



# Together, We Can !

**"Poverty does not have to result in exclusion for young people ! Together and with them we can make a difference !"**

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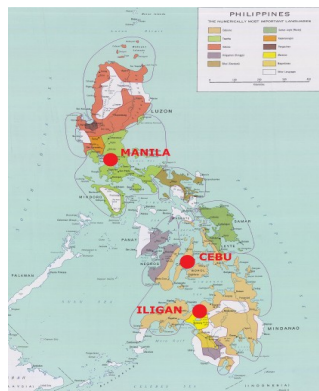
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In 2009 there were 23 million Filipinos living below the poverty threshold of \$1 per day (40 million survive on less than \$2 per day). Poverty is on the increase in the Philippines, despite the fact that GDP has grown on average 4.7% annually over the past 10 years. **This increase has greatly benefited the richest 10% of the population, to the detriment of the poorest.** What will happen when the international economic crisis hits?



## Editorial

It is only 20 months since LP4Y held its first General Assembly in Paris, on the 4th of July 2009. On that day we just had 7 members from France and Belgium. By the end of 2010 our numbers had swelled to over 300.

With this 3rd newsletter, we would like to present an **overview of these first months** which have been so enriching for all involved.

With each passing day the young people have become an increasingly important part of our lives. The foundations are now in place, transforming what started as an intuitive act into a **viable enterprise !**

Every day, in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Philippines and elsewhere, the members of our association awake to the heart-felt wish to help **excluded young people** to build a new **Life Project**.

We would like to thank you all for your confidence and enthusiastic support. The task before us is enormous but we believe that the sense of commitment we share, wherever we may live, breathes life into the mission we have chosen to fulfill.

Laure and Jean-Marc Delaporte



## Emergency for Excluded Young People

In November 2009 LP4Y published a report entitled "Jeunes en Situation de Grande Exclusion" ("Youth Facing Extreme Exclusion"), and revealed that today 515 young people worldwide live below the poverty threshold; by 2025 that number will have risen to 1 billion!

One year later in November 2010 our revised edition of the report, entitled "Youth Facing Extreme Exclusion" was an urgent plea on behalf of excluded young people who form an extremely vulnerable group which must be taken into account in future development policies.

- By targeting young people it is possible to break the cycle of transgenerational transmission of poverty

- Young people show great flexibility and resilience in the face of suffering, and are thus more likely to respond positively to anti-poverty policies, increasing the chances of such policies having a real long-term effect.

- Employment among young people should be encouraged as a means of avoiding social exclusion, delinquency and drug abuse.

- In all countries it is the young who drive economic development.

Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the UN proclaimed the year beginning 12th August 2010 "International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding". In the light of this specific focus it is up to us to make sure the voices of excluded young people are heard.



## A close collaboration: 32 administrators in 4 countries

At the heart of the Life Project 4 Youth alliance are national volunteer organizations.

Each one operates independently yet in collaboration with the others, thanks to the almost daily contact between the presidents through informal conference calls.

During the extraordinary General Assemblies held in November 2010 and in order to reinforce links between the individual organizations the Boards each elected a Vice-president and 10 to 12 administrators.

### LP4Y in France

President T Delaporte  
Vice President F Vanheems  
Treasurer H Renaud  
Secretary MP Montigny  
Administrators A d'Avout  
P Delaporte  
O Demeure  
E de la Rochère  
F de Malaric  
O Frady  
C Gil-Frasnier  
L Martel

### LP4Y in Belgium

President JM Demeure  
Treasurer C Del Marmol  
Secretary S Bretton  
Administrators PY Baulain  
A Delaporte  
O Gamel  
O Laforge  
H de Saint-Exupéry  
V Wright

### LP4Y in the Philippines

President L Delaporte  
Vice President L Goirand  
Treasurer JM Delaporte  
Secretary C De Leon  
Administrator J N. Dayao

### LP4Y in Luxembourg

President A Devresse  
Vice President JM Demeure  
Treasurer JM Vandenberghe  
Secretary M Caze

Administrators  
F Barzin  
F Chartier  
JP Spang



### We are often asked why we started LP4Y in the Philippines.

1) Out of 1.1 billion young people aged 15-24, **89%** live in developing economies, of which 60% in Asia.

