



TAO-PILIPINAS, INC.

**YP**  
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
eNEWSLETTER  
APRIL - MAY 2017



LCDR Ariel Constantino, LTJG Jayson Asperin, and ENS Kalvin Gudisan, on behalf of the Philippine Navy, receive certificates of appreciation from TAO-Pilipinas' Arch. Arlene Lusterio, PMPI National Coordinator Yolanda Esguerra, and Christian Aid Country Manager Maria Rosario Felizco.

## PHILIPPINE NAVY CONTRIBUTION TO PROJECT PAGBANGON RECOGNIZED

TAO-PILIPINAS INC., PHILIPPINE Misereor Partnership Inc. and Christian Aid recognized the Philippine Navy's valuable contribution to Project Pagbangon on the islands of Manicani and Homonhon during the 3rd Forum on Sustainable Communities held in Max's Restaurant, Scout Tuazon, Quezon City last March 31.

At the invitation of TAO-Pilipinas, Philippine Navy representatives attended the forum. During the mid-part of the program, TAO Executive Director Arlene Lusterio called upon LCDR Ariel Constantino, LTJG Jayson Asperin and ENS Kalvin Gudisan to receive a plaque of appreciation in behalf of BRP Batak LC299. They were awarded for the successful fleet mission on February and October 2016 assignments spearheaded by Commanding Officers Ariel Constantino and Miljun Peñaflorida respectively. They also received the individual certificates of appreciation for each of the Navy officers involved in the mission.

The award was read and awarded by Architect Lusterio along with PMPI National Coordinator Yolanda

Esguerra and Christian Aid Country Manager Maria Rosario Felizco.

Project Pagbangon is a post-Haiyan rehabilitation effort of Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc. geared towards small islands development in Manicani and Homonhon. TAO-Pilipinas is undertaking the construction of 120 shelters and 12 evacuation centers for the shelter component of Project Pagbangon. It has been a major challenge to transport construction materials and equipment from mainland Guiuan to the two remote islands. Enlisting the assistance of the Philippine Navy helped to speed up the hauling and lessen the costs for transportation.

The involvement of the Philippine Navy in the project was initiated through a request for assistance by TAO-Pilipinas' President, Professor Laura David and with a referral from the late Senator Leticia Shahani made during last quarter of 2015. The first mission was then launched on February 10, 2016. The Navy pledged to continue the assistance and they followed through with succeeding missions on October 2016. These missions have so far facilitated

the shipping of about 150 tons of construction materials including bags of cement and pallets of concrete roofing tiles.

To date, Project Pagbangon project is currently constructing 70 shelters in Homonhon and two evacuation centers in Manicani. With another eight evacuation centers in Homonhon to start construction soon, TAO-Pilipinas is again requesting for another round of assistance from the Philippine Navy in helping bring Project Pagbangon to its intended beneficiaries. (VLPS)



Arch. Verna Sarraga and Deceril Di Santo of TAO-Pilipinas, on-board BRP Batak LC299 with the Philippine Navy.

## TAO collaborates with FDA and St. Vincent de Paul Parish for 2017 YP Workshop

YPs to immerse in Tandang Sora communities

TAO-PILIPINAS IS PARTNERING with Foundation for Development Alternatives (FDA) and St. Vincent de Paul Parish for the Young Professionals Workshop on Social Housing slated on May 24-29, 2017. A network partner of TAO-Pilipinas, FDA is an NGO with a long track record in community organizing. They have been working with St. Vincent de Paul Parish, through its Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC), to provide awareness and capability building for poor communities in Barangay Tandang Sora under its pastoral ministry.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish will serve as venue host for the workshop. The lecture sessions of the workshop on May 24-25 and the plenary session on May 29 will be held at the Verandas de San Vicente within the St. Vincent de Paul Seminary Complex in Tandang

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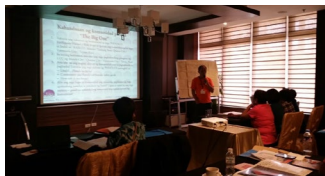
### FEATURE ARTICLES



TAO conducts post-occupancy review on Manicani shelter assistance

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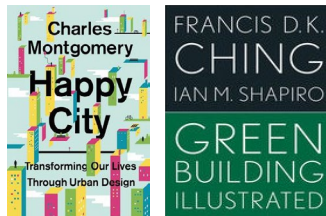
### NETWORK ACTIVITIES



FEP prepares community trainers for urban DRRM planning

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### YP READING LIST



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"What is your opinion on the KADAMAY housing issue?"



YP PULSE

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## TEN SHELTER UNITS TURNED-OVER TO BARANGAY CANAWAYON

TEN DISASTER-RESILIENT SHELTERS were turned-over to 10 deserving families in Barangay Canawayon, Homonhon Island, Guiuan, Eastern Samar on April 8, 2017. The project is part of Project Pagbangon, a post-Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) response of Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc. (PMPI).

The turn-over ceremony started with a mass celebrated by Fr. Giovanni Bando. Messages were delivered by Kagawad Corazon P. Belason representing the Barangay Council of Canawayon, Ms. Yolanda Esguerra, National Coordinator of PMPI, Arlene

Christy Lusterio, Executive Director of TAO-Pilipinas, and Rafael Samarro, representative of the beneficiaries. A dance number by the children of the beneficiaries capped the program. Blessing and turn-over of each house followed thereafter in the following order: Aguilo Family; Beracis Family; Lovino Family; Samarro Family; Princillo Family; Tejero Family; Sandoval Family; and Padulaga Family.

Lunch was served after the blessing. The activity was attended by PMPI staff, TAO-Pilipinas staff, representatives of the barangay, the local parish and the beneficiary-families. (ACDL)



Beneficiaries from Brgy. Canawayon pose in front of their newly-inaugurated disaster-resilient shelter units.



An example of the 10 shelter units turned-over to the beneficiaries of Brgy. Canawayon.

## TAO collaborates...

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Sora, Quezon City.

The parish area is divided into three smaller sub-areas called "kawan". The YP participants will be divided into three teams and will immerse in the three kawans of the parish during the fieldwork part of

the workshop on May 26-28. The YP teams will conduct community consultation-workshops and will stay in the community for two nights with host families. FDA and the parish BEC leaders are helping make the logistical arrangements for the community-based activities and are coordinating with host families to facilitate the YPs' stay in the community.

## Evacuation Center Turned-Over to Barangay Matarinao



The newly constructed evacuation center turned-over to Brgy. Matarinao.



Arch. Arlene Lusterio, Executive Director of TAO-Pilipinas, hands over the keys of the evacuation center to Brgy. Chairman Albino Garcia.

BARANGAY MATARINAO Evacuation Center in Salcedo, Eastern Samar was officially turned-over to the Barangay Chairman Albino A. Garcia, Sr. and Council on April 10, 2017. The construction of the evacuation center is part of the "Local Shelter Plan, Shelter and Evacuation Centers in Salcedo" and "Shelter in Homonhon, Guiuan, Eastern Samar" projects supported by Christian Aid.

