

## **THE 2014 YOLANDA DISASTER-RESPONSE PROJECT**

This project involves the development relief and livelihood rehabilitation phase of the Episcopal Church's work with communities affected by super-typhoon Yolanda. This phase, following the mainly food relief missions undertaken during the first two (2) months after the disaster, will involve the physical rebuilding of houses and communities and engage in the restoration and development of economic livelihoods. It shall be pursued within the ECP's sustainable developmental framework, making use of the ABCD approach as well as the "receivers to givers" policy.

The project shall be focused on partner communities. It has already identified and initially engaged with four (4) communities: Barangays Bayog [343 households] and Sabang Bao [560 households] in Ormoc City and Barangays Cabuluran (240 households) and Maliwaliw (138 households) in the municipality of Dagami, Leyte. A fifth community is being explored in Bantayan Island in Cebu province where the Episcopal Diocese of Davao has members and where it has previously focused its relief efforts. At a later time during the year, engagement will also be explored in three (3) communities in the province of Aklan where the Episcopal Diocese of Central Philippines has started missionary work.

The four (4) communities already identified are in the remote areas and are not among the seaside communities that are the main focus of current national and international relief and rehabilitation efforts. Working with these communities involve bigger challenges in terms of physical access but the choice is within the ECP's strategy of going to places where no other groups are working.

Aside from engaging with partner communities, the project has established coordination with the Philippine Center for Social Enterprise, which has members – social enterprises – working in the affected areas which have been damaged by the super-typhoon. The PCSE has requested assistance in re-capitalization of these enterprises as well as rehabilitation/replacement of infrastructures and equipments.

On the whole, the project hopes to reach out to 4,000 households, out of the 800,000 households estimated to have been affected by the super-typhoon.

### **Here are the bank details for the Philippine donations.**

ACCOUNT NAME: EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES, INC  
ACCOUNT NO.: 3144-0263-56 (US Dollar Savings )  
BANK NAME: BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS  
SWIFT CODE: BOPIPHMM  
BRANCH: KAMUNING BRANCH  
ADDRESS: TOMAS MORATO, QUEZON CITY  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: bpiexpressonline.com.ph

We will send acknowledgement as soon as fund is credited to us.

Please indicate on the transfer form: the institution sending the funds and the designation of the funds being transferred (e.g. Oxford Diocese, UK, for Typhoon response).

Please also email Bridget Balitog, the National Finance Officer of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines and Floyd Lalwet, Provincial Secretary and National Development Officer to let them know when you

have made a transfer and how much. They will then be able to correctly allocate the money to the Typhoon response and send you an acknowledgement. Their emails are: [Flaw997@gmail.com](mailto:Flaw997@gmail.com) and [bbalitog@yahoo.com](mailto:bbalitog@yahoo.com)

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT:**

- 1] To engage with partner communities in the development and implementation of their respective rebuilding plans that integrate disaster-risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures in the rebuilding of houses, community facilities and eco-systems.
- 2] To engage with partner communities in the clearing and re-planting of existing farmlands, utilizing, introducing and/or enhancing natural farming methods and technologies.
- 3] To engage with partner communities in evolving and implementing new or alternative livelihoods, using the ABCD approach.
- 4] To provide selected food relief to the partner communities during the periods of physical reconstruction and rehabilitation and development of livelihoods.
- 5] To provide solar lighting systems in strategic centers of the partner communities.
- 6] To partner with affected social enterprises in the rehabilitation of infrastructure or equipments and re-capitalization of business operations.

#### **COMPONENTS:**

##### **A] PHYSICAL REBUILDING OF HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES AND DRR**

Most houses in the four (4) identified communities have been destroyed and people are now living in temporary shelters using “trapal” provided by the Red Cross or salvaged lumber and g.i. sheets. While some families have re-built their houses into pre-Yolanda conditions, these are made of wood and g.i. sheets that could not withstand strong winds and rains and thus make them vulnerable to future disasters.

The reconstruction work will start with planning workshops where the communities can envision more resilient villages, with the adoption of DRR measures and consideration of stronger structures.

The project has commenced consultations with technical experts to provide science-based inputs in the reconstruction planning. It will also draw from the ECP’s experiences in using construction materials and designs that make use of local and environmental resources, such as earth-blocks that have been used in the construction of churches and rectories as well as eco-bricks that make use of plastic wastes. DRR measures applied in ECP communities, such as planting tree buffers on wind paths, strengthening vegetative covers of erosion-prone areas, diversification of agricultural crops, will be shared and implemented while identifying and strengthening these communities’ own measures to adapt to the changing environment.