In 2009 there were 515 million young people worldwide, living below the poverty threshold (1 in 2 Young people!!)

In the Philippines there are 5 million young people out of school, and 3 out of 5 young workers are unpaid.

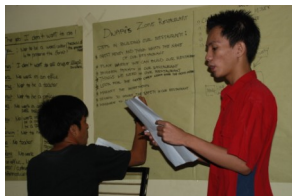
This is where many young victims of exclusion are to be found.

2) **The relatively low cost of living** made it possible to establish LP4Y with limited funding.

3) **English** is the language of business and government. Long-term **visas** are possible.

4) There are more than 100 million Filipinos, 95% of whom are Christian. Our shared values make cultural exchange and **integration** far easier here than in the rest of Asia.

5) The **geographical situation** of the Philippines can facilitate future projects in South Asia.



Green Program team, graduation

Article 3 of the statutes for Life Project 4 Youth in France, Belgium, Philippines and Luxembourg refers to our primary purpose: **"To assist in the social and professional reintegration of excluded and vulnerable young people..."**

In 1985 the General Assembly of the United Nations defined Youth as those aged **15-24**. Within the category of Youth there is an important distinction between adolescents (13-19) and young adults (20-24), since they face very different social, psychological and health issues

In the Philippines the age of majority is 18 ... and yet young men may not marry before

## Who are these young people?

the age of 21 without their parents' consent! And while the legal age at which one can start work is well defined there are many who work illegally much earlier. It's a matter of survival.

Young people living in poverty work to survive: collecting rubbish, carrying bags of cement, cleaning out vats: dangerous work ... and yet 3 out of every 5 young workers are unpaid.

As in most developing countries the problem is not so much work, as **decent work**: that which enables the worker to live above the poverty threshold.

But certain categories of young people are particularly at risk:

- **Handicapped young people**. Often hidden away and considered an embarrassment to the family, they are declared inept and are not expected to attend school.

- **Street youth**. With no family, rejected or fleeing as a result of mistreatment, they are quickly spotted and recruited by gangs which offer the only means of protection from the dangers of the big city. They fall into delinquency, drug addiction, prostitution, and almost inevitably do a stint in prison – maybe several.

Branded with the tattoos of their gang they will find the doors of employment barred.

- **Out of school youth**. It is believed there are 5 million out of school youths in the Philippines. Child mothers at 13 or 14 leave school with no hope of ever returning. For others, school may be too far away, or there may be too many children in the family. They leave school at the end of elementary school, or a little later but nonetheless before the all important High School Graduation without which jobs are almost impossible to find. For these young girls and boys the world of decent employment is out of reach.

**At LP4Y we believe that abandoned young people, victims of violence and poverty, have the capacity to become successful entrepreneurs – just so long as someone, somewhere, gives them a smile, a look of confidence, a comforting word, a bit of space !**

In the Philippines during 2009, 2010 and 2011, taking into account legislation and the maturity of the young people we encountered, we decided to work with young people aged 17-24.

## What can we offer them? Here, together, we can achieve something!

For the majority of these young people school is but a distant memory. But it is also for them the only familiar benchmark of an organized structure. They think of LP4Y as a second chance, and a means to finding work and a small income – if all goes well.

It all begins with a **"discovery week"**, after which they either will or won't be offered a place in a program or one of the Life Project Centers (LPCs). If they want to be accepted they need to show serious **motivation** and confirm their application in writing.

If successful they quickly become familiar with an open work place where we meet Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm for the Programs, or 8-12am for the LPCs. In groups of 6 – 12 they take part in a series of 2-hour workshops, during which they switch between **"work"**, **"study"** and **"personal development"**. For each workshop they are assigned an LP4Y coach. We suggest that they join LP4Y to discover and develop their entrepreneurial

skills. Since it is not feasible to offer a full and comprehensive study course lasting years we have taken various shortcuts in the development of skills in order to concentrate on the essential aspects. The LP4Y sites are Training Development Centers for **Micro-economic initiatives**. The development of each young person's own **Life Project** lies at the core of the LP4Y experience.

For young people who until now have lived day by day in an attempt just to survive, this discovery of a world of projects, where you can plan for a future and choose your goals may be hard to take in at first. But they soon get used to it and are proud to join in. They receive an **LP4Y diary** as a tangible symbol of this new

life, and are taught to use it every day.

