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Mission

Everyday life, actions, and social interactions were completely different in 2020 than in any other year. The Covid-19 pandemic restricted movement not only within city centers but in remote communities as well. As more and more information on how to stave off the spread of the virus were made available to the public, it became clearer that CDP must learn quickly how to make use of available technology to continue working with partners in helping them achieve a shared vision of a sustainable, safe, disaster-resilient and disaster-resistant community.

The screen time of most of CDP's staff was unlike anything we'd ever seen before. Countless hours of meetings, training, capacity-development sessions, workshops, learning events, and assessments hosted online to deliver life-saving information on disaster risk reduction, policies, and psychosocial support services to people who need them.

The reality of rapid increase in anxiety and depression among individuals became apparent as community lockdowns dragged on. As a response, CDP held sessions called "Kumustahan sa Gitna ng Krisis" to provide key personnels from partner local government units, medical frontliners, DRR workers, and humanitarian actors relief from stress and other mental health problems.

CDP has logged 1,384 cumulative hours in carrying out these sessions that let them discover their inner, strength and resilient attributes, and provide them with self care activities. Indeed, one of the key elements in building resiliency in our communities that have not been spared from the global pandemic is focusing on individual self-care of the people who work tirelessly to keep our cities safe.

CDP's commitment to strengthen the capacities of vulnerable groups in community-based, development-oriented disaster risk reduction management manifested in different shapes and forms. By caring for and influencing duty-bearers and service providers, it managed to achieve and deliver its promise to communities by shifting its gears and quickly to adapt to the challenges the year 2020 had presented.



Acknowledgment

CDP, for many years has been blessed by dedicated and committed staff that brought forth the current breadth and depth of the work for the benefit of partner communities towards building their resilience and resistance to disasters. This would not have been possible without the support and partnerships of donor-partners and fellow stakeholders in DRRM, CCAM and sustainable development.



CDP gratefully appreciates the support of various donor partners, some new but there are some who have been very supportive of the organization for many years.

- a. ADRRN Tokyo Innovation Hub with support from HIF/ELHRA, for two years
- b. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has been a partner for about five years now
- c. Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) with support from BMGF has partnership engagement with CDP for more than three years now
- d. The Global Network of CSOs for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), not a donor but through partnership projects, are engaging network members like CDP for promoting and engaging civil society organizations and community partners for championing the localization movement and risk informed development
- e. Oxfam-Pilipinas, has been a partner and supporting the organization for more than six years
- f. Voice Philippines for more than two years now
- · g. UNICEF: for close to a decade already
- h. USAID-BHA: for about four years now
- i. Consultancies, donations, and other sources as additional sources of income to support other needs and priorities of the organization which are not covered by projects.

Key Results



The year 2020 saw an unprecedented global pandemic. Aggravated by complex disasters and ensuing crises, this undeniably brought Filipino communities to its knees, disproportionately affecting at-risk and vulnerable sectors. Strengthening their capacities to uphold their rights and reduce their vulnerabilities became all the more imperative. Here are the impacts of our support and services to our partner communities and stakeholders as they bore down to face the myriad issues and challenges that the past year has brought.

- Upholding and mainstreaming inclusion and coherence¹
- Facilitating the institutionalization and sustainability of Inclusive CBDRRM across all levels of engagement
- Bolstering linkages and partnerships between and among duty-bearers, stakeholders, and partner communities

Based on GNDR's Coherence Cookbook, coherence is defined as "an approach involving processes and actions to integrate international frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and sustainable development to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and the achievement of both common and respective goals."



- Harnessing (both modern and local) innovation and ingenuity in implementing development-oriented projects
- Strengthened leadership of national and subnational actors in Humanitarian Preparedness and Response
- Fostering better awareness on DRRM policy and planning
- Highlighting the intrinsic wisdom and capacity of vulnerable sectors
- Asserting and upholding our civic democratic space
- Underscoring the importance of meaningful participation

The past year has further proven that albeit the immensity of the current disaster situation, communities will be better empowered to take action and work toward their resilience and development if and when given adequate support and assistance. It is with this in mind that we continue to affirm our commitment to serve as active champions of rights-based, community-driven DRRM which enables the meaningful participation of vulnerable and marginalized sectors. Parallel to the principle "Nihil de nobis, sine nobis" or "Nothing for us without us," we maintain the conviction that resilience entails the meaningful participation of all sectors, particularly the marginalized and disenfranchised, as we are only as resilient as our most at-risk and vulnerable sectors.

Goals & Impacts

Since its founding in 1999, CDP has strived to ensure that communities are not only capacitated and provided with meaningful support to achieve resilience, but are also enabled to serve as frontliners and advocates in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (CBDRRM). Throughout the previous strategic plan implementation period (2018-2020), we made every effort to remain true to this promise -- but better guided and enlightened by our longheld wisdom about communities.







Communities, particularly the basic and vulnerable sectors, are highly capable of taking action towards disaster preparedness, resilience, and sustainable development. More so if there is an enabling environment that empowers them to become active and engaged partners instead of docile and passive recipients. This has also been our guiding principle in ascertaining that all partner duty-bearers and stakeholders are aware and responsive to the call of advocating human rights and dignity in all their DRRM endeavors.

By fully embracing our role as a conduit and facilitator between and among communities, the government, and other sectors and stakeholders, we were able to better carry out our crucial part in forging an enabling environment for the vulnerable and marginalized. This not only paved the way for better collaboration and partnership but also helped us harness and promote local capacities and innovations, ensuring that partner communities are better empowered as frontliners and advocates not only in DRRM but also in Climate Change Adaptation



and Management (CCAM) and Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) or the integrated management of risks. In doing so, we, along with our partners, were able to bring about the following:

Communities that are empowered frontliners in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM)

With the spread of an unprecedented global pandemic, the ensuing disaster and sweeping crises served as a litmus test to the efficiency of our Public Health and DRRM plans and programs. More

importantly, it drew attention to the importance of involving communities, as the COVID-19 pandemic has proved that we are only as safe and healthy as our frailest community.

Albeit the many limitations and challenges we faced in carrying out our duties and responsibilities to partner barangays, we did our best to adapt to the 'new normal' to make sure that communities are not only supported but also capacitated and enabled to respond to and deal with the concerns and challenges posed by the spread of COVID-19 and its resulting disasters. We made every effort to bolster communities to become empowered champions and frontliners in DRRM, ensuring that all our efforts contribute to bringing the voices of the vulnerable to the fore.

