



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER

2005-2006  
annual report

**2005-2006**

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# **annual report**

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER  
DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY-MANILA**



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Social Development Research Center  
De La Salle University-Manila

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## *message from the director*

SY 2005-2006 was another landmark year for the Social Development Research Center in 3 respects: (1) increased contribution to program management and/or policy development, especially in the public sector with projects such as the Subabay Bata Monitoring System for Children, BFAD Assessment and Institutionalization of the Client Feedback and Monitoring System, and the Pilot Testing of Monitoring and Evaluation Tools for LGU Performance Assessment in Health Systems; (2) increased multi-country researches such as the 3rd Asian Regional Workshop of the HIV/AIDS and STI Knowledge Program, Agroforestry and Sustainable Vegetable Production in Southeast Asian Watersheds, Promoting Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility in Developing Countries, and Negotiating Land Rights and Natural Resources Regulations for Local People; and (3) SDRC funding assistance for the first time to a College of Liberal Arts Department-based project – the Psychology Department's Paths to Social Integration and Participation for the Youth in the Philippines and Asia.

Needless to say, the other projects during the year reflect SDRC's sustained commitment to the areas it has identified in its mandate, namely: poverty and social protection, health outcomes and policy, sustainable development and social change (rural/urban), human and cultural capital formation, and local government/ institutional reforms. The details of the researches are in this report. The different foci of the projects demonstrate SDRC's belief that social development is DOABLE from any aspect (e.g., political, educational, economic) as long as the process and goals remain developmental and inclusive.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our partners, both old and new, for their confidence and generous support to SDRC. Above all, I am personally indebted to the real wealth that has sustained the Center for 27 years – its fellows and staff.



JESUSA M. MARCO, Ph.D.  
Director

## **Poverty and Social Protection/Social Inclusion**

### ***System President's Poverty Alleviation: Action Research and Documentation for Peoples' Organizations Micro-finance Initiative (Phase I)***

Project Director: Exaltacion E. Lamberte

Researchers: Hector Namay, Marilou Olicia

Funding Agency: DLSU President's Office and SDRC Poverty Studies Fund

Status: Completed

The study aimed to find responsive and appropriate ways of undertaking poverty reduction initiatives in the communities of Barangay Paliparan, Dasmariñas, Cavite; Barangay Concepcion, Lumban, Laguna; and Barangays 745, 753, and 754, Singalang, Manila (for DLSU-Dasmariñas, DLS-College of St. Benilde, and DLSU-Manila, respectively), so as to assess the status of beneficiaries of the Caucus on Poverty Reduction (CPR) during the period 2003-2005. Thus, this study sought to:



1. provide a socio-demographic and economic situationer of the micro-finance partners of the different programs before and after program implementation;
2. look at the perceptions of the micro-finance partners of the different programs regarding their present status compared to that prior to the program implementation;

3. assess the training needs of the micro-finance partners to enable them to become more economically productive based on the ideals of community participation, self-help, and participatory development;
4. look into the implementation of the different programs relative to equity and gender concerns; and
5. look into the operation of the different programs, especially on the aspects of transparency and accountability.

The survey entailed interviewing fifty (50) partners each in the Business Skills Development Resource Centers (BSDRC) programs in Dasmariñas, Cavite, Lumban, Laguna, and Singalong, Manila, using a structured interview questionnaire. In addition, a similar number of non-partners from the same areas were also interviewed using the same questionnaire to allow for comparison. The sample partner-respondents were drawn randomly from the respective lists of the three programs, while the sample non-partner-respondents were drawn randomly from available *barangay* voters' lists after removing the names of program partners.

Highlights of the baseline survey research findings are as follows:

#### *Socio-Demographic and Housing Characteristics*

1. There are more female partner-respondents across the three programs of DLSU-Manila, DLS-CSB and DLSU-Dasmariñas than male partners.
2. The average age of the respondents is 43.5. The partner-respondents are younger than the non-partner-respondents.

3. More than four-fifths are either married or opted for a living-in marital arrangement, while over half are single. There is a considerable proportion of respondents who are single parents, widowed or separated from partners in Singalong.
4. Most of the households are nuclear. Partner-respondent households are slightly bigger in size than the non-partner-respondent households, and households from Dasmariñas are slightly bigger than those in either Lumban or Singalong.
5. More than three-fifths own the house and lot they live in; nearly one tenth rent, and fewer than these live with their relatives.
6. Except for two partner-respondent households and one non-partner-respondent household from Lumban, all use electricity for lighting. While most households use LPG for cooking, a considerable proportion of Singalong households use kerosene. Furthermore, almost half drink water from the tap, while an equal proportion either purchase their drinking water or obtain this from deep wells. Toilet facilities across type and program are owned and are either water-sealed or of the flush type. Garbage disposal is more than four-fifths collected or one-eighth burned.
7. TV is the major source of information among almost four-fifths of the households.

### *Socio-Economic Characteristics*

1. More than two-fifths either attained high school level or have graduated from secondary schooling, while less than one-fourth each reached elementary schooling and attained college levels
2. Most have a primary source of income. The major sources of income include vending, tending *sari-sari* stores, embroidery and tailoring or dressmaking. In addition, slightly more than half are either drivers or engaged in buy-and-sell activities.
3. Almost one-third also received money, bonuses and food or groceries, and clothing or gifts, either from relatives, friends, or church and other agencies. In addition, about one-fifth won in lotteries or gambling.
4. More respondents see their present socioeconomic standing to be much better than three years ago, with the partner-respondents displaying more optimism than non-partner-respondents.

### *Savings and Credit System*

1. Seven out of ten respondents do save. The highest percentage of savers came from the partner-respondents.
2. Partner-respondents save through capital build-up or CBU, bank, *paluwagan* and *alkansya*.

3. Almost nine out of ten avail of loans when necessary, usually for varied reasons such as basic necessities, capital, education or medical needs. Loans are obtained from CPR-BSDRC, relatives, neighbors, and friends. Almost two-thirds pay interest on the loans, ranging from 2 to 20 percent.
4. Nearly three-fifths have outstanding obligations.

*Awareness of the Caucus on Poverty Reduction-Business Skills Development Resource Center (CPR-BSDRC) and its Operation*

1. Implementation of micro-finance initiative, low interest rate, good management and savings generation are the major types of information the respondents heard about CPR-BSDRC.
2. Respondents opine that the objective of CPR-BSDRC is to assist people in need, provide capital, or provide livelihood assistance.
3. Only a negligible number of the partner-respondents encountered difficulties in availing of CPR-BSDRC loans. One-fourth find difficulty in attending the *pulong*, while fewer than this find difficulty with either the credit investigation or the schedule of meetings. One-fourth of all of those who encountered difficulties, however, persisted and displayed patience in going through all of the requirements.
4. Less than three out of ten encountered difficulties in repaying the loans from CPR-BSDRC. Half the respondents found difficulty in repaying because of meager income or irregular income; over a fourth attribute the difficulty to diversion of use of money to other purposes instead of expected repayment.

5. Only a little more than a third still actively participate in the CPR-BSDRC program, with Dasmariñas showing the highest proportion and Singalong exhibiting the lowest.
6. More than one-third claim the program does not need any improvement; it only needs to continue or raise the amount of loans to be lent to people.

#### *Perceptions and Beliefs*

1. Only an estimated one-tenth of the respondents perceive that in general, no one but they themselves should help alleviate their situation. However, others say it is the responsibility of the government to help them; some say it is the rich who should help them, while others say it should be the POs/NGOs.
2. More than four-fifths claim that credit extension is helpful in poverty alleviation, and they also say that livelihood projects and provision of jobs are other programs that are helpful in poverty alleviation aside from credit extension. On the other hand, those who claim that credit extension is not helpful in poverty alleviation also say that provision of jobs and livelihood projects are more helpful.
3. Respondents say that an individual is unable to repay his loans due to lack of finances or unemployment/lost job, or merely refuses to pay.
4. More than two-thirds of the respondents believe that individual efforts are more effective in poverty alleviation efforts than working together.
5. Low income, high prices of commodities, vices and big families are the main reasons given by the respondents on why the poor have not improved their condition despite their efforts.

