

Fr. Jorge Anzorena, S.J.

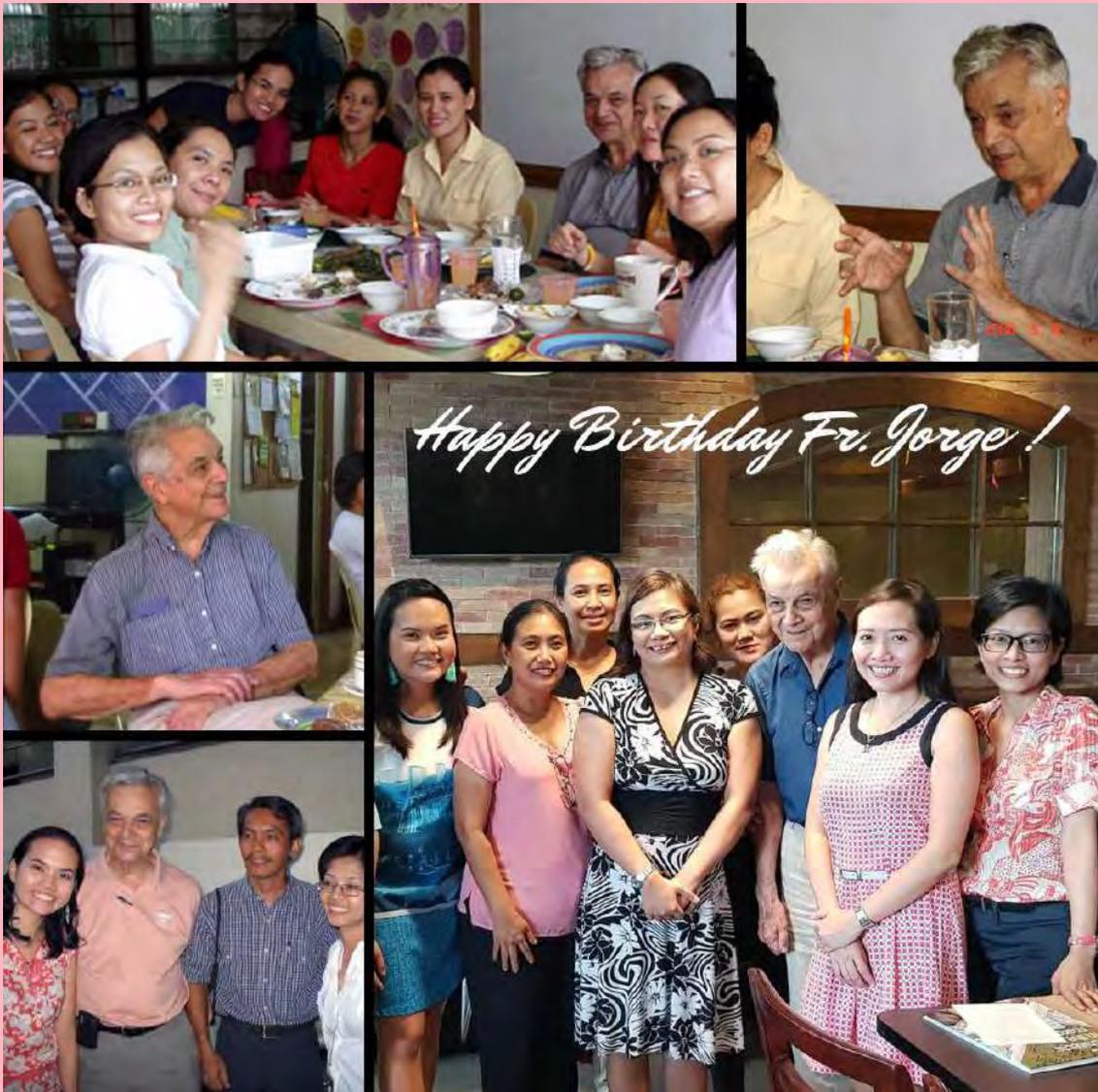
SELAVIP

NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2022

Journal of Low-Income Housing in Asia and the World



FR. JORGE AT 92

Still going strong!

Rock Stars do not retire. They only stop when
there is no more music left in them.

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They love Fr. Jorge. Just like so many of us.

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1978-2001: without pictures

2002-mid 2018: with pictures

Fr. Anzorena's Selavip Newsletter is issued twice a year, every year since 1978. Without fail. Except for October 2021 – my fault, not Fr. Jorge's.

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ACHR

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

News for ACHR Happy New Year 2022

Happy New Year Greetings to all the far-flung friends of ACHR:

One useful aspect of marking the New Year is the way it obliges us to stop what we were doing, pause for a moment and say, "*Hmm. What just happened? And what's coming?*" The January 1st date, which comes from the Roman calendar, seems a little out of place here in Asia, where we have all sorts of new year dates of our own to choose from: the Thai new year on Songkran, Diwali in India, the Islamic Hijri new year, the Chinese new year, Tet in Vietnam, etc. But since the European new year seems to have become the default one, let's follow the crowd and make a quick note on what's happening with ACHR and what projects are on the bubble for our coalition in Asia.

Shifting the ACHR secretariat to Nepal:

The big news you may already have heard: after some 32 years in Bangkok, under Somsook's guiding hand, the ACHR secretariat will be moving to Kathmandu, where Lajana and her team at Lumanti have heroically agreed to take on the task of facilitating the regional process. The transition won't happen at once. It's our plan to use the coming year or two to gradually shift the secretariat's various functions and coordination activities to

Nepal, while the Bangkok office will play an increasingly supporting role - helping with finances and documentation, things like that. The shift couldn't come at a better time, because the grey hair, the bifocals and the flagging energy levels among the Bangkok team are starting to become conspicuous. We'll keep you posted as this transition takes a more definite shape.

CAN coordination shifting to Bangladesh:

Another baton is being passed on with the coordination of ACHR's regional Community Architects Network (CAN). The all-Thai CAN coordinating team will be handing the reigns to a group of idealistic and energetic young community architects who have formed the POCAA Network in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The POCAA team (Platform for Community Action and Architecture) will be supported by Kabir and Suhailey, from their base in Jhenaidah, and will also be sharing the coordination work with the community architect team in the Philippines. The CAN teams are now working together to develop a new proposal with Misereor, to fund a new stage of regional activities in the coming years.

KNOW Study in 4 Asian Cities:

After several years, this big global study on "pathways to urban equality" will be wrapping up in March 2022. The teams in

the four Asian cities that ACHR has helped to bring into the study (Da Nang, Nakhon Sawan, Yangon and Yogyakarta) are now wrapping up their research, producing reports, videos, books, academic articles and all sorts of materials. Brenda continues to do most of the heavy-lifting of coordinating ACHR's part of the study, linking with the research teams in each city and with our academic partners at DPU in London.

Selavip 5 Model Cities Project:

Despite the unplanned limitations of the pandemic, this project to demonstrate a more community-driven and citywide housing model continues to move forward and to chalk up all kinds of important breakthroughs and innovations. The project, which is being funded by the Selavip Foundation with a lot of flexibility and understanding, is being implemented by community networks and their support NGOs in five cities - Jakarta, Yangon, Dhaka, Iloilo and Mahalaxmi. With funds for small upgrading projects and big housing projects, the project has allowed us to extend the kind of citywide, collaborative and people-driven action that began in our ACCA program. Minh Chau, who has coordinated several of ACHR's projects with Selavip in the past, continues to coordinate this one remotely, from her native Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where she recently moved with her family.

Collective Housing Project:

This important regional project to promote more collective and more community-driven housing in Asia, continues, with funds for national processes, for documenting collective housing case

studies and for sharing news about Asia's collective housing innovations with urbaMonde and with the global CoHabitat network. Follow this link to see some of the detailed collective housing case studies groups around the region have prepared:

<http://www.achr.net/library.php?ic=16>

urbaMonde is an important new partner for ACHR, with whom we find sympathetic and like-minded new friends. The project included a budget for a regional training event, which the pandemic prevented us from having. So we decided to use those funds instead to enable our friends across Asia to develop their own creative online "how to" training materials, which can now be downloaded from the ACHR website, under the Library tab:

Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.

<http://www.achr.net/collective.php>

Our current project with urbaMonde will be wrapping up in June 2022, but we are already working with Bea and Lea at urbaMonde in Geneva to explore ways to extend the partnership and to develop a special project to explore the issue of collective housing finance - a project which will involve both study and action.

Community Covid response in 4 ASEAN countries.

This short project, which ACHR is facilitating in collaboration with IIED, involves both study and action. The project will finish in March 2022, but it has given us a good opportunity to look at all the interesting ways communities and their networks in four countries (Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand) have

been creatively coping with all the needs the covid crisis has made urgent, and to support those efforts a little bit, at the same time we study and document them. The final report will be coming out at the end of March 2022.

Lots of zooming:

Like so many groups around the world, we have been forced to set aside our old ways of working (with lots of in-person meetings, project visits and peer-to-peer exchanges) and learn some new "virtual" tools like online seminars and zoom meetings. We are now managing most of our regional ACHR projects entirely by zoom, without any visits or exchanges or in-person meetings at all. It seemed like a big drag at first, but as we got used to the medium, I think all of us have become fairly competent zoomers - competent enough to be able to listen, to present and to learn from each other from our little boxes on the zoom screen. And there are advantages to the new tools: we can easily arrange discussions with people from all over Asia, and all over the globe, and it doesn't cost a cent. Of course everyone is longing for a lovely big, warm ACHR regional gathering - and in several of our current projects, which were planned long before the pandemic, we have budget all ready for one. But with this new Omicron variant, the prospects for a big ACHR regional meeting remain uncertain.

ACHR staff news:

Somsook has recently reached the distinguished age of 70, and is now spending most of her energies on her work in

Thailand, with CODI's Baan Mankong housing program (both urban and rural), and with the extraordinary program CODI has run over the past two years to support a national community-driven and network-driven response to the Covid crisis. Natvipa ("Nat") is now fully retired from her work at CODI, semi-retired from her work at ACHR and comes in just one or two afternoons a week to help with ACHR administrative work. Pakorn ("Chai") continues to manage all the ACHR finances and day-to-day office stuff, with his unsinkable grace and good humor. After working for a few years in Bangkok, Brenda has moved back to her native Bogota Colombia, where she continues to help facilitate our KNOW and urbaMonde projects from a distance. Minh Chau has also moved back to her native Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, with her family, but continues to help coordinate the Selavip 5 Cities project remotely. Chawanad ("Nad") helps coordinate the CAN network and is working with the team at Lumanti to manage the transition of the ACHR secretariat. And Tom finds himself the only full-timer left at the sometimes-lonely ACHR office, where he continues with the writing and documentation work that seems to be part of all the various projects.

