



Photo for the Month

Tagaytay Resettlement site at Camalig, Albay. Foreground shows housing units donated by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and USAID for families displaced by typhoon Reming last November 2006. Land development of the resettlement site is being undertaken by the National Housing Authority in Region 5.

Quote for the Month

"Architects design most buildings and specify all the materials used in their construction. The design of a building --- its form, fenestration, construction materials and finishes --- largely determines the building's lifetime energy consumption and gas emission patterns."

"This is design with a capital D. Architects who don't want to see this as their problem will try to rationalize why they can't reach these goals -- that it's a client problem, or it's an economic issue and clients don't want to spend the extra money. But it's simply a design problem --- you can solve a problem a thousand ways to not cost more. If you're an architect, just like you solve the functional problem and the budgetary problem, you must solve the environmental problem --- and solve it by design."

- **Edward Mazria**, US architect, green design advocate, author of *The Passive Solar Energy Book*, and founder of Architecture2030.

Mainstream media has gone green and concerns over global warming and climate change were especially felt during the various Earth Day events this April, from television documentaries and live concerts to Manila participating in the Earth Hour celebrated worldwide. With environmental awareness going widespread and across different sectors, everyone is enjoined to help solve a truly global challenge whose effects are already felt today (flooding from sea level rise and extreme weather conditions, food supply and price crisis) and threatens the way of life for future generations.

As design professionals, we should be actors at the forefront of meeting the challenge of global warming by using design as a first strategy to reduce fossil-fuel energy consumption. UN statistics show that worldwide, the building sector contributes up to 40% of greenhouse gas emissions, mostly from energy use during the lifetime of buildings. If building design and performance has this profound impact on the environment, surely designers can come up with ways to solve global warming "architecturally." With that perspective, the role of architects, engineers, and designers becomes critical. They must have a deep understanding of the relationship between buildings and the environment and their design education should therefore focus on addressing the environmental issues.

Our work at TAO recognizes this need to influence design education towards an ecologically-sensitive professional practice. Our workshop trainings and publications try to disseminate informational resources about sustainable human settlements development. (See page 4 for themes of *TAO Shelter Magazine's* forthcoming issue.) Another project we will soon be launching is the YP Design Challenge, an ideas competition that provides an opportunity for young professionals and students to put forward innovative, environmentally-sound, appropriate and affordable design solutions for poor communities who are most vulnerable to the negative impacts of global warming. (More of the competition on page 5.)

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"It's time for us to go to the people rather than ask the people, especially the poor, to come to us."

YP Lecture with Fr. Jorge Anzorena at Mapua ARIDBE

The first YP lecture for the year was held last March 3 at the Mapua School of Architecture, Industrial Design and the Built Environment.

Main guest speaker was Fr. Jorge Anzorena who gave a presentation on "Low-cost Infrastructure and Housing in Africa and Latin America." His lecture focused on projects that provide basic infrastructure services in informal settlements such as water supply, drainage and sanitation in poor African countries through low-cost technologies and community mobilization. Fr. Jorge also presented a people-led initiative in Argentina that gave communities access to energy source (natural gas lines).

Rosalyn-Frances Marcelo of TAO-Pilipinas also presented a documentation of the YP Workshop held in Bicol this January, with the theme "Building Sustainable Communities in the Resettlement Sites of Albay."



Top: Lloyd Ison facilitates a community workshop at SANAGAMANA, Navotas.



Left, bottom: Ruth Ramos and Carla Duque facilitate small group activities during a solid waste management workshop in SHEC, Pasay.



Second batch of YP summer interns at TAO

Four interns were accepted into the YP 2008 Summer Internship program of TAO. They are currently working on different projects under the mentorship of TAO architect/engineer-planners. The YP internship program is regularly implemented by TAO to provide selected university students with exposure to participatory community planning and development. It also serves as venue for graduating students to complete their on-the-job training requirements.

Lloyd Ison, a BS Architecture graduate from Mapua, is working on the project "Structures Map Validation for SANAGMANA Resettlement Project." Miriam College BS Environmental Planning and Management students Emma Ruth Ramos and Carla Jean Duque are doing field studies on "Good Practices in Community-Based Solid Waste Management in Metro Manila." Jenny Bore, a BS Geodetic Engineering student from UP, has recently started to work on the project "Land Research Validation and Update."



