Our Year in Numbers

- **63,835** men and women benefitted from interventions related to water, sanitation and hygiene promotion in Eastern Samar.
- **31** villages in Bantayan Island with more than **32,150** individuals have received support from our work in 2015.
- **5,235** individuals (of which 86% were women) from 5 provinces of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) joined the learning sessions and campaign drive on Reproductive Health and provided with Family Planning commodities through ARCHES project.
- **7,849** prepaid cards loaded with cash aid were disbursed across the ARMM and Eastern Visayas region through the Emergency Prepaid Solution Project.
- **1,251** households benefitted from new water systems constructed in the Island of Bohol, in Central Visayas, which was devastated by a 7.3-magnitude earthquake in 2013.
- **34,474** individuals received support from different interventions such as Livelihood Enhancement support, Adaptation and Risk Reduction (ARR) and Women’s empowerment held in Eastern Samar since typhoon Haiyan.
- **5,567** displaced individuals living in temporary and permanent relocation sites in Tacloban City were reached through different services achieved with our partners.
- **6,728** people took part in offline actions in support of campaign and advocacy initiatives.
- **75,565** people taking part in online actions in support of campaigns and advocacy initiatives.
- **695** women and **625** men from Central Mindanao benefitted from improved access to water or market facilities such as trading posts as part of the care work interventions and trading posts interventions under Project EMBRACE.
- **219** women from ARMM received time and labour saving equipment and participated along with their husbands in the family maswarah (dialogue) to address social norms on care work.
- **6,479** women and men from vulnerable communities were made more resilient through inclusive community-based DRR, contingency plan development, establishment of resource centers, and policy and advocacy on the DRRM Act of the Philippines through the SURGE Project.
- **122** known MEDIA HITS (or coverage) on featured campaign issues linked back to our work or supported activities.

More of our work can be viewed on our website: https://philippines.oxfam.org/
In our first year of implementing the Philippine country strategy, Oxfam staff and partners walked, literally and figuratively, with organizations of farmers, fishers, indigenous communities, and women. We walked with internally displaced populations, in areas devastated by Haiyan, and continued to support their negotiations for more resilient houses in safe locations. While most still await safer and more secure relocation sites, some have started to rebuild their lives in new resettlement areas.

Together with partners, we brought reproductive health services and support, to areas in Muslim Mindanao where women have limited access to contraception and support for maternal health and infant care. We advocated for the recognition of care work, and asserted that this should be a shared responsibility with men. We stood up against gender-based violence and worked to empower women with knowledge about their rights, while engaging men in understanding what equality truly meant.

We started new partnerships with the corporate private sector, innovating on emergency cash transfer practices, and incentivizing septage management through a revolving fund.

We seized the opportunities opened by the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, by ensuring that women have a voice in the peace and transition process, and together with civil society partners, asserted that any proposed legislation must address historical injustice, as well as longstanding economic, gender and social inequalities that drive poverty and vulnerability in the region.

This report highlights the results of Oxfam’s first year of work under our new country strategy. Some are conveyed in numbers, while others in stories of change in the lives of people we worked with. We hope the numbers and the stories resonate with your own hopes and dreams for the most poor and vulnerable people in this country.

As we welcome the new leadership of this country, we hold on to the belief that together we can create a just world without poverty.

Sincerely,

Justin Morgan
Country Director, Oxfam in the Philippines
As one among key international aid agencies in the country, we helped bring food, water and life-saving supplies to people affected by natural and human-induced emergencies. We contributed to addressing poverty in the country by empowering poor communities to claim their right to livelihood assets, and to manage their natural resources.

We held government and the corporate private sector accountable, through policy advocacy and evidence-based research, as we campaigned for fair trade, cheaper medicines and education for all. We campaigned for climate change, and pushed for adequate resources for adaptation finance, arguing that climate change would adversely and unfairly hit small food producers the most, and thus, endanger the food security of millions of poor people.

The 27 years of Oxfam’s presence in the Philippines is a testament of our commitment to work for meaningful change in the lives of the most vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society.

