



Photo for the Month

A YP volunteer walks cautiously through the muddy path to a community in Rodriguez, Rizal for a structures mapping activity.

Quote for the Month

*"There is no community service requirement in the real world; no one is forcing you to care. You can take your diploma, walk off this stage, and go chasing after the big house, and the nice suits, and all the other things that our money culture says that you should want, that you should aspire to, that you can buy. But I hope you don't walk away from the challenge. **Focusing your life solely on making a buck shows a certain poverty of ambition. It asks too little of yourself.** You need to take up the challenges that we face as a nation and make them your own. Not because you have a debt to those who helped you get here, although you do have that debt. Not because you have an obligation to those who are less fortunate than you, although I do think you do have that obligation. It's primarily because you have an obligation to yourself. Because individual salvation has always depended on collective salvation. **Because it's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential.**"*

- from the Commencement Address delivered at Knox College in June 2005 by Senator **Barack Obama Jr.**, first US President-elect of African-American descent.

The recently concluded Sustainable Shelter competition of the YP Design Challenge gave us a lot of lessons and insights on the current level of awareness design students and young professionals have on sustainable design and social housing issues. Overall, we were quite happy with the participation of several colleges in Metro Manila and with the results even if the jury did not find an entry that reached the first-place standard that was set. Many of the shortlisted entries showed imaginative and creative use of the limited space in a 32-sqm lot and offered a variety of ideas on how sustainable design features could be integrated in a socialized housing unit. Volumetric manipulation (i.e. of both horizontal and vertical spaces) was exhibited in the designs that prioritized space planning and maximization. Basic understanding of the concepts of passive cooling, earth-based construction, rainwater harvesting, and waterless toilet technologies were applied in most of the design proposals. What the jury found lacking though was an excellent combination of innovation and cost-effectiveness in a single design entry. Disaster-resilient design features were also not very developed in the proposals, owing perhaps to the limited engineering knowledge of the mostly architecture students who joined the competition or to the fact that more site-specific considerations needed to be established. These are just some of the factors that we as organizers would have to look into in helping raise the level of awareness of YPs on sustainable design.

The jury deliberations opened the discussion of several issues concerning social housing such as the need to re-evaluate BP220 standards for allocation of more livable spaces, affordability of housing units to urban poor families, maximizing space due to high land prices in urban areas, and sourcing of raw materials for alternative building technologies. The forum with representatives of different CBOs that we organized during the jury deliberations likewise highlighted several other issues like the prevailing preference for individual lots versus medium rise buildings, appropriate use of open space and setbacks, social acceptability, and the more active involvement of the community in the design process. (This only shows a comprehensive understanding of the social housing situation is expected from designers to be able to come up with viable designs.) In evaluating the design proposals, the community representatives found familiarity in the more conventional designs and were quite intrigued by the innovative designs.

We want to thank all the deans and professors who supported their students' efforts in coming up with design proposals, the leaders of SHEC and SHACC in Malibay, Pasay who accommodated the community visits that we required from the competitors, and our jury panel members, Sir Dinky and Sir Ramby, for lending their time and expertise in this project. Much gratitude also goes to our project sponsors (Selavip, Misereor, Sencor) that made possible our first attempt at organizing a design competition for YPs. Thanks also to Starbucks CSR for the coffee and mugs we gave out as tokens.

The winning and notable entries for Sustainable Shelter can already be viewed at www.yppdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org and will also be featured in the next issue of TAO Shelter Magazine. By January to May of next year, a series of exhibition is planned to showcase the winning and notable designs. (If you wish the YP Design Challenge winning designs to be exhibited in your schools, please contact TAO at 441-0998 or email yp@tao-pilipinas.org so we could arrange an exhibit schedule in your school.)

In this month's e-news:

- **Winners of YP Design Challenge: Sustainable Shelter announced**
- **ISDP Housing Forum held in CDO and Iligan**
- **2008 YP Workshop (Bicol) Report now available online**
- **TAO Resource Center Book Reviews**
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"It's time for us to go to the people rather than ask the people, especially the poor, to come to us."

ISDP Housing Forum held at Cagayan De Oro and Iligan City

JF Ledesma Foundation, Inc. (JFLFI), the NGO spearheading the YP Program in the Visayas and Mindanao regions, introduced the **Integrated Shelter Delivery Program (ISDP)** training course in a series of fora attended by representatives of academic institutions in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan City. The ISDP course is being developed by JFLFI as an intensive curriculum designed to provide a more focused treatment of subjects on social housing delivery such as housing policies, sustainable building technologies, social housing finance, and disaster management. The conferences held last October 3 and 4, 2008 were targeted as venues for discussion on how the ISDP course could be integrated into the academic curriculum of universities and colleges. Its theme was "Academic Research – Community Extension Collaboration on Housing Issues: A Partnership Initiative of YP and Development Institutions."



