

2020

Annual Report

Citizens' Disaster Response Center



2020 CDRC Annual Report

Introduction

The Citizens' Disaster Response Center Foundation, Inc. has just concluded the third year of its Five-Year Strategic Plan (2018-2022). This narrative report covers the period January-December 2020, and shows the activities carried out as designed in its Five-Year Strategic Plan and the proposed 2020 Core Program.

This report looks into the organization's efforts to complete its goal for this said period.

The main parts of the report are:

- Brief National Conditions in the Reporting Period;
- Program Activities Implemented, Deviations, Corrective Measures; and
- Financial Report

The presentation of the report was based on the program's six purposes and their corresponding activities.

CDRC's purposes are:

- 1) Broadening and heightening CDRC's advocacy work on climate change and disaster risk reduction and its CBDM perspective;
- 2) Strengthening the RCs through CDRC's capacity-building program;
- 3) Generation of adequate resources to support the 16 RCs and the CDRN Secretariat in its operations and programs;
- 4) Piloting and implementation of special projects by the CDRC to support its research and advocacy, innovation and cross-cutting themes;
- 5) Further improvement of CDRC's DRRM program and management mechanisms and processes; and
- 6) Expansion of CDRC's network of partners and volunteers (both local and national).

Conditions in the Reporting Period (2020)

A series of disasters befell the country in 2020:

- Twenty tropical storms also entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), and 12 made landfall. From October to November, nine consecutive tropical storms hit the Philippines, causing floods and landslides in the same regions earlier hit by the southwest monsoon and a La Nina event.
- The year 2020 started with the sudden eruption of Taal Volcano in Batangas province on January 12, dropping heavy ashfall in neighboring provinces, including Metro Manila. The eruption displaced more than 500,000 people living mostly within the 14-kilometer danger zone around the volcano.

- In March, the COVID-19 pandemic hit the Philippines. A three-month total lockdown was implemented from March to June followed by several modifications of the community quarantines.
- In August, a Magnitude 6.6 earthquake struck the province of Masbate in the Bicol Region.

Disastrous Typhoons

Typhoon Molave (Quinta), Super Typhoon Goni (Rolly), and Typhoon Vamco (Ulysses) were the three most destructive typhoons in 2020. They caused widespread damage in Region V and severe flood events in Region II and Metro Manila. The COVID-19 pandemic made it even more difficult to extend help to the affected people and for them to bounce back and recover.

The Philippines reeled from disastrous floods after Typhoon Molave hit the country with 80-mile-per-hour winds and heavy rain in October. More than 25,000 evacuated from their homes and at least 13 were reported missing when the storm made landfall on the southern part of Luzon on October 25 before heading west across the country.

Typhoon Rolly (international name: Goni) was the world's most powerful tropical cyclone in 2020. It battered parts of the Philippines with destructive winds and torrential rain. It was already a super typhoon when it made landfall in the region of Bicol twice on November 1. It went on to hit land two more times in the region of CALABARZON as a typhoon, before rapidly weakening into a tropical storm over the West Philippine Sea.

Typhoon Rolly left extensive destruction and damage in its path. It killed at least 24 people, injured 399, and displaced 130,266 people, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The typhoon affected 1.9 million people in eight of the country's 17 regions, leaving an estimated 845,000 people in need of assistance.

Bato, a town in the eastern island province of Catanduanes, was first hit with maximum winds of 225 km/h. The Philippine Red Cross reported that 80%-90% of the houses were damaged in the province's capital Virac. Communication and power lines were cut off, and 11 towns were isolated.

In the town of Tiwi, Albay, flooded rivers overflowed, inundating coastal towns and low-lying areas. Volcanic mudflow from the active Mayon Volcano buried at least 300 houses in Guinobatan town.

Of the 32 affected provinces, government reports indicate significant damage in Albay, Catanduanes, Camarines Sur, and Quezon. Several local authorities declared a state of calamity to access emergency funds and realign other funds to disaster response.

Typhoon Rolly destroyed or damaged more than 137,000 houses. More than 60% of the destruction was recorded in the provinces of Albay and Catanduanes, according to the DSWD. The typhoon was so strong that it not only destroyed houses made of light materials but also those built with concrete. Most families evacuated as a pre-emptive measure and later returned to their homes and repaired their damaged houses. Families unable to repair their damaged or destroyed houses remained in the evacuation centers or stayed with families or friends.



Figure 1. Ty Rolly smashed houses in Brgy. Asgad, San Andres, Catanduanes (Photo credit: TABI, Inc.)

Typhoon Rolly caused significant damages to health facilities, schools, and essential services. Damage to infrastructure reached Php11.3 billion (US\$234 million). According to government reports, 67 health facilities were damaged, including the government's main COVID-19 laboratory in Bicol, forcing the suspension of testing. Also damaged were over a thousand schools, some of them even housing evacuees. With electricity posts and mobile phone towers toppled, it took months to restore essential lifelines.

The typhoon compromised access to safe water and sanitation facilities, increasing the risk of communicable disease outbreaks. The affected people subsisted on springs and hand pumps

for water, many of which were contaminated by flood and sea waters. Many families whose homes have been totally or partially destroyed were reported to lack access to adequate sanitation and hygiene facilities and materials. Those who were in evacuation centers – mostly schools – lived in congested conditions with limited access to adequate water-sanitation-health (WASH) facilities that meet COVID-19 health standards.

Livelihoods were lost, particularly of those who depend on farming or fishing to make a living. NDRRMC reported that 95,000 hectares of agricultural land were affected across eight regions. Some Php3 billion (US\$61 million) worth of rice, corn, high value crops, and abaca were lost. The provinces of Catanduanes and Albay were the hardest hit, accounting for more than half of the overall damage to agriculture.

Typhoon Rolly struck as the Philippines faced multifaceted challenges. By then, the country had registered one of the highest levels of COVID-19 transmission rates in the Asia Pacific region. More than 396,400 cases were confirmed, of which 27,000 were active. Some 7,539 had died, according to the Department of Health (DOH). Although relatively less affected, Albay reported 980 confirmed and 65 active COVID-19 cases, while Catanduanes had 132 confirmed and eight active cases.

Typhoon Ulysses (international name: Vamco) was the Philippines 21st tropical cyclone for 2020, hitting Luzon hardest from November 11-12. It unleashed powerful winds and torrential rains that killed dozens of people, destroyed thousands of homes, and left swathes of the country flooded.



Figure 2. Ty Vamco brought massive flooding in parts of Luzon. Malanday, Marikina was not spared. (Photo by CDRC)

Taal Volcano's Eruption

On January 12, Taal Volcano, the world's smallest volcano, awoke after 43 years of quiet and began to spew gases, ash, and lava into the air. In the days and weeks that followed, the eruption dropped a layer of unusually wet, heavy ash on the surrounding landscape, withering vegetation and turning the lush fields of Volcano Island a ghostly gray.

Coffee, rice, corn, cacao, and banana crops were damaged, according to news reports. In one estimate, damages to plants and animals totaled PhP577 million (US\$11 million). The damage extended beyond plant life. Dozens of people perished during the eruption. Large numbers of livestock and pets were also left behind when tens of thousands of people evacuated. Ash even affected the fish – mainly tilapia and milkfish – being raised in thousands of aquaculture pens in Taal Lake. According to the Taal Lake Aquaculture Alliance, Inc., about 30% of the fish cages in the lake were destroyed during the eruption.



Figure 3. Talisay, Batangas became a ghost town overnight after residents fled the Taal Volcano's wrath (Photo by CDRC)

Destructive Earthquakes

At 8:03 a.m. on August 18, a strong magnitude 6.6 earthquake shook the province of Masbate and vicinity. The earthquake had an epicenter located 7 km from Cataingan and a depth of 21 km. It was felt with a maximum ground shaking intensity of PEIS VII (Destructive).

An earthquake of Magnitude 6.3 struck the Mindoro Island of the Philippines on October 17. Occurring at a depth of 144 km, the temblor was also felt in the capital region, and registered Magnitude 6.3 at the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). The center was traced at Calatagan in Batangas province, according to PHIVOLCS reports. The agency said it did not expect substantial damage, but warned of aftershocks.

On December 15, a magnitude 6.2 tectonic earthquake shook a large swath of Mindanao. The quake was centered 86 kilometers southeast of Sarangani and occurred at a shallow depth of 16 km. It was felt in General Santos City, South Cotabato, and in many areas at the southeastern part of the island. Before that, a series of earthquakes rocked the island, the strongest of which was the Magnitude 6.1 that occurred on March 26. Smaller quakes hit the island in between the March and December earthquakes.

African Swine Fever, an infectious animal disease

African swine fever (ASF) infections spread in the south of the country which accounted for nearly a third of the nation's 12.8 million pig herd. Additional cases were also identified in some northern provinces, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said.

In February, the department said 407 pigs were culled in two villages, with a swine population of 2,398 in Davao City. Mindanao had a swine herd of around 3.7 million, government data shows, or 29% of the country's total.

More cases were reported in some northern Luzon provinces, including Pangasinan, which was among the areas hit last year, and in Kalinga and Benguet provinces.

COVID-19 Pandemic

A total of 462,815 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 9,021 deaths, were reported in the Philippines. Some 1.95% of all COVID-19 confirmed cases died.

On March 16, President Rodrigo Duterte put Metro Manila and the entire island group of Luzon under the "enhanced community quarantine" (ECQ), which meant the total lockdown of the largest island group in the Philippines. Soon after, major cities were also put under lockdown.

Immediately, the police and military were brought in to impose lockdown measures. Images of special action forces operating at checkpoints reinforced by their armored personnel carriers (APCs) or tanks were a common sight.

Suffice to say, the lockdown was difficult, especially for the poor. Their situation was further exacerbated by the slow distribution of emergency subsidies under the government's Social Amelioration Program (SAP).

Figure 4. The transport sector was gravely affected by the pandemic. Drivers in Iloilo City organized a donation drive to put food on their tables. (Photo credits: PCDR, Inc.)



In many ways, the Philippines fought the virus with an iron fist. The message to maintain discipline and follow the government's orders has been repeated constantly since the president began his weekly address to the nation on March 12.

By end-May 2020, lockdown restrictions in Metro Manila and the rest of the country were gradually loosened, except in a few hotspots. Looser quarantine rules entailed, albeit on an incremental and staggered basis, the reintroduction of mass transportation, opening of government offices and certain businesses, and partial or full resumption of work in some sectors.

Amid the gradual easing of quarantine restrictions, the Philippines saw an accelerating increase of COVID-19 cases. From only 18,620 cases on June 1, some 93,354 confirmed cases (with 2,023 deaths and 65,178 recoveries) were recorded by July 31 – nearly a five-fold increase in a span of 60 days.

Despite the alarming increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, testing and contact tracing of suspected COVID-19 cases continued to lag. The government largely failed to achieve its target of conducting 30,000 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests by the end of May and 50,000 PCR tests by the end of June.

As testing remains limited and contact tracing remains weak, the Philippines' public health system remains ill equipped to effectively suppress the spread of the virus, at least from a health care approach perspective. The inadequacies of the government's response become more glaring when the experiences of neighboring countries in the Western Pacific region such as South Korea, Singapore, and New Zealand are considered.

August 2020 began with the Philippines exceeding the 100,000 mark in terms of COVID-19 cases. Soon after, various health care worker organizations pleaded with the government for a "time-out", suggesting areas where the virus was spreading rapidly such as Metro Manila be put again under the ECQ – the strictest lockdown configuration.

The return to MECQ came with a stern warning that quarantine violators would be arrested. This warning was reinforced with a sense of urgency, lest the reimposition of strict lockdown measures be wasted.

Amid the pandemic, President Duterte responded to the COVID-19 crisis as he did with other crises perceived to pose a threat to the nation's integrity and well-being such as illegal drugs, that is, to impose discipline and order through brute force.

Human-induced Disasters

Human-induced disasters in the form of armed conflict, extrajudicial killings, various human rights violations, clan feuds, criminality and armed violence, mass arrests for violations of quarantine protocols, police operations, terrorism, fires, and oil spill have taken their toll on the population.

Displacements were overwhelmingly high as 213,312 people (from approximately 39,339 families) were forced to leave their homes. Many of the displaced were based in Mindanao, where most crime and violence occurred between unidentified armed groups, and most clashes between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP), on one hand, and the rebel groups New People's Army (NPA), Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), and the Abu Sayyaf group (ASG), on the other hand, took place.

Armed conflicts invariably resulted in mass displacement of communities, and these were the main reason for man-made displacements in 2020.



Figure 5. A Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation Inc. (MISFI) Academy campus building in Sitio Laburon, Brgy. Matupe, San Fernando town of Bukidnon allegedly destroyed by around 50 armed members of the paramilitary group 'Bagani' on August 26, 2020. Militarization in indigenous communities and schools in Mindanao continue to intensify resulting to displacement of Lumad students, educators, and peoples. (Photo credit: Save Our Schools Network)

Fire Incidents

Fire incidents were the second major cause of displacements in 2020. Some 46,856 persons (from 12,335 families) were forced to flee their homes to go to the relative safety of evacuation centers or to stay with relatives or friends. Those displaced due to fires reached 61,955 individuals (from 16,366 families).

Evictions of dwellers in slum communities steadily increased in 2020 even as the country continued to enforce quarantine measures to contain the spread of COVID-19. Thousands of families have been displaced. Those evicted from their communities were affected by a variety of reasons: road expansion projects, encroachments and land-grabbing of ancestral communities due to mining operations, quarrying, and even by the National Greening Program (NGP) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Displacement has also been reported due to the adverse effects of the Amended Fisheries Code, Rice Liberalization Law, and Chinese incursions in the West Philippine Sea, among many other reasons.



Figure 6. Survivors of fire in Hapilan, Tondo line up for hot meals distributed by concerned groups. (Photo credit: CREST, Inc.)

Worsening Economic Conditions

The Duterte administration's repressive, anti-poor, unscientific, and inhumane policies imposed on account of COVID-19 have worsened the people's vulnerability to disasters. Many have remarked that the Duterte government has shown gross incompetence in handling the pandemic as it was also negligent in addressing the people's basic needs.

Majority of poor and low-income families bear the brunt of repeated lockdowns amid the loss of livelihood and continuing lack of adequate health care services.

State neglect for agriculture has continued. Before the pandemic, the agriculture sector lost 4 million jobs in 2017-2019, the highest number in three years in the last two decades. Worse, the Duterte government even removed restrictions on imported rice through the Rice Liberalization Law that he signed on February 14, 2019, and that took effect on March 5, 2019. This law pushed rice farmers further to bankruptcy.

Employment fell by 2.6 million from 2019 to 39.4 million in 2020, which is even less than the 41 million employed in 2016. In effect, four years of employment growth were wiped out. As of October 2020, IBON estimates that a total of 5.8 million Filipinos were unemployed, of which, 2.7 million were additional unemployed.