Jean-Baptiste, our head of development for programs and micro-initiatives, visits each center in turn to spread the word and share his enthusiasm. And he has no shortage of that!



## Why do they need a Life Project?

Excluded young people are first and foremost victims: victims of their families, or what's left of them, victims of the inhuman polluted cities, victims of poverty with no means of feeding themselves, of looking after themselves, of burying their dead etc.

Every day is a struggle that they learn to lighten by any means, a temptation which can soon become an addiction. If you look carefully there is little chance of breaking out of this vicious circle of misery.

And yet, young people who come from great poverty have this capacity to bounce back, even from the very lowest point : what Boris Cyrulnik describes as resilience. And their resilience is powerful.

Creating a Life Project requires them to dig deep into their past in order to build something for the future. We're not talking about drawing up a contract saying what will or won't be done. Nor are we asking them to predict their own future.

But it is a process of reflection which allows the young person to build his or her own project based on certain core values and by taking into account the essentials of what he/she wants to achieve in life.

As they get to know themselves the young people gradually develop a taste for this long-term view. The Life Project sessions are alternately individual, in

groups, and one on one with the coach. The sessions are of course based on listening but they are first and foremost practical, being rooted in the achievements of the "Work", "Study" or "Personal Development" sessions.

It is an interactive process during which we encourage the young people to detail their projects in writing.

But the idea of a project scares them. Will I be able to complete it? Am I up to this? It would be so easy to give up. Life Projects require exceptional listening skills from the LP4Y Staff, not to mention great kindness – and patience.



## The core principles of LP4Y's Pedagogy

**I can't but together we Can!** This is the slogan you'll see displayed in each one of our centers. It expresses the importance of community. We value experience, work and evaluations within a team. Any conflicts will generally be dealt with as a team and everyone needs to find his place within the group. We rarely intervene in the teams but we do help them, when necessary, to understand what's going on. Quite naturally, the weakest or those with problems are assisted, as they are all aware that the wheel turns. And day after day we are amazed by what these teams achieve, without our intervention. The weeks are punctuated by team debriefings.

**Rebuild confidence.** The most shocking characteristic of these damaged young people when we first meet them is their complete lack of self-confidence. We have to constantly reassure them, convince them that they are capable, and persuade them to attempt things they've never done before. As such the LP4Y pedagogy aims to be **100% positive**. We always emphasize their strong points, their successes, their good deeds etc, and we play down the weaker points ...

There is always an **exchange**. In order to rebuild self-confidence we place the emphasis on honor, respect, valuing each other. And so we try not to *assist* them as such. We don't give them anything; there's always an exchange of sorts. In general we create a *contract* which determines who does what in exchange for what. In

this way as soon as the young people are up to carrying out a mission regularly and reliably they receive a small weekly wage. With this they can take care of their basic needs, but they also have to learn to manage it: keeping a share for themselves (lodging, food, transport, clothing, toiletries), another for family needs, and yet another for savings. During the first months they tend to be extremely generous to everyone but they have to learn how to save. Not easy when you have so little.

**Learn to commit.** To commit you need to have confidence in the future and have a degree of ambition. They have to learn to position themselves: a tough job for young people for whom nothing comes easily. Making a commitment to themselves and to others is a risk, and in the early stages costs more than it pays off.

**Experience.** Nothing beats real life experience to get the message home. Having set out the aims of a session we always try to put it into a context that really resonates for them. There's no point in talking about the average hours of a fruit seller; it's far better to give them some mangoes and ask them to go sell them. When they get back they can talk about what happened, and analyze the experience. The coach will quickly make a few recommendations, and they're off again. They improve rapidly – as do the coaches!

**Take initiative.** These young people have never received praise for something well done, but have instead lived a life of put-downs and humiliation. It therefore takes them several weeks to understand the concept of initiative. Initiatives which serve an immediate purpose are easy enough: how do you cook rice when there's no gas, or oil? But initiatives with medium-term results are harder to imagine as they are not immediately useful.

To illustrate examples of awareness we write slogans on our walls. They are often conversation starters! For example:

**Bring your dreams to life!** During the discovery week we ask them about their dreams and ask them to list their dreams in 2 columns: column 1 for dreams which could become reality, and column 2 for the more far-fetched. It is often the first time they've been asked about their dreams and they find it hard to answer. No matter, we come back to it a few weeks later and gradually the dreams are clearer, and become possible!

