



A MONTHLY PEACE AND RECONCILIATION PUBLICATION OF PBCI NOVEMBER 2012 EDITION

CFP COO ATTENDS NATIONAL INCLUSIVE BUSINESS FORUM

By: Twinkle Bautista

Manila, Philippines - PBCI Executive Vice-president and CFP Chief Operating Officer Joji Felicitas Pantoja participated in the Asian Development Bank forum on Inclusive Business last November 26-29 in the ADB Headquarters.

Inclusive Business means "private sector companies specifically targeting the low-income group and contributing to poverty reduction by making the poor involved in the company's chain of activities, such as by employing them and by making community suppliers and service providers." (*Business World*, Dec. 12, 2012)

Philippine Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said in one of his speeches that through inclusive business, the private sector can help sustain the paradigm shift of the government in achieving inclusive growth.

According to the ADB website, about 26% of the Philippine population live below the national poverty line, and 63% are vulnerable to poverty with income less than \$3 a day a person.



In this context, the forum aimed to discuss the results of the study on the opportunities in doing inclusive business in the Philippines and come up with suggestion to support inclusive businesses. It also provided opportunities for the participants to network with each other and for investors to discuss possible investing ventures. (www.adb.org.)

The forum was attended by 120 inclusive business leaders, fund managers, government bodies, industry association and development leaders all over the country.

Pantoja represented Coffee for Peace. For more information about CFP, its website is <http://www.coffeeforpeace.com/>.

PANTOJAS IN CANADA

PBCI top management Dann and Joji Pantoja were in Canada from September to November for a series of talks, meetings and other engagements.

This is their schedule for November.

Nov. 8 - 1200 Meeting with Gordon Janzen--his facilitator at Mennonite Church Canada Witness; 1600 fellowship with Lisa Alexander--his lawyer-friend-sister in Vancouver.

Nov. 9 - Columbia Bible College: 1000h spoke at chapel; 1100h lectured on "Spiritual Disciplines of Peace Making - Block 1"; 1200h lunch with faculty-friends; 1300h lectured on "Spiritual Disciplines of Peace Making—Block 2";

1400h lecture on "CrossCultural Communications in PeaceBuilding";

Nov. 12 - Shared peacebuilding stories with their home congregation, Peace Mennonite Church, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada. Dann said he and Joji felt embraced with the love, prayers, and affirmation by their sending community.

Aside from their speaking engagements, they also spent their time connecting and bonding with their families and friends in Canada.

They arrived in the Philippines on Nov. 24 and went straight to a forum of the Asian Development Bank. 🌱

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. - 1 Cor. 3:11

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COFFEE GROWERS EXPERIENCE HANDS-ON COFFEE TRAINING

By Twinkle Bautista

Valencia City, Bukidnon - Ten coffee growers finished a hands-on training on harvesting and post-harvest processing last November 24, 2012 at the First Fruits coffee farm.

It also served as on-the-job training of the new coffee trainers. In the training, the participants experienced picking, de-pulping, floating, fermentation and de-hulling. Director of Economic-Ecological ministries Kriz Cruzado taught them germination in the afternoon.

The ten coffee growers will then teach the concepts to the others who were not able to join the hands-on training but had attended the coffee seminar and had bought seeds.

First Fruits coffee farm is owned by Tony and Olive Gamboa, one of the first migrant families in Valencia City. 🌱



MORAL RECOVERY PROGRAM STARTS IN BUKIDNON'S BIGGEST PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"We might be doing everything to teach our children how to be academically excellent but we know that it is not enough. They also need to be fed spiritually. We need help in teaching our kids values," a teacher from Valencia City Central School said.

On November 16, 2012, a biblical-based moral values recovery program (MRP) was started among teachers as requested by the school principal. Teachers were required to attend the program every Friday at 3-5 p.m.

The City Central is the biggest public elementary school in Bukidnon with pupils who compete in national and international academic and extracurricular contests. But it is also beset with problems just like all the public schools in the Philippines such as low budget for the student population and too huge teacher-pupil ratio. A class reaches as high as 70-80 pupils cramped in a standard room (7m x 9m). This often leaves the teacher drained at the end of the day and being unable to give each pupil quality time.

In a first workshop of the MRP, the teachers lamented that the values they are teaching are being negated when the children goes out of school. Children are exposed to computer games, gangs and even child labor. It is often that some of their pupils sleep in class because they have been working at night. This situation is echoed in one of the community outreaches we do every Saturday where children have accepted drugs and prostitution as part of their daily life.

It is with this situation that the teachers have opened their school for partnership with the churches in ministering to them and indirectly, to the pupils. However, due to the number of teachers, the MRP focused on Grades 5-6 teachers for this school year. Hopefully, it will serve the other teachers next school year.

The program is headed by the Bayani Simbalay Inc., whose Teachers' Bureau include PBCI field workers and PAR-trained pastors. The MRP is based on the Presidential Proclamation No. 62. 🌱

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NOT VICTIMS BUT SURVIVORS

CdO and Iligan PBCI Workers Finish Training of Local HealthCare Teams

Almost a year after the deadly Typhoon Sendong (International name: Washi) hit the Philippines, two healthcare teams among the survivors in Cagayan de Oro and Iligan City finished their training.