Joblessness worsened as overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) returned home after losing their jobs overseas due to the pandemic. Other OFW returnees found themselves unemployed and

stranded outside domestic airports, at the height of one of the longest and most stringent COVID-19 lockdowns in the world.

The Philippines has a total population of approximately 106 million people as of 2020. Of these, some 4.5 million are homeless, and three million of the homeless live in Metro Manila.

In terms of health services, the University of the Philippines COVID-19 Pandemic Response Team reported that on the average, there were only 3.7 doctors per 10,000 population in the Philippines, way below the World Health Organization-prescribed ratio of 10 doctors for 10,000 persons. There was even a side discrepancy across regions of the country.

The Philippines' high vulnerability to disasters is the overall result of these given factors. Beyond the geophysical characteristics of the Philippines, these factors exacerbate the poor majority's already miserable plight, the most cogent expression of their vulnerability.

References:

[Philippines: 2020 Significant Events Snapshot](#)
[Typhoon Molave battered the Philippines. Vietnam is next.](#)
[Super Typhoon Rolly: Weather updates, latest news in the Philippines](#)
[Philippines: Super Typhoon Goni \(Rolly\) Humanitarian Needs and Priorities](#)
[Typhoon Ulysses: Weather updates, latest news in the Philippines](#)
[An Ash-Damaged Island in the Philippines](#)
[Magnitude 6.3 Earthquake Strikes South of Philippines' Luzon Island](#)
[Primer on the 18 AUGUST 2020 Magnitude \(MW\) 6.6 Masbate Earthquake](#)
[Philippines on lockdown as swine fever confirmed in the south](#)
[WHO Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Situation Report #66 \(Philippines\)](#)
[The Philippines' COVID-19 Response: Securitising the Pandemic and Disciplining the Pasaway](#)

CDRC Objectives

A. Broadened advocacy work

CDRC advocacy work on climate change, and disaster risk reduction and its CBDM perspective is broadened and heightened.

CDRC has intensified its advocacy efforts on behalf of vulnerable communities and individuals. It called on key decision-makers to take action and institute effective methods of reducing disaster risk. Advocacy work was a key component of CDRC's programs. and the organization served as an ambassador of community-based disaster management. CDRC spoke with a clear and consistent voice on issues, producing results that saved lives and built stronger communities. The effects of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic created urgent challenges that propelled CDRC to act. With clarity of purpose and direction, CDRC achieved most of its objectives in advocacy work.

IEC materials produced for print and broadcast media

The media sector fulfilled several basic roles in CDRC's advocacy work, serving as conduit of its information, education and communication (IEC) work. CDRC also used the media to act as a public forum for the discussion of important DRRM issues.

Radio Interview: On February 8, Advocacy Officers Ms. Cora Jazmines and Ms. Hanna Fiel were interviewed by Radio Veritas. They talked about the need to ensure human rights observance in times of disasters, particularly during the Taal Volcano eruption.

On July 3, Ms Cora Jazmines was interviewed by anchorpersons Dir. Elenida Basug (Department of Environment and Natural Resources Climate Change Service director) and radioman Jenny Pahilanga about their episode on [disasters and covid-19](#) in their radio program "Ang Tinig Klima" (DZXL 558).



Figure 7. Radio guesting of Local Partnership Coordinator Ms. Cora Jazmines

TV Interview: [ABS-CBN interviewed](#) former CDRC executive director Ms. Kim Leduna regarding the Armed Forces of the Philippines' red-tagging of several development organizations, including CDRC. Ms. Leduna stressed that the current climate of impunity endangers development organizations and their workers and results in deprivation of aid to vulnerable communities.

IEC Materials Production: IEC materials were produced as part of the ENCAP II Project. CDRC produced [eight IEC materials](#) in Filipino, all about how to prevent COVID-19 infections.

Date	IEC Material
March 20	Ano ang Ating mga Karapatan sa Panahon ng Enhanced Community Quarantine?

March 21	<i>Kailan dapat at paano gumamit ng facemask?</i>
March 21	<i>Paano mapoprotektahan ang sarili at ang komunidad laban sa COVID-19?</i>
March 24	<i>Ano ang panawagan ng CDRC sa gobyerno para masuapo ang COVID-19?</i>
March 27	<i>Ano-ano ang mga maling paniniwala hinggil sa COVID-19?</i>
March 29	<i>Paano umangkop sa stress dahil sa COVID-19 pandemic?</i>
April 01	<i>Paano maiiwasan ang pagkalat ng COVID-19 sa lugar ng trabaho?</i>
April 06	<i>Paano natin matutulungan ang mga bata na umangkop sa stress na dulot ng pagkalat ng CoViD-19?</i>
Oct. 31	<i>Mga dapat lamnin ng ating mga Go Bag o Emergency Bag</i>
Dec. 27	<i>10 Paalala sa Panahon ng Lindol</i>

COVID - 19

ANO ANG ATING KARAPATAN SA PANAHON NG ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE?

Sa panahong ito, kinakailangan ang pakikipagtulungan ng lahat para mapigilan ang paglaganap ng COVID-19. Pero habang pinangangalagaan natin ang ating kalusugan, dapat tiyakin din nating iginagalang ang mga karapatan.

Pag-aresto
Ang pag-aresto ng walang warrant ay magagawa lamang kung ang isang tao ay a.) may pagtatangkang gumawa ng krimen; b.) katatapos lamang gumawa ng krimen; c.) tumakas mula sa kulungan.

Panghahalughog at pagkumpiska (search and seizure)
Pinoprotektahan ng Konstitusyon ang karapatan ng lahat laban sa hindi makatarungang panghahalughog at pagkumpiska sa mga checkpoints ng pulis at militar. Ang paghahalughog sa sasakyan at sa katawan ng mga nakasakay dito ay maiituring na 'di makatarungang panghahalughog.

Karapatan sa pagpapagamot
Karapatan ng mga mamamayan ang pantay na akses sa pagpapagamot. Walang sinuman ang dapat pagkailan nito dahil lamang sa kawalan ng kakayahang makabayad o dahil sa diskriminasyon.

Karapatan sa impormasyon
Karapatan ng mga mamamayan na magkaroon ng akses sa mahahalagang impormasyon hinggil sa COVID-19. Dapat ay nasa porma o wika itong madaling maintindihan at angkop sa mga taong may partikular na pangangailangan tulad ng mga bata, may kapansanan sa paningin at pandinig, at mga limitado o walang kakayahang bumasa.

Dapat na isaalang-alang ang kapakanan ng lahat sa panahong ito, lalo na ng mga vulnerable at mahihirap na mamamayan. Tiyakin nating malalapasan natin ang krisis na ito nang hindi nasasakripisyo ang ating dignidad at mga karapatan.

Paalala mula sa

COVID - 19

Kailan dapat at paano gumamit ng face mask?

Kailan dapat gumamit ng face mask?

- Kung ikaw ay malusog, kailangan mo lang magsuot ng face mask kung nag-aalaga ka ng taong pinaghhihinalaan o kumpirmadong may COVID-19.
- Magsuot ng face mask kung ikaw ay inuubo o naba-bahing, isang PUM o isang PUI na sa bahay lang naka-isolate at makakahalubilo ang mga kasama sa bahay (bagamat sana maiwasan itong pakikihalubilo) o kaya kapag 'di kaya ang mahigpit na isolation/quarantine.
- Epektibo lang ang paggamit ng face mask kung sasabayon ito ng madalas na paghuhugas ng kamay gamit ang tubig at sabon o alcohol.
- Kung nagsusuot ka ng face mask, dapat alam mo kung paano ito gamitin at itapon.

Paano gumamit ng face mask?

- Bago magsuot ng face mask, hugasan at sabunin ang kamay o kaya ay maglagay ng alcohol.
- Takpan ang ilong at bibig ng face mask at tiyaking walang puwang sa pagitan ng inyong mukha at ng mask.
- Iwasang hawakan ang mask habang suot ito; kung mahawakan ito maghugas ng kamay o linisin ito ng alcohol.
- Palitan agad ang face mask kung pakiramdam mo ay basa na ito at wag muling gamitin ang mga single-use na mask.
- Para tanggalin ang face mask: alisin ito mula sa likod (huwag hawakan ang harap ng face mask); itapon agad ito sa basurang may takip; hugasan ang mga kamay o linisin ito ng alcohol.

Paalala mula sa

Figure 8. IEC materials on CoVid-19 produced by CDRC.

Public Service Announcements: CDRC also produced three audio IECs on Covid-19 which were aired over the Public Address Systems (PAS) in Bontoc, Southern Leyte. This was done to amplify COVID-19 messages to help the public brave the pandemic and find ways to address it.

Date of Airing	Public Service Announcement Produced
March 28, 2020	<i>Ano ang ating karapatan sa panahon ng ECQ?</i>
April 6, 2020	<i>Pangalagaan ang sarili at komunidad laban sa COVID-19</i>
April 19, 2020	<i>Paano matutulungan ang mga bata na umangkop sa stress?</i>

Press Conference: On July 7, former CDRC executive director Ms. Kim Leduna joined the panel during the NGO Press Conference on the Terror Law, an online activity organized by the

National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP). Ms. Leduna read CDRC's statement which called for the repeal of the highly contested Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020.

Press Releases: CDRC produced a total of five press releases in 2020. These press releases focused on COVID-19, red-tagging, and the Anti-Terror Law.

Date	Title
March 21	Government urged to welcome CSO participation in COVID-19 response
April 9	CSO expresses concern over red-tagging amid COVID-19 pandemic
April 21	Support and not persecute CDRN amidst the COVID-19 pandemic
June 15	Uphold the right to development of the marginalized, junk the Anti-Terror Bill!
July 7	CDRC calls to junk Anti-Terror Law

Kwentong Kwarantín: CDRC and CDRN posted five "Kwentong Kwarantín" short videos submitted by CREST and PCDR (Videos [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)) and CRRC ([1](#), [2](#)). Posted on CDRC's FB page,

Figure 9. Quarantine Stories from the regions



these videos showed the plight of vulnerable communities under ECQ due to COVID-19.

Social media postings of IEC materials on CDRC and CDRN activities

CDRC optimized social media to its advantage, reaching millions of people in the Philippines and outside of it. Through social media, CDRC targeted specific groups, often in particular locations. It used social media to communicate with individuals and groups.

CDRC also maximized social media to quickly distribute information to many people. It posted or shared a total of 406 articles, news, weather advisories and updates, and infographics on

Facebook. It also posted 191 photo albums of its activities, produced and posted 49 videos, 4 podcasts, and 65 case stories and shared 37 videos of other agencies/organizations.

Podcasts: Four podcasts were produced, aired over **on Youtube:**

1. [*Kusinang Bayan sa Panahon ng Pandemya*](#)– In this podcast, CDRC interviewed DPC members from the areas of CREST in Metro Manila. They discussed how the community responded to the Enhanced Community Quarantine that was imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They shared how the community helped each other to gather resources and provide hot meals to families who lost their livelihoods because of the lockdowns.
2. [*Impacts of the Anti-Terror Law on Humanitarian Work*](#) – CDRC invited Ms. Rochelle Porras, Executive Director of the Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research, Inc. (EILER) and Vice-Chairperson of the Center for People’s Development and Governance (CPDG) in this podcast. They discussed the impacts of the Anti-Terror Law on humanitarian work.
3. [*Department of Disaster Resilience \(DDR\) Bill: Impacts to Community-Based Disaster Management \(CBDM\)*](#) – In this podcast, Ms. Cora Jazmines of the Local Partnership Department discussed the impacts of the proposed DDR Bill to CBDM. She also discussed the context of the passing of the current law, RA10121, and why organizations are calling to strengthen the law instead of repealing it.
4. [*CDRC and CDRN Response to Communities Affected by Typhoons in 2020*](#): CDRC invited TABI and ABI in this podcast. They discussed the impacts of Typhoons Quinta, Rolly, and Ulysses in their Bicol and Central Luzon, and how they responded to these disaster events together with the DPCs.



Figure 10. CDRC’s video podcast on CDRN responses to the pandemic

CDRC conducted Annual ABKD poster-making competition

The year 2020 was challenging for students and teachers. Face-to-face classes were suspended and schools were obliged to adjust to online and modular learning in a short period of time. Classes resumed only in October, instead of June. This had an effect on the ABKD poster-making contest, which was in its 25th year.

As an adjustment, CDRC decided to collate all winning entries for 24 years. Pictures of the posters were posted online and a poll was conducted for one week to determine the winners.

The [awarding ceremony](#) was also conducted online via Zoom. CDRC invited past winners to give messages regarding their ABKD experience. The guest speaker was Leon Dulce, the very first ABKD winner. The awarding ceremony focused on child-centered disaster risk reduction and the importance of involving children in advocacies such as DRR and climate change.



Figure 11. Artworks included in the 2020 ABKD winning entries

CDRC produced its annual CDRC calendar

In January 2020, 1,000 copies of the CDRC Calendar were distributed to the staff, Regional Centers, ABKD winners, and local and international partners.

The 2021 CDRC calendar was a 14-page wall calendar developed with the focus on children and their role in DRRM. It also featured the winning posters of the ABKD poster-making contest.

CDRC produced IEC materials on COVID-19

Eight IEC materials on COVID-19 were printed in leaflet, brochure and poster forms. These were distributed in areas during RDOs and other activities. Infographics were also posted on social media accounts.

The other RCs adopted CDRC's IEC material and translated it to their local languages. These translated materials were also posted on their social media accounts.

Aside from these IECs on Covid-19, CDRC also posted IECs on Go Bag contents and earthquake preparedness.

CDRC produced Annual Report

The [CDRC Annual Report 2019](#) was finalized in August. It was an in-depth, comprehensive overview of CDRC's achievements and financial statements from 2020. The report was provided to shareholders to inform them of CDRC's overall performance, financial status, and vision for the future.

CDRC produced Annual Philippine Disaster Report

The [CDRC Philippine Disaster Report 2019](#) was released in January 2020. The report provided a snapshot of the disaster situation in the Philippines.

CDRC documented its Best Practices

CDRC documents its best practices and those of CDRN by regularly publishing case stories on its website and social media accounts that gives evidence of CBDM success that can be replicated or adapted to other settings.

At least 65 documented case stories in print and in video have been produced in 2020.

CDRC conducted Webinar Series

Five webinars were conducted from the last week of July till October, mostly about the pandemic and CBDM. They were held every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from July-October. The webinars were live streamed online via Zoom and Facebook Live. Different topics were discussed every session. Reactors from different sectors were also invited to share their insights on the different issues tackled in the webinars.

[Resilient Voices from the Ground](#) – For the pilot episode of the webinar series on July 28, CDRC and CDRN showcased best practices and advice that were informed by lessons learned and recorded in conducting COVID-19 response in communities experiencing multiple hazards. The webinar shared these lessons with other RCs, organizations, and humanitarian and

development workers to better prepare for and respond to such events. The webinar also shared strategies adopted by the speakers to continue their response efforts during the lockdown. MISFI discussed how they provided emergency relief to Mindanao earthquake survivors and managed the Lumad schools during the pandemic. STPRC shared how they provided emergency relief to Taal Volcano eruption survivors during the pandemic. LCDE discussed their emergency response during the onslaught of Typhoon Ambo. ICRED shared their early recovery projects for communities affected by Typhoon Ompong during the pandemic.