**Think before you act.** The young people who join LP4Y are very intuitive. As a result of the terrible conditions in which they've been living they have developed a kind of second sense for every situation ... or almost. And initially they find it very boring having to analyze everything ... until one day someone impresses the group by coming out with a profound observation!



## Life Project Centers

**LPCs are breeding grounds for micro-economic initiatives within the framework of a 6-8 month teaching course for teams of 8/12 young people.**

Life Project Centers are learning centers set up near poor areas for excluded young people. LPCs have been created in parts of the metropolitan (Manila), in smaller towns (Cebu), and we hope to set up soon in rural areas. A Life Project Center has classrooms and rooms for meetings and workshops for the various activities to be developed.

Since the first LPC opened in November 2010 we have decided to specialize each center in one particular activity in order

to benefit from specialized skill sets and the particularities of the local environment.

Example: The Tondo LPC is located directly opposite an enormous dump where tens of thousands of people sift through the rubbish day after day. After reviewing the environment we decided this LPC should be dedicated to learning techniques for adding value to rubbish recycling.

The LPC activities overseen by the LP4Y coaches (workshops, training, studying, meetings) take place every morning, Monday – Friday 8-12am. During the lunch break the kitchen area is shared. The afternoon is free for individual

lessons (mainly English and IT), for paid work (small projects requested by one of the partners), or for launching an activity chosen by the young people. We try to reproduce the structures of a real business in terms of punctuality, dress code, behavior, use of equipment etc.

Each LPC is headed by a permanent LP4Y coordinator, advised by 2 consultants in development and management of activities, and assisted by the head of teaching, the training volunteers and the activity advisors, volunteer or salaried. Their involvement depends on the teaching plan and the fixed termly planning.

## The Programs

**Each program is a learning cycle for 8/12 young people that lasts 1-3 years and consists of business training and professional preparation for entrepreneurship.**

Programs can operate at an LPC, on another site, or at the Training and Development Center, (also the LP4Y staff headquarters).

The young people work on the program Monday – Friday 8am–6pm. They have 3 weeks holiday per year and some public holidays.

After a period of 'discovery' lasting 2 weeks and aimed primarily at determining their degree of motivation they are asked to sign up in writing for the first stage:

**Autonomy** (6 months). This seems to be the hardest stage, during which the young people learn to make a commitment and follow it: they learn punctuality, behavioral skills, commitment, time management, how to live as a team.

The second stage, **Responsibility** (4 months) comes with a contract. The young people are required to see a small project through to its completion, coping with any hurdles they meet on the way. During this stage they have their first business experience in the form of a 1 month internship.

The third stage is **Management** (4 months), representing a marked progression, as the young people are now required to take responsibility for 1 or more newcomers to the program.

The fourth stage is **Entrepreneurship** and may last several months depending on the project.

The programs demand a lot of the young people in terms of self-discovery, new behavior, concentration etc. We achieve by far the best results when the young people live on site and do not return home during the week. (This was tested in 2010).

When young people abandon the program it is almost always because of a lack of self-confidence, or when tensions arise within the team. They receive a weekly salary which allows them to be self-sufficient. The programs are led by program and LPC leaders who are advised by experts and assisted by volunteers.

## A dynamic team in the Philippines!

Laure and Jean-Marc Delaporte arrived in Manila at the end of August 2009 with their 2 youngest children. Their goal was to establish the headquarters and identify projects corresponding to the mission of LP4Y. From November 2009 until the end of August 2010 they were assisted by 2-4 students at a time who volunteered for missions lasting 1-4 months.



At the end of August they were joined by Jean-Baptiste and Marie Prache along with Augustin (aged 4) and the lovely Camille (2 yrs). Next they welcomed Lucas Schmitt and Solène Lefort, and on September 15th Grégoire Danel. These French International Solidarity Volunteers signed up for 1-2 years. Then in early November 2010 Estelle Klumper arrived from Luxembourg, and finally Julie Floch in December. Apart from one volunteer who left after 6 weeks the team spirit is strong.

The team has been strengthened by Filipino and European volunteer students and has the support of 2 American Sign Language teachers in Iligan for the Hear Us! program. By the end of December 2010 there were 15 amazing and talented individuals working alongside the young people of LP4Y in the Philippines.



