



Center for Governance

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2015 PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

I. Project Information

Project Code	CLRZH
Project Title	Strengthening Local Governance for a Child-Friendly Society
Project Start	2014-07-15
Project End	2015-03-31
Project Price	Php7,571,150
Client	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Organization	

II. Project Team

Project Manager	Jannis T. Montañez
Team Members	Alvin P. Principe, Hilda T. Bancolita, Peter Dan B. Baon Michelle N. Belga, Jocelyn T. Bellin, Ashley May Alison M. Monsanto Jenny O. Darish, Ma. Narcelyn P. Rizal, Marjorie D. Resuello Clesa V. Corona, Joebert D. Sayson, Eliza Salud C. Galang Katrina G. Miradora, Anthony Arvin V. Salazar, Aya Caraphina S. Abraham Ma. Czarina Krishna M. De León, Janice M. Cave, Evelyn E. Morales Elvira DG. Pacris
Supervising Fellow	Imelda C. Caluen
Consultants/ Resource Persons	Dr. Reinelda C. Raffitan, Yolanda B. Go, Yvane C. Gimeno Hope E. Ordoño, Rodeliza B. Casado, Rizza T. Solis, April T. Obtinario Ma. Erlinda N. Agulla, Celerina P. Agcamaran Liecel M. Seville Agnes R. Germo, Ma. Cristina S. Realta, Mary Ann T. Baldevia Elmer S. Baldemoro, Danilo C. Roquid, John G. Bongat Jogepons A. Ruloma, Merlinda M. Ibusag, Susan S. Gasilao Ma. Luisa T. Bermudo, Grace S. Frias, Florencia V. Cayon Liwayway A. Callgdong, Mae D. Aquino, Nenita B. Hementera Armi B. Capill, Evangeline D. Genite, Agnes B. Villegas Juana U. Zamar, Sofia Mae C. Jingco

III. Project Details

Project Description	<p>The project is an offshoot of DAP's engagement with the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) on the Communities of Practice on Child-Friendly Local Governance (CoP-CFLG). Under its previous project, DAP produced the CFLG Course design, modules and manual. It also trained partners from the LGUs, CWC, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children in preparation for their role in the actual conduct of the CFLG Course.</p> <p>The six (6) LGU partners are: the municipalities of New Lucena (Iloilo) and Tubigon (Bohol); and the cities of Naga, Vigan, Mandaluyong and Davao. They were selected by CWC among the roster of Child-Friendly Awardees.</p> <p>Considering that UNICEF also shares the vision of having more child-friendly cities in the country, initial meetings with DAP were undertaken regarding</p>
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Considering that UNICEF also shares the vision of having more child-friendly cities in the country, initial meetings with DAP were undertaken regarding



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possible partnership to complement CWC initiatives. In particular, UNICEF discussed the importance of documenting the experiences of the six CoP-LGUs so that these can be used to develop additional knowledge products for the CFLG Course roll-out. Further, UNICEF saw an opportunity to enhance the current CFLG core modules by including thematic concerns, specifically, child protection in emergency situation. UNICEF is committed to pursue these initiatives in order to contribute to the process of exchange and replication of child-friendly practices, particularly between CoP-LGUs and UNICEF priority areas.

Project Objective The project was aimed at equipping both CoP-LGUs and potential replicators with the knowledge, skills and tools to actively promote and advocate the formulation and implementation of child-friendly policies, programs and projects.

To achieve this, the project intended to:

- enhance the existing Child-Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) course design;
- document selected initiatives of the six CoP-LGUs that will best showcase their experiences in developing, implementing and sustaining policies and programs/projects that promote and safeguard child rights; and
- run the enhanced CFLG Course in selected cities and municipalities (CoP-LGUs).

The expected participants in the CFLG Course are from the UNICEF priority areas, specifically, forty (40) from the Haiyan-affected areas under the Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE) section and twenty (20) development areas under the Social Policy and Local Development (SPLD) section.

Focus Area	Local Governance
Project Type	Training
Regional Coverage	National Coverage

IV. Project Accomplishments

Key Activities Implemented

Major

Outputs Component 1: Enhancement of the CFLG Course Design

The core design that was produced and approved by the CWC was enhanced under this project to emphasize on child protection in times of emergencies, the indicators/assessment criteria of the Seal of Child-Friendly Local Governance, and the possible replication or adoption of good practices and strategies that were shared by the CoP-LGUs.