There were 33 attendees in Zoom and more than 20 views in FB Live. After 2 days, the webinar already had 552 views, 43 reactions, and reached 1,571 Facebook users.

[Implications of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020 on Community-Based Disaster Management](#) –

The second episode of the webinar series was held on Aug. 10. In the two-hour discussion, the participants sat down and talked with the speakers about the implication of the ATA on civil society organizations and non-government organizations involved in CBDM and DRRM, and what CBDM and DRRM workers do to assure they are able to fulfill their duties. Atty. Cristina Yambot, CDRC Legal Counsel, discussed the implications of ATA on CSOs involved in DRRM. CVDRC discussed the implications of red-tagging of CSOs and development workers. PCDR shared their experience of harassment and intimidation. Ms. Minet Aguisanda-Jerusalem, CDRC Chairperson, summarized the activity.

The webinar was attended by 26 participants in Zoom and has a total of 746 views on Facebook.

[Community-Led Response to the COVID-19 Crisis](#) – CDRC's third episode of the webinar series was held on Aug. 25. The webinar discussed how organizations planned and implemented their response, how they worked with different groups, how they mobilized funds and resources, the challenges they overcame, the outcome of their response, and the lessons they learned. The organization that shared their experiences were Samahan ng Magkakapit-Bahay sa Old Capitol Site Hydraulics, Inc. (SAMABOCS), Citizens' Urgent Response to End COVID-19 (CURE COVID), and Musika Publiko. The Facebook live feed of the webinar has 463 views.

[Implications of the DDR Bill to Community-Based Disaster Management](#) – The fourth episode of the CDRC webinar series was held on Sept. 8. The participants discussed the stand of different organizations on the DDR Bill, and why they believe this is not the answer to the problems in disaster risk reduction and management in the country. The webinar was very timely since the Pres. Rodrigo Duterte was using the COVID-19 pandemic as a narrative to railroad the passing of the bill. The speakers for the webinar were from Bayan Muna Partylist and DRRNetPhils. The webinar's Facebook live feed has 571 views.

[Community-Based Approaches to Achieve Food Security Amid the Pandemic](#) – CDRC's fifth webinar episode was held on Sept. 22. The webinar discussed the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic of food security in the Philippines and suggested community-based responses. CDRC Chairperson Dra. Susana Balingit discussed how people can boost their immune system to

combat COVID-19, and how people can work as a community toward this objective. Dr. Chito Medina of PNFSP discussed how the pandemic worsened the problem of food security in the country, and how communities can work to attain food security amid the pandemic. The speaker from Save Our Schools Network shared how they strive to produce their own food by farming. The webinar's Facebook live feed has 729 views.



Figure 12. CDRC webinar on the effects of the Department of Disaster Resilience Bill on the work of community-based disaster management organizations and institutions

CDRC website improved and updated

The CDRC website was made more visually appealing through rich, interesting images that capture viewers' attention. The staff in charge created a new system of navigating it to inspire people to explore and stay with it longer. The website was also made to be more user-responsive and mobile-friendly.

CDRC drafted a DRR and CCA Advocacy and Communications Plan for CDRN

CDRC led the drafting of the DRR and CCA advocacy and communications plan for CDRN during the ENCAP Kick-off Activity on [January 27-31](#). It also led a consultation on DRRM policies as part of the discussion on advocacy. The overall aim of the CDRN's advocacy and communications plan is to increase evidence-based advocacy for influencing local and national organizations, national and local governments, and development and humanitarian agencies in developing and implementing policies and interventions that improve the impact and quality of DRR and CCA initiatives in managing vulnerability and poverty in the country. DRRM and climate change adaptation (CCA) are now recognized as a central element in DRRM, promoting

development, controlling vulnerability and contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

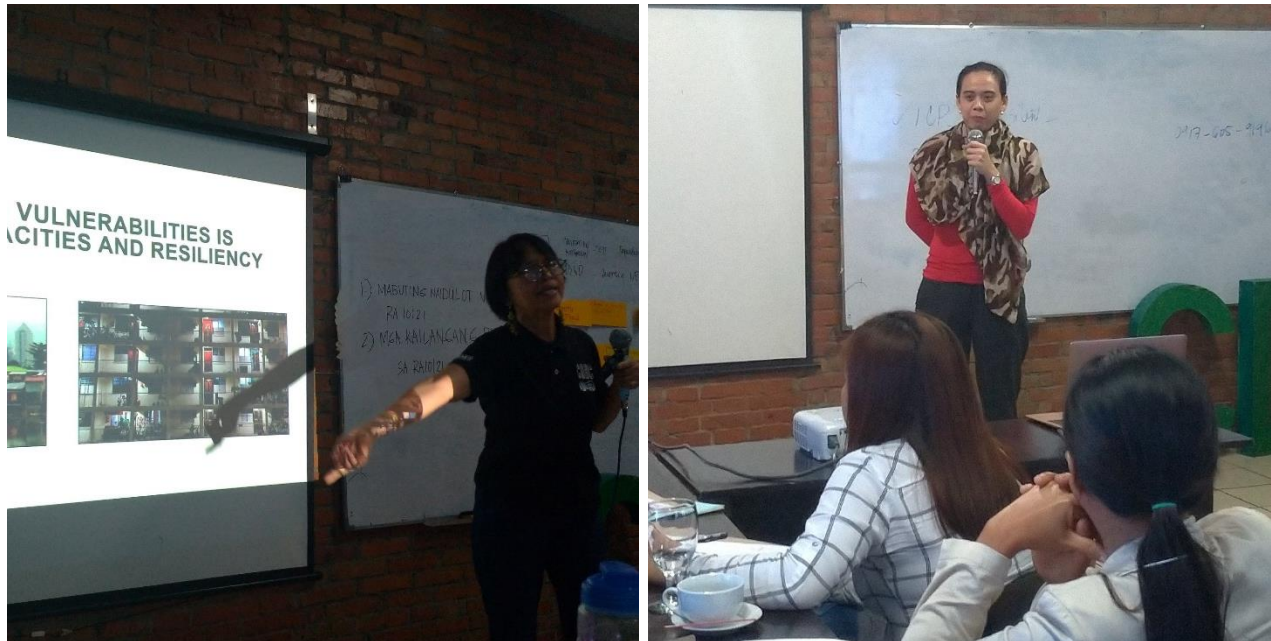


Figure 13. A National Consultation on DRRM Policy Advocacy was attended by the Advocacy and Training Staff of 11 regional centers under the EnCap 2 Project. (Photos by CDRC)

CDRC networks with other CSOs and joins DRR and CCA conferences, forums, events, etc.

CDRC participated in at least 32 DRR and CCA conferences, forums, and other events as these were important vehicles to discuss and address national disaster risk challenges. These served as forums for other stakeholders to take a shared responsibility and make actionable commitments to reduce disaster risks. The activities, mostly adhering to the multi-stakeholder spirit of the Sendai Framework, enabled CDRC and stakeholders to exchange experiences on successful practices and innovative approaches to prevent, reduce and manage disaster risk. For many participants in these events, these activities resulted in forward looking action plans based on a mutual sharing status of DRR implementation.

CDRC participated/joined other DRR and CCA formations/networks

CDRC participated in DRR and CCA formations to strengthen cooperation with other networks to increase its effectiveness in reducing people's vulnerability to rising insecurities.

Disaster Risk Reduction Network Philippines (DRRNetPhils)

Gawad KALASAG (Kalamidad at Sakuna Labanan, Sariling Galing ang Kaligtasan) Preparatory Meeting: On January 14, Ms. Cora Jazmines represented DRRNetPhils in the Gawad KALASAG Preparatory Meeting at the NDRRMC office. Gawad KALASAG was established as the government's premier recognition scheme to various stakeholders that protect and shield high-risk communities against hazards and render them more capable of addressing their vulnerabilities and coping with disasters.

Joint House Committee Hearing on Disaster Management and Government Reorganization: On January 22, Ms. Cora Jazmines represented DRRNetPhils to the Joint House Committee Hearing on Disaster Management and Government Reorganization at the House of Representatives. The Department of Disaster Resilience (DDR) Bill was introduced and various government agencies (BFP, NDRRMC, DBM, and NEDA) were invited to present their respective stand on the bill.

Mainstreaming of Children's Rights in Emergencies: On February 13, Ms. Cora Jazmines and Ms. Mel Basinang attended the [DRRNetPhils meeting on mainstreaming children's rights](#) in emergencies.

Final Consultation Meeting for the Development of ACDV Guidelines: On March 10, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Final Consultation Meeting for the Development of ACDV Guidelines at the NDRRMC office. The Technical Working Group finalized the Guidelines to be presented to the Technical Management Group (TMG) Meeting for the NDRRMC Full Council Meeting.

Internetwork Meeting: On June 8, Ms. Cora Jazmines attended DRRNetPhils' *Second Internetwork Meeting: Humanitarian Action in the New Normal*. The participants talked about the protocols for Civil Society Organizations and other Humanitarian Assistance Actors in ensuring interventions to respond, mitigate, and recover from COVID-19 impacts highlighting the participation of local and community-based organizations, especially in assisting local government units and the most vulnerable groups. The main speaker was Dir. Tecson Lim of the Office of Civil Defense.

Orientation on Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP): On September 3-4, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Orientation on Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP)* organized by the Office of the Civil Defense. The webinar oriented/re-oriented stakeholders and partners on the basic concepts and principles of PSCP.

NDRRMC Prevention and Mitigation Thematic Cluster Meeting: On September 16, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended an online meeting with the NDRRMC Prevention and Mitigation Cluster. The meeting was held to enhance the draft of the updated NDRRM plan/framework.

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) to Document Lessons Learned from the Pandemic On November 26, CDRC attended an FGD to document lessons learned from the pandemic. It was organized by the OCD-Capacity Building and Training Service.

Consultation on the Draft Local DRRM Plan Guidebook: On December 1, CDRC attended a consultation for the Draft Local DRRM Plan Guidebook. It was organized by the OCD and JICA-DRRMCEP2 Team. The consultation presented the draft Local DRRM Plan Guidebook, obtained recommendations to enhance the guidebook, and discussed ways forward.

NDRRMC Full Council Meeting: On December 9, CDRC attended the NDRRMC Full Council Meeting held via Zoom. The OCD reported the consolidated Rapid Damage Assessment Needs Analysis (RDANA) and the response actions for TY Quinta, STY Rolly, and TY Ulysses. Participants also formulated the timeline for Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan (CRRP).

CDRC also actively participated in the campaign against HB 5989 or the creation of the Department of Disaster Resilience. Passed on final reading at the House of Representatives on September 21, the Bill had been forwarded to the Senate where other similar bills are also pending. The CDRC and the NAPC-VDCSC do not support the creation of a department as stated in HB 5989 and are actively campaigning against the passage of the bill in the Senate.

As Co-Lead Convenor of DRRNetPhils and Head of its Partnership and Networking Committee, CDRC actively engaged CDRN to take part in the National Advocacy Workshop Series launched on September 30. The workshop series fostered meaningful participation and awareness across all levels of engagement, especially at the local level where we want to strengthen the participation of various sectors in disaster preparedness.

The main issue in the National Advocacy Workshop Series was HB 5989. The workshop created a nationwide clamor to oppose the passage of the bill.

On October 13 and October 20, Ms. Sarah Pascua and the Regional Centers based in the Visayas attended the National Advocacy Workshop (Visayas Consultation) via Zoom.

CDRC joined the activities of the Climate Change Network for Community-Based Initiatives (CCNCI)

Climate Change, Pandemics, and Disasters: A Man-Made Destruction of Environment and Biodiversity:

On July 16, Ms. Hanna Fiel was invited as a speaker to the webinar *Climate Change, Pandemics, and Disasters: A Man-Made Destruction of Environment and Biodiversity* organized by the CCNCI. The online activity provided an in-depth analysis of the COVID-19 situation, and aptly called for solutions for the crisis. Dr. Chito Medina, CCNCI Chairperson was the main speaker. Ms. Fiel discussed climate change, disasters, and challenges to disaster response.

CCNCI Board Meeting: On October 21, CDRC attended CCNCI's board meeting. Ms. Hanna Fiel was formally introduced as CDRC's representative to the CCNCI Board of Trustees and was elected Treasurer. She was also assigned as one of CCNCI's bank signatories.

Kwentuhang Klima: Hustisya at Pananagutan Mula Bagyong Rolly Hanggang Ulysses: On November 29, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum *Kwentuhang Klima: Hustisya at Pananagutan Mula Bagyong Rolly Hanggang Ulysses* organized by CCNCI, in partnership with Kalikasan – People's Network for the Environment, Center for Environmental Concerns, AGHAM, Youth Advocates for Climate Action in the Philippines, and 350.org.

During the forum, AGHAM presented the science behind the Ulysses floods. The Philippine Network of Food Security Programmes, women peasant alliance AMIHAN, fisherfolk federation PAMALAKAYA, and child rights' advocacy network SALINLAHI reacted to the presentation.

MAKABAYAN discussed the climate emergency declaration as a response to the people's cry for justice and accountability. An open forum followed. Kalikasan-PNE summarized and closed the activity.

CCNCI also invited the participants to join the protest against criminal neglect amidst Typhoon Ulysses on November 30.

CDRC joins Aksyon Klima (AK) Initiatives

Civil Society Constituency Meeting: On February 27, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Civil Society Constituency Meeting at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City organized by the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC).

The meeting provided comprehensive updates on the People's Survival Fund Board Meetings, the current status of the Fund, how to access the Project Development Grant (PDG), civil society representative seat in the PSF Board, and the next steps that CSOs can take.

Fighting for What We Love: On July 4, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webcast *Fighting for What We Love: Community-Centered COVID-19 Prevention and Control Approaches* organized by Aksyon Klima.

The guest speaker was Dr. Aileen Riel-Espina, Chairperson of the World Organization of Family Doctors Working Party for Women in Family Medicine (WWPWFM), a global network of women family physicians.

Aksyon Klima General Meeting: On July 8, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended AK's General Meeting via GoToMeeting. During the meeting, the members decided to hold a General Assembly on September 9, the preparations of which started after the meeting.

The GA would tackle the unity and general program of action on climate change issues, rationale and objectives of Aksyon Klima, the general direction of AK and appointment of new officers, and systems of operations and structures fit to implement the plans.

Fighting For What We Love: On July 16, Ms. Rizza Estel attended the AK-organized webcast *"Fighting for What we Love: Climate Landscape and Governance in the Time of COVID-19."*

Guest speakers were Ms. Kate Galido, Advocacy Program Coordinator of Non-Timber Forest Products – Exchange Programme Philippines (NTFP-EPP); and Mr. Paolo Pagaduan, Program Manager of Worldwide Fund for Nature Philippines (WWF-Philippines).