The turn-over ceremony started with a prayer led by Hon. Maura A. Abarondo, Barangay Council Member and followed by the National Anthem led by Barangay Treasurer Rosemarie D. Capara. Chairman Garcia then gave the welcome address and messages from

TAO-Pilipinas, Christian Aid and Hon. Mayor Melchor Mergal were delivered.

A ribbon cutting was led by TAO-Pilipinas Executive Director Arlene Lusterio and Chairman Garcia and witnessed by Mayor Mergal and Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator Isabel Abella. A symbolic turnover of keys from Arch. Lusterio to Chairman Garcia also followed.

Presentation of awards of appreciation was given to TAO-Pilipinas and Christian Aid by Mayor Mergal for their support in the construction of the evacuation center. The ceremony's closing remarks were given by Ms. Abella and Hon. Jose B. Corre, Barangay Council Member of Matarinao. (ACDL)

Moreover, fifteen BEC leaders will be the YPs' co-participants throughout the 6-day program. The BEC leaders will join the YP teams as they conduct simultaneous consultation-workshops in the three kawans. These workshops will focus on the theme, "Planning for Climate and Disaster-resilient Urban Poor Communities", to come up with community-led strategies and action plans.

The Presidential Commission on the Urban Poor (PCUP) has also expressed their support to the workshop. They will provide logistical assistance in the conduct of the workshop activities. (GRM)



# POST-OCCUPANCY REVIEW OF MANICANI SHELTERS CONDUCTED



Arch. Faith Varona facilitating the focus group discussion (FGD) of beneficiaries from Brgy. Hamorawon.

A POST-OCCUPANCY EVALUATION (POE) on the Sustainable Shelter Assistance in Manicani Island, Guiuan, Eastern Samar was carried out by TAO-Pilipinas last March, eighteen months after Project Pagbangon turned over 40 houses to their owners. The TAO-Pilipinas team headed to Manicani on March 14 to 15 for site and house visits and on March 18 to 19 for focus group discussions with the beneficiaries. The review aimed to determine how well the structures matched the users' housing needs. It also intended to identify the effects of the built shelters on the lives of the occupants.

## Manicani shelter assistance project

The Manicani shelter assistance was funded by Philippine Misereor Partnership, Inc. (PMPI), Christian Aid, and Terre des Hommes (TdH) as part of PMPI's Project Pagbangon. The project provided disaster-resilient permanent shelters to 40 households affected by Typhoon Yolanda in the four barangays of Manicani Island. Its initial phase included a two-day participatory house design workshop that was conducted on October 2014. During the workshop, the beneficiaries assembled 3D scaled models based on their suggested shelter design scheme. A typical house design was then generated by TAO-Pilipinas, taking into consideration the needs and preferences determined during the workshop.

The construction phase, which began on March 2015 for the first batch of houses, was financially supported by grants from the NGOs and counterparts from the beneficiaries. Turn-over of the permanent shelters took place on

September 2015.

## Documentation of as-built structures

Prior to conducting the POE, TAO-Pilipinas tapped Eastern Samar State University (ESSU), Guiuan Campus for technical assistance in producing as-built plans of the houses. From March 4 to 5, sixteen B.S. Civil Engineering students from ESSU headed to Manicani Island and drafted the as-built floor plans and elevations. They were provided with a template showing the original house design. The template was then marked with changes made to the house, such as the construction of an extension or the removal or addition of windows.

Architect Verna Sarraga and YP intern Theresse Julia visited the 40 houses a few days later to validate the plans and conduct photo-documentation of their existing conditions. On March 14, they went to eleven houses in Barangay Hamorawon while on March 15, they went to nine houses in Barangay Banaag, seven in Barangay San Jose, and thirteen in Barangay Buenavista. The documentation of some houses was limited due to their owners being unavailable at the time.

The dismantling of the beneficiaries' old houses located in unsafe sites was part of the Manicani shelter project's conditions. Beneficiaries were allowed to use materials from the demolished houses for extension works in the new houses. The team verified if all the old houses have been demolished and they discovered during their site visits that ten old houses have yet to

be dismantled. The owners were given until December 2017 to accomplish the task.

Additionally, it was also revealed to the team that six of the new houses (two in Hamorawon, three in San Jose, and one in Buenavista) were still unoccupied or rarely used for various reasons. Some of the new houses also incurred minor defects like rusting of the G.I. gutters and sagging of the jalousie window's wooden blades.

## FGD with homeowners

On March 18 and 19, the team was joined by Architect Faith Varona to conduct the POE survey in four barangays. Results from the survey questionnaire were gathered through focus group discussions (FGD) with the occupants or their representatives. The team was also assisted by Guiuan-based TAO staff Ms. Catherine Gapate who served as enumerator for some respondents that preferred to answer in the local Waray.

On the first day, FGDs were held at the San Lorenzo Ruiz Parish Convent in Buenavista and at Mr. Jaime Melquiades Sr.'s residence for in Banaag. On the second day, the FGDs were held at Mr. Timoteo Abucejo's residence in Hamorawon and at Ms. Catalina Badocdoc's residence in San Jose. Both Mr. Abucejo and Ms.

Badocdoc are shelter beneficiaries while Mr. Melquiades is a relative of another beneficiary. Overall, 39 out of the 40 households were surveyed; the other one beneficiary no longer lived in Manicani.

## Survey results

The POE survey gathered qualitative data regarding demography, quality and implementation of the housing project, and the current condition and use of the house. It measured the housing adequacy of the shelters provided and the residential satisfaction of their occupants.

Ultimately, the conduct of the POE revealed how the occupants added spaces to the core house in order to adapt to their evolving and growing spatial needs. It allowed TAO-Pilipinas to gauge the impact of the shelter project on the lives of the beneficiaries and how adequate were the area and spaces provided to meet the actual needs of the household occupants. These findings are also useful to improving the design and implementation of similar projects in the future.

The preliminary result of the POE was presented by Architect Verna Sarraga during the 3rd TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities organized by TAO-Pilipinas on March 31. (TRJ)



The Peracullo residence is an example of a house that has blossomed into a home. The family has extended the core house on two sides, creating a veranda on one side, and a dirty kitchen and extra sleeping area on another.



The Peracullo family's colorful veranda.



The Peracullo's living area in the core house.



## Masagana community design their multi-purpose center

A DESIGN WORKSHOP WAS CONDUCTED by TAO-Pilipinas with the Masagana Community in Angat, Bulacan on April 23, 2017 to design the community's multi-purpose resource center. Firstly, members of the community participated in a lecture on the minimum standards and basic design principles to be applied in the model-making exercise. They then proceeded to assemble 3D scaled models of their preferred scheme for the proposed community facility. By having the users directly suggest design schemes based on their needs and preferences, the workshop aimed to generate design options for the structure that will serve as a multi-purpose (resource and daycare) center for the community.

Arch. Verna Sarraga of TAO-Pilipinas gave the lecture on design standards for the community facility. She discussed the spaces that may be included in the structure, site considerations, and hazards present within the site. The minimum standards on setbacks, firewalls, accessibility, and ventilation were then explained.

An inventory of the community's existing materials (e.g., MCR tiles and ridge, lumber, omniboard, metal mesh) was also checked. Most of the materials are extra pieces from previous constructions and Arch.

