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Dir. Garcia Goes to Brazil for a Learning Visit on Hunger Mitigation



(Right: Dir. Arnel Garcia, Center: Sec. Dinky Soliman) The United Nations has invited selected DSWD staff to represent the Philippine Government delegation to participate in a study tour of the World Food Program (WFP) Center of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil last June 2 to 12, 2013. The purpose of the study tour is to put special attention on the implementation and continuous impact of their Zero Hunger Program and Bolsa Familia. It aims to improve the Re-Entry Action Plan in connection with the implementation of social protection and social welfare and development programs such as Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).

Inside: DSWD Staff Development & Sports Fest (p.7), Partner Agencies Visit DSWD Subprojects under CDD for Monitoring (p.), 4Ps new mode of cash release (p. 3), 215 Community-Identified Services to be Completed under CDD Project (p.), Bawal ang Epal Dito Campaign Provincial Launching (p.8), Katutubo Caravan (p.5), Legazpeños Attend First Kalahi-CIDSS Community Assembly (p.)

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29 April 2013

COMMUNITIES KEY TO DEVELOPMENT - SOLIMAN



The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Juliano-Soliman strongly emphasized that the citizens are crucial to the pursuit of progress. She made this point as she talked about how the Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach can operationalize "inclusive growth" during the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Albay Governor Joey Sarte Salceda and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Undersecretary Francisco Fernandez for the pilot testing of the enhancement of the Provincial Local Government Unit (PLGU) engagement with Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS).

"The communities are key to development", said Secretary Soliman. She cited how the community-driven development (CDD) approach of Kalahi-CIDSS builds up on the Aquino administration's thrust of "the people as the bosses". CDD is a poverty alleviation strategy which gives citizens the power and the responsibility to analyze and address local issues that impede their development through participatory decision-making. It is the principal strategy of Kalahi-CIDSS, one of the projects under the DSWD.

Secretary Soliman said that Albay was chosen as one of the two pilot sites for PLGU engagement because its PLGU showed consistent support to the implementation of Kalahi-CIDSS in its constituent municipalities. Furthermore, it has proven its expertise in addressing provincial concerns, including disaster risk management.

While she praised Governor Salceda for his active involvement in Kalahi-CIDSS implementation, she also issued him a challenge. "You have tried [CDD implementation] in either Kalahi-CIDSS or PODER. Let us try this now at the provincial level."

PODER, or Poder Y Prosperidad de la Comunidad (Empowerment and Development of Communities) is a project also implemented by the Kalahi-CIDSS with funding support from the Agencia Española Cooperacion Internacional para el Desarollo (AECID). It also uses the CDD strategy utilized by Kalahi-CIDSS. It is implemented in the Bicol region, Region III, and CARAGA.

The pilot testing is expected to provide insights on the roles of the PLGU in the implementation of CDD. The information will be used to identify the engagement of the PLGU in the National Community-Driven Development Program (NCDDP), the scaling up of Kalahi-CIDSS.

For his part, Governor Salceda welcomed Secretary Soliman's challenge, saying that he believes in the systems employed by Kalahi-CIDSS, particularly in its thrust of empowering people. "Ang CDD ang paraan sa pag-solve ng poverty, at ang magsasagot ay ang tao mismo [CDD provides the means to solve poverty, and the ones who will solve poverty are the people themselves]."

Continued on Page 12...

20 June 2013

Pantawid Pamilya Has New Mode in the Release of Cash Grant

The Pantawid Pamilya Program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development has adopted new mode in the release of cash grant to the beneficiaries and this is through MLhuiller.

This new modality was piloted recently in the municipality of Tinambac, Camarines Sur where 4,900 beneficiaries from the 44 barangays were served.

Pantawid Pamilya is a poverty alleviation program of the national government that aims to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty of poor households by investing in human capital such as health, nutrition and education. At present the program covers all the municipalities of Bicol with a total of 357, 000 households.