## *System President's Poverty Alleviation: Action Research and Documentation for Peoples' Organizations Micro-finance Initiative (Phase II)*

Project Director: Jesusa M. Marco

Funding Agency: DLSU President's Office and SDRC Poverty Studies Fund

Status: Ongoing

Phase II primarily includes the ff. activities: (1) Continued monitoring and formative evaluation of the micro-finance project in Singalong implemented by COSCA; (2) Skills Inventory Survey in the community; and (3) Dissemination of the results and mapping out future directions.

## *Development of a Framework for Local Monitoring System for Children (Subabaybay Bata Monitoring System for Children or SBMSC)*

Project Director: Exaltacion E. Lamberte

Research Assistants: Avelita Lapitan, Ian Jayson Hecita, Elaine Tolentino

Funding Agency: CWC/UNICEF/Plan International

Status: Ongoing

Determining the impact of programs and services provided for children both at the national and local levels is a growing concern. The development of a local monitoring system on children, referred to as the "Subabaybay Bata Monitoring System (SBMS)," is one of the interventions that will help address this nagging problem. The SBMS is an area- and issue-based monitoring system that will capitalize on the Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPC) as an effective mechanism for the system.



It is envisioned that problems on data generation, reliability and accuracy as well as timely reporting of data will be addressed through the System. There shall be established monitoring sites that will help stakeholders in planning, policy, and decision making. The monitoring sites will function as an information-house machinery not only for providing baseline information on the local situation of 0-17 year old children but to ensure responsiveness of policy implementation and the appropriateness of interventions of programs/projects.

The SBMS will build on the existing system in coming up with software database that is commonly used for monitoring children's well-being. The System shall be set up in identified barangays selected as the monitoring sites. Capacity building interventions on data collection and information management will be



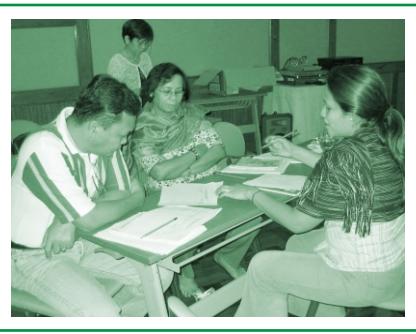
provided within the next 3 years. This will mean establishing an information system in the barangay, teaching key officials or their representatives how to manage data, and training the community to gather data and to use this data for planning, monitoring, and evaluation.

There are various activities that can be grouped into phases that need to be undertaken to come up with the aforementioned Monitoring System. The first stage, which is the mapping of indicators and the formulation of the Framework of the Monitoring System, is the concern of this project.

The following principles will govern the development of the framework and the entire monitoring system:

1. The indicators and measures developed will be in accordance with the framework laid down in the CHILD 21/National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC);
2. The system that shall be developed will be based on and aligned with the existing system;
3. Indicators and the system must be simple and manageable for LGUs; and
4. The system must be economical for LGUs.

The project has two-pronged general objectives, namely: 1) to undertake a mapping of indicators and monitoring and evaluation systems of organizations/agencies working closely with children; and 2) to formulate an appropriate and suitable framework for the local monitoring system for children.



Specifically, the project intends to:

1. Review the thrusts and priorities of CWC with respect to the advancement of the well-being of children;
2. Undertake a review of current and existing monitoring and evaluation systems of selected agencies/organizations involved with the mission of advancing the well-being and rights of children, namely:

2.1 Department of Social Welfare and Development; b) Department of Health; c) Department of Education; d) Department of Interior and Local Government; e) National Statistics Office; f) Department of Labor; and g) National Statistics and Coordination Board.

3. Undertake mapping of indicators and the existing data collection as well as storage systems;
4. Chart the existing tools and instruments according to their level of data generation (household, facility, community); and
5. Formulate/design an SBMS framework appropriate to CHILD 21/NPAC.

The expected outputs for the project are as follows:

1. List and typology of indicators used by selected agencies/organizations;
2. Charted list of tools and instruments classified according to levels of data generation;
3. Report of the reviewed monitoring and evaluation systems used by the aforementioned selected agencies/organizations and local government units;
4. Proposed SBMS Monitoring Framework.

## **Health Outcomes and Policy/Family Health/Population**

### ***The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian Regional Workshop of the HIV/AIDS and STI Knowledge Program***

Project Director: Jesusa M. Marco

Research Assistants: Avelita Lapitan, Rosalia Eugenio

Funding Agency: Department for International Development-Liverpool  
School of Tropical Medicine

Status: Completed

After two regional workshops (in 2003 and 2004), the Asia HIV/AIDS Research for Action Network (AHARAN) convened the 3rd Asian Regional Workshop of the HIV/AIDS and STI Knowledge Programme from November 18 to 20, 2005 in Shanghai, China. In pursuit of the network's over-riding goal to eventually provide a venue for collaboration among the six member countries--Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Thailand, China and the Philippines--the workshop specifically aimed to:



- a) describe Best Practices on HIV/AIDS in each country;
- b) review government initiatives related to the Millennium Development Goals specific to HIV/AIDS and their integration in the Information Monitoring System;
- c) identify and prioritize common concerns or issues for which research is necessary; and
- d) develop a feasible regional research proposal.

The 2005 workshop was jointly organized by SDRC and the Shanghai Institute for Planned Parenthood Research (SIPPR), with funding support from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine through the DfID Knowledge Programme.

***Mapping of Mental Health Research Capacity in Low and Middle Income (LAMI) Countries in Asia and the Pacific***

Project Team:	Exaltacion E. Lamberte (Project Team Leader) Loyd Brendan Norella
Project Team Assistants:	Avelita Lapitan, Cecile Pascasio, Ian Jayson Hecita, Maria Catherine Dacillo, Marilou Olicia
Funding Agency:	World Bank through Global Forum for Health Research
Status:	Completed



The Mapping of Mental Health Research in Low- and Middle-Income Countries study, funded by the Global Forum for Health Research and the World Bank, generally aimed to develop a regional map of actors and their respective roles in the domains of mental, neurological and behavioral health research,

and to describe the current research agenda and the process of priority setting in a Domain Profile. Specifically, this project intended to:

1. map the actors involved in mental health research, particularly in the Western Pacific Region,

2. map the research agenda as well as the domain of the studies done on mental health,
3. describe the process of priority setting, and
4. analyze the factors that impact on mental, neurological and behavioral health policy.

The project sought to produce a network of institutions and individuals working on research on mental and neurological disorders in low- and middle-income countries and their priority setting strategies.

To attain the first objective, the following methodologies were employed in the mapping of actors in the region: (a) searching for mental health related articles in various publication databases, taking note of the primary authors and their contact details, (b) identifying actors through organizations/associations, and (c) snowball sampling of stakeholders. The second and fourth research objectives were achieved through the sending of questionnaires to the local researchers and other stakeholders identified through the mapping of actors. Self-administered questionnaires were sent to different stakeholders, namely: (a) researchers, (b) ministry officials, (c) university administrators, and (d) members of associations/organizations.



The study had the following conclusions:

1. Small, low-income, politically unstable and conflict stricken countries in the region recorded negligible mental health research outputs. Moreover, local researchers were also found to be wanting, and the local research capacity left much to be desired since most of the research was done by foreign based researchers.
2. Disparities in the magnitude of mental health research outputs and level of research capacity were demonstrated in this regional mapping initiative. Although research capacity in the Western Pacific Region is notable, the levels varied according to countries, with East Asia in general demonstrating a higher level of capacity. International collaboration among researchers seems to have facilitated the high level of outputs in East Asia. Team work and national collaboration practice also helped in the production of outputs in Southeast Asia. Much more needs to be done to enhance the capacity of countries in the Pacific Islands, in that aside from having the least number of outputs and local researchers, most of the mental health research in these countries is done by foreign researchers.
3. The enabling factors facilitating the production of research rest on the support given by the universities to the researchers, the existence of mental health related policies, and the level of supply of manpower and professionals required by mental health care. Budgetary allocations and level of economic development of a country did not matter much in the magnitude of research outputs.

