



**POWERING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC**THE PILIPINAS SHELL FOUNDATION, INC. 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND **FOUNDER**

Cesar A. Buenaventura

over this past year, experienced its most challenging year since it was established almost 40 years ago. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a fundamental impact on our daily lives with many of our countrymen pushed to the extremes of hunger and poverty.

Driven by our desire to help the specific needs of the most vulnerable communities and sectors, we realigned our programs to meet these needs, just like how we refocus our efforts in every trial that we face. The results of our efforts were rewarded with the smiling and heartwarming faces of our beneficiaries.

Building on our success in our fight against Malaria, PSFI has launched a new fight against a new scourge in our society-HIV. With the support of the Global Fund, we will strive to stem the tide of this dreaded disease, which afflicts the young and active sectors of our society.

In partnership with Manila Water Foundation and World Vision, PSFI also launched an innovative, pioneering and holistic program to address the basic problem of nutrition, sanitation and sustainable livelihood prevailing in the rural communities. Starting with a pilot program in 13 barangays in Camarines Sur, we aim to replicate this in other areas.





We believe that PSFI and its partners' commitment to ensure that our interventions continue will truly help in eradicating poverty in the long run and contribute to global targets.

What a year it has been indeed! As we cope and adjust to the new normal, allow me to express once again my thanks to our staff and volunteers for their continuing hard work and dedication. I'm very proud of all of you.

As we approach our 40th year, let us rededicate ourselves to uplifting the lives of our countrymen, who need and deserve to have better and productive lives. Together, let's keep moving the Filipino forward.

CESAR A. BUENAVENTURA

Chairman and Founder

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# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### Cesar G. Romero

ur communities continue to be at the heart of what we do at Shell companies in the Philippines.
With every milestone, we power dreams and strengthen our partnership with the Filipino people through nation-building.

As the company's social investment arm, Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc. (PSFI) responds to the needs of the most vulnerable communities in the country and provides opportunities for them to become productive members of society. PSFI has reached millions of Filipinos in its 39 years in the country.

Now that we face COVID-19, one of the most challenging global crises to date, PSFI continues to make a difference by leveraging on partnerships with the government, other NGOs, and host communities,

to help our countrymen in building back better amidst the health and economic

to help our countrymen in building back better amidst the health and economic setbacks brought about by the pandemic. PSFI's Para sa Bayani (For Our Heroes) program, in particular Ani Para sa Bayani (Harvest for Our Heroes), supported 4,000 farmers and fisherfolk, procured 200 tonnes of produce, provided 480,000 meals to frontliners and 43,000 meals/food packs for households. Proteksyon Para sa Bayani (Protection for Our Heroes) also delivered 8,000 protective equipment to frontliners.

PSFI's programs and initiatives successfully pivoted and kept the Filipino spirit of bayanihan (solidarity) alive even with the limitations of lockdowns and quarantine restrictions. The Foundation continued to develop and implement Shell Philippines' strategic social investment programs on



skills training, enterprise development, health, STEM education and access to energy. The Shell LiveWIRE acceleration program provided mentorship and financial support for startups and community businesses. The Foundation also launched the Roots to Shoots (RTS) program focused on addressing malnutrition in partnership with World Vision and the Manila Water Foundation. Vigorous efforts to provide access to energy also continues to give off-grid indigenous and fishing communities hope for a brighter future through renewable micro-grids powered by clean energy sources such as hydro, solar and wind. To date, we have connected over 4,000 individuals to the grid.

The Foundation is a pioneer in best practice initiatives that take a holistic approach in uplifting lives. With the Foundation's focus on food security, livelihood, health, education,

energy and the environment, Shell Philippines will continue to significantly contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the country. Supporting these community programs enable Shell to significantly contribute to sustainability and the energy transition.

We remain committed to being a strong and longtime partner of the Filipino people in nation-building. With the Foundation's refocused efforts, I am confident that together, we can overcome any challenge and continue with our aim to power progress for our country's better tomorrow.

CESAR G. ROMERO
President and Chief Executive Officer





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he COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted all of our daily lives. It has forced us to live through a time of uncertainty, test our resilience, and forced us to transition towards a new normal. While this global pandemic has affected the operations and programs of Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc. (PSFI), our penchant to be nimble to change and the sustainable long term plans has allowed us to cope more easily.

With a team composed of dedicated activists in the field who have not only the professional expertise, but the heart for service, PSFI was quick in adjusting to the changes and challenges that the pandemic has brought. By putting the best interest of our beneficiaries as our inspiration, especially now that they need it the most, we pivoted our programs and realigned our efforts to maximize the available resources and maintain quality service. Everyone in PSFI worked together as one and we were able to deliver our commitments and even achieve more milestones.

Going back to our roots, PSFI was set up to enhance the capabilities of the disadvan-



taged to become productive and responsible members of society. I believe that this goal is what guided us to where we are today. Our nearly four decades of

working with communities have given us enough learnings and capabilities to put us at an advantage in trying times like this. I will always be proud of what the Foundation has accomplished but nothing can compare to how fulfilled I am in seeing the progress of the individuals and communities that we have served.

All of this would not be possible if it weren't for our staff, partners, and stakeholders; and with that, I would like to express my deepest gratitude for everything that we have done together. This pandemic was indeed a life-changer but I am at peace

knowing that the Lord will continuously bless each and every one of you.

As each year passes by, I am sure that we are always a step closer to achieving our vision of uplifting the most vulnerable members of society to an empowered life. This publication will always remind us of how far we have gone and what else we can do moving forward.

Our passionate aim to be of service to the Filipino people and be collaborative partners with our stakeholders will always be our motivation. In the spirit of bayanihan, there's a brighter future for us in this new normal as we continue to be catalysts of change.

Sama-samang pagtulong, sabay-sabay na pagsulong!

> SEBASTIAN C. QUINIONES, JR. **Executive Director**



### PILIPINAS SHELL FOUNDATION, INC.

#### Who We Are and What We Do

Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc. (PSFI) is the social investment arm of the Shell companies in the Philippines.

Since its establishment on August 19, 1982, PSFI has responded to the needs of Shell worksites and host communities, as well as the rest of the country. It works with different groups around the Philippines, focusing on communities in Batangas, Rizal, Camarines Sur, Palawan, Tacloban, and Cagayan de Oro.

PSFI's programs aim to enhance capacities to promote self-reliance, and develop the potential of its beneficiaries. These are carried out through close collaboration with its beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders, and the Shell companies in the Philippines; and in turn, contribute to the country's sustainable development.

In all its work, PSFI upholds the Shell core values of honesty, integrity, and respect for other people and the environment.

#### **Our Work**

With its goal of helping to uplift the lives of the most vulnerable sectors in the Philippines, PSFI has aligned its goals with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN), which are the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. All its programs are categorized under the six thematic areas that reflect this alignment and represent key thrusts in contributing to these goals on both national and local levels.





**EDUCATION** 





SAFFTY



ENVIRONMENT



**ENERGY** 

NI ITRITION

AND FOOD

SECURITY

Supplementing these programs, PSFI also works on three additional areas to address special concerns.





NEASTER.

DISASTER RESPONSE

COMMUNITY COMMUNITY

**RELATIONS** 

**Our Contributions** 

PSFI's programs are designed to contribute towards six UN SDGs: zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), quality education (Goal 4), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and climate action (Goal 13). These SDGs serve as the Foundation's primary guides in the development and implementation of its programs under each thematic area.

PSFI also aims to contribute to the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017–2022—the first medium-term plan anchored on AmBisyon Natin 2040—which represents the collective vision and aspirations of Filipinos for themselves and for the country, and provides the anchor for the country's development plans until 2040.

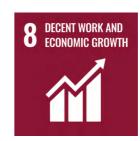
With these two development frameworks informing its programs, PSFI targets the upliftment of the Filipino people. By equipping them with the skills and behavioral changes needed for a brighter future, the Foundation helps Filipinos become productive and self-reliant. This enables them to contribute to their communities and to society as a whole, and makes them participants in nation building.











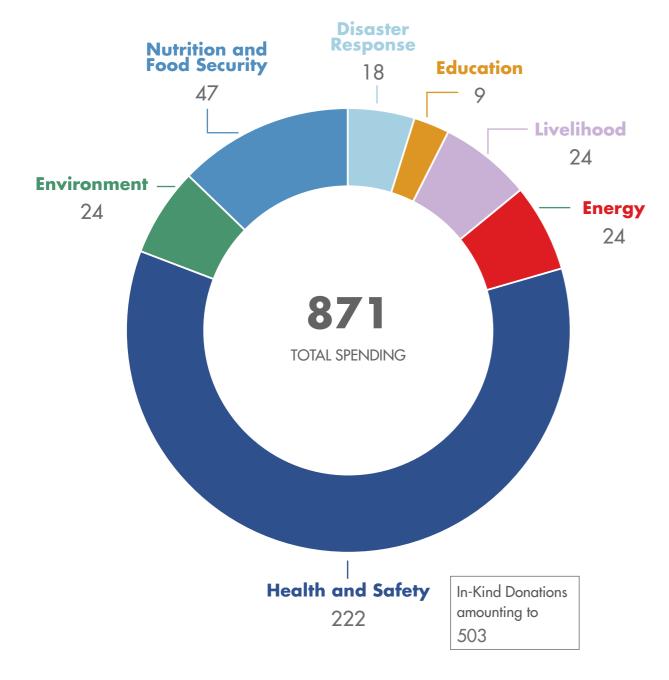




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# OUR PROGRAM SPENDING 2020 HIGHLIGHTS (PHP Million)

In 2020, PSFI spent an amount of 368 million in cash grants and received a 503 million in-kind donation for its sustainability programs, all amounting to a total program spending of 871 million.



Program Indirect expenses excluding depreciation amounted to 27 million.

## **OVERVIEW**

#### **POWERING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC**

When PSFI was established in 1982, it planted a seed of hope embodied in its mission: to enable the disadvantaged to become productive and responsible members of society. It charted a path for out-of-school youth-ordinarily relegated to the sidelines because of lack of schooling or skill-out of the vicious cycle of unemployment and poverty. Through its training programs, PSFI leveraged the passion of the youth, helping them lead productive lives.

Since then, the Foundation has adapted its activities to the times and to the needs of its communities, but always with the view to "teach a man to fish," as the proverb goes. It established Shell Training Farms to train farmers in the latest technology and sustainable agricultural practices, thereby helping increase their productivity. Through Gas Mo, Bukas Ko (GMBK), more than 2,000 Shell retail station staff have completed technical vocational courses. Its Save, Invest, Nurture Access to Green Energy (SINAG) Program has provided over 4,000 individuals in farflung communities with access to energy.

What PSFI sowed through the years was harvested in 2020. As COVID-19 upended lives and livelihoods, driving the most vulnerable individuals and families to the extremes of poverty, and impacting healthcare, the economy, education, and the provision of basic services, PSFI powered through. In the dire landscape, the Foundation harnessed its nearly four decades of experience in community engagement and empowerment to lay out a lifeline to those that most needed access to nutritious food and alternative livelihoods, as well as health, education, energy, and environment interventions.

Decades of providing agricultural skills training came to the fore as the Foundation tapped partner-farmers to provide food for its programs. One of these was its COVID-19 response, which was run from March to December 2020 and benefited over 240,000 people. Its three-pronged **Para sa Bayani** program was bayanihan (working together towards a common goal) in action—aimed at restoring a sense of order to the dislocated lifetime of patterns by ensuring the sustenance of frontline workers with food and protective equipment through its partner communities and organizations. In so doing, PSFI provided markets for its partner-farmers and –fishers, and livelihood for its community of sewers and craftspeople.

PSFI's good neighbor approach—the intention and ability to aid those in need—was also evident when natural disasters struck the nation in 2020. In the aftermath of the Taal eruption, Typhoon Rolly, and Typhoon Ulysses, the Foundation's responses all aimed to lessen the impact of disaster losses.

What was most notable, however, was PSFI's ability to leverage its partnerships and network—the fruit of good working relationships nurtured through the years—mobilizing with speed and urgency to provide emergency food and other immediate assistance according to the needs of its fenceline communities.

Indeed, the ability to act quickly enabled PSFI to overcome the challenges of the times and, more importantly, to meet the needs of its beneficiaries and communities. In its education programs, for instance, the Foundation worked with partners to shift to the online delivery of support and conduct of activities for the **PhilDev Scholarship** and **Shell NXplorers** Programs, among others. Partner schools and communities were provided digital learning materials, equipment, and references for teachers and learners. This shift from in-classroom support to mixed-method ensured a safe learning environment for both students and teachers.

These innovations helped PSFI safeguard the accessibility of quality education while sustaining and even strengthening its advocacy for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) courses. Having more STEM graduates equates to having more healthcare professionals, engineers, and workers in such fields as the environment, data information, and biotechnology—all of which will benefit the country in the long run.

The view of the longer term is undeniably vital; teaching one to fish is as much about resilience as it is about self-reliance. PSFI's programs across all of its thematic areas thus not only help Filipinos become productive for the present, but also trigger longer-term change in the country. As such, while PSFI kept its finger on the pulse of its fenceline communities, it kept a watchful eye on the bigger picture-long-term goals and targets for programs and areas of focus that are aligned with the UN SDGs-to propel its programs forward in 2020.

One of the highlights for the year was the virtual launch of the **Shell LiveWire** (SLW) Acceleration Program in the Philippines, the global flagship enterprise development program of Shell. It was a major boost for social enterprise startups with the potential to future-proof livelihoods and offer solutions–mostly digital–toward inclusive nation building.

Another pinnacle in 2020 was the launch of **Roots to Shoots (RTS)** under PSFI's nutrition and food security programs. RTS is a three-year program that zeroes in on the earliest and most crucial stages of child development, with the aim of fostering the right conditions for children to grow and reach their full potential. For this pioneering, transformative program, PSFI partnered with the Manila Water Foundation and the World Vision Development Foundation to provide a holistic intervention approach. RTS hopes to achieve potential impact on improving the undernourished status of pregnant women and children under two years old in 13 barangays in the municipalities of Bombon and Pasacao in Camarines Sur.

The inauguration of a microgrid power facility in Maytegued—an island barangay in the municipality of Taytay, Palawan—headlined PSFI's energy programs.

The Foundation provided the necessary tools and training to enable residents to maintain and operate these facilities on their own. These efforts are part of the Foundation's continuing work to help bridge far-flung communities towards progress through the provision of cheaper, cleaner, more efficient, and sustainable energy.