We'll close it there, and end with a big load of very warm wishes to everyone for a fruitful - and perhaps less viral - new year.

Take good care everybody,

For further information:

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NETWORK

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

Six Extraordinary Women in Science Who Received the Ramon Magsaysay Award

According to the United Nations, "a significant gender gap has persisted throughout the years at all levels of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines all over the world. Even though women have made tremendous progress towards increasing their participation in higher education, they are still under-represented in these fields."

In celebration of the International Day of Women in Science on February 11, the Ramon Magsaysay Award pays homage to women in STEM who have received Asia's premier prize and highest honor, and all the women across the world who are breaking gender barriers in science and technology.

Here are just a few of them:

[Dr. FE DEL MUNDO](#)

pioneered a number of innovations in the field of medicine in the Philippines. She has dedicated her life to pediatric healthcare—from the prenatal care of mothers to the health and development of children through adolescence.

Among the many contributions of Dr. DEL MUNDO are the Children's Memorial Hospital, now known as the Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC), the Philippines' first pediatric hospital; developed a bamboo incubator to help families in rural communities without electricity; and authored "Textbook of Pediatrics and Child Health", which was used in medical schools in the Philippines for many years.



MABELLE RAJANIKANT AROLE,

together with her husband Rajanikant are doctors who served India's rural poor through medical service.

Despite the rough start of medical practice in Jamkhed, in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra, the two doctors were able to win the acceptance and trust of the community by developing the Jamkhed Comprehensive Rural Health Project which focuses on making the locals self-sustaining in rural health and economic betterment.

Dr. SIMA SAMAR

as a child in school learned what it meant to be a scorned minority in Pushtun-dominated Afghanistan. She discerned, moreover, that as a female in a conservative Muslim society she was doubly “second class” but she strove to prove her own worth.

SAMAR was one of the first Hazara women who completed her medical degree. She aided the anti-Soviet resistance movement, and in 1984, when her husband was arrested, SAMAR and her small son fled to the safety of nearby Pakistan, where thousands of refugees from war-ravaged Afghanistan lived in appalling misery.

SAMAR devoted herself to her fellow refugees. She not only helped the refugees by providing medical services through the Shuhada Clinic where fees are low, medicines are free, and all refugees are welcome, male or female. She also made sure that women, especially young girls, received education by establishing the Ariana School, the community's first school for girls.

SISTER EVA FIDELA MAAMO

is a Filipino nun who dreamed of becoming a doctor. During her teenage years, SISTER

EVA took up medical studies because she thought it would go well with the religious life, for which she felt stirrings.

In the midst of her residency at the Philippine General Hospital, SISTER EVA was sent to Lake Sebu in Mindanao where she built a crude bamboo infirmary and treated T'bolis, Manobos, and other hill folks from the surrounding mountains. She also performed miracles of improvisation—operating by flashlight and substituting coconut water for dextrose— and expanded health services by training local men and women to serve as “barefoot doctors” in isolated villages scattered across the hills.

Working through the Foundation of Our Lady of Peace Mission, which SISTER EVA founded in 1986, she extended a helping hand to needy communities throughout Manila by maintaining no-fee health clinics in ten depressed areas and providing nutritious meals daily to malnourished children in six of them.

CYNTHIA MAUNG,

founder of Mae Tao Clinic, is a medical doctor from Myanmar who since 1989 has lived in Mae Sot, on the Thailand-Myanmar border where she provides medical assistance to refugees.

Born to a Karen family in Moulmein in 1959, CYNTHIA MAUNG studied medicine at the University of Rangoon. During her medical practice in a Karen village near her hometown in 1988, Myanmar's military junta launched its bloody crackdown against democracy advocates. Packing a few clothes and a medical reference book, she fled with some students to Mae Sot, Thailand, where she joined other exiles. Trauma and illness were rampant among the refugees, and there, Dr. CYNTHIA went to work.

With hardly any supplies at all, she improvised by sterilizing a few precious instruments in a kitchen rice cooker and by soliciting medicines and food from Catholic relief workers and nearby refugee camps. In 1988, to keep up with the demand on bringing health services, Mae Tao Clinic began its backpack-medic program after the over-the-border clinics were overrun and destroyed by the Myanmar army, and is continuing to assist displaced villagers across the border.

[Dr. FIRDAUSI QADRI,](#)

affordable vaccine champion, played a key role in the development of a more affordable oral cholera vaccine (OCV) and the typhoid conjugate vaccine (Vi-TCV) for adults, children, and even infants as young as nine months.

Born to a middle-class family that encouraged women to pursue an education and a career, she decided to specialize in

medical research, earning a degree in biochemistry, and culminating in a doctorate from Liverpool University in the United Kingdom.

Set to use her knowledge and skills for the benefit of her homeland, QADRI returned to Bangladesh where she eventually joined the International Centre For Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b), an international health research institute based in Dhaka, where she focused, for the last three decades, on communicable diseases, immunology, vaccine development, and clinical trials. Her exemplary contributions to science and health continuously bring glory, honor, and hope to her beloved country and to all the lives she is saving.

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THEME

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

How to Lose a War

by Walden Bello

After over two weeks of Anglo-American bombardment of Afghanistan, once one gets beyond the sound and fury of American bombs and the smokescreen of CNN propaganda, it appears that in the war between the United States and Osama bin Laden, the latter is coming out ahead.

“Making the Rubble Bounce”

It is doubtful if Washington has achieved anything of tactical or strategic value except to make the “rubble bounce”, as the consequences of multiple nuclear explosions in one area were cynically described during Cold War. Indeed, the bombing, which has taken the lives of many civilians, has worsened the US’s strategic position in Southwest and South Asia by eroding the stability of the pro-US regimes in the Muslim world. A radical fundamentalist regime is now a real possibility in Islamabad, while Washington faces the unpleasant prospect of having to serve ultimately as a police force between an increasingly isolated Saudi elite and a restive youthful population that regards bin Laden as a hero.

Meanwhile in the rest of the developing world, the shock over the September 11 assault is giving way to disapproval of the US bombing and, even more worrisome to Washington, to bin Laden’s emergence in the public consciousness as a feisty underdog skillfully running circles around a

big bully who only knows one response: massive retaliation. A telling sign of the times in Bangkok and many other cities in Southeast Asia is the way young people are snapping up bin Laden T-shirts, and not only for reasons of novelty.

Anglo-Saxon Brotherhood

CNN images of US President George Bush, Prime Minister Tony Blair, and US Secretary of State Colin Powell ticking off the latest statement of support for the US mask the reality that Washington and London are losing the propaganda war. Their effort to paint the military campaign as a conflict between civilization and terrorists has instead come across as a crusade of the Anglo-Saxon brotherhood against the Islamic world. So jarring has British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s public relations drive to make Britain an equal partner in the war effort that the foreign minister of Belgium, which currently holds the presidency of the European Union, has felt compelled to criticize Blair for compromising the interests of the EU.

In the aftermath of the September 11 assault, a number of writers wrote about the possibility that that move could have been a bait to get the US bogged down in a war of intervention in the Middle East that would inflame the Muslim world against it. Whether or not that was indeed bin Laden’s strategic objective, the US bombing of

Afghanistan has created precisely such a situation. Moderate leaders of Thailand's normally sedate Muslim community now openly express support for bin Laden. In Indonesia, once regarded as a model of tolerant Islam, a recent survey revealed that half of the respondents regard bin Laden as a fighter for justice and less than 35 per cent regard him as a terrorist.

The global support that US President George Bush has flaunted is deceptive. Of course, a lot of governments would express their support for the UN Security Council's call for a global campaign against terrorism. Far fewer countries, however, are actually actively cooperating in intelligence and police surveillance activities. Even fewer have endorsed the military campaign and opened up their territory to transit by US planes on the way to Southwest Asia. And when one gets down to the decisive test of offering troops and weapons to fight alongside the British and the Americans in the harsh plains and icy mountains of Afghanistan, one is down to the hardcore of the Western Cold War alliance.

Translating Guerrilla War to a Global Setting

Bin Laden's terrorist methods are despicable, but one must grant the devil his due. Whether through study or practice, he has absorbed the lessons of guerrilla warfare in a national, Afghan setting and translated it to a global setting. Serving as the international correlate of the national popular base is the youth of the global Muslim community, among whom feelings of resentment against Western domination were a volatile mix that was simply waiting to be ignited.

The September 11 attacks were horrific and heinous, but from one angle, what were they except a variant of Che Guevara's "foco" theory? According to Guevara, the aim of a bold guerrilla action is twofold: to demoralize the enemy and to empower your popular base by getting them to participate in an action that shows that the all-powerful government is indeed vulnerable. The enemy is then provoked into a military response that further saps his credibility in what is basically a political and ideological battle. For bin Laden, terrorism is not the end but a means to an end. And that end is something that none of Bush's rhetoric about defending civilization through revenge bombing can compete with: a vision of Muslim Asia rid of American economic and military power, Israel, and corrupt surrogate elites, and returned to justice and Islamic sanctity.

Lost Opportunity

Yet Washington was not exactly without weapons in this ideological war. In the aftermath of September 11, it could have responded in a way that could have blunted bin Laden's political and ideological appeal and opened up a new era in US-Arab relations.

First, it could have foresworn unilateral military action and announced to the world that it would go the legal route in pursuing justice, no matter how long this took. It could have announced its pursuit of a process combining patient multinational investigation, diplomacy, and the employment of accepted international mechanisms like the International Court of Justice.

These methods may take time but they work, and they ensure that justice and

fairness are served. For instance, patient diplomacy secured the extradition from Libya of suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, and their successful prosecution under an especially constituted court in the Hague. Likewise, the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia, set up under the auspices of the ICJ, has successfully prosecuted some wartime Croat and Serbian terrorists and is currently prosecuting former Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic, though of course much remains to be done.

The second prong of a progressive US response could have been Washington's announcing a fundamental change in its policies in the Middle East, the main points of which would be the withdrawal of troops from Saudi Arabia, the ending of sanctions and military action against Iraq, decisive support for the immediate establishment of a Palestinian state, and ordering Israel to immediately refrain from attacks on Palestinian communities.

Foreign policy realists will say that this strategy is impossible to sell to the American people, but they have been wrong before. Had the US taken this route, instead of taking the law-as-usual-in-its-own-hands, it could have emerged as an example of a great power showing restraint and paved the way to a new era of relations among people and nations. The instincts of a unilateral, imperial past, however, have prevailed, and they have now run rampant to such an extent that, even on the home front, the rights of dissent and democratic diversity that have been one of the powerful ideological attractions of US society are fundamentally threatened by the draconian legislation being pushed by law-and-order

types like Secretary of Justice John Ashcroft that are taking advantage of the current crisis to push through their pre-September 11 authoritarian agendas.

