The Post Yolanda Fund for Local Initiatives

Leveraging Funds from Development Partners to contribute in the rehabilitation of family farms in the Haiyan affected areas in the Philippines

The fund facility is in need of refinancing. We call on our partners and donors for support!
AsiaDHRRRA is a regional partnership of eleven (11) social development networks and organizations in eleven (11) Asian countries that envisions rural communities in Asia that are just, free, prosperous, living in peace and working in solidarity towards self-reliance.

For almost four decades, AsiaDHRRRA and its partners have worked in empowering farmers’ organizations through community organizing, policy advocacy, and establishment of on-ground livelihood and enterprises.

Typhoon Haiyan

Super Typhoon Haiyan (local name – Yolanda) struck the Philippines on 8 November 2013. Hardest hit were the Visayas Regions. It is believed to be the strongest typhoon in recorded history.

The typhoon left 6,201 dead and 1,785 missing, and placed 4.1 million homeless. About 5.6 million people had their livelihoods lost or disrupted. The disaster brought, not only economic distress, but
depression to many families especially the mothers and children. For several months after the disaster, the people survived from the relief operations implemented by the government and other international humanitarian organizations.

The Post Yolanda Fund for Local Initiatives

After six months, when the relief operations of the government and other international humanitarian groups had started to wind down and the people had needed to restore back their usual sources of livelihood, AsiaDHRRA established the Post Yolanda Fund for Local Initiatives. It leveraged fund facilities from two resource agencies which are the AgriCord and Fondation de France.

The facility seeks to support directly farmers’ organizations to rehabilitate immediately their farms or fishing activities which were the normal sources of livelihood. It ensures that local organizations and communities are able to directly participate in and benefit from a range of post disaster rehabilitation activities through direct financial and technical assistance.

Although the interventions are rehabilitation in nature, capability building inputs on family farm planning and basic sustainable agriculture technologies are provided contributing to a long term purpose. It also aims provide opportunities to participating families to understand and establish effective link with market by developing social enterprises, and to promote awareness on disaster preparedness and climate change.
The eligible proponents of the projects are “Farmers Organizations” representing basic sector member-based organizations - e.g. farmers, fishers, indigenous communities, rural women, and youth. This is AsiaDHRRA’s commitment to support the basic sector organizations as key actors, instead of “beneficiaries” in community development processes.

As of November 2014, the fund facility has supported 8 projects covering 47 barangays in 11 municipalities in 3 provinces; with 3,560 (18,650 individuals) farming families participating.

The current rehabilitation programs of the government are highly focused on rebuilding shelters and major physical infrastructures. There is a need to augment support for agriculture at the farm household level.

We call on our partners and donors to support agriculture in the Haiyan affected areas by directly channelling your assistance to farmers’ organizations through this fund facility.
Building Partnerships to Empower Farmers in Asia

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