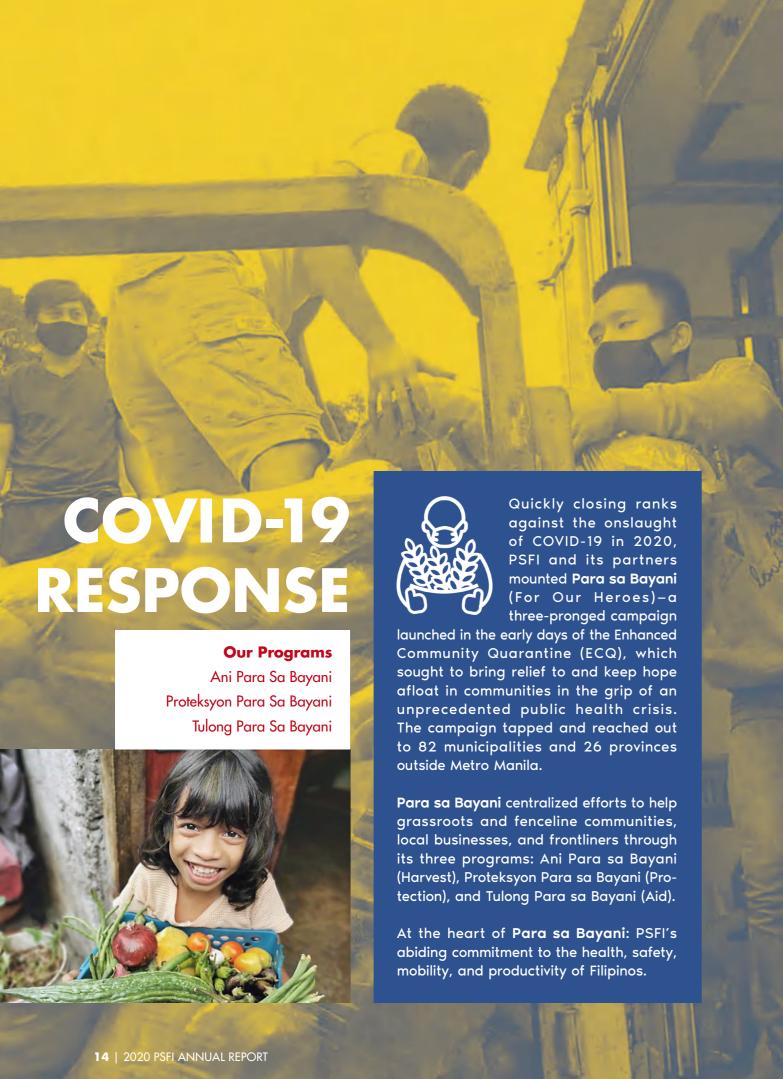
In health and safety, COVID restrictions resulted in changes on how malaria is contained. The usual distribution of preventive kits and testing for the parasite in indigenous peoples' areas have significantly increased its requirement for more resources and effort. Nevertheless, the Movement Against Malaria (MAM) remains to be one of PSFI's biggest success stories, with the declaration of 60 out of the country's 81 provinces as malaria-free, and the reduction of the focus of control services to targeted barangays in only three provinces. This was facilitated through the implementation of PSFI, partners, and stakeholders' key strategies and activities.

So remarkable has MAM's progress been since it started in 1999 (as the Kilusan Ligtas Malaria) that the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM) sat up and took notice. Since 2006, PSFI has been the principal recipient of two malaria grants in the Philippines given by the GFATM, earning the distinction of being the first corporate foundation to partner with them. In 2020, the Foundation received a new grant from the GFATM, which focused on contributing to the COVID-19 response, especially in mitigating its effects on HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. The GFATM has lauded PSFI as the best program implementer of a major disease program in the world.

The year 2020 serves as a testament of PSFI's strength as an organization, as it continued to further its programs while contributing to the UN SDGs. Its ability to respond to the crises of the day, look out for its communities, and implement its programs successfully all indicate its solid commitment to the fulfillment of its mission.

It was by no means an easy year, but PSFI persevered and powered through with the resourcefulness, hard work, and collaboration of its teams, partners, and beneficiaries.











### Bayanihan at Its Best

Para sa Bayani brought PSFI's 37-year experience in crafting and nurturing national— or community-level capacity-building programs to bear on a countrywide emergency. The dispatch with which communities and capabilities, people and resources were mobilized—made possible by the support of Shell companies in the Philippines (SciP)—speaks to the high level of social organization embedded in Shell's global expertise.

### Ani Para sa Bayani

Ani Para sa Bayani set out to ensure that farmers and fisherfolk from 15 provinces would be able to sell their produce unhampered during the ECQ and provide nutritious meals for frontline health workers and vulnerable communities in the National Capital Region (NCR), Batangas, Palawan, Cebu, Misamis Oriental, and Dayao del Sur.

The program was an ideal conduit for PSFI—a longtime advocate of safe, sustainable, and environmentally sound agricultural and fishing systems—to procure essential fresh produce from farmers and fisherfolk in these provinces. These goods went into the meals and food packages prepared by organizations directly supporting frontliners and vulnerable communities.

A key achievement of the program was its ability to bridge a variety of industries and organizations across the nation. Farmers and fisherfolk, government institutions, private corporations, and nonprofit organizations were able to work together safely, amidst unprecedented restrictions on movement and in-person interactions.

The success of Ani Para sa Bayani would not have been possible without partners such as the World Vision Development Foundation (WVDF), the Office of the Vice President (OVP), AGREA, Organic Options, and Palawan's Kusina sa Barangay just to name a few. The WVDF was one of PSFI's main partners in the implementation of the program, playing a vital role in the distribution of produce

FROM TOP Patola is harvested in Rizal; native squash is bagged in Nueva Vizcaya; and volunteers cook up a meal for LGU frontliners in Batangas City. FACING PAGE Benguet produce is loaded at the La Trinidad Shell station. INSET A child in Sauyo, Quezon City, receives vegetables.

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to frontliners and food insecure households in Metro Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, and Davao. On the other hand, the OVP did not only help ease the transport of produce during the ECQ, but also assisted in identifying vulnerable communities within Metro Manila. AGREA and Organic Options helped to identify farmers and transport their produce to Metro Manila. Meanwhile, in Palawan, Kusina sa Barangay mobilized volunteers to prepare meals for front-liners and other members of the community.

While all stakeholders encountered limitations in their ability to operate during the ECQ, Ani Para sa Bayani capitalized on strategic collaboration, drawing on each stakeholder's strengths to create a network that provided essential assistance to Filipinos most affected by the pandemic.

The effort moved over 198 tonnes of produce, helping almost 4,000 Filipino farmers and fisherfolk to sell their harvest and catch to sustain their livelihood. More than 490,000 meals were distributed to healthcare workers, military personnel, logistic drivers, and other members of at-risk communities.





The sustained Ani Para sa Bayani effort has taken on a life of its own, with a view to a long-term partnership with Mayani, an agro-operations enterprise founded in 2019. Its name is a straightforward play on the Filipino phrase "May ani (There's harvest)," or even "My ani (My harvest)." PSFI products are now available on the Mayani website, where a percentage of each sale goes to the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH).

Ani Para sa Bayani also opened up new selling channels for farmers, as well as retail sites where such produce are sold. All these directly benefit PSFI farmers.

Program partners praised Ani Para sa Bayani's efficiency and impact. Charisse Atienza, coordinator of program partner Vegetable Caravan by Cordillera Farmers, said, "Malaking tulong na...yung nabibili niyo. Makakasiguro po tayong may next cycle na pananim ang farmers na hindi na nila kailangang utangin (Buying the produce is already a big help. We can be sure that the farmers will have another farming cycle for which they need not go into debt)."

PSFI's civil society partner, Frontline Feeders PH Team, had organized a group of individuals comprising doctors, restaurant owners, and nongovernment organizations to mobilize food

ABOVE Trading with farmers in Rizal at retail price instead of farmgate price. LEFT Healthcare workers in Metro Manila with their packed meals.

distribution to different hospitals in NCR and neighboring cities. On its social media page, it noted: "This is a story of hope, team work, and love–from farm to the tables of our frontliners. Again, we thank Pilipinas Shell Foundation Inc. ...Truly, the spirit of Bayanihan lives on through our modern heroes."

Following the success of the initial run of the program from March to May, PSFI made the decision to provide continued support to the UP-PGH, one of the country's main COVID referral hospitals, through monthly donations of fresh produce. Following the model of Ani Para sa Bayani, PSFI purchased freshly harvested

produce from smallholder farmers who had undergone training at the Shell Training Farm in Rizal over the past years. Within hours of being harvested, the produce was delivered by Connected Freight, PSFI's logistics partner, directly to the UP-PGH where the produce was prepared and served to frontliners. The chief dietitian of the UP-PGH shared how pleased she was with the freshness and the quality of the produce, while the farmers of Rizal expressed their gratitude for PSFI's continued support for their livelihood. Among other things, Ani Para sa Bayani showed how strong private sector support can foster a healthy symbiotic relationship between grassroots









CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Farmers in Kibungan, Benguet harvest potatoes; a tomato farmer in Kinabuhayan gathers her produce for distribution to Frontline Feeders (taken pre-pandemic restrictions); native squash is prepared by PSFI partner World Vision Philippines before packing; and the Kinabuhayan harvest is received at the Batangas City LGU.

"THIS IS A STORY OF HOPE, TEAM WORK, AND LOVE—FROM FARM TO THE TABLES OF OUR FRONTLINERS...TRULY, THE SPIRIT OF BAYANIHAN LIVES ON THROUGH OUR MODERN HEROES."

communities and health professionals. It also leveraged PSFI's extensive network in delivering the fresh produce to and from its project partners–from farming communities and cooperatives to hospital frontliners and communities hardest hit by the pandemic.

### Proteksyon Para sa Bayani

Proteksyon Para sa Bayani, the campaign's second program component, connected Shell's

businesses and external organizations, sourcing materials and equipment from qualified suppliers and donors to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers. The program also sought to help social enterprises and daily-wage workers whose livelihoods took a hard hit.

In partnership with the Batangas State University-LIKHA FabLab, PSFI produced medical-grade face shields and retainers for respirators for







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT PSFI joins hands with Quezon City LGU and security forces volunteers in the unpacking and distribution of donated produce in April; council members of Barangay Malitam in Batangas City receive bags of vegetables under Ani Para sa Bayani, which benefitted 600 families according to the Barangay Secretary; bags of vegetables from Quezon Province are repackaged by World Vision Philippines in May.

hospital staff and frontline workers in Batangas province. PSFI donated 3D printers to ramp up PPE production; when a sense of normalcy returns, the students could use the printers for their school requirements. Said Engr. Louie Villaverde, LIKHA Fab-Lab Center head, "Thank you, [PSFI], for the printers. They helped compensate for the limited work-force, ensuring the delivery of these equipment to hospitals and frontliners. [These printers] will also be a big help to our students eventually."

The Silangan Ibabao Batis Bulihan Araneta
Proper (SIBBAP) Multipurpose Cooperative, a
local cooperative in Batangas City, teamed up
with PSFI through one of its programs, Shell
LiveWIRE, to produce health-standard face masks
and medical-grade PPE suits for the frontline
crew of Shell Tabangao—an initiative that not
only provided an income source for SIBBAP
members and sewers, but helped contribute to
the high demand for supply as well.

The University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA)-Palawan Chapter was also in league with PSFI through a joint program called "Tabang Palawan" to generate PPEs for the province's frontliners. Initially, 200 pieces of various PPEs-bodysuits, N95 masks, face

shields, and gloves—were donated to Ospital ng Palawan to replenish its reserves at the height of the pandemic.

In an interview with a local media outlet, UPAA-Palawan Chapter President John Pontillas noted that Tabang Palawan grew out of the logistical considerations for the identified priority support for frontliners. "The question really was how to move the reserves from the source to the intended recipients," he said.

More than 8,000 PPE sets have since been distributed through this program.

### Tulong Para sa Bayani

Tulong Para sa Bayani covers all other efforts of PSFI that fall outside the distribution of PPE supplies and meals—notably, the provision of grocery items to indigent and daily-wage workers, the sponsorship of fuel needs, and the transport of essential goods.

One of the first pandemic relief operations was held in March in Pasacao, Camarines Sur, in response to the Pasacao local government's request for assistance for the community's indigent families. While observing the strictest





ABOVE, LEFT SIBBAP Multipurpose Cooperative members Lea and Nornette form part of Proteksyon Para Sa Bayani's PPE gear assembly line; RIGHT A PSFI staff puts together a 3D-printed face shield before packing these for distribution.







ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT PSFI staff prepare the goods and, with members of the community, distribute food packs in Puntod Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro.

health protocols-social distancing, and the wearing of face masks and shields-volunteers delivered and distributed basic food items such as rice, sardines, coffee, canned goods, noodles, and biscuits among 1,000 families initially.

In April, operations moved further south, to Cagayan de Oro City. Soon thereafter, more such activities were held in communities in Leyte, Misamis Oriental, Negros Occidental, Iloilo, Lanao del Norte, Palawan, Batangas, Oriental Mindoro, and Masbate, at which more than 11,000 relief packs were distributed.

PSFI also donated perishables such as vegetables and dressed chicken to the Municipality of Taysan, Batangas, and the Batangas Medical Center. Taysan Mayor Grande Gutierrez lauded the PSFI initiative, saying that despite the fact that there were no reports of COVID-19 cases in his municipality, the donated produce went a long way toward feeding families whose members lost their livelihoods to the pandemic.

Another vital lifeline that PSFI unfurled during the ECQ consisted of chartered flights between Manila and Puerto Princesa City in Palawan. The Provincial Health Office of Palawan and the Palawan Provincial Department of Health (DOH) Office had requested PSFI's assistance in transporting swab samples for COVID-19 testing to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in Metro Manila via flights from Malampaya. These humanitarian flights carried other essential items from Manila to Palawan, such as PPEs and face masks for health frontliners, medicines, and test kits for other respiratory diseases. All told, the PSFI-assisted chartered Malampaya flights moved 1.4 tonnes of essential goods.

Para sa Bayani wrapped up its activities in December 2020, with its programs' beneficial effects rippling in several communities across the country. In fact, aspects of and learnings from Ani Para sa Bayani have informed practices in PSFI's livelihood programs and businesses for sustainability-for example, at training farms that produce harvests for agritech business and frontliners, and Shell retail stations selling face masks sewn by seamstresses in partner organizations.

All this was made possible by the salient contributions of PSFI's partners, who closed ranks behind the Foundation's call to recalibrate the supply chain and repurpose operations to provide much-needed products and services in those extraordinary times.

COVID-19 will go away one day, but the unconquerable spirit of bayanihan is here to stay. ■



### **COVID-19 RESPONSE** AT A GLANCE

March 24 to December 16, 2020

268

days in operation





26

82

240,000

provinces municipalities community members supported

25 Malampaya flights optimized



### Ani Para Sa Bayani

490,000

meals provided to frontliners

43,000

households provided with meals/food packs 4,000

farmers and fisherfolk supported

200

tonnes of produce procured





### Proteksyon Para Sa Bayani

4,800

**PPEs** produced





sewers

supported



facilities reached



### Tulong Para Sa Bayani

11,000

households supported transported

1.596 tonnes of relief goods

10 **municipalities** reached



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### Roads to the New Future

At no other time have PSFI's livelihood programs been more urgent, with the potential to turn lives around and transform communities into stewards of self-sustaining enterprises with alternative trade systems that lead to greater equity and productivity.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued to spread in 2020, more vulnerable populations bore the brunt of diminished livelihoods and job loss, and other shocks to income. The hardest hit were small-scale producers, those dependent on informal employment, and those with limited access to social protection or inadequate alternative income sources both in urban and rural areas.

Among these were MSMEs. The COVID-19
Business Impact Survey conducted by PwC
Philippines in 2020 showed the need of small
businesses for cash: 44% of MSMEs required
better working capital management, while
39% saw financing as one of their pressing
essentials. The restrictions resulting from
extended community quarantines put pressure
on the working capital and cash position of
MSMEs, giving rise to myriad liquidity issues
as the economy reopens.

PSFI intensified its collaborations with private and government organizations to provide technical-vocational training and livelihood prospects for members of fenceline communities.

But with the pandemic putting a halt to face-to-face meetings and group activities, adjustments to virtual or online interactions slowed the conduct and delivery of training opportunities. A good part of the year was spent on partnership engagements and preparing for post-COVID crisis scenarios. For example, although the year opened with employable scholars of the Sanayan sa Kakayahang Industrial (SKIL)—an industrial skills training program for out-of-school youth—many industries, especially that of food and beverage, froze hiring.

PSFI's livelihood and skills training programs carried on under these circumstances. As such, Shell LiveWIRE's Acceleration Program was launched virtually on September 25, 2020, in partnership with the Philippine government. The event served as the official call for collaborators for the program, which aligns with the national drive to support innovation and startups especially in light of the new realities amidst COVID-19—and in anticipation of the new and sustainable future.