The initial intent to integrate Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) did not



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materialize. The Module 1 of the Course centered on child protection with some discussion on other child rights. The said module, however, was opened by the DAP for some other UNICEF programs and projects that emphasize child protection, survival, participation, and development, which of course includes ECCD.

The enhanced Course design was submitted by the DAP to UNICEF and was also presented during the validation meeting held last October 29, 2015 at Sequoia Hotel in Quezon City. Representatives from UNICEF, CWC, DILG and the six CoP-LGUs joined the said meeting. The design and presentation materials were revised and finalized in time for the first run in November 2014 under CPIE.

Component 2: Documentation of Child-Friendly Practices of the 6 CoP-LGUs

A two-member team from the DAP was deployed, for a period of 3 days, to each CoP-LGU to document at least one child-friendly practice. The practice may be a policy formulation or a program or project that directly benefits the children.

The assigned teams did an observational site visit, and interviewed the Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC) members and the project coordinators and / or implementers of the identified child-friendly practice/s. In the case of New Lucena and Vigan, their respective Local Chief Executives accommodated the team's request for an interview. Prior to this field visit, the team also reviewed the documents and other materials relevant to the LGU practices that they would document.

The writers for New Lucena and Tubigon joined the CFLG Course run on September 24, 2014 and October 8, 2014, respectively, to validate the reports with the concerned teams. This was followed by a Validation Meeting held on October 29, 2014 at the Sequoia Hotel in Quezon City. The six CoP-LGUs were represented in the meeting to validate the data and information presented in the case reports about their respective LGUs. The recommendations and proposed adjustments were reviewed and integrated by the DAP-CfG Team in the revised reports.

The reports, however, had to be revised again in the first quarter of 2015 to integrate the feedback shared by the Social Policy and Local Development office, particularly, the need to include at least an analysis of the LGU project using the bottleneck framework.

The following are the child-friendly practices that were documented by the team:

New Lucena, Iloilo

- Busog Ako Program

The main goal of the program is to achieve a zero malnutrition rate among the children in New Lucena. This is done through food supplementation (nutritious food is provided like milk and eggs), provision of seed capital to poor families (to help parents provide healthy meals for their children), and private sector sponsorship (adopt a child, particularly, his or her food expenses).

Tubigon, Bohol

- Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Center

It provides therapeutic treatment services such as physical therapy, occupational



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therapy, and special education classes, to children with disabilities.

Naga City

- Educare

This project infuses the Montessori approach to all daycare centers in Naga City so that even the less privileged children are also given the chance to have an excellent foundation during their formative years.

Vigan City

- Saluad Vigan

This is Vigan's program on disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) that protects the residents, especially children, in times of emergencies. There were capacity-building activities conducted, as well as distribution of survival kit to all households in Vigan. Emergency equipment, tools, and supplies were also purchased through this project.

Davao City

- Sa Paaralan Ko, Pwede ng Magrehistro

This is a school-based registration that is meant to help address the late birth registration of children / students coming from far-flung areas, including the Lumads.

- Bahay Pasilungan

This serves as a dormitory for children, specifically those coming from the IP community, whose school in the Poblacion of Barangay Datu Salumay are inaccessible from their homes located in the far-flung areas of the said barangay. The project also helps prevent children from dropping out of school.

Mandaluyong City

- Project TEACH (Therapy, Education and Assimilation of Children with Handicap)

This project benefits children with disabilities in Mandaluyong City, particularly those living in poverty-stricken areas. Among the services it provides are: medical and dental assessment or treatment, special classes and one-on-one tutorials, and therapy services.

Component 3: CFLG Course Roll-Out

Nine (9) runs of the CFLG Course were conducted with the following CoP-LGUs as host/partner LGUs:

- a. New Lucena (course conducted in Iloilo City thrice) – September 22-26, 2014; November 10-14, 2014; and February 2-6, 2015
- b. Tubigon (course conducted in Tagbilaran City twice) – October 6-10, 2014 and February 9-13, 2015.
- c. Vigan City – November 6-10, 2014
- d. Naga City – November 24-28, 2014
- e. Mandaluyong City – December 1-5, 2014
- f. Davao City – February 23-27, 2015

Some LCPC members from these CoP-LGUs also served as resource persons and facilitators of the course sessions, along with representatives from the DAP, UNICEF, DILG, and CWC.