Previously the Pantawid Pamilya cash grant were released through the over the counter payment and the cash cards in the Land bank branches. However it was not noted that these are quite effective especially to the beneficiaries staying in far-flung areas.



This is aside from having limited Land Bank and ATM facilities in the region. For these reason, the DSWD and Land Bank in the Philippines has forged partnership with Philpost, Rural Banks and MLhuiller who will take charge of the release of cash grant.###eejerusalem





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27 June 2013

DSWD 5 Conducts Data Monitoring



The National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office 5 keeps an eye on the use of the data statistics released in the region.

The data monitoring which started last March 15, 2013 aimed to guard the proper utilization of the data as well as ensuring that it will be utilized according to its purpose.

As a result, it was noted that most of the data shared with the Local Government Units (LGU's) were lodged at the Municipal Social Welfare Office and Municipal Planning and Development Office which the latter used for the preparation of bottom-up planning/budgeting.

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FEATURE

"The Gift" by Lolito C. Bayna Jr.

My three children swiftly rushed to me as soon as I opened the door. All were excited to receive their "pasalubong" (presents) but to my dismay, I cannot even hand them any. My wife even welcomed me with a spark of ire on her face.

That was the moment I realized it's not easy to give your heart to the community.

It even reached to a point where I found myself stuck in a very difficult situation. I was totally engrossed with my altruist pursuit in our village that I had a sparse time with my family.

I've been a community volunteer. Upon the acceptance of this, I know I married our village together with its dreams and aspirations.

Each day is an opportunity to help my neighbors and time was an important elemet in my u<mark>r</mark>ney as a volunteer.

The ride was an extraordinary experience of ups and downs. As the head of the volunteers in our community, Continued on Page 13. . .

30 May 2013

DSWD HOSTS EXECOM MEETING

The Department of Social Welfare and Development, Field Office V hosted the Executive Committee meeting held recently at DSWD, Field Office. The EXECOM was headed by DSWD Secretary Corazon Juliano-Soliman. With her were USEC. Mateo Montano, USEC. Angelita Gregorio- Medel, Assistant Secretaries Chona David Casis, Vilma Cabrera, Javier Jimenez and Margarita Ana Perez, Head Executive Assistant.

In their two days stay in Bicol, the members of the EXECOM had an interaction with the field Office staff as they were having the first Regional General Assembly for 2013.

The visit of the EXECOM in Bicol was highlighted with the turn-over of check amounting to 10m to the Provincial Government of Albay. This is intended for the construction of an evacuation center in San Jose, Malilipot, Albay. The check was received by Provincial Board Members Ralph Andes and Raul Borja from Secretary Dinky Soliman.

They also witnessed the signing of the Memorandum of Agreements on the following programs and projects:

The MOA signed between the DSWD, DILG and the Department of Tourism was on "Trabahong Turismo." The MOA signing was represented by Regional Directors Arnel B.Garcia, Blandino M. Maceda and Maria Ong- Ravanilla, respectively.

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7May 2013

CONFLAGRATION IN MASBATE CITY

As of 2:30pm of May 7, 2013, a fire hit Barangay Pating of Masbate City bringing 118 houses totally burned and two partially damaged. The City Social Welfare and Development Office are in the process of determining the total number of families affected and possible interventions to be provided to the victims.

Community Kitchen with the assistance of the Field Office staff has been organized by the Local Government Unit of Masbate City for the victims who at the moment have temporarily sought refuge at the nearly care centers and barangay hall.

Meanwhile, DSWD Director Arnel Garcia bared that the Field Office is ready to extend augmentation support upon final verification and request of the City Social Welfare and Development Officer. CISD debriefers from DSWD and DOH are on standby. ###eejerusalem



30 May 2013

KATUTUBO CARAVAN HELD



Director Arnel B. Garcia intermingle with the Kabihugs during the Katutubo, Caravan in Jose, Panganiban, Camarines Norte

A Katutubo caravan was held recently in a tribal community at Barangay Osmeña, Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte where hundreds of "Kabihugs" unmindful of the strong summer heat trek the hills of Barangay Osmeña in order to join the activity.