### SLW Innovation Acceleration Program: Igniting Connections

As the global flagship enterprise development program of Shell, SLW supports local communities by funding their businesses and growing them, with a view to eventually integrate them within the Shell business ecosystem.

Of the more than 155 local businesses that applied, three tech start-ups and three social enterprises were selected for the SLW Acceleration program, while three community enterprises were given additional training and mentorship during the three-month program.

The start-ups were **uHoo**, an air monitoring system that will transform the way businesses manage spaces; **Nanotronics**, a biomaterials start-up that uses indigenous plants to help reduce plastic waste; and **Nextpay**, a banking services platform that aims to make financial

FACING PAGE GMBK scholars undergoing Cars Auto Repair Series training at the Toyota Motor Philippines School of Technology (photo taken pre-pandemic). INSET Fish Processing Training attended by 45 displaced tourism frontliners from El Nido and Puerto Princesa, Palawan

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services more inclusive of small-business owners and service providers.

The community enterprises were MagzWheel Furniture, which specializes in converting used rubber tires into furniture and apparel; Green Factory by Oro Handmade Innovations Inc., which manufactures handmade paper products and is pioneering a plan to render all factory processes environmentally friendly; and Revolve Outerwear, which creates quality sportswear, accessories, bags, apparel, and hammocks using recycled PET bottle fabric.

Finally, SLW Philippines also supported three social enterprises previously supported by Shell Philippines, with a view to improving their business management capacities: SIBBAP Multipurpose Cooperative, which supports seamstresses in the production, marketing, and distribution of face masks and PPE suits; Project COCONUT run by a group of coconut farmers, which produces accessories, wallets, lampshades, and vinegar out of coconut waste; and EcoBrick Hub, which will repurpose plastics into bricks to be sold to Shell retail stations and infrastructure projects of government and private industries.

The SLW acceleration program's culminating event held online featured the different growingup stories of the enterprises, each of which received a Php75,000 grant to help fund their businesses. The event highlights were the final pitches of the three tech start-ups, with Nanotronics announced as the grand winner, receiving a Php500,000 grant.

Serge Bernal, Shell Vice President for External and Government Relations, said: "Shell LiveWIRE seeks to be a platform for connecting entrepreneurs to the assistance that they

need, and we are very excited to have all these partners work with us toward building the nation. During these extraordinary circumstances, we need extraordinary solutions."

Continued on page 26





TOP, FROM LEFT The Shell LiveWIRE Pitch Event hosted online by Serge Bernal; a set of judges; and grand winner announcement for Nanotronics.

ABOVE TOP Pre-membership seminar to GK KABEBE with members of the Oro Integrated Cooperative; BOTTOM A pre-online exam orientation held for Batch 3 of the SKIL Program.

1 Seminar on mushroom production at the Palawan Eco-Agro Park. 2 Participants at the Global Training CTS 4. 3 A USP scholar of the Driving National Certification (NC) II. 4 A GMBK scholar training at the Computer Systems Servicing NC II. 5 An IP mother receiving pineapple suckers for planting at Kayasan, Tagabinet, Puerto Princesa City (taken pre-pandemic restrictions). 6 Hands-on training in mushroom processing and preservation. 7 Eco-brick training and brick stacking exercise output. 8 Training on meat preservation techniques in collaboration with USAID, SURGE, DTI, and GoNegosyo. 9 Mushroom processing training in New Ibajay, El Nido facilitated by the Department of Agriculture-MIMAROPA. 10 IPs engaged in basket weaving at Sugod I, Cabayugan, Puerto Princesa City. 11 The seamstresses of North Kawayan Ville.

### A GALLERY OF PSFI LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS























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#### **RESCUE to the Rescue**

Naomi B. Celino is a former OFW from Cabayugan in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, married to a park ranger at the world-famous Underground River (UGR). As a housewife, she kept a vegetable garden by way of augmenting the household income. When COVID-19 hit, her husband resigned as park ranger because the pandemic meant there would be no tourist activities at the UGR; he and his fellow park rangers had been asked instead to report to work at the City Hall, which was an hour and a half away from where they lived. Naomi was a beneficiary of a farmers' training of Turismo at Negosyo Dulot ng Ingat Kalikasan (TANDIKAN) in late 2019. When quarantine regulations restricted movement and forced businesses to scale back or shut down, she had vegetables ready for harvest but there were no buyers, since all restaurants had stopped operations. She could not bring the produce downtown since there was no transportation available.

At around this time, the second quarter of 2020, the Response to Communities Under

Emergencies (RESCUE) program—whose founding goals were to create responsive communities capable of self-mobilization to support business operations in case of emergencies—spun around to become part of PSFI's COVID response. Thus the program's goals were expanded to include food security, the processing of local products and linking these to potential markets and consumers, enriching the lands with high-value crops, and strengthening ties with government and non-government sectors.

RESCUE had come to the rescue of Naomi and others like her who needed relief, and fast. As part of Ani Para sa Bayani, PSFI bought her produce to donate to the community kitchen, feeding the frontliners as well as displaced individuals and families.

With her income from vegetable gardening, she bought three hogs with piglets, which she is looking at as another income stream. Naomi hasn't missed any PSFI-sponsored training; today she also sells mushrooms online, from her flourishing garden.

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An array of sizes of the bayong (a native basket commonly used for market) produced by the IP community in Palawan under the RESCUE program.

### **SEWING GOOD SEEDS**



When COVID-19 struck, Linda Marasigan, like many others, had to shelter in place while the community quarantine was in effect in Batangas province.

But life couldn't stop, especially since much had to be done for both her family and the community. When the private sewing company where she worked closed its doors, Linda—a beneficiary of Maghanapbuhay sa Bahay (Magbuhay)—reached out to the Garments Production Center at the SIBBAP Multipurpose Cooperative. PSFI and the Sangguniang Barangay of Ambulong had worked closely on occasion since SIBBAP's establishment in 2012. In short order, Linda joined the SIBBAP seamstresses in producing medical-grade PPEs as Garments Supervisor.

The partnership empowered Linda to provide for her family while helping protect the frontliners. Eventually, the sewers produced non-medical-

ABOVE Face masks made by the SIBBAP Multipurpose Cooperative are turned over for distribution to frontliners grade PPEs for other frontliners such as teachers, volunteers, other ground workers, and the public.

"We began SIBBAP with just seven sewing machines and some raw materials, thinking we can help teach some of the women of the community some technical sewing skills," said Olivia Sorio, PSFI Program Officer. "Now, our 22 seamstresses have all been helping out the community to fight COVID-19. [Linda] is even elevating this program to provide protection for our many heroes on the field."

SIBBAP's garments production proved to be exactly what was most needed at the time-while turning out vital clothing required by COVID frontliners, it kept people employed. In fact, the LiveWIRE program adopted SIBBAP's garments production component in early 2020, with the primary objective of ensuring decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) through job creation and sources of livelihood for the women of Barangay Tabangao Ambulong. Through skills trainings on sewing various clothing garments (shirts, jogging pants, school and office uniforms, scrub suits, and fire-retardant clothing uniforms), and household items (eco-bags, beddings and linen, curtains and door mats) via LiveWIRE, the seamstresses have equipped themselves to sustain the operations of the business.

Magbuhay, which had started out as a PSFI program to teach technical sewing skills to the women of Batangas, has come a long wayto the forefront of PSFI's Proteksyon Para sa Bayani program, which is part of its multifront COVID response.

(Rewritten from a *Businessworld* feature story, June 24, 2020)

#### From page 26

Her improved finances have allowed her to buy a water pump for her garden, a digital weighing scale, and feeds for her hogs. She can now also meet monthly payments for her motorcycle and cover daily necessities. More importantly, she can now afford to hire labor to help on the farm on busy days.

An advocate of organic farming, Naomi is currently experimenting with high-value vegetables like cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and carrots, with the assistance and support of PSFI. "Patuloy ang suporta ng Shell sa akin (Shell continues to support me)," she said. "At sana, huwag sana akong iwan ng Shell sa aking adhikain na maging pangkaraniwan dito balang araw ang pagtatanim ng mga high-value vegetables na sa ngayon ay inaangkat natin sa ibang lugar (I fervently hope that Shell will

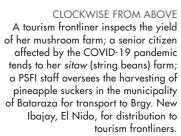
not leave me in my advocacy to someday make the farming of these high-value vegetables, which we currently import from other places, a way of life in Puerto Princesa)."

Today, Naomi's garden is a model farm in the community. She shares her knowledge from trainings and her experience with family members, neighbors, and friends. She considers her fellow vegetable growers not as competitors but as potential partners.

RESCUE-assisted projects, especially in these extraordinary times, help eradicate extreme poverty and ensure the availability of resources through enhanced cooperation among communities in Puerto Princesa City and Northern Palawan.













# **Supporting Enterprise Development**

**75**people trained on entrepreneurship



**256** 

businesses/enterprises established or supported



### **Supporting Skills Development**

57
individuals
provided with Technical-Vocational Training







## **Enabling Sustainable Income Generation**

people able to secure a steady source of income





### Learning in the Time of COVID-19

New realities in education unfolded many challenges to both teachers and learners, and to the country's educational system as a whole. With public safety protocols forcing lockdowns for months on end, and the prospect of school closures for the rest of the year, the question arose: How do we keep the learning going?

With the need for new ways of teaching and learning during a pandemic came various timely and effective solutions. First, there was a shift to virtual and online delivery of support and conduct of activities in both the Shell NXplorers and the Shell-PhilDev programs. Partner schools and communities received timely and appropriate support, as learning materials and references were made available for teachers and learners in new ways. Training ensured that teachers and school leaders were able to cope with the abrupt change of education delivery.

Against the backdrop of an eventful, if not challenging year, PSFI ensured unhampered, continuous support, delivered in a way that best fit evolving needs.

### **Keeping the Learning Going**

PSFI believes in the power of literacy to uplift lives and empower individuals. In 2019, through its Batangas Team, and with the support of the Department of Education (DepEd) Batangas City, PSFI introduced the Building, Organizing, and Operating Libraries and Knowledge-Based Systems (BOOKS) Program in Batangas City, providing selected schools with storybooks for young learners to borrow as they continued to practice reading at home.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research Based Openly Operated Kiosks (STARBOOKS) Program complemented the previous initiatives by providing desktop computers loaded with additional learning materials. As the pandemic snuck into the country in 2020, PSFI and its partners further provided useful and timely resources for teachers and learners for the distance and online mode of learning delivery through this program.

By the time the DepEd Brigada Eskwela campaign rolled out in August, the Foundation's yearly support to its partner schools reflected its response to the needs of the times. The Shell companies in the Philippines, together with PSFI, SBO WoMen Empowered Network, and Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) provided a total of 16,000 face masks and 600 health and safety kits to students and teachers of 15 schools in Batangas City. The Foundation also provided printers, copy paper, and Wi-Fi modem units to each school to support the shift to online and modular learning delivery.

The same support was extended to over 300 teachers and 6,000 students of 20 public schools in Pasacao, Camarines Sur. PSFI provided printers, copy paper, Wi-Fi modems, and learner's kits with books provided by National Book Store. They also distributed hygiene kits containing handwashing products from program partner Messy Bessy,



ABOVE PSFI and DepEd sign a MOA for the Support to Radio Based Instruction (RBI) for Distance Learning in Palawan FACING PAGE and INSET The Brigada Eskwela campaign in Batangas City.



and face masks purchased from local enterprise partners.

Through the Knowledge Channel Foundation, PSFI accessed new ways to engage learners for selected schools in Batangas. Portable media libraries (PML) with videos, games, application programs, and other learning resource materials were added as teaching and learning tools. Forty teachers and school principals from five schools were trained on the DepEd-approved content of the PML and how to navigate it.

In Palawan, PSFI signed a Memorandum of Agreement with DepEd to build 10 FM radio stations to provide radio-based instruction (RBI) to public schools. The Foundation also pledged to donate 1,500 transistor radio units to selected teachers and schools.

The project is part of PSFI's commitment to ensure that students in Palawan continue their education despite the pandemic. This complements support from the local private sector providing other forms of support to DepEd Palawan during the pandemic.

#### **New Realities**

The PSFI partnership with the Philippine S&T Development Foundation–Manila, Inc. (PhilDev) to provide scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) courses has been running since 2013. The scholarship aims to help



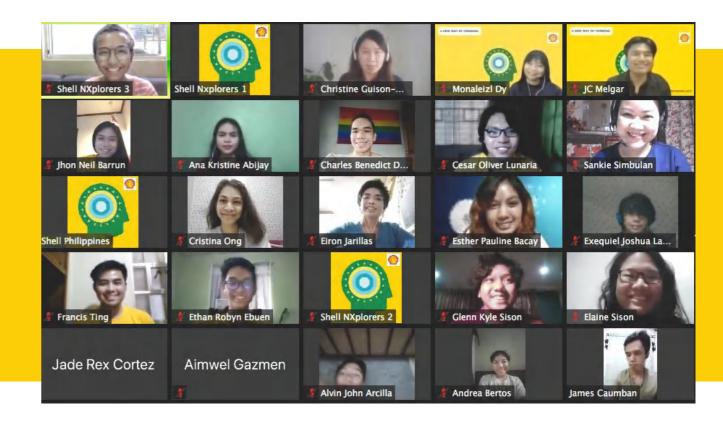
young Filipinos pursue their studies, enabling them to innovate and compete in the global market. This further stimulates economic growth for the Philippines.

PhilDev scholars attribute a big part of the program's success to the one-on-one mentoring sessions during the semester. The annual camp where, among others, scholars learn from successful professionals in their future field of study, is another highlight. On the other hand, the success of the Shell NXplorers program launched in 2019 is anchored on the content of the learning sessions. The program draws hundreds of learners to participate in its workshops.

At the onset of the pandemic, PSFI moved the program's activities online. Plans had to consider the several schedule adjustments of partner universities and school calendars in general. Program managers planned and developed an online platform, and helped ensure the inclusivity of online-based and virtual activities.

The Foundation assured their support to scholars up to graduation despite the adjustments and extensions in school calendars. Partners were brought onboard to work on solutions collaboratively, and were also supported to ensure that work with the scholars was not discontinued.

ABOVE In Pasacao, Camarines Sur, the teachers and students of 20 public schools received printers, paper, Wi-Fi modems, learner's kits, and other materials to help them shift to online learning during the pandemic.



Best practices from around the globe were considered when pivoting the Shell NXplorers programs to the new realities that the pandemic brought. Monitoring changes provided information baselines for each step. In June, Shell NXplorers facilitators and teachers were provided a refresher course on program facilitation, particularly in the online setting, conducted by the Global STEM Team. This Knowledge Builder Webinar series ran up to October and included a training session on the conduct of Shell NXplorers webinars.

As such, 2020 saw the launch of a revised Implementation Plan of Shell NXplorers—a three-track implementation intended to benefit both college and high school students.

The first track of Shell NXplorers was intended for college students and collaborated with the Shell Eco-Marathon (SEM)-Pitch the Future campaign. The Shell NXplorers course served as a building platform for student teams to prepare for the series of competition that brings together student teams from all over the world to tackle real world energy challenges.

A total of 110 students from the University of the Philippines, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, De La Salle University, and the University of Sto. Tomas registered for Shell NXplorers through iVersity's self-paced online course. The participants were supported with live weekly learning sessions facilitated by PSFI and Shell volunteers.

This pilot implementation of the Shell NXplorers program for college students provided baseline information and best practices for the next tracks intended for high school students in 2021. Participants cited the Shell NXplorers tools and methodologies as being very helpful in the preparation of their project entries for the competition.