**OUR STORY IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**1986 TO 1991**

**1990**
Along with other CSOs, pushed for full implementation of agrarian reform in the Philippines, freedom from foreign debt, fair trade, and reforms in the fisheries, agriculture and indigenous people’s sectors.

**2000**
Oxfam adopts the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework, and campaigns for Fair Trade, Education for All, Access to Medicines, Arms Control 2000; Establishes presence in Mindanao.

**2001**
Oxfam campaigns for assets and markets and essential services for poorest sectors and drums up the Make Trade Fair campaign; adopts Gender Mainstreaming.

**2012**
Typhoons Ondoy, Juan, Sendong and Pablo devastate the country; Oxfam invests in Inclusive Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (ICBDRR).

**2012**
Oxfam launches its advocacy on climate change adaptation and finance under Oxfam’s global campaign for food and climate justice or GROW.

**2013**
Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) affecting over 16 million people in 80 provinces, triggers the biggest humanitarian response of Oxfam in the country; Typhoon Hagupit, follows a year after.

**2015**

**2016**
Continues to explore new partnerships and finding more effective ways to support governments and institutions in serving the poorest sectors of society.
BOLD SHIFTS IN PRIORITIES: OUR NEW COUNTRY STRATEGY

Oxfam takes into account the country’s emerging and changing contexts, which are themselves avenues to combating poverty, alongside other development actors. Building on its achievements and learning from its 27 years of anti-poverty and humanitarian work in the country, Oxfam began a strategic shift in priorities to increase impact, relevance, accountability to people living in poverty and be a more legitimate voice for them. In 2016, Oxfam focused on its role as convenor and catalyst for transformational change through:

- Opening up political spaces
- Building capacity and sharing technical expertise
- Providing strategic funding to partners by raising funds and public support
- Policy and practice for equality and inclusion
- Saving lives and resilience in humanitarian response

Oxfam’s Theory of Change is directed at the transformation of power relations by helping mobilize capable citizens that will hold government to account, demand responsible private sector investments and practices, and move in collaboration with other actors such as religious institutions, civil society and the media. At the center of this transformation, the crucial indicator is poor women empowered economically, socially and politically; capable of speaking for themselves and others who are also marginalized, influencing decisions on allocation of public and private resources that affect how they live and free themselves from poverty.

Three (3) Strategic Goals for 2015-2020 define the issues and measurements by which Oxfam will evaluate itself:

**ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

This Economic Justice Programme aims to contribute to a reduction in inequality, through effective policy implementation and promotion of practices that favour the economic empowerment of poor and vulnerable people in rural and urban Philippines. By 2020, it envisions that poor women will assert power over their household livelihood, community DRR is financed and implemented, vulnerable households have their land and their rights upheld and lastly, public corporate and civil society resources are responsibly invested to improve the poorest Filipinos’ living condition.

**RIGHTS IN CRISIS**

The Rights in Crisis (RiC) works to usher the Philippines in improving its resiliency and save lives now and into the future by investing in mechanisms that reduce risks, the impact of disasters and being able to respond quickly to disasters, prioritizing assistance for the most vulnerable. By 2020, it envisions that the Government will integrate gender-responsive DRR; communities through the assistance of other actors will have timely response to disasters; and for Oxfam to continue to be a technical leader in humanitarian WASH and livelihood.

**CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION**

The Conflict Transformation programme seeks to end conflict and promote peace in the Bangsamoro by transforming ideas, beliefs and institutions towards the Muslim people. By 2020, we envision that young women and men in the region will recognize their identity and unique needs as Bangsamoro; provide essential health services to women; and influence leaders and citizens to develop and implement inclusive development plans and achieve greater social accountability.

Want to know more? Download Oxfam in the Philippines’ Operational Country Strategy by going to philippines.oxfam.org/who-we-are
In the Philippines, **25 million people live below the poverty line.** Government statistics in 2014 estimated the poverty incidence to be at 25.8 percent of total population. The 2012 official poverty estimates per region identified the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) as the poorest, followed by Eastern Visayas, Central Mindanao and the Zamboanga Peninsula. These regions plus CARAGA are currently the geographic focus of Oxfam in the Philippines. Official estimates also indicate Lanao del Sur, Eastern Samar and Maguindanao, as the top provinces with the most number of poor families.

