

Outstanding Local Governance Programs for 2012



Galing Pook





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The Galing Pook

The Galing Pook awards is a pioneering program that recognizes innovation and excellence in local governance.

It started in October 21, 1993 under the joint initiative of the Local Government Academy-Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Ford Foundation, and other individual advocates of good governance from the academe, civil society and the government.

As Galing Pook embarks on its 20th year, more than 270 programs from at least 160 local government units have already won recognition, including the current batch of 2012 awardees. The Galing Pook winners are chosen each year from a wide array of programs from local governments after undergoing a rigorous multi-level screening process.

The winning programs are selected based on positive results and impact, promotion of people's participation and empowerment, innovation, transferability and sustainability, and efficiency of program service delivery.



Vision

We are a leading resource institution that promotes innovation, sustainability, citizen empowerment, and excellence in local governance.

Mission

We promote excellence in local governance through recognition, sharing of information and support of efforts to replicate best practices at the local level.

We encourage partnerships among civil society organizations, private sector, and government agencies at local, national and global levels to improve quality of life.

The Partners





Global Public Innovation Network

The Global Public Innovation Network, established in 2002, is a collaborative network of 10 public policy awards programs from around the globe. With support from the Ford Foundation and contributions by the individual programs, the Innovation Network gathers and disseminates knowledge about innovations in public service provision, public action, and governance. These innovations represent significant contributions to the collective well-being of citizens and to the reduction of social, economic, political, gender, and ethnic inequalities. By sharing

successful local practices through an international network, the impact of each awards program can extend far beyond its country's borders. Innovation Network activities include workshops, research, and publications.

Partner Programs

-  • American Indian Tribes in the United States of America: Honoring Nations Program
-  • Brazil: Public Management and Citizenship Program
-  • Chile: Citizen Participation and Public Politics Program
-  • China: The Innovations and Excellence in Chinese Local Governance Program
-  • East Africa: The Mashariki Innovations in Local Governance Awards Program
-  • Mexico: Government and Local Management Award
-  • Peru: Participation and Local Management Program
-  • Philippines: The Galing Pook Foundation Awards for Outstanding Local Government Programs
-  • South Africa: Impumelelo Innovations Award Trust
-  • United States of America: Innovations in American Government Awards Program

Source: Harvard Kennedy School: Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation Website (<http://www.ash.harvard.edu/Home/Programs/Innovations-in-Government/Global-Public-Innovation-Network>), accessed January 5, 2012.



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

My warmest greetings to the awardees of the 2012 Annual Galing Pook Awards.

As public servants, we hold a clear mandate to provide transformative leadership, which advances our communities and elevates the lives of our constituents. Entrusted with this position, we have the tremendous opportunity to determine our course towards progress and build a brighter future for our fellowmen.

On this occasion, we celebrate the achievements of our local government executives who spearhead our localities' movement towards sustainable development. May the honors bestowed in this event deepen the resolve of our awardees to engage in participatory leadership and inspire more initiatives that further our mileage in good governance.

I also extend my gratitude to Galing Pook Foundation for duly recognizing the hard work of our leaders, among whom stood the late Sec. Jesse Robredo. I trust that you will continue to rally with us in upholding the transparency, accountability, and integrity that he so honorably embodied.

Striving to cultivate Jesse Robredo's tsinelas leadership, let us emulate his humility, his unshakable character, and his commitment to honest and excellent service. United in our objective, we can stem corruption from the grassroots, and establish structures of empowerment that secure progress for every Filipino.



BENIGNO S. AQUINO III

MANILA
January 2013



An Enduring Partnership for Excellence and Innovation

It is my great honor and privilege to be part of the 20th edition of the Galing Pook Awards, officially marking two inspiring decades of learning and sharing the best that our local government units have to offer and share with the rest of the country.

We have been truly blessed to witness the blooming and spreading of excellence and innovation among our LGUs that made the selection of the annual awardees a much tougher job because today, good governance practices have become the norm rather than the exception among our LGUs.

True to its mission, Galing Pook has successfully promoted excellence through the recognition of exemplary LGU practices and programs that, at their very core, tremendously improved the quality of life of our people. Moreover, the continuing partnership between government, through the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the private sector, through the Galing Pook Foundation, has enabled the search for excellence and innovation to go on unhampered by politics and narrow personal interests.

This enduring partnership is another cornerstone upon which the PNoy administration is building a brighter and more prosperous future for our people – our true bosses whose aspirations we could never afford to ignore nor take for granted.

My warmest congratulations not only to the winners and finalists but to the hundreds of LGUs who, although they did not make it to the final list, have nevertheless enriched all of us by sharing and contributing their ideals for the betterment of Philippine society.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!



MAR ROXAS
Secretary



Making Heroes Out of Ordinary People

Today, the challenge is to promote a more inclusive growth process—one that sustains competitiveness and robust economic growth performance, while ensuring that wealth creation provides the widest possible benefits, notably for the expanding low-income population, the so-called “bottom of the pyramid.” Growth alone, while critically important, does not necessarily alleviate poverty and reduce inequality. There is convincing evidence that inequality retards and renders growth “sporadic” and short-lived in developing economies such as ours.

Thus, twenty years and more than 270 awardees later, the search for innovative sustainable arrangements continue to be “co-created” by local governments and communities, even in the most challenging of conflict conditions, to ensure that growth is for ALL, and not captured by an elite. “Acting locally,” such local governance mechanisms have been sustained by transparency, clear accountability, expanding inclu-

sion of *all* stakeholders, and their increasing empowerment. Effective local governance initiatives have embraced the wisdom and confidence of communities to have the courage to create. Each award serves to accelerate the growth of more innovative solutions to the complex challenges faced by all today.

For many of those in leadership, whether exercised with authority or not, the choice to lead has been marked by such courage to create. For many of those who have been recognized, the programs have produced leaders, not with the capital “L,” but by a growing band of innovators, leaders with a “small l,” as some would say.

We must remember what Secretary Jesse Robredo said at the commencement exercises at the Ateneo some years ago: “Our political history has shown that we have put the burden of running this country on our ‘best’ people for too long. And yet the gap between rich and poor has grown wider. For

this country to succeed, we must make heroes of the ordinary people. We need to make heroes of ourselves.”

We, whether public or private, fail to create the future not because we fail to predict it but because we fail to imagine it. Congratulations to the awardees and finalists—when ordinary people take it upon themselves to be heroes, to have the courage to create and co-create!

They have imagined and they have co-created.



Ma. Nieves R. Confesor
Chairperson
Galing Pook Foundation

Growing Communities of Champions

Around the Philippines we see islands of good governance where best practices both by local governments and civil society have inspired action and development in local communities. We see pockets of innovation where government and citizens alike join hands in making sure that change can happen, change that does not tear down but instead builds on the strength of local histories and resources in order to respond to common problems that face Filipinos.

This 2012, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is privileged to witness these pockets grow into communities of champions in our continued partnership with the Galing Pook Foundation, the award-giving body that promotes and recognizes innovation, sustainability, citizen empowerment and excellence in local governance.

Through Galing Pook, these islands have become more and more a nation

of reformers. As advocates of effective and ethical local governance, these local governments have been given their due recognition and have been brought together to build a more formidable alternative to how local governance had been practiced in the country.

Galing Pook has further encouraged participatory local governance to be at the heart of just local development. Through citizen and stakeholder input and participation, local governance can take into account the local realities and thereby promote sustainability and fairness in the use of resources for the benefit of generations to come.

More importantly, Galing Pook has paved the way to ensure that these practices are not only shared and popularized but also rolled out for replication in other local communities.

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung congratulates Galing Pook for its successful round

for this year, awarding ten outstanding local government units for their exemplary programs on health, education, justice, and community building. We also applaud the awardees and their partners for improving their local service delivery, specifically on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, increasing access to education, information and justice, as well as promoting peace and development through empowering the local citizenry.

Finally, we invite other practitioners and stakeholders to learn from these successes and in (and for) their own communities, do great things!



