



TAO digitized structures map of Lupang Arenda settlement with 12,914 households. This was presented during the online orientation-workshop on reblocking with APOLA.

## TAO conducts first online reblocking workshop with COM and APOLA

by Marianne Turiano

TAO'S COMMUNITY PARTNER Alliance of People's Organization in Lupang Arenda (APOLA) has started social preparations for undertaking reblocking of areas to comply with Batas Pambansa 220 (BP 220) standards for social housing developments. Reblocking involves reorganizing the existing road and housing block layout to upgrade site conditions. APOLA leaders consider reblocking as a vital collective action not only to ensure community safety and disaster resilience, but to strengthen their position on tenure regularization through land proclamation.

Workshops to orient APOLA leaders on reblocking were set in 2020 but were consequently delayed by Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. TAO needed to modify workshop modules so that activities may be conducted online. In coordination with Community Organizers Multiversity (COM), TAO was able to facilitate the first

online workshop on October 6, 7, and 8, 2021 via Zoom video conferencing from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. The three-day workshop was attended by representatives from APOLA with a total of 61 participants in attendance on Day 1, 63 participants on Day 2, and 67 participants on Day 3 and with facilitators from TAO and COM community organizers.

The objective of the reblocking workshop was to consult and learn the community's attitude regarding the proposed reblocking; to raise the knowledge of the community on the concepts and processes involved in reblocking; and to develop schemes by the community that will serve as the basis of the reblocking plan to be developed by TAO-Pilipinas. The workshop also served as a facilitator's training for the participants who will conduct subsequent reblocking workshops for their respective homeowners' associations (HOAs).

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## Communicating climate change: TAO and volunteers join OMLC Balangay Media Project

by Min-Roselle Malunhao and Arlene Christy Lusterio

KEEPING TRUE TO ITS commitment of increasing community access to knowledge on the environment and the climate crisis, TAO-Pilipinas joined the Balangay Media Project of the Oscar M. Lopez Center (OMLC). TAO-Pilipinas's team qualified for the final round concluding this November, with its proposal: "DanTAOn: Our Climate Stories 100 years from Now."

This OMLC campaign aims to engage local media practitioners and personalities, and climate change advocates to cover underreported climate stories and raise the awareness of the general public on the climate crisis to inspire action. As such, participating teams must be able to develop and implement a media blitz campaign plan and communication research plan.

For the first screening, participating teams must submit a 1000-word climate story pitch. A

maximum of 10 teams will be selected with a minimum score of 60/100 to receive a seed grant of PhP30,000. Selected teams will automatically become a member of Umalahokan Fellows being recipients of an OMLC grant under the same name. The Umalahokan Grant is named after the town announcers of pre-colonial Philippine communities.

The Umalahokan Fellows were further honed through a series of trainings, including a climate change webinar and climate media labs (CML). These series of online sessions provided further information on climate change, how data are reported, how the media project these data as stories, and how to involve more people in discussing climate change impacts. The climate media labs helped participating teams understand better the role of a journalist, the challenges, as well as tools and strategies in climate reporting and advocacies.

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# TAO marks 20; resumes TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities

by Dessica Marie Salvador and Min-Roselle Malunhao

TAO-PILIPINAS CELEBRATED a milestone—its 20th founding anniversary last August—by holding the 2021 TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities. Back on its fifth year following a pause last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the forum offered new and exciting learning and discussion on human settlements development issues. The theme for this year's TAO forum focused on renewable energy and was titled "Renewable energy (RE) solutions for urban poor settlements". The objective of the forum was to increase the awareness of TAO partner communities on RE and its relation to climate change, and share knowledge about RE technologies and good practices. Due to pandemic restrictions, TAO hosted the event differently from previous forums as it was facilitated in the Zoom video-conferencing platform and live-streamed via the TAO-Pilipinas Facebook account on August 20, 2021.

Within the Zoom platform, TAO was joined by its community/area project and network partners, representing people's organizations, NGOs, the academe and government. A total of seventy-two (72) participants attended the forum, including TAO staff and board of trustees (BOT).

To share their expertise, TAO invited three guest speakers from the academe to give lectures that delved into the forum theme. Long-time TAO volunteer Dr. Theresa Audrey Esteban based from the Netherlands was the guest moderator. The event formally started at 1 p.m. (Philippine Standard Time) with the introduction of the house rules followed by the national anthem and opening prayer. TAO BOT vice-

president Dr. Tonette Tanchuling delivered the welcome remarks. In her opening speech, she highlighted the relevance of renewable energy and the need to broaden one's knowledge on how it can be efficiently used in the community.

## Learning session

The keynote lecture entitled "Human settlements, energy, and climate change", was given by Sweden-based architect Dr. Rachele Navarro-Astrand. The lecture linked the importance of sustainable human settlements development with sustainable energy systems. Her presentation highlighted the Swedish strategies on energy supply, distribution, and consumption. A pioneer in sustainable development, Sweden's government focused development efforts on providing a good quality of life to its citizens. Among the sustainable energy practices presented by Dr. Astrand were the use of low-carbon energy sources including wind, bio-energy, biogas and solar; integrating passive design in buildings; lessening energy consumption of citizens; certifying green buildings; promoting electric buses for mass transportation; advocating sustainable urban farming and rainwater systems to reduce food and water waste; and promoting zero waste practices.

Foundation for the Development of the Urban Poor (FDUP) executive director Maricel Genzola reacted to the keynote lecture by sharing how the lecture inspired and even prompted ideas on low-carbon practices that may be implemented in the country. Ms. Genzola highlighted good governance as the key to Sweden's success in sustainable development, to which Dr. Navarro-

## Applications | Hydro



- large hydroelectric plants are connected to the grid
- small hydro plants are used in smaller communities that are near water sources (rivers or waterfalls)

Microhydroplant in Mindanao

TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities 20 August 2021



Screenshot of the keynote lecture given by Dr. Carl Odulio.

Astrand agreed. She also raised the importance of integrating zero waste practices in planning housing developments.

Dr. Carl Michael Odulio, a professor at the UP Electrical and Electronics Engineering Institute, gave his presentation on Renewable energy technologies in communities. He discussed the different types of renewable energy, its respective advantages and disadvantages, and application. Dr. Odulio presented two community-based RE projects, in Cebu (Project Enkindle) and in Gilutongan Island (Donated and Self-Bought RE System). Project Enkindle provided energy relief to typhoon Yolanda-affected communities in Cebu by deploying 75 portable solar systems to households, schools, and community centers. Project beneficiaries underwent training on the use and maintenance of the photovoltaic system. Dr. Odulio reported that to this day, 50 percent of the portable solar system deployed is still working. The other devices became unusable primarily due to sharing of devices and mishandling by those who did not receive proper training. In the Gilutongan Island project, the community learned to operate the RE devices since most of the systems are self-bought. The main challenge faced in the project was the availability and affordability of the parts for repair and maintenance.

During the open forum section, Mr. Paulo Genzola of FDUP gave his reaction to Dr. Odulio's presentation. He was glad to know about other community-based initiatives to promote RE. He also shared the experience of FDUP in helping two communities in Valenzuela have

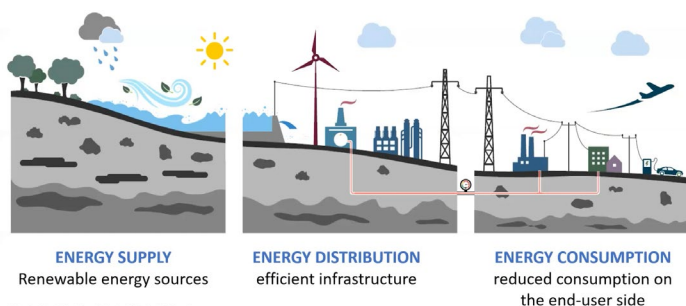
access to potable water by installing a solar-powered rainwater harvesting system.