A recent study pointing to **several causes of poverty** in the country, affirms Oxfam’s strategies in addressing poverty in the Philippines. Among the key drivers cited were the country’s neo-liberal economic development framework, lack of transparency and accountability mechanisms, the unfinished land reform project, misguided allocation and mismanagement of government funds and other resources, unregulated corporate private sector, costly internal armed conflicts and vulnerability to natural disasters.

Although geographically rich in biodiversity, mineral deposits, forest, marine and aquatic resources, the country remains caught up in an **underperforming agricultural sector**, with high underemployment and unemployment rates, and inadequate social protection mechanisms.

In addition to its **high population growth rates**, **tax burdens especially on the lower and middle classes**, as well as its increasing reliance on incomes from skilled workers in volatile industries and overseas remittances, continue to threaten whatever gains it has achieved over the past three to six years.

**Women**, especially those in geographically isolated communities and those displaced by natural disasters and armed conflicts, **bear the burden of both poverty and continuing gender inequality.** While the Gender and Development (GAD) budgeting policy has secured a steady fund source to respond to women’s economic and social needs, commitment to implement this in an effective manner by national and local government offices, remains a challenge.

Rural women engaged in farming, fishing, forestry and other agriculture-based livelihoods still have to assert their visibility in policies and government funding priorities.

Although increasingly able to take on paying jobs to support
WHERE WE WORK: THE PHILIPPINES IN CONTEXT

100 MILLION FILIPINOS LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE

Most Number of Poor Families:
1. Lanao Del Sur
2. Eastern Samar
3. Maguindanao

Women bear unpaid care work,* even if she earns 1 in 5 women aged 15-49 has experienced physical violence since age 15.

Girls in post-Haiyan areas experience stress for lack of water, hygiene/sanitation, and threat of sexual violence.

Men

150,000 LIVES LOST TO ARMED CONFLICTS IN MINDANAO

Based on a study by the Philippine Statistics Authority, more than 80 percent of women and girls in post-Haiyan areas experience stress for lack of food, shelter, hygiene/sanitation, and threat of sexual violence. However, disasters also demonstrate how women and men complement each other's strengths, in order to cope amidst the difficulties brought about by disasters. In fishing villages in Eastern Samar, for example, the casualties were mostly men, because they stayed with their boats and guarded their houses while sending other family members to move to safer locations such as evacuation centers.

Meanwhile, the fragile situation in the southern part of the Philippines has already cost the country 150,000 lives lost, and economic losses amounting to PhP640 billion over the last 45 years. The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB), signed between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) opened a lot of potential opportunities that could have paved the way for the establishment of an autonomous Bangsamoro region and a new governance system aimed at securing peace and development in crucial areas in Mindanao. Unfortunately, the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), which was the first milestone in the roadmap to peace, was set back by the tragic mis-encounter at Mamasapano, and hence stalled in both houses of the Philippine Congress.

Increasingly frequent extreme weather events, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, as well as susceptibility to the El Nino and La Nina phenomena, place the country at a much greater risk to natural disasters compared to its neighbours. Super Typhoon Haiyan, (local name Yolanda), brought out the greater vulnerabilities of women, children, persons with disabilities, elderly people and the LGBT individuals in already poor communities.

Their families, unpaid care work still remains a woman’s responsibility. Reproductive health rights, despite the passage of the RH law, have not been fully guaranteed by the government, as implementation continues to be stalled by administrative and legal barriers.

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In 2015, we have worked alongside farmers from 13 selected cities and municipalities in Leyte and Central Mindanao, to access the People’s Survival Fund (PSF). Moving on to longer-term recovery, we have conducted trainings on diversified livelihoods for coconut farmers and fisherfolks in Eastern Samar providing new sources of income to 34,400 beneficiaries. In December 2015, we saw the closing of Oxfam’s programme in Bantayan Island which led to the declaration of 15 Barangays as zero open defecation areas. This WASH success has led to other impactful interventions such as Oxfam’s partnership with PBSP in managing a revolving fund that aims to support local government efforts on septage management in the next four years and beyond.