4. In enhancing research capacity, much needs to be done to shift and redirect motivations of local researchers in the selection of the research agendum and the consequent subjects or coverage of the study. The choice of subjects or research coverage is dictated to a greater extent by career goals, personal interest of the researchers, and pragmatic requirements of the research work itself. Burden of disease and the underlying desire to help improve the mental health conditions of the survivors appear as secondary motivations for the respondents. Paucity of the research, program imperatives, and promotional/educational campaigns were not given much consideration by the researchers.
5. Burden of disease remains a problematic consideration in the choice of research focus, and most of the research gaps are directed in this area. In addition, areas on the region that had been researched still have to be directed to the identified strategy and program of action and priorities of the region because gaps are notable, especially in the strategic thrusts involving mainstreaming mental health in primary health care, de-institutionalization of survivors of mentally inflicted patients, and in promoting community-based programs to radically eliminate stigma and discrimination against patients and their families.
6. While research findings are disseminated to the public through the use of various mediums, links between action and research remain a chasm and a concern. Confirming the U.S.A. Institute of Medicine Study, impact and utilization of research findings are far from what was expected and less demonstrated in this research. Quite a number of local researchers seem unconcerned about ensuring an impact in the development of policy and program, as a number were less knowledgeable on whether or not their respective research outputs had been used for formulating policy or developing programs.

The following are the recommendations and Roadmap for Enhancing Research Capacity in Mental Health submitted by the study:

1. With the end-goal of facilitating enhancement of research capacity among local researchers in the area of mental health, links and exchange of information and experiences, an infrastructure for research and networking must be provided and established in the Western Pacific Region. Similar to roads, bridges and telecommunication systems, this will connect researchers and stakeholders, thereby facilitating the exchange of information, ideas, experiences, goods and services. It will reduce the asymmetry of information and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of doing mission and policy-oriented researches that are more in demand. However, unlike roads, bridges and telecommunication systems, this infrastructure for research and networking is a virtual system anchored on the advances in Information Technology. Other objectives that might be identified by interested members are:
  - a) encouraging more researchers to conduct policy-oriented studies;
  - b) facilitating academic and public discussions of program and policy issues;
  - c) promoting the exchange of information, experiences and ideas that will pave the way for the development and enhancement of a research culture and evidence-based policy making and program development; and
  - d) promoting research collaboration among the network members, not necessarily excluding those external to it.

The guiding premise and principle in developing this strategy is the idea that “research conducted and produced increases its value as more people use it.” Thus, as more people are connected to the network, their value and that of their research also increase. Policy-oriented mental health related studies become more valuable as more people have access to them and actually use them. Thus, building an infrastructure for research and networking that can facilitate interaction among researchers, between researchers and stakeholders such as policy-makers, business sector, NGOs and other interested parties, and among stakeholders is an imperative in the region. These interactions and exchanges will likely facilitate the crossing of chasm from research to action and will also raise the quality of policy research, advocacy and decision-making.

There will be four pillars required for a solid infrastructure for research and networking. First is *Research Agenda* which will be anchored in thematic areas and the research program of the network. As research concentration within the past ten years in the Western Pacific Region has varied by sub-regions, the identification of the research agenda that would be good for the span of five years needs to be done by sub-regional or geographic clustering groupings. The findings gathered in this mapping initiative will serve as a guide that the sub-regional or geographic clustering groups can anchor on.

The second pillar is *Literature*. The specific researches conducted within the past five years, either in full length or abridged form of research outputs, must be made accessible to the region itself. Decision-makers, planners and researchers must have access to an existing body of knowledge, free of user charges and other forms of access barriers. The third pillar is the *Databases and Data-Base Link*. Decision-makers, planners, and researchers must have access

to important databases. This will provide researchers, decision-makers and planners with internet-based, reliable mental health related information in various formats. The database system will be automated, internet-based, and user-friendly, and will provide ease in analyzing spatial data as presented in a geographical format. The fourth element is the *Network*. Like a system of highways, research institutions, individual researchers and decision-makers must be networked to facilitate the flow of information and exchange of ideas, and to embody a dynamic research culture, as envisioned by the Western Pacific Region in their Regional Strategy for Mental Health.

To facilitate the establishment of the research infrastructure and networks, a lead university-based research organization with ample financial support from the Global Health Forum and/or other research granting organizations and agencies interested in mental health may initiate the planning and eventual operationalization of the roadmap, as researchers move closer to becoming a regionally integrated group of cognitively enhanced and policy oriented researchers, practitioners, program persons and professionals. To maintain and sustain the network and research infrastructure, policy and action oriented research, mental health program related activities will have to be undertaken regularly by the networks and their members. Experience indicates that the mere establishment of an internet-based information exchange and the holding of an annual forum or conference and a network without strategically planned activities will not be sustainable and dynamic within the region. In all these activities, reasonable provision of funds must be provided in the early stages, as it eventually becomes self-sustaining with the progress that develops.

2. To promote closer links between research on the one hand and action on the other, a funding organization providing research funds to researchers should require, or stipulate in the terms of reference, that the latter work closely with policy makers or program personnel and/or organizations working closely along with policy and program advocacy work within the project duration. Dissemination of findings in fora or conferences seems inadequate to pave the way for utilization of findings in policy development.
3. A capacity enhancement program should be designed and established to enhance the local researchers' capacity to undertake more policy and program oriented researches. Raising the level of commitment of the researchers towards action oriented goals remains a challenge in the region, considering that most of the research work is motivated by pragmatic requirements, personal interests and academic concerns. The recommended provision of research infrastructure and the establishment of a research network will definitely facilitate this urgent concern.
4. Using the Regional Strategy for Mental Health and 2001 WHO Mental Health identified minimum actions for low and middle income countries, among others, the following research agenda should be pursued, as they remain gaps:
  - a) Scientific documentation of successful cases of mainstreaming of mental health care and service provision in primary health care facilities and best practices showing inter-sectoral collaboration approach to mental health promotion and treatment of illness;
  - b) Research on the barriers of mental health policy development in certain countries in the region;

- c) Research on the following disease burdens specific to the region:
  - c.1. Determinants of alcohol abuse
  - c.2. Domestic violence and women abuse
  - c.3. Depression in poor countries and communities
  - c.4. Substance abuse and epilepsy among the young
  - c.5. Factors affecting suicide, especially among the young and adults who experienced massive lay-off, workers' reduction program, or employment displacement
  - c.6. Access to drugs and services
  - c.7. Mental disorders and their determinants
  - c.8. Mental health among the young in disaster and conflict stricken countries
  - c.9. Victims and survivors of stroke and other long lasting illnesses
- d) Research on lifestyles and mental disorders among high risk groups;
- e) Research on psycho-social aspects of mental health care and support of significant others in care giving;
- f) Research on quality of life of patients and their care givers;
- g) Research on the involvement and influence of organizations/private groups and non-government organizations in policy advocacy and program development;
- h) Research on economic and social costs of mental disorders and neurological and behavioral problems;
- i) Comparative research on effectiveness of hospital-based vis-à-vis community-based health care and service provision;

- j) Research on the quality of care and service provision in hospitals and primary health care facilities;
- k) Maintaining of indigenous/traditional mental health care healers/medical practitioners;
- l) Research on the relationship between poverty and family dysfunctions and mental disorders; and
- m) Research on social stigma and attitude of political leaders and policy makers

***The Integration of Domestic Violence Issues in the Nursing Curriculum: Effects of the Use of Teachers' Guides and Student Learning Modules on the Faculty and Students in Selected Nursing Colleges in Luzon and the Visayas***

Project Director: Pilar Ramos-Jimenez

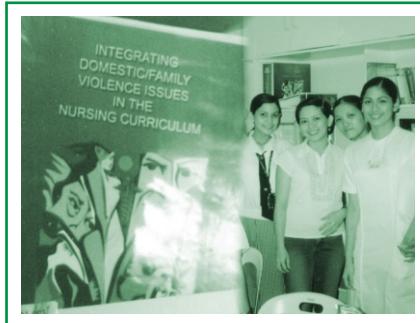
Research Assistants: Ysadora Mendoza, Desiree Concepcion Garganian,  
Ma. Rosario Eugenio

Funding Agency: SDRC

Status: Completed

The integration of domestic violence issues into the nursing curriculum of Silliman University was a pilot project that was initiated from 1997 to 2000 by the DLSU-SDRC Task Force on Social Science & Reproductive Health (TFSSRH), a small group composed of health professionals and social scientists, a lawyer, and representatives of women's organizations. This project was undertaken in collaboration with the Association of Deans of Philippine Colleges of Nursing (ADPCN), with funding from The Ford Foundation (TFF) and

the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Eleven student learning modules and teachers' guides for nine nursing subjects were written by selected Silliman University social science and nursing faculty members in partnership with the TFSSRH. These modules were published and subsequently endorsed by ADPCN in its annual convention in 2000. In June 2002, Silliman University conducted a one-week training for selected nursing schools in the use of the foregoing tools for their respective institutions.



