STRENGTH IN SOLIDARITY:
Oxfam Pilipinas Annual Report
April 2021 - March 2022
WHAT’S INSIDE

04  THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

06  FOREWORD FROM PARTNERS

10  MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

11  OXFAM PILIPINAS: WHO WE ARE

12  OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

14  WE HELP BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
   - Disaster Risk Reduction
   - Just Energy Transition
   - Community-led Flood Mitigation
   - Women’s Economic Empowerment
   - Strengthening Positive Gender Norms

22  WE HELP SAVE LIVES
   - Super Typhoon Rai Response
   - Anticipatory Action
   - Better Life within REACH: Supporting IDPs
   - COVID–19 Response
   - Local Humanitarian Leadership

34  WE HELP ACHIEVE GENDER JUSTICE
   - Prohibition of Child Marriage Law
   - Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
   - Women’s Empowerment for Leadership in Development and Peace in the Bangsamoro
   - Building Constituency for the Recognition and Valuing of Women’s Work for the Care Economy

42  IN FOCUS: WORK WITH YOUTH

45  IN FOCUS: DIGITAL INFLUENCING

48  MAXIMIZING RESOURCES

50  OUR PARTNER AFFILIATES

50  OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

51  ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABOUT THE COVER: “Ready, JET, GlassGOw” participants pass by to ride across the Nagtahan Bridge in Manila. The climate change advocacy ride organized by Oxfam Pilipinas and the Firefly Brigade called for reduced carbon emissions and a just energy transition. (Photo: Jilson Tiu/Oxfam Pilipinas)
STRENGTH IN SOLIDARITY

Illustration by Vina Salazar/Oxfam Pilipinas
**THE YEAR IN NUMBERS**

**11,556 PEOPLE**
directly worked on anticipatory action in the form of pre-emptive cash transfers and strengthening disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacities and asset protection through community-based planning and piloting of resilience projects

**TWO ANTICIPATORY ACTION MODELS DEVELOPED**
one forecast-based insurance business model and proof-of-concept; one B-READY Filipino scale model with final guidance notes used for capacity development programs for local government units (LGUs) and civil society organizations

**18 BARANGAYS**
in the cities of Cotabato, Kidapawan, and Marawi incorporated anticipatory action into their DRR plans and have set up coordination platforms and mechanisms to actively engage local humanitarian actors

**7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS)**
in Eastern Samar enhanced their social accountability mechanisms through community-based outcome tracking activities and installing protection monitors, feedback mechanisms, and referral pathways in partner communities

**42 PARTNER COMMUNITIES**
in Eastern Samar and Cotabato City shared good DRR Management (DRRM) practices, assessed their risks, vulnerabilities, and existing capacities, and strengthened their DRRM plans and actions

**25 WOMEN SELF-HELP GROUPS**
(SHeGs) were organized in Dolores, Eastern Samar and were supported for capital build-up and savings for disaster preparedness, livelihood investment, and asset protection

**31 ORGANIZATIONS**
engaged in national and regional-level lobbying and advocacy work on Women’s Economic Development and Inclusion

**11 GENDER-RELATED PROVISIONS**
added to the proposed Inclusive Business Bill through legislators championing Women’s Economic Empowerment (WEE)

**6 NATIONAL AGENCIES**
committed to integrate unpaid care work into their programs and policies
4 WOMEN’S ORGANIZATIONS
supported for accreditation through the Ministry of Labor and Employment, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), thus facilitating access to programs and services for women’s enterprises, and support for improving organizational operations and management

3 MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
on COVID-19 response were issued in Lawaan and Quinapondan in Eastern Samar province requiring the provision of soap and handwashing stations in all public and private institutions, and prohibiting any discriminatory act against COVID-19 patients and survivors

2,980 WOMEN
in Cotabato City accessed Legal Registration and Documentation services, enabling them to acquire/receive assistance during emergencies

5 WOMEN’S RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS
in Maguindanao trained on Early Warning and Early Response on gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health and rights, thus strengthening local monitoring mechanisms and promoting community participation to reduce sexual violence which may trigger local conflict

18 BARANGAYS
in Eastern Samar adopted ordinances on unpaid care work (UCW) to strengthen mechanisms that recognize and integrating UCW into local governance

1 NATIONAL POLICY
on Prohibiting Child Marriage passed into law

18 BARANGAYS
(villages) in Lianga, Surigao del Sur adopted a municipal ordinance that mandates all barangays to establish an adolescent-friendly health facility

4 SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN
(local youth legislative council) in Lianga, Surigao del Sur allocated funds to establish Adolescent-Friendly Health Facility

1 SOLAR-POWERED COMMUNITY
in Barangay Hilabaan, Dolores, Eastern Samar – they now have access to a 24-hour sustainable and clean energy source upon installation of six solar-powered streetlights; the solar-powered social enterprise is managed by self-help groups.
FOREWORD FROM PARTNERS

SENTRO PARA SA IKAUUNLAD NG KATUTUBONG AGHAM AT TEKNOLOHIYA, INC.

I am deeply honored to write a foreword for the Oxfam Pilipinas’ Annual Report. In this age of disinformation, we need stories that will move us to action, encourage us to embrace failures as lessons, and show us that we are all, at our core, truth-tellers and fearless defenders of our freedom and rights. This Annual Report offers a platform to amplify the voice of the voiceless and to see the world through the eyes of the disadvantaged groups.

I am grateful that Oxfam Pilipinas has always been part of the journey of Sentro para sa Ikauunlad ng Katutubong Agham at Teknolohiya, Inc. (SIKAT) in inspiring and fostering hope in the communities we work with. Oxfam Pilipinas played a significant role in supporting the establishment of a solar electrification system run by women in one of the island communities of Eastern Samar. Because of this, students are better able to study, women are able to make economic contributions, assets of fisherfolks are better protected, and family members are able to share the care work responsibilities at home. “This is now a just and better world,” they said.

Working with communities today has become more challenging due to the pandemic’s impacts, the rising gasoline prices, climate change, and the Philippines’ shifting political landscape. Now, more than ever, we value working with Oxfam Pilipinas who shares our goals, core values, and guiding principles. We shall continue to work together to provide an enabling environment that will support the communities in asserting their rights and in strengthening their resilience.

CHITO DUGAN
Executive Director,
Sentro para sa Ikauunlad ng Katutubong Agham at Teknolohiya, Inc.
UNITED YOUTH OF THE PHILIPPINES–WOMEN

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem
Assalamu Alaykum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu

The United Youth of the Philippines–Women (UnYPhil-Women) has been a long-time partner of Oxfam Pilipinas in forging peace, resilience and empowerment in the Bangsamoro region. Oxfam Pilipinas’ support and technical assistance has helped us accomplish various initiatives in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) which contributed to shaping and building the future of local women’s groups and other stakeholders towards realizing their maximum capacity in the planning and decision-making process, particularly in fighting gender-based violence.

Existing challenges and trials will not hinder us from bridging these gaps. Maguindanao is one of the provinces in the BARMM region where poverty and different forms of violence against women and girls persist. Together with Oxfam Pilipinas and other partners, we will continue to fight and end this discrimination and establish an institution where women and youth empowerment is supported and championed, and gender equality is fostered.

As we continue our joint advocacies this year, we thank Oxfam Pilipinas for being a strategic partner of UnYPhil–Women along with concerned regional government agencies and local partners in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. We will always value peace and humanitarian work. Our congratulations to Oxfam Pilipinas!

NORAIDA C. ABO
Executive Director,
United Youth of the Philippines–Women
As COVID-19 continues to create unprecedented changes in the lives of people all around the world, we can see its regressive effect on gender equality, particularly on women. The pandemic has significantly increased the burden of unpaid care and domestic work, which is disproportionately carried by women. While the world grapples with the “new normal”, the world’s responses inadvertently deepened long-standing gender inequalities and exacerbated the vulnerabilities women face. Care work intensified with the imposition of preventive measures to mitigate the spread of the virus such as lockdowns, mobility restrictions, and school closures. Unfortunately, women still perform the lion’s share. The profound impact of this unequal distribution of responsibility curtails women’s and girls’ rights and access to education, participation, as well as to rest and leisure, while also increasing their vulnerability to violence.