Berthold Leimbach
Resident Representative
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung –
Philippine Office

Path to Responsible Commitment and Excellent Service

Our warmest regards to the recipients of the Galing Pook Awards for 2012. Your relentless efforts and the worthy endeavors you have undertaken have given rise to promising change in communities striving for lasting economic and social growth.

LANDBANK realizes as well the significant role of the Galing Pook Foundation in helping bridge the gap and bring forth opportunities for people and places often eclipsed by chance and circumstance. The hundreds of programs effected by local government units since the organization's inception is a clear indication of the major impact that our common thrust of integrating sustainable development brings across the countryside.

The success achieved by these various LGUs is not just the triumph of a few. It is an achievement reflective of the perseverance and sincerity of the people wanting to help and be helped with sustaining necessities that should be basic to all Filipinos. As our local governance continues on its path to responsible commitment and excellent service, we at LANDBANK will be as steadfast in building and opening more doors for the marginalized sectors. We will likewise continue to be a staunch ally of our LGUs in bringing to fruition more projects and programs aimed at serving our countrymen.

For more outstanding and fruitful years ahead, we wish all of this year's awardees the best. Again, our congratulations!



Ms. Gilda E. Pico
President and CEO
Land Bank of the Philippines

Supporting and Promoting Sustainable Initiatives

The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) congratulates the awardees and finalists of this year's Galing Pook Awards!

DBP has always taken pride in supporting and promoting the sustainable initiatives of local government units (LGUs)—achievements that our current roster of Galing Pook awardees have successfully attained to encourage socio-economic development in their constituencies. As the drivers of growth in their areas of influence, and as exemplars of best practices in local governance, outstanding performances by LGUs certainly deserve recognition and accolades.

These LGUs also deserve support, hence, DBP's long-standing partnership with the sector. The Bank has been working closely with LGUs for the provision of basic services, includ-

ing water systems, infrastructure, health care facilities, school buildings, housing projects, and other programs that address the essential needs of community development. And in the years ahead, DBP will continue to expand its role as a lending specialist and provider of consulting services to LGUs to craft sustainable projects integrated to the national development agenda.

To our present and prospective partners in the LGU sector, partnering with DBP could not come at a better time. Indeed, the economic climate has changed for the better. Optimism is running high, with the global community looking at our country as one of the more promising economies in Asia. We can, together, take advantage of this momentum and join hands in effecting positive socio and economic changes for our country.



Mr. Gil A. Buenaventura
President and CEO
Development Bank of the Philippines

Galing Pook

music and lyrics by Gary Granada
vocals: Gary Granada, Bayang Barrios, Noel Cabangon,
Shane and Dave of Crazy as Pinoy, PETA kids, Luke Granada



Ang aming adhikain
Ay simple lang naman
Sapat sa pangunahing
Mga pangangailangan

Saan mahahagilap
Ang mga munting pangarap

Makaigpaw sa hirap
Maalwang hinaharap

Sa punyagi at kusa
Munting pamayanan

Sa husay kinilala
Umani ng karangalan

Kayraming nagsasabing
Ang galing galing daw namin

Saan ba nanggagaling
Ano ba'ng anting-anting?

Simple lang yan
Kaya mo yan, Bay!

Sa malikhaing paraan, sa paraang malikhain
Kasama ang mamamayan, mamamaya'y pagsamahin
Pagbabago na lantad, lantad na pagbabago
Tuluy-tuloy na pag-unlad, tuluy-tuloy na pag-asenso

Sa dami ng balakid
Sa dami ng hadlang
Ang diwang nalulupig
Nagtitiis na lang
Ngunit huwag kang papayag
Huwag kang pabubuway
Tadhanang ating palad
Nasa ating kamay

Chorus counterpoint:
Galing Pook..

Ang sabi ng iba, ang galing ng Pilipino

Magaling na mang-isa, mandaraya, manloloko

Ang sakit sa tenga, kahit di mo matanggap

Ganyan daw talaga, yan ang sabi ng lahat

Subalit doon sa aming mumunting komunidad

Namayani ang maraming kabutihan ang hangad

Pinaghusay ang lokal na gobyernong niluklok

Pinagpala't natanghal na isang Galing Pook!

Ang sabi ng marami, Pilipino ay tamad

Walang respeto sa sarili, dangal at dignidad

Palakasang palasak, boto na nilalako

Lider na nagbubuhay ng sarili ring bangko

Di man maikakaila ay huwag nating lahatin

Di mo rin maitatatwa, di man sukat akalain

Magandang mga balita sa mga sulok-sulok

Kayraming halimbawa ng mga Galing Pook

Visit www.galingpook.org to download lyrics and music

Province of Sarangani

QUEST for Quality Education

In the latest evaluation of National Achievement Test (NAT) scores, Sarangani students emerged on top of all other students in Region 12 and rated even higher than that of the National Capital Region. This is quite an achievement given that just five years ago, the students were performing quite poorly.

Back then, the pupils were able to correctly answer only 4 out of 10 questions.

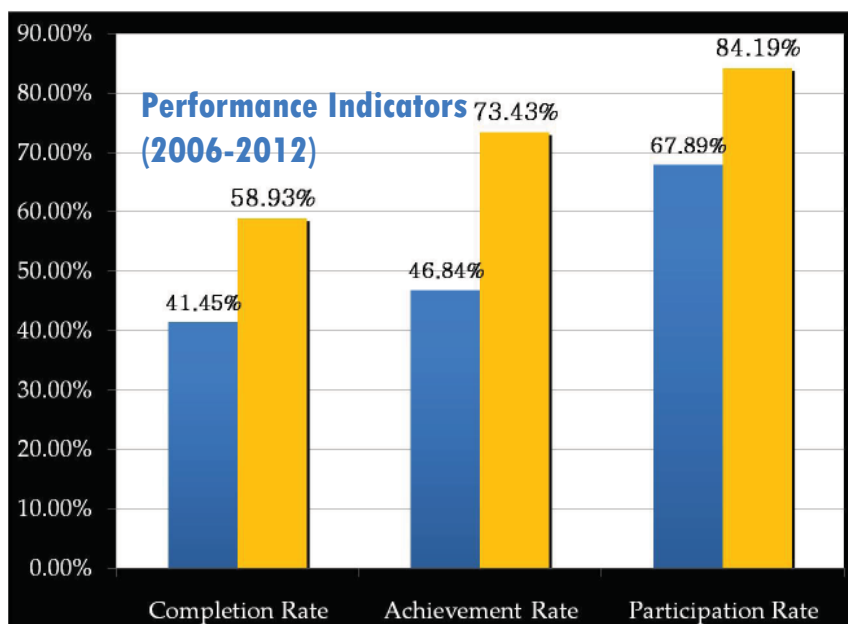
Sarangani is among the 20 poorest provinces in the Philippines. In the belief that a good education can be a key out of poverty, the provincial LGU launched the Qual-

ity Education for Sarangani Today (QUEST) program in 2007 to improve children's access to basic elementary and secondary education. QUEST put in place mechanisms to elicit the active involvement of communities and the private sector in visioning, planning, implementing and evaluating education programs. This contrasted with the past practice where there was only marginal participation from the community in the activities of the Department of Education (DepEd).

The initial success gained in the municipality of Alabel, especially in generating community support and improving learning performance, encouraged the LGU to introduce the program to all the other municipalities in 2008 and 2009.

To ensure the sustainability of the education reforms, QUEST was institutionalized as a special unit of the Provincial LGU through Provincial Executive Order 2, Series of 2009. This EO also stipulates regular funding for the Program. Other ordinances were issued to adopt QUEST as a regular program and poverty alleviation tool.