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raised as a major concern by most of the LGU participants under this project. However, UNICEF and some CoP-LGUs have already recognized this as a major challenge in marketing the course and in ensuring replication of child-friendly initiatives and strategies. Thus, it may help if the menu of child-friendly practices of each CoP-LGU is included in the marketing/ promotional materials that will be produced and disseminated to all LGUs. This will not only help encourage them to enroll but will also help them decide and choose where (or which CoP-LGU) to enroll.

- The documentation of child-friendly practices was an initial attempt to share information about the CoP-LGUs. It is important in the CoP-CFLG to have a knowledge product such as case reports that can serve as reference to potential replicators of child-friendly initiatives. Should there be an intent to add more to the present roster of CoP-LGUs, it will help to conduct a similar documentation even before the start of their engagement in the CFLG Course.
- The CFLG Course is a good platform for marketing the Seal of Child-Friendly Local Governance. It also adds value to the Course as the LGU participants are clarified about the assessment criteria of the Seal and how they are used during the mandatory audit. It also allows the participants to give direct feedback to DILG who can use it in the review and enhancement of the Seal.

Attachment

- Summary of Course Evaluation and Resource Person (for the nine runs)

Prepared by:

JANNIS T. MONTAÑEZ
Project Manager

Noted / Approved by:

IMELDA C. CALUEN
Center Head



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positive feedback on the course was also evident in the participants' evaluation. For the nine runs, the CFLG Course got an average rate of 4.58.

Likewise, the participants have also demonstrated an increase in knowledge about CFLG, especially on topics such as: Four Core Rights of the Child and Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) for children. This was generated by the DAP through the course knowledge assessment that were accomplished by the participants before and after the course. Also worth noting is the fact that only one (1) out of the 208 participants demonstrated a low score after completing the course. As per the training team's observation, she was notably the most distracted because of personal concerns about the onslaught of Typhoon Ruby in their area.

Lessons Learned The CFLG Course roll-out under this project was the first since the course design was finalized in 2014. The enhancement of the design to fit UNICEF's requirements and the documentation of child-friendly practices have contributed to the outcome of the roll-out.

Apart from such evident results, this project has likewise gave the team some important lessons to consider as the CoP-CFLG takes its next steps.

- The support of the Local Chief Executives of both the CoP-LGUs and the LGU participants are crucial in this Course. The expression of support and mere presence of the Mayor of the host CoP-LGU shows how the city/municipality is seriously committed to helping other LGUs become child-friendly. It becomes even more powerful if the Mayor herself or himself would share about their local programs and services for children. For instance, in New Lucena, Mayor Liecel Seville was constantly present in almost all the sessions handled by their group (Module 2), including the critiquing of LGU plans. Mayor Benjamin Abalos, on the other hand, has assured the participants of Mandaluyong's support to the LGU participants who may need further assistance in their initiatives for children. Such commitment was taken positively by the participants. They expressed their gratitude to Mayor Abalos and to Mandaluyong City that has once "adopted" and helped their LGU after the onslaught of typhoon Haiyan.

The attendance of the LCEs as one of the participants of the CFLG Course was an advantage as the concerned LGU can immediately commit to prioritize and integrate child rights protection and promotion in its programs, projects and activities. It becomes binding and definite given the expression of commitment from the LCE.

The presence of the LCEs in the Course was also helpful if they would actively participate/engage in the discussions and activities. During the SPLD run of the CFLG Course in Davao City, it was observed that during the site visit, the LCEs would do the interviews themselves and did not merely rely on the efforts of their staff/fellow participants. They would also take the lead during the activities, including their planning session. They set a good example that helped ensure that their respective LGUs are participative throughout the five-day course.

- Given the limited options among the CoP-LGUs (only 2 municipalities and 4 cities), marketing the CFLG Course might be a problem to those potential LGU enrollees who prefer to learn from a CoP-LGU of the same level. This was not