In our effort to reverse the risk of losing the hard-earned gains in gender equality, the Philippine Commission on Women is proud to have worked with Oxfam Pilipinas and with the Pambansang Kongreso ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan (PKKK), for the conduct of the 2021 National Household Care Survey (NHCS) and for the Building Constituency for the Recognition And Valuing Women’s Work for Care Economy (BRAVE) Discussion Series, which aims to help policy developers and implementers in different agencies and organizations gain a better understanding of what unpaid care work is and how it affects women’s participation in the social and economic spheres, to create policy measures that would help recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care work. The conversations in the BRAVE Project Discussion Series have shed meaningful insights on what we can do together to develop convincing narratives for policies that address unpaid care and domestic work and the care economy in general.

In addition, through these initiatives, the PCW had the opportunity to give more focus on the issues on unpaid work and strengthen collaboration among the NGAs, CSOs and other stakeholders in taking fundamental steps to ensure that progressive policies and supportive measures are in place in order to mitigate its negative impacts for all, and provide policy recommendations to enable equal economic participation in and out of the workplace.
However, to achieve gender parity in unpaid work, there is also a need to establish a holistic approach in all four corners of the world. Tackling entrenched gender norms and dismantling stereotypes about traditional gender roles could encourage men to carry-out their fair share of work at home.

As you read this, may I urge you to put forward ideas, may it be within the confines of your homes, your workplace, or elsewhere, to ensure that gender perspective is not forgotten when it comes to making important decisions even after the pandemic, because every minute more that a woman spends on unpaid care work represents one minute less that she could be potentially spending on enriching herself.

The PCW remains steadfast in our commitment to concretize actions that will end inequality and discrimination among women to achieve an inclusive and sustainable society. This is just the beginning of our collaborative action; may the conversation continue beyond this platform.

We congratulate and thank our long-standing partners, Oxfam and PKKK, for yet another successful collaboration.

ATTY. KRISTINE E. YUZON-CHAVES
Executive Director,
Philippine Commission on Women
It has been almost three years of braving the COVID-19 pandemic. We have somehow learned to cope, to live and to rebuild our lives under the context of the “new normal” while recognizing that this new “normal” includes more than 26 million of Filipinos living in poverty and bound by social and gender injustices in our society.

Oxfam Pilipinas continuously seeks to help transform our future through programs anchored on empowerment, justice and equality. We worked with 71 partners, local communities, the private sector, government and the youth in building resilience against disasters and the pandemic; in challenging structural and systemic injustices and harmful social norms that affect women and girls, LGBTQIA+ and the most vulnerable of our population; and in providing life-saving intervention to people who most needed it, particularly in times of disasters and during the pandemic.

We continued to invest in anticipatory actions to better prepare communities against disasters while doubling our efforts to build resilience, including championing a just transition to renewable energy. We deepened our engagements in the digital space in order to reach more people. We forged meaningful partnerships with vulnerable sectors, including the youth, to magnify their voices and actions. At the heart of all this, we reaffirmed the importance of women in shaping a just and equal new normal.

This report is a testament to our collective triumphs despite these challenging times. We salute each and every one of our local partners, supporters, and staff who, despite their own personal struggles living in this pandemic, continued to work around the clock and beyond the call of duty so that more Filipinos can regain their foothold and take steps towards the just and equal future we all deserve.

This is a salute to all of us who stand together in solidarity, and in doing so, enable us - individually and collectively- to rise above adversity and to keep working for a more just and equal Philippines.

Gawin nating patas ang bukas para sa lahat.

MARIA ROSARIO “LOT” FELIZCO
Country Director,
Oxfam in the Philippines

1 Source: Philippine Statistics Authority First Semester Poverty Statistics of 2021
OXFAM PILIPINAS: WHO WE ARE

For over 30 years, Oxfam Pilipinas has been undertaking development, advocacy, and humanitarian work in the Philippines. We have been contributing in the eradication of poverty, supporting women and vulnerable groups in saving lives and building livelihoods, enhancing community resilience against crises and disasters, and holding duty-bearers accountable to vulnerable communities.

We work with grassroots communities, civil society organizations (CSOs), government, the private sector and the youth in transforming unequal power relations, structures, norms and values that perpetuate poverty and inequality.

We are part of the Oxfam International family of 21 organizations working together with partners and local communities in 90 countries to build a more equal future, free from poverty and injustice.
Collaboration and community presence are critical to achieving sustainable change. We are grateful to our partners who dedicate their talents, expertise, networks and resources in improving the lives of people.

The following are the partners whom we actively worked with for the period April 2021 – March 2022:

**AGREA Agricultural Communities International Foundation Inc.**
**Al-Mujaadila Women’s Association (AMWA)**
**Asian Institute of Management (AIM)**
**A Single Drop for Safe Water (ASDSW)**
**Ateneo School of Government (ASOG)**
**Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)**
**Bangsamoro Women Commission (BWC)**
**Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation, Inc. (CDP)**
**Climate Tracker Asia, Inc.**
**Coalition for Bicol Development (CBD)**
**Coastal Community Resources and Livelihood Development, Inc. (COASTAL CORE)**
**Commission on Population**
**Communities Organized for Resource Allocation (CORA)**
**Community Organizers Multiversity, Inc. (COM)**
**Davao Medical School Foundation - Institute of Primary Health Care**
**Department of Health Bureau of International Health Cooperation**
**Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)**
**Ecosystems Work for Essential Benefits, Inc. (ECOWEB)**
**Exodus from Child Labor to Integration, Play, Socialization and Education (ECLIPSE)**
**Family Planning Organization of the Philippines, Inc. (FPOP)**
**Firefly Brigade, Inc.**

Abigail Macawili of Oxfam Pilipinas partner SIKAT assists women’s group member Marianne Penido in planting a mangrove sapling in Dolores, Eastern Samar. (Photo: Erielle Esturas/Oxfam Pilipinas)
OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

Friendly Care Foundation
Humanitarian Response Consortium (HRC)
Initiatives for Development and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services, Inc. (IDEALS)
Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA)
Jhpiego Philippines
Keep Hope Alive, Inc.
Lenddo Pte. Ltd.
Local Government of Salcedo, Easter Samar
LYF Solutions
MAA General Assurance Philippines
Manila Observatory
Maya Philippines, Inc.
Mayon Integrated Development Alternatives and Services, Inc. (MIDAS)
MLhuillier
National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council – Office of Civil Defense
OCI Communications
Palawan Pawnshop
Pambansang Kalipunan ng mga Manggagawang Impormal sa Pilipinas (PATAMABA)
Pambansang Koalisyon ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan, Inc. (PKKK)
Partido Manggagawa
Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA)
People’s Disaster Risk Reduction Network, Inc. (PDRRN)
 Philippine Business for Social Progress, Inc. (PBSP)
 Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)
 Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA)
 Philippine Legislators’ Committee on Population and Development Foundation, Inc. (PLCPD)
 Philippine Postal Corporation
 Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Inc. (PRRM)
 Philippine Sociological Society (PSS)
 Plan International – Philippines
 Rice Watch and Action Network, Inc.
 Roots of Health (ROH)
 Rural Development Institute of Sultan Kudarat, Inc. (RDISK)
 Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panlegal (SALIGAN)
 Sentro para sa Ikauunlad ng Katutubong Agham at Teknolohiya, Inc. (SIKAT)
 SIAD Initiatives in Mindanao Convergence for Asset Reform and Regional Development, Inc. (SIMCARRD)
 Sibog Katawhan Alang sa Paglambo, Inc. (SIKAP)
 Social Watch Philippines (SWP)
 Sustainable Outreach and Lifelong Advocacy to Rekindle Hope, Inc. (SOLAR Hope)
 The Asia Foundation
 The EstrawngHeroes
 United Youth of the Philippines-Women, Inc.
 University of Notre Dame (i-Lab) US
 University of the Philippines - Center for Women’s and Gender Studies (UPCWGS)
 University of the Philippines Paralegal Volunteers’ Organization (UP PVO)
 University of the Philippines Public Administration Research and Extension Services, Foundation – Center for Local and Regional Governance
 Visayas State University - College of Agriculture (VISCA) Foundation for Agricultural and Rural Development, Inc. - Regional Climate Change Research & Development Center
 Women And Gender Institute (WAGI)
 Women Engaged in Action on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 / Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute (WE-ACT/GZOPI)
 Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)

Click the name of our partner organizations to engage with them online.
WE HELP BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The Philippines continuously suffers from the adverse impacts of climate-fueled, extreme and destructive weather events alongside the COVID-19 pandemic, which expose and deepen the long-standing gender and economic inequalities in our society.

