

GREEN VILLAGE



ACTIVITY REPORT

The last 2 months

• Professionalism	2
• Temporary house 2 nearly ready.....	3
• Eco-fence	5
• Second CSR day.....	6
• Sewing Nipa leaves.....	8
• The real test.....	9
• The basil is back.....	9
• Refreshing	10
• Growing up.....	12
• On the road again.....	14
• Environmental management.....	15
• We are definitively blessed !.....	18
• Soon to be	19
• Let's try and visualize it.....	21
• Waiting to be connected.....	22
• Check !	23
• First steps of the Green Filtering Pond.....	25
• A story about bridges.....	26
• Further.....	27
• Inspiring days.....	28

Progress

The Green Village continues to grow, day by day. New buildings require access via new bridges across the creek, and the fertile rainy season means outside spaces have to be cleared regularly.

Support for the project comes from far and wide: during the past 2 months we had the pleasure of welcoming 80 employees from Deutsche Bank Manila, 4 Scouts from France, a student in architecture from Luxembourg, 8 fresh new volunteers from all around the world, and even our founder, Jean Marc, from India.

The Young Adults of Calauan are also making great progress, both in their training, and towards reaching their dream job.

We trust you will enjoy this latest report which illustrates the fruitfulness of our project in a dazzling reflection of our lush surroundings.

We trust you will enjoy this latest report which illustrates the fruitfulness of our project in a dazzling reflection of our lush surroundings.



JULY—AUGUST 2016



Rucelle, Milissa, Sandra and Jonas reviewing the architectural layouts of the Bamboo Dryer with the architect and civil engineer.



Rucelle from Eco-construction program explaining the storage construction on site to the architect, Aaron Lecciones.

Professionalism

The monthly Green Village meeting is a professional meeting during which the 2 teams of Youth can share their accomplishments and difficulties, as well as what they've learnt from various activities, using a PowerPoint presentation. It is also the moment where the "customer", the project head, gives his or her feedback on the global project; a moment for congratulations and for encouraging the Youth to make new improvements and efforts. Furthermore, it serves as a great opportunity for all involved to stand back and get an overview of the Green Village, together.

In July, we welcomed the design team made up of engineers and an architect. The Youth prepared this meeting with great professionalism, and it was they who took the architect and engineers on a guided tour of the construction site, explaining the progress of each activity. They also prepared questions on each project so as to be able to give feedback to their teams. After the site visit, we organized a meeting in the prototype Training Room to review the architectural layouts that were still at the planning stage (Bamboo Dryer, House and Gathering Hall).



The Green Village meeting bringing together volunteers, Youth and trainers, to discuss the project.



Milissa, in charge of Green Village Eco - construction team, presenting the accomplishments of the past months.



Temporary house 2 nearly ready !

The small temporary house N°2 (destined for the volunteers) is now a new feature of the Green Village's landscape, just next door to the first one.

By the end of July the roof was almost finished, but the addition of the nipa leaves in mid-August made it totally waterproof, providing a new and safe storage space until the volunteers move in.

David of Eco-construction preparing the wood posts with his chisel before the installation of the pre-built walls.



Transportation of the pre-built walls from the Training Room prototype to their new destination.



In just one afternoon the walls of the temporary house were in place!



John Bryan and David can now make a floor out of bamboo slates without any help.

Installation of the pre-built windows and doors.



The roof is taking shape!





After the foundations, the wooden lumber posts !

After the walls, the wooden trusses !



Next, the installation of the bamboo roof frame to which nipa leaves are sewn.

Now stand back and admire the finished structure, complete with mountain views, coconut trees behind and the gentle sound of the creek...



Eco-fence

The Green Garden team is facing a new challenge: to design and build a fence that will mark the boundaries of the center. But with a difference: it must be welcoming... while still clearly showing the entry into a protected area.

And it goes without saying that this fence must be eco-friendly, in tune with the sense of community life, low cost, and of course beautiful. Good luck team!

The Green Garden Young Adults rise to the challenge and have already planned the complete layout: a mix of different kinds of bamboo (so we can grow our own construction material) and a living fence, cleverly combining kamote (sweet potatoes), malungay (an extraordinary tree providing healthy leaves) and kakawate; 3 fast-growing and prolific native plants which are easy to plant.