Enablement of vulnerable sectors

Children and Youth

Under the UNICEF-funded DRREAM BEGINS (Disaster Risk Reduction through Empowerment of At-risk Municipalities and Communities in Benguet and Northern Samar) Project, we were able to facilitate an increased level of awareness and understanding on the significance of employing the child-centered lens in planning and undertaking DRRM at the local level. On top of this, the employment of the multisectoral approach has paved the way for partner duty-bearers and stakeholders to be more cognizant of their role in achieving resilience and inclusion in their respective constituencies.

Building on the gains and wins we achieved through the implementation of the DRREAM BIG Project in Camarines Norte, DRREAM BEGINS seeks to ensure the meaningful participation and representation of children and youth in development and DRRM plans and committees in the focus localities of Catubig, Lope de Vega, Mondragon, Rosario, San Antonio in Northern Samar and Itogon in Benguet.

Notwithstanding its short duration, the project was able to realize notable gains which were achieved through active partnership and collaboration with the focus communities. At the outset of the undertaking, the project team sought to galvanize and shore up the commitment between and among all partners, duty-bearers, and stakeholders, further affirming the duty and obligation of key officials in safeguarding the protection and inclusion of children and youth in their respective communities.

Through active engagement and partnership, we were able to facilitate the enhancement and fine-tuning of child-centered CBDRRM modules:

1) Understanding Disaster Risk Reduction and Management; 2) Making the Child Front and Center





of DRRM; 3) Cohesive Approaches to Child-Centered DRRM; 4) Undertaking the Key Processes in Child-Centered DRRM; and 5) Development of and Planning for Child-Centered Mechanisms.

With our sustained and active engagement of the vulnerable sectors, the contexts and concerns most relevant and germane to the focus communities were integrated in the modules, which not only included the national policies mandating child protection in emergencies such as Republic Act 10821 (Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act), but also vital lenses and approaches related to public health emergencies to help communities be better capacitated on crises akin to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

These CC-DRR modules have since been presented and revised as well to ensure better alignment to and alignment/localization of national policies and plans. The Training Manual which will contain the said modules – and will effectively serve as one of the primary knowledge outputs of the project – is set to be published and disseminated in the first quarter of 2021.

However, of all the accomplishments under DRREAM BEGINS, the most remarkable is the active engagement and meaningful participation of the sector in focus, the children and youth. Activities such as the Youth Lobbying and Local Policy Development, which aims to effectively mandate meaningful representation and participation of children and youth in the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (LDRRMC) were carried out. Youth leaders from all pilot areas meritoriously championed for a local ordinance that mainstreams and authorizes substantive representation in their respective LDRRMCs.

These aforesaid local ordinances have either been read or enacted and are now awaiting implementation in the focus municipalities where it has been ratified, with Northern Samar localities Mondragon, Rosario, and Catubig having just decreed theirs, while Lope de Vega and Itogon, Benguet are now at their Second Reading of the proposed law.

On the other hand, amid these collective gains are palpable and felt realities wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Findings gathered and documented from a brief assessment conducted by the project team determined that children and youth in the focus localities were disproportionately affected by this disaster, rendering them and their families even more at-risk and vulnerable not only to contracting the virus but also in coping and recovering from its effects on their learning and education as well as their safety, survival, and wellbeing.

This further reiterated how resilience and inclusion can and will only be achieved if deeply entrenched vulnerabilities affecting communities are addressed. At its core, the discourse of resilience and child-centeredness should always respond to the question: How can a community secure a better future for children and young people if their families do not have access to basic social services and sustainable livelihoods?

Persons with Disability

Another sector that has been disproportionately affected by the global pandemic and ensuing crises is the Persons with Disability sector. To help assess the situation our partners under the Inclusive Data Management System (VOICE-IDMS) Project were faced with during the thick of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in 2020, we launched a comprehensive online survey. There was a total of 4,220 respondents to the survey with a total of 5,755 persons with disability in the surveyed households. Findings signified that the main issue that concerned respondents was their loss of income/livelihood.

Further, 64% of the respondents (approximately 2,700) indicated that they require financial support and that they do not have access to healthcare needs such as medicines and therapy.

With the enactment of Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2020 or the Special Guidelines on the Provision of Social Amelioration Measures to the most affected residents of the areas under



ECQ, we supported Life Haven's call for a disability-inclusive response to help ensure that "persons with disabilities and their households including children with disabilities and their families receive adequate assistance to manage the economic hardship that persons with disabilities and their households are experiencing."

Determined to facilitate the implementation of inclusive data management systems and mechanisms across all levels of engagement, we led in petitioning and advocating the utilization of all available data under the *Listahanan* database of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), promoting it as the primary source of information on the register of all persons with disabilities. Apart from this, the project team also lobbied for the records of every local government unit (LGU) issuing Persons with Disability Identification Cards as well as every organizational database of groups for persons, children, and parents of children with disabilities to complement the database of the *Listahanan*,

Opportunely, in our pilot areas — Barangay San Jose in Bislig City and Barangay Ilaya in Las Piñas City — databases of all the persons with disability/ies living in the said barangays were readily available for the Barangay LGUs. This helped our partner Barangay Secretaries complete their submission

of a master list to the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO). In fact, John Lester Pusing, the head of the group of enumerators during the data profiling activities in Brgy. Ilaya noted that they were the first to submit their beneficiary list to the LGU for the Social Amelioration Program.

According to Brgy. Ilaya Secretary Marjorie Eson, at the time of the community lockdown, almost all of the 185 persons with disability that were identified through the IDMS pilot testing received the first tranche of Php 8,000 of DSWD's social amelioration. She added, "These individuals were included in the federation, and were requested to register for an ID Card at City Hall shortly after the pilot testing was done in December 2019." She hopes that other barangays will also be able to implement IDMS: "Ire-recommend ko din po. Sana matutunan ng ibang barangay ang IDMS para makatulong sa pagpapabilis ng pagkuha ng datos." (I will recommend this to other barangays as well. I hope that other barangays will also be able to learn about IDMS to better facilitate data gathering.)

In Barangay San Jose, (city/locality), they were able to locate persons with disability easily and aid the CSWDO in providing financial assistance amounting to PhP 5,000. Moreover, the barangay was able to







realign funds from unimplemented activities and provide an additional relief that included PhP 450, five kilograms of rice, three cans of sardines, and packs of coffee to people with disability.