Coping with the “new normal” amid these disasters, we partner with organizations to help improve communities’ resilience by investing in mechanisms that reduce risks and impacts of disasters to the most vulnerable. Such mechanisms include early warning systems, resilient agriculture, disaster risk financing, market-based interventions, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and shift to renewable energy (RE) sources through energy transition initiatives. We also help improve the lives of women by addressing harmful gender norms that reinforce unpaid care work and by providing gender-responsive recovery efforts.

Farmer Alfonso Dadoylan, together with farmer’s association members, plants corn in a plot of land that they share among the group. Oxfam Pilipinas and partners PRRM and PDRRN have supported the association through cash assistance and provision of seedlings. This intervention helped sustain their food security during the pandemic. (Photo: Erielle Esturas/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Disaster Risk Reduction

Building SHARPER Communities

Many communities in Eastern Samar and Catanduanes are no strangers to typhoons, floods and drought. With their geographical exposure to such natural hazards and high levels of poverty, the communities of Balangiga, Dolores, Lawaan, Salcedo, and Quinapondan in Eastern Samar and Virac in Catanduanes have every reason to strengthen their disaster risk reduction (DRR) capacities.

Oxfam Pilipinas partnered with SIKAT and PDRRN to conduct capacity development, DRR and asset protection, and knowledge sharing in these communities. As a result, Barangay DRR and Management Committee (BDRRMC) members and local leaders have initiated a community-led risk assessment and have updated their contingency plans to include more responsive disaster protocols and anticipatory actions. The 25 women self-help groups (SHeGs) organized in Dolores, Eastern Samar generated a total savings of PHP 269,573.00 (around 4,700 USD) and used it as capital for their start-up enterprise and for disaster preparedness loans. We validated the livelihood assets of 1,267 farmers and 541 fishers in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) with the assistance of municipal agricultural officers and the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC) in Eastern Samar. Insurance coverage was purchased for the 164 project participants from seven coastal communities in Dolores.

Realyn Rapatan manages the tuba (coconut wine) business of the Marigold Women’s Group – one of the self-help groups organized by Oxfam Pilipinas and partner SIKAT through the SHARPER Project. Members of the group would need to contribute P20 a week to help fund their livelihood projects. An additional P5 is also collected for their calamity fund, which will only be used if the village is devastated by a disaster or if any member is in dire financial need.

(Photos: Alren Beronio/Oxfam Pilipinas)

Read More:
Self-help groups allow women in Yolanda-hit town to earn a living, prepare for the next storm

A large part of our resilience work involves empowering and enabling women and members of other vulnerable sectors. It is important to include their voices in governance and disaster risk reduction planning.

In this video, we learn how the members of Cambilla Women’s Association in Quinapondan, Eastern Samar have learned to raise and save money, and invest in insurance.

Watch here: Women for disaster resilience
Meaningful Partnerships towards a Just Energy Transition

A just energy transition calls for greater inclusion, especially the poor and the most vulnerable stakeholders. To help achieve this, Oxfam Pilipinas launched campaigns on just energy transition. We partnered with youth organizations, including CORA led by Oxfam Pilipinas Ambassador for Resilience Antoinette Taus, to support their community-based campaigns in promoting RE and just energy transition (JET) in schools and communities. We also collaborated with Climate Tracker Asia and launched the “Re-energizing Climate Reporting in the Philippines” fellowship to help in building capacities of climate and environmental journalists. Eight journalist-editor duos across the country were engaged to tell dynamic climate and energy stories. Through our partnership with SIKAT, we were also able to assist an off-grid small island community in Dolores, Eastern Samar to pilot a community-based, microgrid, and solar-powered facility managed by the Hilabaan Women’s Association.

In the Philippines, 1,635 primary and secondary schools have yet to be connected to power grids, according to the DepEd. The agency has a solar and electrification program and is aiming to complete solar panel installation and electrical system updates in schools in disadvantaged areas by 2023.

Believing that electricity access can play an important role in improving learning outcomes, a group of young individuals came together to energize off-grid schools through the use of clean energy.

They launched Project Araw-Aral, which aims to build solar-powered co-studying spaces in unelectrified communities in the country, starting with Barangay Laiban in Tanay, Rizal.

(Photo: Philstar.com / Efigenio Toledo IV)

Climate Tracker has teamed up with Oxfam Pilipinas to re-energize Climate reporting in the Philippines. We sought eight journalist-editor duos across the country to tell dynamic climate stories.
Climate stories remain underreported in the Philippines. When newsrooms tackle climate issues, it’s always because of an intense weather disturbance battering the country. But it’s common knowledge that climate change is more than the weather.

Climate Tracker, in partnership with Oxfam Pilipinas, brought together Filipino environmental journalists and climate advocates; with the aim of breaking down how newsrooms can report about climate change effectively. (Illustrated by Vina Salazarf/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE:
Re-energizing Climate Reporting in the Philippines

Oxfam Pilipinas, in partnership with Firefly Brigade, Inc., launched two simultaneous bike rides in Metro Manila and Eastern Samar to urge the Philippine government and world leaders to immediately address the climate crisis last 30 October 2021. The bike campaign entitled “REady, JET, GlasGOw” was joined by cyclists from Bike Scouts and Layaw Bikers, and Oxfam Pilipinas partner PDRRN. The advocacy ride was held ahead of the yearly United Nations Climate Change Conference was attended by world leaders and key government decision makers. Oxfam Pilipinas and partners urged the local and national government, as well as private corporations, to address climate change by significantly reducing carbon emissions. (Photo: Jilson Tiu/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE:
Oxfam, cyclists hold simultaneous bike rides in Metro Manila and Eastern Samar to call for climate action

Oxfam Pilipinas and LYF Productions produced a 20-minute documentary about an island community in Dolores, Eastern Samar, which has long lived without electricity. The documentary tells the story of how the off-grid community overcomes life’s challenges and journeys towards just energy transition. This mini-documentary is narrated by environmental advocate and Oxfam Pilipinas Ambassador for Resilience Antoinette Taus.

WATCH HERE:
“Tabuka Kami” documentary
COMMUNITY-LED FLOOD MITIGATION

Persistent flooding endangers the livelihood of low-income farmers in Barangay Betag in La Trinidad, Benguet, a community known for their fertile valleys, “Strawberry Fields”, and the production of other high-value vegetables such as lettuce, broccoli, and herbs.

Together with PRRM and the community, tunnels were installed to address the flooding to divert water out of the valley area. Its system design also takes into account the projected increase in rainfall and flood volume levels for 50 years. When Typhoon Fabian struck the Philippines in 2021, around 500 farmers in the community were spared from damaged crops.

This innovation is part of the community-led project under the Building Resilient Urban Communities (BRUC) project, supported by The Asian Development Bank’s Urban Financial Partners Facility Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund.