These "Kabihugs" belong to the "Agta", the generic term used in Bicol to refer to the 40,000 natives with dark colored skin, short statue and kinky hair. In order to preserve the culture of the katutubo in Camarines Norte, they called themselves "Kabihugs". There are 19 Kabihugs tribes in Camarines Norte. They are from the towns of Basud, San Lorenzo Ruiz, Capalonga, Paracale, Labo and Jose Panganiban. The Kabihugs who joined the event are from Guisican, Labo(also a tribal community), Paracale and Jose Panganiban.

As explained by DSWD Director Arnel B. Garcia, the katutubo caravan aims to provide with the basic social services and other entitlement from the government.

Since some of the Kabihugs are Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries, the day's event also served as a venue for the beneficiaries and stakeholders to express the importance of the conditional cash transfer in their lives and personally respond to the issues raised against the program.

As shared by Dr.Vincent Asis, the Municipal Health Officer of Jose Panganiban, the Pantawid Pamilya contributed much in their journey toward the attainment of better health services for these sector.

According to Dr. Asis, there is a notable increase in the number of people availing the health services and a larger portion of these are the "Kabihugs". There are already Kabihug pregnant mothers who avail the services of the birthing facilities. The pre-school children are now brought to the health center for regular check up, deworming and other health services.

The mothers are now aware of proper health and sanitation." Malilinis na sila, Dr. Asis said.

Ms. Merly Bubuyo happily shared on her experiences when the Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program was brought to the IP community. There is an increase in enrollment among the Kabihugs. There are Kabihug children who excel academically in class. Their parents have already seen the value of education and actively participate in meetings and other activities of the school.

Julie Acula and Leoniza Noblezala, two Kabihug beneficiaries likewise shared that the Pantawid Pamilya has brought too much changes in their lives. They are now able to send their children to school, avail health services and we are now able to provide them with their health and school needs."Lahat ng bayarin sa eskwela ay amin ng naibibigay at natuto na rin kaming painumin ng bitamina ang aming mga anak"

The government agencies who participated and extended their services are:

- Medical Services by the Municipal Health Office and the Philippine Army
- Philhealth Registration by the Philhealth
- Free birth registration by the office of the Local Civil Registrar of Labo, Paracale and Jose Panganiban
- ALS Registration by the DepEd

The Philippine Army likewise distributed used clothing.

The Katutubo Caravan was jointly sponsored by the DSWD, the Local Government of Jose Panganiban and the National Commission for Indigenous People. # ##eejerusalem.





April-June 2013

30 May 2013

DSWD FO 5 HOLDS REGIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The first regional general assembly for DSWD Field Office 5 staff was held last May 27-31, 2013 at Albay Astrodome, Legazpi City.

With 1,275 employees in attendance, the activity aimed to encourage the staff to work as one of the achievement of the department's thrust and priorities. The activity also serves as a venue to enhance leadership skills as integral to great teamwork, reduce conflicts between and among staff and to enhance unity & camaraderie.

The regional general assembly was dubbed as "Staff Development cum Sports fest"

It was commenced by a motorcade along the main streets of Legazpi and ended at the Naval Station in Rawis, Legazpi City for the opening program.

The staff was organized into teams with different colors assigned to each group for recognition.