No Win Situation

As things now stand, Washington has painted itself into a no-win situation.

- If it kills bin Laden, he becomes a martyr, a source of never-ending inspiration, especially to young Muslims.
- If it captures him alive, freeing him will become a massive focus of resistance that will prevent the imposition of capital punishment without triggering massive revolts throughout the Islamic world.
- If it fails to kill or capture him, he will secure an aura of invincibility, as somebody favored by God, and whose cause is therefore just.

As Tom Spencer, a policy analyst of Britain's Conservative Party, has observed, bin Laden has been turned into a "Robin Hood".

September 11 was an unspeakable crime against humanity, but the US response has converted the equation in many people's minds into a war between vision and power, righteousness and might, and, perverse as this may sound, spirit versus matter. You won't get this from CNN and the New York Times, but Washington has stumbled into bin Laden's preferred terrain of battle.

Posted by Walden Bello
Asia/World, Food Sovereignty and
Agroecology, Peace and Security, Power and
Democracy
Focus on Trade 68, October 2001

THEME

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

No Recovery without Justice

By Bianca Martinez

As the Philippines entered the second year of the pandemic, the Duterte administration geared up towards pursuing economic recovery. Despite peddling optimistic projections for the economy and vague platitudes about “real change for future generations,” the political and economic scars from the past two years cannot be concealed. Millions of people from the most vulnerable sectors and communities have been left behind since the onset of the pandemic, and they remain left out in the recovery plans.

Across these sectors and communities, the most vulnerable—but also the ones who make the most significant contributions towards economic recovery—are women. This article will assess the impacts of the government’s pandemic response as well as the implications of some key elements of its economic recovery plan on women. One thing that is clear from the assessment is that the government’s economic recovery plan is inherently opposed to women’s interests and welfare. Thus, to conclude, the article identifies key points of a more just and inclusive economic recovery.

Women’s pre-pandemic economic disposition

To understand precisely how the government’s policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as its neoliberal economic recovery plan will affect women, it is first important to have an appreciation of their economic situation prior to the pandemic.

The most recent sex-disaggregated statistics on labor and employment consolidated by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) dates back to 2017. Despite it being released two years before the last pre-pandemic year (2019), the 2017 report (which also includes data from previous years) remains an important source that could reveal trends and developments in women’s economic situation prior to the pandemic.

The 2017 data shows that of all employed Filipino women, a significant portion continued to rely on low quality jobs that were highly vulnerable to disruptive global events like the COVID-19 pandemic. More than a third of employed women were engaged in part-time work, while 51 percent of them worked in the informal economy. On the other hand, 37.2 percent of total employed men work in the informal economy. This means that women tend to find jobs in the informal sector more often than men do.

One of the most glaring structural barriers that prevents women from accessing decently paid and secure work is the traditional assignment of unpaid care work to women. Thus, most of them are driven into taking on flexible jobs that would allow them to attend to care responsibilities. However, with the government’s liberal definition of “employment” that includes informal and irregular work, official data obscures the quality of jobs being created.

Moving on to the major industry groups, data shows that the majority of women in the service sector are employed in wholesale and retail trade (41.3 percent), public administration and defense (9.6 percent), accommodation and food service (8 percent), and education (7.6 percent).

On labor migration, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) was able to release more recent sex-disaggregated data in 2019. It shows that more women also relied on overseas work as compared to men. Female Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) constitute the majority of OFW deployment at 56

percent, whereas male migrant workers made up 44 percent. Furthermore, female OFWs mostly took on elementary occupations (including domestic work), which remained the largest occupation group that made up 62.5 percent of all migrant women in 2019. Service and sales composed the second largest occupation group which accounted for 17.7 percent of female OFWs.

What accounts for the increasing reliance of female OFWs on low-paying, insecure domestic labor that is often prone to workplace abuse is the emergence of so-called global care chains. Linking women globally through the transnational exchange of domestic work, these chains are underpinned by the growing inequality between women in the global north and women in the global south on the one hand, and on the other, the persistence of patriarchal values that devalue care work while also ascribing them to women. Indeed, while more women in wealthy countries are entering the workforce, their households are also seeing an increasing

Average nominal wages in the human health and social work sector by sex, 2013-2017 (in Philippine Peso)

Indicator	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Nominal wages of health and social service workers (both sexes)	523.55	557.05	558.37	597.05	611.78
Women	514.80	539.01	554.67	591.77	599.07
Men	541.58	592.12	566.08	608.57	636.66

demand for paid domestic labor given that there is no corresponding increase in state support for childcare, nor is there a fair redistribution of caring responsibilities. In global south countries, the supply of domestic labor has been stimulated by a scarcity in well-paying jobs which, in many cases, have forced women to find jobs abroad and to become increasingly reliant on remittances.

Another sector dominated by women that was also made vulnerable by the pandemic is health and social work. On average, women have constituted 67.4 percent of the sector from 2013 to 2017, whereas men made up 32.3 percent of the sector during the same period. However, women tend to have lower wages compared to men in the health sector, as seen in the table below. This implies that while more women are getting employed in the sector, their distinct contributions are considered as mere “support occupations” within a highly hierarchized workforce and are thus undervalued.

Health and economic crises worsen gender inequality

Given the economic vulnerability of the majority of women even before the pandemic, the COVID-19 pandemic and the government’s lackluster response have further entrenched pre-existing inequalities.

Many of the contact-intensive sectors where women are mostly employed—including tourism, hospitality, sales, and domestic work—were among the hardest hit by the pandemic and the extreme lockdowns imposed by the government. This is reflected in the larger increase in female unemployment than male unemployment.

In the aftermath of the first surge of infections which occurred from August to September 2020, the unemployment rate among women rose to 8.9 percent, while that among men was recorded at 8.7 percent. During the height of the Delta-driven second wave in April 2021, unemployment among women peaked at 9.1 percent, while 8.5 percent of men in the labor force were reported to be unemployed. Finally, during the third wave that started in August 2021, 8.3 of women were unemployed as against 7.9 percent unemployed men.

Apart from unemployment, another crucial indicator that would allow us to understand women’s economic disposition is the labor force participation rate (LFPR). Over the past two years since the pandemic began, female LFPR has also been declining and has not gone back to pre-pandemic levels. What may account for women’s decreasing LFPR is the formidable expectation on women to fulfill their responsibility as caregivers. This may be forcing some of them to quit their jobs so they can better attend to household chores, which have considerably increased with work from home arrangements and online school.

Abroad, thousands of female migrant workers also lost their jobs. The most recent sex-disaggregated data on repatriated OFWs as of October 2020 shows that more than 200,000 female OFWs have returned to the country. Following the period of data collection, more women OFWs were expected to have been displaced given that they were employed in the sectors most affected by the pandemic in terms of economic output.

Women who were able to keep their jobs amid the pandemic did not necessarily have it better. In the health and social work sector where women make up the majority and yet earn less than their male counterparts (see table above), women were made more vulnerable to greater amounts of stress, burnout, anxiety, and exposure to the virus. This is mainly due to the lack of protective equipment, poor distribution of the burden of work due to limited health facilities and manpower, low wages, and insufficient benefits.

The deterioration of the healthcare sector in the hands of an incompetent government has significantly contributed to further undermining women's sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the barriers to family planning and maternal and newborn health services by overwhelming the already understaffed and overworked healthcare workforce and pushing other much-needed health services to the peripheries.

Abandoning women in the name of fiscal conservatism

The problems of job loss, decline in incomes, and limitation of access to sexual and reproductive health services were made worse by the lack of financial aid and social protection from the government and its de-prioritization of social services.

When it drafted the budget for 2021 and 2022, the government no longer made allocations for emergency subsidies for poor households. Cash transfers were limited to the existing beneficiaries of the conditional cash transfer program. But even here, transfers were not increased to sufficiently recoup the massive losses from 2020 and

2021. Wage subsidies and other forms of assistance for displaced workers, repatriated OFWs, drivers and owners of public utility vehicles, and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) were also significantly reduced.

The negative impacts of the government's fiscal conservatism have disproportionately affected women. As seen in the previous section, the majority of women were already economically vulnerable prior to the pandemic. Thus, when the pandemic dealt its hardest blow on the economic sectors that most women were employed in, made them more susceptible to job and income loss, and compelled many of them to leave their jobs to fulfill their caregiving responsibilities, more women also became even more dependent on state subsidies than they were before the pandemic.

The reason behind the cuts in social amelioration was the government's prediction—both during the end of 2020 and 2021—that the economy would recover and that jobs would return the following year. Of course, this did not happen. As everyone but the government had realized from the first year of the pandemic, it was impossible for the economy to fully recover without first strengthening the capacity of the healthcare system to contain the pandemic.

What the Duterte administration did, however, was the exact opposite. For two years, it has underfunded aspects of the healthcare system that are critical to pandemic response, including personal protective equipment, test kits, vaccines, various key facilities, compensation for various health workers including contact tracers and those deployed to unserved and

underserved areas. On top of budget cuts, there had been numerous delays in the provision of healthcare workers' hazard pay, special risk allowance (SRA), and meal, transportation, and accommodation allowance that prompted thousands of them to stage massive protests in 2021.

Considering the feminization of the health sector and the existing gender pay gap, the continuing neglect of the health sector creates a heavier burden for women. Furthermore, slashing the budget for healthcare workers deployed in rural areas means less attention and resources for maternal care for rural women. This would have serious implications in numerous remote areas with only one healthcare worker attending to an entire community's needs. In such cases, the healthcare worker's attention is usually diverted towards vaccination. Pregnant women only get medical attention when they already need to give birth, and pre-natal and post-natal care become a privilege.

Business-as-usual policies, no genuine recovery for majority of women

The same neoliberal economic framework that has placed women in highly precarious economic dispositions way before the pandemic and exploited their vulnerabilities for profit is the same path being pursued by the government towards economic recovery. Apart from budget priorities, the government's economic recovery plan can also be deduced from some of the key economic legislations it passed amid the pandemic.

There are several policies that seek to further open the economy to foreign trade and investments. One of these is the

Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a free trade and investment agreement being forged between ASEAN countries on the one hand, and China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand on the other. One of the key provisions of RCEP is the reduction of tariffs on a range of products. This could lead to tariff revenue losses amounting to \$58 million or P2.9 billion. The reduction of government revenue would result in cuts in public expenditure as well, which could have the indirect effect of reducing spending for social services that women rely on more heavily. RCEP will also introduce more stringent intellectual property laws that will provide pharmaceutical companies with unrestrained privileges and ownership over medicine, thereby decreasing access to affordable medication for many people including those specifically needed by women.