Ending the lecture series was Engr. Justin Seranilla of the UP Institute of Civil Engineering with his discussion on Home energy auditing and energy efficiency measures. He began his lecture by highlighting the importance of energy auditing in creating an energy efficiency plan to lessen energy consumption. Typically carried out in large buildings by a team of professionals, Engr. Seranilla noted that energy auditing can still be done in a household as a stand-alone process. The scope of energy auditing includes the building envelope, building systems, and operations and maintenance procedures. He also shared about various energy auditing tools for both large and small scale projects. For the household level, Engr. Seranilla presented a simple energy calculator that automatically computes overall energy consumption by listing a household's appliances and duration of use. To end his presentation, he shared pointers in buying electrical home appliances that are energy efficient.

In his reaction to Engr. Seranilla's lecture, Mr. Bryan Teodosio from Community Organizers Multiversity (COM) shared that the concept of energy auditing was new to him. Mr. Teodosio commented it was eye-opening how building design affects energy consumption. He also pointed out how consumerism is related to energy consumption behavior.

Before proceeding with the open forum, TAO-Pilipinas unveiled their 20th anniversary video presentation showcasing the organization's

Sustainable Urban Energy System  
Strategies for Improving the Urban Energy Situation (UNHabitat)



Screenshot of the keynote lecture given by Dr. Rachele Astrand.

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# YP Formation project carry out online engagements

by Angelus Maria Sales

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FORMATION (YPF) PROJECT TEAM of TAO-Pilipinas has been actively forging partnerships with various academic institutions in spite of the pandemic. The YPF project remains committed to its goal of providing technical students and young professionals venues to experience a socially oriented practice. Delays in implementation of activities were encountered in the past year due to Covid-19 restrictions but engagements were resumed with the shift to online methods. YP Formation project activities including the Low Carbon Community Innovation Initiative (LCCII), YP Internships, and the YP Volunteers Pool have since been carried out through virtual sessions.

## Low Carbon Community Innovation Initiative Updates

The LCCII is a two-stage project that aims to increase the awareness and knowledge on low-carbon growth, and develop low-carbon innovation in partner communities of TAO. Launched in June 2021, the project is a collaboration between TAO-Pilipinas, participating academe institutions and TAO's partner communities.

Phase 1 of LCCII which is the research stage has already begun with the participation of student-research groups from University of Sto. Tomas Department of Civil Engineering, University of the Philippines Diliman College of Architecture, and Polytechnic University of the Philippines College of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment. There are eight research groups and two individual researchers who will cover the six research focus previously introduced during the roundtable discussion ([See YP E-newsletter May-June 2021 Issue](#)). Majority of the participants will cover education and awareness as well as low carbon community planning as their research focus. All are still doing data gathering with one group setting up a meeting with leaders of Masagana of Angat HOA for community consultation last November 15. Phase 1 of the LCCII is expected to end on December 2021.

## YP Internship

This academic year, the YP Internship shifted to remote learning set-up. Two interns, Beatrice Reyno and Lourraine Alerta, are from the University of the Philippines College of Social Work and Community Development while the sole architecture intern, Trisha Mae Masagca, is from the Technological Institute of the Philippines Quezon City College of Engineering and Architecture. The two interns from the Department of Social Work, Bea and Lourraine, are focused on community organizing in Masagana of Angat, Bulacan.

Bea is an undergraduate student who is currently doing online social preparation process. Lourraine is a graduate student who is implementing her proposed community organizing model to help facilitate the permanent transfer of Masagana of Angat HOA members who are still residing in Navotas. Lourraine has also contributed an article about Masagana in the upcoming 20th anniversary issue of TAO Shelter Magazine.

Trisha, on the other hand, is undertaking revisions to the chapel design of Masagana. She also joined the TAO technical staff during the trainors' training for the online reblocking workshop of Lupang Arenda and assisted in activity documentation. The three interns will complete their internship by the end of the first semester (December 2021-January 2022).

On the Job Training (OJT) engagement with the Architecture Program of College of St. Benilde School of Design and Arts (CSB-SDA) is currently under review. Hopefully by next year, TAO will be able to accept OJT applicants from CSB-SDA. Meanwhile, a lecture was provided last October 29 by Ar. Angelus Sales on participatory design approach to their students to initiate partnership building and encourage students to apply for the YP Internship.

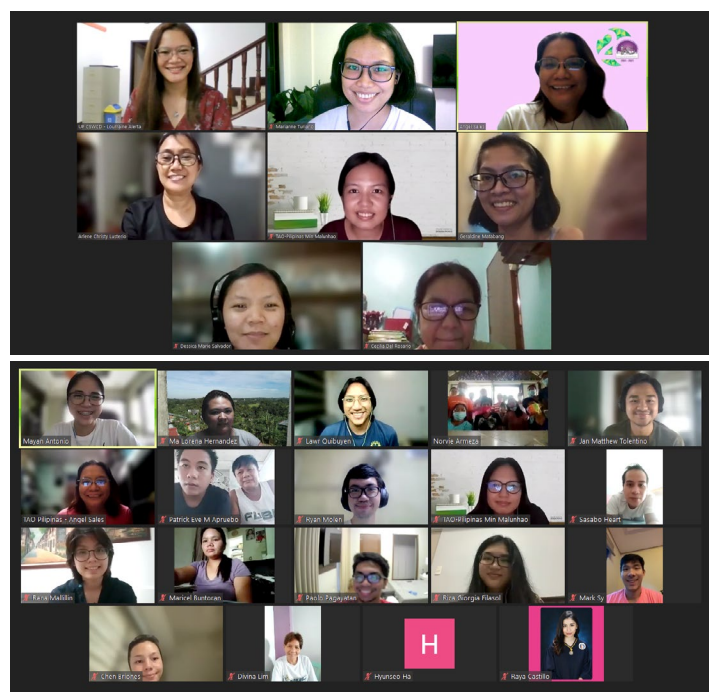
## YP Volunteers Pool

For the YP Volunteers Pool, the partnership with Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health Learning Experience in Communities (ASMPH-LEC) has been renewed with a new batch of students for another two-year project cycle (2021-2023). This year, 12 students will be studying our partner community in Angat, Bulacan using online modalities. The students have already met the members and leaders of Masagana of Angat HOA and are currently doing data gathering to firm up the community project proposal that they intend to present at the end of the first year. They have already consulted both the Angat community leaders and the YPF project team for initial ideas based on SWOT analysis. The SWOT analysis was made after their initial meeting with Masagana of Angat HOA. TAO also provided the students reference materials introducing the Kobo Collect Toolbox app which they could use for their planned survey. The next step for the students is to gather more data that would help them narrow down the project ideas and firm up their work plan for the coming months.

## Ways Forward

Next year, the YPF is expected to implement Phase 2 of LCCII which is the community project proposal development and implementation stage. Phase 2 is planned to commence in January and end by April 2022. Meanwhile, the internship program is accepting applications for OJT students who will start their internship next semester (February-March 2022). Interested students may email [yp@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:yp@tao-pilipinas.org) to inquire about the application process or visit TAO website's [FAQ section](#) to see the requirements.

More engagement opportunities with University of the Philippines Diliman is also expected to happen next year. With the Memorandum of Understanding set to be finalized by the end of 2021, lecture and research tie-ups can be explored with the UP academic units - College of Architecture, College of Engineering, and College of Social Work and Community Development - who are the main signatories in the agreement.



**Top photo:** Screenshot with Lourraine Alerta (uppermost left tile) during her presentation of her proposed CO model. **Bottom photo:** Screenshot photo with ASMPH LEC students with Masagana HOA members and TAO staff.

## TAO conducts first online reblocking... *(continued from page 1)*

### Modified tools and preparations for the online reblocking workshop

Since the workshop could not be held face-to-face due to COVID-19 restrictions, TAO formulated a module and guide to facilitate the online reblocking workshop. The module was derived from previous reblocking experiences of TAO in Baseco and Brgy. Pineda, and the Foundation for the Development of the Urban Poor (FDUP) in their housing projects under the Community Mortgage Program. The workshop program was divided into three main activities: input lectures, plenary discussions, and focus group discussions (FGD). The online whiteboard application Conceptboard was chosen as the tool for mapping activities in plenary and FGDs.