The speakers shared their knowledge and their organizations' existing work on climate and landscape governance and how these were affected by the current pandemic which presented new challenges and opportunities on the horizon.

Fighting For What We Love: On August 6, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the AK-organized webcast *Fighting for What we Love: Time Out! Now, What?*

Guest speakers were Ms. Amor Tan Singco, Advocacy Coordinator of ACCORD; Dr. Vincent Rasalan, General Surgeon from Bataan General Hospital and Medical Center; and Dr. Gene Nisperos, Assistant Professor from the University of the Philippines-Diliman (UPD) and co-founder of Second Opinion PH.

The speakers discussed the next steps to the call for a two-week “time-out” that was called for by medical front liners, in the hope of buying some time to rethink the strategies in the fight against COVID-19.

Multi-Action Partnership Inception Workshop: On Aug. 7, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Multi-Action Partnership (MAP) Inception Workshop organized by the Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), with support from the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative.

The workshop looked into Climate and Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (CDRFI) as one of the most viable options for climate-vulnerable countries, such as the Philippines, to ensure that financial costs/shocks of damages and losses from rapid and slow onset impacts are dealt with effectively.

AK General Assembly: On September 30, Ms. Rizza Estel represented CDRC in Aksyon Klima’s General Assembly via Zoom that was attended by more than 40 individuals from 25 organizations. The GA elected a new Convener and nine members of the Steering Committee.

The body also discussed the conduct of climate campaigns in the time of COVID-19, established unity in studying how they could continue working with communities, and broaden the network in the midst of COVID-19. The campaigns would have to be done while avoiding infection and acknowledging the limitations of digital communication.

The participants also discussed how to push through with climate campaigns and training, for which funds had already been approved, but the conduct of which needed to be adjusted due to the current pandemic and ensuring lockdowns.

Disaster and Climate Emergency Policy Forum: On December 10, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Disaster and Climate Emergency Policy Forum. The online activity was organized by the Office of Rep. Joey Salceda, in partnership with the University of the Philippines Resilience Institute, Greenpeace Philippines, Aksyon Klima, and the Local Climate Change Adaptation for Development.

The forum was attended by academe, non-government organizations, civil society organizations, private sector groups, and other interest groups. It was opened by the House of Representatives Speaker Lord Allan Velasco. Keynote speakers were the House Committee on Disaster Resilience Chairperson Lucy Torres-Gomez and House Committee on Ways and Means Chairperson Joey Salceda.

NDRRMC Executive Director Undersecretary Ricardo Jalad and Policy Development and Planning Service Director Atty. Tecson John Lim discussed the current loss and damage assessments of the 2020 disasters and their implications on post-disaster planning.

NEDA Undersecretary Mercedita Sombilla talked about recovery and rehabilitation after Rolly and Ulysses and addressing post-disaster challenges. DENR Undersecretary Analiza Rebueta-Teh discussed the whole-of-government thrusts of the CCAM-DRR cabinet cluster.

Climate Change Commissioner Noel Antonio Gaerlan discussed the national climate risk management framework. UP Resiliency Institute Executive Director Dr. Alfredo Mahar Francisco Lagmay talked about disaster impacts in the Philippines and key actions needed.

Greenpeace Southeast Asia Executive Director Mr. Naderev Sano discussed the global climate crisis and the rise of the climate emergency movement. AK National Convenor Mr. Rodne Galicha talked about the challenge for CSOs in the time of climate emergency.

Manila Observatory Acting Executive Director Atty. Antonio La Vina discussed international negotiations and the climate crisis. An open forum followed before the activity was closed and summed up.

NAPC-VDC Regional Sectoral Assembly for NCR: On January 15-16, 2021, Ms. Cora Jazmines attended the NAPC-VDC Regional Sectoral Assembly (RSA) for NCR at the City State Hotel. The RSA for NCR was held to select their representative to the National Sectoral Assembly (NSA).

NDRRMC Full Council Meeting – On Feb. 7, Ms. Cora Jazmines attended the NDRRMC Full Council emergency meeting as NAPC VDR SR representative. The Department of Health presented their plan on COVID-19, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) protocol on testing, and possible quarantine areas.

CDRC conducted liaison work with the NAPC-VDC

NAPC-VDC TWC Meeting: On March 4-7, Ms. Cora Jazmines attended the NAPC-VDC Technical Working Committee Meeting to prepare for the National Sectoral Assembly (NSA) and nominate their representative to the NSA. They also reviewed their accomplishments for the past five years.

CDRC, as a duly-elected member of the National Anti-Poverty Commission - Victims of Disasters and Calamities Sectoral Council (NAPC-VDCSC), actively participated in the sector's activities in July-September.

Since the lockdown due to the pandemic was in effect nationwide and no face-to-face meetings were allowed, the NAPC-VDC council meetings were done via Zoom. These included quarterly meetings and consultations. A forum featuring representatives of vulnerable sectors was held on August 6. CDRC led in organizing this activity.

CDRC liaises with the National Child Protection Working Group (NCPWG)

Ninth NCPWG Meeting: On July 16, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended the 9th NCPWG Meeting via Zoom, attended by 20 members. They discussed the user-friendly format for NCPWG's new normal guidelines for the COVID-19 context.

Thirteenth NCPWG Regular Meeting: On October 9, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended the 13th NCPWG Regular Meeting via Zoom. They reviewed the NCPWG Rolling Work Plan, and discussed CPIE updates from NCPWG and RCPWG focal points. The members shared updates about their organizations' work.

Fourteenth NCPWG Regular Meeting: On November 11, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended the Fourteenth NCPWG Regular Meeting via Zoom. It was attended by NCPWG and RCPWG members and guests.

The meeting focused on providing mental health and psychosocial support for adolescents, development of child-friendly spaces guidelines in the COVID-19 context, support to RCPWG for resource persons for RA 10821 localization, and mentoring assignment.

CDRC has been assigned Region 8 and the NCR. Members also shared their organizations' response efforts for communities affected by Super Typhoon Rolly. CDRC shared the results of the DNCA it conducted in its regions.

Fifteenth NCPWG Regular Meeting – On December 9, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended the 15th NCPWG Regular Meeting via Zoom. The participants finalized the MHPSS training manual and scheduled additional MPHSS webinars. They also shared situational reports on Super Typhoon Rolly and Typhoon Ulysses.

CDRC joined activities of the Resilience, Innovation, and Learning Hub (RILHub)

RILHub Partnership Meeting: On January 9, Mr. Mikhail Valle and Ms. Hanna Fiel attended a meeting with Ms. Fatima Molina, RILHub project coordinator, at the CDRC office.

They talked about the following: 1) case study development, building the RILHub website; 2) partnership and potential activities for RILHub promotion; 3) Resilience Innovation Implementation Fund; 4) publication of the RILHub Factsheet; 5) Resilience Research Fund; 6) suggested monitoring process for RILHub logical framework; and 7) ways to sustain RILHub post-work plan.

#RealLifeHeroes: Reaffirming Humanitarianism in the Time of COVID-19: On August 19, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *#RealLifeHeroes: Reaffirming Humanitarianism in the Time of COVID-19*. It was organized by the Resilience and Innovation Learning Hub (RILHub) in celebration of World Humanitarian Day.

This webinar was the third session of the Resilience Knowledge Exchange Series (RKES). Being a platform for knowledge-sharing and learning founded by four organizations highly involved in development programs and initiatives, RILHub witnessed many inspiring and innovative stories. Through this session, RILHub presented inspiring personal stories of humanitarians, partners, and community members.

RILHUB Meeting: On September 18, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended an online meeting with RILHUB representatives. They discussed the working database of IRM materials that were for uploading on the RILHUB website. The database is intended for continuous updating as RILHub members gradually upload the materials on the website. Also discussed was the ongoing updates of the RILHUB website, which already has its website developer.

New pages had been added to the website as opening the database surfaced the need for additional page categories, including the IRM materials of the INCREASE project. They also discussed the launching in June of the Resilience Knowledge Exchange Series (RKES), a monthly webinar series. RILHub would host webinars on relevant and timely IRM topics in line with RILHUB's goal to create new knowledge materials and provide opportunities for learning, reflection, and sharing of best practices. RILHub has engaged around 1,200 interested individuals and over 600 attendees as observed in the activity's trend of 50% actual turnout.

Lastly, the meeting participants discussed major plans that had to be implemented before the year ends, including the Resilience Research Fund, which was planned to be built up in partnership with academic institutions. Research that would be produced for this activity would share information about the Project for the Resilience Innovation Fund.

Pagpapatatag ng Gender-Based Violation Prevention sa Ating mga Barangay: On November 24, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Pagpapatatag ng Gender-Based Violation (GBV) Prevention sa Ating mga Barangay*. It was part of RILHub's Resilience Knowledge Exchange Series.

The webinar was in line with Care Philippines' global anti-GBV campaign *Together for Her*, a call to stand in solidarity with women and girls around the world by supporting the global response against domestic violence during the time of COVID-19.

B. Capacity-building

CDRC's capacity-building program strengthened RCs

In pursuit of capacity-building, this component improved the operational capacity of the Regional Centers that resulted in effective CBDM. Capacity-building assistance was directed at critical areas of RC operations: organizational diagnosis; monitoring, evaluation, and learning; training; mentoring and coaching; DPC formation; cross visit; database; EPRP review; complaints and feedback mechanism; prepositioning of goods; and setting up of First Responder Teams.

Conduct Organizational Diagnosis of 16 RCs

Twelve out of 15 regional centers submitted their accomplished Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT). The TABI and CVDRC have not yet updated their answers based on the revised tool. Panday Bulig did not submit.

The CDRC used creative methods to get to know the RCs at all levels – from the surface level to the deepest aspects that were not readily visible. CDRC helped the RCs figure out the root causes of issues they were facing and provided recommendations to improve them.

CDRC helped develop Guidelines for Standard Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL)

CDRN explored the KoBo Tool application to incorporate some of the M&E Tools to be used by the RCs and DPCs in gathering data from the served communities.

The M&E Tool Numbers 9, 10, and 11 were already incorporated into the KoBo Tool app. During the CBDM TOT in March 2020, digitized tools were presented to the project staff who were able to have hands-on experience in answering the Tools.

Although the participants recognized the tactical advantages of digitization (less transcription error, faster data encoding, collation and summarization, improved access to information, etc.), the participants raised their common concern over the risk of data hacking.

CDRC and the RCs resolved that security protocols should be established and strictly implemented. Individual database servers or accounts per RC should also be established so they could access their data from their own database/repository.



Figure 14. CDRC/N staff use the Kobo application during project post distribution monitoring. (Photos by CDRC)

CDRC conducted Capacity-Building Training

The CDRC's training component focused generally on building capacity around specific areas of programming, specifically survivor and community-led response and cash voucher assistance and developing the DPCs' ability to apply for funding.

The CDRC capability-building training also addressed issues of organizational structures and processes and produced sustainable improvements in the management, administration and function of the RCs.

On August 11-13, the CDRC conducted a three-day workshop on Survivor and Community-Led Response via Zoom. This was attended by the RCs ENCAP project staff, executive directors, and finance officers.

The RCs who were not part of ENCAP 2 project were also invited to join the activity to get their inputs regarding CDRN policies and CVA procedures. Two resource speakers from different organizations were invited to provide input on SCLR, while CDRC ManCom members discussed CVA.



Figure 15. Participants during the Survivor and Community-Led Response Training

Each RC identified its community for the conduct of SCLR through a pre-workshop activity to help them determine which of the six project communities was capable of managing and sustaining a community-led project.

The LCDE invited six DPCs from their served areas to join and participate in the SCLR workshop. ([SCLR Workshop and CVA](#), [Webinar on SLCR/CVA](#))

CDRC conducted Mentoring and Coaching Sessions for Priority RCs

Increasingly, CDRC has been using the coaching and mentoring practices as a tool, in line with the trend towards on-going capacity-building processes, rather than one-off events. This practice was also seen as a way of building a people-centered and holistic approach to capacity-building. CDRC used its experiences in mentoring and coaching with the RCs in various contexts.

CVDRC Finance Mentoring and Coaching: On January 9-11, CDRC visited CVDRC for Finance Mentoring and Coaching. After the discussions, CVDRC understood the importance of strictly implementing the processes in their daily operations. It recommended revisions in CVDRC's finance forms. Along with this, CDRC facilitated the coaching session in accomplishing these forms properly.

CVDRC presented its revised Organizational Structure, which was critiqued by CDRC. CDRC recommended rearranging the staffing by considering the functions and responsibilities of institutional and project staff.

CDRC also reviewed CVDRC's existing Finance Manual, and realized that some of its policies and guidelines stated in the Manual were not applicable to their current practices. Consequently, CDRC noted the CVDRC's suggestions to revise the document.

CDRC also recommended possible ways to process some of CVDRC's documents. Also, CDRC instructed CVDRC to check their records with SEC and BIR, so that they would know their status with the said government agencies. CVDRC agreed to these recommendations.

CDRC verified CVRDC's reports that it submitted for DKH EnCap Phase 2 and the emergency response (ER) for the Typhoon Ompong-related projects. After checking the documents, CDRC presented their findings to CVDRC and provided recommendations to improve their capacity in financial documentation and reporting.

On March 2-3, CDRC conducted finance mentoring for CVDRC. Again, they reviewed the Finance Manual and later discussed the standard policies and guidelines set by the donors, partners, auditors, and the Philippine government that needed to be incorporated in the Manual.

ABI Finance Mentoring and Coaching. On January 9-11, William Cawayan of the CDRC Finance Department visited ABI to conduct Finance Mentoring and Coaching. Altogether, they reviewed the first draft of the revised Finance Manual and noticed that it still needs to be edited.

They scheduled a workshop for the preparation of payroll and mandatories, disbursement process, and bookkeeping. They also reviewed and verified ABI's reports submitted for DKH EnCap Phase 2 and ER Ompong projects. Mr. Cawayan provided recommendations for ABI to improve ABI's financial documentation.

On February 15, CDRC Finance Director Mendy Malig facilitated Finance Mentoring for ABI on basic bookkeeping, preparation of payroll and mandatories, and disbursing procedures. After the workshop, participants were capacitated in the proper ways of disbursing funds, liquidations, recording of expenses and reporting.

Additionally, the ABI staff were taught how to compute for mandatories, taxes on salaries, and staff payroll. After the mentoring, Mrs. Malig verified ABI's reports submitted for DKH projects. At the same time, CDRC Administrative Staff Don Martellino followed up on the status of ABI's filing of government legal requirements for the year.

CorDisRDS Finance Mentoring and Coaching. On January 18-20, William Cawayan of the Finance Department visited CorDisRDS to conduct Finance Mentoring and Coaching.

At the meeting, the COrDisRDS staff presented their Organizational Structure, and the roles and responsibilities of each staff and the management. They reviewed the Finance Policies stated in the Manual.

Aside from these, CDRC examined the legal documents of CorDisRDS, looking at and verifying the CorDisRDS' reports submitted for DKH projects. Mr. Cawayan later presented their findings and recommendations to CorDisRDS to improve its financial documentation.

