



Devastated Coconut Uplands of Baganga Rehabilitation and Restoration Through Agro-Forestation and Livelihood Development Program

CEI 666/2013

Subject: **FINAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT 2019**

Project No. 666/2013

Project Title: Devastated Coconut Uplands of Baganga Rehabilitation and Restoration Through Agro-Forestation and Livelihood Development Program

Proponent: Camillian Disaster Service International – CADIS (formerly CTF)

Partner Organizations: Salute Sviluppo Philippines – Camillian Task Force (SES-CTF)
Sacred Heart Parish Social Action Center – Banganga, Davao

Overview of the Project

This project is a disaster response intervention to immediately rehabilitate the sources of food and livelihood to 434 households in the impoverished town of Baganga, Davao Oriental, the Philippines who are severely affected by Typhoon Bopha. It also addresses, as long-term aim, the food security and sovereignty of the primary beneficiaries and to alleviate poverty and mitigate climate change. At the end of the project life, the target communities are capable of rehabilitating, reforesting and restoring biodiversity and generate livelihood activities in the uplands thru the adoption of natural farming systems and sloping land agro-forest technologies. The target communities then are envisioned to be empowered and conscientized, proactive, disaster resilient and adaptive. Finally, this project adopts the integrated agro-forestry and livelihood restoration model on 400 hectares of uplands mainly planted with coconuts, diversifying into the production of multiple crops assimilated with rainforestation undertaking.

Original Objectives of the Project 2013

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1. To reforest, restore and protect the total target 400 hectares uplands of the devastated coconut uplands of Baganga area to be developed within the next 3 years at 134 hectares per year for food and livelihood planting legume crops, shrubs & trees, Philippine fruit trees, coffee, cacao, coconut, vegetables, abaca and Philippine endemic forest trees.
2. To conduct continuing education programs among the target beneficiaries, stakeholders and indigenous peoples on value formation, capability building activities, technical training, workshops, fora, and local study missions.
3. To adopt the fundamentals of the natural farming system towards sustainable agro-forestation in parallel with Sloping Agriculture Land Technology to enhance agro-forestation and biodiversity.
4. To establish a demo farm cum training center and with nursery, training, and other educational farm facilities and the necessary farm inputs, small tools, equipment, and machinery.
5. To organize and established community-based livelihood projects and agri-enterprises among the upland farmers with their families.

The delays in the implementation of the project activities due to some institutional issues on the part of the implementing body have resulted in some minor modifications of the activities with no significant budget changes. This resulted to a reviewed consideration of the planned activities in 2017 as approved by CEI. The following are the revised program of activities:

New Program of Activities (2017-2018)

1. Coconut farmlands transformed into integrated farms with abaca, banana, cacao, coffee, rice/corn, vegetables, and livestock;
2. Farmers’ knowledge in agronomics and post-harvest handling practices are increased;
3. A viable cooperative established, linking farmers to market and other services;
4. Effective and efficient project management and implementation.

The last year of its implementation (2018) was primarily focussed on building AWUYON SACRED HEART FARMERS MARKETING COOPERATIVE (ASHFARMCO) and forming its staff and members for effective management of the Cooperative and its sustainability. This corresponds to Program No. 3 in the new program designed of 2017-2018. Since then, the membership has increased as an impact of its positive performance in its first year of operation. It is now fully registered to the government and has entered into the network of Farmers’ Cooperative at the regional level. Below is the accomplished program of activities in 2018.

Summative Report per Activity

1. ASHFARMCO organizationally strengthened and linked to markets	
<p>1.1 Recruit, form, educate new members and legally establish the ASHFARMCO</p>	<p>* Various training, workshop, and seminars were given monthly on weekends at the St. Camillus Training Center in Lambajon. This training center was built by the farmers through this project and the full cooperation of the Sacred Heart parish of Lambajon, Baganga, Davao Oriental. The training was given by some public (government) and private personnel. The local government agency that handles the promotion and support of farmers’ cooperative is in full support particularly in terms of resource persons and handouts.</p> <p>*On April 3, 2018, the government approved its application of the AWUYON SACRED HEART FARMERS MARKETING COOPERATIVE (ASHFARMCO) located at Blk. 6, Lambajon Baganga Davao Oriental by the Cooperative Development Authority Regional office. At present, it has 86 members including its staff and personnel with a capital build-up of Php 64,000.00 (1.093,00 Euros).</p> <p>* ASHFARMCO has formed its vision, mission, and objective.</p> <p>VISION: <i>In the year 2022, the cooperative members will have sustainable economic development, proper care, balance and sound environment with the guidance of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.</i></p> <p>MISSION: <i>To increase the agricultural productivity of the members to provide livelihood and employment opportunities, improvement of farm technology expertise through agro forestry system and processing of agricultural system and processing of agri-products for the domestic and export market.</i></p> <p>OBJECTIVE: <i>Empower members to participate in any programs, projects, and activities of the cooperative for inclusive growth and development as an institution.</i></p>