WOMEN’S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

In October 2021, Oxfam Pilipinas was selected by Oxfam International to host the global Women’s Economic Empowerment Knowledge Hub (WEE KH), which seeks to build a platform for learning and influencing on women’s economic empowerment.

To help augment their families’ income amid the COVID-19 pandemic, at least 120 women from the surfing village of Salvacion formed themselves into six (6) self-help groups (SHeGs) to sell rice and other goods to their community. Each group is composed of 20 members and was organized through the initiative of Oxfam Pilipinas and partner SIKAT. (Photo: Heyssab Areef Hassan/Oxfam Pilipinas)

In Saguiran, Lanao del Sur, women’s groups were trained and given start-up capital to cultivate turmeric, a plant that is turned into powder to make tea or dishes like curry.

READ MORE:
- Climate resilient community-managed flood mitigation project in La Trinidad, Benguet
- Survivors of child marriage receive livelihood support

LEARN MORE from our WEE programs and practitioners: Seeking to change economic models so that women’s paid and unpaid work is valued and their rights and voices are stronger

READ MORE:
- Women entrepreneurs make a comeback in Super Typhoon Rai-devastated Siargao Island

WATCH HERE:
- Climate resilient community-managed flood mitigation project in La Trinidad, Benguet
Oxfam Pilipinas launched a social media campaign and conducted online care sessions through the Investing in Women Project to promote positive shifts in attitudes and behaviors towards existing gender norms on unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) and women as breadwinners.

Through the HomeSquadPH online community, Oxfam Pilipinas and its partners provided a safe platform for 3,300 urban millennials to engage in activities and discussions on prevailing and ideal gender norms and practices. Social media influencers actively promoted the campaign, gathering positive reactions and feedback on recognizing UCDW and women as breadwinners with a total of 38 million online reach and 187,000 online engagements. Meanwhile, workers from the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry who participated in seven online care sessions expressed their commitment to apply their learnings in shared care work and continue its practice at home and in the workplace.

Action research engaging 232 urban millennials was also conducted in collaboration with the Women and Gender Institute (WAGI), which revealed how traditional gender norms on UCDW and breadwinning persist until today. The study highlighted potential positive deviances, such as women as breadwinners and recommendations for duty-bearers and stakeholders that can pave the way to positive shifts in behaviors and attitudes on UCDW.

We continued our partnership with the Philippine Commission on Women through the conduct of the 2021 National Household Care Survey and for the Building Constituency for the Recognition and Valuing Women’s Work for Care Economy (BRAVE) Project discussion series.

“Since my husband took on other household chores, I now have more time to focus on taking care of our children, especially the youngest one,” says Kricell Sobrevinas, one of the winners during Oxfam Pilipinas Father’s Day contest where we engaged people to share how they manage redistribution of care work in their homes.

(Photograph courtesy of Kricell Sobrevinas)

As the number of COVID-19 cases increased dramatically at the height of the pandemic, so did the demand for invisible and unpaid labor when most people were forced to stay home during periods of lockdown and community quarantine. Consequently, women and girls bore most of the burden.

This baseline research is designed to surface gender norms or the narratives of unpaid care work and women’s breadwinning among urban millennials in the BPO sector while coping with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

READ MORE:
Care Work in the Time of COVID-19: Addressing Gender Norms in the Philippine BPO Industry

READ MORE:
#FlexYourHouseband Father’s Day Contest
THE 2021 NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD CARE SURVEY

The COVID-19 global pandemic significantly added to the load of unpaid care work. As more were forced to stay home, the need for home care and chores multiplied globally. It has been found that women in the household shouldered the burden of disproportionate care work.

Globally, it has been found that the phenomenon of unpaid care work disproportionately involves women, too. If unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) was assigned a monetary value, it would constitute between 10 percent and 39 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

According to Oxfam’s “Time to Care” report (2020), women and girls spend up to 11 hours a day on UCDW—three to four times what men do. This involves caring for household members, cooking, cleaning, doing laundry, and collecting water and fuel. This heavy and unequal UCDW hampers the full attainment of gender equality and promotion of women’s human rights, especially among the poor and other marginalized groups, as this can lead to their concentration in low-paid, insecure, part-time, and informal work.

This study examined the different aspects of family/household life, particularly the unpaid care work of both women and children in the Philippines and the impact of COVID-19 on the number of work hours of both men and women.

READ MORE:
The 2021 National Household Care Survey
The COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented changes to our way of lives. For one, work-from-home arrangements have turned our homes into our workspaces, creating a dilemma about when work exactly begins and ends each day. The boundary separating work from personal life is even worse for those who must juggle unpaid care and domestic work responsibilities on top of breadwinning.

In the Philippines, a country extremely vulnerable to natural hazards and climate-related disasters, which exacerbate poverty and preexisting social vulnerabilities, women and girls do up to five to six times as much unpaid care and domestic work as men. There is growing recognition that the billions of hours of the most essential work, including heavy and time-consuming tasks such as laundry and water collection, must be reduced and redistributed. Carers must be represented in policy spaces, and women and girls must be able to meaningfully participate in decision-making processes that impact their lives.

READ MORE:
When Fathers Care | Opinion piece by Randee Cabaces, Oxfam in the Philippines Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Social Accountability Manager, published via ABS-CBN News

“..."The COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented changes to our way of lives. For one, work-from-home arrangements have turned our homes into our workspaces, creating a dilemma about when work exactly begins and ends each day. The boundary separating work from personal life is even worse for those who must juggle unpaid care and domestic work responsibilities on top of breadwinning..."
WE HELP SAVE LIVES

When disaster strikes, it is always the poorest and most vulnerable individuals and communities who suffer the most. Oxfam Pilipinas contributes to improving and saving lives especially of the most vulnerable. We increased our anticipatory actions against disasters to help communities better prepare and mitigate the impact on their lives. Such efforts helped make a difference to the lives of 277,910 individuals affected by flooding, typhoons, armed conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following is a summary of our humanitarian interventions, which were made possible through quick assessments of humanitarian situations; active participation of affected population in designing response efforts, resulting in more appropriate interventions; and effective coordination with other humanitarian actors to maximize and leverage resources and avoid duplication of response:

**HEALTH**

Promotion and rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations supported; COVID-19 vaccination awareness sessions conducted; IEC materials on COVID-19 vaccines disseminated

**WASH**

Water facilities constructed and repaired; water trucking and jerry cans with water vouchers provided; communal sanitation facilities constructed; water quality monitoring and hygiene promotion sessions conducted; hygiene kits distributed

**PROTECTION**

Registration and retrieval of new and lost legal documents (e.g., certificate of live birth) facilitated; awareness campaign on the rights and entitlements of internally displaced persons conducted

**FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD**

In-kind food packs distributed; cash-for-food, cash-for-care, cash vouchers for water, multi-purpose cash grant assistance provided; health and nutrition awareness training conducted; livelihood support given through the provision of vegetable seeds for planting, materials for seaweed culture and individual fishing gears, and through the organization of women-managed retail store

**SHELTER**

Shelter kits containing trapal (canvas for tents), rope, floor mat, bag, mosquito net, malong (native attire that can also be used as a blanket), solar lamp and various cooking items distributed; camp coordination and camp management committees set up and strengthened

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2 Overall reach is the total of unique individuals reached by different types of support.

3 Sectoral reach overlaps across sectors.
SUPER TYPHOON RAI RESPONSE

Recorded as one of the strongest cyclones in 2021, super typhoon Rai affected more than 12 million people and took 400 lives when it hit the Philippines in December 2021. Together with our partners, Oxfam Pilipinas provided pre-disaster financial aid to 2,650 families in Eastern Samar, which enabled them to prioritize their urgent needs prior to the projected impact of the typhoon.