Sarraga reminded the community that they would have to be resourceful in maximizing the use of the materials.

For the model-making exercise, the 26 participants were divided into three groups. Arch. Sarraga, Engr. Lorena Hernandez, and YP intern Therese Julia assisted the groups. While they were assembling their scaled models, other members of the group answered a set of guide questions on the details of their design scheme.

The groups presented their work afterward. All of them integrated similar spaces in their versions of the multi-purpose resource center (e.g., library, daycare room, meeting room, toilet, kitchen). Both Groups 1 and 2 prioritized larger setbacks for open spaces while Group 3 maximized their floor area by using the minimum setbacks. Group 1 had a high ceiling for proper ventilation. They also included media aguas in their windows. Group 2 had the most number of ingress/egress with three as compared to the other groups which had two. Unlike the other groups that utilized a hip roof, they chose a gable roof for simplicity in construction. Group 3 had the largest floor area. They had an open plan with fewer partitions because they wanted to use temporary dividers for the rooms.

Construction for the proposed multi-purpose resource center is projected to begin by the end of July 2017. Building the facility still requires fund-raising, and the Masagana Community and TAO-Pilipinas are appealing for donations. (ACDL)



The residents of Masagana designing their multi-purpose center.



Arch. Verna Lucia Sarraga of TAO-Pilipinas, facilitating the design workshop.

## TAO HOLDS 3RD FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

THE ROMAN FORUM, LIKE THE GREEK agora, was the center of public life and a melting pot of people, ideas, and conversations. TAO's 3rd forum on sustainable communities held on March 31, 2017 at Max's Restaurant in Sct. Tuazon and made possible with the help of Misereor and Christian Aid, was in no shortage of all three. Themed "Engaging Communities for Change: Lessons from Post-Disaster Shelter Interventions," the forum sought to surface practical lessons from the implementation of shelter interventions in communities affected by disasters and ultimately, to inform the participants of the possible ways forward towards the creation of sustainable communities. With a great turnout of attendees from partner organizations, the academe, Salcedo LGU, and even the Philippine

Navy, the forum served as an excellent venue for meaningful conversations about post-disaster rehabilitation.

### Exhibit of TAO's Post-Disaster Sustainable Shelter Projects

Arch. Geraldine Matabang, TAO's Education and Training Program Director, welcomed everyone by acknowledging those present, and briefly discussing the previous TAO forums. The third in a series of forums on post-disaster rehabilitation after Yolanda (Typhoon Haiyan), this forum was made to come full circle by showing how past interventions have brought about change in the communities.

After the opening remarks, the "morning exercise" was a tour of an



Guests at the forum view the exhibit of TAO's Post-Disaster Sustainable Shelter Projects.

exhibit of TAO's shelter interventions in Eastern Samar. Engr. Lorena Hernandez and Ms. Cecilia del Rosario served as guides, giving the technical details and stories behind each item

on exhibit. The items featured include scaled models of the shelters and evacuation centers designed by the beneficiaries themselves - the results of the participatory planning process that

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## PROJECT PAGBANGON RESULTS

### COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Community structures formed by different sectors (farmer, fisherfolk, health, senior citizen, youth and women) gave them the awareness and power to lobby for access to basic government services that many were previously unable to avail. It was also found that the organization of the Bantay-Dagat was effective in deterring illegal fishing activities.

### MARINE/COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

6 hectares of artificial reef built, and mangrove areas planted, increased fish catch from an average of less than a kilo per day, to 10-15 kilos per day.

### LAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The lost practice of planting rice was re-introduced, and farmers are now able to harvest 400 kgs of organic rice. Calamansi, turmeric, malunggay, papaya soaps are now being manufactured and used by the community, pending approval for commercial sale.

### WATER AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Water tanks with solar-powered pumps made potable water more accessible to the communities. The home system for solar-powered electricity provided to families has reduced reliance on gas and candles, students are able to study in the evening, and community members feel safer after a solar-powered lamp post which served as a "lighthouse" was constructed upon their own request.

### SHELTER AND EVACUATION CENTERS

Communities now feel a sense of safety because of the shelters and evacuation centers. The selection of beneficiaries put pressure on the community, but it was an essential exercise that taught beneficiaries about the planning process and the importance of dialogue. Education and training workshops improved the beneficiaries' capability to repair and maintain their houses.

### COMMUNICATION

Radio communication systems installed are effective and now being used in regular communications, and even in facilitating the rescue of stranded boats.

### HEALTH

Herbal or alternative medicines now being used to treat common illnesses, and botikashardin makes medicines more accessible to the community. Also, communities are capacitated to identify symptoms, and treat ordinary diseases.

## TAO holds...

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TAO advocates and practices; banners of project timelines outlining activities and processes; information, education, and communication materials used in design and planning workshops; and tarpaulins showing the results of the Manicani shelter project post-occupancy evaluation.

### PMPI Project Pagbangon's Stories of Change

The first talk, by Ms. Yolanda Esguerra of Philippine Misereor Partnership Inc. (PMPI), gave the context and comprehensive background for the succeeding topics and discussions. In the aftermath of Yolanda, PMPI formed a consortium of various local developmental organizations and humanitarian organizations to work together towards post-disaster recovery of Manicani and Homonhon islands in Guiuan, Eastern Samar. The islands were selected due to PMPI's previous engagements with the communities in their anti-mining campaign; and the increased risks these communities face because of climate change, which are further exacerbated by the mining activities in the area. The project, dubbed Project Pagbangon, sought to develop sustainable and resilient communities in the two islands by empowering the community to be critically and constructively involved in political and governmental planning that affect their lives; by re-establishing the island ecosystem that supports their livelihoods; by building the communities' capacity to adapt to climate change; and by re-establishing and improving local health services.



Ms. Yolanda Esguerra talks about PMPI's Project Pagbangon.

She said that Project Pagbangon was the first of its kind, where members of PMPI worked together on a single area. This collective endeavor was initiated due to unmet needs of the community which surfaced after PMPI partners conducted and validated a Post-Disaster Needs and Capacities Assessment (PDNCA) of the communities. However, she noted that it is the government's responsibility to meet these needs.

**"Hindi po talaga trabaho ng mga NGO ang magpaunlad sa komunidad. Ginagawa lang natin ito dahil may gap. Tumutulong tayong. So as much as possible, ang mahalaga ay ma-challenge at ma-draw in natin ang mga LGU to do their work doon sa community - na mahirap. Sa totoo lang."**

Despite the local government's lack of support even with a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Project Pagbangon was able to successfully implement 75%-80% thus far, of its 7 sub-projects in coastal resource management, shelters and evacuation centers, water and renewable energy, health and sanitation, communication, land resource management and sustainable agriculture, and community organizing.

She indicated the impacts of the entire project based on their assessment, and found that living conditions have improved through the sub-projects, in many ways (*see sidebar*).