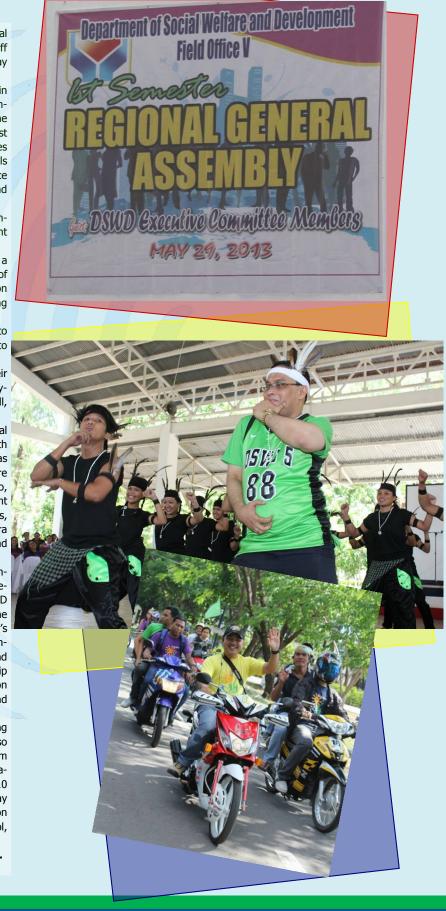
Each team unleashed their competitive sides over games of volley-ball, bowling, badminton, basketball, scrabble, chess, and table tennis.

Furthermore, Semestral General Assembly was conducted with the DSWD Executive Committee as guests. Execom members present were Under Secretaries Mateo G. Montaño, Angelita Y. Gregorio-Medel, Assistant Secretaries Ma.Chona O. David-Casis, Javier R. Jimenez, Vilma B. Cabrera and Margarita Ana L. Perez(Head Executive Assistant).

The highlight of the assembly was the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing between DSWD and University of Santa Isabel for the weekend program to the bachelor's degree in Social Work paraprofessionals, a contract between DSWD and Radyo Veritas Legazpi for partnership on the advocacy for Poverty Reduction and Social Protection Programs and Services.

A Trabahong Turismo ng Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino was also inked with Department of Tourism represented by Director Maria O. Ravanilla and turnover of check worth 10 million to Local Government of Albay for the construction of pilot evacuation center in San Jose Elementary School, Malilipot Albay.

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THE DSWD GALLERY





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THE DSWD GALLERY















Staff of DSWD Field Office V submit to the Annual Checkup as part of the preventive health procedures of the department for its workers.









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THE DSWD GALLERY



SORSOGON April 11, 2013



MASBATE April 24, 2013

ALBAY April 4, 2013



CAMARINES SUR
April 10, 2013

CAMARINES NORTE April 5, 2013





CATANDUANES April 17, 2013



DSWD 5 Conducts Data Monitoring

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Likewise, MSWDO's were able to utilize the data in the preparation of the Social Protection and Development Report (SPDR).

The shared data is an output of the 2009 enumeration in which 461,242 households in Bicol region were identified as poor.

Presently, the National Household Targeting Unit (NHTU) has provided statistics data to 90 LGU's while 6 LGU's and 2 NGO's inked into a memorandum of agreement.

The National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) is an information management that identifies who and where the poor are. It is intended for the national government agencies, private sector and civil society groups which provides social protection programs to the poor.###crbarrameda

5 June 2013

215 Community-Identified Services to be Completed under CDD Project



Before & After: Construction of Day Care Center Brgy. San Francisco, Bombon, Camarines Sur. Total Project Cost: Php797,490.50.

The Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS), a multi-funded project of Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), will complete the construction of total 215 community projects this year aiding 2,051 communities

Covering municipalities in all provinces of Bicol, Kalahi-CIDSS provides poverty-reduction projects to address local needs in the poorest areas in the region.

Kalahi-CIDSS is a community-driven development (CDD) project in the Philippines which strongly advocates the involvement of local communities in the design and implementation of development projects to address the issue of poverty in the country. It aims to improve local governance by employing the participation of the people in the communities in the development process.

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Legazpeños Attend First Kalahi-CIDSS Community Assembly



After the barangay assembly, chosen volunteers from Brgy. Bitano, Legazpi City were oriented about Kalahi-CIDSS last April 18, 2013 at the Ibalong Centrum for Recreation. Donna Osial [left], a DSWD staff, discusses their roles and responsibilities as volunteers in the project.