This activity has put them in touch with agricultural partner experts, such as the Bureau of Plants and Industry, even creating new partnerships by approaching institutes such as the College of Forestry and Natural Resources

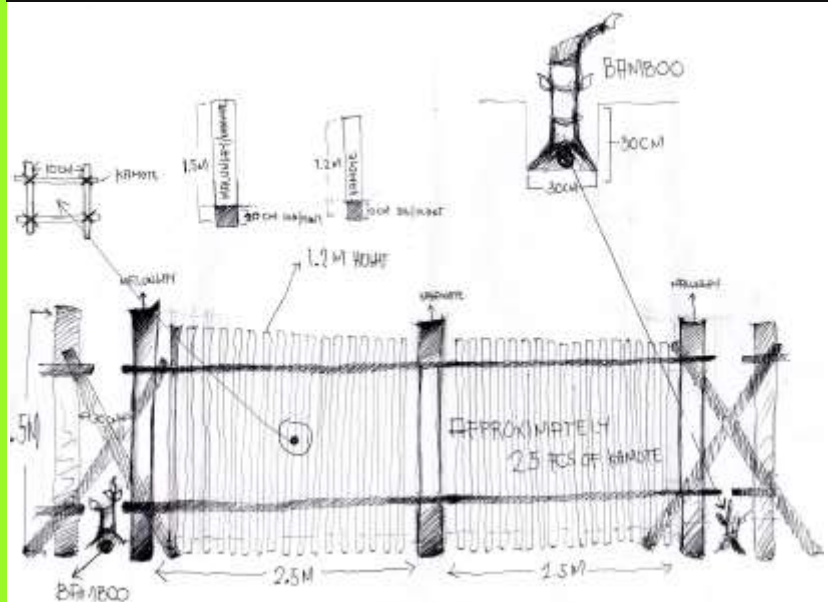
They will begin planting next month but it is already absolutely amazing!



During the briefing on Tuesday morning. Definition of the week's objectives.



Benjie and Jimbo from Green Garden working on the layout of the living fence on the Site Development Plan



Drawings of the fence made by the Green Garden Youth to explain their concept.



Ramil, Dahlia and Grace conducting the Orientation Session for the future volunteers in their office in Makati City (business area of Manila)

Before starting the activities: welcoming words and an explanation of the organization, scheduled and prepared by the Youth.



Second CSR day

We once again had the pleasure of welcoming 60 employees of Deutsche Bank for the second Community Service Responsibility Day held on July 26.

This allowed us to continue a project that we started together on June 24, specifically, the construction of the Storage facility using plastic bottles. But that's not all! We were also able to start challenging new projects: a new bridge; bins for sorting and recycling; painting the future Bamboo Dryer grids; creating a vermicompost area for humanure (human waste) from the dry toilets.

Once again it was a wonderful experience for the Youth and for the Green Village! A community experience in which the Youth became actors: they organized, they presented, they explained, they taught, they managed.... And of course they learnt so much!

The Youth of Green Program also set up an exceptional Healthy Corner to refresh the employees with their delicious home-made calamansi juice.



Effective debriefing after each CSR day means that the Youth have already learnt from the last session and decided to designate a "Storage area": a stand from which each project team can collect their tools. Rucelle, Milissa, Emerson and Ramil were in charge.

Team 1

Building a storage area using recycled plastic bottles.



Team 2

Making trash cans to help sort the garbage and recycling of the Green Village.



Team 3

Making the Vermicompost.



Team 5

Painting the metal grids for the future Bamboo Dryer.



Team 4

Building a bridge.



Nipa leaves sewing

Talking of nipa... let's see how things stand with Temporary House 3. The wood trusses were completed at the end of June. So next it was time to complete the huge roof.

First, the wooden lumber structure and bamboo slates were installed.

Then talented hands and fingers were required for the attachment of over 1,000 nipa leaves to cover the Boys' House.

While some were enjoying the view from the roof, others were finalizing the house by making and installing window and doors.



Grace and Yneth, sewing the nipa leaves with the help of their trainer, Vic. After 3 days Grace and Loudimer had developed the skills to install them without help!



A new-comer, John Carlo, during his Discovery Week, learning how to make and install the windows in sawali following the explanations of his senior teammates and the trainer, Mario.



More than half of the work is done... Keep going!

The real test

You probably remember the (unsuccessful) test in June of the waterproofing of the urine collector. After that experience the Youth of Green Garden worked hard to repair and improve the system. And they got it working pretty well. For a while ...