Empowering Poor Women and Men in Building Resilient and Adaptive Communities in Mindanao (EMBRACE), one of Oxfam’s flagship programmes, has shown that with the right knowledge and foresight, poor people can dodge the worst impacts of climate change and fight back against poverty and hunger. EMBRACE teaches farmers to hedge against the unexpected weather and wild climatic swings, through intercropping and by using locally available resources as farm inputs.

Through Project EMBRACE, 13 local governments have raised a total of USD1.92 million worth of adaptation proposals to the government’s People Survival Fund --a USD 15 million equity funding. The project has reached a total of 18,473 individuals (10,760 are women, 7,713 are men) through education sessions in the form of community symposiums, forums and meetings raising their awareness on the impacts of climate change and disaster risks on their lives and livelihoods.

Caironis Abubacar, 45, lives in Barangay Kulimpang, Buldon, Maguindanao, with her husband, Pinto, and their 13 children. The couple used to cultivate corn, but the price of corn fluctuates, while the cost of the seeds, fertiliser and pesticides has been steadily increasing. As a result, the couple became reliant on taking out loans to purchase the inputs, but they have struggled to repay their debts. When the project came to the village, Caironis was chosen to be one of the training participants and recipient of seeds so she can start a kitchen garden.

“It was wonderful to be able to set up my farm in my home, so that I could stay close to my children. We learnt to prepare organic compost and to control pests naturally. I could not believe that in a span of one month, I was already able to harvest vegetables including a surplus to sell at the market. This meant that I was able to earn an additional income.

“With vegetable farming, I have realised three things. Firstly, my eyes have been opened to the fact that you can earn an income by selling these vegetables. Secondly, I am sure that we will have food to eat everyday and we will never go hungry. And lastly, I am sure that we are now consuming fresh and nutritious food that our bodies need. I am very grateful because without this project we would have been trapped in debt.”

Maguindanao, ARMM
CULTIVATING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

The smile of success. Caironis stands proudly in her kitchen garden located in Buldon, Maguindanao. (Photo: Hashimton Aratuc)
Barangay 5 in the municipality of Balangiga was a thriving fishing village even Typhoon Haiyan came. But illegal fishing activities persisted even after the typhoon which prompted the Small Fisherfolk Association to seek support for a milkfish culture. Oxfam gave the seed capital while the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) provided milkfish culture management training.

Each member took turns in the labor, assigning tasks among themselves. Members contributed whatever items they can, and mobilized their own resources, including boats. The first harvest in September 2015 earned about PhP150,000.00 (USD 3190), which they used to settle wages, capital for the next harvest as well as put up a lending scheme with a low interest available to its members.

Because milkfish culture is climate sensitive, the group closely tuned in to weather forecasts from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA). Schedules of their succeeding harvests come with preparedness measures to sudden weather changes. The group scheduled their second harvest in February 2016. “The association helped me by lending me money when I needed it,” explained member Abundia Catalogo, milkfish vendor.

The local BFAR began to monitor illegal fishing activities in Balangiga. The Local Development Council planned to implement an anti-illegal fishing campaign and a livelihood project, which includes the provision of additional areas for seaweed farming. In the coming months, the fishers anticipate increasing milkfish harvests. They are also planning to begin a prawn shrimp culture in the coming months.

Women Increased Resilient and Empowered against Disaster (WIRED) emphasizes women’s leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to realize their role in pre- and post-disaster events. It contributes to improving poor women and girls’ capacity to become more resilient economically through agricultural livelihoods; raises their awareness of the sexual and reproductive health rights; and builds their confidence to engages in local decision-making.

The project conducted trainings on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and facilitated DRR planning sessions actively involving women across 10 barangays. Women were given learning sessions on livelihoods, and involved them in managing a 270-hectare coastal area with artificial reefs. Adolescent girls were introduced to Adolescent and Reproductive Health (ASRH).