### Supporting Deserving Learners, Supporting the Nation's Development

Notwithstanding the changes to the program because of the pandemic, Shell NXplorers turned in stellar reports at the end of the year. As the "Reimagine the Future" campaign was launched globally in 2020, one of the five

innovative projects it featured was from the Philippines–Gus O'Corn-Bioplastic. Developed by Team Shellermoon, high school students from the University of San Carlos, the project made use of corn husk and seaweeds (guso) in a bid to reduce the use of plastic and help manage farm waste in their communities. At the 2020 NXplorers Recognition Awards held in December, the project copped the silver for the category Exceptional NXplorers Project by a Student Team.

Enrico Luis Abcede is a PhilDev scholar who graduated cum laude in 2020 from BS Civil Engineering at the University of Santo Tomas, and participated in the IDEERS (Introducing and Demonstrating Earthquake Engineering to Students) 2019 Tower Building Competition in Taipei, Taiwan. When asked how he would have proceeded with his college education,

REIMAGINE CORN HUSKS AS ECO-FRIENDLY

PACKAGING

PSFI'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS
ENCOURAGE MORE FILIPINO STUDENTS
TO PURSUE STEM CAREERS. THIS
PROVES TO BE A GOOD RETURN ON
INVESTMENT BOTH IN THE STUDENTS
AND THE PROGRAMS AS A WHOLE.

had he not been admitted to the scholarship program, he said he would have applied for other scholarships or taken the working student scholarship.

"What the Shell-PhilDev [program] has taught me was the fundamental act of kindness, and that was to help people-people like me-during those sad and hard days when I was wondering if I could continue my education and my dreams in spite of my family's financial burdens," he said, adding, "In the future, I aim to return the favor to your foundation by sponsoring the next batches of scholars."

For Aldrin Buna, who graduated cum laude from the Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology with a BS Mechanical Engineering degree, being a PhilDev scholar opened his mind. "With this scholarship program, I learned the value of community involvement," he said.

LEFT and BOTTOM Cover of the Shell NXplorers Toolkit, and lab work by a University of San Carlos student, one among those who saw an opportunity to develop a local and sustainable solution to this ever-growing global waste problem.



#### IT TAKES A TEAM



Shaira Kyle M. Tagalog describes herself as a girl living a simple life, but with a big dream for herself and her family. With her mother being a full-time homemaker and her father, a driver of habal-habal (a motorcycle transport service

common in central and southern Philippines), Shaira knew she needed financial support to fulfill her dreams of getting a college degree.

A scholarship gave her some tuition support and a small stipend to enroll in the Chemical Engineering program of the University of San Carlos. Other factors around her family's financial capaBEING A SHELL-PHILDEV SCHOLAR PUT SHAIRA KYLE ON A PAR WITH HER CLASSMATES. "SAVING UP MY ALLOWANCES INSTEAD OF PAYING OFF REMAINING TUITION BALANCES HELPED A LOT..."

bility and the requirements of the course—computer-based online school work, home access to the internet, and special textbooks and references—however, constrained her from fully focusing academically and led to losing her scholarship on the second year.

More driven than ever, Shaira took on a summer job and applied for various scholarships including the Shell–PhilDev Scholarship Program. Shaira said, "More than how [the scholarship] changed my financial situation, interacting with the scholarship program team and participating in the annual camps made my student life

Continued on next page









CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Enrico Luis Abcede, Adrin Buna, David Zinampan, and Mark Andrei Rabin were among PSFI's scholars in 2020.

It also freed Aldrin from worrying about financial concerns so he could focus on academic requirements. He said, "If it were not for this scholarship, I could not have gained Latin honors or even graduated on time."

Enrico, Aldrin, and the other scholars are driven, and will likely persist and find ways. Beyond the financial support, what helped them shine even more were the intangible benefits that are part of the Shell-PhilDev scholarship program.

The idea behind PSFI's scholarship programs is to encourage more Filipino students to pursue STEM careers. The 59 scholars who have graduated and are now pursuing or about to start STEM careers are proving to be a good return on the investment in them and the programs as a whole. ■

much lighter. I gained friends, mentors, idols. I developed a clearer version of my future self. The program supported me not just financially but emotionally as well."

She added that being a Shell-PhilDev scholar put her on a par with her classmates. "Saving up my allowances instead of paying off remaining tuition balances helped a lot," she said, adding that she was able to invest in a laptop, a pocket Wi-Fi modem, and a smartphone, which were a big help. "I cannot even imagine how difficult it would be to work on the countless reports we had to make throughout these past years. I also was able to afford a room in a boarding house which gave me extra hours of sleep each day

#### THE SPIRIT OF INNOVATION

Goran Cruz is a member of the 12-person team of ALAMAT UP that competed in the inaugural Shell Eco-Marathon (SEM)—Pitch the Future. A total of 132 student teams from all over Asia, Europe, and the Americas competed for the brightest idea in four real world energy challenges.

Goran credits the Shell NXplorers program for the tools they learned and were able to use in preparing their entry. Tools such as SCAMPER, feasibility funnel, perspective circle, and persuasion grammy provided the team platforms and venue for when to be critical or constructive. "The combination of these tools led us to developing this great idea," Goran stated.

Putting the team's output forward, ALAMAT UP's entry for the Challenge: Tracking and Reducing CO2 Emissions from Vehicles bested all other entries and was proclaimed Global Champion during the event's online awarding ceremony in December 2020.

Asked how the team applied what they learned, Goran said, "A big idea does not come from a sudden spark of brilliance, but from consistent perseverance. We never stopped asking questions, and we never stopped suggesting new ways to innovate."

instead of spending my energy on early morning and late-night trips," she added.

At an especially difficult point, Shaira credited the program's facilitators for helping her pull through. "It was in this moment that the scholarship made me feel that it isn't just a three-man team made up of me and my parents fighting for me to achieve my dreams, but a team of many people out there rooting for me—people who may not know me personally, but believe in the idea that there should be no boundaries to dreaming."

In 2020, Shaira prepared for her licensure exam and worked as a part-time tutor for high school students struggling with math. She looks forward to proving herself worthy of the great opportunity that was given her.

### OTHER SHELL NXPLORERS PHILIPPINES AWARDEES

- Team Agribon brought home the gold for Outstanding NXplorers Student Team and Team NX-Us the bronze for Exceptional Project by Student Team, inspiring examples of how young people can work together to solve real world problems.
- Monaleizl Dy was awarded the silver and Mark Christian Marqueses, the bronze, for Excellence in Facilitation, in recognition of their roles in enabling their students to embrace complexity and overcome barriers. Both are PSFI Program Officers.
- Peter Doping and Nino Navarro jointly received the bronze for the Inspiring NXplorers Mentor Award for enthusing and empowering young people on their NXplorers journey. Both are Shell engineers.
- Jenshiam Balgua, Lei Mitchen Sta. Maria, and Viva Generoso received Merit Awards for Excellence in Facilitation, while Ronald Po, Shell volunteer, received a Merit Award for Most Inspiring Mentor.





# Encouraging more Filipinos to pursue STEM careers

**82** 

scholars in STEM careers

87

STEM scholars (in school and graduated)

59 scholars graduated



**38** scholars graduated with honors





scholars given one-on-one mentoring sessions



scholars trained in STEM problem-solving skills



Radio-Based Instruction for ((•)) Distance Learning

mini FM stations
provided to 10 schools in Palawan

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### One Promise, a Thousand Lives

Pre-dating the UN SDGs, PSFI has been at the forefront of the Movement Against Malaria (MAM) Program for over 20 years, starting with the creation of a community-based malaria control program called Kilusan Ligtas Malaria (KLM) in the province of Palawan in 1999. At that time, more than a fifth of the population were at risk of contracting the disease, with a reported 50,000 infections in the province alone.

Since 2006, with funding support from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and the harmonized implementation with partners and stakeholders, MAM has achieved milestones in malaria control. Foremost of these is assisting 60 out of 81 provinces in the country achieve a malaria-free status. This accomplishment allowed the focus of control services to targeted barangays in only three provinces.



Twenty years ago, the City of Puerto Princesa in Palawan had 3,270 cases of malaria infection, the highest recorded in the province. For a long time, malaria was among the top causes of morbidity in the city. This situation did not sit well with native Palaweña and homemaker Rizalina Cajilo, who was troubled by the agony it was giving her community and townmates. She made a promise to contribute whatever she could to alleviate the suffering of her community and bring down the malaria incidence in her province.

In 2002, Rizalina was given the opportunity to fulfill her promise by the KLM, a project of the Provincial Government of Palawan and PSFI. The KLM was founded in 1999 and was given an initial support fund of Php36 million

ABOVE The 12th Malaria Congress and celebration of the 20th KLM Founding Anniversary on November 27, 2020. FACING PAGE Mosquito net distribution by the KLM. INSET Active-case detection through blood smearing done by a Malaria Health Volunteer. by the Malampaya Joint Venture Partners to establish a Barangay Malaria Microscopist in every endemic village in Palawan. The technical and institutional structure of the project was likewise put in place in every city, municipality, and barangay. It was this project that caught the attention of Rizalina and for which she immediately volunteered to be trained as a microscopist-a community health worker who can diagnose malaria in febrile patients using a microscope, and provide first-line anti-malarial drugs.

Rizalina trained for two months and, without incentive or compensation from her barangay, began implementing community awarenessraising activities aimed at preventing the transmission of malaria among patients and their families. She conducted massive information campaigns in schools and neighboring barangays. After several years, her perseverance and faith in the program were rewarded when the number of malaria cases went down considerably, and the city was delisted from among the top municipalities with malaria cases.

#### **Stepping Up**

Rizalina's efforts were made easier and farreaching with the infusion of support from the

Continued on page 41

### **MOVEMENT AGAINST MALARIA**

20 YEARS **AND RUNNING** 

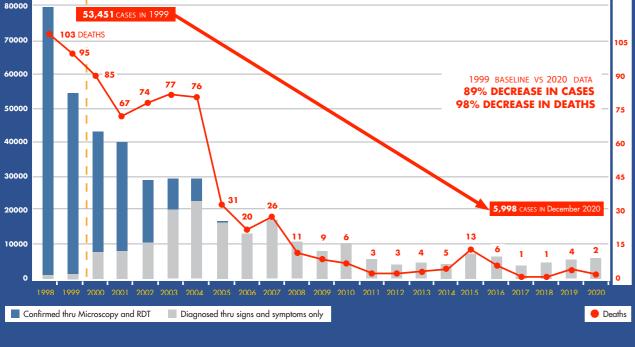
MAM seeks to facilitate the achievement of reducing the incidence of malaria by 90% and to achieve a malaria-free Philippines by 2030.

The Movement Against Malaria (MAM) campaign is an initiative externally funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM) in support of the National Malaria Control and Elimination Program of the Department of Health (DOH). It seeks to facilitate the achievement of the country's goals of reducing the incidence of malaria by 90% at the end of 2022 from the 2016 baseline and to achieve a malaria-free Philippines by 2030. MAM is implemented in eight provinces-Cagayan, Mindoro Occidental, Davao del Norte, Maguindanao, Sultan Kudarat, Palawan, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi-where most of the national malaria burden has been centered in 2016.

The year 2020 saw a surge in the number of cases in the provinces of Sultan Kudarat and Palawan, with 142 and 5,980 cases respectively. A decrease in the number of barangays reporting indigenous cases can be appreciated-from 134 barangays in 2019 to 126 barangays in 2020.

Working around the COVID crisis, the program distributed long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) to the targeted beneficiaries, continued case finding and treatment activities in as wide a coverage as possible, and pushed through with awareness activities, as well as surveillance and support for outbreak responses. Drugs and Rapid Diagnostic Tests for malaria were provided to quarantee availability as was support for household spraying targets with the provision of the salaries of DOH-trained spray personnel. ■

### TOTAL MALARIA CASES - PALAWAN 1999 - DECEMBER 2020





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GFATM in October 2003, and USD100,000 from Shell Foundation International in 2005.

In 2006, malaria control activities were intensified through a grant given to PSFI by the GFATM through the Philippine Country Coordinating Mechanism (PCCM). Operating simultaneously on the national level as MAM, the program's success was replicated in four other provinces, 35 more in 2010, and 13 in 2015.

Under the UN SDGs set in 2015, malaria is listed among the diseases that need to be eradicated. The year 2030 should see the end of the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases, as well as hepatitis, water-borne diseases, and other communicable diseases. With its partnership with the DOH and the local government, PSFI is confident that by strengthening its efforts, the vision of a malaria-free Philippines by 2030 is attainable.

#### **Just Rewards**

The unprecedented success against the disease brought in more global aid from GFATM in the form of grants. MAM received another grant for 2018-2020 for replicating the programs in eight provinces, and again for 2021-2023 for operations in the last four provinces with active local transmission. Similarly, the success achieved from the implementation of



ABOVE The importance of mosquito nets is emphasized on Malaria Awareness Day. RIGHT Rizalina Cajilo holds up a chart during one of the lectures on malaria.

the HIV-AIDS Program in the Workplace has not gone unnoticed. Together with the recognition of being an exemplary Grant Primary Recipient of the GFATM, PSFI was chosen to manage another Grant for the country, the new HIV PROTECTS Program for HIV, for 2021-2023. In addition, the Foundation received the COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM), a new grant from the GFATM that mitigates the effects of COVID-19 on HIV, TB, and malaria, while contributing to the country's COVID-19 response needs. PSFI was nominated as the Principal Recipient of the C19RM Grant by the Country Coordinating Mechanism chaired by the DOH.

Rizalina's hard work has paid off as well. She was nominated as one of the empowered women of Puerto Princesa in the health sector during the Women's Month celebration in March 2020. During the celebration of KLM's 20th founding anniversary in November 2020, she and the Malaria Health volunteers, as well as the partner organizations since 1999, were honored by PSFI. Rizalina was also recognized as a role model not only to her fellow volunteers in the city, but to the whole province.

Despite all the accolades, Rizalina would say that her greatest reward and proudest moment was when her own barangay of Bahile recorded zero malaria cases. More than keeping her promise, she achieved her purpose.





#### A NEW PANDEMIC

The year 2020 brought unprecedented challenges for the health programs of PSFI, with the number of malaria cases and deaths rising from 2019 numbers. Despite the difficulty in serving communities because of restrictions, the MAM resorted to the strategic implementation of services, such as house-to-house deliveries of LLINs and regulated active case surveillance.

PSFI's HIV-AIDS Program, which focuses on reducing HIV morbidity in key affected populations (KAPs), was brought to the workplace with the purpose of ensuring that the business sector remains healthy, informed, and empowered. The Php5.7 million budget of PSFI's Philippine Business Sector Response to HIV and AIDS Program covered community-based organizations that offer HIV prevention, screening, testing, and the like.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis and subsequent lockdowns and quarantines, however, certain activities like HIV 101 and testing were not done. Instead, PSFI's program partners and community-based organizations rose to the challenge of lockdowns and quarantines with innovative ways of reaching its clients. HIV services provider LoveYourself, for instance, used courier services for delivering their antiretroviral (ARV) therapy and advised clients of their ARV refill schedules through various online platforms. LoveYourself's Interactive Consultation (iCON) offered online medical consults for their clients.

The innovative response of PSFI's program partners to the COVID-19 crisis enabled the Foundation to continue its programs and provide services to the key populations and People Living with HIV/ AIDS (PLHIV) communities. ■

### TAKEDA PATIENT ASSISTANCE **PROGRAM**

The Takeda Patient Assistance Program (TPAP) was created by Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited to help financially challenged cancer patients purchase and complete their prescribed course of treatment.