TAO also conducted a dry-run on October 1 to discuss and simulate the proceedings of the workshop among the participants. During the dry-run, a tutorial on the use of the Conceptboard

or tablet since mapping activities can be challenging with cell phones. Interactive evaluations forms for each session of the reblocking workshop were also prepared using Mentimeter.

### Workshop day 1

The first day of the reblocking workshop began with the setting of expectations facilitated by Ar. Angel Sales using Mentimeter. The results showed that participants were looking forward to learning more about the processes and implications of reblocking in their community. This was followed by a review of the vision, mission and goal (VMG) of APOLA which was facilitated by Ms. Luz Malibiran of COM. The participants shared their drawings reflecting members' visions for the community. Ms. Luz further suggested other facilities that can be included in their vision of an ideal built environment. To close the activity, Ar. Angel highlighted the importance of the community's vision in establishing a reblocking plan for Lupang Arenda. A series of lectures by the

orientation-workshop in 2018. Ar. Therese Julia then presented examples of non-compliance to BP 220. She showed violations of site development and building design standards in Lupang Arenda and other areas in Rizal, and in Quezon City. Last to give input lecture for the day was Ar. Angel who presented a review of the soil condition and hazards in Lupang Arenda. She also discussed its implications on structures to be built in the area and recommendations to mitigate those hazards.

After the lectures, a plenary activity for participants to familiarize themselves with the aerial photo of Lupang Arenda was conducted. The activity began with a brief tutorial by Ar. Therese on how to use Conceptboard for the mapping exercise. The participants were instructed to draw the boundaries of their respective HOAs and identify their offices. Majority of the participants were able to identify the location of their HOAs. Some noted that they were not able to draw the boundaries of their HOA since they were not familiar with its location on the map, while some noted that they were not able to use Conceptboard as they had issues signing in or found it challenging to draw using cell phones.

The first session of the workshop ended with an evaluation via Mentimeter to assess participants' perception of activities conducted. Some participants noted that they found the activities adequate, while the majority noted that they were satisfied. Most of the participants also found the activities beneficial for them and their respective organizations.

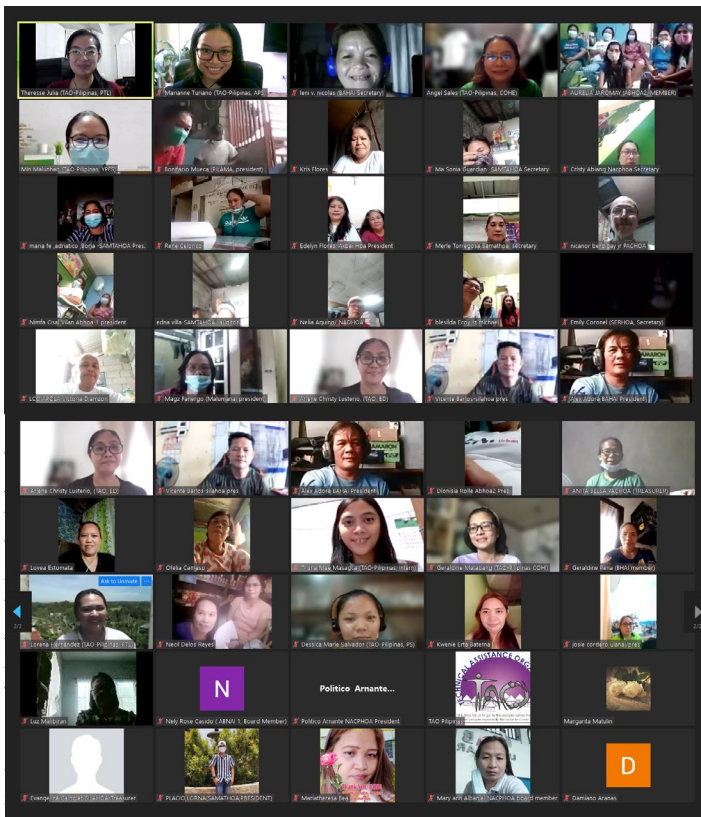
### Workshop day 2

The second session began with a recap of the activities from the previous session by Mr. Alex Adora of NACPHAI (New Arenda Community Phanter Homeowners Association, Inc.), an APOLA member-HOA. This was followed by a series of input lectures.

A recorded lecture of Ar./EnP. Faith Varona introduced the concept of reblocking. In her presentation, Ar./EnP. Varona discussed the different types of reblocking and the processes and preparations involved in it. She also presented case studies of reblocking implementation in Brgy. Pineda in Pasig City, and Brgy. Kanumay East and Brgy. Bagbaguin in Valenzuela City. Marianne Turiano followed with a presentation on the consolidated technical data map of Lupang Arenda. Using the digitized structures map encoded in QGIS, she showed the lots that will be affected by the proposed road widening, blocks that require an alley and lots that do not comply with the minimum requirements as mandated by BP 220, and vacant lots in Lupang Arenda that can be allotted for open space. She also provided the data on the number and area of lots that will be affected.

The last lecture came from Ms. Camille Puyod and EnP. Fatima Garcia of Taytay Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO). They presented the legal basis for conducting a reblocking in Lupang Arenda as per BP 220 standards. EnP. Fatima also discussed the processes involved in the approval of residential subdivision projects. This was followed by an open forum which enabled the participants to discuss their concerns and recommendations to EnP. Fatima with regards to the involvement of the LGU in the implementation of policies and reblocking plans in Lupang Arenda.

The series of input lectures were followed by an FGD on the mapping of utilities and open spaces. Before assigning the participants to their respective breakout rooms, Ar. Therese Julia provided a brief tutorial for the Conceptboard. The participants were categorized according to their respective HOAs. There was a total of 4 focus groups with members of neighboring HOAs grouped together. Each breakout room had a designated facilitator and documenter from



Screenshot of APOLA participants with TAO staff during the first day of the trainers' training for online reblocking workshop.

**CONTINUE READING: P7**



## Communicating climate change... *(continued from page 1)*

For the second phase, each team is required to submit a campaign and research plan after the climate media labs. This time, only 5 teams were awarded a Campaign Fund of PhP70,000. Qualified teams will be given opportunity to implement their proposals and activity lineups for the final round. A campaign report together with supporting documents to attest to the accomplishments reported was submitted 2 weeks after the campaign period. The whole campaign process roughly covered a month. The final award of PhP 150,000 will be given to the team who most successfully implemented its project. Overall, the project runs from August to November 2021.

Ar. Arlene Lusterio, the executive director of TAO, leads DanTAOn as one of the Balangay Media Project teams. Team members of DanTAOn consist of TAO Social Media Officer, Min-Roselle Malunhao and four other women volunteers with background in communications, policy advocacy, environmental science, and human settlements.

The final award will be announced on December 2, 2021.

### DanTAOn: Our Climate Stories 100 years from Now

From climate change to climate crisis, this subject has been around for decades with its own field of study by many scientists across the globe. There is an overflowing pool of data showing the history, trends and projections, and the grave impact of climate change, that is now a crisis, a state of emergency without effective and sustainable interventions. Furthermore, the science shows that climate change is anthropogenic; the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has unequivocally stated that human activities are the primary drivers of global warming. Despite seen heightened effects of the climate crisis, there is very little coverage of mainstream media on climate stories.

The Balangay project team, DanTAOn, named after the title of the climate story pitch, decided to address the issue of climate communication in which scientific studies, data, and evidence do not reach the public. Working with poor communities throughout

the country, members of the team have heard countless stories of how climate change had greatly affected the environment and lives of the people, further exacerbating their vulnerability. DanTAOn believes that these untold stories of the communities are instrumental to bridge the gap between climate science and the public. Breathing life to the data with stories of actual experiences by those at the forefront of the climate crisis could raise awareness and steer public discourse. DanTAOn also aims to help partner communities, specifically those near bodies of water, in accessing climate change data and risk assessment of their area.

