



Head Secretariat

• **Strengthening our Commitment** •

Assisi Development Foundation (ADF) and Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) agreed on the roles and tasks as the head secretariat of the ZEP PH 2030 Movement. They discussed about developing a system which will assist civil society organizations (CSOs) in identifying the appropriate interventions needed by families and communities in priority areas. The head secretariat also calls on more CSOs to align their existing programs with ZEP objectives in order to reach out to potential beneficiaries in underserved areas.

• **Building on CSO-Government Partnerships** •

Opportunities to strengthen partnerships between CSOs and the Philippine Government were explored during the meeting of the ZEP Steering Committee with the Office of the Participatory Governance (OPG), an agency under the Office of the Cabinet Secretary (OCS). It was suggested that the ZEP PH 2030 Movement may coordinate with the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) and the Human Development and Poverty Cluster (HDPRC) for possible convergence of poverty alleviation initiatives.



• **Upcoming National Assembly** •

The steering committee of the ZEP Agriculture and Fisheries Cluster held a meeting in preparation for the National Consultation/Workshop which aims to draft the Agriculture and Fisheries Development Agenda. This event seeks to engage community leaders, people's organizations, NGOs and other stakeholders in responding to the needs of the extreme poor in the agriculture and fishery sectors.

The team is led by PhilDHRAA (Philippine Partnership for Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas) together with PAKISAMA (Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka), NFR (National Fisheries Reform) and ADF.



• **Inviting Partners and Local Convenors** •

The Education Cluster focused its work on the Education Agenda concept note/FAQs which includes information on the ZEP2030 movement and its goals and objectives, the Education Agenda Theory of Change/Framework, responsibilities of the local convener and roles of partner CSOs. This served as a guide in identifying the potential local convenors and first batch of priority areas. Initially, the Jollibee Group Foundation volunteered for Alabat, Quezon for an agriculture-based education program. Other local convenors are being identified for Visayas and Mindanao priority areas.



IP Agenda Formulation

In line with the development of the 2016 Indigenous Peoples (IP) Agenda, the ZEP Peace and Human Security Cluster is in the process of reviewing the results of the five regional consultations conducted in the previous year. The IP Agenda Validation Workshop is tentatively scheduled on May 2017. Around 50 participants will be invited to represent various IP communities in the country.

Engaging the Dumagat and Mangyan Communities

ADF partnered with Smart Communications, Inc. and the Center for Conservation Innovation for the School in a Bag Project which aims to preserve IP Knowledge by developing digital learning resources. This project joins the ZEP PH 2030 Movement by providing additional support to communities of the Dumagat-Remontado tribe during the Family/Community Visioning and Planning Workshop held on February 23-24, 2017 in Antipolo City. The IP leaders of the Kaksaan ni Dumagat ti Antipolo actively participated alongside families/community members in crafting their own community development plan. This plan shall be passed on to the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for further action pertaining to ZEP initiatives.

Similarly, the communities of the Mangyan-Alangan tribe conducted the Family/Community Visioning and Planning Workshop in Naujan, Oriental Mindoro on February 25-26, 2017. The ADF team worked with the IP leaders of the SANAMA (Samahan ng mga Nagkakaisang Mangyan Alangan) and families/community members to come up with their own community development plan which will also be referred to the NCIP and the ZEP Coalition.



Collaborating with Ongoing Livelihood Programs

The ZEP Livelihood Cluster led by the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) initiated a meeting with the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) Unit of the Department of Social Welfare Development (DSWD). They discussed about institutional support in identifying target communities, and exploring possible areas of collaboration and complementation of community-based livelihood programs.

The SLP aims to improve the socio-economic capacity of beneficiaries through micro-enterprise development and facilitation of employment activities. In order to look further into possible CSO livelihood interventions to support and expand the existing programs, PEF and DSWD-SLP agreed to schedule a follow up meeting in April.

Social Enterprise for the Extremely Poor

ADF and PEF discussed the possible alignment of current livelihood projects with ZEP initiatives. It was agreed that there is a need to build the capacity of the extreme poor for enterprise, along with ensuring the delivery of basic services through strong CSO partnerships with communities. It is also possible to include the extreme poor, particularly those from IP communities, in the activities of production such as growing coffee and cacao. This will make them part of the value chain following the social enterprise model for ZEP livelihood interventions.



• **Collaborating with Ongoing Livelihood Programs** •

ADF and the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE) revisited their existing programs which can be aligned with the development initiatives of the ZEP Environment Cluster. While there are no specific programs for IP communities, FPE is working with various communities and people's organizations in implementing watershed conservation.

FPE highlighted their ecosystems-based approach in conducting Disaster Risk Reduction Programs. In line with biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, the organization also discussed specific priority concerns which can add up to the Environmental Development Agenda.

Both organizations agreed that there is a need to develop more strategic and comprehensive actions to assess the appropriate types of interventions for the extreme poor.

• **Engaging Partner Organizations** •

The member organizations of the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) were called upon to join the ZEP PH 2030 Movement. They were also invited to actively take part in the development of the Environmental Development Agenda of the ZEP Environment Cluster, citing the success of Task Force Tabang Visayas in which LCF was previously involved in. Tabang Visayas is a coalition of 22 civil society organizations which conducted recovery and rehabilitation programs in areas affected by devastating typhoon and earthquake in 2013.



• **Complementing Ongoing Housing Projects** •

In line with existing national housing projects of the government, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) agreed to assist the ZEP Housing Cluster by providing funding for the social preparation activities of the beneficiaries in identified priority areas. A Memorandum of Agreement has been drafted by the cluster to formalize this agreement.

