## HARVEST

A quarterly publication for LANDBANK's Clients and Partners Vol. VIII, No. 4 January 2014



## Banking on the Filipino spirit







LANDBANK CARES Program & Other Rehabilitation Efforts

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Building through hope and strength: LANDBANK CARES Program & other rehabilitation efforts after Typhoon Yolanda

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Of brews, bamboos, and new beginnings

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- The new ambassadors of agriculture

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Recognitions Received

- · Excellence in Economy and Ecology Award
- Certificate of Appreciation
- Top Customer Award

Our fellow Filipinos need our help more than ever.

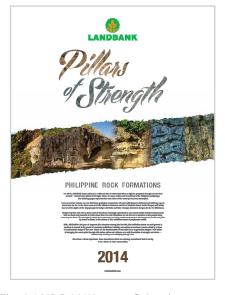
No amount is too small, no effort is too insignificant. LANDBANK has opened savings accounts for those who wish to make monetary pledges to help sustain the much needed aid to those affected by Typhoon Yolanda.

Just visit any LANDBANK branch across the country.

Account name

Donation for Victims of Typhoon "Yolanda" International code name "Haiyan"

For Peso SA #: 3406-1940-42 For Dollar SA#: 3404-0323-80



The LANDBANK 2014 Calendar out now

#### About the Cover

Resilience is the word that has immediately spread to describe the Filipino in the wake of the most destructive force to hit the country in recent memory. The hope and mental strength displayed by those affected by Typhoon Yolanda is anything but ordinary.



### Harvest Magazine Editorial Staff

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LANDBANK CORPORATE COMMUNICATORS

#### **NOTES FROM THE TOP**

LANDBANK's efforts to rebuild has been especially significant in the last quarter of 2013 in light of recent tragedies as we bear witness to the invaluable support of our employees across the country. Along with the Board of Directors and President and CEO, we commend our employees' spirit of camaraderie and resiliency which have been felt by our fellow Filipinos through their generous financial and other aid contributions, and acts of volunteerism.

Ending on a high note is what any institution would want to accomplish as the year 2013 came to a close. Yet, we cannot deny the huge impact recent natural calamities have made on our economy and national spirit. It is this very reason that LANDBANK needs to continue in its mission as a financial institution of delivering quality service in a timely fashion and providing the necessary assistance to help fulfill its mandate to the people.

Even before Typhoon Yolanda hit our shores, the LANDBANK CARES Program under the Agricultural and Development Lending Sector was already crafted to meet the challenges that go hand in hand with rehabilitation efforts resulting from natural calamities. As a public institution, it is our responsibility to aid in restoring socio-economic activities and remain accessible to the people in need in such trying times. We hope that this program and other financial initiatives of LANDBANK would be fully utilized by our clients, partners and friends, whether the need be immediate, temporary or long-term in nature.



The year 2013 has also been replete with thanksgiving as we paid tribute to our clients and partners for their outstanding work for countryside development. From the Gawad PITAK during our anniversary season, we continued with the search for outstanding Countryside Financial Institutions and conferment of the Gawad Entrepreneur for 2013. We are also proud to hold the first ever recognition event for our corporate clients with the Gawad sa Korporasyon na KAagapay sa Ating GAnap na tagumPAY, or Gawad KAAGAPAY.

Having celebrated the season in our own special ways, we hope that we continue to find meaning in the work we do and in the lives we lead, as Landbankers and as private citizens.

CECILIA C. BORROMEO Executive Vice President for Agricultural and Development Lending

Leading the programs and initiatives of the Agricultural and Development Lending Sector is Executive Vice President Cecilia C. Borromeo.

Accomplished in the fields of agribusiness and bank management, EVP Borromeo is responsible for the effective operations of the 42 LANDBANK lending units across the country. Translating to the sector's overall management is her extensive experience in corporate, global, and wholesale banking as well as in public sector lending.

As part of LANDBANK's senior management, EVP Borromeo is active in various Bank committees, including her role as Chairman of the Credit Committee.