The separate child-minding sessions conducted alongside the Gender Reflection Sessions allowed women and mothers to meaningfully participate in the discussions and workshops. These sessions proved to be a breather for women participants. One woman from Barangay Palaganas shares, “It was only Oxfam who extended this kind of service where we were able to focus on the training while our children were safely being taken cared of.”
Amid the poverty and conflict surrounding the autonomous region of Muslim Mindanao, women lead in creating paths to peace through their active involvement in the Bangsamoro peace and transition process at the local and national level. Oxfam, together with its civil society partners, engaged the discourse around the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, and what should guide the establishment of a Bangsamoro state. In 2015, a multi-stakeholder forum convened reproductive health actors in Mindanao and secured their commitment to support RH implementation, which has reached more than 5,200 individuals through the ARCHES Project.

Bibing and the other women who joined the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) activity expressed that they didn’t have much awareness on health, especially about the existence of government’s free services on Family Planning.

“I want to practice family planning because I already have five children. My husband is a fisherman and earns Php 65 (USD 2) daily. When I joined the SRH activities, I gained awareness on family planning methods. Our misconceptions were corrected. Before, we thought contraception causes terminal illnesses and is haram or forbidden in Islam. With the help of the Muslim Religious Leader who gave a lecture, this notion was corrected.”

A nurse inserts a contraceptive implant to a woman availing of reproductive health services through the ARCHES project. (Photo: ARCHES team)
Mamasapano, Maguindanao

WOMEN IN MAMASAPANO LEAD THE WAY

“We started taking roles in rebuilding our communities through increasing capacities of women in productive activities.”

This was the opening statement of Bai Puti Datu Tahir, the president of Women Farmers Livelihood Association in Sitio Pamalian, Barangay Manungkaling in the municipality of Mamasapano during the monitoring visit for the implementation of BASIC-START Project* under the Conflict Transformation programme.

This initiative gained momentum, with the relative stability in the area, after the signing of the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) and the Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro (CAB) of 2012 and 2014 respectively. It is being implemented in the context of rebuilding conflict affected community after at least five (5) major wars in more than a decade which practically immobilized women that confined their activities to pure household matters, rearing children and attending to the needs of family especially in times of displacement.

At least twenty-six (26) women, all of them farmers and mostly leaders of various community based organizations, benefitted from the delivery of farming implements and a post-harvest facility.

Sitio Pamalian is mainly a rice farming village supported by irrigation facilities. The farmers depend largely on commercial land cultivation services whose owners also impose control of post harvest rice threshing services as a precondition during land cultivation. During community consultation for the conceptualization of the project, the dominance of men in the community’s political and economic structure surfaced. This became one major consideration in the project concept.

The village also sent at least four (4) women leaders to attend a training on advancing women’s participation in conflict resolution and peace building as part of a broader effort for women to take an active and strategic role in the Bangsamoro peace and transition process. The participants were updated on the status of the political process between the MILF and Philippine government, the possible role they can play in supporting the passage of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), the history of the peace process, promoting children’s rights and building a culture of peace, among others.

Women took on roles such as ensuring protection from sources of insecurities, political participation and economic access. Some trained women participants became facilitators in managing community frustrations due to the non-passage of Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL).

* BASIC-START means Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially-Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition. The project aims to support the successful transition in Bangsamoro through broad-based participation of women, men and youth; stronger cohesion and positive national consciousness towards the Bangsamoro.
In FY 2016, we supported more than 5,500 individuals displaced by Haiyan, to participate in critical resettlement decision-making processes, as well as in the drafting of barangay disaster risk reduction and management plans and a comprehensive city land use plan. Through the SURGE Project, more than 6,400 women and men from vulnerable communities were made more resilient through inclusive community-based DRR trainings. An innovative solution to emergency cash transfer was introduced benefitting more than 7,800 poor families who can now access cash assistance electronically, in Haiyan-affected areas in eastern Visayas and conflict-affected areas in Mindanao.