As stated, those accomplishments were not achieved without considerable challenges; greatest among them was not just the lack of support, but the blatant inaction and non-cooperation of the municipal local government unit (MLGU) of Guiuan. She recalled how reports of barangay captains who were deliberately hindering the implementation of projects were ignored, and how a government health worker is making the certification of PWDs impossible with unreasonable demands. Other challenges are the rift in the communities due to pro- and anti-mining sentiments, which greatly hindered the fast and efficient implementation of the projects; apathy and non-participation of some members of the community; lack of documentation of those with land claims; the dole out mentality of some who have gotten used to the influx of

international aid; and of course, the island's lack of accessibility and weather.

She reminded the audience that all projects are rights-based; people are entitled to these services; and the government is the duty-bearer. However, it is also important to develop a spirit of volunteerism in the community, and to not perpetuate a culture of dependence that many INGOs have encouraged after Haiyan.

She stressed the importance of involving the community in the process. *"If you want (the project) to be sustainable, kailangan ng involvement ng tao magmula sa pag-understand ng situation nila, vision, at saka dun sa actual implementation. So napakahalaga ng initial step - na naiintindihan nila (kung) ano yung problema doon sa community, at ano yung gusto nilang gawin at mangyari. At kasama sila every step of the way sa implementation, sa evaluation. So laging may feedback mechanism ka na community evaluation ng ginagawa mong proyekto."* This exemplified the need for a community organizer, preferably from the same area or region, who will facilitate the creation of formal structures for participation.

On communication, she said that mechanisms for regular consultations between private implementers, communities, and barangay officials are very important, and that partnership with the academe in the region proved to be ideal for gaining access to trainings. Local parish support also helped greatly in the process of the community's adoption of the project, and in coordinating with local officials. She also noted the need for a partnership of several NGOs to have a platform for regular coordination meetings, in order to discuss problems and brainstorm solutions.

Through Project Pagbangon, PMPI found that an area-based, integrated approach to development makes a greater impact on the community being served, because efforts do not just add up, but are also in sync.

### Post-Occupancy Review of the Manicani Island Shelter Assistance

Arch. Verna Lucia Sarraja of TAO-Pilipinas followed with a presentation of the results of the post-occupancy evaluation (POE) conducted on March 17-18, 2017 (approximately 18 months after the project ended), for the completed Manicani Island shelters and evacuation center. As part of the shelter

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Arch. Verna Lucia Sarraga presents the results of the Post-Occupancy Evaluation of the Manicani Sustainable Shelter Project, under Project Pagbangon.

## TAO holds...

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and evacuation center component of Project Pagbangon, the Manicani Island Shelter and Evacuation Center project was funded by PMPI, with support from Christian Aid and Terres des Hommes. The project began in April 2015 and ended in October 2015, with 40 houses in 4 barangays and 1 evacuation center turned-over to the beneficiaries. As of writing, 2 other evacuations are undergoing construction, and another 1 is on hold.

Before going on to discuss the results of the POE, she explained the participatory planning and design process that the beneficiaries underwent. A sense of ownership and stewardship was established by making sure that the beneficiaries provided counterparts (land, part of the labor, transportation of materials, and house extensions) to the aid provided by the project implementers. Their houses, evacuation centers, and extensions were also designed by them, through a series of sustainable and disaster-resilient planning and design workshops conducted by TAO-Pilipinas. The final design was a 25 sqm. square house, with differences in elevation based on their location (low or moderate risk), a hipped roof, a kitchen, a toilet and bath, a living area, and a sleeping area.

An inspection of the project site revealed that 10 old houses have not yet been demolished (an agreement was struck with the project implementers that beneficiaries' old, at-risk houses on the coast shall be demolished by December 2017), and 6 houses were empty and unused, for various reasons. However, a majority of the houses have

been much improved with extensions, finishes, and landscaping, and are very much lived in. These are physical manifestations of the POE results, which showed that the project was successful in providing shelters of good quality, that meet the spatial/functional needs of the family, that are safe and secure, and that improve their quality of life.

In the very lively discussion that followed the talk, the audience expressed their appreciation for, and affirmation of, the participatory process employed by TAO-Pilipinas. There were a number of notable suggestions to improve the process. For example, Ms. Maribel Larracochea from Build Change Philippines suggested that the beneficiaries themselves can be trained to monitor the construction of their houses, and be partners in ensuring the quality of the finished house. Others suggested other, additional strategies to make the project more sustainable, such as financing schemes, and enacting land use policies to ensure that beneficiaries do not return to their previous, unsafe, settlements. However, many referred to and commented on the many difficulties and challenges of implementing the project and the lack of social infrastructure to efficiently and easily implement the project because of the mining issue. Compromises had to be made, and even though working with a humanitarian framework, considerable efforts were made to ensure that the project was sustainable in every aspect. As Ms. Pilgrim Gato of TdH said, "It's also a discourse in the work for NGOs between humanitarian aid or assistance vis-a-vis development work. While you are thinking long-term, you should also not forget that

these people are victims of a calamity. I think it's a continuing discourse, and we should look into the context, kasi while it's true na dapat hindi siya dole out and hindi natin i-reinforce yung mentality na beneficiaries sila, kaya lang yung circumstances talaga in cases of malalaking disaster, nasa sitwasyon talaga na halos walang mai-counterpart yung communities." Ms. Jojo Matriano of Christian Aid added that in time, they learned that in order to maximize resources, there is indeed a need to recalibrate their allotment as the project progresses, with the influx of other resources from INGOs and the increase in capacity of beneficiaries to provide for themselves.

Even though the project implementers encountered many obstacles, Ms. Esguerra said that, "*Hindi po ganoon kadali mag-introduce ng alternative (livelihood) sa kanila. (Pero) hindi po pwede kasi atrasan e, kasi pag inatrasan mo, wala na talaga. But if you go there, you engage, may nagbabago.*"

### Post-Yolanda Housing in Tacloban City

Ms. Ivy Shella Pagute of Urban Poor Associates (UPA) began the third talk with a short film on their involvement with the people of Tacloban City after Yolanda. UPA brought with them nothing but community organizing and capability building, which enabled the community to come together and push the local government to lift the no-build zone policy, which prevented them from building within 40 meters of the coast. They were also able to put up a savings scheme, and acquire for themselves a plot of land for their in-city permanent housing, called Pope Francis Village.



Ms. Ivy Shella Pagute of Urban Poor Associates (UPA) talks about their interventions in Tacloban City after Typhoon Yolanda.

The film was hopeful and uplifting, but like every achievement, it did not come without challenges. Ms. Ivy recalled how the no-build zone policy prevented them from giving even transitional shelter assistance to the community. Finding affordable land in or near the city was also a challenge, given that prices have soared due to the demand brought about by the disaster. And, like the previous issues, coordination and collaboration with the local government proved to be a big challenge, with all of its bureaucratic red tape. As stated by one community member in the film, "Hindi po yung Typhoon Yolanda ang naging kalaban namin dito, kundi yung lokal na gobyerno."

Talking about lessons learned from the project, Ms. Ivy said,

**"Napakahalaga ng community organizing for us. Dapat yung social fiber ng community natatanggap ng mga housing units naito ay talagang intact, na nagkakaisa sila. lisa yung goal nila: para patakbuhan yung kanilang komunidad. Kasi, physical structure lang naman po at the end of the day ang bahay. Paano yun kung hindi naman magkakabati o hindi magkakaibigan yung magkakapit-bahay."**

She said that community participation is essential to fostering a sense of ownership. However, it is also important to define the community's level of participation, especially in the construction of houses, because there is only so much that they are able to do. She also stressed the importance of seeking the advice of experts; and engaging the government (local and national), and other stakeholders.