On February 29-March 1, CDRC Finance Staff William Cawayan and Ronan Cobilla and Consultant Ms. Aisa Lerio, visited CorDisRDS for DKH projects to conduct finance monitoring and mentoring.

Mr. Cawayan and Mr. Cobilla verified CorDisRDS' reports submitted for DKH projects. In order to validate these, they referred to CorDisRDS' Finance Policies stated in their Manual. Ms. Lerio assessed the status of CorDisRDS' legal documents and advised it to update their BIR Certificate of Registration to add "Tax Type: Compensation" for monthly and annual filing of tax on staff salaries.

After the review of CorDisRDS' reports, CDRC discussed their internal policies as stated in their Manual and recommended the inclusion of some policies such as policy on DSA and accommodations, travel and transport, bank reconciliation, grant/donation policy, annual budget, petty cash fund, and the drafting of a Manual of Good Governance.

Finance Orientation. On January 28, the CDRC Finance Department gave a Finance Orientation to the DKH-EnCap Phase 2 project staff. After the orientation, the project staff were capacitated in documenting financial transactions, proper use of finance forms, and reporting.

The participants were also informed about the funds' transmittal and reporting deadlines. The orientation also included the accounting guidelines and policies set up for the project.

On February 4, CDRC Finance Department re-oriented the ER Ompong project staff and reported the status of Finance Mentoring and Coaching for Regional Centers during the project's mid-term assessment held in Boso-Boso, Antipolo City.

ICRED Finance Mentoring and Coaching. On March 2-3, CDRC visited ICRED to conduct Finance Mentoring and Coaching. Ms. Lerio led the review of ICRED's Finance Manual. At the same time, CDRC verified ICRED's reports to check if their expenses were in accordance with their own Finance Policies. CDRC proposed revisions to incorporate new guidelines.

CDRC also shared some pointers on how ICRED could adapt to the changes in complying with the requirements of SEC, BIR, etc. After the mentoring and document review, CDRC presented their findings and gave recommendations to improve ICRED's organizational systems. ICRED agreed to incorporate some policies and guidelines that CDRC suggested, as well as the revision of policies already stated in their Manual.

On October 19, the ENCAP project team, national staff, and PMT conducted an assessment with the 11 RCs.



Figure 16. Finance mentoring during the Ompong Early Recovery Project midterm assessment on Feb. 4
(Photo by CDRC)

CDRC and CDRN formed new DPCs

Throughout this reporting period, CDRC and CDRN have helped form 37 Disaster Preparedness Committees (DPCs), with 1,311 members in total.

Of these DPCs, 21 DPCs with 1,231 members were formed during the implementation of the Ompong Early Recovery Project (Restoring the Livelihoods of those Most Affected by Tropical Storms in Luzon) and 16 DPCs with 80 members during the EnCap II Project implementation.

The formation of new DPCs became the key conduit to introduce CBDM to communities. However, the speed of forming new DPCs was affected by a number of factors, such as the lockdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CDRC facilitated conduct of cross visits between RCs and DPCs

CDRC was able to facilitate a cross visit between CREST and DPCs in Bicol on Oct. 25-28. The CREST staff visited the DPCs in Concepcion Grande in Naga City and Maopi in Daraga, Albay.

These DPCs in Bicol have been formed within people's organizations. Aside from their campaigns for their right to the land that they tilled, these organizations also recognize the importance of disaster preparedness as they lived in a region prone to many natural hazards.

The National Capital Region faces the same situation, and CREST learned that it is best practice to organize DPCs within people's organizations, and advance CBDM while advocating for people's economic and political issues.

CDRC updated database on DPCs in all 16 RCs

STPRC, ABI, PCDR, CRRC, CORDisRDS, ICRED, CREST, TABI, MISFI, DIRECT, CPRS, and LCDE were able to update their DPC tracker as of 2020.

CDRC conducted Training of Trainers with Coaching/Mentoring

In 2020, CDRC pushed to take a supportive training approach that encourages collaboration, problem-solving, and mutual respect. In this way, even the trainers could take on the roles of coach and mentor.

Pilot Revised CBDM Manual

Ms. Cora Jazmines, Ms. Malen Serato, and Ms. Teresa Quinawayan reviewed and edited Modules 1-6 of the Revised CBDM Manual that was used as a reference in the March 9-13 CBDM TOT held in Antipolo City. The ToT was attended by 31 participants from 11 RCs (Photos [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)).



Figure 17. A Disaster Preparedness Committee (DPC) member presents during the CBDM Training of Trainers

To aid in a better CBDM discussion at the regional level, the PCDR translated the training materials into their local language (Hiligaynon) for the ToT, while others used the English and Tagalog versions. (Hiligaynon-version of CBDM Training Materials).

The translation of the CBDM training materials to the local language helped the project staff to communicate with and explain terminologies to the local trainees. Also, CDRC paved the way for a Waray translation. The Northern Luzon-based RCs were encouraged to translate the manual to Ilocano.

The Northern Luzon-based RCs (CORDIS, ICRED, CVDRC) also translated portions of the manual to Iloko. ICRED's training officer and executive director modified the CBDM Manual to include mitigation measures in a pandemic.

CDRC developed and piloted the Standard DPC Curriculum and Module

CDRC has already forwarded the training materials for Sustainable Agriculture and the proposed Speakers' Training to the Regional Centers.

CDRC has already developed the Survivor-Led Response, Leadership, and Project Management teaching materials as part of the DPC Curriculum.

CDRC oriented/introduced topics related to DRRM to the RCs

As part of the ENCAP II Project activities, CDRC invited resource persons on August 12, 2020 to discuss Survivor and Community-Led Response (SCLR) to the RCs and to parties outside of the project.

Together with the materials from DKH and CDRC's Innovation Project TUKLAS, materials used in this activity were among the references used in the development of the SCLR presentation materials.

RCs conducted annual review of CDRC's and CDRN's EPRP

The Regional Centers reviewed their EPRPs during the ENCAP kick-off activity on January 27-31. They agreed that some components of the RCs' EPRPs (such as response triggers, priority criteria for beneficiaries, and triggers for the activation of the emergency protocol structure) needed to be updated.

Revisions were made during the workshop and were finalized by the RCs' Management Committees. Said revisions were integrated as updates on the Disaster Timeline, Emergency Protocol Team (members, focal persons, and communication flow), and Network under resource mapping, and the inclusion of CTP as a mode of assistance. During the workshop, most participants were able to provide and discuss EPRP A. The participants also identified other

components that need updating: response triggers, priority criteria for beneficiaries, and triggers for activation of Emergency Protocol Structure. For now, the network has yet to include pest infestation and epidemic/pandemic in its studies.



Figure 18. Review of the Network's Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (EPRP)

CDRCs and RCs finalize revision of EPRPs

The RCs' included the EPRP review and revision in their work plans as regular activities. The CDRN's EPRP was presented to the General Assembly in October 2019 and to the EnCap project staff during the Project Kickoff in January 2020. The changes and revisions made from the past document were integrated as updates on the Disaster Timeline, Emergency Protocol Team (members, focal persons, and communication flow), and Network under resource mapping, and the inclusion of CTP as a mode of assistance.

During the January 2020 activity, participants also identified other components that need updating: response triggers, priority criteria for beneficiaries, and triggers for activation of Emergency Protocol Structure. For now, the network has not yet included pest infestation and epidemic/pandemic in its studies.

The ICRED reviewed and revised its EPRP. It planned to update it to include contingencies for the pandemic.

The CVDRC held an EPRP Review in their office in Tuguegarao participated by five staff on August 5 and September 4. The staff discussed and refined their respective responsibilities and the scope of implementation and modes of intervention. They also set a regular schedule to improve their EPRP and ensure its appropriateness.

The MISFI added new suppliers and service providers in their EPRP during the MER COVID-19 project.

The STPRC reviewed their EPRP with the occurrence of major disasters that affected the Southern Tagalog region like the Taal Volcano eruption and the COVID-19 pandemic. The staff also refined and improved their EPRP.

CDRC and CDRN conduct Annual CDRN Meetings/Assemblies/Assessments

On September 5, the CDRN conducted an Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom. Participants discussed the following items in their agenda: Anti-Terror Act petition signing of CDRN thru DRRNetPhils; Cash Transfer Programming Policies presentation; proposed virtual CDRN General Assembly for 2020; and other CDRN concerns.

The meeting created an opportunity for the Executive Committee to discuss CDRN's operations and to engage in dialogues with other RCs.

Continuous consultations were done with the RCs regarding the project implementation of ENCAPII so these were just maximized in lieu of a CDRN meeting.

CDRC, CDRN developed a Standardized Complaints and Feedback Mechanism for CDRC/N

The CDRN is now using the Feedback & Complaints Log in all projects being implemented. This FC Log was presented during the CDRN GA and EnCap II Kickoff activity. The Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) (through survey form, interviews, FGDs, etc.) is customized according to types of interventions. It is also used to get the beneficiaries' feedback and to serve as the basis for the relevance, timeliness, and appropriateness of interventions.

This mechanism helps ensure that the CDRC/N's programme and interventions are appropriately designed.

The CDRC/N developed its Monitoring, Evaluation, and Accountability system, aimed at improving the quality of its interventions, document key learnings, and provides timely information to program staff and management to make critical and strategic decisions regarding its program interventions. The system helps ensure both optimum use of resources and community participation during various stages of the programs.

An important component of the system is the Accountability to Beneficiaries intended to further improve the quality of work and services offered. The complaints and feedback mechanism established reinforced the beneficiaries' and stakeholders' right to be heard.



Figure 19. Regional centers use Feedback and Complaints boxes and mobile hotlines as part of their feedback mechanism

Preposition Goods for CDRC/N Warehouse

Figure 20. OSM (above) and Stefanini (right) are CDRC's repeat donors



Through donations received, CDRC has prepositioned relief goods in its warehouse at the national office in preparation for the effects of different hazards. Prepositioned goods included rice, food packs, hygiene kits, and sleeping kits. The relief goods were readied for distribution to concerned RCs as needed in various periods in 2020.

CDRC kept close tabs on the status of prepositioned goods for the RCs for the areas affected by disasters. Nearby RCs and communities easily accessed these goods when they needed augmentation assistance (Taal eruption, fire in Tondo, floodings in Marikina, Ty Rolly & Ulysses, etc.).

At least a million peso-worth of material goods (food and non-food items) were donated by various donors, organizations, groups, and individuals for communities hardest hit by disasters in 2020.

CDRC continues to strengthen its preparation for different hazards to ensure the prompt provision of assistance to those who will be affected by disasters.

CDRN has set up Emergency Response Teams (ERTs)

Eleven out of 16 RCs (ABI, CorDis, ICRED, CREST, TABI, STPRC, PCDR, LCDE, DIRECT, WMDRC and CDRC) updated and submitted their updated ERTs. Although the CVDRC, CRRC, CPRS, Panday Bulig, and MISFI have not yet submitted their ERTs, they identified the names of their focal persons in times of emergencies.

The formation of ERTs included setting up of First Responder Teams (FRTs) that will help educate citizens about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their community, and train them in basic disaster response skills.

The FRTs are composed of citizen volunteers who will actively participate in exercises to learn critical emergency response skills and commit to help serve their community following a disaster activity whenever professional responders are not readily available.

The CDRC bought a unit of satellite phone, to pair with the other one donated by DKH. These were used by the rapid assessment team during its deployment in the areas for Ty Rolly data gathering.

CDRC and CDRN conduct First Responders Training

DNCA

The Damages, Needs, and Capacities Assessment (DNCA) was discussed during the EPRP input. For the COVID-19 pandemic response, the Office of the Executive Director designed and sent to RCs an assessment form. The collated data from the RCs was used in the development of the Covid-19 Major Emergency Response (MER) proposal. Theoretical input and practical application during actual disaster responses are expected to improve the first responders' confidence in applying their DNCA skills at work.

Resource Generation

CDRC generates adequate resources to support the 16 RCs and the CDRN secretariat in its operations and programs

Financial sustainability remains a critical challenge for CDRC and CDRN. Although a variety of toolkits and research papers that examine specific sustainability strategies exist, CDRC and CDRN continue to struggle to develop and maintain the resources needed to carry out its missions. This constraint limited organizational autonomy by inhibiting long-term planning and flexibility in designing and implementing activities. Financial sustainability remains a key requirement to empower RCs in taking greater ownership of the development process, as a robust resource base provides the resilience needed for the RCs to experiment new models that reduce long-term donor dependence.

CDRC facilitates projects for RCs

The CDRC developed at least 38 proposals in 2020.

On October 15-16, the CDRC conducted a project proposal writing workshop, facilitated by MASAI. Discussed were the DRR funding landscape, conducted SWOT analysis of the organization, and brainstormed for project proposal ideas.



Figure 21. CDRC staff conducted a SWOT analysis of the organization in resource generation during the Project Proposal Writing Workshop



CDRC facilitated sharing of experiences and best practices among RCs, and Planning on Fund Raising

The RCs sharing of best experiences in fundraising was done in discussions during the EnCap II kickoff activity and during the CBDM TOT (Resource Generation topic under Module 5).

The RCs stated that despite negative funding trends, there were also several opportunities for RCs to diversify their funding base. For example, they observed that corporations were

becoming more interested in funding Corporate Social Responsibility programs and projects, and that there seemed to be a global trend for CSOs to localize fundraising and recover costs.

At the same time, the RCS also observed that resources could be mobilized by collaborating with local government units.

CDRC assisted RCs in identifying their strengths and expertise

To aid RCs in identifying their strengths and expertise, CDRC encouraged them to accomplish and validate their respective organizational capacity assessment tool (OCAT). The FOD continued to get updates on RCs and DPCs as part of RCs' machinery/workforce.

A SWOT analysis based on formal and informal meetings and interviews with RCs determined significant strengths. Two key strengths related to the creation of a dialogue platform facilitating exchange and engagement between CDRC/N, the government and a wider stakeholder group, and these could be used for a knowledge management base.

The RCs' commitment, competence and hard work were CDRC's and CDRN's backbone, at the same time represented a source of confidence amongst donors that the projects were in capable hands.

CDRC conducted fund raising activities

Tugtugan para sa Kalusugan: CDRC partnered with MUSIKA PUBLIKO in the Tugtugan para sa Kalusugan, an FB Live Gig featuring [volunteer musicians](#) to raise funds to support front liners during the COVID-19 pandemic. Around 50 health workers benefited from this fund drive.

MUGTUGAN PARA SA KALUSUGAN

DONATE TO THE **CDRC CITIZENS' DISASTER RESPONSE CENTER**

GCash
09399163442
RA Baricuatro
CDRC Donations Assisting Office

Metrobank
PESO
636-3-63600741-3
DOLLAR
636-2-63600158-3
Swift Code: MBTCPHMM
Citizens' Disaster Response Center
Metrobank Examiner Branch
Quezon City, Philippines

PayPal
info@cdrc-phil.com

BPI 3051-1186-17
Citizens' Disaster Response Center
Foundation, Inc.