Tacloban City, Eastern Leyte
SAFER AND RESILIENT: THE ELECTRONIC PREPAID SOLUTION (EPS) PROJECT

The EPS Project is a partnership between VISA, Oxfam and other agencies which seeks to provide people in disaster- or conflict-affected communities, access to cash, especially at a time when livelihoods and local economy are severely affected.

The concept is simple: an individual beneficiary is identified and issued an EPS Card ‘loaded’ with a fixed amount that can be used to purchase food and other items at local merchants and mobile stores. It can also be used to withdraw money from any bank automated teller machines (ATMs) and pay-out centers.

For beneficiaries like Eugene, the best feature of the project is that each cardholder can have control over the cash they received or earned. “Kanya-kanya na kami (to each his own),” shares Eugene. Because payments are directly loaded into the prepaid cards, beneficiaries can track their own account and salaries. They have the freedom to choose how much to withdraw, or save up. Aside from this, the system makes it possible that there’ll be no more delays in the salary because cash is now digitally transferred.

Eugene also shared that the project is morally uplifting. Like many others, he has neither applied for a savings account nor owned an ATM card. Now, every time he uses the card, he is filled with a sense of pride because he is keeping up with the times. For him, using the card means being sosyal (fashionable), because this is how ‘professionals’ get their own salaries bringing him on an equal footing with them.

The project leverages public and private partnership to improve cash transfer programmes, using a digital platform. As a key stakeholder, the government likewise benefits, because it is able to collaborate with humanitarian and private sector organizations to consolidate support to the affected population. Meanwhile, the private sector helps facilitate the recovery of the market and local businesses, by bringing their goods and services closer to the population. The humanitarian organizations find this solution as cost-efficient compared to direct cash transfer which poses many risks to both staff and beneficiaries.
facing increasing risk to the stronger and more frequent typhoons and sea surge. “We have no safe place for evacuation. There is just one road, there is the farm and the sea,” Teodoro Sinaca, Mayor of Malimono said.

“We need to be concerned for our whole barangay, not just for our families,” Jessica Quiza, a fish vendor and member of the barangay disaster relief volunteer, explained in their village meeting facilitated through an Oxfam local partner and attended by male local officials.

Other women like Emerita and Jessica are influencing the contingency plan of their municipality. Unlike before, women are no longer speaking to the wind. Men and the government officials actually listen. “What is effective for me is the participatory approach” Elizabeth Escoza, municipal DDR officer of Malimono explained. “It is the constituents who speak and say ‘This is how we are, this is our situation, and these are our needs,” she added.

In April 2014, Oxfam took lead in implementing the Scaling Up Resilience in Governance (SURGE) with three other humanitarian organizations, Handicap International, Plan International and Christian Aid. SURGE focused on inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for persons with disabilities, children and women from island-communities.

The project gathered 48 DRR champions who led a national advocacy and influencing work on sunset review of RA10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act. In November 2015, SURGE organized the national forum with the 2016 elections’ presidential candidates on DRRM-CCA. It also partnered with local governments and communities to widen the space for peer-to-peer learning among ICBDRR community leaders. Oxfam focused on the CARAGA region and facilitated the opening of more spaces for village women to directly influence the formal DRR, resilience planning and training of local governments.

In Karihatag, a remote village of Malimono municipality in Surigao del Sur, east of Mindanao facing the Pacific Ocean, women are defining inclusiveness as the heart of Disaster Risk Reduction and climate resilience. “I am poor but I look for any chance to help the barangay,” says Emerita Munion as she brimmed during her interview on the steps of her old wooden house in the village. Emerita is a farmer and belongs to the group of women leading the evacuation, rescue and relief training of their village. Surrounded by rivers and the sea, and only one road crossing a river as a way out, the village of Karihatag is one of the most isolated areas in Mindanao.

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Facing increasing risk to the stronger and more frequent typhoons and sea surge. "We have no safe place for evacuation. There is just one road, there is the farm and the sea,” Teodoro Sinaca, Mayor of Malimono said.