Though persons with disability and older persons were deemed the top priorities in the distribution of social amelioration, they evaluated other criteria to determine constituents who may be in dire need of help. Amid the undertaking of these efforts, the importance of having a comprehensive database for Barangay LGUs was further underscored, as it facilitated a more straightforward process in identifying which families or individuals should be prioritized during disasters and crises.

Through the data collected, they were also able to ascertain who among the population are benefiting from social pensions as senior citizens. Julius Dave Tecson, one of the persons with disability residing in Brgy. San Jose who also served as one of the enumerators during the pilot testing, noted that they were able to find persons with disability who have been bedridden, and that they were prioritized in the barangay's distribution of assistance. For this locality. A total of 72 people with disability received the additional cash assistance from their *Barangay* LGU while 80 persons with disability received social amelioration from the City LGU.

Akin to the gains and wins achieved under the VOICE-IDMS Project, vulnerable sectors under Project ALERT (Adaptive Livelihoods and Emergency Readiness and Timely Response of Communities) — Balangiga, Lawaan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan — were also enabled to become trainers and facilitators, able to replicate and conduct DRRM activities in their respective localities and barangays. To wit, one of the most noteworthy activities that the Balangiga LGU replicated was the re-echoing of the Rights-Based Humanitarian Action and Protection (RBHAP) Module where persons with disabilities served as the main facilitators.

Having employed the Inclusive Community-Based DRRM (ICBDRRM) framework throughout its implementation, Project ALERT also serves as a testament to the powerful impact of meaningful participation as all partners unanimously attested that the training and capacity development they attained under the project honed their knowledge,

skills, and leadership capabilities. Given that we have long fostered partnership and rapport with the focus localities before this undertaking, this proves that we have, time and again, affirmed our enduring commitment to support each other towards the attainment of resilient and empowered communities.

Parallel to the age-old adage "Nothing for us without us," we sought to enable inclusion by ensuring the effective and efficient use of the IDMS Tool, thanks in large part to our partners who have actively engaged and participated in this undertaking. Recognizing that the mission of establishing and realizing inclusive data collection and management systems for all governance and private sectors remains long and arduous, we continue to affirm our commitment to ensure that communities, especially vulnerable sectors, are bolstered and empowered to uphold their rights and reduce their vulnerabilities.

Other Basic Sectors

Much like children and youth, persons with disabilities, and women, all other basic and vulnerable sectors were disproportionately affected by the unforeseen global pandemic and ensuing crises. We did our best to respond to the situation by providing vital support and assistance to our partners at the subnational and community levels. Throughout 2020, we strived to be of service to local disaster frontliners and responders, fisherfolk, farmers, urban poor, workers in the Informal Sector, women, youth and students, older persons, persons with disabilities, victims of disasters and calamities, non-government organizations (NGOs), and cooperatives.

Since the implementation of the ECQ, we have catered to frontliners and responders from all over the country who needed MHPSS, delivering vital support and comfort to myriad DRRM personnel from different municipalities. Many were unaware about the importance of safeguarding their mental and emotional wellbeing, rendering them pleasantly surprised after the session. Some noted, "Sarap naman sa feeling na kinukumusta (It feels nice to be

asked how we are doing amid all this)." It served as an opportune chance to stress the significance of taking psychosocial wellbeing into account, further enabling our partner DRRM frontliners to better fulfill their duties and responsibilities.

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Basic and vulnerable sectors were also enabled to participate meaningfully in multi-stakeholder, multi-sector, and inter-network discussions and learning events through the conduct of the National Advocacy Workshop Series. At its core, the series of conversations and fora aimed to underscore the gains and wins of the Philippine DRRM Act or Republic Act 10121, of which the most notable are the representation and meaningful participation of at-risk and vulnerable sectors in DRR and development planning processes, highlighting the stark contrast against the bill (House Bill 5989) that threatens to revert the progress of its decade-long implementation.

Throughout the conduct of the activities, vulnerable sectors such as fisherfolk, farmers, youth and students, older persons, victims of disasters and NGOs/CSOs/people's organizations. and the urban poor participated in meaningful dialogue with duty-bearers and stakeholders across different levels of engagement. This paved the way for vulnerable sectors to voice out their concerns regarding DRRM and resilience, noting that while the current law may necessitate further improvement, it should not be repealed and replaced with a law that threatens to disregard the inclusive and coherent DRRM framework that CSOs had diligently lobbied for in the current DRRM policy. According to the aforesaid sectors, to realize genuine resilience and sustainable development, the root causes of our deeply entrenched vulnerabilities must be addressed.

Correspondingly, one of the key activities carried out by PhilPrep was the Contextualization Workshop which was conducted in an effort to ensure that Basic Instructors' Guide (BIG) Module for DRRM was adapted to the specific contexts, needs, and practices of the basic sectors. Aligned with the primary objective of the project to promote synergy,

localization, and coherence, the activity served as an apt venue to facilitate better synergy and vertical coherence between and among the government and the 14 basic sectors.

Further upholding their significant achievements in Inclusive CBDRRM, Project ALERT was not only able to empower vulnerable groups by ensuring their representation and participation in their respective DRRM Councils but also managed to facilitate awareness on the importance of inclusive facilities and mechanisms in its local humanitarian systems. Focus localities are now mindful of appropriate spaces and accommodations for children, lactating mothers, and members of the LGBTQIA+.

Apart from this, the project enabled fisherfolk and women to take on more active leadership roles in DRRM as the former actively partook in search and rescue efforts, physically secured livelihoods, and organized rescue teams while the latter assisted in relief delivery operations (RDO) and information dissemination. The aforesaid project also saw the meaningful participation of women, as CSOs representing the sector actively participated and engaged in key project activities, particularly the Project ALERT tabletop simulation where ABANTE KABABAIHAN, one of the CSO representatives in the Balangiga DRRM Council, served as one of the observers in the exercise.

Another way we have managed to empower one of the major basic sectors is through the establishment of the Climate-Resilient Field Schools (CRFS) under Project PROSPER. Approximately 65 farmers enrolled in the CRFS where they underwent a season-long training on sustainable agriculture. Through this undertaking, the participating farmers have now committed to adopting sustainable agriculture practices to a portion of their own farmlands (each has at least .5 to 3 hectares of land), which holds a lot of promise for the implementation of Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and, in due course, the integrated management of risks in the whole Salug Valley region.