But then in July we welcomed around 80 employee-volunteers. This was the real test!!! Because the Youth of Green Garden have been using these dry toilets for several months now, and for them it has become a logical and intuitive system. But when you're not used to it and you enter one of these so-called "dry" toilets, and encounter 2 bowls, and a sort of trash can full of sawdust - but no water ... it can be a bit destabilizing for the uninitiated!

So the Youth realized that perhaps a bit of communication in the form of written instructions would be a good improvement.

But what if you are child from the local community? "Oh, great: a toilet!! I am so happy because we don't have one in our house! ... Why did they install 2 bowls? ... I don't know, and the written instructions are no use to me because I can't read ... Never mind, a bowl is a bowl". Or not!

So the second piece of feedback from these 2 months: how information is shared is also essential! So they met all the neighbors face to face, and explained to the parents how to use the dry toilets, the purpose and so on. And as a result of this session they learnt that the bowls are actually not very convenient for children. Now, they have little step stools; made by the Youth - out of bamboo, obviously!

The information panels explaining the dry toilet concept to users, and step stools for the children.



Alvin, from the Green Garden team, knows how to safely use the grass cutter!



The basil seedlings enjoying the rainy season.



The basil is back

The Youth of Green Garden had so many activities to manage that they had to prioritize. So during the Full Work period they decided to concentrate on building the dry toilets and showers.

When the Full Work was over it was time to go back to the greenhouse. There they discovered that the tiny shoots had become... a great jungle invading the building!!! Thank you, rainy season! Lots of clearing and cleaning to be done in the greenhouse!

On the other hand, they were able to observe how much the basil and all the other seedlings protected by the greenhouse appreciate the daily rain. A good lesson about the watering schedule which they will need to implement during the dry season which returns in February.

BEFORE



AFTER



Refreshing

During the Full Work period there was no time for the Greenhouse, but once this period was over the team could once again dedicate their time to organic growing and landscaping.

The building structures in the village are taking form, so it's time to think about what plants, where, how, why. So, as a first experiment, they decided to refresh the front of our office by creating a vegetable garden: sweet potatoes, basil, tomatoes and other vegetables will soon take over the space!

Ramil, Marcelo, Brian and Sandra, in charge of this activity, working on the new green shapes of the Life Project Center of Calauan!





Growing up...

The walls of the Storage facility are getting ever closer to their target height of 2.5 meters.

Meanwhile the Youth have begun digging the Green Filtering Pond, so it was decided to use the excavated dry soil to fill the hundreds plastic bottles. This way we can reduce costs and make the building a bit greener.

Over the past 2 months, the Youth of Eco-construction have completed all the foundations, posts and concrete foundation walls where the first layers of plastic bottles are located. They also managed to complete the first 13 layers of plastic bottles on the 12 walls that make up the Storage facility.

Finally, they also completed 5 layers of glass bottles on 9 walls. "Glass bottles? I thought they were building in plastic bottles..." A-ha! That's right but the glass bottles are a way of introducing the Youth to new visual concepts. And, perhaps the glass bottles can also introduce a new ecological concept: the beauty of natural sunlight vs. the electricity glutton, artificial light!



Yneth and Rucelle from Eco-construction program, making the metal armatures for the Storage facility's foundation walls.



Meanwhile the bottles are being filled. Grace is preparing the ground which will dry in the sun. Gerald and Vic (the trainer) are removing stones. Millissa and others are filling the bottles and compressing.





Once the bottles are ready for use, Emerson and Gerald prepare the mix of cement, sand and water before positioning and leveling each bottle. Emerson has become the expert for plastic bottles and Grace for glass bottles, thanks to their trainer, Sammy.





July 7 : the first 3 walls, built using plastic bottles, are coming along nicely, while the foundations are still under construction.

July 14 : The foundations are finished and all the posts are installed. The first 3 walls continue to grow, slowly but surely.



July 21: 5 additional walls have been started!



August 2 : All the walls have been started and the first layers of glass bottles are already visible!



August 13 : The glass bottles are taking over the Storage area!



August 26 : Almost half of the building is completed.



On the road again

Some months ago we came to an agreement with the owner of the land where we will have to build our access road, and we are feeling most grateful, because he is generously offering a free Right of Way to the project! There must also be a second access road, via the Makati Homeville relocation site, where relations are good, so it's time to start planning this road.

As our engineer friend from Habitat For Humanity is no longer available to help us, we requested the support of the Municipal Engineer of Calauan, Eng. Maliban. One morning we were amazed to see the entire engineering team on site, ready to carry out the topographical survey of the future road and define the design, for no charge!

What can we say?... Just "Thank you!"