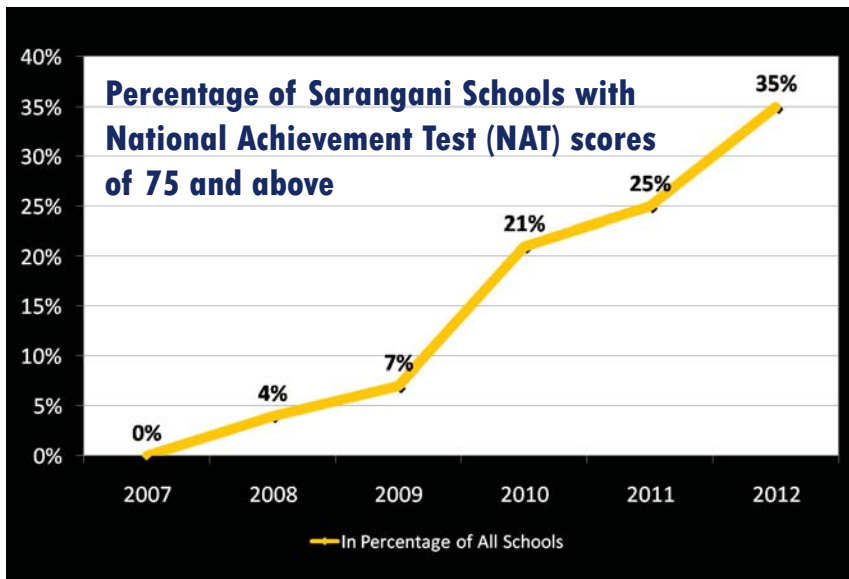
Under QUEST, school officials, teachers and community leaders worked with and trained parents and youth volunteers to create a support system that could enhance study habits in school and at home. Moreover, the business sector was convinced to provide school materials annually and to even help construct learning facilities such as the school cum dormitories (School-Dorm) for the children of indigenous peoples (IPs).





in remote IP communities. Moreover, the program succeeded in providing workbooks for all Grades I and II pupils and manuals for all their teachers.

Under the program, the *Balik-Eskwela* or Back-to-School campaign encouraged 11,458 out-of-school youth and children to re-enrol. Meanwhile the Sarangani Big Brother (SBB) campaign elicited the support of 1,263 teacher volunteers and 3,759 youth volunteers in helping 27,098 kids become better readers.



Today, Sarangani is recognized as a model in public-private partnership in education and for scaling up an education program. QUEST is now being replicated in the Municipality of Tampakan, Koronadal City, Cebu City, Compostela Valley, Palawan and Semirara.

Sarangani has vowed to continue pursuing its quest for quality education for as long as there is a single child who cannot enter school due to poverty.

The collaborative efforts were carried out through what they called a *kape* (coffee) and *tinapay* (bread) sharing system. The LGU and the business sector provide the teachers, school materials, and facilities, while the community provides parent mentors and volunteer workers as their counterpart.

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QUEST enabled Sarangani to open 28 primary schools, transform 54 primary schools into complete elementary schools, convert 31 elementary schools into integrated schools and erect 10 Class-Dorms



Under QUEST, school officials, teachers, and community leaders worked with and trained parents and youth volunteers to create a support system that could enhance study habits in school and at home.

Municipality of Loboc

Improving Lives through Tourism

Among tourists, Loboc is renowned for its floating restaurants, which conduct cruises along the scenic and winding Loboc River. Tourists also flock to see the tarsiers. Up until 2004, the LGU had no exact data about how many tourists were visiting or how much they were spending. But they hit upon the idea of developing tourism services and facilities as a way of attracting more visitors and generating additional income.

Between 2004 and 2005, the municipal LGU conducted several consultations with barangay officials, people's organizations, NGOs and the business sector to find out what they needed to do to make the necessary improvements. The consultations led to the overhauling of revenue-generating measures and the professionalization and centralization of government and tourism facilities and services. It also resulted in the issuance of new policies governing tourism and the promotion of sound environmental management practices.

The LGU also conducted awareness raising campaigns about sustainable environmental and tourism practices and held regular meetings and dialogues with the stakeholders—i.e. the residents, community leaders, boat operators, and the on-board entertainers. Municipal officials, department heads, and tourism staff operators were also exposed to other tourism prac-

tices to stimulate better appreciation of environmental factors crucial to tourism development and the impact of tourism. These changes gave the community renewed hope and encouraged their active participation.

LIT HOPE became the local government's banner cry and also summarized their development plan for the municipality. The acronym stands for Livelihood, Infrastructure, Tourism, Health and Sanitation, Organization Strengthening, Peace and Order, and Education.

With the assistance of the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Finance, the LGU was able to link with and tap financial assistance from several international donor agencies such as the Canadian International Development Agency, Australian Agency for International Development, and World Bank.

With funds at its disposal, the construction of a modern docking port

and tourist complex became the LGU's flagship project. This facility was designed to comply with safety standards as well as provide comfortable accommodation to visiting tourists. It also helped facilitate the monitoring of tourist arrivals and the collection of fees. Eventually, the reforms helped raise the tourism income of the municipal LGU from only Php278,000 in 2004 to a whopping Php51 million in 2011.

Subsequently, the LGU managed to tap other donors and sponsors to support infrastructure, livelihood and human resource development. Big television networks such as ABS-CBN, GMA Network, TV 5 and even international TV channels in Asia and Europe entered into agreements with the LGU, which allowed it to buy cheaper airtime for the promotion of Loboc as a favored tourist destination.

The successful endeavor also encouraged a bank to set up shop in the town. This has made it easier for the farmers and entrepreneurs to



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acquire capital for their enterprises. Among the other benefits of the program are employment creation, more livelihood, improved environmental conservation, paved roads and a better peace and order situation.

For its achievement, the Loboc LGU has garnered several awards and recognition such as the Seal of Good Housekeeping from DILG and the Customer Satisfaction Seal of Excellence Award from the Civil Service Commission. Loboc has shown that innovative and ingenious practices coupled with the active involvement of a broad community of partners can contribute a lot towards economic development.



Developing tourism services and facilities as a way of attracting more visitors and generating additional income





Valenzuela City

Simple. Speed. Service.

Sometimes, all it takes to succeed is to adopt a proven method and improve on it. Valenzuela City's government improved on the best governance practices of Marikina City to provide simple and speedy services to its constituents. The former mayor of Marikina has acknowledged that Valenzuela City's LGU was able to achieve in only three years what took them almost a decade to accomplish!

The quest for good governance and a business friendly environment led Valenzuela City's LGU to formulate its Simple and Speedy Public Service Program or 3S in Public Service. The program aims to eradicate graft and corruption, flatten the organizational structure of the city government, simplify and streamline business transactions, and enjoin the community to provide feedback and suggestions on how to further improve government services.

Previously, transactions with government took as much as 14 or even 20 days to complete due to the numerous offices and personnel that one had to deal with. The processes were cumbersome and complicated. With 3S in place, the number of transactions was streamlined from 11 to three and it now



The 3S in Public Service program simplified and streamlined business transactions, minimized graft and corruption, and made the LGU more responsive to the citizens.

takes only 20 minutes to obtain a business permit.

A post-audit scheme was also put in place to allow businesses to be up and running in no time. After the issuance of the business permit, the owners are given a month to comply with all the requirements. The Business Compliance Task Force then inspects the establishments and violators are closed down. The post-audit system also provides information that can help the city become more responsive to the needs of enterprises and at the same time protect the interest of its citizens.

By making use of information technology and computerizing its systems, the city is now able to provide

prompt assistance to taxpayers and monitor compliance. With a Geographic Information System (GIS) in place, the LGU is able to track taxable businesses and properties in the city. The city government also made it known to the taxpayers that it knows who and where they are. To encourage compliance, taxpayers are also provided comfortable lounges, assistance, and courteous service. Taxpayers now also have the option to pay online.

A flat organizational structure was adopted by the city to minimize layers of management and make operations flexible and more responsive. The work environment was redesigned to foster greater accountability. Panels in offices were

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made transparent so that transactions are visible to everyone. Team meetings are regularly held to foster collaboration and communication among officials and employees.

The consultative meetings and workshops with citizens are supplemented with the use of texting, email, and social media so that citizens can report their reaction, problems and suggestions directly to the Mayor. The Mayor personally replies to each and every mail received and directs appropriate offices for immediate action. An employee is also assigned to handle concerns raised through the social media sites and to endorse complaints to concerned departments for proper response.