Our partner organizations ASDSW, COM, ECLIPSE, RDISK, ROH, SIKAT, and UnYPhil-Women provided immediate life-saving assistance and protection interventions to 152,682 individuals in the hardest hit provinces of Siargao Island, Palawan, and Southern Leyte. We provided water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), food security and emergency livelihood, emergency shelter and non-food items, health, gender and protection, and multipurpose cash grants, including cash-for-work scheme for marine and coastal habitat assessment. Our humanitarian efforts complemented the government’s response and prioritized the needs of the most vulnerable and affected population including persons with disabilities, elderly, children, lactating and pregnant women, indigenous groups, and those with pre-existing health issues in often the most difficult to reach areas, such as small islands.

Belen Ga and her family saved nothing except a few clothes and food after Super Typhoon Odette (Rai) devastated Barangay Sta. Cruz in San Benito town, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. Belen, whose house was flattened by Odette, received cash-for-food assistance worth Php 2,600 from Oxfam Pilipinas and partner SIKAT.

Through the cash assistance, she was able to start her small business of selling hotcakes to her neighborhood.

READ MORE:
Cash-for-food proves better for Super Typhoon Rai survivors
A youth group from Barangay Suyangan in General Luna municipality, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte Province conducts coral reef assessment as part of Oxfam and Sentro para sa Ikaunlad ng Katutubong Agham at Teknolohiya (SIKAT) habitat assessment cash-for-work program to support Super Typhoon Odette (Rai) survivors. Using the manta-tow method – where a snorkel diver is towed by a small boat – the group scans the effects of the typhoon on the coral reefs, which are important to the residents’ livelihood.

(Photo: Ronald Al Jurado/SIKAT, Inc.)
Women self-help groups in Barangay Suyangan, General Luna municipality, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte province conduct seagrass assessment following the onslaught of Super Typhoon Rai (Odette). The habitat assessment is part of the cash-for-work program supported by Oxfam Pilipinas in partnership with SIKAT to ensure the recovery of important marine life habitats, which marginalized sectors heavily depend on for livelihood.

(Photo: Ronald Al Jurado/SIKAT, Inc.)
**ANTICIPATORY ACTION**

**Anticipating the Impacts of Typhoon: The B-READY Project**

Oxfam Pilipinas and its partners are modeling disaster risk financing and anticipatory humanitarian action through the Building Resilient, Adaptive and Disaster-Ready Communities (B-READY) Project. It is jointly implemented by Oxfam Pilipinas with Plan International, Global Parametrics, PayMaya, Smart Padala, the municipal government of Salcedo in Eastern Samar and PDRRN.

In partnership with the Ateneo School of Government (ASoG), we also trained 34 local disaster committee representatives from 12 local government units (LGUs) in anticipatory action, and how to incorporate this into their DRR local policies and programs, including preemptive cash transfers. Participating LGUs were encouraged to influence local community leaders in DRR policy enhancement, continue education programs on DRRM and establish financial intermediaries in DRR plans.

 Barely two days before super typhoon Rai (locally known as Odette) hit land, the SHARPER project enabled at least 920 families to access preemptive cash assistance through digital accounts amounting to 38 USD each which enabled them to prepare food stocks and secure livelihood sources from possible devastation.

When Naty Pernito learned that their town of Salcedo in Eastern Samar province was on track to be affected by super typhoon ‘Odette’ she could not help but get anxious.

According to Naty, aside from possible damage to their house, what worries her the most in a disaster situation is not having cash on hand to meet their needs.

“While I was afraid of the forthcoming typhoon, I was confident that we would not go hungry because we had the money to buy our food and other essential goods for at least three days,” she said.

Naty received P1,700 via one of B-READY’s partner remittance centers located at the town center. (Photo: Alren Beronio/Oxfam Pilipinas)

**READ MORE:**
Salcedo resident thankful as anticipatory aid prepared them to face Odette

Solo parent Jennifer Bagon holds the cash card through which she receives preemptive cash assistance; the card can also be used for savings. Jennifer is a project participant of the B-READY Project in Eastern Samar. (Photo: John Santizo/Oxfam Pilipinas)

**READ MORE:**
ASoG partners with Oxfam Pilipinas to conduct training on B-READY

**VISIT:**
B-READY Website to learn more
Anticipating the Impacts of Flood: The SUPPA II Project

Communities in the cities of Cotabato and Kidapawan have long suffered from floods and other disasters. In order to strengthen their disaster preparedness and reduce their vulnerability, the SUPPA II project supported the scaling up of the communities’ forecast-based preemptive actions and the enhancement of emergency response mechanism. These two cities adopted these mechanisms in their local practices, policies, plans and programs through capacity building and orientation on the digital registration process.

The project contributed to the reduction of people affected by floods and other recurrent hazards through a combination of innovative approaches consisting of context-based and impact-based forecasting and risk modelling technologies for enhanced early warning systems. Flood-prone communities were able to access life-saving and inclusive emergency assistance, with cash transfer provided in a timely manner. A city-level legal quick reaction team (LQRT) was also formed as part of the interventions.

With the complementing expertise, resources and experience of the community and other consortium members along with Oxfam Pilipinas and local partners COM, IDEALS and PDRRN, the communities are on their way towards strengthened disaster and emergency preparedness and response.

The village of Tamontaka 4 is home to at least 571 households. Many of them used to depend on corn and palay farming. But in the last few years, their farms have been almost permanently flooded, depriving them of their main source of livelihood and forcing them to resort to fishing.

The SUPPA project involves the release of pre-emptive cash assistance to project participants with flood warnings as the major trigger. Its aim is to save lives by helping people prepare food and medicine or secure their house before flooding happens. It also provides training and support for local government to improve disaster preparedness protocols and decrease the vulnerability of highly at-risk communities in Mindanao. (Photo: Manman Dejeto/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Asmina Salik walks on a makeshift bridge outside their home in Barangay Tamontaka 3 in Cotabato City. For as long as Asmina could remember, their community has long experienced flooding. This is why many houses in their village have been designed to avoid the flood waters. If not built on stilts, the houses have an elevated room where important items are kept.

Asmina is one of the recipients of cash assistance from the Strengthening Urban Preparedness through Pre-emptive Action (SUPPA) project in Mindanao. (Photo: Manman Dejeto/Oxfam)

READ MORE:
Flood assistance helps poor Bangsamoro families avoid debt
Strengthening Forecasting Capacity in Anticipatory Action: Support to Manila Observatory

Deadlier heatwaves, more devastating droughts, more intense typhoons, and massive flooding are some of the expected impacts of a warming world. Manila Observatory, the oldest scientific research institution in the Philippines, daily produces detailed predictions of solar and wind power and weather up to five days in advance. Such effort has enabled the observatory to generate long-term resolution projections of local climate change for every decade covering the whole country.

Oxfam Pilipinas supported Manila Observatory in strengthening its capacity to predict imminent weather and climate shock through the procurement of an additional high-performance computing machine. Coupled with ground and satellite-based stations, this machine enables the Manila Observatory to provide real-time information that help LGUs and communities anticipate and prepare for potentially dangerous impacts of weather and climate shocks. Publicly available information will help at-risk and vulnerable communities prepare for such impacts and strengthen their disaster preparedness and mitigation action.

With the effects of climate change already being experienced by climate-vulnerable countries like the Philippines, there is an increasing need to improve early warning systems. Because of warmer sea surface temperatures caused by climate change, there is a larger possibility of tropical storms intensifying and causing destruction once they reach land.

READ MORE: Oxfam provides 96-core computer to support Manila Observatory’s weather forecasting

TOP: Manila Observatory staff at work. (Photo: Manila Observatory)

BOTTOM: A photo of houses damaged by Super Typhoon Rai (Odette), taken days after its first landfall in Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte province. (Photo: Heyssab Areef Hassan/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Caught in between conflict, flooding and the COVID-19 pandemic, the lumad (indigenous people) and Moros remain one of the most vulnerable displaced populations in Mindanao. Some are newly displaced while most are trapped in a cycle of displacement. In Maguindanao, some are staying in non-assisted evacuation sites.