Dr. Billy Tusalem, Executive Director of JFLFI, outlines the ISDP course to the academe at the Mulberry Suites, Cagayan de Oro City.

TAO-Pilipinas supported this activity and sent resource persons Arlene Lusterio, Gertrudes Samson and Geraldine Matabang to give presentations on water settlements, community-based disaster risk management for sites and buildings, and the implemented YP projects in Metro Manila.

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SUSTAINABLE SHELTER WINNERS & FINALISTS

First Award (PhP 20,000 prize)

No First Place was awarded by the jury.

Second Award (PhP 12,000 prize each entry)

Second Place was shared by two entries.

Mark Cris Abarquez

Team members: **Leonard Bryan T. Tecson, Johmar E. Beley**
4th year BS Architecture students, Far Eastern University (FEU)
Adviser: Arch. Antonio C. De Vera

Jasmine M. Soriano

2008 BS Architecture graduate, Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP)

Third Award (PhP 8,000 prize)

Randy A. Amonoy

Team members: **Jerome T. Dañas, Ildelfonso M. Madiano Jr.**
5th year BS Architecture students, Technological University of the Philippines (TUP)

Special Award for Innovation (PhP 5,000 prize)

Special Award was given by the jury for an entry that showed outstanding efforts in specific aspects of the design proposal.

Alvin C. Trinidad

4th year BS Architecture student, University of the Philippines (UP)
Adviser: Arch. Nicolo Del Castillo

Finalists

Short-listed entries that passed the final screening were categorized as Notable Designs.

Myra P. Ocampo

Team member: **Muriel D. Sellote**
4th year BS Architecture students, Far Eastern University (FEU)
Adviser: Arch. Antonio C. De Vera

Benjamin P. Casono

4th year BS Architecture student, University of the Philippines (UP)
Adviser: Arch. Nicolo Del Castillo

Franz Miko Verzon

2nd year BS Architecture student, University of Santo Tomas (UST)

Winners of YP Design Challenge: Sustainable Shelter announced

TAO-Pilipinas announced the winners of the YP Design Challenge: Sustainable Shelter category last November 12, 2008 after the jury deliberations held on November 10 at the University Hotel, UP Diliman Campus, QC. The jury panel was composed of Arch/EnP. **Arlene Lusterio** of TAO-Pilipinas, Arch/EnP. **Dinky von Einsiedel** of CONCEP Inc. and PIEP, and Engr. **Ramby Nolido** of RA Nolido Construction Corp. Before the jury review sessions, the twenty-two (22) qualified entries were presented to a group of invited guests to solicit comments on the proposed designs. These comments from NGO and community representatives were also considered by the jury in their deliberations.

The selection of winning entries were based on the following criteria: Sustainable Design Features (25%); Originality and Innovativeness (25%); Cost-effectiveness (20%); Environmentally-sound Construction (20%); and Socio-Cultural Sensitivity and Affordability (10%). After two rounds of judging, the jury selected the winning designs. (See listing at left.)

Turn to page 3.

Winners of YP Design (from page 2)



Community representatives were invited to a forum on the proposed designs before the jury review sessions.



Eligible submissions were displayed for viewing and critiques by the invited guests.



Jury members Ramby Nolido, Dinky von Einsiedel and Arlene Lusterio discuss entries during the 2nd round of deliberations.

The presentation boards of the winning entries and finalists may be viewed online at www.yppdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org. Jury comments for each of the short-listed entries are now also posted online. The Portable Playground and Trash Transformation categories of the YP Design Challenge are still on-going. TAO-Pilipinas shall organize the awarding ceremonies on December 2008 and exhibition of winning and notable designs by January 2009.