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“FOR OUR COMMUNITY COOPERATION TO GROW, NO ONE SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND.”
Emerita Munion, woman farmer from Karihatag, Surigao del Sur
The mothers of Karihatag have been leading the evacuation and relief preparedness training. In evacuation drills, the mothers ensure that the sick, older persons, persons with disabilities and children have mobility; roads are cleared for moving people; the sound warning device is loud and heard; relief food is made available, and volunteers are mobile and ready with their megaphones.

And for her part, Jessica and other fish vendors have decided to dry more fish when in peak season and keep more in stock in times of need for food relief.

“Men are stronger but we can contribute a lot as women,” Jessica says. Definitely, while men in her community move muscles to get people to safety, women like Jessica and Emerita provide the detailed thinking to make DRR inclusive and at home in people’s hearts.

“When poor women are DRR champions, inclusiveness is not an agenda to be set but at the heart of life itself. As Emerita says in her interview, “For our community cooperation to grow, no one should be left behind.”

Jessica Binan Quiza, Fish vendor and member of the barangay disaster relief volunteer

TACLOBAN CITY, EASTERN LEYTE ▲
WALKED WITH US: FISHERFOLKS’ JOURNEY TO CLAIMING THEIR RIGHTS TO RESETTLEMENT

No one is as busy as fisherman Lozanto “Ka Jun” Castillo. Ka Jun is the chairperson of the Tacloban City Fisheries Management Council, which is composed of 50 fishers associations from 42 coastal barangays. He is also the chairperson of the Tacloban Fisherfolk Urban Association, one of the groups claiming the right to safe and permanent housing relocation since their coastal village was declared a danger zone after Super Typhoon Haiyan hit Tacloban City. Now, the fisherfolks are united in bringing their ideas forward, actively engaged in negotiations with the local government.

“Oxfam has been with us, walked with us when we were strengthening our organization, are negotiating on our permanent housing with authorities, and in finding real solutions with us. Oxfam brings us nearer to national government, so we speak with high officials, so they will hear us and act. If we just negotiate within our own localities, nothing will really happen. This is the biggest help Oxfam has been giving us ever since.”

Oxfam’s Tacloban Resettlement Integrated Programme (TRIP) aims to increase the resilience and advance the rights of Tacloban City’s internally displaced persons (IDP) as they move through the resettlement process. There are 12,518 families from 36 barangays identified for resettlement by the city government.

WATCH: Stories of Resilience documents some of the best ICBDRR practices in some of the most high-risk areas in the Philippines, as told by the people living in those communities. Watch and share it from here: http://bit.ly/surgeresilience.
Partners and partnership relation is very important for Oxfam. With her formidable vision of a society free of poverty and equality is enjoyed by all, Oxfam knows and believes that such a world is possible only with the coming together and close working with all actors of society.

The “usual suspects” of course in the work for social transformation are the civil society groups – the NGOs, the INGOs, community organizations, women’s rights groups, the academe. Oxfam has worked with them for almost three decades of presence in the Philippines. But of late, Oxfam also sees government and private sector institutions as important elements in the equation for change. Each brings something unique to the engagement, all crucial, and at different junctures of history, play roles of varying levels of weight and significance. Oxfam recognizes and values diversity of agents for change, and boldly faces up to the challenge of engaging each differently.

For 2015-2016, Oxfam’s partners number forty, with 4 INGOs for a multi-stakeholder SURGE project and a financial inclusion project, 2 university-based institutions, an MFI with tie-ups with a rural bank, an online media outfit, and 2 big corporations. An overwhelming 82.5% of this are local NGO’s. A handful of this number have more than one project with different programmes of Oxfam. Fifteen percent are based in the Visayas, 20% from Mindanao, and a big chunk of 65% have base operations from Luzon, where many national offices, networks or coalitions, media institutions and international agencies are primarily headquartered. Although only nine are categorized as women’s rights organizations (WROs), almost all have in varying degrees have mainstreamed gender and development into their mandates, programs and projects, and are in one way or the other involves in the work for women’s empowerment, as well as addressing the rights and welfare of other marginalized groups or sectors. Although there is no government agency included in our 2015-2016 list, many in our programmes explored and forged partnerships with the government, around creating a policy environment facilitative of promoting and protecting peoples’ and communities rights to be active participants in issues affecting their lives.

