

**Building Dreams with Others** 

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HELPING COMMUNITIES COPE WITH COVID-19

p02



PROMOTING FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR THE YOUTH

p03



CONDUCTING ONLINE FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING SESSIONS

p03



CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FINANCIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR OFWS







Waiting lounge for senior citizens in Cauayan City Health Office I in Isabela



The school building in Tiwi Community College in Albay was one of several structures that underwent maintenance work.

# Upkeep of health centers and school buildings completed

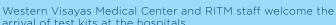
After it has completed the rehabilitation of rural health units and the construction of school buildings, BDO Foundation continues to monitor the structures, making sure they are in the best condition for the optimal use of patients and health workers, students and teachers. In line with its rehabilitation program, the foundation revisited rural health units and school buildings to conduct maintenance work on finished projects.

Included in the maintenance were Aborlan Municipal Health Office in Palawan; Cauayan City Health Office I in Isabela; Doña Isabel C. Climaco Main Health Center in Zamboanga del Sur; Milagros Municipal Health Center in Masbate; Municipal Health Office Virac in Catanduanes; Pastrana Municipal Health Center in Leyte; Polomolok Municipal Health Center in South Cotabato; and Sta. Barbara Rural Health Unit and Birthing Center in Pangasinan.

The initiative also covered the two-storey, four-classroom school buildings BDO Foundation has constructed in Ampayon Central Elementary School in Agusan del Norte; Pasonanca National High School in Zamboanga City; Pis-anan National High School in Antique; and Tiwi Community College in Albay.









Food packs ready for distribution to residents of Santa Rosa, Laguna

### COVID-19 response update: Test kits and food packs donated

As part of on-going efforts to support disadvantaged communities affected by COVID-19, BDO Foundation donated test kits and relief packs to beneficiaries across the country.

The foundation distributed close to 10,000 reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction or RT-PCR test kits to 10 hospitals. The recipients were QualiMed Hospital in Bulacan; Northern Mindanao TB Reference Center in Cagayan de Oro; De La Salle University Medical Center and Ospital ng Imus in Cavite; QualiMed Health Network and Western Visayas Medical Center in Iloilo; and Research Institute of Tropical Medicine, The Medical City, UERM Memorial Medical Center and Victoriano Luna Medical Center in Metro Manila. The hospitals used the test kits for frontliners and people who cannot afford the high costs of testing.

Supported by local government units, the corporate social responsibility arm of BDO Unibank also distributed 8,000 relief packs containing food, rice and drinking water to underprivileged families in cities with high COVID-19 incidence as well as barangays still on lockdown. Beneficiaries included residents of Bacoor, Cavite; Caloocan City; San Jose del Monte, Bulacan; and Santa Rosa, Laguna.



BDO Cotabato-Midsayap branch head Ronald Alonzo turns over the donation to the Office of the Municipal Health Services Midsayap in North Cotabato.



Frontliners of Zarraga Rural Health and Birthing Center in Ilaila walcome the arrival of the products



BDO Roxas-Pueblo de Panay branch head Jojie Aga-in turns over the donation to Roxas City Main Health Center in Capiz.

#### Beneficiaries receive healthcare products

In response to the novel coronavirus pandemic, the corporate social responsibility arm of BDO Unibank continued to take steps to help Filipinos cope with COVID-19.

Thousands of families all over the country received mother- and child-friendly products courtesy of Beiersdorf Philippines in partnership with BDO Foundation. The corporate citizenship initiative was made possible by Beiersdorf, the global skincare company behind the Nivea brand, which donated more than 13,000 baby soap bars and over 3,000 bottles of lotion.

BDO Foundation distributed the items to the rural health units it has rehabilitated. Located in economically disadvantaged and disaster-affected areas across the country, these health centers—most of which have birthing clinics—house facilities that address the healthcare needs of mothers and babies.

The donation also reached Batangas City, Sto. Tomas City, Tagaytay City and Tanauan City residents, beneficiaries of the foundation's relief operations early this year for evacuees affected by the eruption of Taal Volcano.

The turn over of items was made possible with the support of BDO and BDO Network Bank branches all over the country.

BDO Foundation and Beiersdorf Philippines have previously partnered for the rehabilitation of nine rural health units in Aklan, Capiz, Iloilo, Leyte, Northern Cebu, Pangasinan and Western Samar. The partners have also co-funded the donation of hospital furniture and basic medical equipment to these rural health units.



Selected officers participated in the financial education training organized by BDO Foundation, the AFP and BSP prior to the pandemic.

#### Online training of trainers conducted

BDO Foundation, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Civil Service Commission (CSC), Philippine National Police (PNP), and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) organized training sessions for officials tasked to teach financial literacy lessons to target audiences across the country.

The initiative was aimed at improving the teaching skills of subject matter experts so they can provide AFP, BFP, CSC and PNP personnel with the knowledge, skills and tools to make sound financial decisions.

More than 150 officers participated in the workshops facilitated by BSP's Center for Learning and Inclusion Advocacy before the pandemic and during the general community quarantine. Key lessons discussed at the training of trainers included saving, budgeting and financial planning, debt management, investing, fraud and scam prevention, and consumer protection.

The training is part of the partners' concerted efforts to help the armed forces, civil servants, and BFP and police personnel achieve financial independence. It is in line with BDO Foundation's financial inclusion advocacy and BSP's National Strategy for Financial Inclusion.



The training sessions were conducted by officers of BSP's Center for Learning and Inclusion Advocacy.











The event featured messages of congratulations and support from BDO Unibank president and CEO and BDO Foundation trustee Nestor V. Tan, BDO Foundation president Mario Deriquito, DepEd secretary Leonor Magtolis-Briones and BSP governor Benjamin Diokno.