Two other key neoliberal policies pushed by the government in the name of economic recovery are the Amendment to the Retail Trade Liberalization Act and Amendment to the Foreign Investment Act (FIA). Essentially, the two sets of amendments seek to further liberalize the small and medium business industry to facilitate the entry of foreign investors and businesses. These would have the effect of creating unfair competition for many small and medium enterprises and possibly driving them out of business.

The governor of the Central Bank of the Philippines (BSP) Benjamin Diokno estimates that Filipino women entrepreneurs dominate the country's MSME landscape. Furthermore, over the previous years, women on average have comprised the majority of employed

persons in industries where most MSMEs have been operating. Some of these industries include wholesale and retail trade, accommodation and food service activities, and financial and insurance activities. Thus, it is safe to assume that a significant number of women work in MSMEs. The Amended Retail Trade Liberalization and FIA therefore also pose an indirect threat to women's livelihood and incomes.

In terms of debt, the government is also expected to borrow more in 2022. The Department of Budget Management (DBM) estimates that the national government's fiscal deficit in 2022 will be 1.665 trillion pesos, equivalent to 7.5 percent of GDP. The Duterte administration has already increased national government debt from almost Php 6 trillion in 2016 to Php 11.7 trillion in 2021. Women bear the brunt of massive borrowings and huge reliance on debt. Often, borrowing money from international financial institutions (IFIs) comes with the condition of implementing structural adjustment policies (SAPs) including greater degrees of liberalization, austerity, deregulation, and privatization. In terms of repayment, debt servicing in the Philippines has also been eating up a huge chunk of the national budget for decades by virtue of the Automatic Debt Appropriations Act. Together, the imposition of SAPs by IFIs and the government's onerous debt servicing policy threaten publicly funded social services and disproportionately harm women whose care-giving responsibilities make them more reliant on these services.

Feminist vision for economic recovery

Indeed, there can be no genuine and meaningful recovery for women under an economic framework that is inherently patriarchal as it profits and benefits from the exploitation of women, puts value in productive work while discriminating against reproductive work, and de-prioritizes social services and social protection measures in the name of austerity and in many cases to utilize public funds for personal and political gain. Rather, what is needed is economic and social justice that puts people's interests and welfare over corporate profits. These are important preconditions for gender justice that must be pursued as a crucial aspect of economic recovery.

To this end, a thorough program of national industrialization is needed in order to sustainably increase the availability of decent work with regular incomes. This would also lessen our dependence on global markets and foreign investors. To this end, unjust trade and investment agreements must also be put to an end. These deals often serve as gateways for foreign businesses that usually pay women with poverty wages (even lower than their male counterparts). Free trade and investment agreements also facilitate the entry of highly subsidized foreign products, leading to the decline of manufacturing as well as small-scale and subsistence farming that many women rely on. These deals also provide hard and costly measures to protect corporate interests, while people's rights are left to soft law. In relation to this, more stringent measures to rein in corporate power and stronger regulations to protect the rights of women across different sectors and peoples must also be put in place.

But while it is important to set up the institutions needed for creating more robust

and dynamic productive industries, there is also a need to make labor regulatory frameworks and social security more inclusive to informal workers and to remove barriers to the formalization of jobs in the informal sector, where majority of women in the labor force are employed.

A just taxation system that imposes higher taxes on corporations and the superrich is also another precondition for gender justice. This would have the effect of shifting tax burdens away from the poor, increasing tax revenues, and decreasing our reliance on debt. With more revenues and less imposition of structural adjustment programs, more funds could be allocated for social services. In turn, this would compensate for the reproductive and care work mostly done by women.

These are just some of the key economic policy directions that are crucial for a just and inclusive recovery—not just from the pandemic-induced economic

recession but also from decades of poverty and inequality spawned by the government's unwavering adherence to neoliberal policies. However, we cannot expect the present government beholden to corporate interests to implement this much-needed restructuring. Instead, the responsibility of collectively pushing these aspirations forward falls in the hands of civil society. We owe this much to the women in our communities and families whose reproductive and productive labor forms the backbone of our economy.

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THEMES

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

US vs. China

By Walden Bello

At the beginning of the third decade of the twenty-first century, China was not only the world's second biggest economy. It had become the center of global capital accumulation or, in the popular image, the 'locomotive of the world economy', accounting for 28 per cent of all growth worldwide in the five years from 2013 to 2018, more than twice the share of the United States, according to the International Monetary Fund.

True, its growth rate was down to 6 per cent from the blistering 10-12 per cent rates in the 2000s, but that was far superior to the performance of the US economy, which had been, for all intents and purposes, in the grip of stagnation for almost a decade following the 2008 financial crisis. In 2020, China's economic recovery from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic earlier in the year made it the only major economy to register a positive growth rate.

But beyond economics, Beijing was making a bid for global political and ideological leadership as Washington 'turned away' from the world during the Trump years, faulting the US's traditional allies with taking advantage of its 'generosity', radically tightening immigration rules, and declaring a trade war on China. Donald Trump as president was a purveyor of fake news, a master of

exaggeration, and a promoter of conspiracy theories, but there was one thing he and ideological allies, such as his former adviser Steve Bannon, and his right-hand man on trade issues, Peter Navarro, were right about: US political and economic elites had played a central role in turning China from the outcast of the capitalist world into the biggest threat to America's hegemony over that world, not, like the defunct Soviet Union, as an outsider, but as an insider – or perhaps, more accurately, as an insider that retained many of the traits of an outsider.

The US has a new president, but Joe Biden is not likely to change course from Trump's when it comes to China. Democrats and Republicans may be at each other's throats on other issues but they are united in militantly confronting China.

There are many facets to the story of China's rise to the top rank of global capitalism. This account will focus on the evolution of China's relationship with US capital, choosing, for reasons of space, not to cover some other key dimensions, such as China's relations with the global South and the much discussed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Our narrative begins in the early seventies, with two concurrent but unconnected crises: a severe crisis of profitability in the US economy, and a crisis of political legitimacy in China.

AFGHANISTAN

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

"No words can explain the pain of my broken heart"

A poem by an Afghan refugee

After the new wave of emergency and refugee shares the joys of her past, the suffering in Afghanistan, many were forced sorrows of her present, and the uncertainty to make drastic decisions to seek safety and of her future. protect their families. In this poem, a young

I wish to go back to the past,
To the nights when I could sleep peacefully.
To the days when I could go out without any fear and enjoy my life.
To the days when I woke up and went to the closet of my dress, which dress should I wear at work today?
To the days that last day of the month, I went to the bank, took my hard-earned money, went to the market, and bought whatever I wanted.
To the days when I was proud of being a woman, I walked all over my city without any restrictions because of being a woman.
To the days when I was leaving the house, I would see my three color flag all over the city and I would feel good to see it.
To the days when I lived with passion, I hoped for the future.
I wish the bright day would come tomorrow after dark night as before, but this dark night has not ended for a month. My God, I do not say blasphemy, but You owe us a world of happiness.
Maybe everyone is thinking of moving towards the future, but I wish I could go back to the past.
In this time I want to thank some of the people for showing humanity, but I also have lots of complaints for...
No words can explain the pain of my broken heart.

As the situation in Afghanistan continues to evolve, JRS remains committed to accompanying the most vulnerable. Our hearts and prayers lay with the people of Afghanistan as they face such an uncertain future.

For further information:

Jesuit Refugee Service

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THEMES

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

First Anniversary of Farmer Protests in India: A note of solidarity and support

November 26 marks one year since thousands of farmers from Punjab and Haryana marched towards New Delhi, in protest against the three farm laws enacted by the Indian Government. The three laws were forcibly legislated in the middle of the pandemic in September 2020. The Farming Produce Trade and Commerce Act 2020 aimed at liberalising India's agricultural markets and contained no provision of assured remunerative prices. The Farmers Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act 2020 contained provisions for corporate capture of Indian agriculture through contract farming. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act 2020 opened up the way for hoarding of essential commodities and threatened India's food security.

While the march was stopped at the borders of the capital city, the protest quickly drew support from other states and camps were set up. The farmers from Punjab and Haryana were joined by farmers from Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan, who set up six camps across various borders of the national capital. The past year has been an exemplary display of their grit, resilience and sacrifice. Tragically, over 700 farmers have since died at the border camps. The

protesters have withstood repression by police, biting cold, blistering sun, lashing rains and the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic. They battled false allegations and vile slander, maintained unity and stood steadfast with their demands..

We congratulate and salute the farmers and the united platform of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) for their unrelenting struggle which finally compelled the Indian government to announce the repeal of the three laws. The cabinet of union ministers has cleared the proposed Farm Laws (Repeal) Act 2021 that is listed to be passed in the session of the Parliament commencing on November 29, 2021.

However, the SKM has announced that the farmers' protests will continue till the rest of their demands are met. This includes a law guaranteeing Minimum Support Price (MSP) based on the 2006 Swaminathan Commission's recommendation of C2+50 % costs¹; withdrawal of the draft Electricity

¹ C2 is the comprehensive cost of cultivation calculated by the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACAP). The farmers' demand is to set the Minimum Support Price for all crops at 50% above this

(Amendment) Bill 2020²; removal of panel provisions in the Commission for Air Quality Management³; withdrawal of the legal cases filed against hundreds of farmers during the protests; action against union minister Ajay Teni, who is one of the accused in the Lakhimpur massacre in which six farmers were killed; and compensation and rehabilitation to the families of all the farmers who lost their lives during the course of the protests.

The ongoing farmer protests have conscientised the Indian public to the continuing challenges faced by India's farmers and workers, and their invaluable contributions to India's food security and economy. They have inspired millions across the country to stand up for justice, peoples' rights and equality. The farmers have strengthened participatory democracy by continuing peaceful protests in the face of state- repression, and built unity and solidarity across caste, religion and gender. Thousands of women farmers have joined the protest camps and the protests have birthed the emergence of powerful women farmer leaders. The farmers have challenged corporations and large agri-

comprehensive cost of cultivation. At present the MSP is set at a much lower cost estimate.

² Provisions of this law aim to end cross-subsidies for electricity use in agriculture, directly raising the cost of production for small and marginal farmers.

³ The newly constituted Commission for Air Quality Management, among many other measures to monitor air pollution comprehensively, also includes the controversial provision of stringently penalising farmers for stubble burning.

businesses who would have been the biggest beneficiaries of the farm laws. From January 2021, several *mahapanchayats* or large community meetings were organised across the country which had participation cutting across caste, religion and other divides, solidifying the popular character of the protests.

The farmer protests continue to be a valiant defiance of the neoliberal policies in Indian agriculture, which have been pursued by all central governments since the 1990s. These policies have unleashed agrarian distress in the countryside, rendering agriculture unprofitable and leaving farmers deeply indebted. Small-scale and marginal farmers, along with agricultural workers have been the worst affected. The future as well as the present of India's millions of food producers is deeply intertwined with the success of the current protests.