#### PARTNERSHIPS AT WORK

## Season for Giving

LANDBANK recognized its outstanding Bank-assisted small and medium entrepreneurs and corporations during the Gawad Entrepreneur and Gawad KAAGAPAY awarding ceremonies held last December 11 at the Diosdado Macapagal Hall, LANDBANK Plaza.

Leading the conferment were LANDBANK President and CEO Gilda Pico, Directors Crispino Aguelo and Victor Gerardo Bulatao, and Executive Vice President for Agricultural and Development Lending Sector Cecilia Borromeo. They were joined by the eveneing's guest of honor Mr. Manuel Pangilinan, Chairman, PLDT Group.

"If you're sitting on the cement steps of your house which got blown away by Yolanda, or sleeping on the dirt floor of an evacuation center in Zamboanga City, or looking for your loved ones buried under the earthquake rubble in Bohol, it is hard to imagine that you have a future. But entrepreneurs like yourselves have a duty to offer hope, to inspire with the idea that redemption is possible—that with every tragedy comes the chance of renewal," said Mr. Pangilinan in his keynote speech.









- 1. Entrepreneur of the Year Nora Liwanag (2nd from right) receives the award with her son, Francis Liwanag (center)
- 2. LANDBANK President and CEO Gilda Pico with Sps. Guillerma and Macario Tacbianan 3. Non-agri-based Entreprenuer Sps. Amelia and Emmanuel Santos and company posing with LANDBANK EVP for Agricultural and Development Lending Sector Cecilia Borromeo and VP Filipina Monje among others
- 4. Sps. Salvador and Nova Veluz with Mr. Manuel Pangilinan, Chairman, PLDT Group

#### **National Winners**

LANDBANK Entrepreneur of the Year NORA C. LIWANAG RE Liwanag Ricemill - Roxas, Oriental Mindoro

Outstanding Agri-based Entrepreneur SPS. AMELIA & EMMANUEL SANTOS Masagana Commercial - Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya

Outstanding Non-agri-based Entrepreneur SPS. MARIA NOVA & SALVADOR VELUZ Buddy's Restaurant - Lucban, Quezon

Bagong Bayani Entrepreneur SPS. GUILLERMA & MACARIO TACBIANAN M & G Trading - San Jose City, Nueva Ecija

#### **Regional Winners**

Agri-based Entrepreneur
SPS. MACARIA & GUIDO BAGSIC
GID Ricemill - Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Non-agri-based Entrepreneur RENATO P. ALCERA Takara International Export Corporation - Taytay, Rizal

SPS. NOREEN & JOSE RAYMUNDO NAVARRO AM/PM Lodge, 24/7 INN, Isabela Pawnshop - Solano, Nueva Vizcaya

SENEN C. OUANO
Senen's Mountain Resort and Catering Services
- Liloan, Cebu

SPS. DINAH JOY & ARIEL ARAO AJ Bakeshop, Foodhaus, Deli Foodline, Molave Guest House -Molave, Zamboanga del Sur

#### The Gawad Entrepreneur

Every year for the past decade, the Land Bank of the Philippines has been a firm supporter of the outstanding efforts by individuals and enterprises working toward countryside development.

The 2013 winners have made valuable impressions of positive change on the people and communities they wholeheartedly serve.











Representing the Gawad KAAGAPAY top winners of the night (clockwise from top): PA Alvarez Chairman Romarico Alvarez and President Jonathan Lu; Biotech Farms, Inc. Chief Operations Manager Esbern So; Duros Development Corporation Chairman Rafaelito Barino and Corporate Secretary Fe Barino; and Agumil Chairman and CEO Lim Chan Lok and Finance Manager Frances Lim.

#### The Gawad KAAGAPAY

Celebrating meaningful partnerships in the private sector that have sprung opportunities of growth and models of success, LANDBANK takes great pride in putting the spotlight on its corporate clients.

The Gawad sa Korporasyon na Kaagapay sa Ating Ganap na Tagumpay or Gawad KAAGAPAY made its debut in 2013.