Oxfam Pilipinas and local partners COM, IDEALS and UnYPhil-Women, together with ACCORD, Action Against Hunger Philippines, CARE Philippines and PBSP, continue to conduct humanitarian efforts to help the most vulnerable displaced sectors take hold of their future through the Response to the Unmet Humanitarian Needs of the Most Vulnerable Populations in Mindanao Affected by Conflict, Disasters, and the COVID-19 Pandemic (REACH) project. Through the project, we provided cash-for-food or food packs, distributed hygiene kits, conducted hygiene promotion activities, and repaired and constructed water supply and sanitation facilities for displaced families in Maguindanao. To support the evacuation camps, shelter kits were provided to help strengthen camp coordination and management committees.

Communities were also assisted in obtaining legal documentation such as certificates of live birth, allowing them to access basic government services. Education campaigns on the rights of IDPs, community-based psychosocial support group sessions, and identification of protection cases and accompanied referrals were also conducted.

Sandiale Guiamandal heaved a huge sigh of relief after receiving a Manila envelope hand-delivered to their community composed of bakwits or internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the village of Datu Salibo town, Maguindanao province.

Finally, after 46 years, he got his birth certificate just this year.

“I was not accepted when I applied as a laborer in a banana plantation before because I don’t have a genuine birth certificate. My heartfelt gratitude now that I got my birth certificate and I’m very happy that my legal identity has been established more than 40 years after I was born,” Guiamandal said.

His wife and three children have also been issued certificates of live births by the Office of the Local Civil Registrar.

READ MORE:
Birth certificates provide beacon of hope for conflict-torn villagers in Maguindanao

IN PHOTO: Naima Lendengan, wife of Sandiale Guiamandal, safe keeps the birth certificates of her whole family which they were able to acquire for free through legal mission assistance of the REACH Project. (Photo: Manman Dejeto/Oxfam Pilipinas)
At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, residents of Maguindanao faced a different kind of virus: a widespread misinformation on the impact of the COVID-19 vaccines. Majority believed that after two years, vaccinated individuals would vomit blood, experience slow or quick death, or become a zombie. The vaccine was also thought to be haram or forbidden in Islam. Such belief affected many communities especially when the wrong information exposed them to more risks of infection.

Though the REACH project, communities even in the most far-flung areas of Maguindanao were able to access truthful and reliable information on the COVID-19 immunization. A vaccination awareness, education and information drive was conducted in collaboration with religious leaders known as ustadz.

With the support of our partners, the local government and health units, Oxfam Pilipinas was able to provide COVID-19 immunization to 11,671 individuals. Vehicles were provided to transport the vaccines from the provincial health units to the communities. Senior citizens and persons with disabilities were also provided transportation from their homes to the inoculation hub. Packed meals were given to residents who availed of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Complementing our COVID-19 response were researches published together with Social Watch Philippines, “Financing for Development in the Philippines” and “Excluded and Indebted: Citizen’s Monitoring of the AIIB COVID-19 Loan”, and “Social Networks for Mutual Aid: Civil Society Responses to COVID-19”, published with the Philippine Sociological Society.
As the Philippines approaches upper-middle-income status, it continues to face the challenge of fighting poverty and economic and gender inequalities, while also confronting COVID-19. Public debt is set to dramatically increase, and donors are likely to ramp up funding to help foster recovery from the pandemic. Transparency and accountability are essential to guarantee efficient and judicious use of funds. (Photo: Jed Regala/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE: 
Financing for Development in the Philippines

The global pandemic triggered by the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has caused upheavals in people’s health and lives and economy of many countries. The pandemic also radically challenged state capacity to effectively and quickly protect the population and businesses from its adverse social and economic repercussions. (Photo: Social Watch Philippines)

READ MORE: 
Excluded and Indebted: Citizen’s Monitoring of the AIIB COVID-19 Loan

The coronavirus pandemic has changed our lives and the world we all share. It has exposed the limits and failures of governments around the world. The pandemic has also given rise to novel initiatives by emergent agents who struggle to fill in the gaps and weaknesses of official responses to the global health crisis.

These narratives and insights, as well as our analysis, are conveyed here as case studies, which paint a picture of the variety of responses and responders to the health crisis. (Photo: Basilio Sepe/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE: 
Social Networks for Mutual Aid: Civil Society Responses to COVID-19
Oxfam is a signatory to the Grand Bargain and Charter for Change (C4C) and is committed to addressing imbalances and inequalities in the global humanitarian system.

Oxfam Pilipinas, along with Ecosystems Work for Essential Benefits, Inc. (ECOWEB), the Alliance for Empowering Partnerships (A4EP), and UN OCHA, conducted a country dialogue on localization, which engaged various humanitarian stakeholders, including affected communities. The dialogue results are presented in the report, “Moving Forward: Localization of Humanitarian Action in the Philippines”.

Additionally, a toolkit on the conduct of the dialogue was documented in the publication, “Toolkit on the Conduct of Dialogue on Localization of Humanitarian Action: The Philippine Experience 2021,” which was prepared by ECOWEB in partnership with Oxfam Pilipinas and Philippine Preparedness Partnership (PhilPREP) thru CDP.

As a C4C signatory, Oxfam Pilipinas co-convened the first country assembly of C4C signatories and endorsers in November 2021, where it was agreed to develop an advocacy strategy on humanitarian financing, and to strengthen and broaden the C4C platform.

The humanitarian sector has been discussing localization for over 25 years. The World Humanitarian Summit, the Agenda for Humanity, and the launch of the Grand Bargain in 2016 were major initiatives to reform the humanitarian system to make it fit for the future. In the last five years there has been a push for more concrete implementation of localization commitments at country level. (Photo: AMWA)

This toolkit for the conduct of country-level dialogue on localization is based on the experience of the dialogue process and tools used in the Philippines. Some learning from the actual experience is also indicated in this toolkit which is designed for the leading organizations and facilitators of the localization dialogue process. (Photo: ECOWEB)

Localization and empowerment are evolving actions and decisions taken by people to uphold principles they believe in. Local humanitarian leadership is a continuous journey and challenge for all humanitarian actors. (Photo: Vina Salazar/Oxfam Pilipinas)

Watch here: Local humanitarian leadership in the Philippines
WE HELP ACHIEVE GENDER JUSTICE

Women and the LGBTQIA+ community have the right to live in a world free from discrimination and violence. We work with partners in ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of social progress, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

We supported local women and partners in pushing for transformative initiatives that will improve living conditions including a) increasing their economic opportunities and capacities; b) providing access to information and services for their sexual and reproductive health and rights; and c) addressing harmful gender stereotypes and norms which hinder them from achieving their potentials. Our work in gender justice also includes providing gender-responsive approaches and innovations to disaster risk reduction and response, considering the neglected needs of women and children in times of emergencies.

Melan Sayutin, President of Sigay Nu Babay women’s organization, conducts a weekly meeting with fellow group members in Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Maguindanao. (Photo: Princess Taroza/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Philippines made a landmark progress with the passage of Republic Act (RA) 11596 or An Act Prohibiting Child Marriage in the Philippines and Providing Penalties, which was signed into law on December 10, 2021. The law bans marrying off any individual below 18 years old, a practice among many indigenous and Muslim communities in the country.

The LGU of Guindulungan in Maguindanao passed a municipal ordinance pertaining to child, early and forced marriage (CEFM). The ordinance requires children to be married to undergo counselling with an ustadz and will not be allowed to get married without the certification from the ustadz. Implemented in coordination with the barangay units, this requirement is cited as one of the key reasons why early marriage in the municipality has been lessened.

The Child Marriage Law is one of the legislations supported by the Creating Spaces to Take Action on Violence Against Women and Girls project, which aims to reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) including the prevalence of CEFM in the Philippines. Oxfam Pilipinas will continue to work with partners for the development of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) with the technical working group of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

"Challenging long-held cultural practices and beliefs underpinning child marriage is not that easy, but it doesn't mean it is not doable."