<p>1.2 Conduct education and training for members, Cooperative management team and Board of Directors</p> <p>TRAININGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Leadership development, values formation, and Strategic Planning ✓ Credit management, risk management, and financial management ✓ Basic accounting, bookkeeping and record management ✓ Food Processing (Cakes, pastry, meat, and chicken meat processing) ✓ Packaging and labeling for processed food 	<p>The following training was given to the staff and the management board as well as some members to ensure efficiency.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. March 10, 2018: The first training was on the re-orientation of the officers, staff, and members of the Cooperative on the Fundamentals of Cooperative given by Mr. Cris Matayab from the Davao Oriental Cooperative Development Authority. The training consisted of the introduction to Cooperative Policies and Guidelines, Principle of Cooperation and By laws. Forty-eight (48) participants attended the training including some non-members of ASHFARMCO coming from other cooperative groups in Baganga. This is also part of the strategy of building a network with other cooperative groups. 2. March 12-14, 2018: The Strategic Planning of ASHFARMCO was conducted by Mr. Jimmy Dongiapon. Twenty-six (26) participants attended, and most of them are the officers - Committee Chairman and staff. 3. March 23, 2018: Another training that the staff received is on Cooperative Management and Governance as conducted by Mr. Cris Matayab with 25 participants. The rules and responsibilities of the Board of directors and Committees were tackled and explained. 4. April 13, 2018: Another set of participants (22) for the Fundamentals of Cooperative received training. On the 2nd day, training on the Internal Control System of the Cooperative was given to the Board of Directors. 5. May 23-25, 2018: Financial Management training was conducted to all the Board of Directors, management staff, committee chairman, members given by the staff of the Davao Oriental State College Science and Technology Cooperative. 6. June 4, 2018: Values formation and re-orientation seminar were given to the cooperative members conducted by Mr. Ben Lavisurez who is the PESO Manager in Municipality of Baganga. The training was attended by the officers and committee members. They are expected to manage the Cooperative; thus dedication, participation, volunteerism, and transparency are highly recommended and expected. 7. July 4-6, 2018: Risk, Credit, and Financial Management training was conducted for another set of participants both for the old and new members. This was given by Ms. Purisima Navarro of Davao Oriental State College Science and Technology Teachers Cooperative. 8. July 23-24, 2018: Accounting for Non-Accountants training was given to the staff. Most of these farmers have not gone to higher education, and thus the teaching of the basics of accounting was highly appreciated by them.
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	<p>9. August 15, 2018: Leadership Development and Values Re-orientation and Cooperative Marketing and Business Management were given to the 2nd set of participants including the staff and officers.</p>
<p>2. Provide post-harvest machines and equipments</p>	
	<p>*Post-harvest machines and other farm equipment were purchased for the ASHFARMCO as its assets such as floating tillers with engines (2), hand tractors with carts (2), corn and rice treasure. At present, these equipment are serving a total of 10 hectares of rice lands in Baganga. To ensure sustainability and income for the cooperative, these equipment are for rent. Guidelines and policies of the use of the equipment were created. To ensure the efficiency of usage, two operators were hired to maintain and organize the usage of this equipment. All farm equipment was strictly used for the cooperative business of members and non-members so that they will be encouraged to join.</p> <p>*Here is the general rental condition of the equipment: a) floating tillers & hand tractors – rent for 2 sacks of rice per hectare per harvest. b) rice thresher – rent is for every 13 sacks of palay, 1 sack will be retained by the coop as a rental.</p> <p>*Aside from the rental of the post-harvest equipment, some other products are produced by the Cooperative in collaboration with another Foundation called Manna from Taiwan. a) Hot Chili Powder produce by the cooperative members from Magtungod, another basic ecclesial community member of the ASHFARMCO. b) Chocolate (raw) production from a cacao tree.</p> <p>These products are for export (Taiwan) and local market consumption.</p>
<p>3. Provide equipment for the operations of the Cooperative and Training Center</p>	
	<p>A temporary house was renovated which served as the office of the Cooperative. It is furnished with essential office equipment and furniture.</p>
<p>4. Administration</p>	
	<p>The capital for buy and sell of abaca (local fiber) was diverted to rice-buying and selling since they have now their farm equipment. Rice is sold to the cooperative members. If they don't have money, they can charge it as credit, and after 15 days they will repay and get another kilo of rice.</p> <p>Cooperative was also registered at the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), and have already its Cooperative Tax Identification Number. Tax exemption is now being processed. It can issue now official receipts to all clients.</p>