### Transparency and information sharing

Information sharing is a core element of the LP4Y organization. Despite distance and different time zones, it is essential that information be readily available: information about training, motivation, transparency, but also traceability of our activities and backup of all data are at stake.

As of April 2010 all our data is transferred almost daily to the LP4Y extranet. Managed by Google Apps this service is free (for up to 50 addresses) and can be done without requiring the services of an expert.

Thus LP4Y staff in the Philippines and members of the Management Committees all have access to the information.

## Green Program: 50th Delivery!



Green Program makes weekly deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetables to private addresses in Makati and Alabang – the upperclass neighbourhoods of metropolitan Manila. The program was launched in December 2009 with 8 young men aged 18-21, all ex-prisoners, and one young woman aged 27.

The activity was created with these young people within the framework of a "learn-work-guide" training program called the Professional Training for Entrepreneurs (PTE). This activity takes up nearly half the week and provides exposure to the various elements of a business, giving the young people a chance to test their skills. The work is organized into 4 departments: Sales, Purchasing and supplies, Packaging and invoicing, Delivery and receipts. The

young people are in charge of a process that comprises nearly 80 tasks.

The Green Program was initially set up on premises loaned by Acay in Quezon City. Then in April 2010 the team moved to their own address in the TDC at the headquarters of LP4Y in the Philippines. At the same time the team took up residence in a small house just opposite the TDC. They were therefore able to concentrate fully on Green Program and save on travel expenses, not to mention the 3 hour commute every day. On the ground floor there is a kitchen and a bedroom for the only girl on the team. On the second floor the boys share 2 bedrooms. (In fact they all share the biggest room as they maintain that the other one is haunted ...)

Each resident contributes 1,000 Php per month towards the rent (16,50€). This is a considerable expense, representing 20% of their salary (5,500 Php / 91,50€), but is comparable to the cost of renting a bed in one of Manila's dormitories.

After some shuffling the team finally stabilized in May 2010 with 6 members. In July they spent the month on an internship within L'Oréal Philippines: an amazing and extremely valuable experience.



rience.

In August, with no coach available, they had 3 weeks off. They lost a lot of impetus during this break, and found the return to work very tough.

In September Marie joined us as Volunteer in charge of the Green Program, just in time to prepare those already in Stage 3 of PTE to welcome 6 new members.

So we've completed the first year, and 50 deliveries, with a loyal client base to be developed yet further, and above all 10 young people happy to be making daily progress under the watchful eye of Marie.

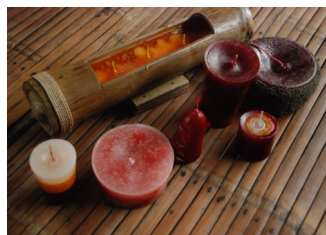


## Life Project Center in Cebu City, Cebu

Cebu City, situated in the center of the Philippines, is its second largest city with a population of 2 million. From the beginning we felt that LP4Y should be present there. We first met with several NGOs who were active in the field of education and concerned by the lack of job opportunities for school leavers.

Our meeting with out of school youth was decisive. The difficult task of finding somewhere to set up the Life Project Center was suddenly resolved when over the summer we met the members of the St John Community who generously offered us a home on their site. When Solène, our volunteer coordinator, arrived we were able to welcome the first young people to the center in mid-October 2010. 4-5 of them have settled in well and are developing a handicraft activity: candles to start with. Soon to come are jewelry, and bags woven from recycled materials etc. There is no shortage of ideas.

The Center is developing a reputation, with the result that 8 more young people joined in February 2011. And little by little this center is developing into a breeding ground for micro-economic initiatives in the field of handicraft skills. The professional training sessions are led by Lucas, who is also in charge of developing Zip, a 1-3 year program based around woodworking skills.



## Life Project Center in Old Balara, Quezon City

Old Balara is in Quezon, which has the highest concentration of slum dwellings in metropolitan Manila. Old Balara is one such slum, home to tens of thousands of families. Some manage to build a solid home of breeze blocks, while others barely survive, suffering from tuberculosis or domestic violence. For out of school youth there is no hope of decent work, just odd jobs with no

security, sometimes unpaid ... in an attempt to survive.