#### **National Winners**

Large Agri-based 1st Place AGUMIL PHILS., INC. Mandaue City, Cebu

*1st Runner-up*RAM FOOD PRODUCTS, INC.
Makati City

Large Non-Agri-based 1st Place P.A. ALVAREZ PROPERTIES & DEV'T. CORP. San Pedro, Laguna

*Ist Runner-up*PHILIPPINE BXT CORPORATION
Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu

Midsized Agri-based 1st Place BIOTECH FARMS, INC. Banga, South Cotabato

*Ist Runner-up*FEREX AGROCHEM DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Makati City

2nd Runner-up MARCELA FARMS, INC. Tagbilaran City, Bohol

Midsized Non-agri-based 1st Place DUROS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Liloan, Cebu

*1st Runner-up*ATLANTICA REALTY DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Novaliches, Quezon City

2nd Runner-up
GOTHONG SOUTHERN SHIPPING LINES, INC.
Cebu City

#### **Regional Winners**

Midsized Non-agri-based Luzon PHILIPPINE TREASURES, INC. Baguio City

Visayas ESKAYA BEACH RESORT CORPORATION Panglao, Bohol

Mindanao ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL, INC. General Santos City



How does a person get back on one's feet right after a devastation so grand that there is practically nothing left to even pick up from the ruins? This has been the proverbial question for thousands of people in the Visayas region in the wake of what is considered the strongest typhoon to make landfall anywhere in the world in recent memory. Super Typhoon Haiyan, locally known as Yolanda, struck on November 8, 2013 in central Philippines and forever changed the landscape not just of those in the Visayas, but of the country and the Filipino psyche.

The Land Bank of the Philippines was not exempted from the destructive force of Typhoon Yolanda. All our six branches, namely: Naval in Biliran, Bogo in Cebu, and Baybay, Ormoc, Tacloban Main, and Tacloban Real in Leyte suffered damages to infrastructure.

With sustained winds of 315 km/hr, it first made landfall in Guiuan, Eastern Samar before making five more landfalls in various parts of Samar Island and most prominently in Tacloban, Leyte. The overwhelming damage caused by the tropical cyclone has left hundreds of thousands without access to even the most basic of needs, and has caused thousands of lives in its wake.

#### CARING TO REBUILD

Timely to aid rehabilitation efforts, LANDBANK has earmarked P30 billion under the LANDBANK Calamity Rehabilitation Support (CARES) Program to help victims recover from destruction brought about by natural calamities. This is in support of the government's continuing effort to restore economic and social activities and accessibility in calamity-affected areas.

Under the LANDBANK CARES Program, existing customers may avail of loan restructuring. Short term loans may be extended up to a maximum of three years, inclusive of a maximum of one-year grace period on principal payment. For term loans, tenor can be extended for additional three years over the remaining term of the loan at the time of calamity, with a maximum grace period of three years on principal payment. Meanwhile, both existing and new customers may also avail of rehabilitation credit programs. Eligible borrowers include Local Government Units (LGUs), home buyers, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), cooperatives and NGOs, and countryside financial institutions (CFIs).

For LGUs, loans are available for the repair of existing facilities or equipment and construction or acquisition of new facilities or equipment. Loanable amounts depend on the actual need of the project or up to 85 percent of the project cost, whichever is lower, but should be within the LGU's net borrowing capacity. Interest rate is fixed at six percent per annum for 10 years and six and a half percent for 15 years.

Home buyers, on the other hand, may avail of loans under the LANDBANK CARES – Lingkod para sa Pabahay (LINGAP) Program for repair of existing housing units or construction or purchase of new ones at a fixed interest rate of five per annum for the first year and six percent per annum, fixed for the second to fifth year. Thereafter, the interest rate shall either be fixed or variable based on less than one percent of the regular rate, but such rate shall not fall below six percent per annum. Also at a fixed six percent per year are loans under the "LANDBANK CARES Program- Kaagapay sa Negosyo (KaNegosyo)", which is ideal for affected SMEs in need of additional working capital or financial assistance

#### Land Bank of the Philippines











for repair of existing faiclities and purchase or acquisition of new ones.