(Photo: PETA)

READ MORE:
Changing the untold narrative of child brides | Opinion piece by Ana Caspe, Oxfam in the Philippines Gender Justice Project Manager, published via ABS-CBN News

All children deserve a chance to reach their dreams and to live their lives free from violence.

WATCH HERE:
Creating Spaces for girls to reach their dreams (animated story)
"Si Mira at ang Paruparong Lila" (Mira and the Purple Butterfly) is a thoughtful story about the importance of girls’ consent, their power to decide and make choices on matters affecting their daily lives. It was originally a storybook created by members of the #GirlDefenders Alliance – Oxfam Pilipinas, PLCPD, MAYA, Linding Ko Kalombayan, UnYPhil-Women, and AMWA. The alliance Pilipinas, is part of the Global Affairs Canada-supported Creating Spaces Project to end child marriage. (Illustrated by Vina Salazar/Oxfam Pilipinas)

WATCH HERE:
"Si Mira at ang Paruparong Lila" (Mira and the Purple Butterfly)
In 2021, the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) reported that teenage pregnancy cases decreased by 13% across the country along with a 30% decline in such cases in Sexual Health and Empowerment (SHE) project areas between 2020 and 2021. While the lockdown can be a factor to the decrease, SHE partners AMWA, SIKAP, FPOP, MIDAS, and UnYPhil-Women may have had a hand in the decline through their workshops, trainings, campaigns and lobbying efforts in Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Norte despite the ongoing pandemic. Such efforts resulted to the drafting of resolutions and ordinances on the prevention of teenage pregnancy and the passage of an ordinance in Lianga, Surigao del Sur for the implementation of Usapan Barkadahan in every purok and establishment of an Adolescent-Friendly Health Facility. Significantly, young peer educators themselves conducted information dissemination and awareness-raising activities and were able to organize five youth groups to continue the SHE advocacy.

Additionally, we worked with WGNRR to build the capacities of representatives of various women’s rights organizations, youth-led organizations and LGBTQIA+ organizations in the different campaign techniques and advocacy strategies. The joint call, #EndInequalityPandemic, during the International Day of Action for Women’s Health on May 28, 2021 was adopted by the Philippine Commission on Human Rights.

A knowledge product was also published in collaboration with the UPCWGS which provided recommendations for duty-bearers, state actors, CSOs and SRHR advocates on strengthening efforts to promote and protect the rights and welfare of women and girls.
“Conversations around sexual health do not have to be technical and complicated. Adults and youth need to discuss positive sexuality, intimacy, consent, bodily changes, healthy relationships, and bodily integrity which are all part of sexual health. What is essential is a safe space and non-judgmental conversations.”

(Photograph: Erwin Mascarinas/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE:
Why Sexual Health Matters | Opinion piece by Cecilia De Castro-Villa, Oxfam in the Philippines SRHR Specialist, published via Inquirer

“It is no surprise that cases of home births have increased during the pandemic. Homebirth is actually penalized by law both on the woman and the traditional birth attendant. In the end, weighing the costs and the COVID-19 scare, many might be more willing to pay for the penalty rather than go to health facilities.”

(Photograph: Erwin Mascarinas/Oxfam Pilipinas)

READ MORE:
Sexual Health: The Road Less Traveled | Opinion piece by Daryl Leyesa, PKKK Project Coordinator, published via Rappler
Oxfam Pilipinas and its partners continue to promote inclusive and accountable Bangsamoro institutions that promote and support the participation of women and other marginalized groups in governance through the WELD Peace project. We supported the formation of a women’s alliance in Basilan, Maguindanao, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, which enables women’s voices to be heard in pushing for women’s agenda with local decision-makers, particularly in lobbying for municipal and provincial government investment in support of WEE.

We collaborated with the Bangsamoro Women Commission (BWC) and the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) in the process of building information on the Social Accountability (SAc) initiative. The information on SAc relates to mechanisms and support services around referral pathways on VAW in the region and hopes to provide the right direction to the MSSD’s rollout of the Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence referral pathways in Basilan, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi.

With the help of our partners, Oxfam Pilipinas also supported the Bangsamoro women’s leadership empowerment through trainings, consultations with different stakeholders on the BARMM Gender and Development Code, and accreditation of women’s organizations with the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) in BARMM.

The narratives point to the challenges women continue to face as they try to balance multiple roles and gendered expectations as former combatants, mothers, and income earners. Their stories highlight the compounding effects of climate change and conflict, the struggles they face from the lack of financial support and economic opportunities, as well as the difficulty of accessing programs when they were available because of tedious bureaucratic processes.
The Building Constituency for the Recognition and Valuing of Women’s Work for the Care Economy (BRAVE) project challenges existing policies and gender norms. It intends to inform the development of a sound and sustainable policy framework for unpaid care work in the Philippines. The project is a joint undertaking by Oxfam Pilipinas, PKKK, and PCW with support from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

We engaged national agencies, LGUs, NGOs, academic institutions, the private sector and other advocates in four webinar series which served as a platform for disseminating research on the care economy and for skills sharing with targeted government agencies to support the development of the care economy policy agenda.

With our partners from the labor sector -- Partido Manggagawa (PM) and Pambansang Kalipunan ng mga Manggagawang Impormal sa Pilipinas (PATAMABA) -- at the helm, we were able to gather more than 3,700 signatures in the campaign to develop a national policy on the care economy, surpassing the 1,000-signature target as of 14 May 2022. The proposed policy calls for the recognition of Free, Quality and Accessible Childcare for Women in the Philippines. This campaign was also included in the capacity building initiatives on UCDW to complement the legislation efforts.
Oxfam Pilipinas and partners celebrated the International Women’s Day on March 2022 with a month-long campaign to raise women’s voices and to celebrate their leadership and contributions in creating a just and equal future.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for International Women’s Day celebration | March 2022

Oxfam Pilipinas and the Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA) produced a virtual play that showcased the stories of women at the frontlines of the climate crisis, armed conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic. It also looked into issues such as child, early and forced marriage, unpaid care work, gender-based violence, and sexual reproductive health and rights.

WATCH HERE:
Babae ang Bukas (Her Now, Her Future): A Virtual Play

A 30-minute documentary, produced by Oxfam Pilipinas and PETA, featuring the real-life travails and triumphs of five women from Maguindanao and Eastern Samar.

WATCH HERE:
“Hindi Sa Isang Sulok Lang”: A Documentary
IN FOCUS: WORK WITH YOUTH

Oxfam Pilipinas recognizes the role of the youth in creating meaningful and lasting change in our society. This year, we strengthened our support to youth-led initiatives and helped develop the youth to achieve their full potentials as changemakers.

Through the Youth for Empowerment program, we are providing a platform for young people’s organizations to learn, ideate, create and implement projects on renewable energy (RE) and just energy transition (JET). We forged partnerships with CORA, SOLAR Hope, UP Paralegal Volunteers’ Organization, Keep Hope Alive, and the EstrawngHeroes and enhanced their individual and institutional capacities in the advocacy of renewable energy and just energy transition through the RE-Start Learning Sessions. The virtual learning sessions involved workshops and discussions on policy advocacy necessary for strengthening and linking local and national level campaigning for RE and JET. Small grants were also provided as support for these groups to implement their projects.