### Shelter Interventions for the Municipality of Salcedo

Atty. Melchor Mergal, Mayor of Salcedo, Eastern Samar, and Ms. Isabel Abella of the Salcedo Municipal Planning & Development Office, provided some insight on the local government's work and perspective. Given that it is their mandate to provide and look out for the general welfare of their people, he expressed disappointment at other LGUs who refused to cooperate and coordinate

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Mayor Melchor Mergal (left), and Ms. Isabel Abella (right) of the Municipality of Salcedo talked about post-disaster interventions from the perspective of the government.



Participants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> TAO Forum on Sustainable Communities.

## TAO holds...

(continued from page 6)

with NGOs on projects that would benefit their constituents.

He gave a brief background of Salcedo's housing profile, and noted that INGOs provided for many schools, day care centers, facilities, and shelters. Talking about the importance of engagement and readiness of the municipality to accommodate NGOs, he joked, *"Yan yung importance ng engagement. Pag nakita ng mga NGOs or INGOs naang leader o ang mayor ay engaged, it really brings trust. And that trust is convertible to cash."* The mayor also commended TAO's participatory process, mentioning that it was the community's first time to encounter such an approach, and adding that the community has a stronger sense of ownership because of it.

**"Wala man silang pera, at least makapag-counterpart man lang sila sa labor or sa materials. Maramdaman man lang nila na itong project na ito may pawis ako na binuhos.**

**Kasama ako o owner ako nitong project na ito hindi lang ito binigay sa akin ng Christian Aid o ng TAO-Pilipinas, kundi nag-contribute din ako dito sa bahay ko na ito."**

Talking about the challenges and lessons learned from post-Yolanda rehabilitation and engagements with NGOs, he stressed the importance of the involvement of the LGU's leaders and barangay officials in

the monitoring and supervision of projects. However, the challenge with working with several NGOs is that the municipality's staff have been swamped with the (sometimes strict) demands of working with NGOs. Amid all of the help from NGOs, he still hopes that the national government would provide funds along with the policies that they wish to implement, and that they be more involved, and be present on-site, in times of recovery and rehabilitation from disaster. He also wishes that the NHA adopt a participatory approach in socialized housing development.

Ms. Isabel Abella supplemented the mayor's talk, reiterating the importance of regular engagement of the LGU, not just with the NGOs, but also with their department heads within the municipal government, and the barangay officials. She commended TAO's sustainable shelter project in Salcedo, saying that the participatory approach to planning and design allowed the people to be capacitated and involved in decision-making. Another important impact of this approach is the trust and confidence built by the community, not only in themselves, but also in their government. She noted that she has observed changes in how they now approach projects; people are more involved and are becoming part of the decision-making.

In the discussion that followed, when asked about whether the shelter project of TAO-Pilipinas could be replicated in the LGU's future projects, the mayor lamented the lack of accessible funds for implementing projects because of several bureaucratic requirements. However, the mayor committed to employing the participatory approach

in his future projects.

Ms. Sylvia Miclat of ESSC expressed her appreciation for the government of Salcedo. She put forward an idea for a group of trainers from Region 8, composed of municipal planners, GIS specialists, DRR planners, etc., who have received many trainings, to go into similar disaster-prone areas in the Philippines, and share their knowledge and experience, so other LGUs can learn from them.

Ms. Gayo asked the mayor why DRRM funds are not immediately released, and what he thinks should be done in order to improve the functioning of the government in times of disaster. He replied that he does not know why funds are being released so late. In fact, the disaster recovery and rehabilitation program that they have been pushing since 2014 has just now been approved, and are now outdated and no longer relevant to the needs of the community. However, disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) is now being institutionalized, with funding for a municipal DRRM office (MDRRMO), which is now in place in the municipality of Salcedo. Ms. Gayo also asked UPA if they give psychosocial support to the communities they work with. Ms. Pagute replied that they do not give psychosocial support because it is not their expertise. However, they now have a partnership with PETA who integrates psychosocial support in their values formation and creative DRR trainings.

### Taking it all in

Arch. Faith Varona of TAO-Pilipinas, summed up the lessons from the day's discussions. She emphasized

that working with the community and encouraging community participation in every step of the process is necessary in order to ensure the sustainability of a project. She also said the network of NGOs, communities, and LGU is a great legacy to leave the community, and contributes to the project's sustainability. She also underlined the need to adopt and adapt the participatory process to the context of the community and the project it will be applied to. This will develop the sense of ownership needed for the community to be able to, and want to, sustain the initiative or project. She noted that the underlying principle behind the participatory approach is communication - with the community, and with partners. She ended by saying that though the people now have resilient housing, disaster preparedness also involves social preparation.

**"It doesn't end in resilient houses. It ends in resilient communities, and we all contribute to that."**

Arch. Arlene Lusterio of TAO-Pilipinas gave the final words, thanked all the participants, agreed that the entire process still has gaps, and the lessons learned in the forum will help enrich and improve succeeding projects. She also welcomed the presence of the academe, who she hoped saw a different perspective on architecture, engineering, and planning. She added that the biggest challenge lies in the LGU, to fulfill their mandate. In conclusion, she said that humanitarian response is a continuing discourse and it is important to involve people from different fields to address its various dimensions. (RMBA)



# FEP PREPARES COMMUNITY TRAINERS FOR URBAN DRRM PLANNING



Arch. Sales gives a presentation on the Big One; Participants review community hazard maps and outline preparedness activities undertaken by community.

THE TECHNICAL RESOURCE GROUP (TRG) working on the Financial Enablers Project (FEP) called "Urban Disaster Preparedness, Response and Resilience in Greater Manila Region" has started to train community leaders in facilitating urban DRRM planning. The training comes on the heels of initial project activities started last year which included community hazards and resources mapping exercises and the completion of structures and household survey conducted in the project's four pilot demonstration areas – Tandang Sora, Quezon City; Damayan and Lupang Arenda, Taytay; BASECO, Manila; and Coloong and Mapulang Lupa, Valenzuela.

The TRG, composed of Alterplan, TAO-Pilipinas, SIKAT, HDI, and IDEALS designed the two-part Training-of-Trainers (ToT) program to prepare the area organizers and community leaders in carrying out area-based workshops on identifying strategies for their community-led urban DRRM plans. The first round of the training was conducted on April 19-20 at Brentwood Suites in Quezon City. This was attended by about 30 participants composed of the area organizers of the consortium (FDA, COM, UPA and FDUP) and the community leaders of the pilot sites.

The training program, moderated by HDI's Rosemarie Johnson-Herrera, started with a presentation by Alterplan's Sarah Redoblado of the project's urban DRRM framework. Architect Redoblado discussed urban characteristics and urban risks, and their implications to humanitarian response. She emphasized the community-based approach of the project and levelled off the definition of

a "community". She also highlighted the development of coordination hubs to link CSOs with government and other stakeholders. Architect Redoblado also touched on the governance aspect of DRRM, outlining existing policies on DRR and discussing some of the issues identified in the COA assessment of DRR projects.