“DanTAOn: Our Climate Stories 100 years from Now” is the title of the media blitz campaign developed by the project team. With the vast yet untapped scientific data on climate change, the campaign aims to present the environmental scenario, particularly sea level rise, in communities across the country using projections from the [climatecentral.org](https://climatecentral.org) (<https://climatecentral.org>). The team created a website, [dantaon.org](https://dantaon.org) (<https://dantaon.org>), which is being developed as a platform. Aptly named, the website features data mapping of the Philippines showing areas that will be subjected to great flooding due to sea level rise in 100 years. The website shall operate as a repository of climate stories of current partner communities, documenting how climate change has affected different aspects of their lives, not just the physical environment. DanTAOn team hopes that other communities will be inspired to share their stories in the portal. As such, the website will also serve as an atlas to share climate data and stories from the Philippines. The bigger goal is to let developed and highly industrialized countries become aware of our climate issues and risks in the hope of instigating more action from them as the greater contributors to global warming.

### Campaign activities and planned events

For the first phase of the campaign, DanTAOn team conducted key informant interviews (KII) with representatives of the partner communities from 1)

Papaano natin mapoprotektahan ang ating mga komunidad mula sa tumataas na risiko na dulot ng climate change?

Makibahagi sa usapan ng bayan

## TOUCHING BASE: Engaging LGUs Towards Risk Governance

Register here: [bit.ly/climate\\_DRR](https://bit.ly/climate_DRR)

5 November 2021  
1:00 p.m. via Zoom and FB Live

PHOTO: TANELI LAMTINEN/UNSPLASH

Kabahagi ng Climate Media Project

CDP CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PMP PHILSSA

CLIMATE RESILIENCY FIELD SCHOOL  
SEASON LONG TRAINING AND DEMO FARMS

1. Season Long Training (SLT) on Sustainable and Climate Friendly Agriculture for at least 65 participating farmers from Barangay Lower Tiparak, Tambulig (32 farmers) and Barangay Switch, Ramon Magsaysay (33 farmers).

Ms. Maria Fellizar-Cagay, CDP

Kabahagi ng Climate Media Project

danTAOn

**Top photo:** Promotional poster used for the DanTAOn Forum.

**Bottom photo:** One of the invited speaker, Malu Cagay from Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP), talks about their climate resiliency field school for farmers.

Manicani Island in Guiuan, Eastern Samar; 2) Lupang Arenda in Taytay, Rizal; and 3) Kasiglahan Village and Southville in Rodriguez, Rizal. The KIIs were done to establish baseline data on existing knowledge, perception and attitude of the community on climate change and climate communication. From the results of the interview, it is noteworthy that members of the communities primarily associate the issue of climate change to disasters and hazards they regularly experience in their area. Their formal knowledge on climate science is limited; nevertheless, the community members are perceptive of how climate change affects daily life. Key informants from Lupang Arenda noted the effect on public health and their livelihood. A community leader from Manicani Island emphasized how polarizing climate issues like mining destroy social relations. The DanTAOn team used a lot of the climate stories told during the KII to produce its campaign plan and baseline research which were the outputs for the first phase of the Balangay Media Project.

In the second phase, the project team implemented its campaign plan which includes gathering of data and more stories of partner communities, further developing the DanTAOn website portal, and holding a climate forum. Entitled “Touching Base: Engaging LGUs towards Risk Governance”, the forum brought together government, civil society organizations and communities to share local stories, get a better understanding of climate change, and propose climate actions. The video recording of the forum is posted in its facebook account: <https://facebook.com/Dantaon.PH>. For more updates, kindly visit Dantaon’s Facebook page.

It is high-time that we pay attention to the environment. Hopefully, media campaigns and projects like this will get people to talk more about the climate crisis. Ultimately, the DanTAOn team hopes the project will inspire action from various sectors of society and put greater pressure on those who are in the most advantaged position to effect change.

## TAO marks 20... *(continued from page 2)*

achievements and the challenges encountered in the last 20 years.

### Open forum insights

Enriching discussions continued in the open forum. There were three main themes posited during this part of the program: behavioral change in energy use, reduction of carbon emissions in the city focusing on transportation, and exploration of gender aspect in energy use.

On behavioral change in energy use, the three guest speakers acknowledged its importance but recognized the complexity of instigating behavioral change in energy consumption. Engr. Seranilla noted how socio-economic status limits the people's use of RE technologies. Instead of costly RE systems, lower-income households tend to prioritize immediate needs such as food, housing and access to basic utilities. Dr. Odulio further pointed out that responsible and less wasteful energy consumption must be encouraged. Dr. Astrand emphasized that consumer behavior should start with the individual which may be instigated by reflecting on our roles in the climate crisis. At the same time, she pointed out that good governance is instrumental in planning and effectively implementing a climate action plan which should include RE programs.

On reduction of carbon emissions in the cities, the lecturers agreed that mass transportation should be prioritized and made better in the Philippines. Dr. Odulio noted that both public and private vehicles contribute to carbon emissions. He and Engr. Seranilla emphasized better transport planning strategies including scheduling of public transportation, use of electric vehicles, among others. Dr. Astrand supported this thought with Sweden's implementation of an e-transport system as an example.

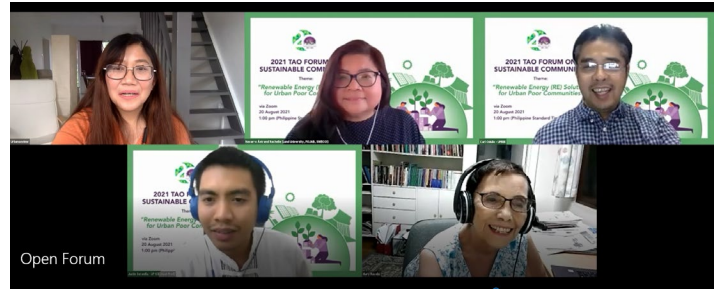
On exploring a gender aspect in energy use, especially at the household level, the guest speakers mentioned that they are unaware of particular research on the subject. It was noted in the forum that the gender equality dimension of RE projects is worth looking into.

### Parting words and ways forward

Representatives from TAO's partner communities namely Mr. Alex Adora of APOLA (Alliance of People's Organization in Lupang

Arenda), Ms. Norvie Armeza of Masagana of Angat HOA, and Jonjon Elago of PPVHOA (People's Plan Ville Homeowners Association) expressed their gratitude for the event that enhanced their awareness on RE and its potential application in their respective communities. Ar. Arlene Lusterio, TAO executive director, presented the awarding of e-certificates of appreciation to the three lecturers and guest moderator. A certificate of appreciation was also awarded to Ms. Herminia Caringal for serving as a member of the TAO BOT for 17 years.

Ar. Lusterio then proceeded to giving the synthesis of the forum. Feedback was solicited from the participants using the Mentimeter application. TAO BOT secretary Ar. Faith Varona gave a closing remark



**Bottom photo:** Screenshot during the open forum when participant, Dr. Mary Racelis (bottom right) posted her question for the speakers (clockwise from the center: Dr. Rachele Astrand, Dr. Carl Odulio, and Prof. Justin Seranilla). The forum was hosted and moderated by Audrey Esteban (upper left).

and Ms. Judith Serencio of APOLA led the closing prayer to officially end the event.

Visit [TAO-Pilipinas Youtube account](#) to view the recordings of lectures and open forum of the 2021 TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities.

## Takeaways from RE webinar

### ON DR. ASTRAND'S KEYNOTE LECTURE:

The Philippines has great potential to become a leader in sustainable energy, especially in Southeast Asia. It is noteworthy that some of the practices in Sweden were already introduced in the country but, unfortunately, remains uncommon. The key factors for the inability of the Philippines to sustain RE initiatives and other low-carbon development programs are the issues on awareness, availability, affordability, and application. Despite being aware of the advantages of renewable energy, people may not know how to apply and use the technologies. Others may understand the concepts but do not have the means to apply their knowledge. There remains a need for a better platform to raise awareness and promote sustainable energy for the general public. Proper implementation is important to encourage more people to shift to RE. Furthermore, we need government leaders who will champion the protection of the environment as suggested by Ms. Genzola. We look for leaders who are doers and not just thinkers. More importantly, the country needs citizens with concern for the environment.