Oxfam Pilipinas and CORA, together with Batang VIP, provided solar panels to off-grid island last December 20, 2021. Isla Verde, dubbed as the “Center of the Center of Marine Shorefish Biodiversity”, is located outside the power grid and has limited electricity. (Photo: Vina Salazar/Oxfam Pilipinas)

WATCH HERE: Oxfam Pilipinas and partner CORA provide solar panels to off-grid island
Youth for Youth: Challenging the Practice of Child Marriage in Mindanao

Arranged marriages have long been part of community traditions in some areas in Mindanao. Fortunately, in Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao, a number of young people are starting to speak up and decide for their own lives. With the support of the Government of Canada through the Global Affairs Canada and the leadership of partners like AMWA and UnYPhil-Women, young people were able to organize, build alliances and form groups of young feminist campaigners – the Lanao Initiative and Network for the Development of Innovative Growth for the Youth, also known as Linding Ko Kalombayan (LKK), and the Maguindanao Alliance of Youth Advocates (MAYA). These youth-led groups are also members of the national multi-sectoral #GirlDefenders Alliance who persistently campaigned for the passage of the Girls Not Brides bill that was eventually signed into law as Republic Act 11596 or the “Prohibition of the Child Marriage Law.”

Even during the pandemic, LKK and MAYA were active in awareness raising and campaigning activities. They led and participated in various initiatives such as online events, rallies to push for the successful passage of the then Girls Not Brides bill in both chambers of Congress, and house-to-house conversations to end gender-based violence and CEFM. They were able to support each other in the journey and engaged with key Muslim religious leaders (MRLs), their communities, the private sector, political influencers and their fellow youth in advancing women’s leadership and rights and in preventing VAWG and CEFM.

Today, LKK continues to participate in the civic activities of the Lanao Council for Youth, with some of their members tapped by local legislators to co-develop, advocate, and lobby for the Lanao Del Sur Youth Code.

This initiative is also part of the Creating Spaces to Take Action on Violence Against Women and Girls project, a five-year project started in June 2016 that initiated and supported several broad-based campaign and advocacy efforts to prevent and end VAWG and CEFM.
ENHANCING YOUTH LEADERSHIP THROUGH THEATER ARTS

Oxfam Pilipinas and PETA conducted a series of online and face-to-face workshops on Arts-based Approach to Education and Advocacy Work with youth groups from Maguindanao and Eastern Samar to hone their leadership skills and teach them how to use art as an advocacy tool.

WATCH HERE:
Oxfam-PETA theater workshop in Tacloban, Eastern Samar

WATCH HERE:
Oxfam-PETA theater workshop in Cotabato City, Maguindanao
IN FOCUS: DIGITAL INFLUENCING

Oxfam Pilipinas maximizes the digital media in amplifying voices and in empowering the people to address their vulnerabilities, hunger, poverty, and inequality. We collaborated with various organizations, advocates, youth-led groups, the media, and key influencers to advocate for rights-based solutions that can contribute to transforming the lives of the most vulnerable populations.

World Sexual Health Day

To commemorate World Sexual Health Day, Oxfam Pilipinas and a group of Filipino doctors released on social media short videos answering the most-asked questions about sexual health.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for World Sexual Health Day | September 2021

One of our TikTok videos garnered more than 1.3 million views, and was picked up even by traditional media for how it went viral. We continued to explore other ways to communicate on-line, including an original virtual play in partnership with the renowned Philippine Educational Theater Association staged during International Women's Month.

READ MORE:
This PH Tiktok went viral for answering vital sex education questions

Building Awareness of RE

For Energy Consciousness Month, Oxfam Pilipinas launched #KuryenTok, a video series on TikTok focusing on renewable energy and conservation. Jephraim Manansala, Chief Data Scientist of Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), answered common questions on the topic, including energy efficiency.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for Energy Consciousness Month | December 2021

Campaigning for the Climate

Oxfam Pilipinas Ambassador for Resilience Antoinette Taus and UN HCR Goodwill Ambassador and broadcast journalist Atom Araullo joined thousands of climate warriors across the world in marching to fight for climate justice and demand world leaders to take action against the climate crisis.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for COP26 | October – November 2021
World Food Day

Everyone, regardless of gender, age, race, and social status, has the right to accessible nutritious food. On World Food Day, we released some educational sharegraphics to inform the public about global food wastes, access to resources, and the current hunger data among Filipino families.

#FoodForAll Edible Gardening Contest
To emphasize that food systems should be resilient and sustainable to ensure food security across generations, we encouraged the public on Facebook to share their edible gardens.

#TiraTerrific Recipe Contest
To spread awareness on how reducing food wastage and losses translates to conserving the planet’s finite resources, we launched a contest via TikTok where people submitted their creative leftover recipes.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for World Food Day | October 2021

World Humanitarian Day

Oxfam joined organizations all over the world in #TheHumanRace, a worldwide climate action challenge to bring the demands of climate-vulnerable people to the forefront of the UN climate summit (COP) in November. The campaign is a call for world leaders to follow through on a decade-old commitment of $100 billion per year for climate mitigation and adaptation in impoverished countries.

READ MORE:
Oxfam Pilipinas Campaign Highlights for World Humanitarian Day | August 2021

WATCH HERE:
#TheHumanRace Challenge
18 Days of Activism

18 Days of Activism is a key campaigning moment for Oxfam to eliminate gender-based violence (GBV) and promote gender justice as part of our commitment to create a just and equal future.

In the Philippines, the campaign is called “18 Days of Activism” in observance of December 12 as International Day Against Trafficking in Persons.

To kick-off the 18 Days of Activism, Oxfam Pilipinas launched the event entitled: “#ItStartsWithUs: Online Jam to End Gender-based Violence”.

The online jam was participated in by various women’s rights organizations, advocates, influencers, and stakeholders in the hopes of making this society a safer place for women, girls, and the LGBTQIA+ community.

Rea Celine Villa, Chief Psychologist of the Women and Protection Protection Unit in Pasig City General Hospital, and Dawn Castro, Co-Founder of the Young Feminists Collective answered questions via TikTok on relationships and gender-based violence against women, children, youth, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
MAXIMIZING RESOURCES

Recognizing our accountability to our donors, and the partners and communities we work with, Oxfam Pilipinas maximizes the support we receive to ensure lasting impact of our programs.

This fiscal year, we received a total of 5,489,337.44 GBP or PHP 376,056,200.25.

The Rights in Crisis Program, which supports our humanitarian efforts accounted for 61% of our total resources for the fiscal year. In our efforts to scale up our Gender Justice Program, we allocated a total of 1,145,505.00 GBP or 21% of total resources. This is followed by our programs on Economic Justice with 6%, and Conflict Transformation, with 5% Management and administrative programs constituted 7% of the total income.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>AMOUNT (GBP)</th>
<th>AMOUNT (PHP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rights in Crisis</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>3,370,994.00</td>
<td>230,906,803.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Justice Programme</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>1,145,505.00</td>
<td>78,536,117.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Justice Programme</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>304,717.00</td>
<td>20,882,200.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conflict Transformation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>290,370.00</td>
<td>19,825,476.95</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PROJECT COST</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,111,586.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>350,150,598.45</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and Admin</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>377,751.44</td>
<td>25,905,601.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL COST</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,489,337.44</strong></td>
<td><strong>376,056,200.25</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Celsa Nable is one of the women’s group members who manages and maintains the solar panels installed in the island of Hilabaan, Eastern Samar province.

The women’s group is organized and supported by Oxfam Pilipinas and partner SIKAT through the SHARPER project, while the solar panel installation is through the Just Energy Transition Project of Oxfam Pilipinas. (Photo: Erielle Esturas/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Baidido Wahab (left) and her mother outside their home in Cotabato City. Their home lies on the bank of the Tamontaka River and is reached by floodwaters every time the river swells. Baidido’s family is one of the residents supported by the preemptive cash assistance for flooding through the SUPPA II Project.

(Photo: Manman Dejeto/Oxfam Pilipinas)
A cyclist calls for climate action as part of the advocacy ride “REady, JET, GlasGOW”, organized by Oxfam Pilipinas and the Firefly Brigade. (Photo: Jilson Tiu/Oxfam Pilipinas)
Oxfam is an international confederation of 21 organizations working together with partners and local communities in 90 countries. Oxfam has been working in the Philippines for 30 years to address poverty’s underlying causes through its various programs on economic justice, conflict transformation, gender justice, and humanitarian response.