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2008 YP Workshop (Bicol) Report now available online

The complete documentation of the YP Workshop held in Albay, Bicol last January 21-25, 2008 may now be downloaded online at www.ypws.tao-pilipinas.org. The report features the outputs of the 5-day YP workshop on "**Building Sustainable Communities in the Resettlement Sites of Albay, Bicol.**" It also documents the following training lectures:

- National Poverty and Housing Situationer by Tanya Gaurano (ICSI)
- Sociological Perspective on Housing by Eddie Balonso (Bicol University)
- Technical Assistance to Marginalized Communities by Arlene Lusterio (TAO-Pilipinas)
- Scientific Assessment of the Nov. 30, 2006 Disaster in Albay Province by Ed Laguerta (PHIVOLCS)
- Disaster Risk Management in Albay Province by Cedric Daep (APSEMO)
- Issues and Concerns in Post-Disaster Settlements Planning: The Case of Daraga, Albay by Amillah Rodil (TAO-Pilipinas)

- Identification and Development of Resettlement Sites in Albay by Albert Perfecto (NHA-Region V)
- Delivery of Basic Social Service in Albay Resettlement Sites by Yolanda Guanzon (PSWDO)
- Shelter Assistance Program of COPE-Christian Aid in Albay by Salve Cadag (COPE)
- Land Use Planning for Disaster Risk Management by Ernesto Serote (UP-SURP)
- Community-based Water and Sanitation Systems by Jennibelle Kesip (BORDA)
- Gender Perspective and Participation in Community Development Planning by Faith Varona (TAO-Pilipinas)
- Disaster-Resilient Building Technologies for Social Housing by Gertrudes Samson (TAO-Pilipinas)

The 2008 YP Workshop Report is also available in CDs which include the resource persons' powerpoint presentations. The CDs may be bought at PHP100.00 each and picked-up at TAO office, 27A Matiyaga St., Bgy. Central, Diliman, QC.

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TAO Resource Center Book Reviews

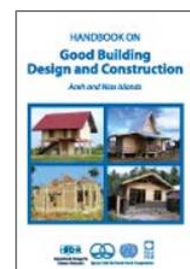
The **TAO Resource Center & Library** is now open for students and researchers' use. Library materials include books and periodicals on architecture, community planning and upgrading, land use planning, disaster management, environmental management, housing, urban planning and development, and solid waste management. Below are some of the TAO staff reviews on selected books available at the Resource Center:

Handbook on Good Building Design and Construction (*Aceh and Nias Islands*)

Published by: UNDP Regional Center (Bangkok) & Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

This handbook is a simple guide on proper design and construction of houses. It provides basic but important information on how to make a disaster resilient house. The best thing about this handbook is the illustrations that were given as examples of good and bad building design and construction methods. All the photographs that were used for this handbook were taken during the reconstruction of Aceh and Nias Islands. These islands were greatly devastated by the great tsunami and earthquake of December 2006.

The content of the handbook can easily be understood by home owners, designers, and builders. It is divided into two parts namely, the design principles and construction and materials principles. This handbook is short and contains more photos than text so readers will not get bored reading it. It even has a house building checklist that the readers can use to assess their house. Over-all, this handbook is very useful to people with no technical background but would like to know more about good building design and construction which they can apply at their own houses.



- Review by Angel Sales

Spatial Water Management
Supporting participatory planning and decision making
By Hasse Goosen

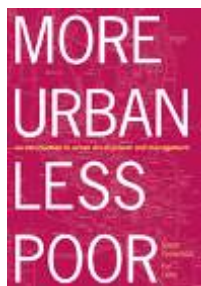
Published and Distributed by Techné Press, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Hasse Goosen spent ten years of research on water management, decision support and evaluation of nature at the Institute of Environmental Studies, Free University of Amsterdam. He has served as the Secretary of the European Forum on Integrated Environmental Assessment (EC-DG-XII) and received his PhD in 2006, after finishing *Spatial Water Management*, as his dissertation. He is currently a member of the board of Dutch Society for Landscape Ecology Research and works on support tools for participatory planning and decision making at the department for the Environment of the Province of South Holland.

The book takes off from the shift in the Dutch water policy (national policy) from vertical defense (large dikes construction) to horizontal storage (controlled flooding) in the light of climate change and sea level rise, its implications on the current use of land and local resistance or deadlock to policy implementation. The author presents case studies to analyze the state of national policy implementation. He concludes that the regional multi-stakeholder water platforms supported by interactive, flexible and user-friendly tools may help prevent deadlock in implementing spatial water policy at the local level that also address supra-local concerns by striking a balance between institutional control (top-down) and stakeholder participation (bottom-up) encouraging value-focused thinking to address long-term policy objectives and meet local objectives.

Though highly technical, the book is readable to the layman. It provides a good incite to the Dutch water environment, water culture and management. It presents the development of decision support tools to facilitate effective decision making. A very good reference with maps and diagrams, itself a tool for better understanding of spatial water management in the Netherlands.