The main objective of this study was to determine the effects of the use of the student learning modules and teachers' guides on the faculty and students of five nursing schools (two in Luzon, two in the Visayas, and one in Mindanao) that participated in the June 2002 training at Silliman University. Specifically,

the study examined the (a) status, strategies and processes adopted by the nursing schools in utilizing the learning tools, (b) the faculty and students' perceived beneficial effects and difficulties using the foregoing tools, (c) the strategies used by the faculty to overcome their difficulties, (d) indicators used by the nursing schools to assess the competencies of their graduates, and (e) sustainability and prospects of the continued use of the integrated tools in the selected nursing institutions. Key informant interviews with school administrators and focus group discussion with faculty and students were the main methods used in the study. The coordinator of the Mindanao Working Group on Reproductive Health, gender and sexuality, a consortium of tertiary academic institutions in the island, was interviewed because of the current effort of the working group in training new nursing colleges in the use of the learning tools in partnership with Silliman University's faculty-writers.

The findings of the study showed that only Silliman University's College of Nursing, the pilot institution, completely utilized the student learning modules and teachers' guides. Two nursing schools partially used some learning tools in selected subjects. The other two schools used them mainly as references. One of these schools had developed its own psychology module that had incorporated domestic violence issues, while the other had shifted to a problem-based learning approach.

The learning tools were assessed by the faculty of the schools that fully or partially used them as being student friendly. They served as eye openers to students regarding this public health issue. They claimed that students shared personal experiences in class and they discussed what they had learned with their parents and other family members. They were also able to relate with survivors during their community work. They could easily identify features of an abused woman or child and make the appropriate referrals. When students had personal domestic problems, teachers would refer them to their school's guidance and counseling office. However, one nursing school administrator expressed that the staff from this unit needed gender-sensitivity training to enable them to become more sensitive to gender and sexuality issues confronting male and female nursing students.



The students from the foregoing schools, on the other hand, claimed that the lessons regarding domestic violence broadened their perspectives and improved their skills in identifying DV situations and in understanding the contexts of survivors. Some students said that they had become advocates within and

outside their families. They assessed that they would become good nurses in the future because they would be able to manage survivors of domestic violence. They also understood the situation of the DV perpetrators.

There appears to be some qualitative differences in the responses of students from schools that fully or partially utilized the learning materials, compared to those who used these tools as references only. The former seem to have a better grasp of the concepts, including the gender and cultural dimension of domestic violence, and the responsibilities as well as nursing tasks of caring for DV survivors.



The difficulties raised by both the faculty and students were related to the contents of the modules and some logistical constraints posed by the nursing curriculum. The faculty found it difficult to follow the suggested duration or time in using each module because of the numerous additional concepts required in the nursing curriculum. They try to manage this difficulty by replacing suggested exercises with other shorter activities or by holding discussions in laboratory classes that have greater time allotment. They also noted outdated data of DV cases, policies, and programs. They managed this difficulty by searching for new or current data or by inviting external resource persons such as the police, lawyers, health professionals, or local government officials. Due to the current high demand for nurses abroad, the nursing schools are experiencing a rapid turnover of their faculty. This development calls for the added task of training new teachers who are not only competent but also gender and culture-sensitive in imparting the values, concepts, and tools of the profession to nursing students.

Aside from dated information, some students mentioned that their lessons appeared redundant because of the practice of reviewing previous topics prior to the introduction of new lessons. Other difficulties mentioned were the absence of clear or specific guidelines on what to do when confronted with DV cases, the unattractive format and high cost of the modules (especially in the school where every nursing student was required to procure her own copy).

No major revisions have been made regarding the contents of the modules except to update some facts and figures. The Mindanao Working Group added new data and descriptions about the situation of Muslims and indigenous people in Mindanao to ensure that the learning materials are relevant to the social context of these population groups in the island.

No indicators were developed by the nursing schools to measure the competencies of the nursing graduates and practitioners. The nursing schools will continue using the modules in the current manner in which they are utilized (either totally or partially or as references). The faculty-writers, however, planned to revisit and update the modules. Aside from conducting training for nursing schools in the use of the student learning modules and teachers' guides, the Mindanao Working Group has pushed forward the integration of gender, sexuality and RH in other academic fields (e.g., social work, mass communication and development communication) implying that curricular integration has become a useful strategy in the inclusion of public health issues in pre-service training.



## *BFAD Assessment and Institutionalization of the Client Feedback and Monitoring System*

Project Director: Exaltacion E. Lamberte  
Deputy Project Director: Ma. Angeles G. Lapeña  
Resource Persons: Cristina Rodriguez, Jesusa Marco,  
Benito Teehankee  
Research Assistants: Avelita Lapitan, Melvin Jabar  
Funding Agency: Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau  
Department of Health  
Status: Ongoing



The following objectives fall under the scope of the BFAD Assessment Study:

1. to conduct an assessment on the readiness, capacities, and resources of BFAD to implement a client feedback and monitoring system;
2. to assist BFAD in the development and implementation of the client feedback and monitoring system by employing the most appropriate tool, system or mechanism which may include a second survey, with BFAD taking a major role in carrying it out;
3. to document the processes of implementation (implementation manual/standard of operating procedures) and make the report available for dissemination;

4. to conduct training for the project or system implementation team; and
5. to make resource persons available for consultation and for research and policy deliberations dealing directly with the outputs and outcomes of the project



The study seeks to address the challenge of shifting the mindset and client-service provider behavior of major BFAD stakeholders from a technocratic and bureaucratic focus on control through licensing, to promotional and quality service as well as a client orientation paradigm, such that positive response of the primary stakeholders to the system's initiative and innovation is elicited. To do this, it pursues a strategy of providing a perspective for the development and institutionalization of the Client Feedback and Monitoring System, entailing identification of the parts or its subsystems and their interrelationships to produce a desired outcome. This is facilitated by conducting capacity building, follow-through activities, and on-site coaching among BFAD's primary stakeholders.

The Client Feedback and Monitoring System consists of four interrelated elements:

1. The agency's clients, consisting mainly of persons, collective entities, corporations, organizations, facilities and agencies seeking the services;
2. Agency leaders, managers and front-line service providers;
3. State, Government, DOH and general public; and
4. Information Technology and Data Base Management.



To attain the objectives of the study, the proposed project is undertaking four major initiatives, namely:

1. Conduct of capacity building activities, action planning, on-site and assessment meetings;
2. Support to BFAD in its conduct of client satisfaction exit interviews among NCR clients;
3. Coaching and technical assistance to BFAD in the comparative analysis in the 2000 and 2005 NCR Client Satisfaction data to determine occurrence of improvement in the service delivery as indicated by higher levels of client satisfaction among NCR BFAD clients; and
4. Refinement and institutionalization of the BFAD Client Feedback and Monitoring System.

## **Rural and Urban Development/Sustainable Development and Social Change**

### *Agroforestry and Sustainable Vegetable Production in Southeast Asian Watersheds*

Principal

Collaborating

Social Scientist:

Ma. Elena Chiong Javier

Funding Agency:

US Agency for International Development through the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research and Support Program (USAID-SANREM-CRSP) of the Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRED) at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Status:

Ongoing

The project aims to demonstrate that steeply sloping, degraded watersheds in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines can be converted to vibrant sustainable agroforestry systems with integrated vegetable production to alleviate poverty and food scarcity among small-scale farmers, both women and men, and to reduce environmental degradation. It shall achieve this goal by combining economically viable and resource-conserving technologies with gender friendly socioeconomic policies that benefit and reward stakeholders in these watersheds. Developed technologies and knowledge will be scaled up to other areas in the region.