The second session was facilitated by TAO-Pilipinas' Angelus Sales and Geraldine Matabang. They gave a joint presentation titled "Are we ready for the Big One?" which sought to inform participants of earthquake risks in Metro Manila, particularly in the event of a "big one" – a 7.2 magnitude earthquake along the West Valley Fault. Architect Sales explained the science behind seismic activity and discussed earthquake-related hazards that should be considered for disaster preparedness and response. She showed and explained PHIVOLCS hazard maps to help participants understand their areas' susceptibility to ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides, and tsunamis. Architect Sales also showed the distance of the pilot sites from the nearest fault trace in the West Valley Fault system by using the PHIVOLCS Fault Finder, a web application that determines proximity to active faults.

Architect Matabang, on the other hand, presented the 7.2 magnitude earthquake damage projections and analysis from the Metro Manila Earthquake Impact Reduction Study (MMEIRS). She emphasized the heavy casualties from building collapse and fire outbreaks and the severe damage that a "big one" would cause to infrastructure and utility systems in Metro Manila. She also pointed out the location of identified evacuation camps and

emergency field hospital sites from the Metro Manila Earthquake Contingency Plan. In presenting risk reduction measures, she shared the community and family earthquake safety guide recommended by PHIVOLCS as well as the self-assessment tool for checking if a house is safe against earthquakes. Towards the end of the session, Architect Matabang highlighted seismic retrofitting measures to make structures earthquake-resilient.

After the inputs of TAO-Pilipinas, small group discussions were held. They examined their community hazards maps and discussed the capacities and preparedness of their communities and local governments to effectively respond to a "big one" scenario. A brief review on understanding hazard and risk maps was also presented.

The third session tackled standards set in the Sphere Minimum Standards for Humanitarian Response. Ms. Herrera of HDI presented the standards on water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition while Arch. Matabang of TAO presented the standards on shelter. Ms. Joanne Barriga-Quintana of IDEALS spoke about the importance of establishing the legal identity of community members as a disaster preparedness measure. Feedback from the participants revealed that based on current resources and capacities of their communities, most of the Sphere standards cannot be realistically complied with. The TRG recognized that there are many gaps to be addressed in order to meet Sphere's idealized conditions for post-disaster response.

On the second day of the ToT, Mr. Chito Dugan of SIKAT gave a presentation on community profile

analysis. He explained how the results of the structures and household surveys conducted in the pilot sites will be processed and presented to the communities. He defined the 23 common indicators of the communities' vulnerability and adaptive capacity that can be drawn out of the survey results. He also outlined additional need-based information derived from the survey results.

Following Mr. Dugan's talk, COM's Ms. Sherlyn Lucas, the survey data manager for Taytay communities, presented the initial results of the survey conducted. She also reported on some of the difficulties in completing the survey and processing the mobile data collected through KoBo Toolbox application. UPA's Mr. Al Bernarte, survey data manager for BASECO community, shared an assessment made by the survey data managers on the use of KoBo, conduct of household interviews, and data management. He identified both the facilitating and hindering factors in accomplishing the survey tasks and managing data gathered. The group acknowledged the value-added of KoBo use despite their relative inexperience with the technology and the glitches encountered in using the tool. The TRG noted the importance of ensuring that data gathered will be useful for community planning and will lead to a DRRM plan that can be appreciated by their respective barangay LGUs.

The program concluded with a Project Management Meeting to set the schedules for follow-up activities. The second round of the Training-of-Trainers has been scheduled for May 31 to June 2. (GRM)



## 9th Nat'l Architecture Symposium features 'dynamic solutions'

THE UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS Architecture Network (UST Archinet) returned to host the 9th National Architecture Symposium on April 21, 2017 at the SMX Convention Center. Under the theme "Dynamic Solutions: Creating Architectural Solutions and Social Innovations", UST Archinet invited two internationally prominent architects to share their insights. The symposium is an annual event that was first launched in 2009. It has provided a venue for students and professionals to connect and exchange ideas on issues relevant to architecture.

Opening the symposium, a brief keynote speech was given by Arch. Terence Yu, President and CEO of Visionarch. He discussed the real estate and construction industry in the Philippines. He also related the 1997 Asian financial crisis and how the country has come a long way with its rising infrastructure industry.

Arch. Chan Hui Min then took the stage and presented the first lecture of the symposium. She is a director at the Singapore-based DP Architects, one of the largest architectural firms in the world. Among their most notable works are the Dubai Mall and Resorts World Sentosa. Her talk centered on leveraging innovative technologies to power design. She noted that technology can be utilized to produce computational iterations in form-finding. Through parameters set by architects, optimized design scenarios can be generated. She remarked that humans should not be afraid of advancements in technology

but instead, they should embrace how innovations can be utilized to assist them and enhance the work, especially in the design process.

Following the lunch break, Arch. Verna Sarraja provided a short presentation on TAO-Pilipinas. It emphasized the organization's participatory approach in providing technical assistance to urban and rural poor communities. She then informed the audience about the upcoming Young Professionals Workshop.

The second keynote speech was given by Arch. William Ti, principal architect of WTA Architecture and Design Studio. He talked about a socially relevant architecture that relates to the community. A few of their projects were also presented, including The Book Stop Project, a mobile library that has appeared in various public spaces across Metro Manila.

Arch. Alastair Parvin gave the final lecture. Based in London, he is the co-founder of Wikihouse Foundation and has given talks in TED Conferences. He discussed the idea of open-sourcing design and how this contributes to community-building amidst the profit-driven business models that are shaping the built environment. He encouraged people to adapt social innovations like the Wikihouse, which he dubbed as "a Wikipedia for stuff" and "a big IKEA kit", to the context of their area. He added that such projects do not only create sustainable houses. They also foster a sense of community through collective effort, a concept common to



TAO's exhibit at the symposium featured models of disaster-resilient shelter designs from post-disaster rehabilitation projects of TAO-Pilipinas.



The symposium's main speakers, Arch. Chan Hui Min (left) and Arch. Alastair Parvin (right).

cultures all over the world but locally known as "bayanihan".

An open forum concluded the symposium where audience members asked questions directed at the main

speakers, Arch. Chan Hui Min and Arch. Alastair Parvin. Most of the queries focused on the technological nature of the innovations presented, to which both architects offered their comprehensive insights. (TRJ)

## UP-TFA launches new campaign; Masagana is one of community partners

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES Task Force Arki (UP-TFA) has launched a new project dubbed "MATÁ", an awareness and advocacy campaign targeting the Filipino youth and will tackle environmental and architectural issues in the country. MATÁ aims to highlight relevant issues to develop the level of awareness of the students and the general public regarding the urban poor, their situation and other related current issues.

On its pilot year, MATÁ is focusing on something very close to the heart of UP Task Force Arki – the housing situation in the country. We aim to

shed light on the enduring problems and issues of housing and informal settlements in the country, the current challenges faced, and the ways families are affected and communities are shaped.