We stand in solidarity and support with the Indian farmers in their fight against neoliberalism and corporate-capture of agriculture, and for justice and participatory democracy. While celebrating the victories of the farmers' protests, we will continue to monitor future policy directions and provide analysis and perspectives towards agrarian reform that ensures farmers livelihoods and environmental sustainability.

For further information:
Food Sovereignty and Agroecology
India

INDONESIA

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

Using Participatory Mapping for Disaster Preparedness in Jakarta

For managing risk effectively, it needs extensive data for making decisions on investments in preparedness, mitigation, and response.

Until recently, detailed information on disaster situation (flooding) was hardly available at local level. A pilot project in Jakarta, led by the Province of Jakarta's Disaster Management Agency collected high-resolution data to inform flood preparedness and contingency. Later, the data, which was accessible by the community and the general public, was used in 2011/2012 Jakarta contingency emergency planning exercise.

The risk information it produced was very useful for decision makers in preparedness, development and investment planning. Petabencana.id can now be consulted and it contains a flood map. Some additional info may be found at OpenStreetMap. It is an online, open-source platform, which relies on participatory mapping conducted by local communities, private and public actors who collect the detailed information about a given area and share it, meet the needs in disaster situation.

For further information:
Wikipedia

MYANMAR
E. J. Anzorena, S.J.
April 2022

Don't Forget the People of Myanmar
Jesuit Refugee Service
February 1, 2022



"We are currently living in an IDP camp. My father is paralyzed and my mother is blind. After we were displaced, my family has been struggling with basic needs. Both of my younger brothers were killed by the military when they went back home just to bring some food for us. We were left with young children and old ill parents. We feel really depressed and hopeless."

One year after the start of the crisis in Myanmar, hundreds of thousands of people are still being forced to leave their homes. 14.4 million people, 5 of which are children, are in need of life-saving assistance.

JRS express its solidarity with the people of Myanmar during this very difficult period of their history, inviting all to pray and work for justice, reconciliation, and peace

For further Information:
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THEMES

E. J. Anzorena, S.J.

April 2022

Pro-People Bureaucrat Tasneem Ahmad Siddiqui

By
Hasan Zaidi

Dear Bimbo

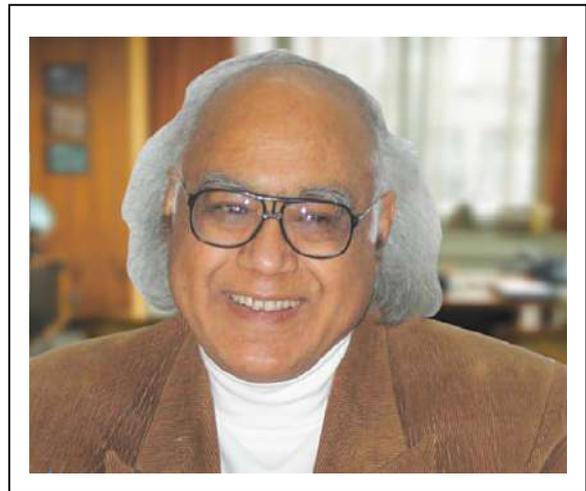
Tasneem Siddiqui was good friend. He did a very good work for the poor.

Jorge

KARACHI: Former top civil servant and social activist Tasneem Ahmad Siddiqui who passed away from a sudden cardiac arrest at the age of 82 early on Saturday morning in Karachi, was most celebrated for his conceptualisation of the project known as Khuda Ki Basti in Hyderabad and the reinvigoration of the Sindh Katchi Abadis Authority.

Both of his most significant professional achievements were connected to his abiding interest in providing affordable housing to the urban poor. The Khuda Ki Basti-Incremental Development Scheme (aka 'City of God') that he designed won the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 1995 while Siddiqui's services as a government servant were recognised by the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award of the Philippines government and a Sitara-i-Imtiaz in 1999.

Born in 1939 in Meerut, India, Siddiqui migrated to Pakistan in 1947 and received his early education in Sukkur. He later completed a masters in political science and English literature at the University of Sindh in Hyderabad before joining the civil service in 1965. In 1983, he also obtained a masters



in public administration at the Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

It was as a young civil servant that Siddiqui first got to know Dr Akhtar Hameed Khan and see his development work in Comilla, East Pakistan, which would have a profound effect on him. After Dr Khan set up the Orangi Pilot Project (OPP) in Karachi in the 1980s, Siddiqui would spend a lot of time with him, absorbing his ideas about the uplift of the poor.

He utilised that experience in 1987 as director general of the Hyderabad Development Authority in designing the concept of the Khuda Ki Basti project, which

was based on providing the poor a piece of land at affordable rates and letting them build their shelters incrementally, using their own resources and labour. His design sought to use insights from informal land developers, often decried as a 'mafia', as well as control land speculation. In 1992, he also set up an NGO, Saiban, to spread the model to cities like Karachi, Ghara and Lahore.

On the insistence of Dr Khan, Siddiqui took over the moribund Sindh Katchi Abadis Authority (SKAA) in 1991 and completely revamped it, making it easier for so-called 'illegal settlements' in cities to be regularised through leases, making SKAA self-financing, reducing costs for infrastructure, and increasing outreach to communities for services such as health, credit and education.

"Land is the currency of corruption in Pakistan," says journalist and longtime friend Ghazi Salahuddin, "but that Tasneem used it to make housing available to the poor was his remarkable achievement."

Urban planner and architect Arif Hasan, who worked closely with Siddiqui, says: "Tasneem Sahib was an awaam-dost [people-friendly] bureaucrat. He didn't want the trappings of luxury and protocol that most bureaucrats seem to cherish. He always started something new wherever he went. His most singular contribution was trying to turn the OPP-inspired katchi abadis model into a government model of how to work with poor communities."

"It didn't spread because of bureaucratic resistance and, in the last few years, he felt the system had collapsed, but he continued to believe that it could be turned around if the bureaucracy wanted," adds Hasan.

Another longtime friend, former PTV newsman and social activist Jaffer Bilgrami, also remembers Siddiqui as a "pro-people bureaucrat, a dervish with sterling qualities. He was very different from the rest of the bureaucracy," says Bilgrami.

Siddiqui retired from the civil service in 2005 after having served as the top bureaucrat for a number of ministries as well as chief secretary of Sindh, but continued his work with Saiban as well as penning a number of books and articles on governance and social change.

"He never wanted cushy postings," recalls Salahuddin. "In fact, he used to say, 'Nobody wants to come to the Katchi Abadis Authority and I don't want to leave!' Where do you find these kinds of people anymore? He was the kind of civil servant that Pakistan needed and almost never had."

Siddiqui leaves behind his wife of 48 years Kishwar Sultana, two sons and a daughter. His funeral prayers will be offered on Sunday (today) at Tariq Masjid in the Naval Housing Society.

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How Self-Help Construction Is Being Implemented in the Masagana Resettlement Project

By Ma. Lorena P. Hernandez

The original members of Masagana community hailed from an inundated resettlement site in Barangay Tanza, Navotas City. The unsafe site condition of the 5-hectare reclaimed fishpond spurred the members to relocate to a 1.4-hectare lot in Barangay Pulong Yantok, Angat, Bulacan Province in 2012. However, some members decided to stay in Navotas after citing livelihood, educational, and other immediate opportunities that they cannot leave behind. Hence, the members agreed to have a 5-year adjustment period to complete their relocation. The early resettlers constructed makeshift houses in a staging area beside the still underdeveloped Masagana lot while the preparations for house construction and site development were underway. The members used salvaged materials from their previous houses in Navotas or bought materials from the nearest hardware.

House Design and Budget

The design of the Masagana houses in Angat was finalized in 2013 after TAO conducted design workshops with the members. The result was a two-storey duplex

structure with provisions for toilet and bath and a kitchen counter. The building footprint of one dwelling unit is 5m by 4.5m with total floor area of 45 sqm. The 2m by 1.8m toilet and bath is situated under the stairs and adjacent to the kitchen counter (see floor plan in attached images). The total estimated cost of a duplex structure is



Top photo: Ground floor plan of the duplex core housing for Masagana resettlement project designed by TAO-Pilipinas with Masagana HOA members. Bottom photo: House contractor and TAO supervisor check stake measurements and setback allowance before foundation excavation.

around Php 900,000.00 in 2016. Unfortunately, the remaining funds after the purchase of the Masagana lot, through the ACCA Big Project funding, was not enough to cover

The maximum amount of loan offered to community members was Php 121,412.00 each, so for a duplex structure with two households, this amount is only 27% of the total cost. Hence, the loan could only shoulder the provision of a core house wherein the structural members (square footings and tie-beams, columns, a beam, firewall, and roof framing) were prioritized. The roofing design was adjusted to match the budget and the expected status of completion of construction. Some members were able to supplement their ACCA housing loan with the SELAVIP grant worth Php 21,652.47 (500 USD). The SELAVIP grant was awarded to Masagana to alleviate the costs needed during resettlement of at least 60 members who were most in need. A portion of this fund was also accessed by some members while constructing their makeshift homes in the staging area.

Loan Approval Process

By December of 2015, the required permits to commence house construction were released. Before they could begin the construction, a loan application process first needs to be fulfilled. The community members express their intent to apply for an ACCA housing loan with the leaders of the homeowners association (HOA). The applicant specifies the cost of loan, length of payment, and preferred amount of monthly amortization. The HOA leaders then review the membership status of the applicant, their community savings, lot payments, and ability to pay for the loan. When approved,

the leaders attach an endorsement letter with the required documentation of the status of the member, household monthly expenses, valid IDs, and income pay slip for submission to TAO-Pilipinas. TAO-Pilipinas then reviews the documents and drafts the contract and schedule of payment. Once the owner approves and signs the contract, the community member is allowed to commence lot staking.

Labor Cost

The total budget for construction includes labor expenses, so the members negotiate with their selected contractor for the cost of the foundation, column, beams, firewall, and roofing. The first batch of approved house construction was contracted by a fellow community member. The labor cost amounted to a maximum of Php 50,000.00 for one duplex and Php 25,000.00 for single-attached unit. Over time, the labor cost continued to vary but has steadily ranged from Php 35,000.00 to Php 40,000.00 for a single dwelling unit and Php 70,000.00 for one duplex. Agreements with the contractors were the responsibility of the Masagana member. However, there were times when the contractor and member fail to reach an agreement and both parties consult TAO-Pilipinas about specific provisions and cost counterparts. In such cases, TAO-Pilipinas simply facilitates the negotiation, but it is still the member and the contractor who will finalize the cost and schedule of construction.

