



## Head Secretariat

### Defining Extreme Poverty

The TWG discussed the need to come up with a standard definition of Extreme Poverty. A common definition will be relevant in gathering data particularly in profiling families which will be qualified as ZEP beneficiaries. The proposed definition is composed of the following factors based on the development perspective of each thematic cluster:

- Part of a pre-identified poverty groups
- Income of an extremely poor family
- With family members currently not attending school due to poverty
- Missed two suppers in a week.
- No access to safe potable water.
- No access to own sanitary toilet.

This definition will be presented to the ZEP coalition for discussion and approval. A meeting with lead convenors will be set next month to finalize the definition.



### Discussing Ways Forward with DSWD

Representatives from PEF and the ZEP Secretariat met with the Partnerships Unit Head of the Sustainable Livelihoods Program (SLP) Unit of the DSWD to discuss ways forward in terms of partnerships with the Unit on both employment facilitation and enterprise development projects currently supported by SLP. The Unit shared some of their best models for partnerships, which aim to graduate the 4Ps and Listahanan-identified poor out of extreme poverty.



### Policy Reforms Workshop

The cluster is set to contribute to the passage of national reforms that would advance the welfare of smallholder farmers and fishers towards poverty reduction. As such, the cluster attended two policy reforms consultation and workshop: 1) organized by OCEANA Philippines and PANAGAT network that discussed policy reforms to be presented to the newly constituted National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (NFARMC) and 2) CLUP Now meeting that discussed updates and strategies for the campaign on passage of the National Land Use Act (NLUA) Bill.



### Consultation Meeting with LGU Officials and Community Members

The Health Cluster had an LGU consultation meeting with LGU officials and community members of Rapu-Rapu, Albay on ZEP in May 29 2017. Rapu-Rapu LGU provided their list of poor families for validation by the cluster. LGU suggested focusing on the 6 barangays with IP communities.

The Health Cluster also had an information-sharing meeting with Puerto Princesa City Health Office in May 19, 2017 to determine their health priorities and current situation. City Health Office suggested for the cluster to look at barangays with no current CSO presence, especially in their 5 GIDA barangays.



### **LEAP V**

In support of IP Education, ADF has invited Ms. Gina Estipona of the ZEP Education Cluster to participate in the Local Educators Advancement Program (LEAP) held on May 14-17, 2017 in Davao City. LEAP aims to provide a venue for continuing education for learning facilitators and educators from various indigenous community schools and public schools in the Philippines.

### **Family/Community Visioning and Planning**

ADF visited Cervantes, Ilocos Sur on May 17-18 to discuss the aspirations and needs of families from the Kankana-ey tribe. The families identified land security, leadership and governance, education, and livelihood programs as their priority needs for community development.

A follow-through meeting with the NCIP and the Dumagat Community of Antipolo City was held on May 22, 2017 in preparation for the upcoming Convergence Meeting. Also present to support this initiative are representative from the Antipolo City Social Welfare and the Center for Conservation Innovations.

The ADF team started conducting community visits and meetings with LGU officials and other stakeholders on May 23-26, 2017. This is for site selection of IP areas in the municipalities of Dumingag, Zamboanga del Sur and Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte.

### **Indigenous Peoples' Struggles Towards Zero Extreme Poverty**

ADF and GIZ Coseram spearheaded the activities on the Formulation of the National IP Agenda which was derived from the regional IP consultations conducted in 2016. This event was held on May 29-31 and was attended by various peoples' organizations and CSOs who participated in the learning discussions on emerging issues affecting the IPs. A series of workshops and plenary sessions were also conducted for future collective actions of the IPs and their respective support groups.

### **Convergence Meeting in Kabankalan, Negros Occidental**

ERM, ADF, PBSP, and NCAF met with Mayor Isidro P. Zayco of the City of Kabankalan last May 2, 2017. He has agreed to support poverty initiatives articulated in the Community Plans. He has also agreed to provide financial support to the Sustainable Community Development Programs of the ERM Foundation.



### **ZEP Participation in AF Assembly**

The Association of Foundations (AF) conducted its 45th General Assembly on May 22 - 23, 2017 in Makati City which included an updating on the Zero Extreme Poverty by 2030 Movement. The session started with a welcome message from Ambassador Howard Dee, Chairman of the Assisi Development Foundation (ADF) and one of the lead convenors of ZEP2030. This was followed by presentations from Rey Laguda of the Philippine Business for Social Progress, Co-Head Secretariat of ZEP2030; Kat Itong of PhilDHARRA (Agriculture and Fisheries); Gina Estipona of AF (Education); Aivan Herzano of the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (Environment); Mon Derige of Zuellig Family Foundation (Health); Dodo Macasaet of CODE-NGO (Housing and Shelter); Meryn Francisco of Peace and Equity Foundation (Livelihood); and Ben Abadiano of ADF (Peace and Human Security).

The session provided an opportunity for the Secretariat and the cluster lead organizations to talk about the progress of ZEP2030, the development agenda of each cluster, and the various ways by which civil society organizations can participate. As a result, some AF members indicated interest in contributing to the work of the different clusters, such as Del Monte Foundation, LBC Hari ng Padala Foundation, and Primary Structures Educational Foundation for the Education Cluster.



### ● **Draft General Work Plan** ●

The cluster presented their draft general work plan which includes the following: (a) social preparation, (b) data-gathering and situation analysis, (c) strategy formulation, and (d) project planning and housing advocacy.

### ● **Identifying Pilot Areas** ●

There are seven pilot areas which have been identified by the cluster. In the province of Albay, PHILSSA will be initiating housing programs in Pio Duran, Jovellar, and Rapu-Rapu. Meanwhile, CBCP-NASSA will start implementation in Oriental Mindoro, specifically in the municipalities in Victoria, Baco, Naujan, and Pola. Additional support to the local convenors will be provided by Habitat for Humanity and CODE-NGO.

### ● **Partnership with HUDCC** ●

The cluster has partnered with the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) to support the development of modules on participatory local planning and the activities regarding the training of trainers. This government agency was also requested to endorse the housing and shelter plans of the cluster to its national and regional offices.