As Takeda's partner, PSFI takes care of stock monitoring, replenishment approvals, and reports, and ensures that the "free of charge" (FOC) medicines are dispensed properly and will be utilized by the patients or beneficiaries.

The dispensing of medicines to the clinics and hospitals was affected when a lockdown was imposed at the beginning of March 2020. Even after the lifting of restrictions for the movement of essentials such as food and medicine, the mobility of cancer patients for their infusions continued to be compromised due to the suspension of public transportation. To work around this, FOC requests had to be approved at least one week ahead of the infusions so that the medicine dispensing and delivery could be strategically scheduled.

The highlight for 2020, however, was the support the program received from Takeda-Php502 million, the highest so far since the PAP started in 2017.

This made possible the release of 2,062 Adcetris and 309 Entyvio vials with a total market value of Php482.18 million, for 861 and 304 patients, respectively.

By the end of the year, 127 of the 364 enrolled patients to the program have completed the prescribed treatment cycles, 88 have dropped out, and there are 149 active patients who are continuing their prescribed treatment plan.

As of 2020, the program has 149 hospital and clinic partners, and 230 referring physicians nationwide. ■



### **HEALTH AND SAFETY** AT A GLANCE

### Malaria

### **INCREASING ACCESS TO PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

285,400

long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) distributed to targeted risk groups

### **ENCOURAGING KEY POPULATIONS** TO ENGAGE IN PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR



99.55%

of those with access to insecticide-treated nets,

### **INCREASING ACCESS TO MALARIA TESTING SERVICES**

100%

of suspected malaria cases received a parasitological test at public sector health facilities

### **INCREASING ACCESS TO ANTIMALARIAL TREATMENT**

97.16%

of confirmed malaria cases received first-line antimalarial treatment at public sector health facilities

### HIV

### **INCREASING AWARENESS ABOUT HIV**

PROVIDED HIV ORIENTATION

36

companies

schools

communities

### **ENCOURAGING KEY POPULATIONS** TO GET TESTED



7,771 employees, students, and individuals in the communities given HIV 101 submitted for HIV screening and got their results

#### **INCREASING ACCESS TO HIV SERVICES**

13,696 total number of individuals tested

HIV testing activities done in workplaces, schools, and communities

13,387 tested in supported community centers

### **INITIATING TREATMENT FOR THOSE** WHO TEST POSITIVE IN OUR SUPPORTED COMMUNITY CENTERS



of newly diagnosed patients with baseline

initiated to treatment (ARV) in supported community centers

Safety

**IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY IN COMMUNITIES** 

Road Safety Mentors trained

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### Making Strides for the Environment

In the face of so many challenges in 2020, how does one prioritize the care for the environment? PSFI addressed this question by continuing its efforts while responding to the needs of the times.



With the pandemic raging on throughout most of 2020, PSFI's environment programs activities were restricted by safety protocols. Program Managers and implementers thus ensured that the bigger objectives were served. What worked for these programs was that these were set on solid foundations, started early on, and had a long-term plan mapped out.

The Carbon Sink Program (CSP) is one example. PSFI established the CSP in Brgy. Kinabuhayan in Dolores, Quezon with the help of the National Power Corporation–Makiling Banahaw Watershed Area Team (NPC–MBWAT). The aim of the CSP is to enrich the vegetation in Quezon Province and add to the livelihood opportunities available to the community. For its part, the Foundation with the support from NPC-MBWAT

ABOVE Seedlings are replanted as part of the maintenance and protection activity for the Carbon Sink Program.

FACING PAGE The Integrated CBST Planning Workshop benefits community members (taken pre-pandemic). INSET The sign outside the Ille Cave in New Ibajay, El Nido, Palawan reads, "Nature is beautiful and we are stewards of God's creation." This provides the impetus for sustainability and environmental conservation efforts.

and local LGUs manages the establishment and maintenance of the project.

### **Pivoting to Stay Relevant**

In 2020, the Kinabuhayan Eco-Warriors—a group of vegetable farmers from the mountains of Dolores, Quezon—planted a total of 10,000 trees in the 87-hectare expanse of the forest covering Brgy. Kinabuhayan in Dolores and adjacent areas. The trees planted were grown from the nursery they established in the community at the beginning of the program. From the financial support they received, the ecowarriors were able to improve their farms and vegetable gardens. In addition to material input, the knowledge that went with care for the environment proved beneficial to their farming practices as their harvest improved in quantity and quality.

When the call for support for the Ani Para sa Bayani was sounded, these farmers/eco-

warriors were among those who provided quality and healthy vegetables freshly picked from their farms and gardens.

Meanwhile, as livelihood activities became more restricted with the unabated increase in COVID-19 cases in the country, residents of North Kawayan Ville in Tacloban City were given more opportunities through PSFI's Yolanda Program and Anibong Recovery and Rehabilitation Program (ARRP).

Fifteen residents were given livelihood training based on an assessment undertaken by program implementers. Ten vegetable gardens were also established in the community for the residents' food. These yielded a harvest of 58.9 kilograms of 11 different types of vegetables.

These efforts may not be exhaustive, but they provided options for the residents of North Kawayan Ville as they dealt with the challenges presented by the pandemic. Those who participated in the training were organized and connected to local networks and resources. Before long, they had formed a seamstress

LOOKING BEYOND PROGRAM INDICATORS, THE ECO-WARRIORS BENEFITED IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. WITH THEIR NEW FARMING SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE, THEIR HARVEST HAS IMPROVED AND BECOME STEADY, AND THEIR INCOME HAS BECOME MORE STABLE.

group and were producing Kadasig (a Waray term meaning "resilience") face masks based on the guidelines of the World Health Organization. The group collaborated with a local organization, Great Women, whose members weave the outer layer of the Kadasig masks. The ECHOSi Foundation, Inc. provided support in marketing the masks.

In Palawan, the Turismo at Negosyo Dulot ng Ingat Kalikasan (TANDIKAN) Program–founded in 2015 to promote tourism by environmental conservation through community-based sustainable tourism (CBST)–focused on strengthening individuals and families in partner communities. Fifteen families were oriented and supported to engage in organic vegetable gardening, 32 individuals completed the Enterprise Development Training, and 70 members of the indigenous



Residents of New Ibajay, El Nido attend the CBST Dewil Eco Mangrove Adventure Mangrove Orientation.



cultural communities enrolled in the local Alternative Learning Systems (ALS) program.

The families that started organic vegetable gardening earned from their harvest. The individuals who underwent the training found their new knowledge and skills timely and very helpful, with 22 gaining employment soon after the training. Indigenous peoples (IP) livelihood support to IP families was also continued throughout the year.

### Winning with Every Step

In 2020 alone, the TANDIKAN Program was able to reach 25,370 individuals through its environmental awareness campaign—an environmental forum, community sessions, and other initiatives. COVID restrictions and protocols notwithstanding, this figure was more than that of the previous years.

More importantly, the efforts to institutionalize environment initiatives have begun to bear fruit.

In Puerto Princesa and other parts of Palawan, the initiative to integrate environmental education into the curriculum gained ground when consultations were held during the year. While this is an ongoing effort, 10 schools are already implementing environmental activities on their own.

ABOVE DWAR 103.9 radio program guesting of Edong Magpayo, TANDIKAN Project Officer, discussing the 9 Ecological Principles and Effects of Single-Use Plastic (SUP) on our environment.

RIGHT The Kadasig face masks follow the guidelines of the World Health Organization, and are the product of a collaboration between the seamstress group of North Kawayan Ville, Great Women, and ECHOSi Foundation, Inc.

At year's end, all 10 CBST sites were operational with program support three years in. In fact, program-supported enterprises reported a Php2.4 million increase in revenue despite limited tourism activities in 2020.

In Dolores, Quezon, the eco-warriors planted the 101,100th tree for the CSP. This is the culmination of the three-year program as far as the number of the trees planted and secured in the area is concerned. Looking beyond program indicators, the eco-warriors benefited in more ways than one. With their new farming skills and knowledge, their harvest has improved and become steady, and their income has become more stable. They were able to send their children to school. Some even acquired motorcycles and tricycles, others were able to accumulate additional capital for their vegetable farms, and still others were able to buy horses with which to haul the harvested crops.

In Tacloban, the seamstress group of North Kawayan Ville turned the pandemic-induced challenges into income and the opportunity to help. They have grown their members, from 6 to 15, expanded their network through and beyond the City Cooperative, and with PSFI's assistance, are now producing washable Shell masks and the woven Kadasig masks.





#### **TEACHING FOR THE FUTURE**

Sharon Bontogon teaches regular classroom subjects at Sta. Monica Elementary School in Puerto Princesa, Palawan from morning to afternoon. For five minutes between the morning and afternoon sessions, she supervised a schoolwide clean-up challenge everyday up to the last days of face-to-face instruction in 2020. Looking back, she hopes she did enough to ensure that her students and co-teachers retain the learnings they gained from her advocacy, up to the time they are able to come to school again.

Teacher Sharon is among those who participated in PSFI's Teachers Training on Environmental Education Program in 2018. Since then, she has led environmental activities in her school. She started a Zero Plastic Waste campaign upon her return to school in 2018, in which students and teachers learned to shy away from using singleuse plastics because of its environmental cost. In 2019, she introduced the 5-Minute Pulot (Pickup) Challenge to ensure cleanliness and the management of trash on school premises and surrounding areas.

On these initiatives, Teacher Sharon said, "Dahil sa environmental education, napalawak ang pangunawa ko at namulat sa maling gawain dati sa environment. Magandang mai-share iyon bilang

tamang impormasyon at aral sa mga estudyante (Because of environmental education, my understanding broadened and I became aware of my own transgressions against the environment. It is the right information and it is necessary to share this with my students so they will learn from it)."

She believes that, being a teacher, she exercises strong influence on her students, which she uses to provide this kind of information. Her hope is that what the children learned from school rubs off on the rest of the family as well. She believes children need to learn to care for their environment while they are young if they are to become environmental stewards later on. ■



TOP World Wildlife Day activity where PSFI Project Officer Edong Magpayo delivered a lecture on the effect of single-use plastic on our environment. ABOVE A session with DepEd Puerto Princesa-Palawan State University (PSU) and PCSDS on Integration of Environment Education. Photos taken pre-pandemic



### **Protecting and Enhancing** our Environment





10

sites of importance to biodiversity and ecosystem services protected, improved, or created

10,150

trees planted 10.4

tonnes of carbon sequestered since 2018

### **Engaging Filipinos** to take action on **Environmental Conservation**

25,370

reached through environmental awareness campaigns



Php2.4M

increase in revenue reported by TANDIKAN enterprises



people

completed Enterprise **Development Training**  22

training participants gained employment immediately afterwards

people completed livelihood training



58.9 kilograms of 11 types of

vegetables harvested

4,548

Shell masks

717

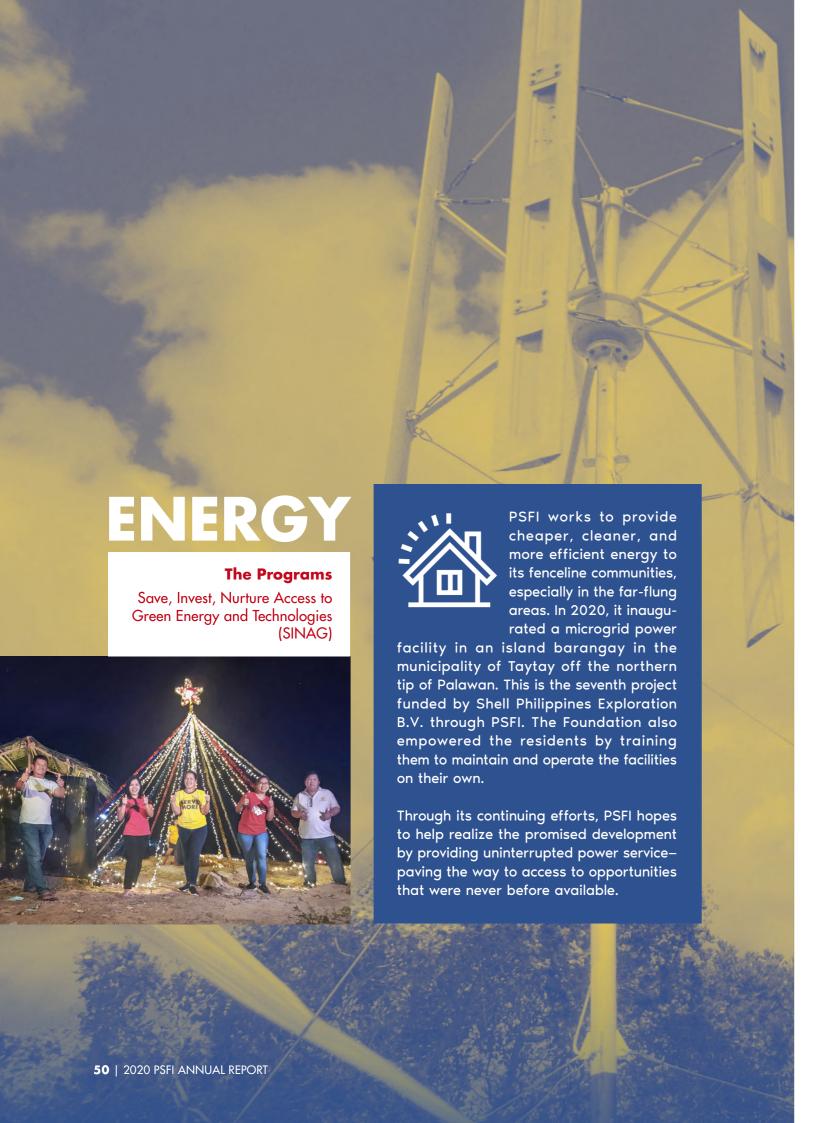
Kadasig masks produced by the seamstress group







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### Lighting Hope on the Islands

Early in 2020, the Save, Invest, Nurture Access to Green Energy and Technologies (SINAG) Program energized two sites in Palawan–one in Brgy. Maytegued in Taytay and another in Sitio Albaguen in Brgy. Port Barton, San Vicente. With renewable, clean, and affordable energy, opportunities for better livelihood, education, and health are more accessible to the residents.

Late one afternoon, Felix Talamayan walked along Brgy. Maytegued's lone pier. Children and adults dotted the concrete structure, trying to sit comfortably. Most of them were using their mobile phones or other gadgets to connect to the internet.

"This is the area in the barangay where the signal is strongest, so most people come here to get better reception," he said. Many of the children there were students doing research for their school work, he pointed out.

Kap (short for "kapitan," the Filipino word for "captain") Ely, as Felix is known locally, moved his family in the 2000s to this island barangay where his wife was born. He started to serve as the barangay captain in 2016. He observed that it was only recently that mobile phones

were thoroughly used. "Very few people could afford to before, because we only got four hours of electricity from a generator that powered up only a few light bulbs per household, and not so steadily at that," he added.

"People did not use mobile phones as much because there was no way to charge them regularly before the microgrid power went up," Kap Ely explained.

For him, electricity is much more than the light that illumines homes as family members gather together at the end of the day and enjoy each other's company; or allows employees to put in an extra hour of work after dark. "Not having electricity hindered the potential of everyone on the island," Kap Ely said.



LEFT Inauguration and Power-Up of the Albaguen Microgrid in San Vicente, Palawan.

FACING PAGE, INSET Individual Solar Home System (ISHS); strands of twinkle lights are turned on for Maytegued's holiday celebrations by the beach.