Through the 3S program, the city increased its revenues to PhP 1.74 billion in 2011—this is twice its income in 2004. On the average, the annual income of the city grew by more than 25 percent annually, which has enabled the LGU to invest in infrastructure improvement, peace and order enhancement, educational program development and better health care delivery for its residents.

The city managed to construct cemented roads, school buildings, jail houses, courtrooms, lying-in clinics, fully functional barangay health centers, day care centers, and waste management facilities.

The Valenzuela government also provided capacity development training for all its teachers and developed teaching manuals and workbooks for all learners. This enabled students in the city to score

highest in the National Achievement Test (NAT) for NCR in 2011.

With investments in peace and order through capacity building of the police force and essential support for protective services and the *Katarungang Pambarangay*, the city was able to reduce crime incidence and amicably settle most interpersonal disputes.

In terms of health care delivery, Valenzuela's system includes quality primary health care, quality maternal and child care, and health insurance for indigent families. The city is also constructing the West Emergency Hospital and Dialysis Center to cater to poor families. Moreover, it also fields a Mobile Health Clinic and a Mobile Pharmacy to respond to the needs of poor families.

To ensure the sustainability of the 3S program, the LGU is now in the midst of issuing the relevant supporting legislation. It is now also mentoring other cities which plan to adopt the program.





Mandaluyong City

TEACH the Special Children

Raising children is already hard enough. Raising children with special needs entails sacrifice, tons of patience and deep pockets. Children with special needs pose great challenges to indigent families as the costs of quality therapy and education are often beyond their reach. The shortage of competent developmental pediatricians, special education teachers, and therapists, makes access to these services even more difficult.

To help indigent families who have children with special needs, the local government of Mandaluyong City spearheaded the conceptualization and implementation of Project Therapy, Education and Assimi-

lation of Children with Handicap (TEACH). This is a community-based rehabilitation program that directly benefits children with disabilities in depressed areas. It is a joint project with the Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Adults and Children with Handicap (REACH) Foundation Inc., a non-stock, non-profit organization based in Mandaluyong City.

The direct beneficiaries of this project are at least 600 children with developmental conditions such as Intellectual Deficiency, Cerebral Palsy, Autism and Down Syndrome. To give priority to the poor, the families of the special children are screened by the DSWD. If eligible, these children are then referred to partner specialists such as developmental pediatricians and psychologists for proper diagnosis. Once a child is diagnosed, proper interven-

tions are provided by the appropriate agencies.

Project TEACH also showcases how a local government unit can collaborate with the private sector and other agencies. For instance, the REACH Foundation, Inc. and the local government of Mandaluyong City collaborate in funding, conceptualizing, planning and implementing the program. Among the other partner organizations involved are the Department of Social Welfare and Development, and the Mandaluyong Center for Alternative Rehabilitation and Educational Services (Mandaluyong CARES).

Empowerment and transfer of knowledge is emphasized. Experts are hired to teach essential competencies to lay people and local professionals. For example, de-

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developmental pediatricians conduct long-term training for the city government's doctors.

The parents of beneficiaries are expected to render volunteer work as their counterpart to the free services. They enlist in working committees—i.e. housekeeping, programs support, information dissemination, family support—that match their interests and skills.

Playing a crucial role in Project TEACH are 27 lay Community Rehabilitation and Education Workers (CREW) who underwent rigorous training to help professionals implement therapy and educational programs for special children. They receive a PhP4,000 monthly allowance. The CREW are composed of lay women from depressed areas in the city. A third of them are related to special children.

By providing access to a network of free medical, rehabilitative, educational and related services, Project TEACH helps enable special children to become integrated and productive members of society. Numerous community education programs are also conducted to dispel misconceptions. Capability building activities are provided to help government doctors, public school teachers, social workers and barangay health workers become more effective in caring for children with special needs.

To sustain these initiatives, an inter-agency committee was formed to develop an innovative and cost-effective service delivery framework that effectively streamlined services. This committee meets at least once a month to evaluate Project TEACH's programs and to discuss ways to enhance the program.

Objective assessments administered by consultant diagnosticians indicate that the program has improved the capacities of beneficiaries. The bulk of the children can now participate more competently in activities related to self-help, home management, school, play, and leisure. In the quality assurance survey conducted by Project TEACH in March 2012, 98% of the parent respondents observed skills improvement in their children and all of them felt that the interventions were appropriate. Moreover, all the parent respondents expressed satisfaction over services delivery. Since it was established in September 2007, Project TEACH has rendered free diagnostic, therapy, SPED tutorial, bridging and pre-vocational training services with the monetary equivalence of about PhP14 million.

Mandaluyong City has placed at least 26 special students in the mainstreaming or inclusion program in five of its public schools. To maintain good standards in mainstreaming and inclusion, Project TEACH has developed implementing rules and guidelines that have been recently taught to guidance teachers of 18 out of the City's 21 public schools.

In the coming years, Project TEACH inclusion and mainstreaming protocols will be fully implemented in all the City's public schools.

This community-based rehabilitation program has helped enhance the skills of children with disabilities in depressed areas.



Mandaluyong City

Garden of Life

The city government converted a dirty, congested public cemetery into an environment-friendly and income generating facility.



A cemetery dubbed as a Garden of Life Park may appear ironic at first but an informed awareness of its transformation would soon elicit awe.

The old Mandaluyong City cemetery had a carrying capacity of only 7,717 units for interment. Yet the total number of burials had reached 19,405. The cemetery's open spaces were sacrificed to accommodate burials that during All Saints' Day, the cemetery becomes so congested. The mandatory exhumations done every five years had also contributed to storage problems for the remains. Moreover, the upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery and the provision of subsidized services had resulted in tremendous income losses for the city.

This prompted the Mandaluyong City LGU to craft a Master Plan for the redevelopment of the cemetery. The Garden of Life Park (GLP) was conceptualized as a "one-stop-shop" project that entailed a 4-C approach—i.e. cemetery, columbarium, crematorium, and chapel all rolled into one. To prevent future congestion, the LGU exhorted the clients to favor cremation.

Consultations and education campaigns were conducted to elicit support and cooperation from the community. Financial assistance was provided to informal settlers in the old cemetery to help them transfer to other lodgings. In addition, experts were consulted to ensure that the crematorium will be compliant with environmental and sanitation standards.

The new cemetery now comprises 5,744 apartment niches, 1,720 bone crypts, and 253 private apartments. Meanwhile, Columbar-

ium 1 has 2,990 ossuaries in vault and Columbarium 2 has 1,025. Through the project, the LGU is now more capable of providing decent burial and affordable services for indigent families while generating additional income for the city.

Supporting legislation provides several payment rates and categories depending on the status of residents or clients. The crematorium and the funeral parlor offers low-cost and reasonably priced packaged services. Compared to other cities which charge between PhP8,000 to PhP15,000 for cremation services from their residents, the GLP charges only PhP8,000, and even as low as PhP2,000 for indigent city residents. The low price has attracted clients outside the city including other funeral services and crematoriums and this has enabled the LGU to actually earn more revenue. The GLP generated a total of PhP2.4 million in its first year after it was launched in 2009. It earned PhP8.7 million in 2010 and PhP9.8 million in 2011.

By transforming the cemetery into a park, the LGU also dispelled the notion that a cemetery is an eerie place. It has practically become an eco-tourism facility, with visitors coming from as far as Olongapo, Davao, Bulacan, Iloilo, Negros, Leyte, Sorsogon and Australia. Many are interested in learning how the City Government was able to convert a once congested public cemetery into an environment-friendly and income generating facility.



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Barangay Poblacion, Tupi, South Cotabato

Barangay Governance Plus

Barangay LGUs are perceived to be mainly concerned with local conflict mediation and the issuance of various certificates. Yet Barangay Poblacion breaks away from this mold.

In 2006, the barangay LGU conceptualized a program which they presently call “Laging Listo ang Barangay Ko.” The program has seven paths of barangay goals and objectives: child-friendly governance; healthy and vibrant community; socio-economic upliftment; environmental protection and preservation; community preparedness; responsive barangay governance; and the barangay as a laboratory barangay and lakbay-aral destination.