The specific objectives correspond to the following six themes (TMPEGS):

1. Technology - Develop economically viable and ecologically sound integrated vegetable-agroforestry (VAF) systems to increase farm productivity, income, and food security.
2. Markets - Conduct market value chain research at the local, regional, and national levels that builds upon existing market strategies and develops interventions to overcome constraints and take advantage of opportunities.
3. Policy - Identify policy options and institutional frameworks that promote sustainable vegetable-agroforestry production and reward the provision of environmental services.
4. Environmental and socioeconomic impacts - Assess the short- and long-term environmental and socioeconomic impacts of integrated vegetable-agroforestry systems.
5. Gender - Provide mechanisms to improve the socioeconomic well-being of women engaged in vegetable production and agroforestry enterprises, especially in terms of income and labor share, and to involve women in decisions that concern their welfare.
6. Scaling-up - Build host country capacity in managing integrated vegetable-agroforestry systems and packaging related technical, social/economic, and institutional innovations for replication and scaling up to other watersheds in the region.

The project is a 4-year multidisciplinary collaborative effort headed by Dr. Manuel R. Reyes of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical (NCAT) State University. It involves a large team of scientists and academic researchers from mostly US institutions, international research centers, and universities in the three host countries.



Dr. Javier will be responsible for conducting the market and gender researches under the country study. She has also been designated the gender coordinator for the entire project. The researches will be undertaken from January 2006 to September 2009 in Barangay Songco of Lantapan, a municipality located in the Manupali Watershed in Bukidnon. Lantapan is considered to be the vegetable basket of southern Philippines.

## **Human and Cultural Capital Formation**

### ***Documentation of the Pundasyon Hanunu Mangyan School Experience***

Project Director: Carmelita I. Quebengco  
Researchers: Hector Namay, Ma. Lina Diana  
Funding Agency: SDRC Poverty Studies Fund and Executive Vice-President Special Project Fund  
Status: Ongoing



The desire for the education of children ranks very high in the value system of Filipinos. This is likewise true among the Mangyans. During consultation meetings with them, the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development, or PAFID, found that education, or the need for a school where their children can learn how to read and write, was indeed a felt need. As such, Pastor Delbert Rice, an officer of PAFID, brought to De La Salle University a group of Mangyans for assistance.

Thus, in mid-1983, a project proposal was developed by the Integrated Research Center (IRC) – presently the Social Development Research Center – and the Graduate School of Arts, Education and Science (GSAES), in coordination with the IRC's Participatory Uplands Management Program (PUMP). The project had for its aim the development of a relevant yet culturally appropriate elementary education program, the training of para-teachers, and the setting up of a system to ensure sustainability for the school.

The Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School formally opened on October 17, 1983 with a total of 106 pupils distributed in three sections of Grade I housed in two (2) makeshift huts.

The present research aims to document and examine the outcome of the Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School in terms of its three-pronged goal of developing a relevant yet culturally appropriate basic education program, training of para-teachers from the communities involved, and establishing school farms to ensure sustainability for the school. This study attempts to look at the effectivity and adaptability of the school curriculum, through the years, in terms of school enrollment, regularity of pupil attendance, rates of promotion and retention, drop-out rates, reasons for attrition, pupil achievement (through the achievement test administered in public schools), rates of graduation, and participation and cooperation of the Department of Education in the operation of the school. With respect to the development of para-teachers from the communities involved, the study examines the number of trained para-teachers, and their effectiveness as shown in their annual evaluation mechanism. In terms of the sustainability of the school, the study looks at the income generated by the school from the community farms, and family income as an indicator of the ability of parents to provide for their children's school needs. The impact of the school on the lives of the Hanunuo Mangyan is also being looked at specifically with regard to the status of its graduates – where they are now, what they are doing, or whether they have assumed positions of leadership in their community or in their municipality and/or province.



*Methodology.* The present study adopts a multi-method strategy. This includes:

1. Review of existing statistical data about the Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School, as well as those of the Department of Education's district, division and national offices;
2. Key informant interviews (KIIs) of the officials of the Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan, Inc.;
3. Key informant interviews (KIIs) of the administrative officials of the Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School;
4. Key informant interviews (KIIs) of the para-teachers of the Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School;
5. Focus group discussions (FGDs) of the pupils of the various grade levels using FGD guide questions; and
6. Face-to-face interview of a sample of graduates of the school using a structured interview questionnaire.



The study has covered the three (3) sitios of Umabang, Bailan and Amindang of *Barangay* Binli in the municipality of Bulalacao in the province of Oriental Mindoro. Presently, the team is reviewing the available materials of the School, and doing library research at the Department of Education (DepEd) to gather certain empirical data for the project. A one-week fieldwork was scheduled from April 17-23, 2005 to conduct Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and the Mini-Survey of the School's alumni.

## *Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School*

Project Director:	Carmelita I. Quebengco
Administrative Assistant:	Juana V. Aluning
Head Teacher:	Evelyn Malabja
Teachers:	Liling Madrigal, Glenny Rivas, Nelgen F. Recto, Dorothy Magbata
PHM, Inc. Representatives:	Bapa Anhing Malicday, Ayhop Pacio
Status:	Ongoing

The Pundasyon Hanunuo Mangyan School project was initiated in July, 1982 when the PHM, Inc., an organization representing three Hanunuo communities, requested the assistance of De La Salle University in establishing a culturally appropriate elementary school for their children. Since then, SDRC, with Carmelita I. Quebengco as Project Director, directly managed the project until it reached a reasonable level of stability. At that point, the project was turned over to the PHMI, which carried out the objectives of administering an elementary education program appropriate to the needs, experiences, and aspirations of the community, and building the community's capability to manage the school. Classes are conducted in two locations at schoolhouses in Bailan and Umabang.



Apart from adjusting the school calendar to conform to the local agricultural cycle, with the academic year beginning in September and ending in June, the PHMS engages in regular school activities including the conduct of periodical tests every two months. On Mondays and Thursdays, students attend classes dressed in traditional Mangyan attire, the "bahag" and "ramit," in keeping with

the school's aim of being culturally appropriate. The school calendar is highlighted by the annual celebration of the PHMS Foundation Day on October 21, during which the children compete in basketball games and in a field demonstration where Mangyan dance and poetry are performed. The past year witnessed the school's commemoration of its 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary.



For schoolyear 2005-06, a total of 120 students were enrolled at PHMS Bailan (in Grades 1, 2, 3, and 5) and 81 in PHMS Umabang (in Grades 2, 3, 4, and 6), or an overall enrolment of 201 students. However, by the end of the year, eight students had dropped out of the school at Bailan and two

from Umabang (mainly from among the higher grades) for reasons of laziness and getting married. Nine students in Bailan and one in Umabang were retained for the schoolyear. A total of 181 were promoted to the next grade level.

Planting at the demonstration farm continues to be participated in by the students. Crops that are harvested include banana (*saba* and *latundan*), cacao, mango, and coconut. Because the community does not consume coffee in large amounts, the trees for this crop grown at the demonstration farm have been neglected. Meanwhile, the PHMI has engaged in dialogue with the community to address problems such as stray animals from neighboring farms that wander into the school premises and destroy its seedlings.

At present there are five teachers at the school, one of whom is from the community and the others from the municipality of Bulalacao. It is hoped that an additional teacher may be recruited, as the large sections of students assigned to the limited teaching staff are difficult to handle. However, the teaching staff recently saw the construction of a staff house in Bailan with funding from the

previous provincial governor, Bartolome Marasigan. As a counterpart contribution on the part of the parents, a school stage has likewise been constructed.

The teaching staff continues to strive to learn the Mangyan language in order to make themselves better understood by the students. Among their concerns is to advise students not to marry at a young age, so that they may continue further and complete their education. For their part, the students have been observed to attend classes well-groomed, and to try to keep up their attendance in spite of problems such as lack of food to eat and the considerable distance of their homes from the school.