The location of the future road



The engineers of the Municipality of Calauan carrying out the topographical survey of the area.



The engineering team that brought valuable solutions to the question of access, with Gaelle, the grateful project head of the Green Village.

Environmental management

In July the Youth of Green Garden took over responsibility for managing and maintaining the construction site. Of course everyone is responsible, but final responsibility lies with the Green Garden team. They have to think about communication to enforce respect of the area and they are also in charge of managing all the waste and garbage generated by the Green Village.

That's why they've been so busy!

First, creating **sorting trash cans** to allow for the collecting of biodegradable and non-biodegradable garbage. And for information, the Municipality of Calauan has asked to borrow these garbage bins for local events...Congratulations team!



The Youth of Green Garden making the first prototype garbage bin.



After many experimentations, the final design made by the Green Garden team.



An activity that brings people together! The new-comer, Jericho, was able to learn about the Green Garden program during his discovery week. The new volunteer, Constance, had her first contact with the young adults of LP4Y during the work time in the LPC Calauan. Finally, many employees experienced community work through this activity!



And as they already know, communication is essential!

They transferred the pre-built **compost box** from Site 2 to its new site. This compost area will collect and transform all the green waste.



The Green Garden team dismantling the compost box that was built on Site 2 to move it to its new position.

Installation of the compost box on the construction site, on a temporary location (where the future Nursery will be) to insure a short distance from the current main construction area.



Michael, Annie and Jonalyn assemble and repair the roof of the compost box.

They also built the **vermicompost area**. This is what will enable them to manage and transform the human waste from the dry toilets into organic fertilizer. This task required a lot of preparatory work and the Youth successfully communicated with the various partners involved, such as Bureau of Plants and Industry (BPI) and Water Agroforestry Nutrition and Development (WAND) Foundation to collect the necessary information.



Michael drawing the layouts of the vermicompost shelter, having first collected the necessary information from the partner specialists



The first definitive building made by the Green Garden team is now up and running!



Having learnt so much from Eco-construction during the past months, the Green Garden team built their vermicompost shelter without help.

We are definitively blessed !

On August 4 we had the Soft Opening Ceremony of the Green Village. A great occasion, gathering the whole Green Village world: partners, supporters, neighbors, inhabitants and representatives of Makati Homeville (the near-by relocation site). More than 100 persons, all together to discover, share and enjoy the Green Village.

Father Danie of the Don Bosco community kindly offered to bless the land. Meanwhile some of the Youth were still going over their speeches presenting LP4Y and their training programs. A great public speaking experience and a tangible proof of their abilities!

The ceremony was, above all, an opportunity for us to thank the 12 main local partners supporting the project (in some cases since its very beginning)! So we held the Partners Certification Ceremony in which certificates were awarded to each partner, including the Society for Conservation of Philippines Wetlands (SCPW), Aaron Lecciones Architects, Don Bosco Community, Laguna Water District, Bureau of Plants and Industry (BPI), Habitat for Humanity, ABS CBN Foundation, Municipality of Calauan, the University of Philippines in Los Banos (UPLB), Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI), ...

The Blessing Ceremony lead by Father Danie from the Don Bosco Community.



Ramil, Bernardo and John Bryan made great speeches explaining their training in the LPC Calauan.



The enthusiastic presence of the local community sharing "pancit" (typical Filipino celebration food).



Certification of the SCPW members involved in the Green Village.



In short : a great morning all together !





Location of the Bamboo Dryer by the Eco-Construction Youth team with the help of Vic, their worker-trainer.



Digging the foundations in preparation for the lumber posts of the Bamboo Dryer.



Soon to be

The foundations of all 42 structures have been built over the past 2 months! This is a huge achievement, representing 42 metal armatures, 42 wooden boxes, and 42 concrete foundations!

So now we have a field of foundations, so to speak, allowing us to imagine the huge Bamboo Dryer that will, in due course, occupy 16mx10m on the ground, and rising almost 4 meters high! A large structure offering good natural ventilation, and providing the best conditions for drying our precious culms (bamboo stems).

The plumbing and electrical trenches are ready for the pipes and the treatment tank has started to mold the ground.

As if that weren't enough, the Youth of Eco-construction also painted all the pre-built metal grids!



Digging the trenches (for electrical inlet, effluent and water piping) and the treatment tank.



During the Tuesday Briefings, the Bamboo Dryer consistently showed up as one of the most challenging projects, requiring rigorous organization to understand the complex layouts.