To attain responsive governance, the LGU implemented the “Barangay sa Purok” in 2010 to provide assistance to 25 puroks. This allowed people living in far-flung areas to gain access to government services such as issuance of certificates, and at the same time allowed the LGU to collect data and tax payments. The officials also help form sectoral organizations for women, elderly and differently-abled to encourage community participation.

The LGU also conducts medical missions as well as reading sessions and supplemental feeding for the children under “*Isip na Busog, Katawa’y Malusog.*” The officials also bring with them a mobile library dubbed as *Kariton Library*.

Through the *Magtanong sa Pamahalaan*, purok residents are given a chance to raise issues and concerns. This enabled the LGU to be



The LGU officials and staff put up temporary kiosks that serve as their offices in the puroks in a bid to bring government services closer to the people.



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more responsive to the needs of the constituents. In 2011, a total of 585 patients were given medical check-ups and free medicines. Also, 58 residents were registered in the census and given birth certificates.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management also became a concern of the whole community. Even the women and the children participated in mapping disaster risk areas and planning disaster evacuation and rescue procedures.

The LGU also found ways to mobilize resources and to increase its revenue which allowed it to finance other development projects including the construction of a bigger barangay hall and a day care center. It was also able to establish a riparian conservation area as part of its path to environmental protection and preservation.

The barangay provided more residents with access to safe water. There is now also heightened awareness about health and sanitation. In terms of Child Care, it has achieved a 95% accomplishment rate in the number of fully immunized children. The Kariton Library stimulated interest in reading books among the children and has encouraged enrolment in day care centers in the barangay.

Continuity of the program even beyond the current administration has been ensured through legislation. The program is now part of the Barangay Development Plan and funds are allocated for its implementation. Earnings derived from numerous awards and recognition have also been re-channelled to the program.

Today, Barangay Poblacion stands as the epitome of innovative and excellent barangay governance.

The Dinagyang Festival has emerged as the most popular festival in the Philippines. Since its inception more than 40 years ago, the festival has turned into a huge undertaking that entailed the creation of a tripartite event management body.

In 2001, the Iloilo City government partnered with the Iloilo Dinagyang Foundation, Inc. (IDFI) to co-manage the festival. The Parish of San Jose formed the third party of the tripartite body. The City LGU provides financial and public service support, the IDFI takes care of the administration and solicitation of sponsorships, and the Church administers the liturgical activities. The LGU also provides services related to security, sanitation, health, first aid, engineering and traffic management. Its City Tourism and Development Office serves as the Festival Secretariat. The terms of reference is indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement and the composition of the working committee is designated through an Executive Order.

Dinagyang is held during the last week of January, and the plan-

**Fostering year-long
community
participation and
promotion of
sustainable environ-
mental and gover-
nance practices**

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Iloilo City

Dinagyang: Beyond Festivals



ning and preparations for the next event take place soon after the festival culminates. Dinagyang has become a community activity where schools, civic organizations, civil society, youth, professionals and the barangay residents are involved in making costumes and props and in preparing the needs of the competing IP tribes during rehearsals.

Workshops and trainings are conducted to help participants produce quality performances and to orient ushers and guides about courteous, hospitable behavior and proper information dissemination. The LGU also provides seminars for choreographers.

During the nightly practice, members of the community would gather in the school gym to contribute money and food for the kids. Some provide cooking utensils and help design costumes, repair props, decorate headdresses, and paint risers.

Traffic rerouting is carefully planned to ensure the smooth flow of vehicles, pedestrians and commuters. Before the festival, radio announcements and tarps posted in the affected roads inform motorists about the traffic rerouting plan.

The Dinagyang coordinators encourage activities that are environment-friendly. The number of vehicles in the parade is kept to a minimum to reduce pollution. Participants are urged to use recycled and recyclable materials for the souvenirs and costumes. Hygienic portable toilets are put-up in strategic areas and garbage collection is regularly conducted to maintain cleanliness. Kiosk and stall operators are required to provide garbage bags and bins.

Beyond the celebrations, Dinagyang has taken a new direction in terms of its outreach program for the indigenous people (Aeta). It offers scholarships, provides livelihood, and medical services to the Aeta. The IDFI has set up funds for their scholarship in college, while the City Government provides Day Care facilities, and takes care of the Aeta's pre-school, elementary and high school education. The IDFI also provides financial assistance for IP members in need of medical and funeral services. Funds are allocated for the promotional travel of performers and technical support staff. The Public Employment Services Office helps find jobs for IPs. There is also a livelihood program for jobless IP members after the festival.

As part of the Dinagyang activities, the Cofradia of Santo Niño of the Parish of San Jose conducts catechism and value formation training. It also conducts a month-long feeding program dubbed as *Arrozaldohan ni Señor Santo Niño* for children in the nearby barangays. The mobile kitchen of the Red Cross is tapped for cooking the food. After the festival, this project is turned over to the Day Care Center in the

area with funding from various sponsoring organizations and food companies.

In a span of twelve years, Dinagyang has developed into a world class act and an award winning event. It was adjudged best tourism event for 2007, 2008, and 2009 by the Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines (ATOP) and elevated to the Hall of Fame in 2010. More importantly, it was recognized as Best Practice in government and private sector collaboration by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The festival was even commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme in formulating the localization of the Millennium Development Goals. Today, LGUs are taking a new look at festivals as effective governance tools.



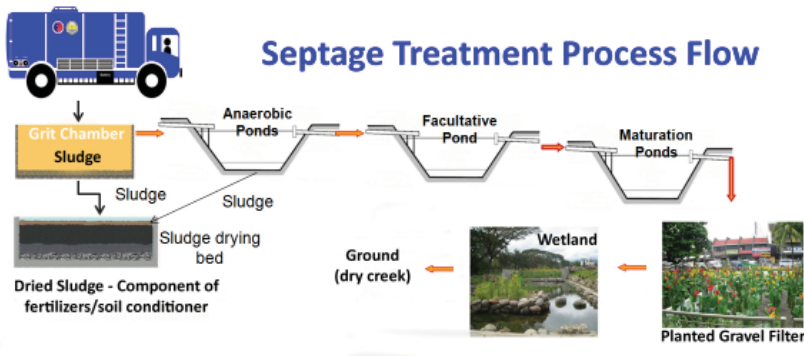
Dumaguete City Have Waste, We'll Manage!



Septage management systems are practiced in many countries whenever sewerage systems are not possible. However, in the Philippines, local government units are not keen on establishing a septage management system for lack of technical knowledge, limited financial resources and the failure to see the urgency of protecting water resources and the need for clean water.

In 2004, the Clean Water Act was enacted. It mandated that non-highly urbanized cities must establish septage management systems if sewerage systems are not available. In that same year, Dumaguete City was selected by the USAID as one of the pilot sites for the project on "Local Initiatives for Affordable Wastewater Treatment." This prompted a multi-sectoral group to conduct a situational analysis of the city in terms of existing and potential sources of wastewater, water resources at risk of contamination, local sanitation practices and environmental management ordinances.

An important issue raised by the multi-sectoral group was the risk to the city's ground water resource from the approximately 20,000 inappropriately constructed and maintained septic tanks in the city. Ground water is the city's current and sole source of water supply. Another concern was the unregulated and indiscriminate disposal of raw and untreated septage. The group recommended the establishment of a city-wide septage management system as a priority en-



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vironmental and sanitation program of the city government.

Subsequently, the city government enacted its Septage Management Ordinance in April 2006, which mandated the proper design, construction and maintenance of septic tanks, regular desludging, treatment of septage, collection of “user fee” to recover capital and operating costs, social marketing, information campaign and the creation of a septage management authority.