### Institutional Reforms/Local Government Development

#### *Promoting Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility in Developing Countries*

Project Director: Francisco A. Magno

Research Assistants: Lord Byron S. Abadeza

Funding Agency: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Status: Completed

This was the Philippine component of the research project entitled “The Political Economy of Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility (CSER) in Developing Countries.” The project was coordinated by Dr. Peter Utting of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. The study sought to identify the voluntary initiatives of



corporations in developing countries and their impacts on the environment, social development, and labor conditions. It also analyzed the main forces, actors, pressures, policies, and incentives that encourage firms to improve their social and environmental performance. The thrusts of the project were a) to conduct a macro-level analysis of the political economy of corporate social responsibility, b) to conduct a sectoral analysis, and c) to examine the extent to which voluntary initiatives have been adopted by companies and their effectiveness.



A workshop among the case study researchers was conducted in order to discuss research design and methodology, research instruments, and project management concerns. Participants were noted in their respective fields and were based in the regions in which they would conduct their research.

The following companies were chosen for in-depth case studies: Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Nestlé Philippines, Bayer, Rio Tinto and Marcopper mining companies, and Dole.

The study concluded that in many cases, CSER is viewed as a marketing tool for promoting corporate images. Voluntary initiatives pursued in piecemeal fashion by large firms have limited impact on social and environmental conditions. Nonetheless, the expansion of CSER activities has created significant dents on management systems and corporate cultures. Many companies started establishing corporate-community relations units with the aim of undertaking CSER programs and projects.

Companies that conduct activities in partnership with civil society associations and engage in participatory strategies are likely to produce beneficial consequences for community development. Local participation is needed to make corporate funded social investment projects work better.

Processes associated with globalization create both positive and negative effects. Due to the mobility of goods and capital, multinational firms have an easier time relocating their labor-intensive industries in low-wage countries. On the other hand, the free flow of information facilitated by ready access to advanced electronic communications technologies provides consumers across boundaries with the means to monitor corporate practices and behavior.

Democratization in the Philippines has led to the growth of civil society organizations that serve watchdog functions in pressuring firms to conform to norms of social and environmental responsibility. Through web-based information technologies, civil society groups in various countries can network with each other in monitoring corporate activities. A relatively free media provides an important channel for reporting abuses committed by business enterprises.

Policy incentives that provide tax breaks for corporate participation in CSER activities are important in encouraging voluntary initiatives. The inadequate budget and weak enforcement capacity of government agencies tasked with social and environmental protection functions serves as a drive for the increased reliance on corporate self-regulation. However, public regulatory agencies could play a vital role in monitoring and measuring the impact of corporate social and environmental performance. Regulatory measures and policies can also be undertaken that would require civil society participation in company social and environmental audits.

## *Pilot Testing of Monitoring and Evaluation Tools for Local Government Unit (LGU) Performance Assessment in Health Systems*

Project Team: Exaltacion E. Lamberte (Team Leader and Director)

Research Associates: Benito Teehankee, Janet Arnado, Cristina Rodriguez, and Ma. Angeles Guanzon-Lapeña

Research Assistants: Rosalia Eugenio, Rean Zarsuelo

Funding Agency: World Health Organization/Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Planning and Policy Development

Status: Completed



The project had the overall aim of developing a coherent and consistent system of Local Government Unit performance assessment for local health systems. The project was also part of world-wide efforts to scientifically search for and document approaches and effective techniques of applying the WHO Health System Performance Framework at national and sub-national levels, across time and across culture, within the context of a decentralized health service environment.

The research initiative had two phases: Phase 1, which centered on the development of the composite domains and indicators of each component identified in the WHO framework, and Phase 2, which entails the conduct of the pilot testing activity and fine-tuning of operational definitions of the composite domains and the reduction of indicators to make it easier to manage in local areas. The objectives of Phase 1 were as follows: a) to develop a framework that would be suitable for assessment of local health systems comparable across time

and across LGUs; b) to identify possible indicators that may be suitable within the different components of the developed framework; c) to analyze the possibility of and issues involved in developing one or more composite indexes of relevant indicators; d) to develop tools and instruments to collect and report relevant data for selection and pilot-testing at the community level; e) to develop a consultation plan on the framework for the Department of Health; and f) to identify key issues and strategies that need to be considered in order to effectively operationalize the system. The identification of indicators and measures were facilitated through: (1) review of existing documents, reporting and monitoring tools; (2) conduct of face-to-face interviews with 16 key regional, provincial and municipal/city health managers from six cities and four provinces; and (3) group consultation with DOH technical staff such as the DOH Bureau of Policy Development, Planning and Research.

Phase 2 focused on the refinement of identified domains and reduction of indicators and measures, and pilot testing the indicators system. In particular, the second phase aimed to: a) review and conduct the assessment in three provinces and cities; b) reduce and finalize parsimonious listing of parameters, indicators and measures appropriate for the assessment of LGUs; c) determine the acceptability of the parameters and indicators among stakeholders, LGU officials and health managers; d) design and refine data collection forms, tools, and the various strategies for data collection; e) design and refine the reporting forms, publication formats and other tools for effective performance assessment; f) establish a feasible method of recording, analyzing and reporting the data; g) identify the roles of responsible units or involved stakeholders; and h) identify strategies to operationalize and maintain the system.





The implementation process of the Pilot Test Assessment involved two stages: The first stage was the general planning and selection of sites. The second stage was focused on orientation, training and planning among the participating regional assessment teams. The LGU assessment covered four provinces and three

chartered cities. The Director and key managers of DOH Health Policy Development, the Research and Planning Bureau and the SDRC Project Team selected the sites covered based on the following criteria: a) geographic location; b) socio-economic standing of the locality, specifically demographic and financial status; and c) consent of the local chief executives and health managers.

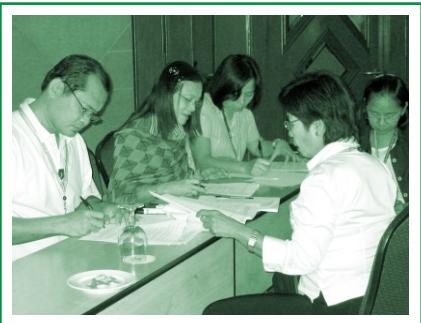
The pilot sites included some municipalities/component cities of the provinces of La Union, Cavite, Negros Oriental and Bukidnon. The chartered cities of Cebu, Pasay and Cagayan de Oro were also covered.

*Recommendations.* Given the challenges, this performance assessment framework recommends the adoption of proximate indicators, some of which are qualitative and subjective in nature: a) enrollment of indigent families in PHIC by the local government units; b) establishment of a system for identifying indigents and indigenous communities needing health care and services; c) facility's mechanism to give needed attention and care to victims of domestic violence and physical abuse, especially among women and children; and d) facility's arrangement for provision of care and attending to patients who are economically poor and disadvantaged, including the elderly and indigenous population.

Measuring health levels of the population required the identification of two clusters of indicators, namely: a) indicators pertaining to intermediate results or health outputs; and b) indicators referring to health outcomes. This is so because improvement of the latter could only be seen after a period of three to five years. Moreover, while such is the goal of the health system, the status or level is much more determined by varying factors, health and non-health as well.

*Conclusion.* Several issues emerged from the pilot test activity: First, reducing the number of indicators and measures poses a difficult challenge because the information came from different sources and different levels or units of analysis. Second, while some parameters and indicators are found to be important, necessary information was not available in the local offices and facilities during the period of the assessment. As a result, these indicators were excluded from the statistical analysis. Third, while the number of indicators and measures has already been reduced, further reduction is needed to make it more parsimonious.

The data reduction analysis requires that a larger number of areas has to be covered and included in the sample. The present analysis is limited by the fact that the pilot testing covered only a few provinces and cities; hence data was very much limited. While some parameters and indicators were still included in the list, these have to be further tested in the next round of conducting the LGU performance assessment. At present, some of them were not used in the computation of performance index scores because updated information is not available in either the area or in the facility.



It is recommended that in the future conduct of the LGU performance assessment, a larger number of provinces and chartered cities should be included. The assessment results, however, will not be used as a basis for assessing the level of performance of LGUs, but as a baseline or benchmark against which future comparison of progress or tracking could be made. In addition, efforts will have to be exerted to further refine the framework and test the indicators system currently being developed. Further efforts aimed at reducing the parameters and indicators need to be made without sacrificing the substantive content domain of each of the components of the assessment framework.