### ON DR. ODULIO'S PRESENTATION:

Dr. Odulio's lecture highlighted the importance of training,

availability and affordability to effectively implement RE systems. In order to mainstream RE sources, awareness campaign to educate people on its environmental benefits must be intensified. Furthermore, it is important to make trainings on different RE technologies widely accessible as to encourage sustainable practices and to realize economic co-benefits.

TAO-Pilipinas has done workshops on RE use. Its partner community Masagana of Angat HOA engaged in hands-on training for the installation of solar street lights and a water purification system through the SIKAT Project Recharge. The RE system generated income for the community that they use for repairs and maintenance of the system. One household has started to use the photovoltaic system as home energy source. Moreover, members began rainwater harvesting to collect and store water for household use. With the proliferation of different RE initiatives, the challenge is to sustain these projects and further increase the community's interest in RE.

### ON PROF. SERANILLA'S PRESENTATION:

Throughout the lecture series, accessibility of RE concepts and technologies was consistently noted. Home energy auditing and

the simple calculator presented by Engr. Seranilla is actually a good step that addresses this issue. It is important to note that any initiative must always start with awareness. With energy auditing, household members are made aware of their energy consumption that may be driven by their behavior, design and physical state of the house and choice of appliances, among others. This simple activity does not require great resources as presented and demonstrated by Engr. Seranilla. In its technical interventions, TAO has always considered energy efficiency in the development of building designs with partner communities. With this lecture from Engr. Seranilla, community members can apply energy auditing in their estate management policies.

### ON THE OPEN FORUM DISCUSSION:

In the Philippines, low-carbon programs and the issue of social justice remain entangled. As consistently pointed out by the guest speakers, the socio-economic status of people limits their access to and use of low-carbon technologies despite the desire for climate action. It is therefore important to integrate a participatory approach in RE projects to ensure the context and needs of stakeholders are considered in planning low-carbon programs.



## TAO conducts first online reblocking... *(continued from page 4)*

TAO technical staff. For this activity, the participants drew the existing power, water, and drainage lines in their respective areas. They also identified the location of open spaces, electrical posts, solar-powered lights, and drainage outfall. To facilitate the discussion, the groups answered guide questions that inquired further characterization of the existing utilities in the area. After the FGD, a reporter from each group presented the results of the mapping exercise and their answers to the guide questions. The purpose of the activity was to identify the location of existing lines of basic services since these utilities may be affected and will have to be moved during the actual implementation of reblocking in the area.

The FGD reporting was followed by the evaluation. Based on the results, the majority of the

participants were satisfied with the activities conducted during the second session and found them beneficial. They also noted that they learned a lot about the processes and implications of implementing a reblocking plan in Lupang Arenda.

### Workshop day 3

The last day of the reblocking workshop began with a recap of the previous session by Ms. Maria Fe Borja of SAMTAHOA (Sampaguita Taytay Homeowners Association, Inc.). This was followed by the FGD on formulating a reblocking plan using SAMATHOA (Samahang Masigasig Tapayan Homeowners Association, Inc.) as the sample site for reblocking. Ar. Theresse Julia explained to the participants that the activity would serve as a practice for the participants to experience firsthand how to plan and formulate a reblocking plan.

She also provided a brief recap on how to use Conceptboard for the activity.

The participants were assigned to 4 breakout rooms based on the same groupings from the previous FGD. Using Conceptboard, the participants drew the changes they wish to implement in SAMATHOA area, particularly the roads and drainage lines to be added and adjusted. They also answered the guide questions to facilitate the discussion such as the problems that may arise during the implementation of reblocking and the solutions to address such challenges. After the completion of the activity, a representative from each group presented their answers to the guide questions.

After the FGD reporting, Ms. Victoria Diamzon provided a recap of the activities conducted during the 3 sessions of the

workshop. Afterwards, the participants looked back on the expectations they shared on the first day of the workshop. Overall, their expectations to learn about reblocking were met by the activities over the past three sessions.

The participants also answered the evaluation of the activities conducted for the third session. While the majority of the participants were satisfied with the activities and found them beneficial, some of them noted that the conduct of activities can be improved further. The participants also shared that they learned a lot about how to improve their communities.

As a follow through to the reblocking workshop by TAO, COM conducted a workshop on the integration of community organizing to the implementation of reblocking in Lupang Arenda on October 13 and 14.

# NETWORK ARTICLES

## TAO-Pilipinas attend LEaP Conference 2021

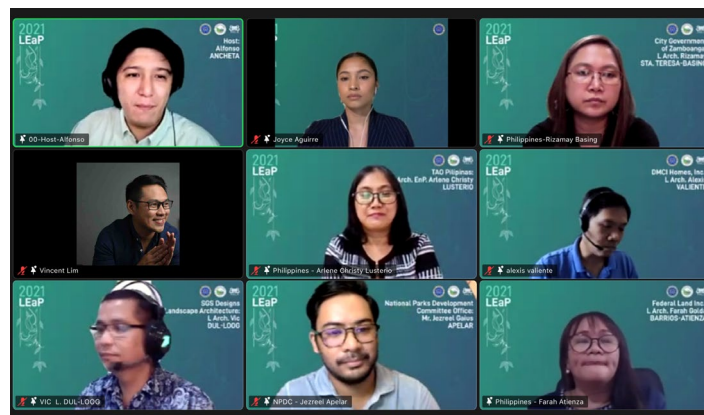
THE PROFESSIONAL Regulatory Board of Landscape Architecture (PRBOLA) invited TAO-Pilipinas to participate in the International Conference on the Landscape Architecture Profession in the Asia Pacific Region: Leadership in Education and Practice 2021 (LEaP) on 19th to 20th November 2021. The virtual conference aimed to bring together landscape architects from the region "to share and compare the challenges of the practice of the profession in these challenging times". It also facilitated discussions about the global mobility of Filipino LA professionals in foreign countries and the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

TAO-Pilipinas was asked to join the two-day conference as a delegate in the Stakeholders' Forum, representing NGO-employers that provide internship or employment positions to LA graduates. TAO executive director Arlene Lusterio joined the

roundtable discussion with COHI Geraldine Matabang in the TAO delegation.

Lectures and discussions on the first day of the conference delved into the emerging trends and challenges of LA education practice particularly in the Philippines and China, as well as presentations of country issues from Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines. On the second day, presentations focused on the global recognition and accreditation system for LA education, regional reciprocity, and international linkages.

The last session of the conference was the Stakeholders' Forum attended by local participants only. PRBOLA gathered representatives from LA design and planning firms, government agencies, environmental NGOs and private developers to get feedback on the education, training and apprenticeship of LA graduates. Student representatives



*Screenshot of the LEaP Conference with TAO executive director, Arlene Lusterio (center photo).*

from University of the Philippines Diliman, Bulacan State University, and University of San Carlos Cebu also joined the roundtable discussion.

PRBOLA Chair Paulo Alcazaren summarized the exchange of ideas and identified pointers in improving the LA curriculum and in helping LA graduates ease into the profession. These included expanding teaching of construction detailing; skills in project management;

character and leadership skills; verbal, digital and graphic communication skills; electives for specialization tracks; and more hours for practical or on-the-job training. Lastly, he emphasized developing an attitude to be able to pursue self-directed training and the humility to appreciate social realities and be able to contribute to social development. *(GRMatabang)*

# TAO architects participate in international conferences on shelter

STAKEHOLDERS IN THE ACADEME OBSERVED National Shelter Month by hosting conferences that highlight emerging challenges for human settlements development. TAO-Pilipinas participated in two of these events held on October – the Association of Pacific Rim Universities Undergraduate Leaders' Program (APRU-ULP 2021) and the 2nd International Conference on Human Settlements Planning and Development (ICHSPD 2021). TAO staff participated either as facilitators or lecture/paper presenters in these proceedings.

## APRU-ULP 2021

The University of the Philippines hosted the APRU Undergraduate Leaders' Program (ULP) held on October 18 to 29 with the theme, Sahaya: Science and Arts Harnessing the Youth's Advocacies. Youth leaders across the Asia Pacific region took part in a series of virtual lectures and workshops aimed at enriching their leadership potential and capacities to address global challenges.