### **Darkness before Light**

Up until 2019, the 166 households in Brgy. Maytegued had to contend with a very limited and unreliable power source—a diesel-fueled generator that powered just a few light bulbs per household. For the few minutes every night that the lights were bright and steady, families would scramble to get some things done—children would do their school work or read, and adults would do some chores or sneak in some work. Then the lights would start to flicker and grow dim, eventually leaving everyone in the darkness of a long night. On the balance, the situation seemed to present more limitations than opportunities.

On the economic front, residents of the barangay make a living from farming and fishing. Those whose income is derived solely from selling their daily catch in town or to nearby resorts had to deal with additional expenses before they could earn. There was the cost of ice to keep the fish fresh, the cost of the trip to buy the ice, and sometimes the cost of opportunity lost if the ice seller ran out of ice—and they would then have to travel even farther to buy the ice and save their capital.

# "NOT HAVING ELECTRICITY HINDERED THE POTENTIAL OF EVERYONE ON THE ISLAND." - KAP ELY TALAMAYAN

At home, parents engaged in income-generating activities during the day would have no opportunity to help their children with school work. It is only in the evening, under flickering lights, that they could attend to their children.

It is a common situation for families living in areas without electricity.

### **Light-bringer to the Islands**

PSFI's Save, Invest, Nurture Access to Green Energy and Technologies (SINAG) Program installs hybrid microgrid facilities in areas with a small likelihood to be connected to any electricity grid in the next five to 10 years. These microgrid facilities generate electricity from naturally available resources—water, wind, and sun. A backup fuel generator usually complements and ensures steady supply to households when the natural sources do not generate enough stored power.

The Maytegued Microgrid Power System, consisting of a windmill and 15kVA solar power

#### A BETTER LIFE FROM ICE

Ludy Ann Rentoria is a fish dealer from Brgy. Maytegued. Without electricity in their area, she had to travel to the town center in Taytay, or even to the Municipality of Roxas, just to buy much-needed ice for her business. On average, she would spend Php12,000 to Php15,000 a month for the ice, including transportation and other incidental expenses.

After the inauguration of the SINAG Hybrid Microgrid Project in Maytegued in February 2020, Ludy Ann purchased a freezer. She is now able to make her own ice for use in her fish business, and is able to sell it to other members of the community as well.

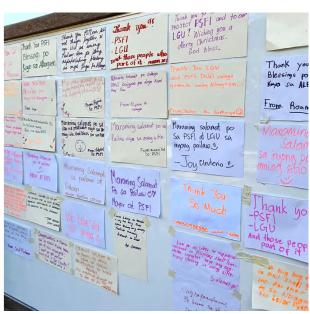
With the microgrid facility powering up her freezer, Ludy Ann spends just Php3,000 to Php4,000 monthly on electricity. Not only has she eliminated the cost of having to go elsewhere to buy ice—she now also earns from her new business of selling ice.



generator, will generate reliable and clean energy for the island. The system was set up with two power sources to support each other and ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity for households connected to the grid. The facility was inaugurated on February 4, 2020.

PSFI also turned over the maintenance and operations of the facility to the Maytequed Energy Association (MEA), a people's organization. For proper maintenance of the facility, 31 MEA members were trained in basic electrical maintenance and solar technology, as were residents of Sitio Alabaguen in Barangay Port Barton, San Vicente, also in Palawan, where PSFI installed a microgrid power facility. Both electric associations also completed trainings on Organizational and Management and Simple Bookkeeping. These residents have now taken responsibility for maintaining and extending the reach of the grid, connecting a total of 203 households and helping to power up 12 community institutions by the end of the year.

The SINAG Program ensures that families living far from the barangay proper or the microgrid are also provided for. At the end of the year,



## TRAININGS CONDUCTED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MAYTEGUED AND SITIO ALBAGUEN

- Basic Electrical Installation and Maintenance with Solar Technology Training
- Organizational and Management Training with Simple Bookkeeping

TOP Community members show their approval during the inauguration and power-up of Maytegued Microgrid in Taytay, Palawan before the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic. RIGHT Messages of gratitude and appreciation from residents of Sitio Albaguen.



PSFI distributed individual solar home systems (ISHS) to a total of 80 households, providing much-needed light at night. This way, at least in Barangay Maytegued, Sitio Albaguen, and other areas powered by PSFI, no one gets left in the dark.

### A Bright Tomorrow

Kap Ely recalls a time when the residents of Bray. Maytegued did not have the luxury of cold drinks. Less than a year from the start of the microgrid operations, there are now 10 households with their own freezers. Not only do these families sell the ice needed by the barangay's many fisherfolk, but they also sell cold drinks

> TOP Members of the Maytegued Energy Association (MEA) during the inauguration.

LEFT Shell executives and PSFI Palawan



and frozen food products to residents-increas-

As dusk set in, Kap Ely headed home. Lights went

on inside houses along the way, illuminating the

streets of the once-sleepy barangay. Children started to file into their homes as the sounds of

television programs and conversations over the dinner table drifted outside. Soon, they would be

poring over their books and modules with the

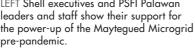
The sight of well-lit homes makes for a welcome

change from the dark nights not too long ago.

Better things have indeed come to the island.

ing their income opportunity.

encouragement of their parents.





### **Using Sustainable Technologies** to provide Energy Access to those who are hardest to reach



203

households connected to the microgrid 80

households provided with individua solar home systems



1,456

individuals provided with access to energy





### Strengthening communities through Energy

community institutions provided with access to energy



49 individuals trained on Basic Electrical Maintenance

and Solar Technology



Php 1.5M

in pledges leveraged from partners

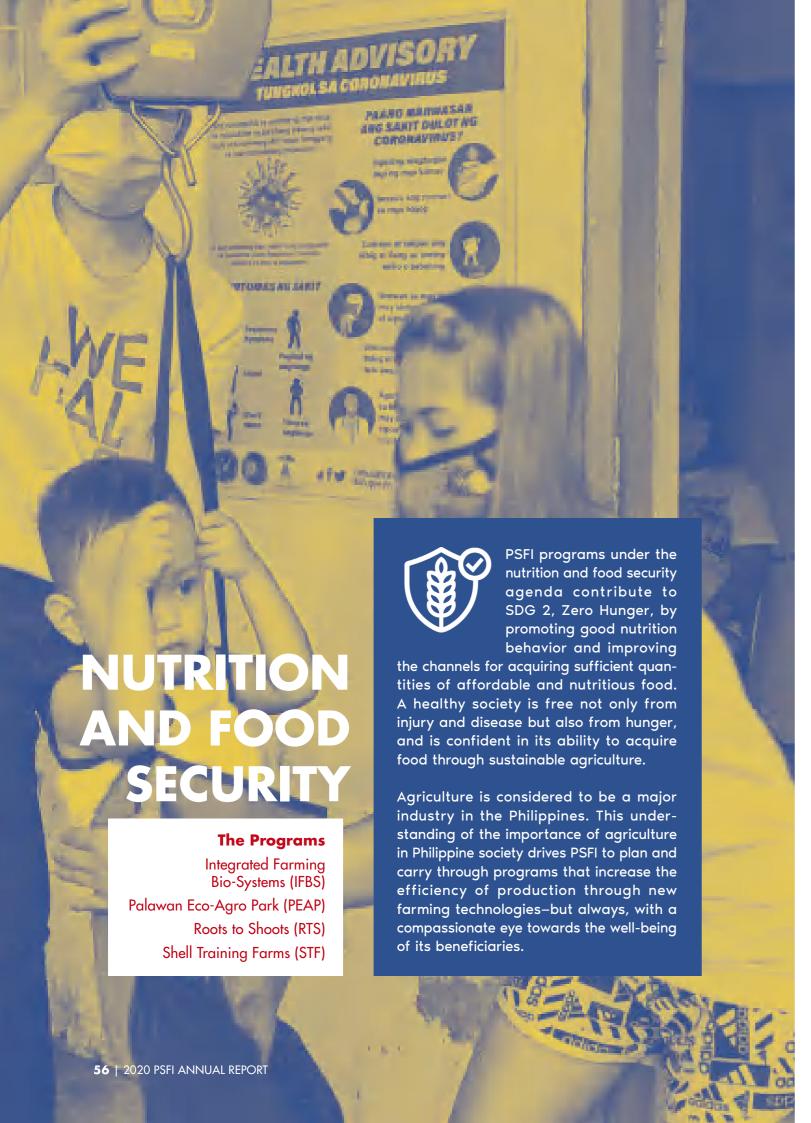


15

individuals trained on organizational management



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### Knowledge as Remedy

The launch of Roots to Shoots in 2020 underscored PSFI's commitment to strengthening its nutrition and food security programs for maximum impact. This could not have come at a more opportune time, as the pandemic shone a spotlight on the importance of proper nutrition in our ability to survive and stay healthy during a global health crisis.

Decy Rizare, a resident of Bombon, Camarines Sur and mother to two-year-old Princess Angel, was always troubled when it came to feeding her child. "Natatakot ako na pakainin siya ng mga 'normal' na pagkain kasi hindi ko alam kung paano ang tamang pagpapakain sa kaniya (I'm afraid to feed her 'normal' food because I don't know how to feed her right)," she said.

Decy's fear of not knowing what to feed Princess Angel stemmed from the fact that the child was born with a cleft lip and palate. As such, she was being fed exclusively with breastmilk when she should have already been eating solid foods. During the last Operation Timbang (a child-weighing program) conducted by the local rural health unit, Princess was diagnosed as undernourished.

Decy and Princess were enrolled in the Positive Deviance/Hearth (PDH) and Go! Baby Go! Parenting sessions under the Roots to Shoots (RTS) Program, which were aimed at rehabilitating underweight and wasted children under five years old through capacity-building and learning sessions, with the ultimate goal of achieving behavioral change.

The RTS initiative is a nutrition and food security program of PSFI and its partners, the Manila Water Foundation (MWF) and the World Vision Development Foundation (WVDF). Implemented with the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food, College of Human Ecology University of the Philippines Los Baños (IHNF-CHE, UPLB), and the local government and communities, the program aims to end malnutrition in the municipalities of Bombon and Pasacao in Camarines Sur.

Camarines Sur was chosen as a project site as it had been identified by the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition as having one of the highest rates for stunting, teenage pregnancy, and poverty in the country. With particular focus on the earliest stages of child developmentthe most crucial—the initiative aims to foster the right conditions for children to take root, grow, and branch out to reach their full potential.

Through the PDH sessions, Decy learned about nutritious and balanced food preparation. At the end of the monitoring period of 90 days, Princess Angel gained 2.8 kilos-the most weight gained by a child in that period.

### **Empowering Mothers**

The PDH sessions are implemented in partnership with the WVDF. They consist of a series of

Continued on page 59



ABOVE Caregivers and children of Barangay Caranan, Pasacao during the feeding part of the PDH session.

FACING PAGE Barangay nutrition scholars assigned in the RTS-covered barangays conduct baseline assessment before the start of PDH sessions



#### **ROOTS TO SHOOTS**

Roots to Shoots (RTS) was launched in 2020 as a three-year program that aims to improve the nutrition and food security status of undernourished communities in the Philippines, with a focus in the priority areas defined in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017–2022.

The program focuses on the earliest stages of child development, and has three main components to ensure that the next generation will experience better nutrition and food security to help them become healthy, productive, and responsible members of society.

- The Food Security and Livelihood (FSL) component trains farmers and community members on appropriate farming technologies for the increased production, accessibility, and availability of nutritious food. Agri-enterprise activities linked to the entire food production and access chain shall be undertaken to create economic opportunities for increased food access. This necessitates the study of market systems and forging links to the local value chain to ensure a steady supply of nutritious and affordable food in the community and local market, while at the same time enhancing the economic status of households and farmers through increased agricultural output.
- The Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) component, in partnership with the Manila Water Foundation, promotes a holistic approach in developing water and sanitation systems, and good hygiene behavior.

- Collaboration with the local water service provider also strengthens the community water systems and enhances the technical skills of the operations personnel. Placing handwashing facilities in health centers is especially significant-considering the crisis that the community is facing-as it encourages proper hand hygiene habits and safety awareness.
- The Mother and Child Care component, in partnership with the Word Vision Development Foundation, aims to sustainably rehabilitate malnourished children and promote proper food preparation and good nutrition practices through the implementation of the Positive Deviance Hearth (PDH) and Go! Baby Go! (GBG) Parenting sessions.

This pilot initiative is being implemented in all eight barangays of the Municipality of Bombon and five barangays in the Municipality of Pasacao, in Camarines Sur.



TOP RTS IFBS-trained farmers pose for a group photo after the completion of their four-day IFBS training at STF Bombon.

ABOVE Monitoring of an RTS IFBS-trained farmer beneficiary.



From page 57

activities that give mothers and caregivers of undernourished children the knowledge and skills to feed their children properly and prevent malnutrition. One of the skills that have gained traction among the women is home gardening. Leticia Opalda, a resident of Barangay Quitang in Pasacao, Camarines Sur, was persuaded to join RTS because her child was detected as being underweight during the Operation Timbang conducted by the rural health unit of Pasacao, Camarines Sur, with the assistance of barangay nutrition scholars.

Leticia had already been planting some crops as a source of livelihood, but when the RTS food security and livelihood (FSL) program announced that there was to be a session on gardening specifically for mothers, she agreed to sign up. She was inspired by what she learned during

Continued on page 60

ABOVE LEFT RTS IFBS-trained farmers in Carangcang, Magarao, Camarines Sur show off their harvest.

### **SHELL TRAINING FARMS**

The Shell Training Farms (STFs) were established to help increase agricultural productivity through the sharing and demonstration of the latest agricultural technologies and sustainable agricultural practices. Currently, there are STFs in Camarines Sur, Palawan, and Rizal.

In 2020, safety protocols imposed restrictions on the STF training activities. Despite the challenges brought by COVID-19 and the natural disasters that visited the country, over 3,000 kilograms of vegetables were harvested in a year's time. A total of 546 farmers were trained on Integrated Farming Bio-Systems (IFBS), 385 of whom are beneficiaries of the Angat Buhay Program of the Office of the Vice President. With the STF certified by TESDA as a Farmer Field School, 125 farmers started their "Production of High Quality Inbred Rice, Seed Certification and Mechanization" training under TESDA's Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund Program (RCEFP).

The training farms provided assistance to farmers through various initiatives. For the Ani Para sa Bayani program, 32 vegetable farmers were assisted in marketing their produce at a higher price—thereby increasing their income. The same thing was done for Tulong Para sa Ani, in which rice farmers were assisted through the provision of seeds of pigmented varieties and organic fertilizers. This resulted in, at most, a 76% increase in their income as the rice was marketed at a higher price. Additional help was given to rice and vegetable farmers by linking them to markets for the Ani Para sa Suki program.

STF Operations also contributed to the Ani Para sa Bayani, one of the programs under PSFI's COVID response. More than 12 tons of assorted vegetables, chicken, salted eggs, and fruits were procured from vegetable growers in Jalajala, Pililla and Tanay, Rizal, and sent to frontliners at the UP Philippine General Hospital and other hospitals, and other community beneficiaries during the hard lockdown. They also participated in the Typhoon Ulysses relief operations by procuring produce, and then sorting, repacking, and dispatching them to Metro Manila and Northern Luzon.



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the sessions and applied these learnings to her home garden. Neighbors and co-mothers would admire her lettuce plants and other growing crops from the seeds given to her by the program. The children would also ask her to plant crops that they like and would want to eat them as soon as they were harvestable.

#### **PALAWAN ECO-AGRO PARK**

The Palawan Eco-Agro Park (PEAP), an 11.48 hectare farmland in El Nido, Palawan, was inaugurated in 2019 but officially began training farmers in 2020 after the training center was established. The PEAP programs went full throttle as a program for empowering the people of El Nido and nearby municipalities, and creating sustainable employment and wealth while protecting and conserving the environment.