*Negotiating Land Rights and Natural Resource Regulations for Local People: The Role and Effectiveness of Secondary Farmer and Community Organizations in Upland Watersheds of Southeast Asia, Phase II*

Project Director: Ma. Elena Chiong-Javier

Funding Agency: ICRAF SEA Regional Research Programme

Status: Ongoing



The study was a response to the existing research gap on local secondary organizations or federations in the region. It sought to understand why and how secondary organizations in Philippine upland watersheds are formed, what services these organizations provide to support their member primary organizations' resource management practices, how they influence the formulation and implementation of natural resource management policies, and what they require to be effective secondary organizations tasked with resource

management. The study utilized a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, including literature review, surveys, informal and semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, and case studies. The study sites were the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya in Luzon and Bukidnon in Mindanao which were reported to have active or functional federations and provincial governments supportive of the federations. Twelve federations (out of 23 in both provinces) and 27 (out of 75) of their member primary organizations were studied. Data gathering was completed after two years, and while the preparation of a comprehensive final report is pending completion, major findings have been disseminated to the public through short papers.



Some of these findings showed the federations as having informal structures with around 6 years of existence but are much younger than member organizations. They have an average of 13 member organizations with mixed ethnic composition. Federation officials are comprised of presidents and top officials of member organizations who possess personal and inter-organizational connections within and outside their communities.

The formation of federations was initiated and facilitated by external agents, either government agencies or non-government organizations with an environmental mandate. Hence federations are imbued with resource protection and conservation objectives in addition to socioeconomic and institutional development goals. However, compared to their member-organizations, federations are distanced and less involved in forest resource management activities. Because member organizations are embedded in parts of the watershed

and because they possess resource use rights that provide resource control critical to survival, they hold a direct interest as well as execute a direct hand in local resource management. Nevertheless federations are influential in helping external institutions to pursue environmental agenda and projects among their grassroots members.

The federation is in the watershed as an indirect stakeholder whose major role is as an intermediary – a conduit for the external assistance for member organizations to secure their direct interests. Data showed that federations are knowledgeable about external sources of help and succeed in tapping one grant per year. But the types of assistance are not usually regarded as substantial or considerable, for very few involve financial transfers for federation projects, particularly for livelihood, and the number of beneficiary member-organizations is quite limited. Most assistance is in the form of training support for improved social-institutional, technical, and environmental know-how/skills or material support like providing small farm tools or planting materials.



Federations face many challenges including strengthening social capital that had emerged weak and fractured due to hasty and inadequate organizational preparation; building leadership capacities among federation officials to head a large, complex secondary group; meeting members' requirements for socioeconomic improvement; and addressing organizational weaknesses like disunity or apathy, developing greater capacity to network for and access socioeconomic and environmental assistance from more donors, and clarifying the differences and similarities in the roles and structures of the federation and those of its members.

## **SDRC Assisted Project/s for CLA**

*Paths to Social Integration and Participation for the Youth in the Philippines and Asia*

Project Coordinator: Madelene Sta. Maria

Status: Ongoing

Conducted by faculty members together with students in the graduate program of the Department of Psychology, the project has the following objectives:

1. to develop a data-base on youth capacities and resources as agents in social development by determining the opportunities and constraints experienced by the Filipino youth and other youth in Asia, in the contexts of development such as family relationships, the school, the community, and at work. These contexts will be the focus of each of the planned project initiatives.
2. to develop a values inventory based on youth experiences in the changing contexts of development. The term "youth" covers the stage of adolescence, which is typically designated to include young persons from ages 13 to 18.

The research project covers a total of seven research initiatives, and is being conducted for a period of one year. Within the given year, five out of the seven initiatives will be undertaken, namely:

1. Youth life in the school setting
2. Youth political socialization and civic engagement
3. Youth and mental health

4. Youth and peer relationships
5. Youth in the changing Filipino family

For each project initiative, detailed tasks will be conducted. These are composed of:

1. A review of the relevant literature undertaken on the experiences of Filipino adolescents in specific contexts of development;
2. A focus groups guide, constructed based on the relevant literature for each of the developmental contexts;
3. Focus groups conducted among youth groups – at least two focus group discussions will be conducted with rural youth, and at least two will be conducted with urban youth;
4. A qualitative analysis of the discussions in each of these groups; and
5. The construction of items for the survey instruments, based on important themes that emerge from the analysis of focus group discussions.

## **DIRECTOR/FELLOWS ACTIVITIES**

SDRC Director **Jesusa Marco** delivered a series of lectures to the academic community of the College of International Relations of Nihon University in Mishima, Japan from May 25 to June 1, 2005. The series was conducted in line with the academic exchange program between Nihon University and the College of Liberal Arts of De La Salle University-Manila.

The papers presented by Dr. Marco were: "Going Transdisciplinary: A Politicization of Intellectuals"; "When Families Fail: Street Children Speak Up"; "Caregiving: The Philippines' Comparative Advantage in Today's Postmodern World"; "Organizations Working with Streetchildren: The Challenge to Make a Difference"; and "The GOs and NGOs Network: Social Capital or Social Liability?". The topics provided the audience with grounded information on specific social realities and problems in the Philippines that have become the focus of social science research.



Dr. Marco also held several meetings with the officials and faculty of the said university to discuss activities to be implemented under an academic exchange program this school year. These include research collaboration or joint publication between faculty in the areas of folk medicine or socio-anthropological studies on intercultural marriages and families, Japanese student researches on Philippine social problems, and interaction with DLSU-Manila Japanese Studies students and faculty.

SDRC Research Fellow and Behavioral Sciences faculty member **Ma. Elena Chiong-Javier** attended the "Symposium on Tropical Rainforest Rehabilitation and Restoration--Existing Knowledge and Future Directions" held from July 26 to 28, 2005 at the Shangri-La Tanyung Aru Resort in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.



During the conference, Dr. Javier presented her paper entitled "Secondary Local Organizations and Forest Management in the Philippines," based on an on-going project at SDRC. The paper analyzes 12 local organizations' prospects for engaging in watershed management, the ways in which

they are involved in forest conservation or rehabilitation, and the constraints that they encounter as they serve the roles of a secondary organization.

Organized by Yayasan Sabah, World Wide Fund, Sabah Forestry Department of Malaysia, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the symposium was intended as a forum on the states of knowledge of tropical rainforest rehabilitation and restoration. It sought to enable people to explore ways of enhancing the values of deforested areas.

La Salle Institute of Governance (LSIG) Director and SDRC Research Fellow **Francisco Magno** co-authored the chapter "The Philippines: Decentralization, Local Governments and Citizen Action," which appears in the book *Decentralization, Democratic Governance, and Civil Society in Comparative Perspective*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press and the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, D. C. The book is a compilation of studies on the relation of decentralization to democratization, and analyzes how decentralization is transforming the relationship between the state and civil society. It presents case studies from six countries on three continents, wherein decentralization of some parts of government has been attempted: the Philippines, Mexico, Chile, South Africa, Kenya, and Indonesia.

Dr. Magno was also one of the contributors to a book on social development entitled *Corporate Social Responsibility in the Promotion of Social Development: Experiences from Asia and Latin America*. Edited by Dr. Manuel Contreras of the Social Development Institute, the book was published by the Inter-American Development Bank, also based in Washington, D. C. The chapter written by Dr. Magno is entitled "Investing in Social Responsibility: Corporate-Community Engagement in Cebu City, Philippines." It examines the impact of corporate responsibility and civil society interventions on environmental governance, multi-stakeholder participation, and local development in the upland villages.

SDRC Research Fellow and Behavioral Sciences Department faculty member **Marlon Era** received a project award of US \$19,580 from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in December 2005 for his project proposal for a demonstration project "Social Preparation in Setting Up Eco-Waste Management Center (SocPrep EWMC) in Golden City Subdivision, Santa Rosa

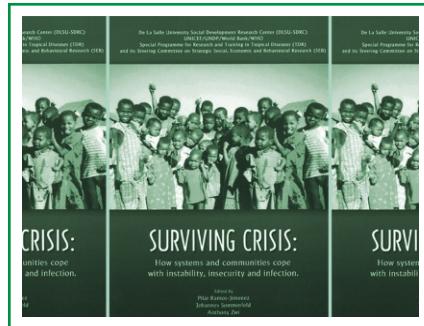


City, Philippines." An alumnus of AID-Thailand, Era won the grant under the Alumni Demonstration Projects (ADP) Component of the CIDA-AIT Southeast Asia Urban Environmental Management Application (SEA-UEMA) Project. Proposals from eight countries competed for the grants.