##### **B] REHABILITATION OF FARMLANDS**

The growing crops in the four (4) communities have been completely wiped out and the farmlands have sustained damages. At least, being on higher grounds, much of these have not been reached by sea [salt] water and thus people have already started clearing and re-planting.

The project shall enhance existing natural-farming practices and shall also introduce and provide environmentally-sustainable technologies, such as organic soil conditioners, IMO and other organic inputs produced in the ECP's Tadian Demonstration Farm. It shall also introduce SRI which it hopes the farmers will adopt in the longer term.

#### C] ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW OR ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

The ECP team which brought food relief to the four communities explained that the camote biscuits and vegetable noodles were made by other rural communities that are struggling to establish new livelihood sources. These latter communities are sharing not only their produce but also their hopes and prayers that the disaster-affected households will also venture into similar economic activities. The recipients were inspired to hear of these stories and were pleasantly surprised that camote and other crops that they also grow can be processed into biscuits and noodles. They expressed a desire to do similar ventures with their own crops.

Towards the second semester of 2014, the project shall conduct ABCD workshops with the communities to identify their assets and resources and enable them to come up with project ideas that utilize such resources for livelihood purposes. In the longer term, the livelihood projects will follow the ECP's strategy of enabling communities to move from economic survival [point A] and subsistence [point B] levels to self-reliance [point C].

#### D] FOOD RELIEF PROVISION

The communities are gradually "restoring" food sources [e.g. by starting backyard gardening, vending of salvaged crops, etc.], But since much of their efforts in the first semester of 2014 will be directed towards physical reconstruction and while they are awaiting the harvest of re-planted crops, there is a need for continuation of food relief within such period. The food relief partakes of the nature of augmentation and hence the ECP will concentrate on providing food stuff that are produced by its other partner communities, more specifically, camote biscuits, vegetable noodles and insumix for children. Also, to maintain proper sanitation in the communities, the ECP will continue to provide relief in terms soap and cleaning liquids as these items are presently in the bottom of the communities' list of priorities.

#### E] SOLAR LIGHTING SYSTEMS

Electric power supply to the four (4) communities have all been destroyed and may take a longer time to be restored, as these communities lie in the farther parts of Ormoc City and in the rural municipality of Dagami. Lighting is urgently needed to allow for the functionality of critical community centers [e.g. health clinics] during nighttime. The affected households continue to congregate around lighted centers to seek the comfort of light as against the psychological effect of darkness that makes them relive the horrors of the disaster.

#### F] PARTNERSHIP WITH SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

There are social enterprises working in the region that have been severely damaged and have become in-operational. The project will partner with selected enterprises for the replacement of destroyed infrastructure and equipments and provision of new capital to enable business operations to resume. In this work, the project has entered into a partnership with the Philippine Center for Social Enterprise which shall recommend the appropriate enterprise from among its members.

## **INDICATORS**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Objective 1 | Community reconstruction plans evolved.<br>Houses, using stronger materials and construction designs, adopted, built and are being built.<br>Community facilities [e.g. water systems] rebuilt and are operational.<br>DRR measures adopted and implemented. |
| Objective 2 | Farmlands cleared and re-planted.<br>Organic soil conditioners, fertilizers and other organic inputs distributed and applied.<br>Crops harvested and food source gradually restored.<br>SRI adopted and piloted.   |
| Objective 3 | ABCD workshops conducted.<br>Assets and resources identified.<br>Project ideas for new/alternative livelihoods suggested and implemented.  |
| Objective 4 | Relief, consisting of foods and hygiene items, produced by ECP partners distributed.<br>Diseases prevented.<br>Food sufficiency ensured.   |
| Objective 5 | Solar lighting systems installed in strategic community centers.<br><br>Lighted community centers functional and operational at nighttime.   |
| Objective 6 | Partnership with at least 5 social enterprises established.<br>Damaged infrastructure and equipments replaced and/or repaired.<br>Business operations of these social enterprises resumed.   |