In June 2010 while thinking about setting up a Life Project Center in N.E. Manila we had a fortuitous meeting with Father Daniel – a member of the Fils de la Charité association. He's been active here for nearly 10 years, implementing dozens of community projects in his parish with great skill and sensitivity. He confirmed our estimate of the high number of out of school youth and offered to house a Life Project Center in his parish premises.

Grégoire is in charge of the center which he opened in November 2010. He lives in the area and has become something of a local celebrity. During the first 2 months the emphasis was on the learning phase. The first project was launched: the creation of a garden and shrine in front of one of the chapels in the neighborhood. Within a matter of days the young

people had come up with the concept, tracked down suppliers, chosen the materials and plants, designed, costed and sold the project. They are now putting the plan into action.



There were 4 young people at the outset, since joined by 8 others. But in order to attract the young people, their families often have to be won over first.





## Hear Us! Program in Iligan, Mindanao



The city of Iligan stands on the border of the autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) on the North West coast of the largest southern island. But things are fairly calm and peaceful.

In early 2010 we were contacted by Father Henri, who's been in the region for a number of years. He told us of the fate in store for the only specialized school for the deaf in the area which was threatened with closure for want of funds and a lack of viable projects for the young deaf students.

Here deafness is a shameful condition to be concealed. Without the means to communicate deaf people are often considered mentally lacking. Were it not for the energy and determination of Chay most of these 30 young people would have had no schooling. "What's the point

as they'll never get a job...?"

After several meetings and with the support of a number of key Iligan personalities the LP4Y Management Committees decided to offer financial support to the School for the Deaf (12 children under the age of 17), beginning in June 2010 and until a specialized NGO could take over. Enfants de Mekong is now set to take over the financial management and support of the school and will provide financial security through sponsorship programs.

Realizing that the 19 students aged 17 and above had no future beyond school we looked into the idea of opening a computer in-putting center with them. The Hear Us! Program was launched in October 2010, working out of classrooms at LaSalle Academy. They are currently in the introductory phase of skills evaluation. They are not yet paid.

Estelle spends every day with them, assisted by 2 paid

teachers and advised by Jean-Baptiste and soon Emmanuelle. Lucas also contributes when necessary.

The next step will be to provide a home where the young people from Hear Us! can live together as a community, like their counterparts in the Green Program. This would help their progress enormously.



On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February there was a celebration at the Training and Development Center. Analyn Ningala, the only girl in the Green Program, became the first PTE (Professional Training for Entrepreneurs) graduate of LP4Y.



### TDC

#### Training and Development Center



**Emmanuelle** is in charge of program management and micro-initiatives. She intervenes on all sites.



**Elsa** is responsible for the technical side of communication: website, on-line fundraising, e.letters, on-line photo albums etc.



**Julie** is a coach in charge of training programs and the Manila LPC. She runs the extra-curricular activities.

## Green Program 2 in Paranaque, Manila

Green 2 comes at the request of clients of Green Program (1): "We can't find fresh herbs in Manila. Why don't you supply some?"

After looking into it we decided to take the plunge into organic farming! The first shoots [right] show what we've achieved.

The young people from Green Program are tending to the plants, and we're very touched by their care and attention. As soon as we're ready to sell we'll involve those young people who want to play a part. We're still a few weeks off ... and the dry season is ahead.

But we're being very well advised; Oscar, a consultant on loan from the Ministry of Agriculture, has offered to help!



## Zip Program, Cebu city, Cebu



Lucas [left] is a pioneer. After first launching the Hear Us! Program in October / November, and assisting the Cebu LPC from the moment of its inception, he is now laying the foundations of Zip Program, a "learn-work-guide" training program for the development of woodwork skills and the commercialization of the finished product. These skills have been neglected because of a shortage of materials, but wood is now back in fashion. The young people try their hand at sculpting precious woods, simple panels, decorative objects ... and it's obvious that they love working with wood! Now we need to put together the first team, which is not as easy as you might think.



## Life Project Center in Tempo, Tondo, Manila

This project has been in the pipeline for a long time, ever since the idea was first mooted in the summer of 2010. It is a tough project. Tempo is one of the most desperately miserable places imaginable.



9,000 families do their best to survive on this dumpsite, by sifting through the rubbish. They are at the mercy of the local mafia, and the young people are often exploited, turning to drugs, or to prostitution to earn a few pesos.