The things you maybe ignore about the Bamboo Dryer construction...

While the construction is on-going, some Youth of Eco-construction continue with the preparation, for example, John Carlo and Yneth painting the metal grids.



As much as possible the Youth recycle and reuse the wood and coco lumbers when making the foundation boxes.

Some Youth are also working in the center to prepare the purchase list and budget for the electrical and water connections.



The small foundation walls have been made with glass bottles to avoid using concrete hollow-blocks, thus reducing our cement consumption.



The structure is much more complex than the other buildings, requiring 3 different sizes of posts to support the whole building... Meticulous attention to detail is essential!



You will have to wait a bit more before being able to see the finalized model, but here's a preview!



Let's try and visualize it !

In August we welcomed Alice, an up-beat architecture student from Cardiff University's Welsh School of Architecture in Great Britain.

She is currently doing an internship with the Green Village project, helping the LP4Y Young Adults to visualize the Site Development Plan by making a small scale model of the whole project. Despite spending half of their week working with architectural layouts and plans, many of the Youth still find these technical documents a challenge to decipher. So, what about some small scale models to give an idea of what each building will look like? Perhaps some training sessions on construction, building and architecture would help. Alice is ahead of you!

This has proved a great opportunity for us to get an external point of view on the architectural layouts before building commences, about the construction site, etc. All in all, Alice's presence offers a very interesting and agreeable exchange for the Youth, the volunteers and the project!

2 Youth from Eco-construction, Rucelle and Milissa, the "artists" of the team, volunteered to participate in this activity and help Alice on the project.





The trilogy of the first buildings of the Green Village: the toilets, showers and temporary houses.

Waiting to be connected

The first prototypes of the shower and flush composting toilet of the Green Village are ready for connection to the future Green Filtering Pond (grey water treatment pond), with the help of the NGO partner Society for Conservation of Philippines Wetlands (SCPW).

The Youth of the future Boys' house now has a high level bathroom: natural, ecological and esthetic, located between Calauan's mountain and the cove of the creek... an invigorating setting for your morning shower!



Do you know the game "Spot the Differences"? Can you see the aesthetic improvements made by the team during the last few days of July?

Check !

The 2-in-1 toilet-shower building was started in June on the first CSR day and with the generous help of 80 Deutsche Bank Manila employees. The Green Garden young adults then took less than 3 weeks to complete it; proof, if needed, of the level of expertise acquired by the Youth during the pre-fabrication stage and subsequent on-site construction.

The combined toilet and shower is now awaiting connection to the pond, like the toilet & shower of the Boys' house on the other side of the creek.

Jonas and his trainer, Mario, checking the building's measurements.



Michael and Peter of Green Garden program making the toilets' walls using sawali weaving rolls.



The construction of the last toilet and last shower is underway. Let's show what the Green Garden team can do!



Peter and Benjie making the stairs by Peter and Benjie, initiating new-comer Joel during his discovery week.





Beginning of July



Middle of July



End of July !

First steps of the Green Filtering Pond

After the global location carried out in June by the NGO partner Society for Conservation of Philippines Wetlands (SCPW) and the Youth of Green Garden program, we were able to start digging and excavation in July.

This was the opportunity for the Youth to continue assisting the SCPW members to choose the precise locations of each of the ponds which makes up the Green Filtering area. They participated in the briefing sessions and in organizing construction.

The excavation work was, moreover, an opportunity to involve 8 non-skilled workers from the local community for a period of 3 weeks; a way to further spread the action of the Green Village.



The Green Filtering Ponds design prepared by the experts of the SCPW association, in particular, Doctora Ayona Devanadera and Doctora Cheryl Prudente, publishing authors on the subject.



The Briefing meeting involving the SCPW members, some Youth of Green Garden and the 8 local workers.



The 2 first ponds of the Green Filtering wetland are ready for the next stage!

As usual, it begins with a briefing: 2 of the Eco-construction Youth, Millissa and Emerson, started by organizing and designing the project.



And, as usual, bamboo is an essential ingredient!



The project provides a good opportunity for the Youth to take on the role of "trainer", teaching the Scouts their construction methods. Shown here: using a hose to level the bridge's foundations.

A story of bridges

It is becoming increasingly clear to us that the Green Village is creating real bridges: between engineers and out-of-school Youth; between employees of the richest area of Manila and the poor community of the relocation sites; between the rural community and the relocated 'ex-urban' population; between the Youth and a decent life...