Akin to these community-driven undertakings centered on the landscape-wide or ridge-to-reef approach, we have also undertaken an innovation laboratory, primarily aimed at supporting and



cultivating innovation across various levels of engagement, most especially at the local and community levels. In partnership with the ADRRN Tokyo Innovation Hub (ATIH), ELRHA, and the Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF), we hope to further sow the seeds of community-led innovation and collaboration through the Pinnovation Academy, steered by the vision of a community-centered innovation ecosystem in the country.

Parallel to the apparent wealth of innovative ideas at the local level -- running the gamut from technology-based advances to transformative bodies of knowledge, wisdom, and practice that can improve accountability and sustainability of duty-bearers and stakeholders -- comes the acknowledgement that most of these are largely hindered by the dearth of adequate resources to go around. It is thus the objective of this platform to support local and community innovations by engaging the government, CSOs, the private sector, and other potential funders in the exploration, ideation, and implementation of these innovative solutions to DRR.

Through the academy, we aim to empower local stakeholders by conducting capacity-building activities that can help further advance their ideas and develop proposals which will better sustain and advocate for community-centered innovation. In addition to this, we will also provide modest technical support to the grantees of the first call for proposals as part of our role as the National Focal Point under the said partnership.

Duty-bearers and service providers are responsive to and uphold human rights and dignity in DRRM endeavors

Acknowledging that we in civil society act as mediators and agents linking government with communities, mainly vulnerable sectors, we have worked hard to ensure that duty-bearers and service providers across all levels of engagement are responsive to and uphold human rights and dignity in DRRM endeavors. In this regard, we have made every effort in all our undertakings to engage the communities every step of the way.

Consistent with our mission to influence stakeholders toward this end, we strive to foster coherence and inclusion from a project's inception up to its culmination. Guided by the core principle that genuine resilience can only be realized if everyone is involved, we understand that the success and impact of an undertaking is not merely reliant on the achievement of its deliverables but in the permanence, sustainability, and ownership of its focus communities.

Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (LDRRMCs) and Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (LDRRMOs) that work with vulnerable sectors

As has been established in myriad literature across many levels of engagement, CSOs play a vital role in "strengthening vertical coherence through collaboration with LGUs to increase their understanding of local contexts and needs (GNDR, 2019)." Studies have found that local authorities often have greater propensity to focus more on 'top-down information', thus ascribing little value to local knowledge and wisdom. We have strived to carry out this role by ensuring that in all our endeavors, at-risk and vulnerable sectors are at the fore. To further realize these, we have done our utmost to employ an inclusive and sustainable framework towards CBDRRM, upholding active engagement and meaningful participation among all sectors and stakeholders in an effort to foster vertical and horizontal coherence.

Analogous to the landmark Philippine DRRM Act of 2010 or RA 10121, which is essentially anchored on enabling and harnessing the capacities, knowledge, and wisdom of communities in reducing and managing disaster/climate risks and vulnerabilities, we have strived to uphold and bolster the crucial significance of LDRRMOs working to ensure the representation of at-risk and vulnerable sectors in the Local DRRM Council, making sure that they are able to participate meaningfully in DRR and development planning processes.

At this critical juncture in the policy's implementation, these engagements not only reinforce the effectiveness of the law in ascertaining that local knowledge and wisdom are mainstreamed and integrated at the national level, but also further signify that the current infrastructure simply necessitates strengthening and enhancement instead of substitution.

In the past year alone, this has been apparent in all our projects: ALERT, PH DRR CoP (Community of Practice), GNDR-ISCBRM, DRREAM BEGINS, HIF-Pinnovation, PhilPrep, PROSPER, VOICE-IDMS, and all other institutional undertakings.

Project ALERT, a three-year undertaking that has evinced the substantial impact of Inclusive CBDRRM in the at-risk localities of Eastern Samar, managed to facilitate the institutionalization of meaningful participation and collaborative action at the local level. Driven by the vision of strengthening the knowledge, connectivity, humanitarian systems, and ability of communities to take action and lead in DRRM and humanitarian efforts, partners were not only capacitated but also empowered to take collective action to ensure their communities' resilience toward disasters.

Through the concerted efforts of the team and local partners and stakeholders, at-risk and marginalized communities are not only given priority in DRRM planning and programming but are now official members of the DRRM Cluster Committees with specific assigned roles related to Early Warning, Evacuation Center Management (ECM), and Relief Delivery Operations (RDO). They are now enabled to partake in DRRM activities as well; some even volunteering to man checkpoints during the thick of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ).

At the national level, projects such as GNDR-ISCBDRM and DRR CoP paved the way for multistakeholder and inter-network conversations through the National Advocacy Workshop Series (NAWS), which has not only served as an opportune venue for learning and sharing among partners across all sectors and levels of engagement but also as an interactive platform to discuss and mainstream critical issues and concerns confronting at-risk and vulnerable sectors, particularly the issue of the declining democratic space threatening their meaningful participation in DRRM and development.

Anchored not only on asserting the civic democratic space for the marginalized sectors and the civil society, NAWS also served as a way to build public clamor against the proposed Department of Disaster Resilience or House Bill 5989 which threatens to disregard all the gains and wins that have been

achieved in the decade-long implementation of the Philippine DRRM Act or Republic Act 10121. Among the key messages and insights that were documented from the NAWS are:

- "Sa halip na palitan ang kasalukuyang batas (RA 10121) ay dapat palakasin at paigtingin ang pagpapatupad nito bigyang tuon ang pagpapatatag at pagsasanay ng mga LDRRM Councils lalo na sa mga pinaka-bulnerable, rural, at far-flung o remote na komunidad (Instead of replacing RA 10121 the government should strengthen and improve its implementation focusing on the strengthening and capacitation of LDRRM Councils, especially the most vulnerable, rural, and far-flung/remote communities)."
- "Creating another law is not the answer to make our nation and people become prepared and resilient to [disasters]. Instead, it becomes more complicated and [makes us] more vulnerable. The proposed creation of [the] Department of Disaster Resilience will take time, money, and other resources; while the disaster will strike anytime, lalo na sa ngayon na nasa gitna pa tayo ng krisis na dulot ng COVID-19 at kailangan pa natin pagtuunan ng pansin ang problemang ito."
- "Sa ilalim ng RA 10121, naging bahagi kami kami ng BDRRMC at naging daan ito para kami ay aktibong makalahok sa pagpaplano at pagiimplementa ng mga plano at polisiyang pang-DRR. Isa sa mga pinaka-bulnerableng sektor ang mga kabataan kaya mahalaga na maging kabahagi kami sa pagpaplano para sa DRR. Sayang naman ang [aming mga] nasimulan kung sa bagong batas (HB 5989) ay hindi mapapakinggan ang mga kabataan (Under RA 10121, we were quaranteed representation in the BDRRMC. which enabled us to actively partake in the planning and implementation of DRR plans and policies. The youth sector is one of the most vulnerable so it is important for us

National Advocacy Workshop Series

STRENGTHENING THE VOICE OF CIVIL SOCIETY



DECEMBER 11, 2020

Events



Who Joined Our Conversations?