Construction Materials

TAO-Pilipinas reviews the available budget of each community member before sending a purchase order to a supplier. There were instances where the members

requested revisions to the bill of materials due to a myriad of reasons. In any case, TAO-Pilipinas evaluates the request and decides accordingly. The members have been resourceful in sourcing the necessary materials to supplement the items purchased from their available budget. For example, whenever formworks were insufficient, the homeowner often recycled the lumber and plywood from their makeshift house or scavenged for used construction materials from junk shops. On the other hand, some members spared no expense in their houses. They were essentially allowed to decorate and finish their house as they pleased as long as they stuck to the design specifications.

Permanent Core House Construction

Nine batches of core houses have been completed since staking and excavation for the first construction commenced in May 2016. The first batch included three duplex houses and one single-attached. The next batch consisted of only one duplex. It was followed by the third batch with four single-attached; the fourth batch with two single-attached; and batches 5 and 6 with one single-attached each. The aforementioned batches were beneficiaries of the ACCA housing loan.

Meanwhile, three members who accessed the SELAVIP grant for the construction of their toilets were also included in the sixth batch while the sole member from the seventh batch accessed his SELAVIP fund for the construction of a makeshift house within their assigned lot. The next batch accessed the ACCA housing loan which consisted of one single-detached dwelling unit as the member requested.

Finally, the ninth batch included ACCA housing loan beneficiaries for one duplex and one single detached, and a member who accessed only the SELAVIP grant to buy roofing materials for their self-financed permanent core house.

Construction Supervision

The construction supervisor from TAO-Pilipinas visits the site at least twice a week during the early stages of construction until the concrete pouring of the foundation, columns, and beams are completed. The supervisor also visits the site as needed for urgent situations and for releasing weekly bills payment. Initially, only the construction of ACCA housing loan beneficiaries was regularly monitored by TAO. This is mainly because those who accessed their SELAVIP grant mostly built temporary structures only.

Difficulties in Self-help Construction

The implementation of self-help house construction in Masagana was met with numerous difficulties. First were the errors in design and execution. The assembly of reinforcement bars (rebars) was difficult for the laborers because of the number of rebars required to either pass or terminate in a 150mm x 150mm column. At most, eight pieces of 16mm rebars and two pieces of 12mm rebars are required for a beam. Meanwhile, some members had to rectify their excavations because the contractor made a mistake reading the orientation of the floor plan.

Furthermore, erroneous actions of the contractors or laborers often occurred due to insufficient consultation with the construction supervisor from TAO-Pilipinas.

There were some contractors who are negligent of proper procedures during construction. This includes off-center rebars of columns, honeycombs, and improper assembly, bends, splices and anchorage of rebars. Erroneous installation of plastic septic tanks also occurred due to their misgivings about the product. These types of incidents needed more effort to rectify. Engaging the members and contractors in discussion and explaining the science behind the design and better practices are usually enough to address the issue.

Additionally, instances where both the design and the BP 220 standards were not observed despite multiple reminders and warnings also occurred. One member had to acquire a separate permit for their construction since they deviated from the approved house design. The costs of rectifying these mistakes are a burden to the members. Admittedly, these were preventable if there was a construction supervisor assigned solely to the Masagana Resettlement Project. However, since it is a self-help approach, the project relies on the support and involvement of the members and of the community throughout the process.

Another difficulty is of the site condition. The soil is clayey and the excavations get flooded or caves in so the contractors rush the construction during rainy season (May to November). Unfortunately, it often coincides with the schedule of construction.

The timing of the delivery of materials is also crucial in construction. There had been instances where the construction is halted due to lack of materials. The rebars usually cause this delay especially if the particular construction batch is limited to

only one to two dwelling units. The supplier orders the rebars in bulk and if the quota is not reached, the community needs to wait since the specified length and grade of rebar is not readily available in the local hardware.

The insufficient funds caused some structures to deteriorate while the members were saving enough money to continue the construction. Also, there was one member who abruptly abandoned their construction to relocate somewhere else. Another was removed from the community by the HOA due to negligence with their responsibilities as a member, after the construction materials were already delivered. Eventually, the loan contracts for the two cases of abandonment were transferred to other qualified members.

Lastly, the commitment of a community counterpart in progress monitoring of construction is critical in the implementation of self-help construction in low-income communities. With a tight budget, it is in the best interest of the community members to construct their houses efficiently. However, the pandemic, combined with the adjustment to a new leadership in the community, showed that Masagana has yet to establish a committed team of individuals who would spearhead the construction monitoring. The position requires accountability, commitment, and effective communication skills. An eye for construction is preferred but since the COVID-19 pandemic, TAO- Pilipinas constantly communicates with the construction monitor everyday so he/she can learn during the construction process. Impact to the households Generally, the members are satisfied with their houses although they needed to adjust to the process of constructing permanent houses.

They cite its sturdiness and, more importantly, the fact that they could call it their own. The cost of construction was overwhelming for some, so they are biding their time despite the 2020 addendum to their ACCA housing loan contract. They are required to transfer to their houses within three months after their loan has been fully consumed or after the completion of their house, whichever comes first. Additionally, the members became more observant of acceptable construction practices by their neighbors. They identify issues with the construction that were overlooked by construction monitors. They also raise these concerns to their HOA officers or to TAO-Pilipinas to maintain proper house building in the community.

Effects of the resettlement project to Masagana

Overall, self-help construction in a low-income community contributed to Masagana's development. It improved their access to basic services due to the increased number of structures and residents which paved way for the entry of utilities in the site like water and electricity in 2017. From no permanent houses in 2015, twenty-two (22) have been constructed in Masagana with varying levels of completion. Meanwhile, other members now dwell in

fifteen (15) temporary houses in the site. The members permanently residing in the community, including those who are living in temporary houses, now total to twenty-five (25) households. About 17 households still remain in Navotas while 16 households are living in other locations like Caloocan and Quezon City.

The process for the ACCA housing loan approval was also improved to increase its efficiency and to better assess the requests for house construction, extension, or repair. This also avoids unsupervised construction and below-standard structures. Comparatively, the steps are now more clearly defined but the members have yet to appreciate it due to the increased documentation and stricter implementation of the construction policies.

Moving forward, preparation for the final batch of ACCA house loan beneficiaries (batch 10) has commenced and is anticipated to push through within the year. The community also aims to apply for a Community Mortgage Program (CMP) loan to facilitate their site development and to accommodate simultaneous house construction. Individual utility lines for all households are also being pursued by the community.

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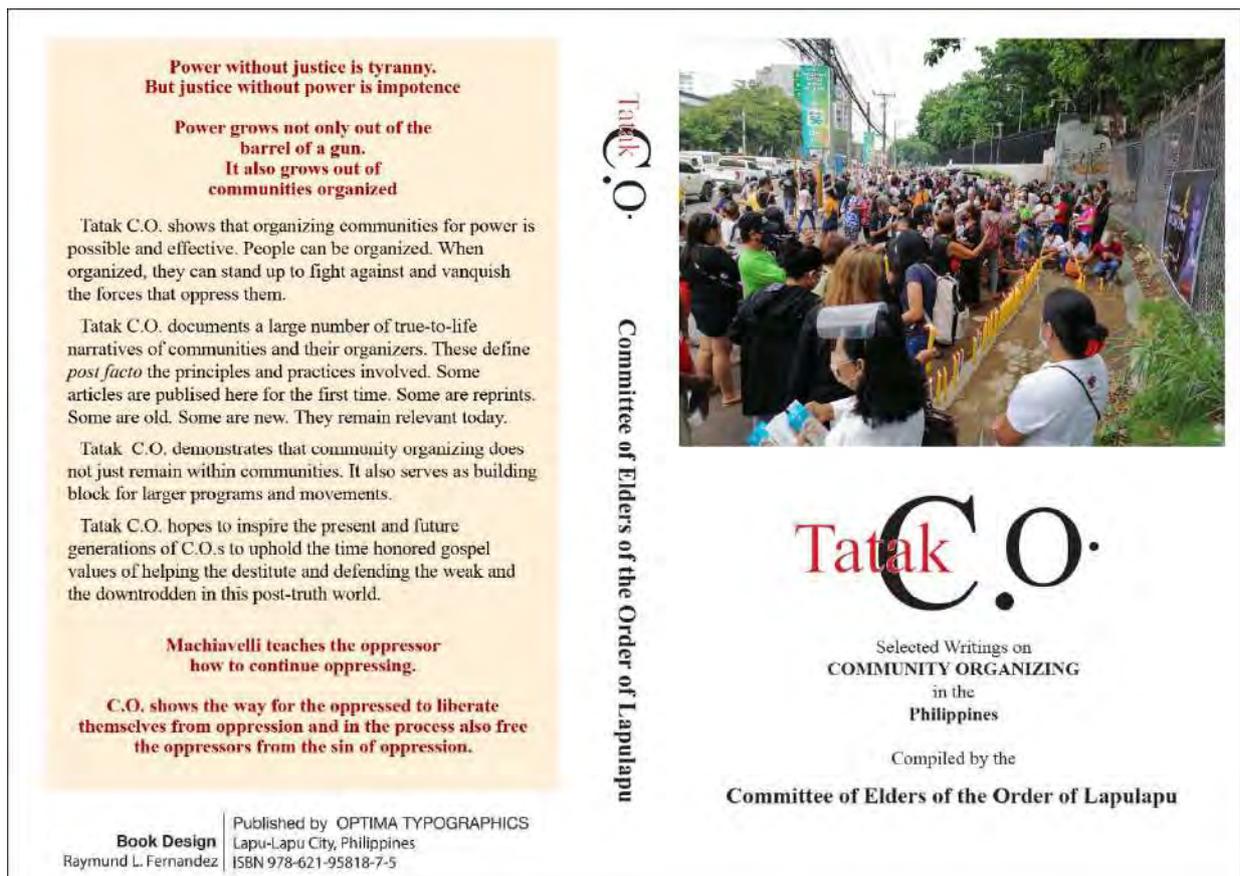


PHILIPPINES
E. J. Anzorena, S.J.
April 2022

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Tatak C.O.
Selected Writings on Community Organizing in the Philippines
Committee of Elders of the Order of Lapulapu

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**Power without justice is tyranny.
But justice without power is impotence**

**Power grows not only out of the
barrel of a gun.
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communities organized**

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**Machiavelli teaches the oppressor
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Tatak C.O.
Selected Writings on
COMMUNITY ORGANIZING
in the
Philippines
Compiled by the
Committee of Elders of the Order of Lapulapu

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THAILAND
E. J. Anzorena, S.J.
April 2022

CODI Secure Land, Housing and Sustainable Livelihoods for Thailand's Rural Landless Poor



In 2004, the Thai government launched a new project to identify and register the country's poor citizens, in both urban and rural areas. The registration process revealed that 4.8 million people were living in poverty in rural areas, without land for cultivation or housing – or both. In response to the growing problem of rural poverty and landlessness, CODI began expanding the Baan Mankong Program in 2016 to address housing problems in rural areas as well as urban communities. In many rural areas, community-led surveys show that a lot of families have lost their land, for various their housing needs and their livelihood.

reasons: debt, family crises, land problems, eviction, market forces, disasters or sheer poverty. And without land or housing or means of survival, the poor are compelled to migrate into cities, and that just adds to the problems of overcrowded cities and depopulated rural communities. With this expanded mandate, the Baan Mankong program can now work in similar ways with rural community networks, with local governments and other local stakeholders to help these landless families secure enough land to provide for both



Rural areas offer scope for working within a much greater variety of contexts, for besides villages and small towns, rural places include forests, watersheds and mountains, and the planning for rural Baan Mankong could be ward-wide or district-wide, for example. Because the rural also covers issues of agriculture, food production, climate change and environment, the Rural Baan Mankong

projects can promote a broader form of housing security, to include such things as secure livelihood and access to healthy food, and can build on the work that has already been done by rural NGOs and government programs. The program will be flexible enough to cover all these various constituencies and development possibilities.