Iligan City held their recognition rites of the volunteers last Nov. 22 at the World Harvest Missionary church. The major partners Iligan City Health Office, Safer Homes Coalition and Iligan Evangelical Disaster Coordination attended the event. Also present were Ecoweb, Radya Al-Salam Foundation Inc., Greenwater Resource Philippines, IMA, U.N. Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and Kaabag Ranaw Inc.

The graduates all came from the place that felt the brunt of Sendong. There are teachers, missionaries, mothers, grandmothers and one teenager. Aside from additional manpower in providing healthcare service to the grassroots level, the graduates are confident that they can train others too.



PBCI healthcare workers and the local volunteers of Iligan.

For Cagayan de Oro, the recognition was held on _____ at _____.

The healthcare project was initiated in January 2012 as part of the rehabilitation program for the Sendong survivors. With the help of Bartel Medical Fund, a group of nurses and psychosocial workers was deployed to the cities to provide additional healthcare and psychosocial service to the people, and to train a team of local volunteers who would continue the program.

PAR 1 IN LANTAPAN—BATCH 2

Seven pastors and church leaders of Lantapan finished the PAR I training on Nov. 20, 2012. The PAR I manual contains the topics *Pursuing Peace, Understanding Strategic Peacebuilding, The Nature of Conflict, The Process of Conflict Transformation and the Process of Reconciliation.*

The trainers are the PBCI Bukidnon field workers and PAR-trained pastors – Ptr. Medy Padillo, Ptr Clay and June Rojo and Ptr. Ed Isada.

The first part of PAR II is tentatively scheduled on December 14, 2012.



A participant explains their group's output on the conflict tree

PBCI HOLDS ORIENTATION IN GUINOYORAN



An orientation on Peace and Reconciliation ministry and Arabica coffee farming was held in Guinoyoran, Valencia City, Bukidnon on November 27.

25 people attended the meeting, most of which are purok leaders. After the orientation, the attendees all expressed interest to continue with the PAR and coffee trainings. They are aside from the 17 original farmers who had invited PBCI workers to train them.

Also with PBCI are Bayani Simbalay Inc. workers who introduced the moral recovery program and other livelihood possibilities such as bamboo paper-making.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE PBCI STAFF



Dann and Joji Pantoja. Please pray for the final phase of the organizational transition of PBCI: (a) from being a team of peacebuilding field workers in Central Mindanao, (b) to being a Peace and Reconciliation Consulting Team who would engage religious organizations, government agencies, non-government organizations, non-state armed groups, and business corporations in advancing active non-violence based on a Christian peace theological framework.



Bennette tenecio. Please pray for my Mom as she will be staying in Australia starting December 3, 2012. Pray for smooth adjustment and good health. Pray also for good health and sound mind as I do the tasks assigned to me.



Kriz Cruzado. Please pray for guidance as she makes major decisions, provision for her family and good health. She has been diagnosed with diabetes last month.



Mel Sumatra. Please pray for shalom to be rooted in Impasug-ong. Pray also for safety as I travel to different barangays.



Arjay Balabag. Please pray as we transfer to a new place. Pray also for the healing of my cousin who has a psychological problem. May God grant our family good health, protection and provision for my siblings' school needs.



Joy Betios. Please pray for my good health, wisdom and protection. Joy is the liaison officer of PBCI.



Fred Abelitado. Praise God for his resourcefulness in maintaining our office furniture in good condition, roasting coffee, fixing plumbing and electrical problems and many other things. Pray for his health.



David Quico. Please pray for David as he is deployed in Cagayan de Oro as health care program. Pray for health, safety and wisdom as he works with the survivors of typhoon Sendong. Please also pray for his family.



Phoebe Gupana. Please pray for the people we are serving who lost their faith in God, who is fighting a disease, for the abused and poor children. Pray for relationships to improve with peace and joy.



Jeff Estallo. Please pray for guidance in his personal decisions, family issues and in his work. May God open the hearts of his aunts for reconciliation and may their faith in God be strengthened.



Nenia Galanza: Please pray for a smooth transition for the team as we undergo changes. May God grant us wisdom.



Sherel Quider: Pray for the team as we prepare for changes in PBCI. Pray also for guidance and wisdom in everything that we are doing, our health and safety.



Twinkle Bautista. Pray for all the pastors we are working with. May God be the source of everything they need as they work for the Gospel of peace. Pray also for wisdom as the team undergoes transition.



Gemwill Mendoza. Please pray for my health. I am currently being treated for gastritis.



Kaye Chanyee. Pray for the team as we finish our healthcare program. Pray for travelling mercies as we go home.



Daphnie Derigay. : Please pray for emotional healing and for strength as I serve in Cagayan de Oro City. Daphne is a community healthcare worker.



Alvin Ysulat. Pray for the upcoming graduation of the healthcare trainees in Iligan. The program is going to end on November and the local healthcare team will be turned over to the Iligan Health Care Office.



Julie Condino. I pray for knowledge, wisdom, strength, patience and good health of the CdO team to be able to continue the started healthcare program and to be able to serve more IDP's.

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."
-1 Timothy 2:1-2

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