MUSIKA PUBLIKO partners with CDRC for collecting & distributing donations. Funds collected are used to support frontline health workers at hospitals with much needed medical supplies such as PPEs and masks.

MUGTUGAN PARA SA KALUSUGAN

PAUL MENDIZABAL MULA SA SANTIGWAR
DAY 17 | APRIL 8, 2020 11-11:30 AM
SORSOGON | BICOL

Full schedule at **musikapubliko**

Figure 22. CDRC once again partnered with Musika Publiko this time to raise funds for health workers

Partnership with iVolunteer: CDRC's long-time partner iVolunteer through its [iVolunTree](#) project raised funds for a laptop for Lumad education. The laptop was donated to the Bakwit School hosted by the University of the Philippines in Quezon City. The Lumad students' education was disrupted when the Department of Education (DepEd) ordered the closure of the Salugpongan schools and the non-issuance of the permit to operate to other Lumad schools in Mindanao. The students, together with volunteer teachers and Lumad elders as guardians, went to the nation's capital to submit an appeal against the suspension. A total of 70 students and 8 teachers benefited from this fund drive.

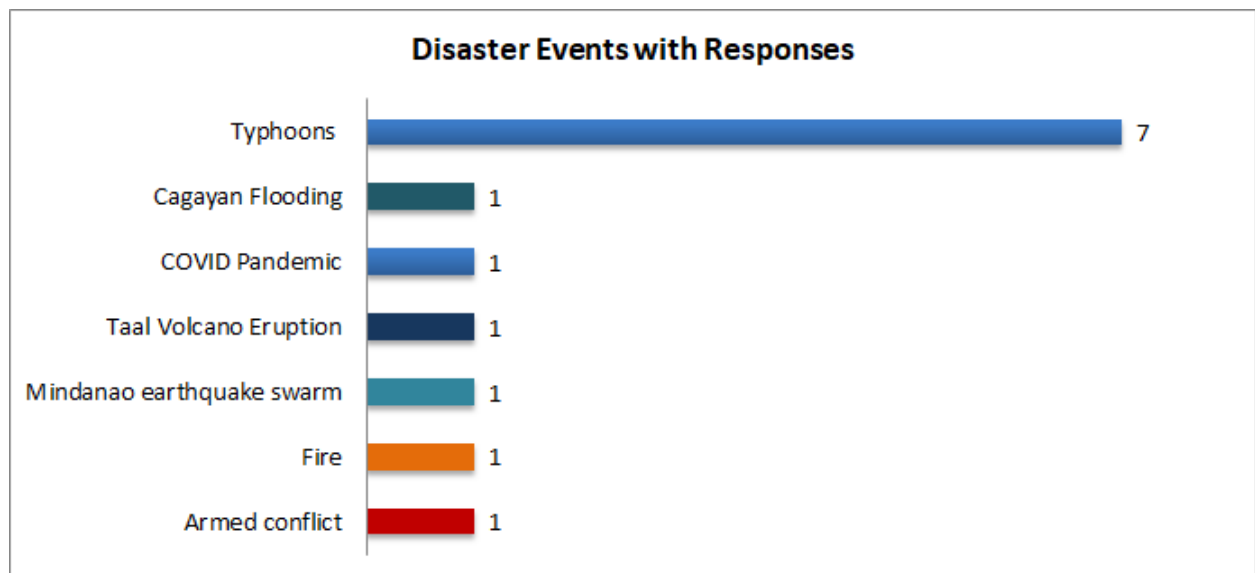
Under iVolunteer's [Donation Program](#), funds were also raised for the survivors of Typhoons Rolly and Ulysses.

Through CDRC's call for donations in its FB Page, individuals and organizations such as OSM-AD Foundation, Stefanini, Metro Auto Drive (MAD), Earth Island Institute-Asia Pacific, Philippine Multimodal Transit and Logistics Association (PMTLAI), Asian Charities, Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) BA Communication Research Class of 2019, Cirrus Global Inc., Infosys BPM, Google OpCen & Google Philippines, National Reinsurance Corporation of the Philippines, Filipino Students Association of IOWA University, and various donors, groups, and individuals sent cash and material donations for the communities affected by the Taal Volcano eruption, COVID-19 pandemic, and Typhoons Rolly and Ulysses.

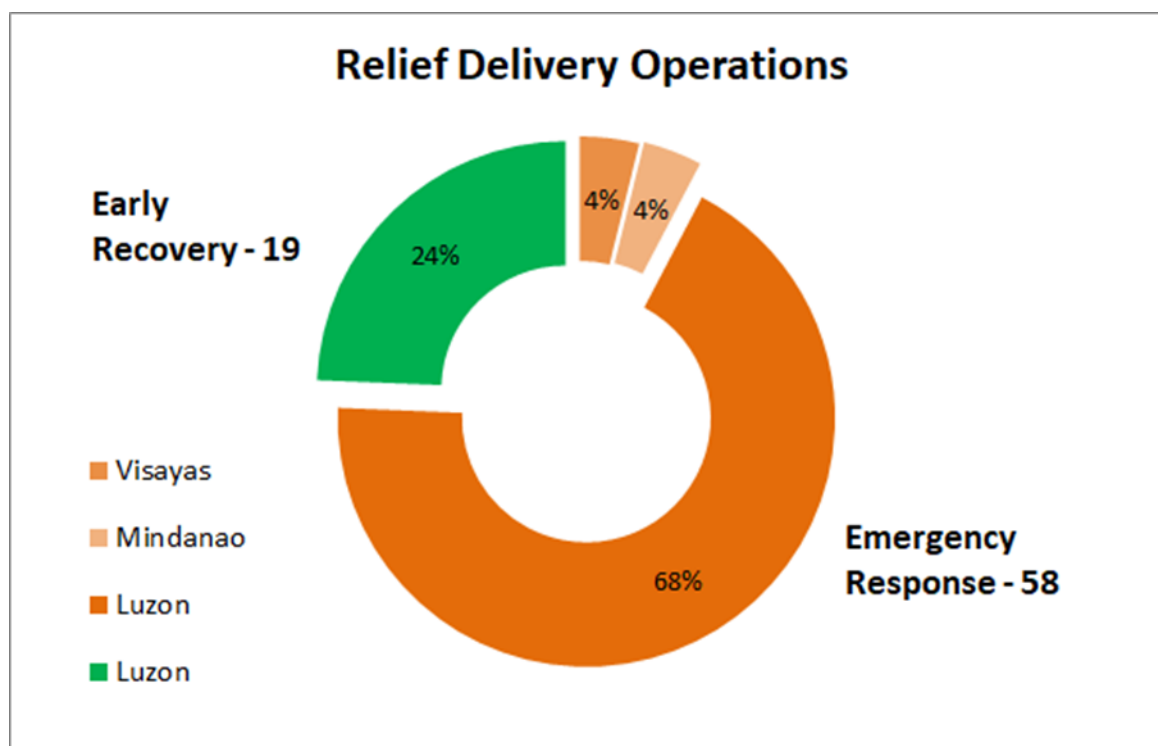
CDRC used internet channels and social networks such as Facebook to promote its activities and campaigns. It made donations possible by setting up convenient ways for people to donate.

CDRC implemented DRR, Emergency Response, Early Recovery, and Rehabilitation Projects with RCs

The CDRC responded to a total 13 disaster events, eight of which occurred in 2020. These disaster incidents were one each for armed conflict, COVID-19 pandemic, fire, Taal volcanic eruption, and four typhoon incidents (typhoons Ambo or Vongfong, Quinta or Molave, Rolly or Goni, and Ulysses or Vamco). The last five were three typhoon incidents (typhoons Ompong or Mangkhut, Ramon or Quiel, and Tisoy or Kammuri), the Cagayan flooding, and an earthquake swarm in Mindanao that happened in the previous year.



There were a total of 77 responses in 2020, of which 58 were emergency responses and 19 were early recovery. Seventy-one of these were implemented in Luzon, three in Mindanao, and three in the Visayas.



Of the 58 emergency responses, six were under the Major Emergency Response (MER) for Covid-19. This was the only major response to an emergency in 2020.

Through the Financial Service Providers, the CDRC and the six RCs (CREST, SRPRC, CorDis-RDS, CRRC, DIRECT, MISFI) initiated the distribution of commodity vouchers worth Php 2,000.00 and multipurpose cash assistance worth Php 3,000. The commodity vouchers, distributed to 1,626 indigent households for food and hygienic protection, were intended to revitalize the local economy of affected areas by engaging with local vendors, crop farmers, fisherfolks, and community-based cooperatives. While addressing the issues of low-income farmers as well as the problem of increasing spoilage of produce brought about by mobility restrictions (harvest cannot be brought to the market), the commodity vouchers also provided beneficiaries with access to lifesaving assistance. In addition to this, the multipurpose cash assistance supplemented their ability to purchase essentials specific to their own particular needs.

Through the Emergency Relief Assistance Fund (ERAF) of CDRC's CORE program, it was able to immediately support four RCs (STPRC, ICRED, TABI, PCDR) for typhoons (Quinta or Molave and Rolly or Goni) and Covid-19 emergency responses benefitting a total of 4,365 families in 20 barangays, 12 municipalities and cities in six provinces.

Overall, the combined emergency and early recovery delivery operations served a total of 16,770 families (or 78,040 individuals) in 116 communities across the country. These barangays were in 59 municipalities and cities in 21 provinces in 12 regions.

Number of Families and Individuals Served Across Barangays

Number of Families - 16,770



Number of Individuals - 78,040



Number of Barangays - 116



■ Luzon
■ Visayas
■ Mindanao

Of the total individuals who benefitted from the relief operations, 89% were located in Luzon, 6% in the Visayas, and 5% in Mindanao.



Figure 23. CDRC/N's beneficiaries

Emergency Response and Early Recovery

Beneficiaries per Disaster Event, 2020



Total Beneficiaries:

Families = 16,770
Individuals = 78,040

Emergency Responses

Disaster Type	# of Responses	Families Served	Individuals Served	Frequency of Disaster Event
Typhoon	51	9,255	42,320	7
Earthquake swarm	1	515	2,213	1
COVID pandemic	15	4,230	22,500	1
Volcanic Eruption	7	2,203	8,627	1
Flooding	1	300	1,500	1
Fire	1	267	800	1
Armed Conflict	1		80	1
TOTAL	77	16,770	78,040	13

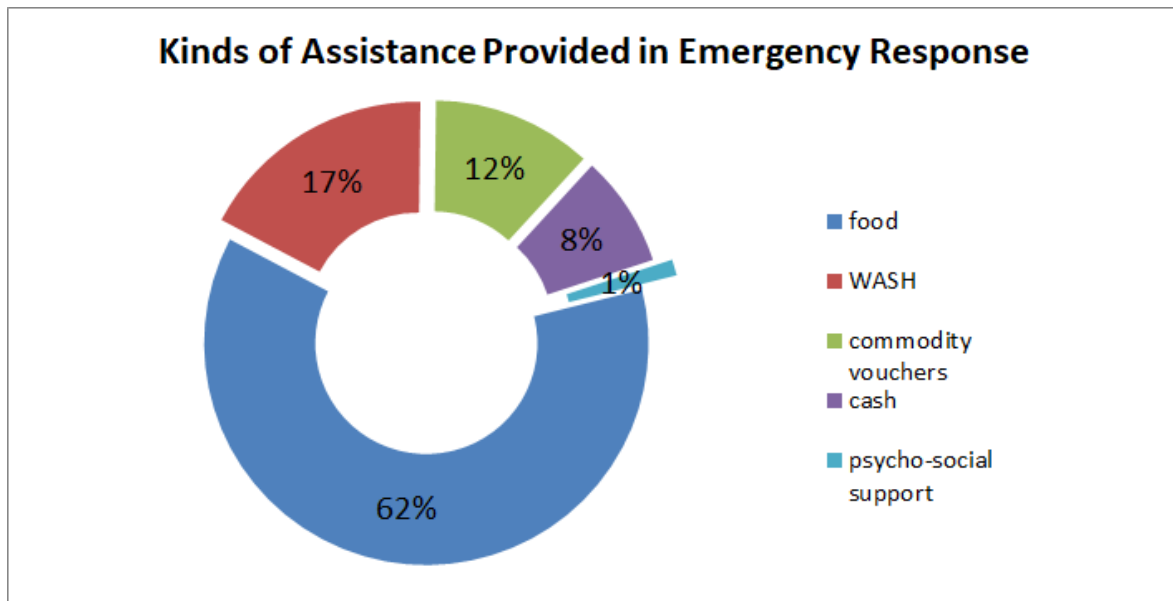
A total of 42,320 individuals benefited from relief operations for typhoons, 2,213 for the earthquake swarm in Mindanao, 22,500 during the COVID pandemic response, 8,627 during the Taal volcano eruption, 1,500 for the Cagayan flooding, 800 for fire, and 80 during an armed conflict incident.

The number of families served reached 9,255 during typhoon responses, the earthquake swarm in Mindanao at 515, the COVID pandemic at 4,230, the Taal volcano eruption at 2,203, flooding at 300, and fire at 80.

In terms of response to disaster types, there were 51 responses for various typhoons, one for the earthquake in Mindanao, 15 for the COVID pandemic, seven for the Taal volcano eruption, and one each for flooding, fire, and armed conflict.



Figure 24. Multi-purpose cash grant for families most affected by Covid-19 in Cotabato (Photo credits: DIRECT, Inc.)



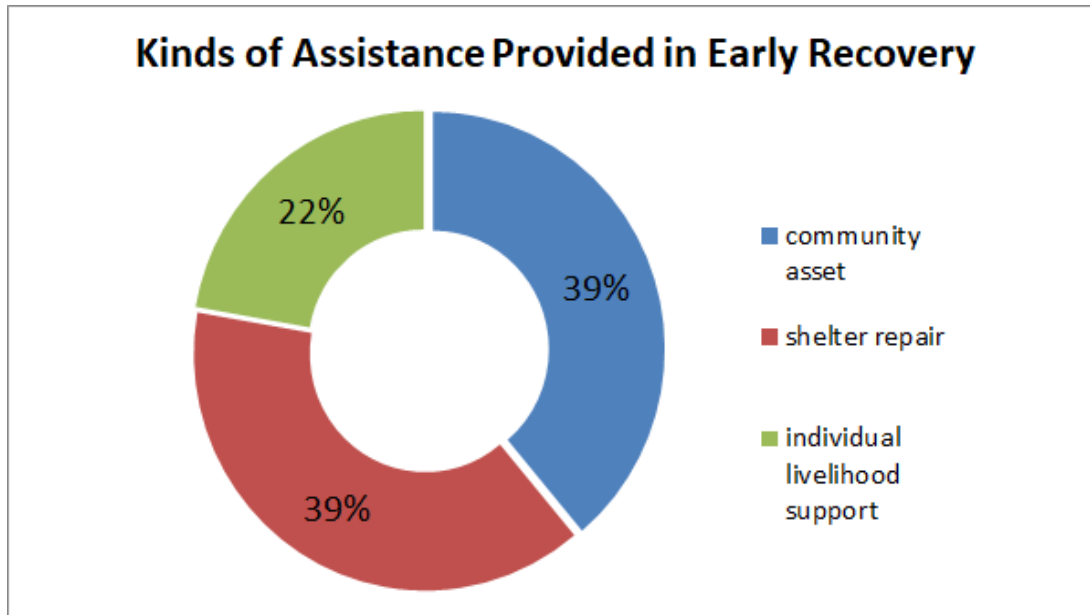
The kinds of assistance provided in emergency response were the following: 53 instances of food assistance, 15 WASH, 10 commodity vouchers, seven cash assistance, and one psycho-social support.