- Review by Arlene Lusterio



More Urban, Less Poor
An Introduction to Urban Development & Management

By Göran Tannerfeldt and Per Ljung
Published by Sida and EARTHSCAN (2006)

Göran Tannerfeldt, is an architect and senior advisor on urban development with more than forty years of international experience. He developed the urban program of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and was head of its Urban Division. Per Ljung is the Chairman and CEO of PM Global Infrastructure and has headed the World Bank's operational division, dealing with urban development in North Africa and the Middle East.

More Urban – Less Poor provides a comprehensive view of the multifaceted issues associated with urbanization. An essential reading for public officials, development professionals, researchers and all others engaged in the field of urban development & management, this book presents how urban centers grow; their economic development; the link between urban and rural development; and the major challenges accompanying rapid urban growth. Among the challenges discussed were poor housing conditions, lack of secure tenure, environmental and health problems and inadequate infrastructure. The book also imparts ways to meet these challenges through good governance; improved legal systems and policy regulations; empowered local authorities; and involvement of the communities, civil society and the private sector.

What I like about this book is its ability to communicate its message clearly. The authors organized the ideas in a systematic manner; it starts with identification of the problem and analysis of its nature. It then illustrates the consequences of the problem, and concludes with solutions to the problem. The layout was also very friendly to the readers' eyes. Apart from interesting pictures of urban areas in various parts of the globe, there are tables and graphs to back up most of the information. This book is indeed an effective resource material for individuals and groups working passionately towards sustainable urban development.

The Community Planning Handbook
How people can shape their cities, town and villages in any part of the world
Compiled & Edited by Nick Wates

Published by EARTHSCAN (2000) in association with The Urban Design Group; The Prince Foundation; South Bank University, London.



The editor, Nick Wates, is a writer, researcher and project consultant specializing in community planning and design. He has written extensively for architectural press and has experience in local regeneration projects and planning initiatives in his neighborhood. His previous works include *Squatting, the real story* (Bay Leaf Books, 1980), *Community Architecture* (with Charles Kneivitt, Penguin, 1987); and *Action Planning* (The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, 1996).

This handbook is a one-volume compilation of new methods in community planning intended for people concerned with the built environment as the growing global demand for local involvement in the planning and management of the environment now considers local participation the best way of ensuring the development of safer, stronger, and sustainable communities. The editor aims to help in the evolution of community planning through this publication by sharing the benefits of experience and facilitating international exchange of good practices.

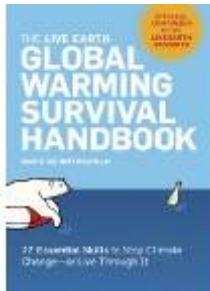
The Community Planning Handbook is a good starting point for technical professionals, local authorities, community workers, students and residents as it offers a wide range of methods available—from community workshops to electronic maps that help stakeholders in shaping their local environment. It has a simple and easy-to-follow format, with tips, checklists and sample documents as well best practice information on effective methods from local and international perspectives. It encourages users to experiment with different methods, to mix, match and evolve, to come up with approaches most suitable to their situation. The feedback form at the end of the book is a good way to encourage readers' participation towards the improvement of the book.

- Review by Faith Varona

- Review by Rosalyn Marcelo

The Live Earth Global Warming Survival Handbook: 77 Essential Skills To Stop Climate Change or Live Through It

By David de Rothschild
Published by Rodale Books (2007)



David de Rothschild is the founder of Adventure Ecology, an independent initiative focused on environmental awareness and action through education. De Rothschild was recently voted a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and a National Geographic 'Emerging Explorer.'

The book is an official companion to the Live Earth concerts broadcast from around the world in July 2007. It outlines 77 'skills' that people can practice to survive climate change and prevent the disastrous impacts of global warming. Each skill is presented with basic introduction to core ideas and environmental facts together with requirements on resources (in terms of cost, time, and personal effort) and its potential impact to global warming prevention. Instructional guides or action steps are described with full-color illustrations by William van Roden. The book also has a glossary of climate change lingo and links to online resources by various groups involved in the global environmental movement.

The 'skills' presented in this book range from simple and inexpensive steps to actions that require greater commitment and resources to combat global warming. Its language and illustrations are easy-to-read and offer a fun, compelling, and sometimes humorous take on the environmental crisis. (Particularly funny are the 'skills' set under the subheading "If All Else Fails.") Overall, this 'survival guide' is a good primer on global warming facts and eco-consciousness, mainly targeted not for academics but for the general public. It encourages its reader not to be overwhelmed by the seriousness and size of the problem but instead be committed to taking action towards solving the climate crisis.