Interested cooperatives and NGOs may take advantage of either Livelihood Financing to augment their credit fund for on-lending to small farmers and fisherfolk (SFFs) or MSME members and sub-borrowers, or Home Lending to provide them with additional credit fund for the housing loan requirements of their members/borrowers. And fixed at an interest rate of four and a half percent annually, short-term or term loans are convenient options for CFIs in need of additional working capital for on-lending and rediscounting to SFFs and MSMEs and other types of borrowers.

#### PARTNERING FOR STRENGTH

LANDBANK is also a partner institution in the HelpPH campaign initiated by the Philippine Disasater Recovery Foundation (PDRF). This campaign is a global and multi-channel fund drive aimed at rebuilding communities affected by Yolanda through mobile phone load donations. Other channels for donation are money transfer facilities of Western Union and i-Remit, including over-the-counter transactions in all 340 LANDBANK branches. The partnership also taps into the Bank's ability to help create sustainable livelihood that would give affected families the opportunity to a fresh start.

December 23, 2013 marked the official launch of the United Nations Development Programme's Cashfor-Work Program at Tacloban Main Branch. Attended by partner institutions from the public and private sectors, the program aims to provide income for the many Filipinos rendered jobless by the disaster.

Meanwhile, according to PDRF Chairman Manuel Pangilinan, as the National Government is making plans to rebuild the typhoon-hit provinces, the private sector would do its part to find solutions, together with the UNDP, international aid agencies, and other non-government organizations.

#### TAKING INITIATIVE

In spite of the damages to its own facilities, LANDBANK worked relentlessly in order for its operations in Tacloban to resume immediately after Yolanda struck.

Story continued on page 9.

- 1. LANDBANK Tacloban Main Branch, afterTyphoon Yolanda
- 2. LANDBANK Tacloban Main Branch, as of December 23, 2013
- 3. LANDBANK Executive Vice President for Agricultural and Development Lending Sector Cecilia Borromeo (2nd from left) the CARES Program with Taytay sa Kauswagan Inc. Executive Director Angelo Sarte and Board of Trustee Franklin Lopez. With them are LANDBANK First Vice President for Visayas Lending Group Joselito Gutierrez (left) and Department Manager Vivian Cañonero of Iloilo Lending Center.
- 4. HelpPH campaign launch at the PLDT Corporate Office, Makati as attended by various private and public partner representatives.
- Launch of United Nations Development Programme's Mobile Cash-for-Work Program attended by LANDBANK President Gilda Pico and other top officials. Hand in hand with them are Tacloban Mayor Alfred Romualdez (4th from front right), and representatives from UNDP, Department of Social Welfare and Development, and SMART Communications among others.



Sometimes, even the slightest ripple in the water can be seen amidst a sea of chaos. A crazy thought for some, but not an impossibility. Taking advantage of the fundamentals of society and nature, the Land Bank of the Philippines brings forth these stories of social change, sustainable innovation, and new thinking in agriculture.

## The princess and the beans

In a place that has been eclipsed by civil and political strife, one might find it hard to imagine a life of selfless initiative and positivism. Yet, one female has managed to reach out in the community, in a region where great opportunities for change were literally just lying on the streets.

Enter Princess Kumalah Sug-Elardo, the woman behind the People's Alliance for Progress Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PAP-MC), producer of the Sulu Royal Coffee brand.

Princess Lalah as she is more commonly known, was born in Sulu, descending from Muslim royalty. Moving to Zamboanga where she settled to have a family, she never really had a good enough reason to come back, nor a better reason to keep visiting a place where life was anything but peaceful. But, as fate would have it, she did return -- initially to keep tabs on her daughter, a medical school graduate who went to Sulu to render rural service.

She noticed how the people would intentionally leave the coffee beans on the streets to dry, waiting on passing vehicles to run them over. While this was their way of cracking the beans open at no cost, it also offered no protection against dirt and pollution. She thought to herself that this kind of process could be changed for farmers to be able to sell coffee that is mindful of quality.