From the coverage of rural barangays, Kalahi-CIDSS has now expanded to the urban setting with its pilot implementation in Legazpi City wherein residents of Bitano and Rawis attended the first barangay assembly (BA) for the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) project.

The BA was conducted in Bitano and Rawis last April 19 and 20, respectively. The staff from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) oriented the crowd about different aspect of Kalahi-CIDSS project.

World Bank (WB) has granted P1 million each for Bitano and Rawis as part of the pilot implementation of urban Kalahi-CIDSS in Luzon. It started last January and will end March 2014.

What is Kalahi-CIDSS?

Kalahi-CIDSS is one of the poverty reduction programs implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). It stands for Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services.

Employing "Community-Driven Development" as a primary strategy, Kalahi-CIDSS trains communities together with their local governments (barangay and municipal) to choose, design, and implement development projects to address their most pressing needs. Through the Project, communities and local government units have built school buildings, farm to market roads and bridges, health stations, day care centers, post-harvest facilities, and implemented capacity building and projects that address poverty needs.

On the other hand, the first set of volunteers was elected wherein there were two representatives for each purok. Through this, CDD is operationalized by involving the residents in the decision-making process of the government.

Alfonso Bantigui, Jr. of Zone 4, Bitano, was one of the chosen community volunteers who will study their local situation and conduct a community research.

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Partner Agencies Visit DSWD Subprojects under CDD for Monitoring



Jesus D. Domasig, a community volunteer, discusses the financial report of their CDD project with Jocelyn L. Guela of Sorsogon Social Action Center, during the Inter-Agency monitoring visit in Prieto Diaz last June 11, 2013.

Partners and other stakeholders joined the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in monitoring projects under Community-Driven Development Project (CDD), also known as Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS), in Sorsogon last June 11, 2013.

Representatives of the provincial local government of Sorsogon, national government agencies (NGAs), and civil society organizations (CSOs) visited Kalahi-CIDSS subprojects in Prieto Diaz and Gubat. These representatives are also the members of Kalahi-CIDSS Inter-Agency Committee, the coordinating body of the project at the provincial level responsible for providing technical assistance in support of its implementation, facilitate coordination among various agencies, monitor and review implementation, and facilitate resolution of technical concerns.

It was a whole-day field visit to random communities aimed at identifying relevant concerns and responding to the gaps that will enhance the implementation of the project at the level of the community.

Kalahi-CIDSS is a CDD project in the Philippines which strongly advocates the involvement of local communities in the design and implementation of development projects to address the issue of poverty in the country. It aims to improve local governance by employing the participation of the people in the development process.

Same monitoring visits were also be conducted with stakeholders in Masbate, Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Catanduanes this June 20, July 16, July 17, and July 25, respectively.









April-June 2013

COMMUNITIES KEY TO DEV'T

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He also cited the Kalahi-CIDSS' system of going directly to the people to ask for their feedback. "I always insist that we follow the format of the Kalahi-CIDSS' voice and vote," he said

He added that it is his desire for everyone to become involved in the development process. "It has been my dream for the barangay residents to go to their barangay captains and say, 'This is the project that we need'. The barangay captain will then tell his mayor, and then his mayor will go to the governor. In this sense, democracy becomes equality, where the budgetary buttons of the government will be dictated by the people."

He ended his talk by aiddressing the Albay mayors. "We have gotten our marching orders. Let us continue our practice of working together."

DSWD FO V Holds Regional General Assembly

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A fun walk and hataw dance was also done at Embarcadero de Legazpi which was fully participated by all staff.

The finale of the celebration was the Search for Mr. & Ms. Sports Fest 2013. It was Ms. Mary Grace Pellejera Abenia and Mr.Nico Nario Lomerio of the violet team won the Mr. & Ms. Sports Fest titles while the neon green as the over-all champion.