We struggled for months to get the local authorities' permission to establish the foundation in 2 houses opposite the Tempo site.

We plan to open a Life Project Center for very young mothers, creating a handicraft activity using recycled objects from the dumpsite: plastic, cardboard etc.



### Criteria for success

LP4Y staff ensure they meet each young person individually at the beginning of a program or LPC. Later we arrange a meeting with the family at their home in order to create the essential link between home and center. This is always a very emotional moment for our staff. From the results of these meetings we draw up a confidential background information sheet.

As the participants progress through the various stages of the program or LPC they carry out their own evaluations using a questionnaire which covers all the topics raised during the period.

Each participant has a file which includes the letters of motivation they have to write at the end of each level before moving on.

The first quality that is evaluated is that of "success" i.e. the degree to which the young people can evolve. Occasionally someone will get stuck and either can't or won't unblock himself, in which case he leaves LP4Y.

Success is evaluated on 3 levels:

\* : the participant is progressing in all 3 areas (work, study, personal development);

\*\* : the participant is actively taking part in the development of the activity; he has become employable;

\*\*\* : the participant is ready to develop his own activity and will in time be able to offer work to others.

**Dates for 2011**General Assemblies to present the 2010Annual Report:

10th March in Paris  
14th March in Brussels  
16th March in Luxembourg  
4th June in Manila

General Assemblies to present the 2012budget:

13th October in Paris  
18th October in Brussels  
20th October in Luxembourg  
12th November in Manila

In France in 2010 LP4Y was registered as being a general interest service, an official stamp of approval of our activities which are acknowledged as benefiting many.

For French tax payers 66% of any donation is reimbursed by the State in the form of a tax rebate, with a ceiling of 20% of one's taxable income.

**Donations made by companies** can be deducted by up to 60% of the sum given, with a ceiling of 0.5% of the current turnover.

In Belgium we have not yet received the official general interest service label for 2011.

In Luxembourg we will be seeking the general interest service during the course of 2011.

### How can we get involved with young adults facing extreme exclusion?

#### Let's get involved together!

**MEMBER:** You will receive up-to-date news by email or letter. You are invited to our meetings, events and general assemblies. Annual membership in France, Belgium and Luxembourg for 2011 is 30€.

**SPONSOR:** Through regular or one-off payments you can contribute to the funding of LP4Y. You may also make donations in kind.

**PARTNER:** Make a social investment in the program of your choice, to be reinvested by the foundation once the program takes off. You are welcome to participate in the quarterly orientation committee meetings of your chosen program.

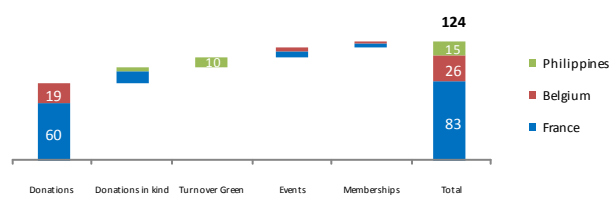
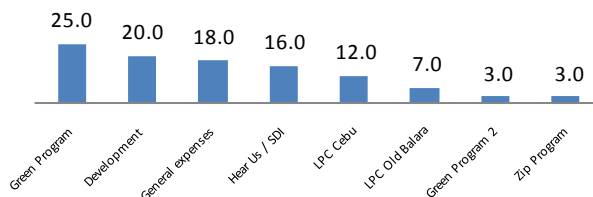
**CORRESPONDENT:** Share LP4Y news with your own network. Help organize fund-raising events or information meetings. Set up a new LP4Y association in the country in which you live.

**VOLUNTEER:** you can volunteer with LP4Y at any age (17-77) on an occasional or permanent basis, in Europe or in Asia. Training and preparation as well as social security, insurance and pensions are covered by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Don't hold back! Get involved with LP4Y. Contact us by email: [info@lp4y.org](mailto:info@lp4y.org)**

Together We Can! is the LP4Y newsletter for all regions.

Written and edited in French and English by volunteers in the Philippines.  
LP4Y Foundation Inc., Valley Vista Village, Better Living, 1711 Paranaque City, Philippines.  
# Together, We Can! - March 2011

**Budget 2009 - 2010****Income per country (K€, 2009-10)****Costs per project (K€, 2009-10)****Income**

The income for the first 6 month period in 2009 and 2010 was 123,556€, mainly (65%) from donations.