On the invitation of UP College of Architecture (UPCA) which organized Cluster 1 of the APRU workshops, TAO was involved in the facilitation of Workshop 3: Holistic Habitation conducted on October 20 via Zoom online platform. The workshop examined "habitation that integrates equitability, empowered community, and sustainable technology and practices".

In one of the workshop lectures, Ar. Therese Julia, Lupang Arenda project team leader of TAO, gave a presentation on the topic "Participatory Planning and Design for Socialized Housing". In her talk, Ar. Julia first looked at the housing situation in the country and the sustainability issues of social housing programs beset by low retention and occupancy rates. She then presented participatory planning and design as an approach that can help address these issues. She provided case examples of TAO shelter assistance projects that employed participatory processes to draw out the benefits and challenges of the approach.

TAO also helped in forming the community case study for the workshop. Its community partner, Alliance of People's Organization in Lupang Arenda (APOLA), was selected as the study area to highlight the shelter development challenges faced by a local community. UPCA and TAO prepared a 30-minute video presentation about APOLA prior to the workshop. In the video, footages of Lupang Arenda were shown as community leaders talked about the condition of their site and how the community developed and thrived mainly through assisted self-help initiatives. The

leaders narrated the people's efforts to make their community resilient as well as their struggle to attain secure land tenure. The video was shown just before the action planning activity of the workshop.

In the action planning exercise, the participants were divided into three breakout groups. Ar. Julia along with Ar. Angelus Sales, TAO Core Operations Head-External, served as panel reactors of the focus group discussion. The groups drew out APOLA community issues related to the Sustainable Development Goals and exchanged insights about feasible interventions toward a "holistic habitation" in Lupang Arenda.

## 2nd ICHSPD 2021

The Department of Community and Environmental Resource Planning (DCERP) of the College of Human Ecology University of the Philippines Los Baños, on the other hand, hosted ICHSPD 2021 on October 20 to 22 with the theme, Pursuing Resilient and Sustainable Human Settlements amid Global Risks. The 3-day international conference featured important issues, partnerships and best practices in working towards sustainable and resilient settlements.

DCERP organized each day of the virtual conference into a series of plenary sessions that were followed by simultaneously conducted organized sessions and parallel sessions (paper presentations). The conference presentations were categorized into different sub-themes. Ar. Geraldine Matabang, TAO's Core Operations Head-Internal, gave a paper presentation during Parallel Session 6: Creating Capacitated and Inclusive Communities on October 21 via Zoom. The paper Ar. Matabang presented



## Technical knowledge transfer as pathway to building community resilience in Lupang Arenda settlement in Taytay, Rizal

Ar/EnP. Geraldine R. Matabang & Ar. Angelus Maria P. Sales  
TAO-Pilipinas, Inc.

Pursuing Resilient and Sustainable Development amid Global Risks October 20-22, 2021



**Top photo:** Title slide for the ICHSPD presentation done by Ar. Geraldine Matabang. **Bottom photo:** Title slide for the APRU presentation done by Ar. Therese Julia.

was titled "Technical knowledge transfer as pathway to building community resilience in Lupang Arenda settlement in Taytay, Rizal" and was co-authored with Ar. Sales.

In Ar. Matabang's talk, TAO's interventions with the community of APOLA was presented as a case study to establish that technical knowledge transfer is integral to participatory planning for community disaster resilience. The paper highlighted how understanding technical information contributes to improved risk perception and community action as experienced by APOLA. It also showed that the enhanced technical capacities of APOLA leaders empowered them as informed stakeholders in their pursuit of security of tenure.

## Studies on informal communities

Knowledge creation, research and publication focused on participatory planning/design with informal communities are important aspects of TAO's technical assistance work. Lecture and paper presentations by TAO staff—shared with academic institutions—are carried out with the aim of contributing to alternative architectural practices that improve the living situation of informal communities. (GRMatabang)



# TAO staff joins INAM's Caring for Community Carers health program

TAO-PILIPINAS, AS A member of PMPI (Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc) NCR Urban Cluster, is part of the ongoing Caring for Community Carers or CCC, an initiative of INAM (Integrative Medicine for Alternative Healthcare Systems) Philippines. The CCC health program, which commenced in September 2021, targets social development workers from PMPI and its member-organizations. The goal of this initiative is to enable self-care practices and maintain healthy lifestyles among development workers as they advocate for the right to health in the marginalized communities they serve. Six other organizations are also project beneficiaries, including PMPI, COM, UPA, MAG, NSHF, and ULAP.

The TAO staff was oriented into the CCC program objectives and activities via Zoom meeting on September 27 by INAM project coordinator Mr. Al Obre and clinician Ms. Rowena Angsico. The project has two main components, first

is building the health profiles of the individual staff and the organization as a whole. The second part involves crafting the CCC health program, where project activities for the every participating staff and every organization will be determined.

TAO is currently undergoing activities for the first stage of the project. Since October, staff members had diagnostic laboratory tests done and have had online physical checkup with INAM physicians. Afterwards, follow-up doctor consultations and an integrative health assessment using the methods of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) were carried out. With the easing of restrictions on public movement during the first week of November, face-to-face consultations and TCM acupuncture treatments were then conducted at the INAM center in Quezon City. The CCC program offered participating TAO staff up to three acupuncture sessions.



**Top photo:** Title slide of the INAM CCC presentation during project orientation.

**Bottom photo:** Screenshot of TAO staff who attended the project orientation.

The program is presently going through monitoring and gathering feedback. INAM hosted a Zoom meeting with focal persons from beneficiary organizations last November

9 to share project updates and set targets until the end of the year. An orientation-seminar on self-care practices is set to be conducted by January 2022. (GRMatabang)

# TAO participates in QC BCRD webinar on health and wellness

THE QUEZON CITY Barangay and Community Relations Department (QC BCRD) hosted a webinar entitled "Health and Wellness amidst COVID-19 and Other Infectious Disease" on November 20, 2021. TAO-Pilipinas, as an LGU-accredited civil society organization in Quezon City, was in attendance along with different barangay officials, homeowners associations, and other CSOs in Quezon City.

The objectives of the webinar were to introduce a network of support system to handle stress and anxiety, and to promote linkages between the Quezon City government and CSOs. The webinar had resource speakers from Balay Rehabilitation Center and the Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (QC ESU).

Mr. Ernesto Anasarias of Balay Rehabilitation Center took up the entire morning session to talk about mental health and psychosocial well-being. Mr. Anasarias introduced the World Health Organization's definition of mental health and he defined stress and burnout. He also discussed the signs of distress from mental health and differentiated sadness from depression. Participants were taught breathing techniques and grounding exercises to help cope with anxiety.

The afternoon session had two speakers from QC ESU. The first to present was the chief epidemiologist of QC ESU, Dr. Rolando Cruz. He gave the latest COVID-19 statistics in Quezon City which they usually update daily and release in the evening. Dr. Cruz reported that Quezon City had 179,036 Covid-19 cases

since the pandemic began, and has 939 active cases as of November 20. QC ESU had contact traced about 1.7M people while more than 1.2M have been classified as persons under monitoring.

The HIV Surveillance Officer of QC ESC, Mr. Darrel Delos Santos, followed Dr. Cruz's presentation. Mr. Delos Santos updated participants on the country's HIV/AIDS statistics based from the HIV/AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines. He reported that the country has 89,153 diagnosed cases of Human Immunodeficiency Virus from 1984 to 2021 and the cases are predominantly male (95%). Most HIV cases are in the age range of 25 to 34 years old (52%) and 15 to 24 years old (30%). Quezon City has 743 HIV cases with 32 of them teenagers, Mr. Delos Santos mentioned.

Apart from HIV statistics, Mr. Delos Santos also shared basic health education about sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV transmission, including graphic details of examples of STIs. He ended his presentation with information on public health clinics in Quezon City that offer free HIV tests.

QC BCRD gave a comprehensive and timely webinar on health and wellness. Many of the participants were interested in knowing additional support for mental health and HIV testing. Hopefully, this new knowledge may help participants in assisting their own communities. (AMPSales)

## Kaalamang Klima 2021

Climate Change Commission & Oscar M. Lopez Center (OMLC) | September 22, 2021 | 9:00 a.m.