"A well run DSWD is like a sports team , it makes the most of

members talent and takes advantage of split second opportunity to speed up service", said DSWD Regional Director Arnel B.Garcia.

The sports fest aims to strengthen the bond between players and to imbue the value of convergence to everyone. In the same note, it hopes to develop the employees' competitive character and determination to excel, Garcia added.###crbarrameda/eejerusalem

FEATURE STORY

Guts and Hardwork Pays Off for the Malano Family

At 62 Virginia tried her luck at improving the lives of her family. She was engaged in basket and mat weaving and earns at least 300 a month. This measly income was augmented by her husband, Virgilio who is a tenant of a two-hectare rice and coconut land.

Life for the Malano couple was hard with a brood of nine children to feed. They do not have job to sustain the needs of their children especially in school and could not even bring of their children to hospital or health center

Virginia shared that when the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program reached their place, it brought a lot of hope to them. Her family is just one of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program beneficiaries at Barangay Sevilla, Donsol Sorsogon.

The family receives 500 for health and 300 per child for the education. Enthusiastically she shared her story by telling how grateful she is that her family was included to be one of the recipients of the program

Virginia also bared that her children receive cash assistance for their schooling. This inspires them to be in school regularly and do well in their studies. They have now money to spend for their project and never experience going to school with empty stomach.

Virginia and Virgilio are aware that the Pantawid Pamilya implementation is only for five years.

Donsol belong to Set II of which the program will end in 2014 and the Malano family is included in Set II.

"What will happen to us after 2015? Will there be other help from the government?" These are the questions which bothers the Malano couple.

As shared by Virginia, another good fate came to the family." The questions which bothered us gained positive results.

In 2011, the DSWD brought the Sustainable Livelihood Program in Donsol Sorsogon giving priority to the Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries.

"Prayers answered", Virginia exclaimed.

She was one who qualified for the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP).

Sustainable Livelihood Program is a community-based capacity building program that seeks to uplift the program participant's socio-economic status. It has two modalities; a.) Microenterprise development and employment facilitation. Virginia is under employment facilitation.

Virginia recalls that she wanted very much to utilize her skills in ginger tea making (salabat) and in basket and mat weaving but the family has only a shoestring capital to start the business.

The 6,000 capital assistance received by Virginia was invested in her handicraft and food processing project.

When she started the project, Virginia is determined to make new project grow. Aside from attending to her project, Virginia has attended several trainings on handicraft and food processing from the Department of Trade & Industry.

With perseverance, dedication and patience, the Malano couple was able to expand their livelihood project from handicraft and food processing to sarisari store.

With the convergence of the Pantawid Pamilya and the Sustainable Livelihood Program, Virginia enthuses that her family can now get together more often, with decent food on the table especially weekends. Her children are all in school and she can sustain the medication of her husband who is sick

Now, the Malano couple will soon have a fish pond. It would mean additional income for the family.

Virginia said that the success of a business depends on one's will to succeed. Guts and hard work always makes sense.###eejerusalem





"The Gift"

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I worked full time and became a good example to the people. I believe that doing the right thing is something they could look up to me as their leader.

I never wasted time. Each day is a chance to help my neighbors in improving the quality of their lives.

Kalahi-CIDSS, I learned that it's possible to practice good governance. I developed a staunch belief that honest service to others comes from the purest intention of your heart.

However, there are few people who will drag you down. They might talk unpleasant things behind your back and doubt you as their leader. But these did not defy my high spirit. It is from my family and the children in our community where I elicit my strength to continue my quest.

Upon the entry of Kalahi-CIDSS, there were numerous questions escalated from those resistant to reform. What is the project princes about? Who are the people in Bayna Jr. 34 y/o of Purok 1behind it? Why is it here?

By the time we conducted the community assem- to bly, it was just then every-was implemented last 2011thing was made clearer to them. As days went by, the number of people in opposition was diminished and the implementation of the project went smoothly. I realized that if all the people are supportive and participative, we can achieve our goals together.