In 2008, after completing detailed studies and obtaining a clearance and permit from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Health, the city government started constructing the septage treatment plant using the city’s own development fund. Six months later, the city government entered into a joint venture agreement with the Dumaguete City Water District to implement the septage management system. The agreement stipulates equal sharing between the two parties in capital and operating costs and any future income. It also directed the Water District to collect and transport septage to the treatment plant, implement a septage “user fee” at the rate of PhP2/cubic meter as an add-on to the monthly water bill, and to maintain financial records.

Under the agreement, the city government will take charge of constructing, operating and maintaining the septage treatment plant, which became fully operational in June 2010. The septage treatment plant is non-mechanized and relies on natural processes to stabilize and convert septage into soil conditioners, fertilizers and irrigation water. As of March 2012, a total of 6,711 septic tanks of residences, business



Dumaguete City is the first LGU to undertake the establishment of a septage management system in the country.

establishments, schools and institutions have been desludged and 30,525 cubic meters of septage have been treated at the plant. LGUs outside Dumaguete have also availed of the city’s septage collection and treatment services. Numerous representatives of LGUs, NGOs, schools, water districts and even other countries have visited the city’s septage treatment facility and have expressed their desire to replicate Dumaguete City’s septage management system.

Dumaguete City is the first LGU to undertake the establishment of a septage management system in the country. It is also the first to institute a major and innovative joint undertaking with a water district to

protect and preserve its groundwater resource. Today, Dumaguete’s septage management system has emerged as a model of a viable local initiative for preserving valuable water resource and protecting the health of constituencies through appropriate utilization of government funds, good governance, social marketing and private sector support.

The massive information campaign generated public awareness of water resource conservation and improved sanitation practices. The program also highlights the potentials of a positive and productive relationship between a local government unit and a government-owned and controlled corporation. It is proving to be technically and economically viable. It is estimated that in the next three years, the septage management system’s capital costs will be fully recovered and the revenue generated will be returned to the community in the form of other environmental programs and projects.



Muntinlupa City Bring Your Own Bag

Worried about a possible repeat of Typhoon Ondoy's torrential rains that submerged eight of Muntinlupa's barangays in September 2009, Muntinlupa City's government initiated a study to determine factors that contributed to the intensity of Typhoon Ondoy's impact on Muntinlupa's infrastructure and general populace. The study noted that a large volume of plastic garbage clogging the city's waterways played a big part in preventing the flow of water, and exacerbated flooding. This prompted the LGU to push for the passage of Ordinance No. 10-109 prohibiting the use of plastic bags on dry goods, regulating its use on wet goods and prohibiting the use of styrofoam in the city.

Enacted on January 18, 2010, the law also known as Bring-Your-Own-Bag/Bayong (BYOB) ordinance, gave a one-year moratorium for

business establishments and private individuals to comply with the ban. During this period, a comprehensive IEC campaign was conducted for the benefit of all stakeholders of the City. Activities included fora with business owners, orientations in schools and villages, distribution of flyers, installation of billboards and posters, publication of information on the LGU's newsletter, as well as postings on the City's website. Strict enforcement of the ordinance commenced on January 18, 2011.

Ordinance 10-109 only covers plastic bags (LDPE) and styrofoam/styrophor because these are very difficult and costly to recycle. Moreover, it takes a long time for the said materials to decompose, which is why minimizing their presence in the waste stream would do much good for the environment as well.

Environmental enforcers from Muntinlupa's Environmental Sani-

tation Center (ESC) regularly conduct inspection of establishments throughout the city. Those found violating the ordinance are issued an Environmental Violation Receipt and, depending on the frequency of the offense, are imposed with fines ranging from PhP500 for the 1st offense to PhP2,500 for the 3rd offense. After the 3rd offense, the ESC endorses closure of the establishment to the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO). The latter then serves the closure order to the recipient and cancels the latter's license to operate for a period of one year.

Parallel to the strict enforcement of the prohibition of the sale and commercial use of plastic bags and styrofoam/styrophor packaging is the promotion of alternative packaging materials that are sustainable. All sectors that generate plastic trash—business establishments, offices, homes, schools, churches and other institutions—are enjoined to utilize reusable bags made of eco-friendly, recyclable materials to carry goods and other items.

In the first few months of implementation after the moratorium, enforcers penalized over three hundred violators. Several establishments—including a McDonald's, KFC, and Bread Talk branch—were even ordered closed after incurring three offenses. As several months passed though, the number of violations dwindled considerably. From January to December 2011, only 631 of the 12,978 registered businesses were penalized, bringing the rate of compliance for the pilot year of implementation to 95%. In addition, a survey by the local government has shown that this compliance has translated to an estimated reduction of as much as 15 tons of plastic materials being disposed per day.

The greatest positive impact of the BYOB program can be seen in how people in Muntinlupa have adjusted their lifestyles and habits in complying with the prohibition. Now they either bring their own reusable bags or purchase them. In some instances wherein the goods are placed in plastic, the buyers themselves reprimand the store staff or owner, refusing to accept the use of the prohibited material.

The city's plastic ban has been lauded by agencies like the DENR and the DILG. Likewise, it has earned the support of environmental groups such as Mother Earth and EcoWaste Coalition for showing that such a program is practicable and can be successful. The MMDA has even encouraged the rest of Metro Manila to emulate Muntinlupa's example, even as Ordinance 10-109 continues to be looked at as a model legislation for LGUs in the country.



The BYOB ordinance is a model legislation for LGUs in the country.

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PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF CITY ORDINANCE # 10-109

First offense	PhP500.00
Second Offense	PhP1,000.00
Third Offense	PhP2,500.00 and Cancellation of License to operate(Business Permit)



Farmer Entrepreneurship Program

Linking small farmers directly to major buyers of agricultural produce helps ensure better prices and earnings for the former. In 2008, the Local Government Unit of San Jose City ventured into a tie-up with Jollibee Foundation (JF) for a pilot project that would help the onion farmers of San Jose.

The Project was dubbed as “Farmers’ Entrepreneurship Program: Bridging Farmers to the Corporate Supply Chain.” It aimed to link small onion farmers to Jollibee’s supply chain so that they can have a more stable market and obtain a good price for their produce. The small farmers were trained on simple farming technologies that would increase productivity and efficiency. They also entered into partnership with microfinance institutions to develop appropriate models of agricultural loans such as production financing and trade financing. Government Agencies (DA, PhilMech, PhilRice) and NGOs were tapped for various technical and material needs.

To comply with quality and volume requirements of Jollibee Foods Corporation (JFC), they attended workshops and field exposures on modern, organic and sustainable farming systems.

Initially, 15 onion farmers from each barangay were organized into two

clusters and later formed the Kalasag Farmers Producers Cooperative (KFPC). The LGU provided logistic support such as transportation, venues and meals for conferences, meetings and other activities. The Catholic Relief Services took care of the capability-building component, while the National Livelihood Development Council facilitated access to low-interest loans through its conduit Alalay sa Kaunlaran, Inc. JF linked the farmers to JFC to be onion suppliers. Intensive training on production, product handling, price negotiation, organizational management (accounting, bookkeeping) and leadership transformed the farmers into entrepreneurs.

KFPC’s first successful delivery to JFC was in March 2009. San Jose’s farmers impressed JFC with only 0.17% reject rate out of the initial volume of 60 metric tons of white onion. In 2010, deliveries to Jollibee totalled 235 MT. In 2011, this further increased to 245 MT, enabling them to earn a gross income of Php7.3 million. At present, they are also supplying to other consolidators like CDO and private traders.

Previously, the small onion farmers suffered from a negative net income of Php2,070.13 per harvest season. Under the project, the farmers were able to increase their farm income by around 18% with 45% of this amount gained from the higher buying price offered by JFC compared to local buyers. This enabled some KALASAG farmers to renovate their houses and redeem pawned farmlands. About 180 previously unemployed women

and men also earned income from peeling white onions that were delivered to JFC. On the average, each peeler earned Php288/day during the harvest season from April to June.