In this rural version of the Baan Mankong program, the community networks work with their local authorities to survey their area, identify the insecure and landless people, search for land or plan a process to obtain secure land, and then develop comprehensive plans to develop secure livelihoods, with social and economic activities that will allow them to stay – and thrive – in those rural areas. It is similar to the citywide concept in urban Baan Mankong, but here the constituency could be more fluid: it could be the whole ward, the whole district or the whole watershed.





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รูปด้าน



In the urban Baan Mankong program, each family is eligible for a subsidy of up to 80,000 baht (\$2,500) to be applied directly to the cost of buying their land, building their houses and developing their physical, social and economic infrastructure (see *table below*). In the rural Baan Mankong program, each family will get the same amount of subsidy, but the funds can be used in more flexible ways than in the urban

Baan Mankong subsidies, according to each particular context. The housing in these rural projects could take a variety of forms, but the focus of the program is on land security, decent housing and some kind of livelihood arrangements, where the people live together as a strong community organization, with other elements adding social and economic value to the housing projects.

RURAL BAAN MANKONG PROGRAM SUBSIDY PACKAGE <i>(figures as of Jan 2019)</i>	
Subsidy element	Per family subsidy
1. Support for housing construction / improvement	40,000 baht (US\$ 1,250)
2. Infrastructure development subsidy	12,000 baht (US\$ 375)
3. Economic development, collective economic activities	2,500 baht (US\$ 78)
4. Social development activities, youth, elderly, etc.	2,500 baht (US\$ 78)
5. Community organization strengthening, exchange, building network	5,000 baht (US\$ 156)
6. Reserve for groups with unexpected and special needs	800 baht (US\$ 25)
7. Support for support for CODI's management, capacity building, NGOs or supporters of the community process (part remains with CODI) (12% of the total 80,000 baht subsidy package)	9,600 baht (US\$ 300)
TOTAL	72,400 baht (US\$ 2,262)

A set of 12 pilot projects have already been proposed by the various regions (covering

1,145 families) and CODI has approved a budget of 52.7 million baht (\$1.65 million)

to implement the 12 pilots. These early projects are now underway and are already showing a lot of variety and potential – many taking advantage of free land from the government’s rural land reform scheme. As part of the process, CODI and the networks

are linking with many of the NGOs already working in rural areas on various issues (like hill tribes, water resource management, irrigation, organic farming), to see how this rural Baan Mankong Program can add strength to the work they are already doing.







Rural Baan Mankong figures, as of May 2019 (32 Baht = US\$1)

- Number of pilot projects already underway: 12 projects in various regions
- Number of families will get secure land and housing from these 12 projects: 1,145 families
- Budget approved for the 12 projects: 7 million baht (US\$ 1.65 million)
- Additional projects approved and now starting: 48 projects (covering 4,355 poor landless rural families)

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THAILAND

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April 2022

“Disaster Management with the Power Women, Families and Communities,

A Joint Project of
ChomchonThai Foundation, Friends of Women Foundation,
Rak Thai Foundation, and Foundation for Labor and
Employment Promotion (Homenet Thailand).
This project is supported by UNWOMEN

ChomchonThai Foundation Progress Report
Period 1-2: 2 November 2011 until 31 January 2012

A. Don Maung Shelter

This was established on October 17, 2011 as an official Flood Relief Operation Center (FROC). Although this center was designed to accommodate only 3,000 people, it was occupied 4,700 people within 10 days. When the flood waters intruded into the Don Maung airport building, this center announced without notice that all the victims should move to another center. The victims who were from Don Maung, Lumlukka, and Nawanakhorn areas decided not to move because they did not want to stay far from their houses and they were not confident about their new shelter.

The more than 400 victims who did not move away from the Don Maung had to endure 1.5 meters of flood waters and were without electricity and not enough water supply. The building was also closed on all sides making it very hot. There were a lot of mosquitoes. It adversely affected children and elders.

After the 10 days, there was a media report about their issues. The victims then began to receive some supports from relevant agencies. Their conditions improved but there was not any authority to systematize the shelter and to acknowledge the victims. The victims organized themselves into groups and sub-groups for the peer support.

Furthermore, ChomchonThai Foundation and Tsunami-affected Network who have experienced the shelter's management in Tsunami disaster have provided the following assistance:

- Coordinated with the reporter of Sammiti news to contact and recognize the leader of this shelter and to lead the team asking about their troubles.
- Brought boats for their traveling between residential buildings to the outside, along with providing mosquito nets for children, electrical wiring, some foods and drinks.
- Recommended a way to prepare the community information and their benefits to be gained from the information available. A board posted their information for both the assistants and the victims to ensure the same understanding.
- Conducted a participatory survey. The leader immediately did the recommendations. Vulnerable groups were identified: patients, elders, disabilities, and children. The survey results was used to immediately provide assistance such as the quantity of milk for children, the medical support for diabetes, blood pressure, and etc.
- Coordinated assistance and problem solving. The relevant agencies/ organizations were provided the tagging information and survey details to help them with their relief and rehabilitation work. Furthermore, the coordination and solving problems were supported by four women leaders. They looked after the vulnerable group that comprised of pregnant women, people who have chronic illness, and elders. On the last period, there were doctors closely look after them.
- Provided rights education. There were many knowledge aspects such as rights and compensation as the victims needed to be rightly compensated. This also included teaching and practicing the victims on the filling up the compensation form. Learning sessions on labor law, and disaster relief and protection law were given.
- Provided education on disaster planning. A video about the participatory disaster planning was shown. It shared the rehabilitation experience after the Tsunami disaster in Baan Nam Khem, Phang Nga province. The flood victims learned that the victims can deal with problems in their own area. Many people who returned to their village followed the experience.
- Coordinated with media. This shelter initially did not receive any assistance. The media was involved to assist the community in solving problems that needed government and or external support.
- Encouraged leaders sharing. This is a process to build the leaders confidence and expanding their influence to other communities and organizations which might need support.
- Organized the lesson learned forum. This forum is a learning process among victims, both of leaders and members. There were a lot of stories to tell. This forum had 2 sections which were the period of 4,700 victims, and the period of remaining 400 victims.

The lessons learned on shelter management in the period of the 4,700 victims who were supported by Ministry of Social Development and Human Security:

- Accommodation management. There were no zoning for female and male. The victims who have pets were assigned in tents outside the building. Most residents did not understand the zoning. In the second period not only tents, bedding, toilets were lacking, but also the waste management and the cleanliness of the bathrooms needed to be improved. The maids and hired volunteers needed more help in cleaning
- Residents care system. There were no heads for each zone. It used a volunteer system for taking care of the victims, providing registration, finding tents, dining, cleaning, packing stuffs, and serve drinking water. In the first period, this volunteer system was not perfect. There were 5-6 meeting per day.
- Food management. It was adequate for all. Food for Islam, children foods and milk for new born babies were adequate.
- Disaster preparedness. There were many people who carried only one set of clothes because they were unable to collect things on time, and did not expect to stay long. Also some thought that the shelter had enough clothes.
- Shelter selection. It was near their houses and workplaces. Other shelters were full and the victims were assigned to other shelters. This shelter belonged to the government which made it possible to access support from doctors or veterinarians. Also it was in the donation center that provided necessary stuffs
- Agreement to live together: There was no clear agreement aside from the banning alcohol drinks.
- Organizing volunteers by the victims. Volunteers gained advantage and hoarded food and clothing. Training and managing volunteers was recommended. Student volunteers were preferred.
- Shelter capacity with over 4,700 victims.
 - Discomfort: the reimbursement of stuff was difficult. It based on bias. The reimbursement procedure was to use the ID card. If people who authorized the reimbursement are not there, they had to wait until 2 pm. In case a victim gets wet, he has to keep waiting until the authority is back.
 - Anxiety: there was no drinking water. Length of stay in the shelter was uncertain. Traveling outside the shelter was difficult.
- Activities to do together: to distribute lotto, monks gave a sermon, actors/ singers visited, but there was no occupation activity or any relaxation.
- Desires: win lotto, 5 meals a day, air conditioning, presence of doctors and veterinarian, signal, wellness and safety, regular distribution of milk.

- Addressing violence. Domestic violence among families needed to be responded to.
- Communication and movement within the shelter: there was no clear, regular and timely communication with the victims. They received news via phone only. They preferred a written document about the shelter's progress distributed regularly.

The lessons learned on shelter management in the period of the remaining 400 victims:

- Shelter condition. Shelter management was disorganized. The current leaders collaborated and negotiated some agreements for their needs, such as daily baths, washing hair every 5 days, adequate drinking water and electricity, among others.
- Coordination with media. The leaders found a way to call and coordinate with Sammiti news. Their issues were disseminated. Many organizations and agencies responded and gave some assistance.
- The important assistance was the Chao Fa Maha Vajiralongkorn Sayammakutratchakuman's Personal Affairs Division. They provided the bridge, dynamo, some food for 3 meals every day. The victims were much appreciative of these support. On the first phase of living, THAISUMMIT donated boats as transport from the building to Viphawadi road, and soldiers provided some foods and drinks
- Self-management. The leaders organized the people into groups. Representatives were appointed to manage small groups. House rules were established to ensure some order and safety. There were 6 leaders, 3 male and 3 female, whose roles were based on their aptitude and ability.

Recommendations for good shelter management

1. The location of shelter should not be in the flooded areas.
2. The number of victims per a shelter should not be too large.
3. It should have clear and transparent terms and rules to manage each shelter. Victims should join in the crafting of these rules.
4. Volunteers should be trained before working in each shelter.
5. There should be vehicles to adequately serve the victims.
6. The donations should be widely distributed.
7. Timely and accurate information should be disseminated to all.
8. Activities to relieve stress and also for income generation should be conducted. It was also recommended to hold sports activities for the youth.
9. Trainings on house rebuilding and managing the rights problem should be conducted.