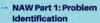
Timeline of

Events

NAW Series Launch

30 September 2020

Luzon-Wide Consultation



13 October 2020

Visayas-Wide Consultation

20 October 2020
The Visayas Learning Event and Conversations supported the Visayas Learning Event and Conversation supported the Visayas Le



NAW Part 2: Forcefield **Analysis and Power Mapping**

27 October 2020
Taking off from the results discussed the different for

Mindanao-Wide Consultation

10 November 2020
The Mindanso Learning Event and Conversations supported the island-wide discussion of relevant and context-specific issues.



NAW Part 3: Kumustahan

🖦 🗒 Events

NAW Part 4: Action Planning



(4)

Our Advocacy Agenda







Our Advocacy Agenda









Events

Timeline of



lahar dapat ay kabahagi.

RA 10121 is actually a pioneering law for DRRM, it was much-lauded internationally – H6 6989 as to undo all the gains and wins we have achieved through it we may attain a department/abbinel lovel agency but at what expense?

culture of indifference and neglect can no longer prevail



Calls and Messages

Uphold meaningful participation of at-risk and vulnerable sectors

"Namimiligro na hindi matuloy ang effort natin to increase perticipation of vulnerable sectors [sa HB 5989]. Mehalaga na meltuloy ang pakikilahok at partisipasyon ng mga sektor sa komunidad.*

"Kallangan langat ang pananaw ng mga sektor na nasa sentro ng mga unos at kalamidad.











to be part of DRRM planning processes. It would be a huge step back should HB 5989 be enacted as our sector would no longer be able to participate in the latter)."

This campaign sought to complement the lobby campaign which was undertaken through DRRNetPhils (Disaster Risk Reduction Network Philippines), where we continue to serve as the lead convener.

Given the volatile socio-political climate, the conduct of these advocacy activities not only contributed to fostering dialogue and upholding meaningful participation but also rendered further legitimacy to our advocacies, as we helped to facilitate interactive and constructive dialogues between and among the duty-bearers and stakeholders at the national, subnational, and community levels.

In the same vein, the GNDR-ISCBDRM Project has also helped foster the institutionalization of sustainable CBDRRM at the local level through our continued support, partnership, and engagement with project partners, now moving toward the localization and sustainability of these efforts through the conduct of participatory consultation workshops and the publication of knowledge products that are better suited to their respective local contexts.

As for the DRREAM BEGINS Project, we undertook the conduct of Orientations on the Child-Centered Multisectoral Approach to DRRM in all focus localities, which were programmed in lieu of the standard Trainings of Trainers (ToTs) on Child-Centered DRRM for all partner sectors, duty-bearers, stakeholders. This helped partners and duty-bearers be better informed and capacitated on the pertinent sectors that comprise Emergency Response and CC-DRR: Education, Child Protection, Health, Nutrition, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene). This has not only facilitated a higher level of awareness on the significance of Solid Waste Management but also the need for improved WASH facilities and maintenance which will help decrease the occurrence of food and water-borne diseases (FWBD).

For most of 2020, PhilPrep undertook a host of response activities to take action and provide muchneeded support amid the pandemic. The COVID-19 Sub-Grant enabled the project to provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS) to DRRM frontliners and responders in localities such as Pasig City as well as Magallanes and Alfonso in Cavite, allowing them to better fulfill their duties while also helping increase their awareness on the importance of MHPSS in their line of work.

In the latter part of the year, however, the pioneering tripartite partnership undertaking resumed its third phase of implementation, still driven by its main objective of effective and efficient localization modeling that aims to set a positive precedent for sectors at the local and community levels. Essentially, this undertaking aims to facilitate localization by contributing to a monumental paradigm shift where power, control, and action are shifted from international entities to key humanitarian actors at the country level: Government, Civil Society (CSOs), and the Private Sector.

As the lead coordinating organization for CSOs, we remain guided by the main thrust of facilitating the participation revolution, ensuring that local actors are empowered to be active agents of resilience instead of mere passive recipients of aid. To wit, we commenced the current phase of the project by conducting the Adaptive Learning Session: Supporting an Adaptive Approach to Disaster Risk Management in the Philippines in partnership with ALNAP (Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance), which endeavored to broaden the discourse on flexible and adaptive programming of humanitarian actors -- an ability deemed crucial for the latter to be able "to adjust and respond effectively to dynamics and uncertainties" of humanitarian action."

By the same token, Project PROSPER strived to ensure that our focus localities and their respective constituencies are working actively and collaboratively toward the development and strengthening of their DRRM plans, programs, and structures. This would not have been possible if not for our strong rapport and active partnership with both parties, which has greatly contributed to the

success of all project activities thus far. Immediately after the implementation of the ECQ in March 2020, the team took it upon themselves to undertake *Kumustahan* and MHPSS Sessions in both former and current partner communities in Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga City, and Zamboanga Del Sur; which have helped frontliners and LDRRMC officials respond more effectively to the pandemic. Our partners have noted that the Contingency Plans that were refined under the project, though geared primarily toward flooding, were helpful in carrying out their respective pandemic response measures and in mobilizing volunteers at the *barangay* level.

Apart from this, the Project Management Team (PMT) has been engaged and enabled to represent CDP as one of the CSO representatives in the Zamboanga Del Sur League of Local DRRMOs (ZDS LLDRRMO). They have regularly attended meetings and undertaken consultative discussions with the LDRRMOs in the province, helping them build linkages and better collaborate with regional and national stakeholders.