PEAP produced over 9,000 kilos of vegetables and livestock, and 190 seedling products in 2020, with total sales amounting to around Php600,000. Total sales since the start of operations in 2019 was Php769,409.50.

The highlight of the year, however, was the training. The establishment of the training center in early 2020 could not have come at a better time, for it provided better venues and opportunities for much-needed training. With the objective of improving productivity and increasing farmers' income, upskilling the farmers with new, sustainable farm technologies commenced.

Leticia went a step further, learning to grow organic vegetables and producing her own organic fertilizer, applying it to her garden.

Once her neighbors learned that growing organic vegetables can be a source of additional income, they proceeded to copy her, sparking a lively community of growers.

Leticia was overwhelmed by the support of PSFI and the progress she has made—and continues to make—because of RTS. In her native Bicolano, she enthused, "I'm happy because I learned something that can be of big help to my whole family and to my community through gardening and proper knowledge on nutrition." She concluded, "This knowledge, I can pass on to my children and to my neighbors. This learning is something that will not leave me, something I will treasure."



PEAP trained 44 farmers in mushroom production and fish processing, and 28 farmers in organic farming and livestock raising. A total of 112 farmers were trained and have started applying these sustainable technologies on their farms. Farm inputs were also given to 23 farmer-beneficiaries.

ABOVE A seminar in November 2020 at the PEAP on rabbit raising as a potential meat alternative attended by the community.



# Improving the Productivity of Farmers

546

farmers trained and have adopted sustainable farming technologies



# **Enabling Improved Hygiene Practices**

17

new or rehabilitated hygiene facilities in barangay health centers



## Increasing Food Availability in Communities

5

mothers that have established or enhanced backyard gardens



## Supporting the Rehabilitation of Malnourished Children

187

caregivers
with underweight
children participating
in Positive Deviance/
Hearth sessions

**50** 

children participating in PDH sessions who gained 900 grams in three months (50% of participants)



921

households with improved water access



115

farmers linked to Shell supply chain and other markets Php1.85M

revenues generated for farmers



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### Looking After Its Communities

The World Bank has called the Philippines "one of the most natural hazard-prone countries in the world." Its location makes this so-just above the equator, in the warm waters of the western Pacific, above which 23 tropical storms and 10 typhoons formed in 2020. Aside from this, the country lies along the Pacific Ring of Fire, where earthquakes and volcanic activity occur. Knowing that disasters can stall development-if not set it back-PSFI is committed to providing assistance when and where it is needed.

PSFI's disaster response program in 2020 drew from the experience of their programs in the past years, and was structured around three pillars.

First, PSFI works within its fenceline communities-areas in which it currently operates-and allocates resources there, primarily. It also considers areas where there are Shell service stations.

The second pillar is the aligning with and securing of funding support from the Shell companies. PSFI then acts as executor as well as curator of the disaster response. It determines the specific assistance to be provided, based on available guidelines from the local government or the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

For instance, PSFI saw the need to address the lack or loss of income and livelihood resulting from the pandemic and from disasters, through its RESCUE program in Palawan. This was an opportunity for long-term impactteaching individuals to fish, as the PSFI mantra goes-and not just for meeting short-term needs. The result was thus a more comprehensive disaster response.

Children were given the chance to play and have fun in a Taal relief operations evacuation center in Batangas; rice procured from farmers in Rizal is loaded onto a truck for transport; and PSFI team together with Tabangao Aplaya Barangay Chairman Reynaldo Doce work hand-in-hand in transferring relief goods

FACING PAGE A man receives relief goods for his family. INSET A woman expresses her gratitude after receiving a hot meal offered as part of the Typhoon Ülysses response in Cagayan







Lastly, PSFI is cognizant of the fact that it is a small organization in terms of geographical reach. As such, in areas where its partners are already present, the Foundation taps them to execute disaster relief operations. It works with other organizations to reach more people faster than if it were to work alone.

#### Leveraging a Network

PSFI's disaster response in 2020 primarily focused on assisting its communities in Batangas and the Bicol region. As the need arose, however, it also responded in Rizal and Cagayan Valley—areas that were heavily hit by the typhoons. As such, it was able to look after its communities and also assist Shell employees who were affected.

What stood out in the Foundation's disaster response in 2020, however, was its ability to leverage its partnerships—including Shell's nationwide footprint—to deliver benefits to the people. Its Synergies Team was formed for exactly this purpose. Close coordination with groups on the ground enabled PSFI to respond more quickly and efficiently. As these groups were monitoring the situation through the City or Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (CDRRMO or MDRRMO), the Foundation was better able to assess the needs of the locality and align its response with those needs.

A good example is PSFI's partnership with World Vision Development Foundation (WVDF). After working together for Ani Para sa Bayani and Roots to Shoots, PSFI and WVDF signed an agreement in June 2020 for a preparedness partnership. This agreement has enabled the two organizations to quickly coordinate and collaborate to mobilize immediate disaster response efforts in areas where they are both present. The relief operation in Albay was the first collaboration under this partnership.

#### **Lessons Learned**

Despite the timeliness of its disaster response in 2020, PSFI is using the experience to continuously learn and improve.

More robust systems are being set up to streamline its process even further. One of the specific things being worked on is a system for the faster release of funds. This would enable its teams to act at a much faster pace.

After all, emergency situations—especially those as dire as the country experienced in 2020—deserve urgent action. If another disaster were to strike, PSFI's response will be informed by what it has learned from the past.



RIGHT A PSFI employee together with scholars of the Sanayan sa Kakayahang Industrial (SKIL) Program during the distribution of relief goods for Taal Relief Operations.

#### TAAL RELIEF OPERATIONS

On January 12, 2020, Taal Volcano in the province of Batangas started spewing ash after 42 years of inactivity. From then up to January 16, the volcano grew increasingly restless, recording hundreds of earth-quakes and shooting ash and hot magma up to an estimated 1,000 meters at the peak of its activity. Batangas, Tagaytay, Laguna, Cavite, and Rizal, and even Marikina, San Juan, Quezon City, and Bulacan, experienced ashfall. A total of 235,655 individuals or 61,123 households were displaced.

Five days after the initial volcanic activity was reported, PSFI and the Malampaya Foundation Incorporated (MFI) were at the Batangas Provincial Sports Complex to distribute relief goods to more than 1,000 families.

A second round of distribution took place on January 23 at the evacuation centers in Barangays San Isidro, Libjo, Ambulong, Malitam, and Tabangao. A total of 575 families benefited from this activity.

PSFI led volunteers from Shell companies in the Philippines in the distribution of relief goods consisting of food, hygiene kits, sleeping materials, pillows, and mineral water. During these activities, MFI provided food for the families, who were from 10 different towns in Batangas.

Batangas Governor Hermilando Mandanas expressed his appreciation to PSFI, Shell, and MFI. "Sa ngalan ng ating lalawigan at gayundin sa ating mga mamamayan, taos-puso ang ating pasasalamat (On behalf of our province and our citizens, we give our heartfelt gratitude)," he said, adding, "We really appreciate the caring, the attention and the compassion that Shell is showing. I know that you are generating revenue but [I can see] that you are very responsible corporate residents of Batangas."

#### **TYPHOON ROLLY RESPONSE**

Super Typhoon Rolly (international name: Goni) was considered the world's strongest tropical cyclone of 2020 when it made landfall in the Bicol Region on November 1. In Camarines Sur, it caused an estimated Php1.9 billion in damage to infrastructure and another Php770 million to agriculture. With flooding in 27 municipalities, some 54,000 families or 220,000 individuals were displaced. In Albay, Rolly made landfall twice, leaving an estimated Php2 billion worth of damage in Tabaco City alone. When it hit Batangas, the province was still under a state of calamity from Typhoon Quinta.

For PSFI, there was a greater impetus for assisting Camarines Sur. The province—previously identified by the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) as having one of the highest rates for stunting, teenage pregnancy, and poverty in the country—had just become the site



for the pilot implementation of Roots to Shoots (RTS) in September. Among the 2,133 households in Pasacao and the 548 in Bombon that had been affected by Rolly were the vulnerable children and pregnant mothers targeted in RTS. This put the program's development gains at risk.

ABOVE PSFI's Bombon Team ready for the Typhoon Rolly relief operations in Camarines Sur.

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PSFI lost no time, sourcing relief goods the day after Rolly struck. With a Php2 million budget from Shell, PSFI sourced rice from farmers in Bombon and fresh produce from farmers in Quezon. Masks made by seamstresses of the Silangan Ibabao Batis Bulihan Araneta Proper (SIBBAP) Multipurpose Cooperative in Batangas and Tacloban were also procured.

By November 11, the goods were being distributed in TALIM barangays of Batangas City; November 13 in Pasacao and Bombon, Camarines Sur; and November 14 in Tabaco and Malinao, Albay. A total of 2,415 households received family food packs and hygiene kits.

This intervention not only protected the development gains of RTS-it also supported the livelihood of the Bombon and Quezon farmers. By purchasing the produce directly from the farmers, PSFI was able to help them ensure that they continued to earn a living during these difficult times. The produce was then given to families with malnourished children, so they can continue to progress under the RTS program.

#### **TYPHOON ULYSSES RESPONSE**



The Philippines had barely recovered from Rolly when Typhoon Ulysses (international name: *Vamco*) entered the Philippines. It was the fifth storm to affect the country in less than a month, hitting Luzon on November 11, 2020. It brought storm surges two to three meters high, and the worst flooding in Metro Manila since Tropical Storm Ondoy (international name: *Ketsana*) in 2009.

PSFI mobilized partners and resources to provide urgent support to the most severely affected communities. For its assistance to Marikina, Rizal, and Albay, it partnered with the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) Committee on Disaster Resilience and Go Share. On November 28 and 29, a total of 1,632 food packs and hygiene kits were distributed to families in Brgy. IVC Marikina, and in Brgy. San Vicente, Brgy. Pob. Ibaba, Brgy. San Isidro, Brgy. Bagumbayan, and Brgy. San Roque, Angono, Rizal. Families in Camalig, Albay received 107 food packs and 35 sacks of rice, while 300 relief packs were allocated for Shell Retail site staff.

PSFI also procured 100 bags of 50 kilos of white rice from Pililla and Jalajala, Rizal, which supported local farmers in Rizal. The rice was repacked and distributed to those affected by the typhoon.

In Cagayan, feeding was the priority for the first few days of the relief operations. A total of 375 individuals were given hot meals. In the succeeding days, relief bags were distributed to 1,320 families from Tuguegarao, Solana, Amulung West, and Enrile in Cagayan Valley. These were among the most severely devastated areas, with the operation prioritizing the areas that were hardest to reach.

ABOVE In Cagayan, PSFI partnered with a local restaurant to provide hot meals to those affected by the flooding.





#### **SUPPORTED HOUSEHOLDS**

1,000+

575

in Batangas Provincial Sports Complex in TALIM, Batangas City barangays





### **SUPPORTED HOUSEHOLDS**

1,415 in Camarines Sur

800

260

in Albay

in Batangas

#### **PURCHASED FROM FARMERS**

12.8

tonnes of rice

5.7

tonnes of

vegetables

Php643,500

revenue for farmers

# Typhoon Ulysses



### HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVED RELIEF PACKS

1,320

1,632

107

in Cagayan

in Marikina and Rizal

in Camalig, Albay

375

individuals received hot meals in Cagayan

Php 190,000

imcome revenue for farmers

300

affected Shell Retail Site staff received relief packs

Over

Php2 million

worth of relief goods

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### Being a Good Neighbor

From activities that inform to those that aid and empower, PSFI's community relations activities provide assistance that is relevant to the community.

### **Batangas**

An important part of community relations is informing, educating, and communicating with the community. In Batangas, when perception surveys indicated that the community was not very aware of the programs and activities of PSFI, the Malampaya Foundation, Inc. (MFI), and the Shell Refinery, the Foundation started publishing a magazine. Entitled Unlad Balita (literally, "progress news"), the magazine has been published once a year since 2010 to help keep the community informed. Through it, PSFI provides updates and news about the three organizations, including announcements about important business activities that may have an impact on the community, and scholarship grants for skills or vocational courses to encourage applicants.

The 2020 issue of Unlad Balita contained news about PSFI's relief efforts for Taal Volcano evacuees, and Shell's COVID-19 response that affected TALIM barangays, aside from other community interventions. It also highlighted the Shell facility's shift from manufacturing to



ABOVE The 2020 issue of Unlad Balita.

BELOW Brgy. Ambulong formally receives PSFI's donation of alcohol, disinfectant, and power sprayers in July.

FACING PAGE At the Green School Turnover in Libjo National School. INSET Some of the cooking implements donated to residents of Brgy. Puntod in Cagayan de Oro affected by a fire.



import, helping the stakeholders and the community better understand the transformation and its effect on the community.

Another form of PSFI's assistance to the community came in July 2020, when the Libjo National High School (LNHS) became the seventh school under the Green School Program.

Started in 2012, the program establishes school gardens to help the students appreciate the benefits of growing and eating vegetables, and the value of a cleaner and greener environment. Other aspects of the program are solid waste management, and proper hygiene and sanitation.

LNHS teacher and Green School Program coordinator Mark Buenvenida said that the school plans to continue the garden, and all vegetables harvested will be distributed among the students to ensure their access to healthy and nutritious food.

"Ang malaki talagang naging tulong ng Green School sa Libjo ay nagkaroon ng feeding program (The Green School helped Libjo in a big way because it gave us a feeding program)," Mark said, adding that some children could



not go to school because they had nothing to bring for baon (money or food brought to school). "But because everyday, may supplementary na pakain sa kanila, malaki ang naitulong niyon sa mga batang iyon (they were given supplementary food, it was a big help to those children)," he concluded.

Aside from the greening of LNHS, PSFI aimed at the safety of the school in the time of COVID-19. To this end, the Foundation donated disinfecting solutions, sprayers, alcohol, and thermal scanners.

With health and safety becoming increasingly paramount, PSFI sought to ensure that the community would stay safe from disease, and to promote proper hygiene and sanitation. As such, in 2019, PSFI provided complete and compliant toilet facilities to 17 households of Brgy. Ambulong through the Oplan Palikuran Program. This contributed to the 98.2% rate of Batangueños with sanitary toilets.

The program was turned over to Brgy. Ambulong in July 2020. PSFI also donated power sprayers, disinfection solution, and alcohol to help the barangay in the

fight against COVID. At the turnover ceremony, Barangay Chairman Manolo Macatangay acknowledged the importance of the donation to the barangay. He reiterated that it would help them combat COVID as well as help them maintain cleanliness in every sitio.

The Green School Program taught organic farming and health to students and teachers of the Libjo National High School. LNHS teacher and Green School Program coordinator Mark Buenvenida says that working with PSFI on the program reminded him of the importance of a teacher's role and made him realize that teaching is not confined to the four corners of a classroom.

### Cagayan de Oro



In Cagayan de Oro, PSFI's outreach activities in 2020 highlighted the bond the Foundation has established with its partner communities. At the start of lockdowns that forced many to forego livelihood activities in favor of safety, PSFI provided food support to 1,000 indigent families from two communities—in Barangays Macabalan on April 4 and Puntod on April 9. Helping producers as well as those adversely affected, the Ani Para sa Bayani initiative provided farm fresh and healthy food packages to frontliners, patients and their families, and locally stranded individuals on April 22 and 30, and May 7.

Help at the trenches was also provided when an ultrasound machine was donated to J.R. Borja General Hospital, a public hospital, in June. In August, PSFI reached out to provide food for travelers—including many returning OFWs—stranded in the city's transport terminals due to travel restrictions and protocols. This was done through the local government unit (LGU), which accommodated the travelers in holding facilities. The food was sourced from the local Sumilao Progressive Farmers Association.