## **TIMETABLE**

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b>  | <b>1<sup>ST</sup> QTR</b> | <b>2<sup>ND</sup> QTR</b> | <b>3<sup>RD</sup> QTR</b> | <b>4<sup>TH</sup> QTR</b> |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Food and sanitation relief provisions  | x                         |                           |                           |                           |
| Scaling up processing activities of food source communities                          | x                         |                           |                           |                           |
| Identification of partner communities  | x                         |                           |                           |                           |
| Meetings and consultation with partner communities                                   | x                         |                           |                           |                           |
| ABCD activities  |                           | x                         | x                         | x                         |
| Reconstruction of Homes and Communities<br>Consultation with Technical Experts [Feb] | x                         | x                         | x                         | x                         |

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Workshops of ECP technical staff and Volunteers [Feb] |   |   |   |   |
| Community Reconstruction Planning [Feb-April]         |   |   |   |   |
| Reconstruction activities                             |   | X | X | X |
| DRR   | X | X | X | X |
| Clearing, Re-Planting of Farmlands                    | X | X | X | X |
| Enhancing/Introducing Natural Farming Methods         | X | X | X | X |
| Evolving New/Alternative Livelihoods                  |   |   | X | X |
| Identifying and partnering with existing SE           | X | X | X | X |
| Hiring of staff                                       |   |   |   |   |
| Relief coordinator                                    | X |   |   |   |
| Communications (volunteer)                            | X |   |   |   |
| Yolanda Project Coordinator                           | X |   |   |   |
| 2 CDWs  | X |   |   |   |
| Setting up of Finance Systems                         | X |   |   |   |
| Establishment of Office/Center                        | X |   |   |   |
| Field Office/ supplies                                | X |   |   |   |
| Staff Care: psychological care                        | X | X | X | X |

### **ECP RESOURCES and MODE OF OPERATION**

- 1] From past experiences, disaster relief and rehabilitation work, especially if it involves huge amounts of resources, oftentimes result in helplessness and the creation and/or strengthening of a sense of dependency and mendicancy among disaster-affected communities. Hence, in the implementation of this project, measures are deliberately and programmatically adopted to prevent such undesired effects and, instead, build up and/or enhance the sense of self-reliance of these communities. Examples of these measures:
  - 1.1] Provision of relief items that are produced or processed by economically marginalized communities struggling to improve their own livelihoods. These gives the recipient communities a sense of solidarity and identification with the “givers” which prevent a tendency to move towards helplessness and neediness that oftentimes arise when the said disaster-struck communities look at their benefactors as the “rich and powerful” foreign donor that doles out favors to those in need. It also gives the said receiving communities a better sense of obligation to follow a similar course taken by the marginalized communities seeking to economically empower themselves.
  - 1.2] The ECP applies a “receivers to givers” policy, where recipients of development grants or assistance are enabled to eventually become givers. This policy has been applied among disaster victims not only in livelihood rehabilitation projects but also in house reconstruction where previous recipients have committed to “give back” what they received. Given the massive scale of destruction in Yolanda, however, “giving back” the amounts of assistance may not be viable but other schemes shall be adopted in order that the spirit of “from receivers to givers” is enhanced. These includes the “bayanihan” scheme, where a group works together to successively build each other’s houses, and

this will be further modified so that the group shall also then include as a required chore the work on rebuilding of community facilities such as water systems.

The policy shall be applied in the establishment of new or alternative livelihoods as well as in partnership with existing social enterprises. The recipients will be obligated to “give back” what they received so that these resources can then be used by other groups or communities under the same scheme, and thus establish a spiral of “receiving and giving” from one group or community to another.

- 1.3] The solar lighting project shall install a solar system which is easily transferable. When electric power is eventually restored in the community where it will be installed, the system shall be dismantled and transferred to another community in need of the same service and thus follow a similar course of sharing from one group or community to another.
  - 1.4] It is envisioned that at least 30% of the value of total resources or funding for this project will be passed on from the original recipients to a series of successive receiving groups and that 15% will eventually become a perpetual fund moving through such an un-ending spiral.
- 2] The ECP has resources that it can readily share towards the rehabilitation project. This includes a natural farming system for both crops and livestock, now being demonstrated in Tadian Demonstration Farm. Both the technology as well as the organic elements being processed in this farm can be shared with the affected farmers in the partner communities as a way of increasing production through environmentally acceptable means. This also includes the ECP’s experience in the development of appropriate and environmentally-sustainable construction designs and materials.
  - 3] The quantitative figures in the target indicators above shall be determined and stated as the project actually engages with the communities. The ECP’s development program has systems and processes to determine these indicators in a participatory manner.

Prepared by:

FLOYD P. LALWET  
Revised 24 January 2014