Fiscal year 2016-2017 will see more tie-ups with private sector institutions in partnerships around WASH, WHAM, financial inclusion, resettlement and our sustainable livelihoods work, and policy advocacy work around CCA and DRR, care work and women’s economic leadership and empowerment.

If you would like to know more about our principles on partnership and how Oxfam works with partners, visit our website by going to http://philippines.oxfam.org/get-involved/partner-us.
Oxfam in the Philippines values accountability to our donors, partners and most especially our beneficiaries. Every single donation that goes into the financial resources is maximised to increase the impact of our programmes. Through this, together, we can help poor women and men be free from poverty, exercise their rights and improve their lives.

Overall PHL Spent FY 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME AREAS</th>
<th>FY2016 SPENT (GBP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conflict Transformation</td>
<td>809,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Justice</td>
<td>4,356,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rights in Crisis</td>
<td>3,431,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non OCS</td>
<td>556,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,153,670</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURE OF FUNDS</th>
<th>FY2016 SPENT (GBP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>748,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>8,404,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,153,670</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unrestricted Income is flexible and not tied to a particular activity. Sources of unrestricted income include: Oxfam’s shops, Oxfam’s public supporters in the UK and elsewhere, and indirect cost recovery from restricted contracts.

Restricted Income is from contracts with donors. It is usually tied to a particular set of specific activities determined by the donor. Sources of restricted income include: governments, intergovernmental organisations (UN, EU etc), and other affiliates in the Oxfam Confederation. The overwhelming majority of Oxfam projects are funded primarily through restricted income.

(Curious about how Oxfam spends your donations? Find out by going to http://www.oxfam.org.uk/donate/how-we-spend-your-money)

(Note: Fiscal Year 2016 ran from April 2015 to March 2016)
Oxfam’s vision is a just world without poverty: a world in which people can influence decisions that affect their lives, enjoy their rights, and assume their responsibilities as full citizens of a world in which all human beings are valued and treated equally.

Our goal is to contribute to the eradication of poverty in the Philippines. We will support women and other vulnerable groups in saving lives and building livelihoods; enhancing resilience to crises, shocks and stresses, and making voices heard to hold duty-bearers accountable.

https://philippines.oxfam.org/
ENDNOTES

3. See poverty statistics presented by the National Anti-Poverty Commission, see URL: http://napc.gov.ph/?q=articles/poverty-statistics
4. Provinces of Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-tawi, Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao
5. Provinces of Biliran, Leyte, Northern Samar, Samar, Eastern Samar and Southern Leyte
6. Provinces of Cotabato, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Sarangani
7. Provinces of Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga Sibugay
8. Provinces of Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte, and Dinagat Islands
10. See January 2016 Labor Force Survey from the Philippine Statistics Authority shows the combined rate is at 24.5 percent.
14. Recognized as a pioneer on women’s rights and gender equality in Asia, the Philippines has significant legislation for women, to name some: Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law, Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children, Anti-Rape Law, Anti-Sexual Harassment Law, Magna Carta Of Women and the Women in Development and Nation-Building Act which set into motion the allocation of a minimum of 5 percent of government budgets for Gender and Development (GAD) purposes.
15. The acronym means Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and other sexual orientations and gender identity and expression (SOGIE)
16. The acronym means Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and other sexual orientations and gender identity and expression (SOGIE)
Leo, a student from Tugas Elementary School in Madridejos, Bantayan Island in Cebu, demonstrates to his class the steps to proper handwashing during one of the WaSH Clubs’ sessions. The school formed WASH Committees composed of students trained to teach their peers practices on proper hygiene and safe waste disposal. Oxfam also constructed new handwashing facilities, toilet for boys and girls and improved the school’s water system. The project is under Oxfam’s Typhoon Haiyan Response Programme in Bantayan Island. (Photo: Jay Estafia/Oxfam)
Oxfam is an international confederation of 18 organisations networked together in more than 94 countries, as part of a global movement for change, to build a future free from the injustice of poverty.

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