UPCLAS to do Landscaping Plan for SANAGMANA

The University of the Philippines Circle of Landscape Architecture Students (UPCLAS) has volunteered to design the Landscaping Plan for the SANAGMANA resettlement site in Tanza, Navotas. Dhene Domingo of UPCLAS has met with SANAGMANA leaders to discuss the community's landscaping design needs. The resettlement site is a reclaimed fishpond area and UPCLAS will also recommend plant species appropriate for the site. SANAGMANA is already implementing a community solid waste management program that includes a materials recovery facility and urban gardening.



Dhene Domingo of UPCLAS consults SANAGMANA leaders about the community landscaping plan.

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TAO assists in research works by foreign students

TAO facilitated exposure trips for foreign students doing studies about urban poor communities as part of their academic research.

Two groups of civil engineering students from Lund University, Sweden visited housing projects for urban poor communities in Metro Manila. Eva Momhed and Maria Gehander conducted field studies for the research topic "Comparative Study of Gawad Kalinga and Habitat for Humanity Housing Projects in Baseco, Manila" while Moa Folkesson and Cecilia Rapp worked on the research "Site and Structural Analysis of the Resettlement Site in National Bilibid Prison, Muntinlupa."



Jorgen Bollingmo from the University of Oslo, Norway volunteered for TAO as a researcher since January and will be completing his research on "Gender Sensitivity Analysis of TAO-Pilipinas".

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TAO attends *Dialogues @ Starbucks*

Starbucks's Corporate Social Responsibility head Zarah Perez invited TAO to the launching of their CSR project called Dialogues at Starbucks. The CSR initiative focuses on discussions about environmental issues and at its launching event last April 24 at Starbucks Rockwell, presentations were made by speakers from Bird Club of the Philippines, Center for Environmental Awareness and Education, Philippine Business for the Environment, and World Wildlife Fund. According to Ms. Perez, more Dialogues sessions will be held in Starbucks stores.



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YP Reflections

Last January 21-25 during the YP Workshop held in Albay, the participants were grouped into teams and assigned to different community immersion sites in the COPE-assisted housing areas in Taysan and Anislag. At the end of the 5-day workshop each team made a mural painting that represented their community integration experience. YP Team 3 assigned in Taysan accompanied their painting with a 'reflection poem'.



A Reflection Poem to YP Team 3's Mural Painting

Ang Bulcan Mayon ay napikon,
sa mga makukulit na tao sa danger zone.
Nagsumbong kina Reming at Milenyo
pati sa mga kaapo-apuhan nito.
Sinamahan pa ni ulan na walang pakundangan.
Nanlambot na si lupa nadulas pababa.
Kahit si ilog ay ayaw, siya ay napilitang umapaw.
At mabilis na umagos na kasing-bilis ni Palos.

Mga tao ay nabigla, nasa bahay na ang baha.
Mga bahay nagliparan na, ang iba'y nagtago sa lupa
Ang iba'y sumama sa ilog, ang iba nama'y naalog.
Ang mga tao'y nagsitakbuhan,
hindi alam ang paroroonan.
Ang ibang tao ay sumama sa bahay,
mayroon din sa bubong ay kumakaway.
Marami nga'ng nagawang mabuhay,
marami pa rin ang nangamatay.

At pagkatapos ng unos, pag-asa'y nawala halos.
Higit pa sa tumulong mga luha,
ay mga taong nabaon sa lupa.
At sa isip na lamang nagtatanong,
Kung saan na kami ngayon sisilong.

At sa kabutihang palad,
may mga taong bukas-palad na tumulong ng sagad.
Upang magbuo ng komunidad.
Komunidad na matatag,
kung kapit bisig ay di mabubuag.
Salamat din sa TAO at sa mga Yps na nakigulo.
Na nagpaliwanag ng Teknikal na aspeto.

Maaring hindi natin napansin,
Tayo ay dumaan sa mga hakbanging.
Sa hagdanan ng pag-unlad,
patungo sa ating hinahangad.
Hindi pa man natin narating,
Ang mga gusto nating abutin.
Ngunit tayo ay papalapit na,
Kung tayo ay laging magkakaisa.

YP Team 3 is composed of Daryll Enano, Aileen Divinaflor, Rose Luson, Tony Canon, Alicia Dullasin, and Amalia Banda.

