

Case of Bohol, the Philippines, Municipality of Guindulman, Candijay, Duero.

(REPLICATION FOR 7 BARANGAYS)

***Partnership**

ZijActief-Utrecht (formerly ZijActief-Noord-Zuid-Holland) corresponds more than 10 years with women of Bohol, the Philippines, since 2004 named as the Women's organization for Progress and Development of Guindulman, Bohol, Inc. (WOPD)

ZijActief, the Catholic Rural Women network, is a national voluntary membership organization for and by women living and working in the Dutch (urbanized) rural areas. ZijActief Utrecht is a federation with 22 member organizations and 1500 members and situated in the center of the Netherlands. ZijActief is involved in various themes at international, National, Provincial as well as local level. In the field of International development cooperation the following points get special attention: Sustainable development as quality of life, poverty reduction and equality between man and woman.

WOPDG is a federation of 17 local women groups in the municipalities of Guindulman, Candijay and Duero. The Bohol Community Assistance Program (BOCAP) an NGO in the eastern part of the island of Bohol has initiated several rural women organizations at the local level and organized these in the federation. In October 13, 2004 WOPDG was registered at the office of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Manila. The federation has acquired a legal status. As of July 31, 2009 it has 487 members. WOPDG has opened a bank account in 2004. It makes the federation independent and reinforces its position.

Tools of the partnership:

To strengthen and consolidate existing women organization capacity building Livelihood enhancement projects

***Bohol, the Philippines, municipality of Guindulman, Duero and Candijay.**

Bohol is an island province that lies between the other provinces of Central Visayas and Eastern Visayas. It has 654 kilometers of coastline and 6,245 square kilometers of municipal waters. Bohol is composed of 48 municipalities and 1,114 barangays. Thirty (30) of these municipalities, or 62.5 % are situated along the coastline. Communities of the interior towns are mostly engaged in agriculture and this is their primary source of income.

Bohol population in 2005 is projected @ 1,483,252. More than 60% of the population lives from agriculture while 47.5% of the households are living below poverty line.

The annual population growth is 2.9%. The farm and non-farm laborers depend in seasonal employment for their subsistence and livelihood. It is hampered by limited and poor quality of irrigation, low values on crops, poor soil and inadequate technical inputs. The people are adversely affected by the onslaught of global warming.

The millennium Development Goal- halving by 2015 the proportion of people living in extreme poverty cannot be reached without looking to solutions on social, economic development and environmental and nature management.

*** WATER SUPPLY**

Guindulman has a total land area of 126 square kilometers with a total population of 36,000 citizens, with approximately 6,000 households with 19 barangays. Guindulman is a part of the watershed area of Cao-ud river and Lumbay river. There are wells with groundwater at the coastal barangays. At the upland barangays like Lombog, Biabas, Catungawan norte and Catungawan Sur, they use water from the spring and river in the mountains. GUINBUASCO(Guindulman Ilaw ng Buhay Water and Sanitation Service Cooperative) provides ten barangays with water (2009), totally around 2,500 households. Only three coastal barangays has 24 hours service but the rest is on scheduled basis. Most of the upland area has communal taps (level II) and only few barangays has households connections (level III). Level I means direct intake from spring in the river.

***WATER MANAGEMENT**

The management and staff of GUINBUASCO are the one responsible in cleaning the water tanks. While at the barangay level everyone has the responsibility of cleaning the tanks and the area of the communal faucets. There is no proper plan or program of waste water management. Usually the local government units using the budget from the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) for constructing of water tanks.

***WATER QUALITY**

There is no water committee monitoring

Bohol Medium Term Development Program 2004-2009

Calls a member of pretexts:

- Protect and rehabilitate small watersheds that are potential sources of local
- water supply
- Organize a water quality monitoring body
- Implement community-based reforestation program
- Increase major water conservation sites in agricultural areas
- Reduce the member of households without sanitary toilets by 75%
- Reduce the member of households with doubtful sources of drinking water
- To improve water use including water conservation of ground water resources

The main questions for Guindulmanons are:

- How can we learn to protect and preserve water and the environment?
- How can they get involve in decision making process?
- What are the causes and effects of unsanitary condition of water?
- Is it possible that women take the responsibility in the management of water project?
- Is it possible to have a joint management of water project with the local women organization and government unit at the barangay level?
- How we can handle with the climate changing?