PSFI supported a feeding project initiated by the youth in partner communities. The PuMa SKIL Scholars Feeding Project, held with the local Sangguniang Kabataan in August, fed 240 wasted children in Puntod and Macabalan. Towards the end of the year, a fire broke out in Brgy. Puntod, damaging some 57 houses. While the LGU led many organizations in responding to the needs of those affected by the fire, PSFI filled in the gaps by providing kitchenware, cooking implements, and utensils for the families.

#### Palawan

The keen observation of safety protocols in Palawan kept the province COVID-free, for the most part-but this meant limitations in many of PSFI's program activities in the Province. Nonetheless, community relations delivered wins throughout the year.

The Petroleum Engineering internship at the Palawan State University proceeded as envisioned with just a few hiccups due to the pandemic. Six interns spent a little more than two months at the Malampaya Onshore Gas Plant (MOGP) before the start of the lockdowns, and completed the rest of the internship by writing papers.



TOP LEFT A total of 240 packed meals and drinks were prepared by SKIL 2 Scholars of Puntod and Macabalan for their feeding project.

ABOVE The J.R. Borja General Hospital receives the ultrasound machine at a formal handover ceremony.





PSFI and the Malampaya Joint Venture Partners once again collaborated with the University of the Philippines (UP) student organization UP Palaweños, for "In/Sight: Pautakan 2020"-a province-wide inter-scholastic academic and arts festival that pits students from schools across the province against each other in arts and academic contests. The event was held on January 3-4 at the Puerto Princesa City Coliseum.

PSFI also extended its support to the conduct of the Philippine Festival of Youth Action 2020 held in October. The event celebrates Filipino youth actions toward the attainment of the Global Goals, which is very much aligned with PSFI's own objective of lining its initiatives towards the SDGs. Finally, in December, the Foundation supported the conduct of the Paskuhan sa Palawan 2020, which was held for the first time through a virtual platform.

LEFT Jerah Yvonne Cabate, second from right, and the other Petroleum Engineering Interns at the Malampaya Onshore Gas Plant in Batangas City.

#### **LESSONS FROM AN INTERNSHIP**

Jerah Yvonne Cabate felt elated to have been chosen as one of only six interns with Shell Philippines Exploration (SPEX) B.V. for 2020. Having started the internship just before the pandemic closed down opportunities for others made her appreciate the experience even more.

"The internship benefited me in a way that it opened my mind to the real-life scenarios of working in the oil and gas industry. I came with only the learnings from books and the things taught by our professors, but I left with my cup filled," she said of the experience. Great importance was placed on safety and security during the internship, which helped immensely in her current role as Field Technician Trainee at JG Summit Petrochemical Corporation. "As a trainee, I am being intro-

duced to the processes of the plant in which the learnings I gained from my internship helped me understand the concepts a lot easier and during the times when I need to think critically," she capped.

More than learning for her profession, she added that she got to "understand the responsibility of the company not just to its customers but also to the people, which is evident with the community development programs." Ultimately, Jerah believes that without the internship, she would never have been able to appreciate the Malampaya Gas Project and its importance in providing 30% of the energy needs of the country. She said this greatly helped her understand her role and responsibility to society as a petroleum engineer.



### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS** AT A GLANCE

230

Unlad Balita magazines distributed



interns supported





240 children with nutritional deficiency fed

stakeholder events supported/sponsored

hospital provided with medical equipment





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# AWARDS GARNERED IN 2020

# Shell NXplorers

#### **EXCELLENCE IN FACILITATION**

SILVER MONALIEZL DY BRONZE MARK CHRISTIAN MARQUESES

### EXCEPTIONAL PROJECT BY A STUDENT TEAM

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

SILVER - TEAM SHELLERMOON UNIVERSITY OF SAN CARLOS BRONZE - NX-US ORIENTAL MINDORO

### **OUTSTANDING STUDENT TEAM**

GOLD TEAM AGRIBON PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL-CAGAYAN VALLEY



for companies that have a heart

#### **INTERNATIONAL CSR EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

ACCESS TO ENERGY (A2E) PROGRAM
MOVEMENT AGAINST MALARIA (MAM)
ANI PARA SA BAYANI



#### **ASIA PACIFIC STEVIE AWARDS**

ACCESS TO ENERGY (A2E) PROGRAM



### TOP TEN INNOVATORS OF THE SHELL GLOBAL LIVEWIRE PROGRAM

SIBBAP MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE



#### **56TH ANVIL AWARDS**

ACCESS TO ENERGY (A2E) PROGRAM MOVEMENT AGAINST MALARIA (MAM) HIV-AIDS PROGRAM

### **RECOGNITIONS**

### **GARNERED IN 2020**



Naval Forces West -Philippine Navy



Municipality of San Vicente, Palawan



Palawan State University



Province of Palawan



Palawan National High School



DENR, CENRO MIMAROPA Region



Department of Agriculture Bicol



Department of Education Division of Camarines Sur







TESDA Camarines Sur



DA-Agricultural Training Institute Bicol Region



Palawan Council for Sustainable Development

■ Radio Mo Nationwide

Rolin Broadcasting Enterprises

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### **DOWNSTREAM**

**ANIBONG AND** YOLANDA RECOVERY **REHABILITATION PROGRAM** 









**BATANGAS TEAM** 







**CAGAYAN** DE ORO **TEAM** 





**FARMS TEAM** 



















ROOTS TO SHOOTS (RTS)

































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JOHN ERIC LAPITAN



JOSE ENRICO KISON





























**EDUCATION** 







### **UPSTREAM**













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### UPSTREAM -BATANGAS



### **OUR PARTNERS**

### PRIMARY PARTNERS

Shell companies in the Philippines
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and
Malaria (GFATM)

### **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

**AGREA** 

Ameng Balay

Batangas Medical Center

Batangas State University – LIKHA FabLab

Chef Aiza's Kitchen

City Government of Batangas

Connected Freight

Dang Maria's

Department of Agriculture

Frontline Feeders PH Team

JR Borja Medical Center

Koi and Zsi Zsi's Kitchen

Kusina Palaweño

Kuyba Almoneca

League of Barangay Captains of Palawan

City Government of Batangas

Local Government of Jalajala, Rizal

Local Government of Pasacao, Camarines Sur

Local Government of Pililla, Rizal

Local Government of Tanay, Rizal

Manila Social Welfare Department

Mayani

Municipality of Taysan, Batangas

Northern Mindanao Medical Center

Office of the Vice President (OVP)

Organic Options, Inc.

Palawan Provincial Health Office

Provincial Department of Health Office of Palawan

Provincial Government of Palawan

Puso ng Ama Foundation

Research Institute For Tropical Medicine in Metro

Senordamla Restaurant

Shell LiveWIRE

Silangan Ibabao Batis Bulihan Araneta Proper (SIBBAP) Multipurpose Cooperative

University of the Philippines – Philippine General Hospital (UP–PGH)

University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA) – Palawan Chapter

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Strengthening Urban Resilience for Growth with Equity (SURGE) Project

Vegetable Caravan by Cordillera Farmers

World Vision Development Foundation, Inc. (WVDF)

### LIVELIHOOD

**CPM** Construction

Department of Labor and Employment - Batangas

Department of Science and Technology – Batangas

Department of Trade and Industry – Batangas

**EEI** Corporation

FDR First Safety Systems Training Services Corporation

GreenAntz Builders, Inc.

Green Factory by Oro Handmade Innovations Inc.

JGC Philippines

Joel Chavez Corporation

Keppel Batangas Shipyard

Lakas ng Mangingisda ng Baybayin ng Tabangao

Lyceum of the Philippines University – Batangas

MagzWheel Furniture

McInfinity Foods, Inc.

Montemaria Asia Pilgrims, Inc.

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME)

Office of City Veterinary and Agricultural Services –

Batangas

PESO Provincial – Batangas

Sangguniang Barangay of Libjo

Sangguniang Barangay of Malitam

Sangguniang Barangay of San Isidro

Sangguniang Barangay of Tabangao Ambulong

Sangguniang Barangay of Tabangao Aplaya

San Isidro Multipurpose Cooperative

Shell LiveWIRE

Silangan Ibabao Batis Bulihan Araneta Proper (SIBBAP) Multipurpose Cooperative

TASK Us Philippines

Technical Education and Skills Development Agency (TESDA) Regional Training Center – Batangas

#### **EDUCATION**

Batangas State University

De La Salle University

Department of Education (DepEd) - Batangas City

First In Learning Systems Education Training Center, Inc.

Knowledge Channel Foundation

Messy Bessy Cleaners, Incorporated

Mapua University

Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology

National Bookstore

Palawan State University

Philippine S&T Development (PhilDev) Foundation

Philippines – Gus O'Corn-Bioplastic

Polytechnic University of the Philippines

Revolve Outerwear

Teach for the Philippines

University of the Philippines Diliman

University of the Philippine Los Baños

University of San Carlos

University of Santo Tomas

Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Asian Collaborative Training Network for Malaria

Axios International

City Government of Batangas City

City Government of Cagayan de Oro City

City Government of Caloocan City

City Government of Makati City

City Government of Mandaluyong City

City Government of Manila

City Government of Marikina City

City Government of Pasay City

City Government of Pasig City

City Government of Puerto Princesa City

City Government of Quezon City

City Government of Taguig City

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Labor and Employment –

Occupational Safety and Health Center (DOLE-OSHC)

Department of Public Works and Highways – District II

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Kilusan Ligtas Malaria

LoveYourself Interactive Consultation (iCON)

Malampaya Joint Venture Partners

OL Hidalgo Bike Shop

Palawan Adventist Hospital

Philippine Country Coordinating Mechanism

Philippine National AIDS Council

Philipine National Police – Batangas City

Philippine Suzuki Riders Club Laguna

Pinoy Plus Advocacy

Provincial Government of Cagayan

Provincial Government of Davao del Norte

Provincial Government of Maguindanao

Provincial Government of Mindoro Occidental

Provincial Government of Palawan

Provincial Government of Sultan Kudarat

Provincial Health Office Palawan

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM)

Transportation Development Regulatory Office – Batanaas

University of the Philippines Diliman National Service Training Program (NSTP)

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Babuyan Twin Sandars Community-Based Sustainable Tourism (CBST) Association

City Government of Tacloban City

Community Park Warden Association

Dewil Valley Eco Adventure Association (DeVEAA)

Empowering Communities with Hope and

Opportunities through Sustainable Initiatives

(ECHOSi) Foundation, Inc.

Great Women

Habitat for Humanity

Kinabuhayan Eco-Warriors

Local Government Unit of Dolores, Quezon

Magayen IT Buenavista Consumers Cooperative

Maoyon CBST Association

Nagkakaisang Samahan ng Isla Felomina Diving Site

National Power Corporation – Makiling Banahaw Watershed Area Team (NPC–MBWAT)

Palawan Council for Sustainable Development

Palawan Ecological Adventure Trail (PEAT)

Provincial Government of Puerto Princesa, Palawan

Provincial Government of Quezon Province

Puerto Princesa City Tourism Office

Sabang Mangrove Paddle Boat Tour Guide Association

Sangguniang Barangay of Kinabuhayan

Tagebenit Neighboorhood Association, Inc.

Tubbataha Management Office

Zoological Society of London

### **ENERGY**

ABS-CBN Palawan

Asian Collaborative Training Network for Malaria Avala Foundation, Inc.

Babuyan Twin Sandars CBST Association

Barangay Maytegued of Taytay, Palawan

Barangay Port Barton of San Vicente, Palawan

City Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO) – Puerto Princesa

City Government of Puerto Princesa, Palawan

Community Park Warden Association

Department of Agriculture – Agriculture Training Institute (ATI)

Department of Agriculture – Lipa Agriculture and Research Experiment Station (LARES)

Department of Agriculture - MIMAROPA

Department of Agriculture Region V

Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Puerto Princesa

Department of Science and Technology (DOST) – Palawan

Dewil Eco-Mangrove Tour Association

Dewil Valley Eco Adventure Association (DeVEAA)

JK Solar Power House

Magayen IT Buenavista Consumers Cooperative

Maytegued Energy Association (MEA)

Maytegued Microgrid Power System

Municipal and Barangay Local Government Units

Municipality of Roxas, Palawan

Municipality of Taytay, Palawan

Nagkakaisang Samahan ng Isla Felomina Diving Site

Palawan Adventist Hospital

Palawan Chamber of Commerce

Palawan Council for Sustainable Development

Palawan Ecological Adventure Trail (PEAT)
Association

Palawan State University

Provincial Government of Palawan

Provincial Health Office Palawan

Puerto Princesa City Tourism Office

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Sabang Mangrove Paddle Boat Tour Guide Association

Shell Philippines Exploration

Sitio Alabaguen, Palawan

Softlink Engineering Services and Supply

Star Palawan Cooperative

Tagebenit Neighborhood Association, Inc.

TESDA

Tubbataha Management Office

University of the Philippines Alumni Association – Palawan Chapter 10 CBST

USAID-SURGE

WVDF

Zoological Society of London

### **NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY**

Agricultural Training Institute – Bicol

Ayala Foundation, Inc.

Barangay Quintang in Pasacao, Camarines Sur

Department of Agriculture – MIMAROPA

Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 5

Department of Agriculture – Region IV-A East West Seed Foundation, Inc.

Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau,

Food and Nutrition Research Institute, Department of Science and Technology

Institute of Human Nutrition and Food, College of Human Ecology University of the Philippines – Los

Baños (IHNF-CHE, UPLB)
Lipa Agricultural Research and Experimental Station

Local Government of Bombon, Camarines Sur

Local Government of Palawan

Local Government of Rizal

Local Health Unit of Bombon, Camarines Sur

Manila Water Foundation (MWF)

Mayani

Municipality of Bombon, Camarines Sur

Municipality of El Nido, Palawan

Municipality of Jalajala, Pililla Municipality of Pasacao, Camarines Sur

Municipality of Tanay, Rizal

National Nutrition Council

Office of the Vice President
Palawan Chamber of Commerce

Pilipinas Kontra Gutom

Provincial Government of Camarines Sur Star Palawan Cooperative **TESDA** 

University of the Philippines General Hospital Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) **WVDF** 

### DISASTER RESPONSE

Barangay Ambulong, Batangas Barangay Libjo, Batangas Barangay Malitam, Batangas Barangay San Isidro, Batangas Barangay Tabangao, Batangas Batangas Provincial Sports Complex Committee on Disaster Resilience Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)

East West Seed Company Go Share Philippines League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) Local Government of Batangas Local Government of Bicol, Camarines Sur Local Government of Bombon, Camarines Sur Local Government of Cagayan Valley

Malampaya Foundation Incorporated (MFI)

Provincial Government of Quezon Province SIBBAP Multipurpose Cooperative **WVDF** 

Provincial Government of Albay

Local Government of Rizal Province

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

ABS-CBN

Barangay Ambulong, Batangas Barangay Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro Barangay Puntod, Cagayan de Oro City ENRO Puerto Princesa Clty Government of Puerto Princesa DENR CENRO Puerto Princesa DOST-Palawan J.R. Borja General Hospital

Libjo National High School (LNHS) Local Government Unit of Cagayan de Oro Local Sangguniang Kabataan of Macabalan

Local Sangguniang Kabataan of Puntod Malampaya Foundation, Inc. (MFI)

Malampaya Joint Venture Partners Municipal and Barangay Local Government Units Palawan State University

Philippine Festival of Youth Action Provincial Government of Cagayan de Oro

Puerto Princesa City Coliseum Shell Philippines Exploration (SPEX) Student Organization UP Palaweños Sumilao Progressive Farmers Association

Provincial Government of Palawan

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