Figure 25. Food and non-food items



Early Recovery Interventions



For early recovery, there were 17 projects that provided community assets in the form of rice cooperatives, solar dryers, potable water systems, an irrigation system, and fishing boats; shelter repair kits; and individual livelihood support in the form of seeds, fertilizers, and fishing gears. These interventions were under the projects “Restoring the Livelihoods of those most affected by Tropical Storms in Luzon”, “Early Recovery Assistance to Families Most Affected by the Cagayan Flooding and Typhoon Ramon (I.N. Kalmaegi)”, and “Shelter and Food Assistance to Ty Kammuri Survivors in Albay, Philippines”.



Capacity Building Projects

The CDRC also implemented capacity building activities with 11 regional partners under the *Enhancing Capacities of RCs and CDRN in Disaster Risk Management for a More Resilient*

Figure 26. Community asset (solar dryer) and individual livelihood support under the Early Recovery Project supported by DKH (Photos by CDRC, CorDis, Inc., and ABI, Inc.)

Peoples and Communities in the Philippines (EnCap II) project. The beneficiaries counted under EnCap II were direct beneficiaries of the 11 RCs' survivor and community-led response projects. The laptop donation to the Bakwit School which was made possible thru iVolunteer's fund drive also falls under capacity building projects.

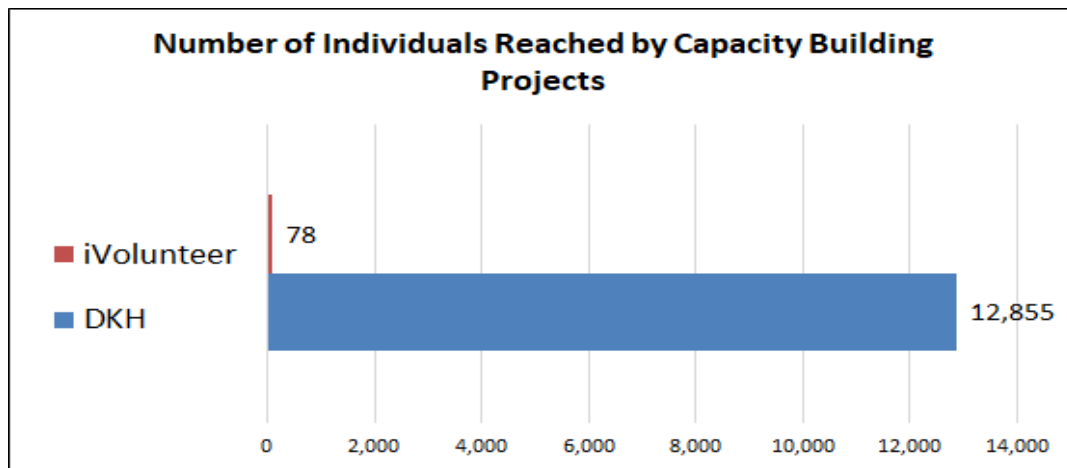


Figure 27. Laptop for Lumad school from iVolunteer

Projects Implemented and Beneficiaries per Region 2020

Total Beneficiaries
Families - 19,103
Individuals - 89,783



Overall, projects implemented in the year 2020 totaled 89: 58 for emergency response, 19 for early recovery, and 12 for capacity development. These interventions benefitted 19,103 families or 89,783 individuals in 159 barangays, in 67 towns or cities, under 24 provinces.

CDRC improved its DRRM Program and Management Mechanisms and Processes

*Capacity building activities were conducted to improve the ability of CDRC to contribute to project design, management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and to work more closely with RCs. CDRC received some training from **the Management Advancement Systems Association, Inc. (MASAI)** and **Climate Change Network for Community-Based Initiatives (CCNCI)** for general institutional development.*

The CBDM Manual was developed in the Filipino language and made available. CDRC's core set of trainers and regional partner Alay Bayan - Luzon, Inc.'s (ABI) Executive Director facilitated the CBDM Training of Trainers as part of the EnCap II project.

CDRC conducted in-house staff capacity training

Fire Training: On February 22, CDRC staff conducted a fire preparedness training, with a practicum on the use of fire extinguishers. It was facilitated by Mr. Jay Kenneth Pamine and Mr. Robert Vallejo of Paranaque Don Galo Fire Fighters, Inc. Local CDRC partners CCNCI, SignRays, PNFSP, MASAI, and Brgy. West Triangle officers also attended the training. A total of 21 participants attended the training.



Figure 28. CDRC staff and representatives of partners learn how to use fire extinguishers during a Fire Preparedness Training facilitated by Don Galo Fire Fighter, Inc.

Mental Health Orientation: On June 27, CDRC, through its Training and HR Departments, conducted a Mental Health and COVID- 19 Discussion. This orientation helped the CDRC staff understand what COVID-19 is and what they could do to protect their mental health amidst the pandemic. Dr. Reginald Pamugas, a volunteer psychiatrist, facilitated the online discussion.

Discussion on the Anti-Terror Act Implementing Rules and Regulations: On October 23, CDRC initiated a discussion on the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Anti-Terror Act. All CDRC staff and CDRN members attended the discussion, which was facilitated by CDRC's legal counsel, Atty. Ma. Cristina Yambot.

CDRC sent staff to external trainings

Office of Civil Defense (OCD) Capacity Building and Training Service: Through DRRnet, CDRC attended the OCD Capacity Building and Training Service, the EOC Executive Course and ARDEX-20 Orientation on February 13-14 2020.

Training on Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform: On March 28, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended an online training on Operational Planning Guidelines and COVID-19 Partners Platform to support country preparedness and response. A certificate of achievement was provided after the discussion and a series of quizzes.

Training on Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) Treatment Facility Design: On April 1, 4, and 6, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended an online training on SARI Treatment Facility Design and Infection Prevention and Control for Novel CoronaVirus.

Child Protection in the COVID-19 Pandemic: On May 14, Sarah Pascua attended the webinar *Child Protection in the COVID-19 Pandemic*. It was an online capacity building intended for social workers and community service providers.

Basics of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health: On August 22, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online Learning Session on the Basics of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health. It was facilitated by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR).

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Training: On September 15 and 17, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online training on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM). It was part of the Resilience Knowledge Exchange Series (RKES) of RILHub.

The training webinar used the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) recently developed crash course on CCCM for camp managers. The shortened, modified course was based on the National Training Program (NTP), and was developed by DSWD to train camp managers during the Taal Volcano eruption early this year.

In addition, DSWD also highlighted and further discussed its May-issued Operational Guidance for CCCM and IDP protection among webinar participants. Resource speakers from DSWD guided the participants through a refresher on fundamental technical knowledge on CCCM. Critical updates and enhancements in the sector were also part of the discussions.

CDRC conducts trainings on DRRM, disaster preparedness, and orientations on CBDM

Training of Trainers

As part of the EnCap2 project, a CBDM Training of Trainers was held on March 8-14 in Casa de Azul Garden Resort in Antipolo City. It was attended by the respective RCs' training officers, field operations officers, and disaster preparedness committee members.

This training rolled out the new edition of the CBDM Manual, increased the knowledge of the participants on the CBDM concepts, and equipped them with the practical strategies and methodologies in conducting the CBDM TOT at the RC level.

CDRC finalizes updated office policies and procedures

CDRC updated its office policies and procedures, and presented them to the Board of Trustees.

On January 24, the Management Committee presented the revised draft of the Pre-Financing Guidelines to the Board of Trustees.

On June 1, the Finance Department created the Accounting Guidelines as annexes for the Regional Partners Cooperation Agreement.

On September 8, the Management Committee drafted an Addendum to the Manual of Operations, Policies, and Procedures (MOPP) which included the Document Retention Policy, Anti-Fraud Policy, and Whistleblower Policy. These were not yet finalized and approved by the BOT.

CDRC conducts regular BOT meetings

On December 22, the Board of Trustees conducted its regular meeting during which the Executive Director presented the year-end report and updated the Board members on the latest CDRC activities.

CDRC expanded its network of partners and volunteers

CDRC and its network facilitated each other's access to diverse national and international platforms, centering on important shared interests. CDRC's network provided opportunities and

facilitated the voice of CDRC to be heard in different arenas. Being part of varied networks generated complementary collaborations for CDRC.

CDRC's networks were enabling in nature, directly or indirectly facilitating information sharing on funding and other vital issues. This was especially helpful for the RCs, who otherwise would not have access to such information. Being part of international and national forums not only helped in getting funds, recognition and credibility, but also provided CDRC with the opportunity to work with like-minded CSOs and articulated voices. Furthermore, networking facilitated synergies between international trends and their adaptation to the country contexts.

CDRC establishes link with partners/potential donors/networks

Set meetings with target partners to explore possible collaborations

Google: CDRC met with Google regarding its planned donation for the communities affected by the Taal Volcano eruption. On [Feb. 4](#), the Google Operation Center and Google Philippines brought food and non-food items as donations for Taal survivors.

GCash: On Feb. 19, Mr. Mikhail Valle, Cora Jazmines and Rachele Baricuatro had a meeting with GCash representatives to discuss possible partnerships on resource generation and cash distribution for emergency assistance. GCash offered the possibility of making CDRC beneficiary of donations for disaster survivors. Unfortunately, this did not materialize during the pandemic.

Oracle Netsuite: On January 6, Ms. Cora Jazmines and Mr. Mikhail Valle had a meeting with Ms. Joanna Pancho of Oracle Netsuite. Ms. Pancho discussed their group's donation program and invited CDRC to become part of it. This was followed up on January 17, when the CDRC attended another meeting with Oracle Netsuite in their office in Makati. CDRC was selected as one of Oracles Netsuite's CSR program beneficiaries.

Oracle Netsuite presented its cloud-based accounting software which offers a suite of applications including planning, financial accounting, etc. The essential features of this software were real-time reporting, faster data recovery, and consolidation of reports, all of which can be accessed through smartphones. This software would be a great help to CDRC, especially in its human resource and warehouse management.



Figure 29. CDRC staff at the Oracle Netsuite office

On Jan. 22, CDRC attended the Philippine International Non-Government Organization Network (**PINGON**) meeting at the CARE Philippines office to monitor and coordinate responses to the Taal volcano eruption.

University of the Philippines Diliman Gender Office (UPDGO): On February 13, Ms. Cora Jazmines, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan, and Ms. Mel Basinang attended a meeting with Mr. Giano Ray Potes and Dr. Nancy Kimuell-Gabriel of the UPDGO. They discussed a potential partnership on activities to commemorate the coming Women's Month (March).



Figure 10. CDRC staff with representatives of the University of the Philippines Diliman Gender Office

CDRC participated in partner activities

Volunteer Meetup Dinner: On February 22, Ms. Cora Jazmines, Ms. Melanie Basinang, and Ms. Teresa Quinawayan attended a [Volunteer Meetup Dinner](#) with different partners from other NGOs, corporate, and media organized by iVolunteer. The dinner was iVolunteer's way of thanking their partners. They also donated Php37,000 to the communities affected by the Taal Volcano eruption.

Mental Health in the Workplace: On February 26, Ms. Cora Jazmines, Ms. Teresa Quinawayan, Ms. Mel Basinang, and Ms. Rizza Estel attended the forum "Mental Health in the Workplace". It was organized by the University of the Philippines-Manila College of Arts and Sciences (UPM-CAS). Dr. Carlo Paolo Castro from the UP-Philippine General Hospital (PGH) was the guest speaker.



Figure 11. CDRC staff get certificates of attendance in the Mental Health in the Workplace forum

OXFAM meeting on SSS SBWS: On April, 17, Rachelle Baricuatro of the Finance Department joined OXFAM's meeting regarding the SBWS (please spell this out) of the Social Security System via Zoom. The staff benefits during the pandemic were discussed.

OXFAM consultation meeting on Cash Programming and Partnership: On June 2, Rachelle Baricuatro of the Finance Department attended Oxfam's consultation meeting on Cash Programming and Partnership via Zoom. This meeting included the CTP Technical Working Group. There were guidelines shared regarding LHL through CVA programming.

CDRC joined three other big networks of DRR stakeholders (Caucus of Development NGOs, Philippine Miserior Partnership Inc., and Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines – National Secretariat for Social Action) in filing a petition with the Supreme Court to declare the Anti-Terror Act of 2020 as unconstitutional.

Co-Creating the New Normal for the Participation of Young People During the COVID-19 Pandemic. On June 12, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Co-Creating the New Normal for the Participation of Young People During the COVID-19 Pandemic* organized by the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC).

The webinar presented the child participation framework and shared practices of adolescent participation during the pandemic. The speakers were Mr. Emmanuel Mapili of CWC, Ms.

Genesis Faderogao of Community and Family Services International, and Mr. Alfred Dicto of the Positive Youth Development Network.

Power to Enrich a Few: Who Gains from CREATE and ATB?: On June 18, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Power to Enrich a Few: Who Gains from CREATE and ATB?* organized by IBON Foundation and CPDG. Mr. Sonny Africa, Ms. Rosario Guzman, and Ms. Audrey De Jesus discussed who will benefit from the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises ACT (CREATE) and the Anti-Terrorism Bill (ATB), how these would impact people's rights, and the path that the economy should be going.

Kapit-Kamay: Mobilizing Communities and Health Advocates to Help Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19: On June 19, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Kapit-Kamay: Mobilizing Communities and Health Advocates to Help Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19* organized by Likhaan. It provided a venue for Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) practitioners and advocates to discuss the pandemic and its impact on SRHR, and agreed-upon actions that concerned sectors could do together.

The speakers were Mr. Alfredo Melgar of Likhaan, Dr. Rontgene Solante of San Lazaro Hospital, Dr. Esperanza Arias of Quezon City Health Office, former Health and DSWD Secretary Dr. Esperanza Cabral, and Dr. Sylvia Claudio of the University of the Philippines-Diliman College of Social Work and Community Development.

#NoLockdownOnRights: UN Human Rights Report on the Philippines and Trends Amid the Pandemic: On June 26, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *#NoLockdownOnRights: UN Human Rights Report on the Philippines and Trends Amid the Pandemic* organized by EcuVoice Philippines.

