more about the upcoming 2022 elections and processes for voter's registration.





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TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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SHELTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED WITH TAO'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Notes from the Field Learning from Taiwan's Disaster Risk Reduction Efforts

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In January 2018, TAO-Pi conducted a shelter needs assessment in partnership with its community partners in the Philippines. The assessment was conducted in two phases: a pre-assessment and a main assessment. The pre-assessment was conducted in January 2018, and the main assessment was conducted in February 2018. The assessment was conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard. The assessment was conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard. The assessment was conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard.



January - February 2018



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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eNEWSLETTER

PO FEDERATIONS ATTEND SESSIONS ON SOIL REDUCTION EFFORTS

TAO featured in Philippine Pavilion for Venice Architecture Biennale

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In March 2018, TAO-Pi attended sessions on soil reduction efforts in partnership with its community partners in the Philippines. The sessions were conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard. The sessions were conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard. The sessions were conducted in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross, the Philippine National Police, and the Philippine Coast Guard.



March - May 2018



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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eNEWSLETTER

TAO-PILIPINAS JOINS EXHIBITS IN THE 18TH VENICE ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE

TAO signs MOUs with community partners

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In June 2018, TAO-Pi joined the 18th Venice Architecture Biennale in partnership with its community partners in the Philippines. The biennale was held in Venice, Italy, and TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



June - July 2018



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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eNEWSLETTER

TAO MARKS 17 YEARS WITH BOOK RELEASE AND NEW PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS

TAO receives Global Youth Empowerment Fund

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In August 2018, TAO-Pi marked its 17th anniversary with a book release and new project partnerships. The book release was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



August - September 2018



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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TAO LECTURE SERIES ACCREDITED CPD PROGRAM

Co-Design Project: begins implementation

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In October 2018, TAO-Pi's lecture series was accredited as a CPD program. The accreditation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



October - December 2018



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
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eNEWSLETTER

TECHNICAL STUDENT VOLUNTEERS VISIT LUPANG ARENA FOR CO-DESIGN PROJECT

TAO joins Task Force on Disaster Preparedness and Response

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In January 2019, TAO-Pi's technical student volunteers visited the Lupang Arena for a co-design project. The visit was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



January - March 2019



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
YP
eNEWSLETTER

PVINGA lives up to its name; creates 'People's Plan'

Pushing for participatory processes: TAO joins CDOs in stakeholder consultations in the drafting of RA 10920 Implementing Rules and Regulations

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In April 2019, PVINGA lived up to its name by creating a 'People's Plan'. The plan was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



April - June 2019



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
YP
eNEWSLETTER

TAO partners with the Commission on Human Rights in its 18th

Magandang HOG's ecobricks show a big success

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In July 2019, TAO-Pi partnered with the Commission on Human Rights in its 18th session. The partnership was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



July - September 2019



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
YP
eNEWSLETTER

Work on DAP projects continues amid COVID-19 pandemic

TAO looks back at 10th Anniversary Project: conducts assessment with community partners

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In February 2020, TAO-Pi's work on DAP projects continued despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The work was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



February - September 2020



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
YP
eNEWSLETTER

Ecobricks in Magandang HOG movement gains traction as network holds general assembly

Magandang HOG's ecobricks show a big success

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In October 2020, ecobricks in the Magandang HOG movement gained traction as the network held a general assembly. The assembly was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



October - December 2020



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.
YP
eNEWSLETTER

Rights of Nature PH movement gains traction as network holds general assembly

Magandang HOG's ecobricks show a big success

TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. (TAO-Pi) is a non-profit organization that provides disaster risk reduction services to communities in the Philippines. In January 2021, the Rights of Nature PH movement gained traction as the network held a general assembly. The assembly was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization. TAO-Pi's participation was a significant milestone for the organization.



January - February 2021

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