So, we decided to build another bridge on the Green Village, a big and strong one, a symbol of many changes! 4 Scouts, Amélie, Héléne, Sophie and Martin, drawn by the promise of solidarity, community work and adventure, joined us for 3 weeks and helped bring this project to fruition.

It proved to be an enriching experience both for the Youth and for the scouts, an experience in which each learnt from the other.



In just 3 weeks they built a new bridge over the river, giving access to the area where the 4 training rooms and the computer room will be located.

Further

These 2 last months have been really rewarding in terms of progress on the land, but even more so in terms of achievements for the Youth.

In July, Jonas from Green Garden program, and Loudimer and Jonathan from the Eco-construction program, undertook a 2-week internship at Good Year where they were able to get a first taste of their dream job as automotive technicians. Meanwhile, Bryan, also from the Eco-construction team, completed 3 successful weeks as an intern at Samuel's Plate, a gastronomic restaurant also located in San Pablo. And, finally, Sheralyn, who hopes to work in Human Resources, did a 2-week internship in Satya Graha restaurant in Los Banos as HR assistant.

The "ALS" program in Philippines, or Alternative Learning System is a way for the young adults to get an equivalence for their High School Diploma. And we are proud to inform you that Jonalyn, Milissa and Jonas of the Life Project Center of Calauan all successfully passed the exam!

And to conclude the month of August on a high note, we would like to share with you the very real achievement of Randy and Alvin who found (on their own!) a 2-week internship in a restaurant in Los Banos. They experienced the many and varied tasks in the restauration business, from cooking to serving. These 2 Youth, who came to us from street children foundation partners, are living at the center, in the so-called "Boys' House". They came back from their experience full of motivation, and ready to face all the new challenges that will allow them to complete their Professional Training for Entrepreneurs (PTE).

The visit of the new volunteers during the Welcome Week seminar provided the perfect opportunity to see Randy in action during his internship at the Spicy Jar.



Jonathan, Jonas and Loudimer repairing cars during their automotive internship.



The ALS Graduation Ceremony, celebrated in the municipality of Calauan, where the Youth received their diplomas.



The month of July was also marked by the Life Project Plan Presentation and the Graduation Ceremony of the Youth of the LPC Calauan, where many partners and families joined to support the Youth.



Inspiring days

The Youth of the Life Project Center of Calauan were privileged to welcome the Philippines country coordinator, Arnaud, and the founder and President of LP4Y Foundation, Jean Marc Delaporte.

They had a few days in which to show him the different buildings on the construction site, and also to present their main accomplishments since May (the beginning of the construction), as well as just taking a moment to talk with him. For the volunteers of the center it was an opportunity to share thoughts on a variety of subjects, including, of course, the Green Village project, the Life Project Center and... these amazing Young Adults !

2 inspiring days. Thank you for visiting us Kuya John!

A new-comer, John Carlo, during his Discovery Week, learning how to make and install the windows in sawali, following the explanations of his teammates and the trainer, Mario.



Visiting the Green Village construction site, managed by the Youth of Eco-construction.



Jean Marc got a chance to taste the abundant fruit growing on the trees of the Green Village (shown: Rambutan)!

In short...

What has been completed? Everything in **green**.

What is on-going ? Look for the **orange** elements.

Which buildings are temporary or prototypes ? Check out the **key**.



The Youth are our Future, Let's Work with Them !



www.fb.com/lifeproject.foryouth



www.lp4y.org

The *Green Village* project is a unique project in LP4Y. It is especially supported by Coopération Humanitaire Luxembourg (CHL) providing financial support and an evaluation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Luxembourg (MAE) through a three-year partnership agreement raising 2/3 of the budget. Others numerous organizations and partner companies support us through financial or material donations as EDF Energies Nouvelles, Degroof Petercam Luxembourg, Philippines Luxembourg Society, Capgemini, Apprentis d'Auteuil, Bureau of Plants and Industry, Society for Conservation of Philippines Wetlands, Société Européenne de Satellite (SES) Luxembourg. This project counts also unvaluable local partners bringing technical consultancy and general punctual or continuous supports as the Municipality of Calauan, Aaron Lecciones Architects, Forest Products Research and Development Institute, Deutsche Bank Manila, University of Philippines in Los Banos through the Civil Engineering Department, Laguna Water District, Water Agroforestry Nutrition and Development Foundation, Balik Probinsiya, Solutions, Bambooroo, Habitat for Humanity Foundation Philippines.

To make a difference with the Young Adults from LP4Y, please contact us at info@lp4y.org