During the 6th National Coffee Summit held at the LANDBANK Plaza, Princess Lala shared her journey towards progress in the province of Sulu. Not wanting to see the people live off the accepted norm of just getting by without thinking about quality, she took it upon herself to learn how to help develop the coffee process of the community. After equipping herself with the necessary

education and getting involved with the Philippine Coffee Board, Inc. (PCBI) in 2009, she was able to share with the the townsfolk what needed to be done to be able to produce the right kind of coffee. Doing so would allow the local farmers to demand better market prices as well as increase their overall profit.

Admittedly sluggish at first, the Tausug princess' intense will to succeed however, proved to be the key to the farmers' decision to get on board and be part of a dynamic that that instills pride in one's work and a sense of purpose.

These days, the red that the women and their families are exposed to has nothing to do with bloodshed, but with the color of the coffee berries. Thanks to the Pick Red program that was initiated by Princess Lalah, the local farmers are now able to distinguish which berries to pick that would yield the best coffee for the most profit to the communites. Moreover, the program gives the people direct access to the actual process that removes the need for a third party to facilitate the sale of the coffee beans to interested buyers.

Aside from opening the doors to produce the Sulu Royal Coffee brand because of Pick Red, Princess Lalah's actions have given rise to something that would have seemed impossible to many people aware of the ongoing socio-political conflicts in the region. Other than the successful coffee trading by local coffee growers, insurgents have also taken to arms trading --that is, exchanging their firearms for money to transition into becoming coffee farmers instead. The area of Patikul, Basilan where many of these former insurgents roam is now a peaceful community of new coffee growers.

From an ideal of improving safety and living conditions to a growing education of farming communities, Princess Lalah's efforts is anything but ordinary. With a clear foundation set for PAP-MC, her current goal (one of many) of hitting the P120,000 average mark for the organization is not so far-fetched anymore. With that figure, she says that her members will at least be able to take home P10,000, a great help to augment the educational needs of their children.

With many coffee advocates and industry experts in attendance at the summit, including PCBI President Chit Juan helming the event, Princess Lalah's presence only reinforces the power of inspiration she brings with her work as chairman of PAP-MC, which is currently based in Paramaw, Sulu.

Similarly, Princess Lalah is thankful for the outside support her group is receiving to further their cause of





Left photo shows PAP-MPC Chairman Princess Kumalah Sug-Elardo answering questions from the audience. Meanwhile, PCBI President Chit Juan leads the forum on the coffee movement in the country.



Some of the participants of the 6th National Coffee Summit held at the LANDBANK Plaza

educating and encouraging more folks toward coffee farming for self-reliance and peace. Along with PCBI, she is appreciative of LANDBANK's presence in the region as financial opportunities there are limited, as well as the Bank's support for the coffee industry in the country.

#### The house that bamboo built

Just as building financial stability is an important aspect of any community development, LANDBANK is taking strides in establishing housing avenues that are ideal not just for the inhabitants but are environmentally sound as well.

Hilti Foundation, a Switzerland-based charitable organization, recently presented an innovative housing plan that uses locally grown bamboo. This milestone project complements LANDBANK's KAWAYAN financing program, which is aimed at providing credit assistance to qualified small farmers and fisherfolk, small and medium enterprises, large business enterprises, countryside financial institutions and local government units.

Under Hilti Foundation's proposal, one bamboo house unit of 25 square meters costs P150,000 while a two-storey unit is estimated at P250,000.

"Comparing all technologies, the bamboo house is much better than conventional dwellings, taking into consideration human health, ecosystem quality, climate change and resources. Further, it has passive cooling designs, high level of natural comfort, and has material properties against heat reflection and moist control," said Hilti Strategic Business Development Officer Regan Maria Schegg.

She also said that Hilti is considering the Kawayan Tinik variety, between three and five years old, which is now undergoing testing at the Forest Products Research and

Development Institute. Likewise, three bamboo house models are experimented in Bicol, to measure its ability to withstand violent typhoons.