During this period 2009-2010 we gained 307 members, proof of the considerable enthusiasm and commitment surrounding LP4Y. With membership at 20€ this represents 6% of the total income.

Events: 8%; Gifts in kind (computers and a second-hand car): 14%

And lastly, an important figure for this first year: 9,585€, Green Program's first turnover from the sale of fruit and vegetables.

**Outcome**

Total expenditure of LP4Y's 3 entities, in the Philippines, France and Belgium, for the period 2009 - 2010 was 104,000€. This sum was split between general expenses (17%) and cost of the 4 programs and 2 LPCs (83%). Green Program required 25,000€, partly covered by the sales of fruit and vegetables. Hear Us! and the School of Deaf in Iligan which we started supporting in June 2010 account for expenses of 16,100€.

**Sponsors and regular donors**

Our thanks to everyone who has made the development of LP4Y possible.

You have been most generous:

- For the period 2009 - 2010 the average donation has been 345€ in France and 436€ in Belgium
- 7 donors in France and 9 in Belgium gave more than 1,000€.
- 2 donors in France gave 20,000€ each.
- 11 donors in Belgium committed to making automatic monthly transfers.
- One friend has made a bequest to LP4Y in his will.
- Our youngest donor is 4, and our oldest is 100!

Thank you to those of you who offer your skills; we truly appreciate this valuable contribution: translating, secretarial assistance, help with meetings, advice, networking and introductions, event organizing.

**Careful management of your donations!**

We established the missions for 2009-2010 in the Philippines only after consultation with the management committees. The provisional budget for 2010 was presented to the General Assembly and Administrative Council in March 2010 and revised in April 2010, each national association having by then indicated the provisional level of their contribution.

In the year 2009-2010 all the teams consisted of unpaid volunteers. In the Philippines the permanent volunteers are unpaid.

When they sign up for 1 year or more they receive a monthly allowance plus a contribution to the schooling costs for their children. Housing is provided. Social contributions and pensions are maintained through the CFE at the minimum rate. Expenses are paid. One return flight to Europe is provided every year, based on the cheapest flight available at the time.

We are looking for ways of saving money on housing and rent by taking all requirements into account and signing contracts that can be interrupted if necessary.

The young people make all the furniture for the houses and centers, and are also responsible for repairs and maintenance. Apart from 1 printer per center all computer equipment has been donated. The volunteers use their own laptops. The centers and houses are equipped for the most part with second hand items that have been donated (fridges, fans etc).

We have not incurred any fund raising or communication costs. All communication material is produced internally.

The administrators and volunteers pay their own travel to the Philippines.

**2009  
2010**

**Companies and Organizations working with LP4Y**

**L'Oréal Philippines** has been exceptionally supportive of LP4Y Philippines: offering a 1-month internship to 7 members of the Green Team in July and donating a car in November (Honda CRV) which has been invaluable for deliveries and for getting about in the vast city of



Manila. **Capgemini** made the generous donation, for the symbolic sum of 1€, of 25 HP laptop computers, for use by the young people in the 4 centers.

**Banque Degroof** has provided logistical support for the organization of fundraising activities in Luxembourg.

**Fondation Devoteam** and **Natixis** have made donations in France of 2,500€ and 3,000€ respectively for the launch of 'Hear Us!'

**Banque du Luxembourg** has donated 10 computers for LP4Y's coordinating offices in Europe.

The following have also generously offered support:

**Kreno Consulting** for logistical support and printing of information documents, and **Cabinet Sonnet** for auditing, both in France. **HRT Group** in Belgium and Luxembourg for accounting.

**Yakaar**, an association based in Africa, who paid its liquidation surplus of 1,093€ over to LP4Y France.

Thank you to the 2 associations which, from September 2010 and with a commitment of 1-2 years, are supporting LP4Y with recruitment, training and financial assistance with volunteer missions in the Philippines.



Thank you to the organizers of 2 talent concerts and 1 talent show in Belgium, who raised 3,500€  
- to "La Voix est Libre" choir in France for raising 1,800€ in donations

Thank you to Manille Bienvenue, the association for francophone expats in Manila, for their donations and support of Green Program.