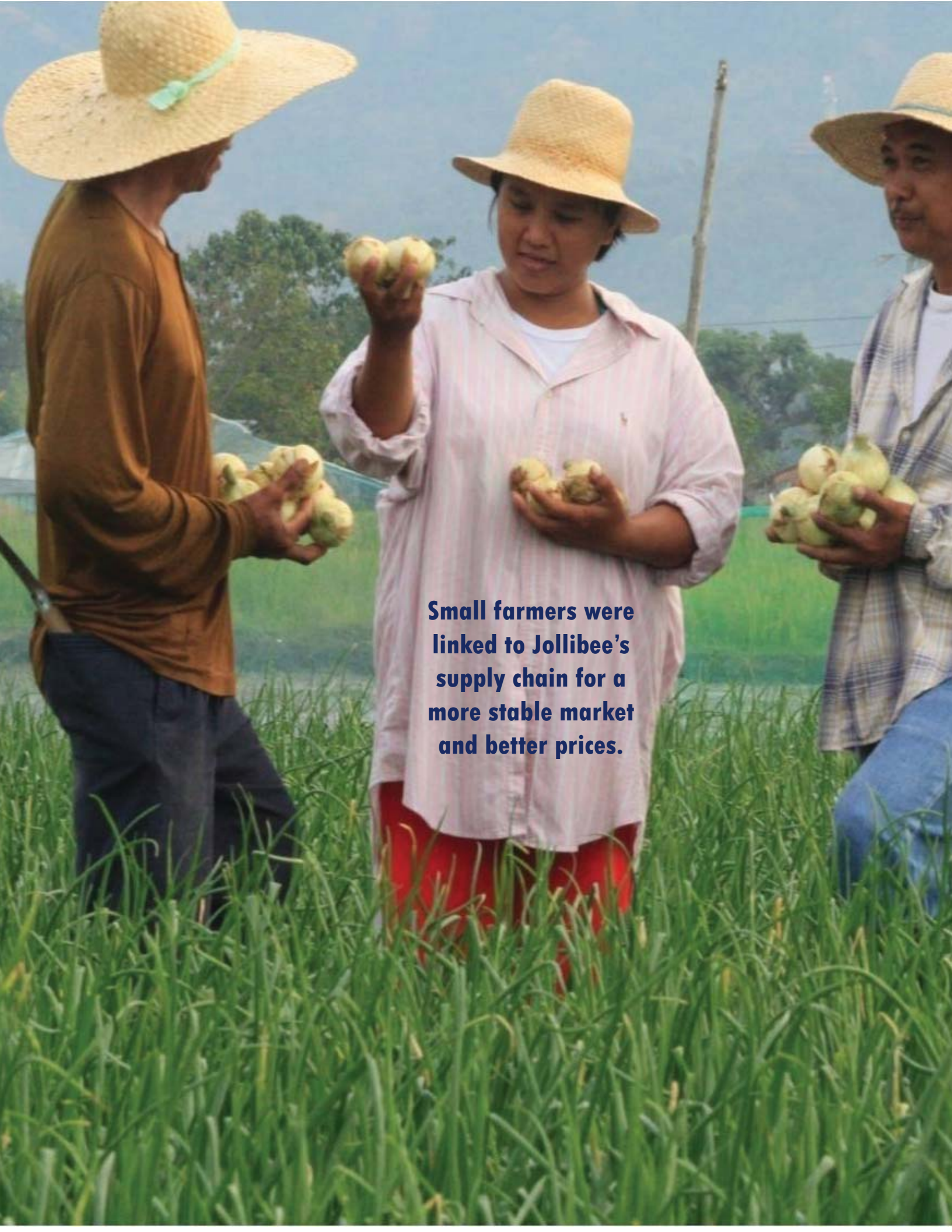
Successful deliveries and increased income enabled KFPC to increase its assets. The cooperative was able to buy farm machineries and equipment through grants and loans. These assets include a Php2M-worth refrigerated truck (with tractor head), a seedling screen house, a cold storage van, a reefer truck and plastic crates.

The newly transformed farmer-entrepreneurs became skilled in negotiating with corporations like JFC and are now able to enter into formal contracts with other institutional markets by themselves. KFPC was empowered when they grouped themselves into agro-enterprise clusters and eventually into a cooperative for the purpose of consolidating supply and pooling transport logistics. The farmers are now actively participating in collective production-led activities.

The success of the KFPC farmers of San Jose has inspired other farmers. Since 2009, KFPC was visited by farmers from Pangasinan, Ilocos Sur, Mindanao, Tarlac Province and other agencies. KFPC’s Manager was recognized as “Magsasaka Siyentista” for his scientific expertise on white onion and KFPC was awarded as Most Promising Cooperative in the City. KFPC’s success has made San Jose City “a place where high quality onion is produced.”

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Small farmers were linked to Jollibee's supply chain for a more stable market and better prices.

2012 Galing Pook Awards Finalists

Masbate City

Coastal Resource Management

Dynamite fishing was a big problem for Masbate City as it was doing almost irreparable damage to coastal resources. In 2001, the Masbate LGU began to draw-up and strictly implement a Coastal Resource Management program. It sent its personnel to select coastal municipalities to learn how to properly implement such a program and mobilized the communities in designing and managing it. Under the program, marine sanctuaries were designated and a mangrove park was established. The fisherfolk and women were organized into associations that were also tasked to help maintain and guard the sanctuaries and the mangrove park. Since 2002, there have been no reports of dynamite fishing within the municipal waters according to the Masbate City PNP. As a result of the cooperative efforts of the LGU and the people, Masbate's marine sanctuaries are ranked today as the most protected and highly resilient to climate change.



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Quezon Province

Coupons for the Indigent's Medical Services

Poor families rarely avail of the services of formal health facilities because they do not have the required resources. The Quezon Provincial LGU came up with the *Lingap Kalusugan sa Barangay* or the Barangay Health Assistance program to improve the indigent families' access to health services. Basically, the program entails the distribution of coupons to identified indigent families, with the assistance of informal leaders assigned by the barangay LGUs. The beneficiaries use the health coupons as full or partial payment for medical services at the hospitals. The Provincial Government then replenishes the community hospitals based on medical expenses covered by the health coupons.



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The distribution of coupons instead of actual cash to beneficiaries ensures that these are not allocated for purposes other than addressing medical and health needs. It also reduces the potential for corruption at the barangay level. There is also no transfer of cash between the Provincial Government and the community hospitals—the LGU simply replenishes the medicines and helps improve the hospitals' facilities. In 2011, the Provincial Government distributed PhP62 million worth of coupons, of which PhP46.8 million was turned over by the hospitals; this translates to a utilization rate of 78%.

2012 Galing Pook Awards Finalists



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Municipality of San Francisco, Cebu Purok System to Empower People

It was the Department of Education that first organized *puroks* or groups in the different barangays as a support system for its programs. The San Francisco Municipal LGU tapped these puroks and turned them into people's organizations that later became its active partners in the pursuit of good governance. This program was institutionalized in 2007 through a municipal ordinance, and it was dubbed as the SanFran System. The system enabled the LGU to mobilize practically the entire population of the municipality in implementing its myriad programs such as solid waste management, environmental protection and disaster risk reduction. The municipality has now transformed itself into a model for those who wish to become resilient communities.

South Cotabato Sanitary Landfill

Local governments find it difficult to comply with the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 because they often lack the resources to put up a Sanitary Landfill (SLF) disposal facility. But South Cotabato's provincial LGU was able to hurdle the problem by institutionalizing a clustering system.

In 2008, six municipal LGUs signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the provincial LGU to establish an SLF that can be shared by a cluster of LGUs. Under the agreement, the provincial LGU provides financial and technical support for the construction of the shared facility. The member LGUs pay the host LGU tipping fees that cover the cost of operating and maintaining the facility. By sharing a facility and distributing the cost to operate and maintain the SLF, each LGU was able to comply with RA 9003 at the least possible cost. The total investment cost incurred for the development of the first cell amounted to PhP12.2 million—PhP5.7 million was shouldered by the municipal government of Surallah while the remaining PhP6.5 million was provided by the provincial government of South Cotabato. The construction of the Cluster SLF started last October 2009. It started operations last June 24, 2011.