The webinar Kaalamang Klima 2021 featured lectures from climate experts and testimonies about the impact of climate change on various sectors in the country. Dr. Rodel Lasco from OMLC shared the findings of the recently published Sixth Assessment Report of the Working Group I of the IPCC. The report expressed strong confidence on findings linking human influence to the unprecedented levels of carbon emission. It stated that undeniably, human-induced climate change is happening and efforts are necessary to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.

Ms. Lea Guerrero supplemented the discussion with their advocacy on climate justice in Greenpeace. She shared that the marginalized population suffer the most from climate change impacts compared to the developed countries who, historically, have the highest contribution to the carbon emissions. On the other hand, Dr. Emma Porio of the Coastal Cities at Risk Project and the Ateneo de Manila University provided an overview on risk and

resilience and stressed the importance of a whole-of-society approach in risk governance. The Center for Empowerment and Resource Development, Inc.'s Mr. Julio Galvez Tan focused on the impact of extreme weather events to the agricultural and the fisheries sector in terms of damage and losses. Lastly, Dr. Noralene Uy, a member of the National Resilience Center's experts pool and a researcher of the International Recovery Platform Secretariat, delved into the different pathways on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and resilience-building.

The presentations were timely and engaging, with the speakers bringing the topics closer to targeted youth participants. The urgency of addressing the climate crisis was highlighted by a combination of science-based context and relatable experiences from the grassroots. The speakers encouraged participation in activities to mitigate climate change and employ transformational adaptation strategies going forward. (MLPHernandez)

## Beyond Mutual Support

Metropolitan Museum of Manila | October 23, 2021 | 4:00 p.m.

This public webinar explored various forms and traditions of mutual support (ie cooperation for the common good), with the discussion taking off from the Philippine Pavilion exhibition "Structures of Mutual Support" in the 17th Venice Architecture Biennale. From presentations by curators of country exhibitions in the biennale, ideas of mutual support can be seen in the "tloka" concept in Poland (presented by Ar. Rafał Śliwa) and in the "sogo-fujo" of Japan (presented by Ar. Kozo Kadowaki), along

with the concept of "dugnad" in Norway and "bayanihan" in the Philippines (presented by Ar. Alexander Eriksson Furunes and Ar. Sudarshan Khadka, Jr.). The three pavilion exhibitions showed that mutual support is possible in modern society and it is manifested in a collaborative design process in architectural practice.

The most insightful presentation came from architect and professor Jeremy Till of University of Arts London. He emphasized how the climate emergency demands new ways of thinking and knowledge,

## Formal Launch - Human Rights Vote 2022

In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement (iDEFEND) | October 9, 2021 | 9:00 a.m.

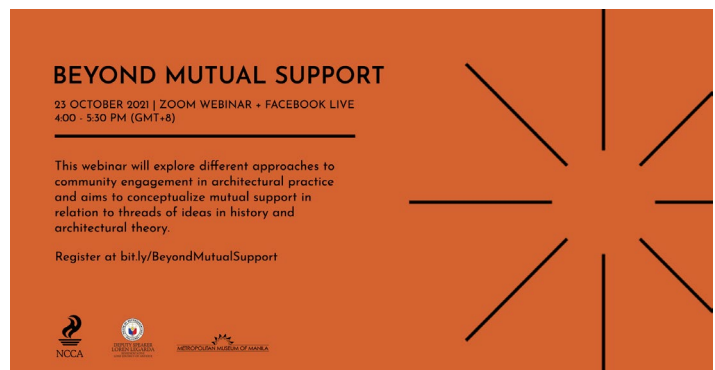


This webinar was the formal launch of Human Rights Vote 2022, a grassroots campaign of iDEFEND to promote human rights as an electoral agenda for the upcoming 2022 elections. The webinar featured guest speakers from iDEFEND, Democratic Insights Group Inc., We the Future PH, and Purple Action for Indigenous Women's Rights (Lilak). They discussed the right of suffrage and the 2022 national and local elections, the electoral campaign objectives and purpose of Human Rights Vote 2022, local youth agenda in communities, and the importance of human rights and youth-led electoral agenda.

The presentations highlighted the need for a government that promotes and observes human rights and how the current

administration has violated and demonized human rights as a hindrance to progress and peace and order. Key issues in the election were presented such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to electoral processes and information during campaigns, the pervasiveness of disinformation in the age of social media, and the lack of competitiveness of the election.

The upcoming 2022 elections presents an opportunity for governance that does not promote a culture of violence and impunity but of human dignity, social justice, and accountability. To bring the Philippines closer to good governance, the campaign calls for Filipinos to register to vote and use human rights as basis for selecting candidates for office. (MCTuriano)



as the existing system which he called "modern projects" has become untenable. We need to reimagine architecture, he said, because the climate crisis "signals the end of architecture as we know it". The values of mutual support

(eg knowledge shared on behalf of the other) serve as an instructive guide to how we should live together – both human and non-human entities – in the context of the climate crisis. (GRMatabang)



## An Expert Exchange on Green Recovery through Women's Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) & United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)  
October 27, 2021 | 4:00 p.m.



This webinar had a two-part program and highlighted the nexus between climate change and energy and the gender equality dimension of our Covid-19 recovery process. The first part is a panel discussion which featured insights from experts Michael

Williamson (UNESCAP), Zonibel Woods (ADB), Vatanak Chheng (NDCC Cambodia), and Afshana Choudhury (CED Bangladesh). Essentially, the discussion emphasized (a) the need for women's engagement in renewable energy (RE) in order to accelerate

Sustainable Development Goal #7 (Affordable and Clean Energy); (b) women entrepreneurship in RE can lead to increased income and productivity; and (c) there is an opportunity for green recovery from Covid-19 and RE can play an important role in empowering women.

The second part of the webinar introduced the publication Renewable Energy and Women Entrepreneurship Programmes: A Guidebook in Design and Implementation which was developed under the EmPower project of UN Women and UNEP. The authors, Paramita Mohanty and Fiza Farhan, presented an overview of the guidebook which

is intended as a tool for establishing women-led RE enterprises and provides an entry point for gender balance in the energy sector. It features a 10-stage methodology in setting up RE for enterprise (using RE for climate-resilient livelihood) and RE as enterprise (selling RE products and services). It also offers a detailed step-by-step guide or checklist and knowledge backed by case studies which captures the key elements to successfully implement RE projects. From the sneak preview presented by its authors, the guidebook looks like a useful tool for practitioners on the ground, but it is not yet publicly available (as of writing). (GRMatabang)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

## UPCOMING: TAO Shelter Magazine 20th Anniversary Edition

IN CELEBRATION OF TWO decades of technical assistance work, TAO-Pilipinas will release a special edition of TAO Shelter Magazine which saw print from 2006 to 2012. The 20th anniversary special issue focuses on the organizations' stories of change, will be published in digital form and made available on Kindle.

Current TAO staff write to contribute features about TAO's past and present partnerships and projects. Guest contributors who round up the pool of writers are PMPI's Yolly Esguerra who writes about Rights of Nature and CHR's Twyla Rubin who expounds on gendered spaces. Joining the publication of this special issue are a tandem of Elsevier editors, Liliane Hobeica and Adib Hobeica as the magazine's guest editors, and Gerald Nicolas as its layout artist.

Stories that await readers include these titles:

- Sustainable human-settlement development: Two decades of learning
- Remembering the Ketsana response and how it changed people's lives

- TAO & SHFC: A partnership in enhancing communities' technical capacities for housing
- Masagana: A story of a sustainable human settlement
- TAO's support for APOLA's fight for security of tenure
- People's Plan Ville HOA: Advancing rights through community-led high-density housing
- Women leaders from TAO's community partners: Their stories, challenges, triumphs, and visions
- 15 years hence: Echoes and ripples from TAO's YP training program
- Engendering spaces and development: Towards sustainable cities and communities
- Rights of Nature: A call to a loving and compassionate relationship with all creation
- #GirlPower: The inspiring women leaders behind TAO's Board of Trustees

TAO plans to launch the magazine by January 2022.