The webinar provided insights and recommendations on the UN High Commissioner's report on the Philippines and on the impending Philippine government's legislation of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020. Speakers also discussed the independent experts' views on the global issues and challenges regarding the situation of human rights defenders, the freedom of association and assembly and human rights in general amid counter-terrorism laws in the context of the pandemic.

Midyear Birdtalk: On July 21, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Midyear Bird talk organized by IBON Foundation. In observance of important health protocols, the forum was held online. It was attended by civil society groups, academics and researchers, professionals and entrepreneurs, concerned government officials and personnel, and other development partners.

IBON held this semestral economic and political briefing before President Rodrigo Duterte's State of the Nation Address as its contribution to informing the public about key aspects of the country's situation.

Women in the Frontlines – Conflict Amidst COVID: Proteksyon Laban sa Armadong Karahasan:

On July 22, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Women in the Frontlines – Conflict Amidst COVID: Proteksyon Laban sa Armadong Karahasan* organized by the Pambansang Koalisyon ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan (PKKK), in partnership with World March for Women (WMM) and LAPIS Seesaw Channel.

Guest speakers were Ms. Froilyn Mendoza and Ms. Perlita Landigan of Teduray Lambangian Women's Organization, Inc. (TLWOI) who shared stories of struggle to bring peace back to their communities in Maguindanao. Their area had been besieged by armed groups, as well as COVID-19.

AIIB & NDB: Paradigm Shift or Rehashing Corporate-Led Development?: On July 24, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Brownbag Session *AIIB & NDB: Paradigm Shift or Rehashing Corporate-Led Development?* organized by CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) and Reality of Aid-Asia Pacific (RoA-AP).

In this online event, the organizers presented their findings on how the projects of the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank (AIIB) and the New Development Bank (NDB) have affected the communities in Central Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia as well as relevant updates on the banks' performance in their regions.

Nasaan na talaga tayo?: On July 31, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Nasaan na Talaga Tayo? / (Where Exactly Are We)* organized by the Council for People's Development and Governance (CPDG).

The webinar tackled the people's situation six months after the first case of COVID-19 was recorded in the country, and the state of the Philippines' health and economic systems.

The speakers were Ms. Jennifer Guste of IBON and CPDG, Ms. Rochelle Porras of the Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research (EILER), Former Anakpawis Rep. Rafael Mariano, Mr. Leon Dulce of Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment, Prof. Reggie Vallejos of Samahan at Ugnayan ng mga Konsyumer para sa Ikauunlad ng Bayan (SUKI Network), Dr. Gene Nisperos of Community Medicine Development Foundation (COMMED), and Mr. Sonny Africa of IBON Foundation.

The webinar was synthesized by Ms. Liza Maza of WE Govern and CPDG.

PNFSP 15th Anniversary: On August 29, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the Philippine Network of Food Sovereignty Programmes' (PNFSP) 15th anniversary celebration. The originally planned anniversary celebration with PNFSP's General Assembly in August was reduced to an online event because of the quarantine protocols implemented in the country, and transportation was still limited to authorized persons in allowed industries and establishments.

BAI Speaks: Webinar on Development Aggression in Mindanao: On Sept. 16, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *BAI Speaks: Webinar on Development Aggression in Mindanao* organized by the BAI Indigenous Women's Network.

Inter-Generational Dialogue on Martial Law: On September 21, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum *Inter-Generational Dialogue on Martial Law* organized by Green Thumb Coalition (GTC). In this forum, veteran activists from GTC member organizations active during martial law had a conversation with contemporary youth leaders.

CPDG Consultation Meeting: On September 26, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended CPDG's consultation meeting during which the plan of action for the fourth quarter of 2020 was discussed.

Solidarity and Diversity: Is there a Crisis of Solidarity? Have we Lost our Way?: On September 29, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Solidarity and Diversity: Is there a Crisis of Solidarity? Have we Lost our Way?* organized by Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP).

The webinar helped to explore how humanitarian solidarity is expressed, the attitudes and behaviors show solidarity, lessons learned about solidarity during the COVID-19 crisis, impact of the recent discourse on racism and de-colonization on solidarity, and ways forward.

The speakers were Mrs. Rita Nansereko, Executive Director of African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD) based in Uganda; Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, leader of COAST, a CSO working for the coastal poor in Bangladesh; Ms. Regina Antequisa, founding Executive Director of Ecosystems Work for Essential Benefits, Inc. (ECOWEB) and convener of the Community-Led Emergency Action Response Network (CLEARNet) in the Philippines; and Ms. Dorothea Hilhorst, professor of humanitarian studies at the International Institute for Social Studies of Erasmus University in The Hague.

Citizens' Dialogue on Internet Governance: On October 10-11, Ms. Hanna Fiel participated in a dialogue about the internet as a platform for the new normal organized by We, The Internet, through The IO Foundation (TIOF).

The online event gathered 100 ordinary citizens to talk about the internet, the role it had been playing in our lives, what role it might and would be playing in the future, and how it should be governed.

Other than the internet itself, the dialogue also deliberated on topics such as digital identity, digital public sphere, and artificial intelligence. The results of the dialogue were presented in the Internet Governance Forum in November and would be integrated in the report to be submitted to the UN High Panel on Digital Cooperation under the General Secretary's Office.

Innovative and Empowering Partnerships: On Oct. 27, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *Innovative and Empowering Partnerships* organized by the Platform for Humanitarian Exchange in the Netherlands (KUNO) and the Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP).

The webinar explored innovations of the humanitarian system needed to strengthen local leadership, a “new Grand Bargain” that could enhance these systemic innovations, changes donors need to integrate in the funding mechanisms to encourage equitable partnerships and address the power imbalance, and what local actors need to do to build trust and address risks.

BAHAYnihan: Rising Together through Housing: On October 28, CDRC attended the online forum *BAHAYnihan: Rising Together through Housing* organized by Habitat for Humanity Philippines and Habitat’s Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter, in partnership with Center for Research and Communications.

The online forum was held to celebrate World Habitat Day and as part of Urban October. It built awareness of the housing needs and tackled housing issues intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Defending Rights in Southeast Asia Amid Repression, Economic, and Health Crises: On November 6, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the workshop at the 2020 ASEAN People’s Forum entitled “*Defending Rights in Southeast Asia Amid Repression, Economic, and Health Crises*” organized by IBON International, the People’s Coalition for Food Sovereignty (PCFS), the Council for People’s Development and Governance (CPDG), Serikat Perempuan Indonesia (SERUNI), the Coalition of Cambodia Farmers Community (CCFC), Aliansi Gerakan Reforma Agraria (AGRA), and the Reality of Aid-Asia Pacific (RoA-AP).

Five activists and rights defenders from the Philippines, Indonesia, and Cambodia shared their experiences and lessons, and assessed the challenges of prospects for people’s rights in the region in this crucial period.

Rights in Peril: Mothers and Children in Prison in the Philippines: On November 25, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum *Rights in Peril: Mothers and Children in Prison in the Philippines* organized by Tanggol Bayi on the International Day to End Violence Against Women.

The forum reviewed the plight of woman political prisoner Reina Mae Nasino and her late daughter Baby River, and the vulnerabilities and challenges of women in prisons and their children in prisons in the Philippines amid COVID-19.

As a resolution, the participants pushed for recommendations and action points on national and international human rights instruments on women’s rights and against the “cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of women and their children in prisons”.

#SheDefends: Tea Time with Women Human Rights Defenders in the Philippines: On November 29, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum *#SheDefends: Tea Time with Women Human Rights Defenders in the Philippines* conducted to commemorate International Women Human Rights Defenders’ Day. It was organized by Tanggol Bayi-Philippines, in partnership with the International Association of Women in Radio and Television-Philippines, Free Leila De Lima Movement, and EcuVoice Philippines.

The online forum was conducted as a talk show, and informed the public of the plight and might of women and called for greater protection and defense of women's human rights defenders. Journalist Ms. Inday Espina-Varona talked with artists Agot Isidro and Monique Wilson, youth legislator Sarah Elago, human rights activist Tinay Palabay, and Prof. Soc Reyes who represented Sen. Leila De Lima.

Coordination and Representation – Who is Making the Decisions?: On November 30, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the international online *forum Coordination and Representation – Who is Making the Decisions?* organized by the Alliance for Empowering Partnership.

In this dialogue, local and international actors shared their experiences and the way forward to ensure more effective and meaningful participation in coordination mechanisms. The speakers were Dr. Puji Pujiono, Senior Adviser of Pujiono Center in Indonesia; Mr. Ignacio Parker, Executive Director of International Council of Voluntary Agencies; Ms. Marina Skuric Prodanovic, Chief of the System-wide Approach and Practices Section of OCHA; Mr. Takeshi Komino, General Secretary of Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network; Mervat Shelbaya, Head of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Secretariat of TBC; and Mr. Ahmad Muhammad, Executive Director of IDEA in Pakistan.

DestiNasyon: Finding your Advocacy: On December 5, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the webinar *DestiNasyon: Finding your Advocacy* as a guest speaker. This webinar was organized by iVolunteer to commemorate International Volunteer Day. Ms. Fiel discussed disaster preparedness in one of the webinar's breakout rooms.

Kaliwa Low Dam: Kasalukuyang Kalagayan at mga Maka-Kalikasang Alternatibo/Kaliwa Dam:Present Situation and Pro-Environment Alternatives: On October 6, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online public forum *Kaliwa Low Dam: Kasalukuyang Kalagayan at mga Maka-Kalikasang Alternatibo*.

Organized by the United Church of Christ in the Philippines – Integrated Development Program for Indigenous People in Southern Tagalog (UCCP-IDPIP-ST), Water for the People Network (WPN), and Philippine Task Force for Indigenous Peoples' Rights (TFIP), the forum shared updates from communities in relation to the National Centennial Water Source (NCWS)-Kaliwa Low Dam project.

It also discussed the reports from the Commission on Audit (CoA), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), and the petition to the Supreme Court (SC) regarding the onerous loan provided by the Chinese government to fund this project.

The network also discussed actions that could be undertaken while there is a pandemic and ways forward, which included legal remedies, collective actions, and lobbying for ecologically sustainable alternatives.

Contributions of Civil Society Activism in Philippine Society: On December 7, Ms. Cora Jazmines and Ms. Minet Aguisanda were invited as speakers in an online forum on the Contributions of Civil Society Activism in Philippine Society.

The online forum was organized by the Council for People's Development and Governance (CPDG) as part of their actions leading up to the Global Day of Action 2020 on International Human Rights Day. It brought into the consciousness of people that many benefits that Philippine society is enjoying today were, for the most part, results of the relentless efforts and struggles of CSOs, activists and organized communities in asserting the Filipino people's rights and welfare.

CPDG Spokesperson Ms. Liza Maza opened the activity. Speakers, including CDRC and LCDE shared briefly the history of their struggles and their concrete contributions to change. The Concerned Artists of the Philippines performed a cultural presentation. Philippine Open Government Partnership CSO Representative Mr. Sandino Soliman gave his reaction to the speakers. An open forum followed before the program was synthesized and closed by IBON Executive Director Mr. Sonny Africa.

Human Rights Emergency in the Philippines: On December 8, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum Human Rights Emergency in the Philippines organized by Karapatan together with Rise Up for Life and for Rights, Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines, the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines, and the Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development.

This online event provided updates on the human rights situation in the Philippines, particularly on extrajudicial killings and challenges to press freedom, civic and democratic space in the country, and the continuing need to press for justice and accountability.

Forum speakers included Human Rights Commissioner Karen Dumpit, Atty. Chel Diokno of the Free Legal Assistance Group, National Union of Journalists of the Philippines Chairperson Mr. Nonoy Espina, and Ms. Cristina Palabay of Karapatan.

What's Behind the Red-Tagging Spree?: On December 11, Ms. Hanna Fiel attended the online forum *What's Behind the Red-Tagging Spree?* organized by the Council for People's Development and Governance, in cooperation with Movement Against Tyranny, Free Leila De Lima Movement, One Faith One Voice One Nation, and Concerned Lawyers for Civil Liberties. The online forum was moderated by veteran journalist Inday Espina-Varona. Speakers included journalist Joel Pablo Salud who discussed red-tagging as an attack on dissent and freedom of expression. Former COMELEC Commissioner Atty. Gregorio Larrazabal and Kabataan Partylist Rep. Sarah Elago talked about red-tagging and its implications on the 2022 elections. Dean Antonio La Vina discussed red-tagging as a means to evade public scrutiny and accountability.

Conclusion

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept the Philippines, CDRC and CDRN responded nimbly and effectively, providing frontline help and promoting CBDM. This report highlighted the irreplaceable role of CDRC and CDRN during the pandemic to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and create a better post-pandemic country.

This report outlined the many ways CDRC and CDRN responded to the crisis. They took on the crucial role of providing essential services when there were gaps. CDRC and CDRN provided food, personal protective equipment (PPE) and essential sanitary items, often filling the void when the government was slow to respond.

CDRC and CDRN also stepped in when official communication channels failed to give people accurate information about how to protect themselves and their families from COVID-19. By using creative methods and working in diverse Philippine languages, CDRC and CDRN were able to disseminate important information to different communities.

Often CDRC and CDRN responded when others failed to act, working to fill gaps left by the government and private sector. In region after region, CDRC and CDRN scrambled to meet the needs of communities most affected by the crisis.

In the face of these challenges, CDRC and CDRN adopted a can-do mindset, mounting a positive response characterized by flexibility, creativity, and innovation.

CDRC and CDRN devoted a large part of its response to helping at-risk and excluded groups adversely affected by lockdowns and policies put in place by the government to curb the spread of COVID-19. Locked indoors, women faced greater risk of gender-based violence, while LGBTQI+ people, migrants and other minority groups were looked down upon as sources of infection. CDRC and CDRN rose to the challenge, campaigning for policies to protect excluded groups and creating remote services to help vulnerable communities.

When LGUs partnered with RCs, or when they create an enabling environment to facilitate the work of RCs, their collaborative response to the spread of COVID-19 and other disasters was much more effective.

CDRC and CDRN provided road maps to build more disaster prepared, responsive, resilient and sustainable communities. It called for accountability through respect of democratic values, institutions and state responsibility to provide quality basic services such as health, housing, and education. It demanded redistribution of resources to provide social protection for the vulnerable and enhanced focus on environmental protection, rather than militarism. CDRC and CDRN also urged international cooperation and respect for people-centered multilateralism.

CBDM was key during the pandemic. Community action sprang up across the country as DPCs worked together to meet the needs of vulnerable people and those most at risk to infection, and facilitated the sharing of community resources. Many protests went online and people

found alternative, creative ways of making their voices heard without breaking health protocols on physical distancing.

CDRC and CDRN also took on the role of rights defenders where authoritarian leaders used COVID-19 as a pretext to clamp down on civic rights and freedoms.

Throughout the year, CDRC and CDRN demonstrated commitment, perseverance, resilience, creativity and adaptability in performing their tasks. They persisted in helping vulnerable people to make their voices heard at a time when dissent is being suppressed and fundamental rights and freedoms are deprived from citizens.



2020