After all those laborious days, our community was able to build a solar dryer in a span of 32 days. Those sleepless and tiresome days were replaced by jovial rush of hope as soon as we have seen it completed.

This is the biggest reward I could receive from all the sacrifices I made. Despite few setbacks, I was able to claim that I have contributed to the growth of our community.

The solar dryer is a gift to the people from the people. Farmers will now have the convenience in terms of saving time and money. We said goodbye to our usual habits of

But the greatest gift I can take home for my family is the token of a brighter future for our children in the community and its forthcoming generation.

I salute Kalahi-CIDSS for giving attention given to poor communities like us.

Lolito "Tolits" C. Pigbucan, Tinapian is the Barangay Subproject Management Committee (BSPMC) Chairman for Kalahi-CIDSS Makamasang Tugon which 2012 in Manito Albay. Their subproject under DSWD was the construction of 13x37 Solar Dryer with a total project





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10 May 2013

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY TRAINING BOOSTS SAFETY & HEALTH EDUCATION IN CDD PROJECTS



The site visit of DSWD-hired engineers together with their counterpart in LGUs-municipal engineers, to the ongoing construction of a commercial building in Legazpi City last May 10, 2013. The project engineer of the said project, discusses their construction safety and health program.

Emphasizing on preventive measures during the construction of community infrastructures under the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) project, a training on Construction Safety Training was conducted last May 6-10, 2013 in Sto. Domingo, Albay.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has partnered with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for a 40-hour training in educating the staff to protect the welfare of the project's laborers.

The most common dangers during construction are falls from working at height, crush injuries in excavation work, being struck by falling objects, moving heavy loads, bad working positions, inhalation of dust, handling of rough materials, exposure to dangerous substances (chemical and biological), working near, in, or over water, exposure to radiation, loud noise, vibration from tools or vibrating machinery.

Armand Mikhail Templado, the Kalahi-CIDSS Regional Engineer, said that it is necessary to observe a hazard-free construction site to safeguard the health and the lives of the laborers.

"At the end of the training, we expect that they can now submit a Construction Safety and Health Program (CSHP) which mitigates identified hazards during the construction period,"he said.

The five-day training included topics on environmental safety; handling of construction machinery; excavation safety; personal protective equipment; occupational health and safety; health legislation; and safety and health practices. It was attended by the DSWD-hired engineers or deputy area coordinators (DAC) and municipal engineers from different municipalities implementing Kalahi-CIDSS project.

"Our [DSWD] staff will be the ones who will provide the technical assistance (TA) to the communities who will implement the infrastructures in observing protective measures during construction," Templado added. Suncris Cadiz, a DAC assigned in Bula, Camarines Sur, said that all of them are accountable in terms of managing hazards in the construction sites.

"This training is an essential component of the project," she added.

Kalahi-CIDSS is a community-driven development (CDD) project in the Philippines which strongly advocates the involvement of local communities in the design and implementation of development projects to address the issue of poverty in the country. It aims to improve local governance by employing the participation of the people in the communities in the development process.

Community residents consensually decide on what type of poverty-reduction projects they will prioritize for funding based from the collective analysis of their needs. Community proposals can vary from public goods/access projects, enterprise or livelihood projects or human development projects.

The laborers of these small-scale infrastructures are also taken from the members of the community. DACs will educate these people on how they can avoid accidents and sickness acquired during construction.

Engr. Alex Marlo Sacado of Safety Control Division of DOLE, said that the health and safety of the construction workers is one of the project's concerns.

"Without our laborers, our project will be a failure so it is necessary to ensure a safe working environment for them," he said.

Kalahi-CIDSS, a multi-funded project of Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), aids 2,051 communities with P1.07 billion for continued implementation this 2013.



The laborers wearing their personal protective equipment during the construction of a concrete pathway in Brgy. Tigkiw, Gubat, Sorsogon.