Cover of the complete collection of TAO Shelter Magazine available at [Amazon Kindle](#).

# Fundraising for 2021 TAO Christmas Gift Giving

TAO-PILIPINAS ONCE AGAIN APPEALS for donations for its annual gift drive during the holiday season. The 2021 TAO Christmas Gift Giving fundraiser aims to distribute gifts for children in TAO partner communities - Lupang Arenda, PPVHOA and Masagana. The continuing pandemic has led to increased food insecurity in many poor communities. So for this year, instead of toys and school supplies, TAO will be giving out holiday goodies for children plus a Christmas meal pack for their family also.

A donation of **600 pesos** will cover one gift pack for a child and his/her family. Alternatively, donors may opt to give food items (with still long expiration dates) that

can be included in the Christmas meal pack. Please include holiday staples such as pasta, pasta sauce, cheese, canned meat, canned mushroom, and juice drinks.

For cash donations, donors may deposit/transfer payment to TAO's Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) current account number **4431-0074-31**. For in-kind donations, the food items can be delivered to TAO office at **27A Matiyaga Street Barangay Central, Diliman, Quezon City** (during office hours from Tuesday to Friday 9Am to 5PM). Kindly coordinate delivery schedule by contacting us thru our [Facebook account](#) or emailing [trjulia@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:trjulia@tao-pilipinas.org) or calling 8-2876446.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE:

**FUNDRAISING TARGET: PHP 120,000 (200 GIFT PACKS)**

**FUNDS RAISED AS OF 20 NOV 2021: PHP 21,000 (35 GIFT PACKS)**



TAO-Pilipinas  
2021

*For those who wish to donate in-kind, we shall accept the following food items:*

- Pasta 900g
- Pasta sauce 1kg
- Cheese 165g
- Canned mushroom 400g
- Canned meat 400g
- Juice Drink 1L
- Treat bag (goodies for kids)

For every PHP600 donation, we will give one child a gift with a meal pack for the family.

To benefit children in our partner communities: Masagana in Angat, Lupang Arenda in Taytay, and PPVHOA in Manila.

Send donations to TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. BPI account no. 4431-0074-31

Kindly ensure your donated products have not passed their expiration dates. Thank you!

Please coordinate delivery of donations to TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. Office at 27A Matiyaga St. Brgy. Central Diliman Quezon City Contact 8-2876446 or [trjulia@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:trjulia@tao-pilipinas.org)

[f](#) TAOPilipinasInc



# 10th i-Rec Student Competition

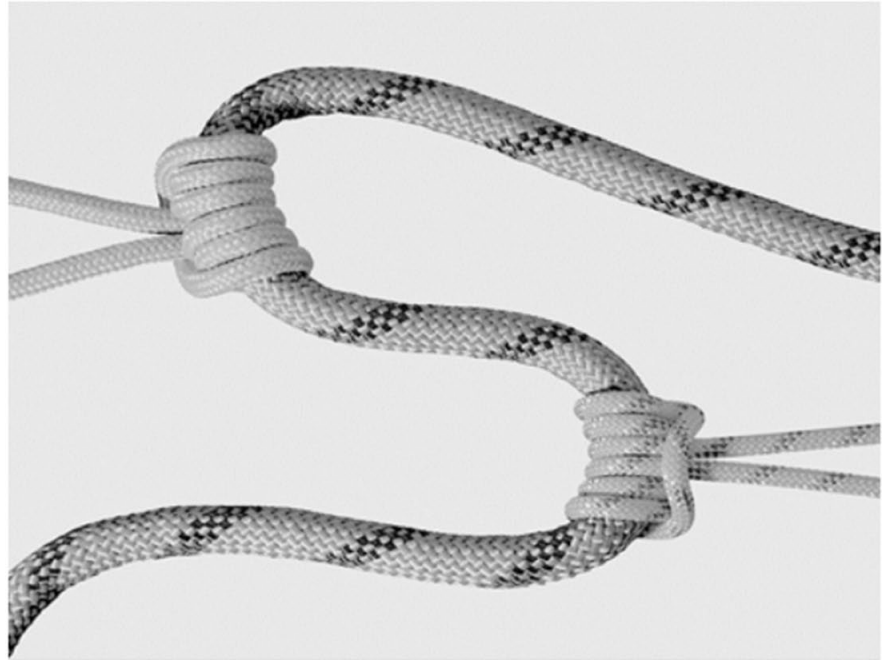


architecture, planning and design for  
disaster reduction and reconstruction,  
10th i-Rec student competition

**BETWEEN TRADITION AND  
INNOVATION**  
What must change and what  
mustn't in the face of disasters  
and climate change?

in parallel with the 10th i-Rec int'l conference  
Sendai, Japan, 2022

-  **10th i-Rec competition**  
**brief** (download PDF)
-  **register here**
-  **visit** the site of the  
**9th i-Rec competition**  
**8th i-Rec competition**  
**7th i-Rec competition**  
**6th i-Rec competition**  
**5th i-Rec competition**



[www.grif.umontreal.ca/i-Rec.htm](http://www.grif.umontreal.ca/i-Rec.htm)

## BETWEEN TRADITION AND INNOVATION: What must change and what mustn't in the face of disasters and climate change?

Organised by [Oeuvre durable](#)  
Visit the competition [website](#)

### Competition Brief:

Disasters are tangible proof that something needs to change in urban settings and the built environment. But the aftermath of a disaster is also a time to reflect on tradition, history, identity, memory, and cultural meaning. Disaster victims often feel a sense of loss in the face of destruction to their urban spaces and landmarks, and disruptions to their rituals, livelihoods, and traditions. Meanwhile, climate change is forcing us to reconsider our individual and collective behaviours. Many of them need to be changed to avoid additional global warming and reduce vulnerabilities. Some traditional means of production and construction, lost under the pressure of current economic systems, must be recovered if these goals are to be reached.

Disasters and climate risks therefore provide an ideal opportunity to examine change. Innovation is needed to avoid replicating the social and environmental injustices that lead to destruction and losses. But some traditions, and consideration for people's attachment to community, territories, and their history, are also crucial to reducing vulnerabilities.

Innovation can help us solve some urgent problems. But many of these problems are caused precisely by rapid disruptive changes. For some, technological innovation is the best answer we have. For others, it is the very cause of the vulnerabilities that need to be reduced.

The "uberization" of labour, and other forms of technological control over production and services, are creating social tension in many countries. The growing power of tech corporations is unsettling governance mechanisms and structures. While we are increasingly dependent on technology, our addiction to disruptive innovation is creating new risks. Globalization and the appeal of

Online registration: From December 2021  
to May 10, 2022

1st prize	2000\$ CAD
2nd prize	1000\$ CAD
3rd prize	600\$ CAD

new technologies are eroding traditions and challenging social values in both rich and poor nations. Climate change is leading authorities to consider radical relocation of communities at risk. But those directly affected sometimes prefer permanence in their territories and continuity in their livelihoods and ways of living. Neoliberal policy promotes change, but destroys livelihoods and local means of production, while weakening institutions. Worldwide, people are losing a sense of pride in craftsmanship and manual labour.

In sum, we are all struggling with the notion of change. This competition invites students to reflect on the value and risks associated with disruptive transformation. It invites them to assume and explain ethical stances regarding change before or after disasters, in their own cities, countries, or territories.

What must change to reduce vulnerabilities and reduce risk? What must remain? What is the role of innovation after disasters and in climate change action? Why is it important to consider traditions, identity, and rituals when proposing responses to radical change? How can they be preserved?

To answer these questions, it is crucial to identify the actors involved, as well as their wishes, needs, and expectations. Responses must also consider available resources, cultural practices, and local traditions, as well as the immaterial implications of reconstruction. They should propose an approach to reconstruction that is not only physical but also social and relational.

Organised by the disaster resilience and sustainable reconstruction research alliance. For more information please contact Mauro Cossu [mauro.cossu@umontreal.ca](mailto:mauro.cossu@umontreal.ca)



