

ADVOCATES RAISE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ISSUES IN CBCRM



Noli Abinales (middle) of BUKLOD TAO shares his reactions to Prof. Luna's presentation during the Forum on NGO Natural Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness last February 23, 2001. Flanking him are Celso Dulce, Executive Director of the Citizen's Disaster Response Center (CDRC) at left and Prof. Mel Luna of UP CSWCD at right.

Various calamities affect the coastal areas, such as storm-tidal surges, fishkills, floodings, and the occurrence of tsunamis, bringing destruction of lives and properties. Sinking ships and oil spills occasionally hit the headlines highlighting its adverse effects to coastal communities and resources. Unfortunately, management of these disasters has yet to be incorporated in the over-all programs of most NGOs and groups involved in CBCRM.

In reaction to this observation, a participant raised that estimates of disaster damages oftentimes, do not include damages in unseen coastal resources like coral reefs or loss of sales or income in fish trade. Another participant added that perhaps disaster mitigation and preparedness in some programs, CBCRM included, only go by another name such as environmental protection and does not necessarily mean neglect on the part of the NGOs.

These are some of the insights shared by CBCRM-oriented participants in the recent Forum on NGO Natural Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness held last February 23, 2001. The forum was undertaken to share the results of a research study on NGOs

focusing on disaster management and was conducted in commemoration of the UP College of Social Work and Community Development Week. The study was conducted by Dr. Emmanuel Luna, convenor of the Disaster Management cluster of the Resource Pool and faculty of UP CSWCD.

"NGOs are challenged to provide cost-effective, but efficacious mitigation and preparedness measures to help communities tide over in case such disasters strike," said Dr. Luna, main resource speaker during the forum.

"We should also look at the sources of our vulnerability in the occurrence of certain disasters and develop citizen-based, development-oriented disaster management measures. If you want to be effective in disaster response, you should always look at the source of your problems," said Celso Dulce, executive director of Citizen's Disaster Response Center (CDRC).

The forum was sponsored by The British Red Cross, College of Social Work and Community Development, Center for Disaster Preparedness and the Community- Based Coastal Resources Management Resource Center.

- Ami Dasig & Bing O. Gamolo

A Philippine Disaster Situationer

☂ The Philippines tops the list of the world's most disaster prone country from 1900 to 1991 with a total of 701 incidents or almost 8 disasters a year. India comes as a far second with 369 incidents. (study by CRED cited in PDI, 2/07/93)

☂ The Philippines' exposure to natural hazards is defined by the geographical and physical characteristics of the country. The long-running armed conflict, unrestricted environmental destruction and government policies that tend to overlook its inimical effects on the majority of the Filipino people and the environment cause displacement and more lasting damage.

(from a draft by Ms. Lorna Victoria of the Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) on the relevance of DM in CBCRM. Please visit <http://www.cbcr-m-freeservers.com> for more details)

ANDA ORG CLINCHES 25-YEAR RIGHT TO MANAGE MANGROVES

by Lala Dasig

Anda, Pangasinan- In an unprecedented event in the history of this municipality, one of the partner people's organizations of the CBCRM Resource Center was recently awarded with the Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA).

The award, which was given to the Imbo Multisectoral Barangay Organization (I.M.B.O.), grants the organization a twenty-five (25) year-tenurial right to develop, utilize and manage the 9-hectare-mangrove area specified in the agreement. The agreement may be renewed for another twenty-five years and is given only to people's organizations by the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO).

This development boosts the organization's ongoing mangrove reforestation project, which is being implemented in cooperation with two other barangay organizations- the Youth Conservation Corps and the Imbo Planners Association.

The awarding ceremonies was held last February 14, 2001 at the Imbo Public Market and was attended by approximately 100 residents and guests.

(Lala Dasig is a Research Associate of the Anda CBCRM Program)

THE CBCRM LIBRARY

New Acquisitions 2001

Pedagogy of Hope: Reliving "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" (1992)

by Paulo Freire

Planet Dialectics - Explorations in Environment and Development (1999)

by Wolfgang Sachs

The Post Development Reader (1997)

edited by Majid Rahnema

Working with Indigenous Knowledge: a guide for researchers (1998)

by Louise Grenier

The World Guide 1999/2000: An alternative reference to the countries of our planet (1999)

by The New Internationalist

Challenging the professions - frontiers for rural development (1998)

by Robert Chambers

The Critical Villager: Beyond community participation (1993)

by Eric Dudley

Grassroots horizons: connecting participatory development initiatives East and West (1995)

by Morse et al.

Learning from Change: Issues and experiences in participatory monitoring and evaluation (2000)

edited by M. Estrella et. al.

Learning from Gal Oya: Possibilities for participatory development and post-Newtonian social science (1996)

by N. Uphoff

Participatory Learning and Action - A trainer's guide (1995)

by J. Pretty et al.

Power, Process and Participation – Tools for Change (1998)

by N. Nelson & S. Wright

Tools for Community Participation: A manual for training trainers in participatory techniques (1993)

by L. Srinivasan



Resource Center Staff attends the User's Training on CDS_ISIS for Windows Program. The program will be used by the Center in its database and library management. With them (2nd from left) is Ms. Leonila De Jesus, chief librarian of UP CSWCD



(From left): Gary Newkirk and Jennifer Graham of the Coastal Resources Research Network (CoRR), Bob Capistrano and Ferning Gevacio of the Haribon Foundation at a meeting with CoRR regarding the latter's regionalization project. Also present during the meeting were Allan Vera of SIKAT, Jun Manalo of OTRADEV, Mayette Rodriguez of CERD, Elmer Ferrer, Wilma Rojas and Ami Dasig of the CBCRM RC and Becky Rivera of the CBCRM Resource Pool.

RTD TACKLES ISSUES AND INSIGHTS ON ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

A roundtable discussion was held last February 12, 2001 to discuss some issues and insights on Organizational Development and Management (ODM). The RTD was an offshoot of the ODM workshop entitled "Learning to Change, Learning for Change" that was held on January 24-31, 2001 in Baguio City for Oxfam-GB partners.

Main discussants were Allan Vera of SIKAT, Ami Dasig of the CBCRM Resource Center and Jovy Cleofe of CERD.

"Change and complexities abound in our society. Very much like what happened in EDSA. To be adaptive is the key", notes one of the speakers.

A compilation of ODM reference materials was also made available at the CBCRM Resource Center. Interested parties may contact telephone nos. 920-3368; 927-2347 and look for Ami