Given that we hold a distinct role in the fabric of disaster risk governance and resilience building, we have done our best to foster the nexus among different stakeholders and sectors by facilitating vertical and horizontal coherence in our undertakings. Project PROSPER, for one, has made every effort to ensure this, as they have consistently linked and engaged with agencies at the regional and national levels. Along with this, we have also done our utmost to help partners on the ground by providing them as much support as we can, as in the case of Mahayag in Zamboanga del Sur where they requested our assistance in refining the *Barangay* DRRM Plans of their 28 *barangays*.

Much like the latter, the VOICE-IDMS Project also strived to go above and beyond project targets to support and collaborate with its partners. One of the engagements that stood out was one where the team lent a hand to ATRIEV (Adaptive Technology, Integration, and Empowerment of the Visually Impaired), an esteemed group that educated and empowered people with visual impairment, in the conduct of their community drill. Though the team was tapped to provide technical support to ATRIEV, they saw this as more of an eye-opening and learning experience for them as they witnessed how the organization was able to handle the undertaking with great aptitude and wisdom. It reminded them yet again that disability only exists if we let it; disability is only caused by the ubiquity of barriers: Barriers to accessibility, barriers to inclusion, and barriers to genuine resilience.



Enhanced capacities of duty bearers and service providers to develop, mainstream, or implement development-oriented DRRM in their programs and services

In our two decades of working with communities, one thing remains clear: Filipino communities possess copious knowledge, wisdom, and insight on DRRM and thus should be involved as active agents and partners toward resilience and development. As has been determined time and again, this wealth of wisdom and capacities can only be ascertained and applied if and when duty-bearers, service providers, and other relevant stakeholders are able to engage and enable communities in processes and programs that would harness it.

Determined to contribute to the empowerment of communities, especially the vulnerable and marginalized, we have made every effort to help duty-bearers, service providers, and all other vital stakeholders develop and strengthen their capacities to develop, mainstream, and implement development-oriented DRRM in their programs and services. Given this responsibility, we not only continue to work together with communities to achieve the latter, but we also strive to highlight the crucial role and inherent capacities of communities, particularly vulnerable sectors, in ensuring that the vision of resilience and development their duty-bearers have is genuinely inclusive and sustainable.

Through engagements under Project ALERT, PROSPER, and DRREAM BEGINS, duty-bearers and partners from the subnational and local levels of governance were able to partake in capacity development efforts that have bolstered not only their technical acumen in Barangay DRRM and Contingency Planning, Integrated Risk Management, Sustainable Agriculture, Early Warning System Development, and Policy Advocacy but also helped enlighten them on its significance to local disaster risk governance. Stakeholders under these projects have averred that the active coordination and engagement we have forged together has not only helped them better understand templates and

tools in planning but also drew their attention to the importance of ensuring inclusion, meaningful participation, and coherence across all plans and programs.

With the conduct of other relevant capacity development efforts coupled with the provision of basic equipment and tools, our community partners have been able to accomplish significant changes in their plans, programs, and activities centered on DRRM and development. Myriad dialogues, orientations, and virtual trainings were undertaken toward this end, facilitating broader engagement and reach given that all activities were conducted online.

On the other hand, given that we are also a learning organization, we also take pride and inspiration in undertakings that were conducted hand-in-hand with the focus localities and communities such as the:

- Inter-LGU management and protection of natural resources in Salug Valley through the development of their Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA) and Coastal Resource Management Plans, which Project PROSPER has been actively working towards with the Federation governing the said region;
- Establishment of the Climate-Resilient Field School (CRFS), from which 65 farmer enrollees were able to participate in the season-long training and establishment of demo farms; and
- Localization of Climate Information Systems, with one set of equipment for the automated weather station successfully turned over to the Municipality of Tambulig through their MDRRMC.



Partners, stakeholders, and duty-bearers under ALERT, DRREAM BEGINS, PROSPER, and VOICE-IDMS have also been able to lead and implement their own trainings and simulation exercises in RBHAP, WASAR (Water, Search, and Rescue), Water Safety, Emergency Response, and many others alongside basic and vulnerable sectors in their respective localities and communities. Under Project ALERT, not only have partners been empowered to train their constituencies in DRRM but have also managed to improve their harmonization as they are now able to coordinate and organize assessment reports efficiently.

Further proving the impact of Inclusive CBDRRM in their localities and communities, focus areas under Project ALERT have managed to institutionalize meaningful participation and representation in their DRRM Councils and Committees, with CSOs and people's organizations regularly enjoined to partake in planning sessions for disaster response. Because of this, community leaders and members are also more proactive in taking action and preparing for the onslaught of hazards, actively taking on roles and responsibilities to ensure their communities are safe and resilient to disasters. Among the roles they have undertaken are the inclusive and effective

implementation of their respective Early Warning Systems, Evacuation Center Management, Relief Delivery Operations, Protection of Livelihoods, and Information Dissemination.

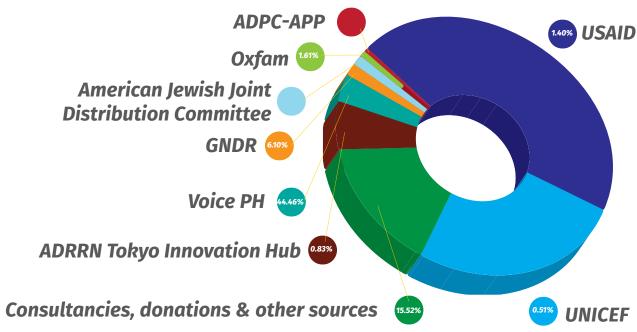
However, apart from the aforementioned, given the unprecedented global pandemic and sweeping crises that continue to beleaguer nations the world over, including ours, we were also presented with complex challenges and disasters that have not only affected our capacity to cope and survive but have also shaken our resolve and wellbeing. Toward this end, we strived to provide support to our partners in various forms: a) Relief delivery assistance, b) Dissemination of sound and credible information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and c) Provision of MHPSS to frontliners and affected populations and development of basic modules.