### Exhibit tour

To effectively promote awareness on these issues, an exhibit shall be mobilized to reach out to students and people around the campus and allow them to have a glimpse of the lives of those who are at the forefront of these issues. The exhibit is intended to impart relevant knowledge and to spark realizations.

A touring experiential exhibit about housing and informal settlements will visit key places in the campus. It will feature the housing situations in three (3) of the communities near and within Metro Manila that the organization has immersed in and visited, namely the Maisan Community in Sampaloc, Manila; the Payatas Dumpsite, Paseo Del Carmen; and the Masagana Community in Angat, Bulacan.

### Culminating event

The awareness campaign shall culminate in an event that will put into action our realizations and intentions.

A fund-raising project called Angat Angat is going to be held for the benefit of the Masagana Community of Angat, Bulacan, a relocated community that UP TFA has been helping for the past two years. The project supports the on-going construction of houses by means of community self-help in the resettlement site. Activities planned consist of a turn-over ceremony of funds and construction materials raised by the organization and painting of the built houses with the help of UP-TFA members and volunteers. (UP-TFA)

# Boundaries, Voids, and Scales

by Ma. Lorena Hernandez  
April 27, 2017

PILES OF GARBAGE, FOUL SMELL, dark alleys, polluted bodies of water, crawling and/or flying pests, quarrelling neighbors—such things neither intimidate nor scare me. If anything, those things are what I am familiar with. Unfortunately, it is speaking in front of people and talking to strangers that does me in every time. For some people, this is an effect of lack of confidence, but for me, it is the other way around—not being able to socialize well and speak in front of people causes my confidence to shatter. I was used to seeing and visiting urban poor communities due to my parent's duties as NGO workers. I have also seen them and other professionals stand in front of these communities while they give lectures and provide consultations.

The world of NGO workers is relatively small; although it is, without a doubt, full of smart, passionate people. Nevertheless, I never thought that I would ever be in one. Yet, like a twist in the otherwise well-organized plotline of my life, I started to work in TAO-Pilipinas where not only will I be subjected to speaking in front of a community, but I will also be expected to socialize—talk about acting out of character!

At the time, though I was anxious, I thought that it was definitely an opportunity to complement my endeavors in developing not only my knowledge and skills but also my attitude and character.

**It has been almost two years now. Still, every time I speak in front of communities, whether it's a simple setting of their expectations or to a more specific discussion of certain topics like the Batas Pambansa 220, I can feel myself moving further and further away from the imaginary boundaries that my previous self has drawn.**

Especially during the 2016 YP Workshop on Social Housing which was more like an exhilarating jump into a void than a careful and calculated leap of faith. The YP Workshop is a week-long dynamic and fast-phased capacity-building

of students, professionals, and community members. The workshop starts off with a series of lecture sessions to be followed by community immersion which includes a one-day community consultation workshop to be facilitated by the YP participants. In short, the floor was bestowed upon the amateur facilitators, including me, of course.

We were provided with a training module which was literally my bible back then which, even now, still proves to be helpful. In any case, I was thanking my lucky stars that I was somehow familiar with last year's theme since I believe that had the topics been entirely new, I would've cried ugly tears. Imagine being in a land so far away from home, doing something you're slowly trying to overcome, whilst trying to come to terms with a language barrier—can you spell nightmare? Fortunately, my group members share the same language as the community participants and were also kind enough to translate their conversations with me. In the end, I was satisfied with the output that my group had presented during the plenary session. It was far from being perfect but I believe it was the best that we could have done given the circumstances and the resources that we had. I was just glad and relieved that we were able to finish it all, through the guidance of Arch. Arlene Lusterio who was able to reign our group in whenever we were at a loss.

Looking back, I feel somewhat proud of myself for having the courage to take on the challenge of working in a social environment. This is not to say that I have completely gotten over the nerves that take over me every time I face a crowd or go to social functions, it just goes to show that I can now manage myself during these situations should they arise.

**More than that, I have also found a deeper appreciation towards the people who extend their support to the most vulnerable and are living in hunger and deprivation.**

Especially because some people look at slums and see hopeless, lazy people as the source of everything that is bad, evil, and wretched in the world. When all along, these deprived people



Top: Engr. Lorena Hernandez with teammates, interviewing the president of the community's Homeowners' Association (HOA) after their transect walk.

Middle: Engr. Lorena Hernandez giving a lecture on Inputs on Sustainable and Disaster-Resilient Communities.

Bottom: Engr. Lorena Hernandez and teammates pose with their mural painting.

who we call as such also has dreams, determination, and dignity inside them—not to mention that they also share the same rights and privileges as everyone.

They are people who seek guidance and support from anyone who they believe can help them because although they have less, they also have the right to live decently. While the NGO workers, whom people see as a bunch of idealistic people who are

only in it for the money—no thanks to the “Napoles scandal”—are actually just a bunch of masochists who choose to see and consider the potential they found in the forgotten pieces, who are capable enough to try and somehow tip the scale towards equity, and are working towards a more inclusive society. Nothing too idealistic, right?



**Title: Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design**

**Author: Charles Montgomery**

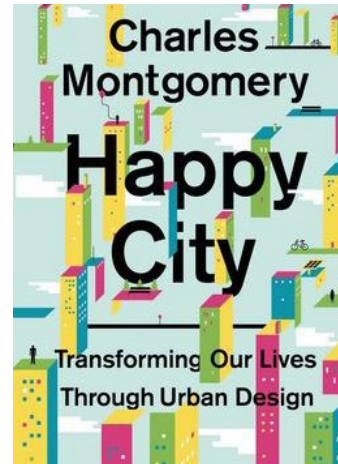
**Publisher: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux (2013)**

Charles Montgomery's *Happy City* delves into the intricacies of how the shapes and systems of cities contribute to the happiness formula. Apart from the author's experiences, the book draws insights from psychologists, neuroscientists, economists, transportation engineers, architects, and urban planners on how urban design shapes the way we live our lives.

In the first few chapters, the author explores a variety of factors that influence urban happiness such as mobility systems, conviviality of space, access to nature, and geometries of neighborhoods. Particularly interesting are the stories he shares of people—from a visionary mayor to a twelve-year-old schoolboy, from a discontented third-generation suburban mom to a discontented twenty-something corporate architect—who are all just trying to navigate the urban plane in pursuit of happiness. When discussing desirable urban systems, the book frequently refers to Copenhagen, Paris,

Portland, and the author's hometown Vancouver. Cases for the happy city also tend to be oriented in the context of developed countries, although one of the topics that the author significantly (and fondly) writes about is the transformation of Bogotá.

It becomes more evident as the chapters progress that a definitive vision of the happy city emerges. The image more or less involves bike lanes, open spaces, low-density traffic, dense residences, mass and mixed transit, mixed income and mixed-use developments, and pop-up plazas as vibrant as the Greek's agora. It involves "walkable communities where shops, restaurants, and local business are within an easy stroll and jobs are a short commute away". The author also advocates for a low-carbon and sustainable city. He argues that the car-dependent dispersed and sprawling city, somewhat a fusion between the escapist's garden city and the high modernists' separated machine, has generally elicited discontentment among its dwellers.