Established in 1996, Hilti Foundation focuses on affordable housing, community development, culture, disaster relief, education and social entrepreneurship.

LANDBANK hopes that such partnerships can grow in numbers as in the case of Hilti, wherein the materials to be used for their shared technological innovation can be sourced locally. Not only will the need for strong and affordable housing be addressed, an increase of activity in the agricultural sector will follow suit. From demand of raw bamboo supplies to the manpower required to accomplish homes and infrastructure demands, the KAWAYAN Program offers huge potential for sustainable development of other industries as well.

The signing of a memorandum of understanding for the KAWAYAN Program took place on December 13, 2013 at the Board Room of the LANDBANK Plaza. LANDBANK President and CEO Gilda Pico, along with Board Directors Victor Gerardo Bulatao and Crispino Aguelo, and Executive Vice President for Agricultural and Development Lending Sector Cecilia Borromeo led the signing with Rang-ay Bank President and CEO Ives Nisce,

Next page, please.

#### **About KAWAYAN**

The KAlikasang Kabuhayan para sa WAstong PamaYANan or KAWAYAN Program is a financing project of the Land Bank of the Philippines to support the development of the local bamboo industry.

It is offered to eligible borrowers for loan purposes in support of their production of bamboo and other bamboo-based economic activities. The program also aims to boost the country's global standing as one of the top bamboo producers and boost farm productivity, employment rate and income. The substantial bamboo production in the country will also help mitigate climate change.

Eligible borrowers include cooperatives, federations, countryside financial institutions, small and medium enterprises, agri-business entities, and local government units.



LANDBANK officers from Program Management Departments I and II, Development Assistance Department, Agricultural Credit Support Program, and Mortgage Banking Department pose with Hilti representatives Regan Maria Schregg (4th from right), Hanna Ebeling (4th from left), and Aman Singh (right).

#### From page 8

#### Of brews, bamboos...



LANDBANK President Gilda Pico stands beside (from left) Director Bulatao, EVP Borromeo, Sumilao Mayor Baula, Axent President Osorio, and LANDBANK Director Aguelo. Behind them are other key officers and representatives.

Axent Resources Group President and CEO Francis Osorio, and Sumilao Mayor Rey Baula.

Aside from the financial rewards, the program also fits the Bank's environmental thrust. As President Pico mentioned during the event, "This program has significant potential to help mitigate the impact of climate change by greening watershed areas and minimize the damage to the agriculture sector caused by typhoons and other calamities."

### The new ambassadors of agriculture

Because the Bank has observed the agriculture industry's lack of general appeal to the future workforce, it has looked into partnerships that will help revitalize interest from a new generation of farmers and movers in agriculture.

With the help of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and Philippine Federation of Family Farm and Rural Schools (PHILFEFFARS), the Gawad PATNUBAY, or Pag-aaral Tungo sa Maunlad na Bayan Scholarship Program is a timely initiative by the Land Bank of the Philippines grounded on a strong education specializing in the fields of agriculture and fisheries, and related courses such as agribusiness and agripreneurship.

The two-pronged scholarship program offers both formal and informal, or ladderized education in the given field. Apart from 100 percent subsidy for tuition fees, the scholars have access to mentorship in their chosen field of study. Banking on the promise of making a difference in these students' lives, the program not just helps secure their present education. It fosters the necessary link, a continuity for accomplishing goals through gainful employment by way of E2E, or education to employment system.

During the official launching and awarding of the Gawad PATNUBAY at the Diosdado Macapagal Hall of the LANDBANK Plaza, LANDBANK President Gilda Pico welcomed the chosen scholars enrolled in various state universities across the country. She added that the scholarship is the Bank's way of fulfilling its commitment to the people it serves by going beyond what is expected. By reaching out to their dependents who have goals that are reflective of a generation, LANDBANK is helping these young people uplift the nation where it is most crucial and fundamental to all other industries.