The SocPrep EWMC Project aims to improve the waste management practices of residents of the target community in Santa Rosa and increase their level of environmental awareness. It will also introduce "Juan and Maria Masinop" as environmental icons of the community. Project duration is from January to September 2006.

*Surviving Crisis: How Systems and Communities Cope with Instability, Insecurity and Infection.* Edited by Pilar Ramos-Jimenez, Johannes Sommerfeld, and Anthony Zwi. 2005. 120 pp.

This volume contains the proceedings of the "Surviving Crisis: How Systems and Communities Cope with Instability, Insecurity, and Infection" workshop held from April 3 to 7, 2002 at the Angelo King International Center in Manila. Sponsored by the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) and its Steering Committee on Strategic Social, Economic and Behavioural Research (SEB) in collaboration with SDRC, the workshop brought together participants from Africa, Asia and South America, with an agenda covering Conflict and Burden of Disease, Conflict and Vector-Borne Diseases, and Health Systems, Conflict, and Infectious Disease: Identifying Links and Promoting Resilience.



During the workshop, the participants shared the history of political conflict of their respective countries and how these experiences affected the health system and the health of the community. They also discussed the coping strategies and adaptations made by communities and the peoples' resilience amidst adversity. Documentation on these are found in the section on country case studies (from Colombia and Venezuela, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Mozambique, Angola and Afghanistan).

The workshop also served as an occasion to clarify concepts associated with collective violence such as crisis, resilience, and vulnerability, as documented in the proceedings. A discussion on gender and conflict, which surfaced from the violence inflicted on both men and women in difficult political circumstances, is likewise documented, as is a discussion on the vital roles of international and local emergency and disaster agencies in assisting communities, local governments and health providers vis-à-vis the exigencies of political conflict.

The proceedings conclude with a multi-country research proposal to explore the resilience of communities in crisis through qualitative research methods, which was submitted, reviewed and eventually given financial support by the TDR's Steering Committee on Strategic Social, Economic and Behavioral Research for implementation in 2003.

### *SDRC Celebrates "27 Years... And Many Happy Returns"*

SDRC marked its anniversary on March 23, 2006 with a program entitled "27 Years... And Many Happy Returns," held at the Marilen Gaerlan North Conservatory. The program was highlighted by the delivery of a professorial chair lecture entitled "Tracking Achievement of Millennium Development Goals: Chasms and Issues" by Exaltacion E. Lamberte, holder of the Distinguished Professorial Chair in Applied Social Sciences; and a tribute to Bro. Andrew B. Gonzalez, FSC delivered by SDRC Research Fellow and Behavioral Sciences faculty member Pilar Ramos-Jimenez.



In her lecture, Dr. Lamberte discussed and elaborated on the imperatives and challenges in monitoring and tracking the progress made toward attaining the Millennium Development Goals in the Philippines. Through her paper, she sought to map out the imperatives of the seemingly simple list of targets specified in MDGs; identify the gaps in monitoring and tracking the progress in the country; map out relevant challenges faced by the country to monitor and track the level of attainment of MDGs by 2015; and identify the possible action that a research university such as DLSU could undertake to move forward the ideals and goals of the Millennium Declaration.

Representatives of support groups and agencies as well as stakeholders in the Center's undertakings were invited to attend the anniversary gathering.

## *Symposium/Workshop on Infectious Diseases Among Children in Conflict Situations Conducted*



SDRC, together with the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/World Health Organization Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), particularly its Steering Committee of the Strategic Social, Economic and Behavioral (SEB) Research in Geneva, Switzerland,

conducted an international symposium/workshop entitled “Infectious Diseases Among Children in Conflict Situations: Risk, Resilience and Response” from January 9 to 13, 2006 at the CSB Hotel of the Angelo King International Conference Center. This activity was organized in collaboration with the School of Public Health and Community Medicine of the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia, and the Refugee Studies Center (RSC) of the Department of International Development, University of Oxford.

The symposium/workshop aimed to present the state of the art in relation to child engagement and child participation in conflict, document key challenges to the field, and identify strategies to address these challenges. To accomplish the foregoing objectives, the workshop/symposium: (1) brought together researchers, service-providers, and international experts to share their valuable insights and experiences in research and service-delivery in the field; (2) presented and explored current thinking with respect to innovative research work with children and the challenges of tackling infectious diseases in conflict settings; (3) drew on experiences of participants of selected countries to describe the factors affecting health and infectious diseases risk, resilience and response in conflict; (4) promoted new thinking around child-centered approaches to

research and infectious disease; and (5) supported the application of the insights derived to designing innovative child-centered research projects in the selected countries in conflict. Aside from country papers, the symposium/workshop intended to develop research agenda and design a multi-country study.

The co-convenors of the international symposium/workshop were Dr. Pilar Ramos-Jimenez, SDRC Research Fellow and Associate Professor of the Behavioral Sciences Department, and currently co-chair of the TDR-SEB Steering Committee; Dr. Anthony Zwi, Professor and Head of the UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine, and member, TDR-SEB Steering Committee; and Dr. Johannes Ulrich Sommerfeld, TDR-SEB Steering Committee Manager.



Participants attending the symposium/workshop were from Uganda, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Indonesia, and the Philippines. The keynote speakers were Dr. Paul Kelly, Head of the Education and Training Division of the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin, NT, Australia; Dr. Michelle Gayer, WHO head of the working group on communicable diseases in complex emergencies; and Dr. Jason Hart from the RSC, University of Oxford who, together with Dr. Rebecca Tyrer, prepared the symposium's background paper entitled "Research with Children Living in Situations of Armed Conflict: Concepts, Ethics, and Methods." Experts who have written about or depicted the situation of children in conflict situations, particularly Stella Estremera, editor-in-chief of the multi-awarded *Sun-Star Davao* newspaper, and Ming Viado, Regional Building Relationships Advisor of the Plan Asia Regional Office, spoke about the role of media in this initiative.

## **LINKAGES**

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### *Upland NGO Assistance Committee (UNAC)*

SDRC is the sole social science-oriented academic representative among seven participating members in UNAC, a partnership of Philippine-based social development and academic institutions collectively assisting Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to serve upland communities. With Dr. Ma. Elena Chiong-Javier as the Center's representative, participation in the Indigenous Peoples Support Group project is anticipated in the coming year.

### *Local Governance Training and Research Institutes-Philippine Network, Inc. (LoGoTRI-PhilNet)*

The Center continues to be an active member of LoGoTRI-PhilNet, of which it was one of the founding members. The network was organized by the Local Government Academy, which has facilitated funding for a study on Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Local Governance Experiences, completed at the Center last year. Mr. Marlon de Luna Era, SDRC Research Fellow, is the Center's official representative to the Network. He is a member of the LoGoTRI-PhilNet Board of Directors and its Vice-President for NCR. He was also the SDRC representative on the Committee that drafted the Guidelines on Accreditation.

## **RESEARCH FELLOWS, ASSOCIATES AND RESOURCE PERSONS**

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Myla M. Arcinas, Ph. D. in Development Studies (in progress)

Mary Janet M. Arnado, Ph.D. in Sociology

Marlon D.L. Era, Ph. D. in Development Studies (in progress)

Ma. Elena Chiong-Javier, Ph.D. in Community Development

Pilar Ramos-Jimenez, Ph.D. in Philippine Studies

Exaltacion E. Lamberte, Ph.D. in Sociology

Ma. Angeles Lapeña, M.A. in Psychology

Francisco A. Magno, Ph.D. in Political Science

Jesusa M. Marco, Ph.D. in Sociology

Loyd Brendan Norella, Doctor of Medicine

Carmelita I. Quebengco, Doctor of Education in Educational Administration

Ma. Cristina A. Rodriguez, M.A. in Demography

Madelene A. Sta. Maria, Ph. D. in Psychology

Benito L. Teehankee, Doctor of Business Administration

## CORE STAFF

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# **PUNDASYON HANUNUO MANGYAN SCHOOL**

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