Overall, the book is a pleasant read with a refreshing take on the complex relationship of urban design and urban occupants. True to the book's title, the author narrates his case for the happy city with optimism. He emphasizes the people's capacity to build "a community that makes more sense forthem" than the one that planners and policy makers hand to them. As much as he discusses how urban design influences our social interactions and patterns of movement, he affirms how we ultimately shape the city that transforms our lives. (TRJ)

**Title: Green Building Illustrated**

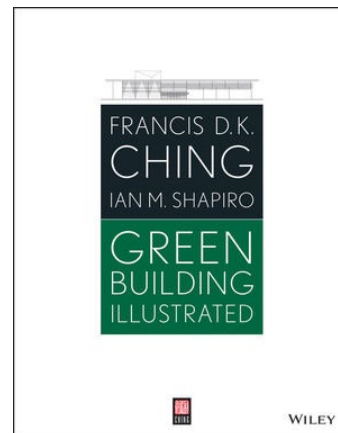
**Author: Francis D.K. Ching, Ian M. Shapiro**

**Publisher: Wiley; 1<sup>st</sup> edition (March 3, 2014)**

The main goal of the book *Green Building Illustrated* is to make us realize that primordial of our concerns is the preservation of the natural environment despite the intervention of the built environment. In the world we live in, the built environment must always adjust with the natural environment – the natural must always come first, not the other way around. The book discusses in depth strategies on how to attain sustainability as well as how to reduce the environmental impact of buildings. Sustainability, as described in the book, is about "the promise that things will last". It is using renewable energy for our daily rituals and operations; structures built to last long; creating a community that could stand on its own. Green building is defined as the application of the concept of sustainability to built structures.

The book is divided into chapters discussing specific aspects of designing a green building – from conceptual analyses of the community and site, building shape and nearby building study, to the more technical side of design such as thermal zoning, lighting and electrical quality, indoor environmental quality and the use of renewable energy. In addition, a summary of LEED guidelines is presented at the latter part of the volume. The book is very interesting as illustrations are vividly abundant in every chapter; almost half of every page in the book has informative graphics. It is very comprehensible even in chapters of technical discussions.

Overall, the book is a good reference and guide to creating an environmentally responsible building. Especially with the current condition



of our environment, constructing and operating a building with the least waste and carbon emissions are of huge necessities. Architecture students, even professionals, will find the book very useful; it can be an essential tool to broaden our knowledge in sustainable design theories and construction techniques. (Francheska J. Ela)



## What is your opinion on the KADAMAY housing issue?

"Sa totoong buhay, there is no such thing as free na free talaga. Pwede naman nila makuha yun sa terms na mas kaya nila magbayad like ilang years or kung hindi man talaga nila kaya ng pera edi at least man lang community work or may maproduce sila na kung ano man. Basta dapat pinag hirapan. Ang mga may kaya naman sa buhay, hindi naman nila nakuha yung mga meron sila ngayon ng libre eh. Lahat pinaghihirapan."

- L.Arch. PAMELA PAGANA, 26,  
FREELANCE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

"Hindi ko gusto na libre ang pabahay kasi hindi mo naeempower ang Filipino. Hardworking naman tayo, mas may sense of ownership if may monetary claim sila sa bagay na importante sa kanila. Although, sana minimal costs lang. Ang dami kong pinuntahang relocation sites for Luntiang Pook\*, lahat sila proud na nakakabayad sila sa bahay kahit paano. At dahil doon, hindi sila umaalis sa relocation. May place attachment kasi. Kasi nakainvest sila kahit paano. Added na rin ang Luntiang Pook sa pagtulong sa placemaking. Para mas lalong pangalagaan nila ang pabahay at ang paligid ng pabahay."

- L.Arch. CATHE NADAL, 30,  
PH.D. STUDENT

*Disclaimer: The views and opinions presented do not necessarily reflect the views of TAO-Pilipinas, Inc.*

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\* "Luntiang Pook" is a landscape design initiative spearheaded by the Philippine Association of Landscape Architects kasama ang National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA). It hopes to provide opportunities for Landscape Architects to interact with the Filipino communities, fostering a strong sense of nationhood thru the sharing of experiences and knowledge in indigenous and edible plant species through landscape design at a small scale level.

# Sponsor a Student-Participant to the 2017 Young Professionals (YP) Workshop on Social Housing

## What is the YP Workshop on Social Housing?

The Young Professionals (YP) Workshop on Social Housing is a capability-building program of TAO-Pilipinas, Inc. that orients technical design professionals on social housing and cross-cutting issues in human settlements development especially among the poor. Through this program, young architects, engineers and planners are trained to be more socially aware of the shelter conditions of the underserved sectors. The workshop activities serve as a venue for learning and practice, as it gives the opportunity for participants to directly engage and provide technical assistance to poor communities with shelter needs.

To know more about the 2017 YP Workshop on Social Housing, download this [briefing paper](#).

## Who are the target participants of the workshop?

The main target participants of the workshop are the local design professionals – young university faculty members, senior students, and new graduates – in the technical fields of architecture, engineering and planning. To be considered as a participant, one must complete the YP Workshop Application requirements. Applications will be screened and shortlisted applicants interviewed.

For student applicants, eligibility requirements are:

- At least 18 years old;
- At least in the 4th year of study in architecture and interior design, engineering courses, and environmental planning; and
- Maintains a strong academic performance.

The criteria for the selection of YP participants shall include (1) willingness to work with urban poor communities; (2) strong inclination to go into community development work; (3) openness to learn and practice participatory planning approaches in housing; and (4) consciousness about social housing issues.

### Schedule for Applications

May 20	Pre-workshop Orientation for Accepted Participants
May 24-29	YP Workshop on Social Housing

## Why should I sponsor a YP?

By sponsoring a participant, you provide a valuable opportunity for a young professional / student to be trained and equipped to work with communities in need, and possibly to pave a career path towards a more socially-responsive professional practice. Through the workshop, we are also building linkages for young professionals to assist underserved communities that would otherwise not be able to afford the services of an architect, engineer or planner. Sponsored participants will be required to render 200 On-the-Job Training (OJT) hours at TAO-Pilipinas after the workshop.

View reflection essays from our YP Workshop alumni [here](#).

## Can I sponsor a specific student?

A donor can sponsor a specific student to attend the 2017 YP Workshop by following this procedure:

1. The sponsor should notify TAO-Pilipinas of a student he/she would like to nominate.
2. The nominated student must submit the required documents for the YP Workshop Application to TAO-Pilipinas.
3. TAO-Pilipinas will evaluate all YP Workshop Applications, both sponsorship applicants and general applicants, based on the same objective criteria.
4. Sponsor and nominated student will be notified if their application is accepted.

*Note: If the student specifically nominated by a sponsor is determined to not meet TAO's criteria for participation in the YP Workshop, the sponsor's contribution will not be returned and instead will be applied to another sponsorship candidate that satisfies TAO's criteria.*

**Please direct all YP workshop inquiries (including all sponsorship-related questions) to Arch. Angelus Sales, our YP Workshop Coordinator, at (632) 287-6446 / 436-7301 or email [ypws@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:ypws@tao-pilipinas.org).**