LANDBANK President and CEO Gilda Pico poses with the first batch of Gawad PATNUBAY scholars, including their school coordinators, IRRI Training Center Head Dr. Noel Magor (seated, 3rd from left), and MFI Farm Business Institute President Col. Alejandro Escaño (seated, 4th from left). Also seated are LANDBANK Director Victor Gerardo Bulatao and Senior Vice President for Corporate Services Sector Julio Climaco Jr., Standing beside the scholars is Vice President for Corporate Affairs Catherine Rowena Villanueva (top left).

#### **RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED**

#### Excellence in Economy and Ecology Award

For outstanding environmental programs and practices Large Enterprise

#### **FVFNT**

2013 Excellence in Economy and Ecology Awards of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) held at the Manila Hotel



Holding the award is LANDBANK EVP for Agricultural and Development Lending Sector Cecilia Borromeo. With her are (from left) Chairman Alfredo Yap and Environment VP Edgardo Lacson of PCCI, Presidential Communications Operation Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr., LANDBANK VP for Lending Programs Management Group Leila Martin, Directors Tomas de Leon and Crispino Aguelo, Transportation Secretary Joseph Emilio Abaya, PCCI President Miguel Varela, and LANDBANK FVP for Visayas Lending Group Joselito Gutierrez.

#### Top Customer Award

For loyal partnership/support

#### **EVENT**

115th anniversary celebration dubbed, "Partners' Night Roar 2013 of the Philippine Postal Corporation held at the Manila Polo Club, Grand Ballroom



PHLPOST Chairman Cesar Sarino with LANDBANK President and CEO Gilda Pico, Postmaster General and CEO Ma. Josefina dela Cruz, LANDBANK EVP for Branch Banking Sector Jocelyn Cabreza and Head of Conditional Cash Transfer -Project Management Office Domingo Galcim

## Certificate of Appreciation

For consistent support of the Kadayawan Festival

#### **EVENT**

28th Kadayawan sa Dabaw Festival held from August 8 to 18, 2013 in Davao by the City Government of Davao.



LANDBANK's Romualdo Bawit, incoming head of the soon-toopen Dinagat Branch, holds the certificate from Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

#### From page 6

#### **COVER STORY**



"Challenging and humbling."

LANDBANK Vice President for East
Visayas Group Ramon Monteloyola
on his experience in Tacloban,
serving as Head of the Cebu
Command Center.



Philippine Army trainees doing their part in the relief efforts at MICT as a LANDBANK volunteer monitors the loading process.

The establishment of a quick response team in the form of the Cebu Command Center allowed the Bank to address the needs of affected employees as well as facilitate the resumption of business processes. With determined efforts, LANDBANK became the first bank to re-open for business to the public in Tacloban with ATM transactions and branch operations on November 19 and 20, respectively. Prior deployment of mobile ATMs at key sites greatly eased the burden for many clients and residents with urgent monetary needs.

The Bank also automatically extended repayment of maturing amortizations of its various clients -- from small farmers to rural banks severely affected by the typhoon. In addition to the P30-million donation made by the Bank to typhoon-affected local government units to augment their funds for relief-operation efforts for their constituents, current and former LANDBANK employees shared portions of their salaries to the same cause and did volunteer work and fund-raising activities. So far, this has amounted to a P20-million donation.

In Manila, LANDBANK assisted in the repacking, loading and monitoring of various goods for the relief operations spearheaded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Department of Finance. The Philippine Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force pooled their manpower of almost 300 trainees at the Manila International Container Terminal (MICT) for the undertaking that took place 24/7 from November 19 til the the first week of December. Foregoing most creature comforts, the volunteers were able to prepare for delivery and distribution to Tacloban more than 500,000 family packs of relief goods.

Although Typhoon Yolanda took only a short time, the brunt of this act of nature will take years to unravel. More than the physical pain the victims have endured is the psyche that these people, young and old alike, will have to live with while they valiantly move past the destruction and irreplaceable loss of their loved ones. Yet, these are the very same people burdened with tragedy who are showing everyone else what it means to have hope and strength amidst despair, and a resilience signature of the Filipino spirit.

# When you bank on local dreams, you build national success.



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