Given that we also saw this disaster situation as a stumbling block to our service delivery, we endeavored to maintain a supporting and facilitating role for all our partners as they bore down to face the onerous challenges and problems caused by this extraordinary crisis. Constantly steered by the principle of making sure that vulnerable and marginalized sectors are at the fore of all our endeavors, we continue to affirm our dedication and

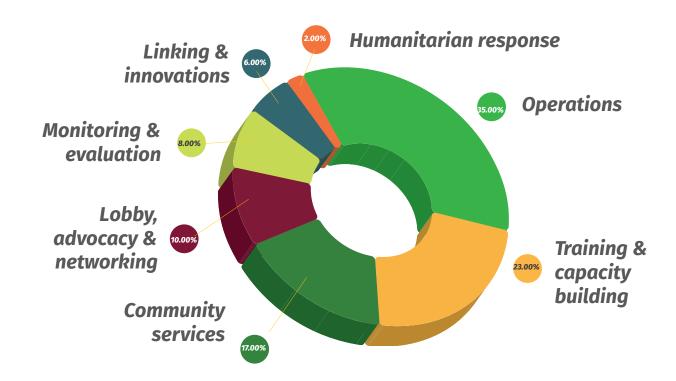
commitment to fostering sustainable, safe, disasterresilient and -resistant communities safeguarded by an enabling environment where people are able to uphold their rights to genuine development.

Acknowledging that we neither take the superior nor leading role in this journey, we continue to uphold our duty as steadfast and determined champions and advocates in bringing the voices of the marginalized and oppressed to the fore because at the end of the day, we may be able to stand and work together with them, but we can never, ever speak for them. As always, resilience is everyone's responsibility, and we can only truly achieve this if we are all empowered to partake in its realization.

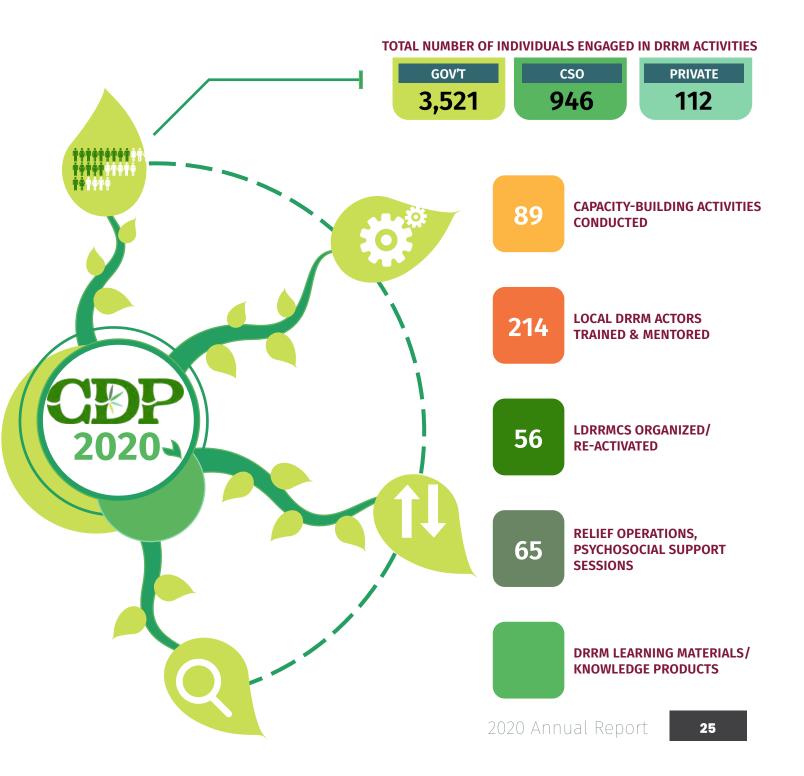
Fund Sources



Fund utilization



Impact/Results



Projects

Inclusive Data Management System for Persons with Disability (IDMS)

Areas: Las Piñas and Bislig Cities

Period: September 2018-March 2021

The Inclusive Data Management System for Persons with Disabilities (IDMS) helps actualize the recommendations of the National Conference on Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in October 2017. The IDMS's goal is to help local governments better capture particular information on people with disabilities in their communities by collecting and documenting disability and DRRM data using Kobo Collect. The project's ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive data management system for people with disabilities at the municipal or city level.

Adaptive Livelihoods and Emergency Readiness and Timely Response of Communities (ALERT)

Areas: Quinapondan; Balangiga; Quinaponden in

Eastern Samar

Period: January 2018-October 2020

When it comes to disaster response, how wellprepared authorities are can make the difference between life and death for people who are affected. Improving preparedness means that when a crisis happens, agencies have the resources they need to respond quickly, effectively, and appropriately, and the people in charge know how to deploy those resources. The project aims to help communities strengthen their capacities and leadership in order to respond effectively to small-scale disasters, with the following goals in mind: 1) increasing community awareness, knowledge, and connectivity about disaster risk reduction (DRR); 2) increasing communities' ability to take action and co-lead humanitarian responses in collaboration with local authorities and other actors; and 3) strengthening local humanitarianism.

Project Participation in
Resilience Building and
Organizing Safe and
Progressive communities
for Empowerment, Climate
and Disaster Risk Reduction
(Prosper 3)

Areas: Zamboanga Peninsula

Period: November 2019-July 2022

The Project PROSPER, now on its third phase, is being implemented by the Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) in partnership with the USAID-OFDA, and is focusing on resilience-building in Regions IX and X. PROSPER Phase III: ReBuild Salug

Valley utilizes the ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction approach with which the ecosystems that consist of forests, wetlands and mangroves are harnessed and utilized in an organized manner to prevent and mitigate disasters. Eight focus barangays and 12 municipal local government units (MLGUs) are covered by this new project in the range of mountains, reefs and ridges having a shared valley named Salug. This project runs from Nov. 10, 2019 – Oct. 9, 2021.

PHILREP

The Philippine Preparedness Partnership is the collaboration between key stakeholders of the three main actors in humanitarian action, the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) for the government, Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) for the private sector. As the primary advocate of tripartite partnership in the country, PhilPrep ensures cohesive action between the three sectors in any and all humanitarian initiatives it conducts across the three major islands of the Philippines.

Since its inception, PhilPrep has demonstrated how the three important sectors (government, civil society, and private sector) can showcase coordination, collaboration, and partnership, in view of wider influence in policy and practice in order to ultimately make an innovative contribution for significant changes in the humanitarian ecosystem in the country. Now on its second phase, PHILPREP leans to greater emphasis on increasing locally-led actions in the Philippines, the partnership initiates focused

action towards contributing to the APP North Star: Safer and well-prepared communities through locally-led DRM actions, so that disaster impacts on at-risk communities in Asia will be reduced.