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2012 Galing Pook Awards Finalists

Tagum City

Care for School Chairs

Executive Order 23 mandated the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to turn-over all confiscated logs to the Department of Education, which in turn will fabricate these into school furniture. Aware of Tagum City LGU's fabrication capability, the DepEd deposited the confiscated lumber in Tagum's sprawling city motorpool. The Tagum City LGU called on the citizens and the business sector to provide paint, construction materials, and labor for the project so that it could reduce expenses and hasten production. Answering the call were an army of volunteers from the ranks of government employees, members of civic society organizations, international organizations, academic institutions and individuals who trooped to the motorpool even on weekends. This enabled the weekly production of 1,500 chairs and savings of PhP58 pesos/chair for the LGU. Production was more than enough for the schools in Tagum, and this prompted the LGU to supply free school furniture to different schools (especially those in far-flung areas) of Davao Region, including one school in Talisay, Batangas, three schools in Camiling, Tarlac and one school in St. Bernard, Southern Leyte. As of July 17, 2012, a total of 56,412 pieces of school furniture have been delivered by the Local Government of Tagum.



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Municipality of Teresa

From Waste to Concrete Products

The Municipal LGU of Teresa launched an IEC campaign in 2005 to introduce and promote its Integrated Solid Waste Management Program to its communities. The residents has since adopted the program into their everyday life and now practice waste segregation. The compliance performance of barangays and schools are regularly monitored and their ranking is posted in public places and announced during masses at the church.

Central to the program is the Integrated Solid Waste Management Facility (ISWMF). This 2,000-sq.m. facility has grown from a makeshift structure into a well-stocked complex that houses a waste receiving area, a hazardous waste area, a mechanized composting area with an average monthly output of 8 tons, and a processing center for residual waste where 400 kg/day of pulverized residual waste is used in making concrete products. The facility also houses an office, a training-conference center, a wellness center, and an organic garden and fishpond. There are about 35 to 40 part-time and full-time staff employed at the ISWMF. The program has earned numerous accolades since its implementation in 2005.



2012 National Selection Committee

BENEDICTO ERNESTO BITONIO, JR. is a private law practitioner and consultant. He is also professor at the UP College of Law and the UP Graduate School of Labor and Industrial Relations. Before he retired to become a private citizen, he had a long stint with the government, including as Assistant Secretary and Undersecretary of Labor, Chairman of the National Labor Relations Commission, and Executive Vice President and Head of the Development Sector of the Development Bank of the Philippines. He holds degrees in bachelor of arts and bachelor of laws from the UP, and a master's degree in public management from the National University of Singapore.

VICTOR GERARDO BULATAO represents agrarian reform beneficiaries and serves as an Independent Director in the Board of the Land Bank of the Philippines, the leading lender to local government units, as well as small farmers and fishers. He continues to be active in NGOs pursuing participatory local governance in 200 rural barangays. In the 1980s and 1990s he served in the Department of Agrarian Reform in various capacities, the last as Undersecretary for Field Operations and Support Services.

EDNA ESTIFANIA CO is currently dean and professor at the University

of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance (UPNCPAG). She is holder of the Manuel A. Roxas Professorial Chair for 2012. She was visiting research fellow at the Institute for Policy and Development Management at the University of Manchester in England in 2003. Since then, she led a team that initiated the Philippine Democracy Assessment and which is linked to the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) based in Stockholm, Sweden.

MA. NIEVES CONFESOR serves as Chairperson of the Galing Pook Foundation as well as the Kaunlaran ng Manggagawang Pilipino, Inc. She is Executive Director of the AIM-Team Energy Center for Bridging Leadership, a research and training center for leadership development at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), and also faculty with special research and training focus. She had served as Secretary of Labor and Employment, as well as consultant/trustee to various companies, educational institutions, and multi-lateral organizations. She has also served as Chairperson of the Government Panel negotiating with the CPP-NDF-NPA.

RAFAEL COSCOLLUELA is the National President of the Confederation

of Sugar Producers' Associations, Inc. (CONFED) for 2012-2014. He also served as Administrator of the Sugar Regulatory Administration, Vice Chairman of the National Biofuel Board and Chairman of the Philippine Sugar Corporation. He was Presidential Adviser on Cooperatives and Presidential Adviser for Western Visayas after serving as Governor of Negros Occidental for three consecutive terms, during which time the province garnered two Galing Pook Awards.

REX VICTOR CRUZ is currently a Professor 12 and Scientist 2 at UP Los Baños. From 1994 to 2000 he served as the Director of the UPLB-CFNR Forestry Development Center after which he became the Director of the UPLB Environmental Forestry Programme, a post he holds to date. Concurrently he serves as the Chancellor of UP Los Baños. He was part of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change from 1992 to 1995; 1997 to 2000; and 2004 to 2007 co-authoring climate change impacts and adaptation assessment and technical reports.

MA. LOURDES FERNANDO is currently the Vice-Chairperson of the Galing Pook Foundation. She served as an award-winning Mayor of Marikina City from July 2001 to June 2010. Under her leadership, Marikina City was judged as one of the most competitive metropolitan cities in the Philippines. She is also a Founding Chair of the Alliance for Healthy Cities. She was voted among top ten world mayors during her term in office and continues to advocate for women's issues and good governance.

JAIME GALVEZ TAN is a Professor of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine; and the President of Health Futures Foundation, Inc. He was Vice Chancellor for Research of





the University of the Philippines Manila and Executive Director of the National Institutes of Health Philippines 2002-2005. He served as Regional Adviser in Health and Nutrition for East Asia and the Pacific Region of UNICEF in Bangkok in 1996. He served the Philippine Department of Health as Secretary in 1995 and as Undersecretary and Chief of Staff from 1992-94.

JOSE RENE GAYO, DBA is the Executive Director of the MFI Farm Business Institute and President of the Foundations for People Development. He was the Executive Director of PAREF Southridge School in Alabang and was the Founding Dean of the School of Management, University of Asia and the Pacific. His academic interests include agricultural and rural development, agribusiness, management of NGOs, and environmental issues.

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MILWIDA GUEVARA is President of Synergeia Foundation with a mission to enable every Filipino child to complete elementary education. She served as Undersecretary in the Department of Finance, Republic of the Philippines, responsible for revenue generation and tax reforms. Her career path includes serving as a Tax Advisor of the International Monetary Fund, Program

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VINCENT LAZATIN is the Executive Director of the Transparency and Accountability Network (TAN), a Philippine-based network of 25 civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, and academic and research institutions focusing on transparency and accountability in governance. He is also the current chairman of the Civil Society Coalition for the UN Convention against Corruption, based in Berlin, Germany. Mr. Lazatin was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of the Galing Pook Foundation.

TONY LOPEZ is the president, editor and publisher of BizNewsAsia, the Philippines' largest weekly business and news magazine. He writes a column Tuesdays and Thursdays for the Manila Times and hosts a weekly TV show, BizNewsAsia Thursdays, 8 p.m. on PTV Channel 4. He was business editor of The Times Journal, senior correspondent for 25 years of Asiaweek Ltd. (the Time Warner subsidiary in Hongkong), and a correspondent of The Mainichi (Japan's oldest daily) and major German TV stations ZDF and ARD.

MARY JANE ORTEGA is the first Filipina to receive the United Nations Scroll of Honour Award from UN Habitat in 2000 and the Konrad Adenauer Meritorious Award for Excellence in 2003. A teacher, manager, leader – she was elected Mayor of the City of San Fernando for three terms (1998-2007), member of UN Advisory Council of Local Authorities (2000-2007), was elected Secretary General of CITYNET, an organization of human settlements in

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VERONICA VILLAVICENCIO has devoted her career and professional work to building knowledge and practice on social development and change management. She has led Philippine organizations primarily in development financing programs for poverty reduction, in which she harnessed her management skills in strategic planning, organizing, monitoring and evaluation of development and resource management projects. She has served as Secretary and Lead Convenor of the National Anti-Poverty Commission and as Executive Director of the Peace and Equity Foundation.



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