#### Outstanding finlit videos recognized

Recognizing the exceptional talent of the Filipino youth, BDO Foundation, the Department of Education (DepEd) and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) awarded the outstanding financial literacy videos developed by public school students as part of Sineliksik, the video-making competition of DepEd's annual National Festival of Talents.

The corporate social responsibility arm of BDO Unibank, DepEd and BSP honored the winning entries at the Sineliksik 2020 Online Awards Ceremony, a virtual event viewed by more than 100,000 students and teachers across the country. The ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of awards to 16 regional and five national winners.

Sineliksik 2020 was aimed at increasing awareness of the financial education program for public schools, the partnership project of BDO Foundation, DepEd and BSP. The competition was organized in line with the partners' shared advocacy to promote financial inclusion and efforts to integrate financial education in the K to 12 curriculum.

Junior and senior high school students from all over the Philippines participated in the contest. Teams composed of two contestants coached by a teacher produced original videos on financial literacy. In only eight hours, participants conceptualized, shot and edited their material, covering topics like saving, budgeting and prioritizing needs over wants.

BDO Foundation president Mario Deriquito lauded the creativity of the students, saying, "Not only are the videos well made, they are also learner-appropriate and developed in the context of the various regions around the country."

"Through our support for Sineliksik 2020, we hope to create interest among young people to learn more about financial literacy. We hope too that DepEd considers all the winning videos as part of its learning resources on financial education," he added.

BDO Foundation's sponsorship of Sineliksik 2020 resulted in the development of more than 60 learner-generated videos. The foundation sponsored the medals and cash incentives the students received as well as the laptops and LCD projectors awarded to the winning schools.



The financial literacy video produced by students of General Santos City Sped Integrated School was declared the 1st place national winner.



BDO Network Bank branches helped in the distribution of the prizes to the winning schools.





The awards recognized BDO Foundation's efforts to help improve financial literacy in the Philippines.



In light of COVID-19 restrictions, this year's Retail Banking Awards and Asia Responsible Enterprise Awards were presented in virtual events.



### Financial education program for OFWs wins int'l awards

Each year, the corporate social responsibility arm of BDO Unibank receives recognition for its initiatives. This year is no different.

For its efforts to promote financial inclusion and help raise financial literacy levels in the Philippines, BDO Foundation was awarded by Singapore-based finance publication *Asian Banking & Finance* and international non-governmental organization Enterprise Asia. The foundation was honored for the financial education program for overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), its partnership project with the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

Asian Banking & Finance conferred the Financial Inclusion Initiative of the Year Award in an online presentation of Retail Banking Awards 2020. According to the publication, "For showcasing a strong initiative to drive financial education among the country's citizens both within and outside the country as well as supporting key government agencies in monitoring and evaluating the state of financial education programs in place, BDO Foundation is deservedly taking home the award."

Enterprise Asia, on the other hand, presented its award at the Asia Responsible Enterprise Awards 2020, a virtual event witnessed by thousands of viewers across the continent. Out of the more than 200 entries submitted from 19 countries, the financial education program was among 81 honored at the online ceremony. BDO Foundation was one of only two Philippine organizations recognized as other awardees were based in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, among other countries.

Asked about the achievements of the program, BDO Foundation president Mario Deriquito said, "Together with OWWA and BSP, we developed educational materials now being used in the training programs for OFWs and their families. We trained more than 500 subject matter experts tasked to teach OFWs at the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars. Ultimately, we institutionalized financial education in OWWA's initiatives."

"These prestigious awards celebrate our successful collaboration with OWWA and BSP. They reaffirm our reputation as a staunch advocate of financial education," Deriquito remarked.

Through the on-going initiative, BDO Foundation contributes to OWWA's capacity to provide financial education for OFWs as it supports the implementation of BSP's National Strategy for Financial Inclusion. The foundation helps beneficiaries achieve financial independence so they can come back to the country and contribute more productively to the Philippine economy. The award-winning program initially benefits an estimated 2.3 million OFWs and more than 10 million migrant workers in the long term.

It is the fourth consecutive year that BDO Foundation has received awards from both *Asian Banking & Finance* and Enterprise Asia. Last year, the foundation was feted for the financial education program for public schools, its tripartite initiative with the Department of Education and BSP. In previous years, BDO Foundation was cited for constructing resettlement homes for persons with disabilities displaced by Typhoon Yolanda and rehabilitating rural health units in economically disadvantaged communities all over the country.

#### **BDO Foundation, Inc.**

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We would like to hear from you. Send us your feedback and tell us how we can build lives together.

The AFP training of trainers and ADB workshops were conducted before the COVID-19 quarantine. Special thanks to Haj Javier of BSP for contributing photos to this issue.



ADB consultant Anna Taketani (standing right) coaches workshop participants.



DepEd officers discussed recent inroads made by the financial education program for public schools.

## DepEd financial education workshops completed

BDO Foundation, the Department of Education (DepEd) and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) organized a series of workshops as part of the financial education program for public schools, the partnership project of the foundation, DepEd and BSP.

Conducted by consultants from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the workshops were designed to develop tools for measuring the impact of the program on public school teachers, non-teaching personnel and students. They were highlighted by discussions on the Financial Education Integration Policy and Roadmap as well as the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System for Financial Education.

Officially launched last year at BSP's Financial Education Stakeholders Expo, the M&E system will help the partners assess the gains of the financial education program and identify opportunities for growth. Through the roadmap, DepEd will set guidelines for the integration of financial education concepts in learning areas across all grade levels.

Participated in by more than 20 DepEd officers, the workshops were also attended by BDO Foundation program director Rose Espinosa, DepEd director Joyce Andaya, BSP managing director Pia Roman Tayag and ADB senior specialist Kelly Hattle.