

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Regardless of magnitude, stories about earthquakes that struck other countries and ours have dotted our newspapers, online news, and televisions over the past few months. And just like aftershocks, prophecies and tales of all kinds regarding the Philippines' Big One ensue after each quake, reawakening fear especially among those who were old enough to remember the strong quakes that shook the country, such as that of 1990.

This issue of TAO Shelter gathers the country's latest earthquake information and mitigation efforts, and features stories about personal and professional experiences in dealing with earthquakes.

The **Big One in Metro Manila** (p.2) discusses scientific earthquake scenarios for Metro Manila and how our national agencies, local governments and NGOs are implementing appropriate strategies to help the metropolis become safer and more prepared for the anticipated big shake. Next to this article is a description of a national government effort to make Philippine hospitals safer during quakes (p.10). The **Risk-Sensitive Urban Redevelopment Planning of Barangay Rizal** (p.11) in Makati presents a more basic earthquake preparedness scene: the pilot application of urban redevelopment planning at the barangay level, with full participation of local community stakeholders. **Earthquake – what else is new?** (p.16) encourages us to take preparedness seriously, as it is the most important part of an earthquake survival kit. **Snippets** (p.22) retells how a family in Baguio City, one of the most affected areas, survived the 1990 earthquake.

With these, we hope to instill the importance of information and the invaluable advantages of being prepared as we free ourselves from panic and fear. Stay safe!

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PHOTO BY PHIVOLCS



### ABOUT THE COVER

PHOTO BY PHIVOLCS  
The 7.9-magnitude 1990 Luzon earthquake is the country's second most devastating earthquake in 50 years, claiming more than a thousand lives and leaving multi-billion damages in public infrastructure and facilities. It caused ground ruptures, some of which are long enough to traverse through provinces and huge enough to hold a number of people. In the photo, a man fits perfectly inside a rupture even while standing on a shallower portion of the crevice.

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### THE PUBLISHER

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### ABOUT TAO SHELTER

TAO Shelter is a magazine focused on sharing technical knowledge, experiences, good practices, and perspectives on issues related to the planning and design of sustainable communities, particularly those of the urban and rural poor and other marginalized communities. It is published twice yearly by TAO-Pilipinas, Inc.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 **THE BIG ONE IN METRO MANILA**  
Earthquake scenarios and how Metro Manila braces itself
- 10 **SAFE PHILIPPINE HOSPITALS**  
Indicators of hospital safety during disasters
- 11 **RISK SENSITIVE URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PLANNING OF BARANGAY RIZAL, MAKATI**  
Urban redevelopment planning at the barangay level
- 16 **EARTHQUAKES. WHAT ELSE IS NEW?**  
A call for earthquake awareness and preparedness
- 19 **EARTH-SHAKING TRIVIA**  
The latest information on earthquakes across the globe
- 22 **SNIPPETS**  
An account of how a family survived the 1990 Luzon earthquake
- 24 **ON OUR BOOKSHELF**  
New materials from the TAO Resource Center
- 25 **TAO NEWS**  
TAO-Pilipinas' Rummage Sale and Gift-Giving for Masagana Kids; Participatory Design Workshop in Masbate

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Ground fissure running across a farmland, July 16, 1990  
(SOURCE:PHIVOLCS)