	<p>Bookkeeper and cashier prepare all records for the business operation of the cooperative.</p> <p>The Board of Directors holds a monthly meeting every 2nd Saturday of the month.</p> <p>Cooperative members are also increasing, from 44 members in April 2018, to 86 members at the end of 2018 with a current capital build-up of Php 64,000.00 (1.093,00 Euros).</p> <p>Constant Monitoring and regular meeting with the Board of Directors and Business Manager and staff is being done to monitor and evaluate the business. Motivation by giving honorarium is encouraged employed manpower to be more diligent and productive.</p>
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Conclusion

At the end of the project, the Baganga community which had been severely affected by the typhoon Bopha (local name Pablo) in 2013 were able to recover better from the losses of their assets and livelihoods. The following changes have been noticed: a) transformation of the farming practice from monocropping (coconut) to multi-cropping (coconuts, fruit trees, vegetables, sugar cane, root crops). Before the intervention, the farmers are having an average of 2.89 number of crops. At present, it shows an average of 4.6 number of crops per farming area. This ensures food security among the affected population by the typhoon; b) The community was able to establish a duly registered cooperative called the AWUYON SACRED HEART FARMERS MARKETING COOPERATIVE (ASHFARMCO). This guarantees better production and distribution of farm goods and markets of their products. Thus, it ensures regular family income. Finally, the resiliency and solidarity in the community were enhanced and strengthened.

The painstaking efforts and patience of the community members have become the driver factor of Baganga to rebuild their community better. The people were so grateful for the Italian church and the citizens who have shared their generosity and cooperation through the 8x1000 funds managed by the Episcopal Conference of Italy.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONS



Members and officers of the AWUYON SACRED HEART FARMERS MARKETING COOPERATIVE (ASHFARMCO)

TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED IN 2018





POST-HARVEST FARM EQUIPMENTS



Floating tiller



Lawn mower

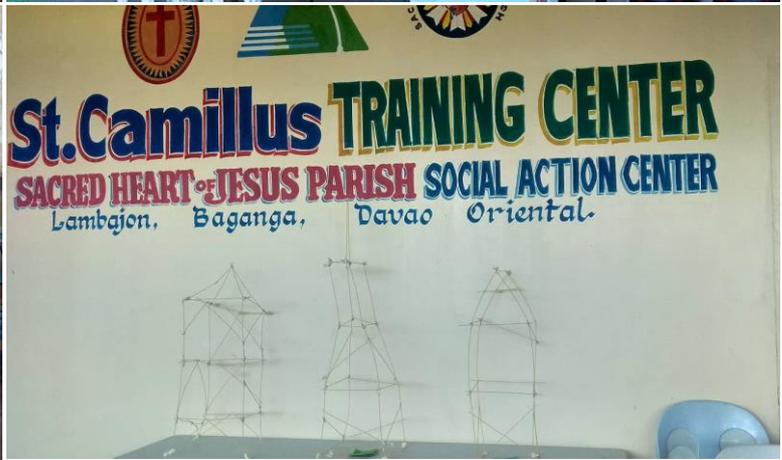


Hand tractor



Cart

TRAINING CENTER EQUIPMENTS AND FACILITIES



OTHER PRODUCTS AND MACHINES



Abaca fiber

Hot chili powder