Announcements

TAO Shelter Next Issue

Theme:
**Planning and Design for
Extreme Weather Conditions**

with articles on:
**How to plan for sea level rise
Typhoon resilient house
construction**

plus a paper on:
**Redefining settlement design
in Albay, Bicol**

On sale from June 2008

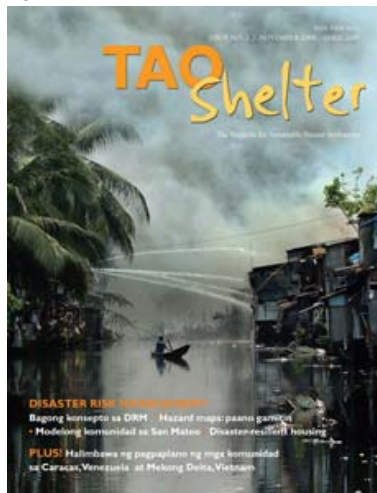
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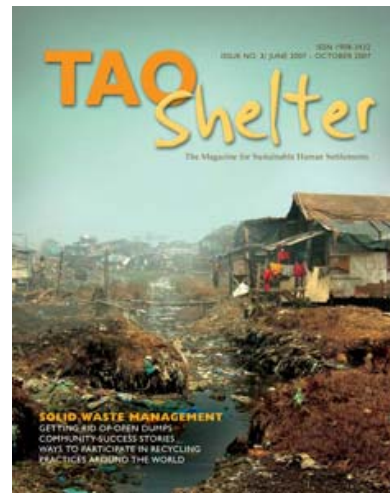
Back Issues of TAO-Shelter Magazine:



The Water Issue



Disaster Risk Management



Solid Waste Management

ypdesignchallenge: ideasforsustainable communities



TAO-Pilipinas, with support from SELAVIP, presents the **Young Professionals (YP) Design Challenge**, an ideas competition that seeks to encourage young design professionals to apply their creative abilities and design skills to projects addressing real community needs. The YP Design Challenge affirms the organization's commitment to providing technical assistance to the marginalized sectors by calling for ideas that deal with the shelter needs of poor communities and with the wider issues and challenges of social housing and sustainable human settlements development.

The goal of the YP Design Challenge is to generate ideas and design solutions for sustainable community development in urban poor settlements. The competition targets design solutions tailored towards the conditions present in two urban poor communities where TAO-Pilipinas does its technical assistance work: SANAGMANA (Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Maralita ng Navotas) community in Tanza, Navotas and SHEC (Saint Hannibal Empowerment Center) community in

Malibay, Pasay. Community visits to the areas will be integrated in the competition program.

The competition provides an opportunity for young design professionals to put forward innovative, environmentally-sound, appropriate and affordable design solutions that can benefit poor and informal communities and improve the livability of social housing sites. It is open to individuals or teams of architecture, engineering, interior design, fine arts, industrial design, and environmental planning undergraduate students and young professionals with not more than 5 years of professional experience.

The Design Challenges

The YP Design Challenge is a design ideas competition comprised of three design challenges, working around themes of sustainable community development. Each category has its own set of competition guidelines, judging criteria and prizes. Participants may choose to join in any or all of the following design challenge categories:

designchallenge1

SUSTAINABLE SHELTER

The competition challenges participants to design a housing unit for an urban poor household that applies the principles of green design and construction.

The proposed design should be:

- able to demonstrate the use of sustainable design features and appropriate building technologies, such as energy efficiency, disaster resilient building design, rainwater harvesting, and waste management
- original and innovative
- cost-effective
- environmentally-sound
- socio-culturally sensitive and affordable

designchallenge2

TRASH TRANSFORMATION

The competition challenges designers to develop models/samples of marketable products (made from discarded materials) that urban poor people's organizations can replicate, creating opportunities for income-generating recycling by its members.

The proposed designs should be:

- innovative examples of extending the lifecycle of discarded materials
- creative and functional
- helpful in establishing income-generating waste management activities for the community

designchallenge3

PORTABLE PLAYGROUND

The competition challenges participants to design a mobile playground unit for an urban poor community that should offer a variety of play spaces for preschool-age children (ages 2-5) and elementary-age children (ages 6-12).

The proposed design should be:

- able to provide adequate spaces for appropriate and safe play experiences of children and create opportunities for teaching children the value of environmental responsibility
- mobile and transportable to other areas of available open space in a community
- cost effective and built using sustainable construction materials and techniques
- socio-culturally sensitive and affordable

www.yppdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org