DSWD 5 HOSTS EXECOM MEETING

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MOA Signing between DSWD & Radyo Legazpi (FRONT R-L: Rev. Fr. Paulo B. Barandon, Radyo Veritas Pres. & CEO, and DWD Dir. Arnel Garcia)



Sec. Soliman together with the Execom members during their meeting in at Reception and Study Center for Children (RSCC) in Ligao City.

"Trabahong Turismo" is one of the strategies conceptualized to uplift the level of well-being of the Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries from survival to self-sufficiency. It is premised on the belief that if there is an available livelihood projects and opportunities they can be self-reliant and sustaining individuals.

A Memorandum of Understanding on the advocacy for Poverty Reduction and Social Protection Programs and services was also inked between the DSWD and Radyo Veritas Legazpi represented by Director Arnel Garcia and Rev. Fr. Paolo Barandon, the station manager.

This is a provision of a two-hour airtime every Saturday with the DSWD as the main host of the program.

Also, a MOA signing between the DSWD and the Unibersidad de Sta Isabel, the latter offers to paraprofessionals the Bachelor of Science in Social Work through the DE PAUL WEEKEND PROGRAM intended for the staff of DSWD who desire to take up Bachelor of Science in Social Work given two years to finish the course.

The EXECOM were also able to visit other regional facilities like the Reception and Study Center for Children and the HA-VEN for Women and Girls at the DSWD Complex, Brgy Nasisi, Ligao City. ###crbarrameda/eejerusalem

BARANGAY ASSEMBLY

. . Continued from Page 10

He is one of those who will identify the key problems in their community that causes poverty, and identify the range of possible solutions to address these problems.

"Magayon po na naghahale sa tawo su consultation ta kaipuhan talaga hapotun ang tao dahil dakol ang saindang mga pangangaipo. Sa paagi ning Kalahi-CIDSS, nahihiling man na may magayon pa na programa ang gobyerno [It's better that the people is consulted because they what are their needs. Through Kalahi-CIDSS, it is seen that government has good programs for the people]," he said.

Barangay Assembly Defined

As defined in the Local Government Code, R.A. 7160, BA is a gathering of barangay residents who are Filipino, at least 15 years old and above, and listed in the records as members of the barangay assembly. It is conducted at least twice a year.

In Kalahi-CIDSS, community consultations are done through BAs by providing updates and feedbacks to the people about the project and are conducted with a minimum of five (5) BAs in a cycle (year).

Other groups of volunteers formed during the course of Kalahi-CIDSS implementation include the Barangay Representation Teams (BRT), Project Preparation Teams (PPT), Community-Based Monitoring Team (CBMT) and Barangay Sub-Project Management Committees (BSPMCs). All volunteers are elected during BAs.

Completed Community-Identified Services

. . . Continued from Page 10

Brgy. Sta. Isabel of Baao, Camarines Sur is one of the beneficiaries of Kalahi-CIDSS. The concreting of their 508-meter pathway from Zone 5 to Zone 6 was completed last May with a total funding of P809,211.00.

"Dakulaon ang pasasalamat ko ta maski nagpakasakit kami, nahaman man ang project [We are very thankful because despite all the difficulties, we are able to complete our project]," Emma Capistrano, one of the community volunteers in Brgy. Sta. Isabel.

Community residents consensually decide on what type of poverty-reduction projects they prioritize for funding based from the collective analysis of their needs. Community proposals can vary from public goods/access projects, enterprise or livelihood projects or human development projects.

Kalahi-CIDSS will now expand into a national scale of the operations of CDD which will now be called as National Community-Driven Development Program (NCDDP). NCDDP is a poverty allevia tion program of the National Government, as supported by the Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016), was approved last January 18, 2013. In Bicol, it will be implemented in 105 municipalities.









Ang DSWD lang ang may karapatang magtanggal ng benepisyaryo sa Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.

> MAKI-ALAM. MAGSUMBONG. BAWAL ANG 📻







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