Disaster Risk Reduction through Empowerment of At-risk Municipalities and Communities in Benguet and Northern Samar (DRREAM BEGINS)

Areas: Northern Samar; Focus: San Antonio, Rosario, Catubig, Mondragon, Lope De Vega

Period: February - September 2020

The project's primary goal is to facilitate not only the mainstreaming and integration of children's rights and needs into the risk reduction plans of the focus municipalities using child-centered CBDRRM and multisectoral approaches, but also their upscaling to the provincial level to ensure replication and sustainability.

Communities in the province of Northern Samar and the municipality of Itogon face constrained economic growth due to isolation and distance from markets, inadequate transportation systems, poor infrastructure and support services, and low financial capacity of Local Government Units, given the socioeconomic context in the focus areas (LGUs). Because the former is located in the hinterlands and the latter is located along the Pacific Ocean, both are vulnerable to hydrological and geological hazards such as floods, sea level rise, typhoons, landslides, tsunamis, and earthquakes. The municipalities of Catubig, Lope de Vega, Mondragon, Rosario, and San Antonio in Northern Samar, as well as the municipality of Itogon in Benguet, are the focus locations for this project. Coastal municipalities classed as GIDA, or Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas, have a slew of socioeconomic vulnerabilities that compound the dangers they face on a daily basis. The majority of towns are in the third to fifth income brackets, with little financial resources to finance DRR-CCA programs.

PROJECT KONEK

Areas: Quezon City; Focus: Bagumbayan, Commonwealth

Period: January - December 2020

Project KONEK or "Strengthening Partnership through Harmonized Plans for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management," is a project carried out by the Center for Disaster Preparedness in partnership with the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) under the United States Agency for International Development - Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID-OFDA) grant. The project focuses on strengthening community resilience through the development and enhancement of barangay DRRM plans, strategies, and policies of target barangays in Quezon City--Barangays Talayan, Dona Imelda, Commonwealth, and Bagumbayan. Project KONEK also focuses on the continuity of operation for the Quezon City local government.

DRR Community of Practice

Fostering and Nurturing our Community of Practice (CoP): Sustaining Meaningful Encounters and Conversations Between and Among CoP Members

January - December 2020

In the past, Give2Asia worked with about 20 DRRM organizations/networks in the Philippines, which led to the establishment of a Community of Practice (CoP). As the focal point for the current phase of the project, CDP will help in fostering meaningful encounters, sharing and consolidating relevant learnings, and sustaining the momentum of the CoP in the Philippines. As well, the CoP can radiate in the key major islands of the country where community members are present, igniting learning and innovation among fellow practitioners. Beyond this, the project also aims to foster the sustainability not only of the in-country CoP but also pave the way toward the strengthening of the multi-country

Disaster Ready joint movement at the regional level. However, the most vital aim of this undertaking is to ensure that it becomes a nurturing platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration, not only helping to promote coherence at all levels of engagement but also aid in effecting social change.

Materials produced

Advocacy for an inclusive COVID-19 response



CDP has come together to produce various materials related to COVID-19 aimed at bringing helpful tips that can provide individuals and families hope in the midst of an incredibly trying time especially due to the lockdowns brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through <u>online petitions</u>, <u>open letter to the government</u>, and formal letters sent to LGUs, CDP helped its partners, in substantiating their calls for a more disability-inclusive COVID-19 response and in launching their online petition page.

CDP also sent out formal letters highlighting that every group of the community, regardless of their social, cultural, and economic background, are at risk of being infected by Coronavirus and/or impacted by the extraordinary circumstances resulting from the widespread of COVID-19. Since COVID-19 potentially infects all community groups indiscriminately, measures in response to COVID-19 should be inclusive by ensuring everyone has access to accurate information and protection in line with individual needs and capacities.

Concrete actions were included in the petition and letters to help government and other actors take measures that prioritize the protection of groups that are at high risk in order to prevent and mitigate the impacts and to make sure that everybody is safe and empowered.

A <u>lyric video</u> was also produced in partnership with Bohol Person's With Disability Workers Association (BPDWA) and Leonard Cheshire Disability Philippines Foundation (LCDPFI). The featured song is a rallying cry for people with disabilities to be included in the COVID-19 response. The epidemic emphasizes the tragic reality of inequity that still exists for people with disabilities.

PHILPREP

MHPSS Online Module

PHILPREP partnered with mental health professionals to develop a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MH-PSS) module and to conduct online sessions for front-liners, carers, and disaster managers. The MH-PSS module that was used in the conduct of the online sessions underwent improvements from its inception, incorporating learnings from previous sessions and from innovations done by the facilitators. After the validation by partner mental health experts from InTouch Community Services, a final version of the module was produced. It incorporated inputs from the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).



MH-PSS Case Story Collection

Along with the online MH-PSS sessions conducted, PHILPREP identified key figures from the participants who have agreed to share their stories of resilience amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Their stories were compiled and formed into a knowledge product highlighting the strength and resilience of our modern-day heroes during the country's crisis. Six (6) stories of shared experiences coming from different perspectives of hope, leadership, and determination are encapsulated in the timely and relevant knowledge product.



ALERT



Poetry of A Disaster Video

This is a powerful piece written by a youth leader who experienced Typhoon Haiyan's wrath and is now an advocate of Inclusive CBDRRM. This video was posted on social media platforms and distributed in the communities through electronic/USB copies.

Gabay sa Gawaing Pagtugon **Booklet**

The project went beyond the IEC target beneficiaries of 800. This does not include indirect beneficiaries who shared with the IEC materials. Produced and distributed booklets were seven hundred sixtvfour (764) copies of "Gabay sa Gawaing Pagtugon" or "Guide for Emergency Response", fifty (50) copies of the Emergency Response Manual. Earlier version of this "Gabay" was distributed to the simulation participants in the Municipality of Quinapondan with around two hundred (200) copies. The "Gabay" serves as a guide for BLGUs and other stakeholders in the conduct of emergency response activities. This was patterned from the Rights Based Humanitarian Response Training and was localized to capture the needs of the communities covered by ALERT.



OXFAM







Radio campaign material on COVID-19

The radio campaign material was aired in a local radio station (BJ FM 88.9) in Salcedo, Eastern Samar. The material entitled "Pag-asa Tips Laban sa COVID-19 or "Tips on COVID-19) was aired eight (8) times a day with a daily run from July 9 to August 9, 2020. The area of coverage for the radio airing is beyond the project municipalities.