- Review by Ge Matabang

The Liveable Cities: The Benefits of Urban Environmental Planning *A City Alliance Study on Good Practices*

Published by: The Cities Alliance, 2007 Washington, USA



The Liveable Cities is a report published by the Cities Alliance, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) launched during the Local Government Climate Sessions of the Climate Change Conference in December 11, 2007. These organizations state the importance of the integration of environmental considerations in urban planning to create sustainable cities using different policy, process, planning and management instruments to attain sustainable cities. It clearly presents to its readers various urban environmental management practices and systems describing their key features, methods and tools; openly stating their limitations and needs for further improvements.

The highlight of this report presents specific urban management approaches and environmental entry points of twelve cities from around the world. To name a few, these are the City Development Strategy, Local Agenda 21, Environmental Management System, and Eco City Plan. (It presented Bohol's good practice and system tool --- the EcoBudget® which focuses on allotting financial budget on the city's estimated demands for natural resources using physical indicators such as loss of agricultural land.) The report focused on different activities and outputs brought by the approaches. However, the inclusion of reports on the impacts to the environment and the city's constituents could have made its readers motivated to try or adapt an approach applicable to their city.

The book presents the results in general terms understandable to those who have intermediate background on urban environmental management. It is a good resource to those who have little experience or knowledge of different methods of urban environmental management.

- Review by Beryl Baybay

Integrating Disaster Risk Management in Local Governance *Facilitators Guide and Sourcebook on Barangay Disaster Management Training Workshop (The Philippine Experience)*

Published by: United Nations Development Programme
Special Unit for South-South Cooperation



This manual was published for use of trainers and facilitators who are helping local government units in conducting workshops on disaster risk management. Its primary objective is to provide LGUs with a guide so they can push forward the agenda of reducing risks at the community or local levels. Though the training context is entirely within the Philippine setting, the content and methodology in facilitation can be universally applied.

The handbook is divided into two main parts. Part 1 is the "Facilitators Guide". It contains four modules and each module contains three to four sessions with complete step-by-step instruction on how to facilitate each session of the modules. Each session contains learning objectives, key points to remember, methods and step by step process on how to deliver the session, materials needed, session duration, tips to facilitators, and required readings. Part 2 is the "Sourcebook" which contains the key reference materials for each session, including some ideas on how to conduct the sessions. The four key modules of the handbook include: Module 1- Introduction to Disaster Risk Management Concepts; Module 2 - Barangay Governance and Disaster Risk Management; Module 3 - Barangay Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment; Module 4 - Barangay Disaster Risk Management Planning. Although the manual is thick (137 pages) the contents is well formatted. Aside from table of contents, dividers and side tabs are also provided to easily locate and distinguish various parts of the manual.

- Review by Ger Samson

Library use is by appointment and guidelines may be viewed at <http://www.tao-pilipinas.org/resources/library>.
You may call Angel Sales at 441-0998/436-7301 or email lib@tao-pilipinas.org to schedule your visit.

Announcements

New YP Workshop website

The YP Workshop website has been reformatted and can now be viewed in more easily-navigable pages. The address remains the same at www.ypws.tao-pilipinas.org. Documentation of YP projects from 2005 to 2008 can be downloaded including the YP lectures and workshop and internship reports.



Support 2009 YP projects – Buy the YP Bookmarks

Packaged sets of YP Bookmarks are now available for sale. Your purchase will help us implement a new cycle of Young Professionals Orientation and Training Program (YP-OTP) for 2009 and support more YP interns and volunteers to provide design/technical services for TAO-assisted communities.



The YP Bookmarks feature murals painted by YP Workshop participants in 2006 and 2008.

They are priced as follows:

- One (1) set of 7 designs = Php 50.00
- Two (2) sets of 7 designs = Php 75.00
- Three (3) sets of 7 designs = Php 100.00
- Ten (10) sets of 7 designs = Php 300.00

Buy the bookmarks as a way of making a small contribution to our work, plus they make a good holiday gift/token to friends! For orders, please call (63-2) 441-0998 or 436-7301. Orders can be picked up at the TAO Office, 27-A Matiyaga Street, Barangay Central, Diliman, Quezon City or additional charges shall be made for deliveries within Metro Manila.



TAO-Shelter Magazine 5th issue

TAO-Pilipinas is publishing the 5th Issue of its bi-annual magazine, TAO Shelter, in January 2008. This new issue will have articles and papers/studies related to **climate change** and its impact on the Philippines, particularly on vulnerable groups such as the urban and rural poor. You can email your orders to info@tao-pilipinas.org.