B. CATS Shelter

This shelter was organized by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. The 600 victims were from slums around the area such as Lak si, Don Maung, and Chaengwattha. It was urgently set up because the main shelter at the government center in Chaengwatthana area had thousands of victims and was already congested. Its management was done by the Ministry's officers providing facilities, 3 meals, registration of victims, drinking water, taking care patients. And in the last period, the officers contacted some lecturers to train professional courses such as to make scented candles, and to string the beans. There were around 30 participants.

Moreover, Chumchonchai Foundation, Tsunami-affected network, Friend of Women Foundation, and labor lawyers visited the shelter and organized a forum to share and educate legal and rights issues, including providing the lessons learned during the period before the shelter closed.

Lessons learned at the CATS shelter

Issues	Lesson Learned from the shelter
Living together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was needed to alternatively clean up the shelter. • The Ministry of Social Development hired 2 maids to clean the toilets. • There were 2 policemen taking care of the shelter's security. • There was no zoning of the living areas of the shelter.
Support Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The students from Sriprathum University helped the in the initial phase. • There were organizations that provided training on the waste management and shoes management.
Foods/Drinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The victims preferred to combine the cooking. There were some housewives who volunteered but the shelter hired a cook from the outside instead. The kitchen volunteers were not allowed to help. • A new cook was hired because the previous one rarely cooked rice and had some rancid food. • Drinking water had some oil in it. did not clean enough. There was some oil slick on it.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially, there were doctors in the shelter but they have left and no replacements have been made. The victims preferred a doctor to stay at the shelter because there were a lot of children who had diarrhea. Oftentimes they

Issues	Lesson Learned from the shelter
	needed to go to the government center building to see a doctor.
Summary of impression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the shelter, the rooms have air condition and good beddings. • There were 3 meals everyday. • The victims closely knew each other. • There were doctors to treat patients. • Students provided some assistance.
Summary of problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft of money and underwears and mobile phone. • There were some quarrels because unfamiliarity with each other. • There was not enough toilet and absence of disposal bins for sanitary napkins. • There was no meeting with the victims. The victims were unable to share their ideas. • The clothes that were distributed were not the right size. • In case the victims had problems, they had to discuss among themselves.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For officers to understand the victims' needs. Regular meetings should be held and communication tools such as opinion boxes be installed. • To improve the reimbursement process • To provide properly meals esp. for vulnerable people such as children and elders • To find jobs for the victims • To provide activities those are related to the careers

Gender in shelter management

The Don Maung shelter was managed by the victims themselves. They participated in developing the processes in shelter management and in problem solving. Responsibilities were divided among the victims and women played important roles as follows:

- Coordinating with the organizations' officials to negotiate for needs;
- Resolving issues in cases of violation of house rules;
- Taking care of the food and managing their distribution;
- Helping patients, pregnant people, PWDs and coordinating with relevant agencies and hospitals for their; and,
- Preparing the data base and planning and preparing returning victims returned home.

The CATS shelter had mostly women who became active participants in shelter management. The women's management is quite delicate. They take care of all vulnerable

groups. They allow participation in decision making and allocate the responsibilities among the victims.

C. The Operations of the Network

The Natural Resources and Environment of Pathumthani Network had an initial membership of 14 communities with 1,241 households. Their activity is the sewage and garbage treatment in the 4th canal community. There 4 big canals: Klong Maung Pathum, Klong Sam Kok, Klong Premprachakorn, and Klong Ransit-prayoosak with a total of 10 sub-canals.

In late year 2010, the areas were highly flooded. Floods remained stagnant as it took a long time for them to recede. The network leader coordinated with relevant agencies for assistance. They mobilized the local people to use sandbags as water barrier, and to assign security guards to monitor the flood water level. Moreover, they set up not only the community kitchen and distributed food. The network has currently 30 disaster volunteers from many areas.

In 2011, a meeting on disaster management was held to prepare for the floods. Toilets were lifted and relocated to non flooded areas. Boats were prepared for use during the floods. A data base on houses outside the flooded areas was prepared. water blocks. Survey results found houses located outside the water blocks of Sam Kok sub-district, Maung district, Pathumthani. A total of 600 households were in Baan Krachaeng, Baan Pratum, Bang po-nue, Bang po-nai, Rim Klong Pikul, Wat hong, Wat Kok, Sopharam, and Ruamjitr-muslim.

Flood Victims outside the water blocks
(26 September 2011)

District	Community	House holds	Population					Total
			Male	Female	Children	Elders	Disabilities	
Maung	Wat hong	62	72	85	5	8	-	170
	Klong Pikul	20	18	23	3	5	-	49
	Bang po-nai	65	112	120	7	18	-	257
	Sapharam	60	115	100	15	4	1	235

	Lak-hok M.4, M.5	60	90	80	6	12	-	188
Samkok	Bang po-nue	70	119	121	6	9	-	255
	Krachaeng M.2, M.3	95	185	179	13	20	-	397
	Chiangrak-yai M.6, M.7	80	179	158	8	19	-	364
	Baan Patum M.1, M. 3	90	180	192	6	22	-	400
	Total	542	1070	1058	63	117	1	2315

A.1. A pilot project of lifting houses over the water: the Pathumthani people were originally living along the water. Their houses lifted the floor up and they all had boats. So, when the flood occurred, they had no any problems. But presently, to lift the floor up is in the high-cost and is possible only for owners who have enough money.

A.2. Dredging canals in the community to handle the water: to mobilize local people forces to dredge the Bang Po canal and Bang Prok canal.



A.3. To establish the operation center in the area: its main center is located opposite with Wat Hong and its sub-centers with local organisation's participation are located such Lak-hok sub-center, Krachaeng sub-center, Wat Bang po sub-center, and Baan Bang po-nue sub-center.

A.4. To mobilize local people force providing sandbags to block the water: there are 30 network volunteers watched out 24 hours the water level. Also volunteers from other areas were help to provide sandbags.



A.5. Meeting to assess the situation: the coordination center provided the database and analyzed the situations, including disaster preparation since September 21, 2011. It focused on preparing the riverside communities where are the risk area as the network members are totally 14 areas, around 1,241 households. They also coordinated to provide the database and survey the needs of each area such as boats, dried foods, planks, the center toilets lifting over the water, and etc. so that to support from partners both government and private sectors.

A.6. To move the coordination center in crisis: on October 12, 2011 the Pathumthani area was into crisis and severe flooding in the area as widely and fully. Finally the center had to adapt and move to Pathumthani Bridge 1.

A.7. Assistance of the external network: there was a kitchen setting up on the Than Phet Bridge to support the community and others increasing around 28 area, 1 group, 4 temples, and 3,004 households which were totally around 10,000 victims.

A.8. The Pathumthani network was the center to help victims: they were supported foods, water, boats, disaster relief bags, medicines, and others necessary from agencies, organizations, and other networks more than 30 different organizations as following, the Tsunami-affected network, FROC, Thai PBS television, the Provost Marshal General's Department, Thrap samutr kha khaw company, Abhaiphubet Chaopraya Hospital Foundation, GPO, the venders in

Jatujak market, Taw Kaor bay network, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Phuket Community Network, Samchuk centennial market, Samchuk municipality, Ministry of Finance (Krungthai Asa), TNN, SCG foundation, St. Carlos hospital, Capital Trading co., Ltd, Sin-sub village, Suan Moke volunteers group, Oishi co., Ltd., the nation group, Green World foundation by PTT, Chumchonchai foundation, UNWomen, and Thai Health.

A.9. The exhibition of “the mind rehabilitation after the flood crisis”: the network organized this exhibition for thank you and to build relationship between the victims and networks/partners. Also its purpose was to share and present their opinions to the guideline of disaster management by the core community and local people, providing to be practically. There were over 700 participants, and still to support the disaster relief bags, rice, dried food, trees, and plants for the victims who were still in troubles.



D. The Implementation Process in the Pilot Areas

- Pilot Areas. Families and communities have supported the operations of the Pathumthani network. They have selected the 4 pilot areas in 3 SAOs and 1

municipality: Bang Prok community with 150 households; Krachaeng community with 150 households; Bang Po community with 110 households; and, Baan Pathum with 87 households.

- Training. These were conducted to develop and enhance the skills of leaders and the network, and to provide the work tools such as the community analysis, the management skill, monitoring and evaluation, and database preparation. Most of participants were satisfied with the training. They gained information and understood their rights as stated in the Disaster Act and the Relief Compensation Program.
- Committee Meetings. Work committee meetings were held with the 4 leaders of pilot area. Disaster plans were developed during the meeting. Preparation for the household surveys was completed.
- Relief Work. The network monitored the progress of the relief work both in the compensation of government, and as on the prevention act with reference to the agreement on the lesson learned day.
- Coordination with local organization. The communities were trained on water resources restoration. The plan of dredging canal was discussed with the SAO in each area.

E. Public Relations and Publicity Campaign

The project provided many types of media as follows.

- Publishing on website www.chumchonhai.or.th with context of history and guideline of the Disaster Management with the Power of Women, Families, and Communities including the knowledge about the disaster management.
- Posting on Social Media such as Facebook the information and activities of the project. There were 2 main channels as follows:
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/womenindisaster/>; and,
<http://www.facebook.com/chumchonhai>.

This media distributed the pictures of of the learning and sharing activities of the 4 organizations.

- a. Youtube: The video of the disaster management training held on 1st and 2nd on November 2011. (<http://www.chumchonhai.or.th/?q=node/406>);
- b. Publication in newspaper and online media such as the Post Today newspaper, the online media of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Community News newspaper of The Institution of Community organization Development, and the online media of National Human Rights Commission as the

article, “the disaster is poverty cycle of Thai people” on January 25, 2012 and the article, “Commemoration the 7th anniversary of Tsunami.... to the Great Flood...the remembered lesson”.

- c. TV: There were 2 times via Channel 3, 8 times via the Citizen Journalists program of TPBS channel which was moderated by youth networks. Moreover, there were public forums and with others media.
- d. Others: exhibits, 2 VCDs and brochures.
- e. Trainings, academic forum, Round Table Discussions, manual and volunteer exchange programs

A manual was developed for lecturers who prefer to build the women or community leaders for disaster response It also serves as a tool to advocate the importance of women and community participation in disaster response. This is suited for not over 30 participants of women leaders per section/time/field, for the purpose of the training efficiency. This is a 2-4 weeks program depending on the size of community and the participation of local relevant agencies.

Its context as briefly is follows;

Lesson 1: the preparation before the disaster

Lesson 2: the implementation during the disaster situation

Lesson 3: the implementation after the disaster situation

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