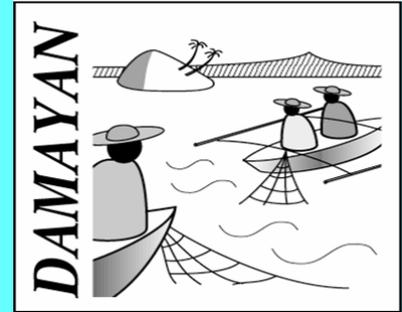


Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development

Lessons from 25 years of engagement



Presenter:

Basco Fernandez, MSc EST

External Vice-President, Damayan Assn.

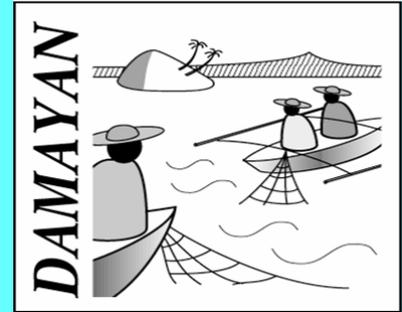
E-Learning Consultant, Habagat Foundation

Coordinator, Bisdak Network -NL



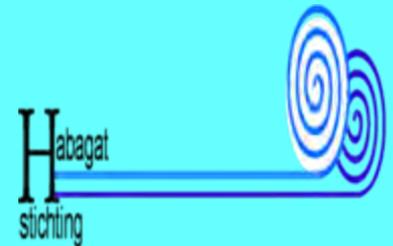
# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development

## Lessons from 25 years of engagement



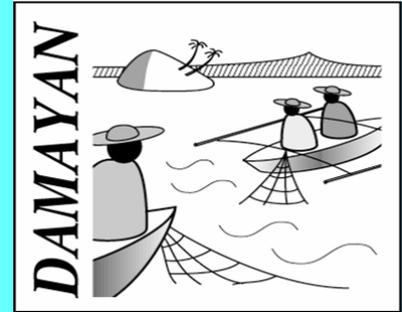
### Expectations:

1. Demonstrate diaspora's role in multi-stakeholder partnership for migration & development;
2. Deepen understanding of the process of diaspora social capital building



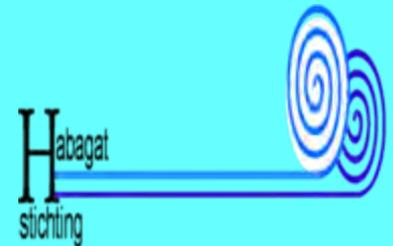
# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development

## Lessons from 25 years of engagement



### Outline:

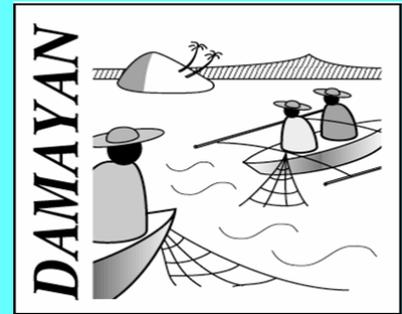
1. Status of current multi-stakeholdership initiatives;
2. Significant Lessons for the diasporas
3. Social Capital building: Damayan's experience
4. Some recommendations for policy makers



# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development

## Lessons from 25 years of engagement

Damayyan (1986) - a community building association of residents (marriage migration) & expats focuses on philanthropy & social enterprise;

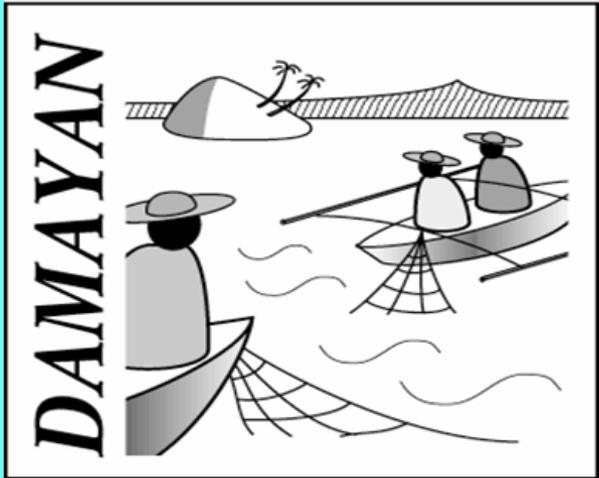


Habagat (1992) - a foundation to realize migrants' role in development by empowering diaspora self-organizations, focuses on new initiatives (faith-based groups, e-learning, financial empowerment) and marginal sectors (seafarers, domestic workers, seniors);



Bisdak Network (1992) - a regional network working for socialization rights & cultural identity, focuses on hometown association building

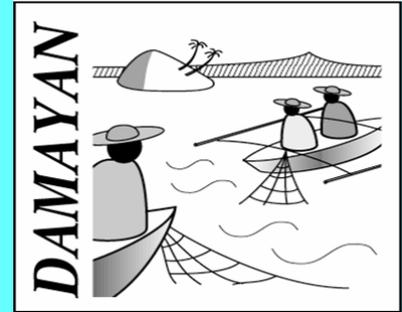




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# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Uno por Uno Initiative with LGU



20 Overseas Filipino from Philippines, Middle East, US & 7 EU countries form OF caucus for development

Due to this success, Governor joins Amsterdam Conference and enters into peso for peso agreement with Damayan, Habagat, Bisdak & OF caucus

10 to 15 governors willing to enter agreements in GFMD Manila on October 2008, an agreement similar to Zacatecas 3 x 1 model

SALMOT SA PAGPILI

# BisDak RAYNA sa alambuan

Network Nederland

30 Agosto 2008



Be an Ambassador for your hometown ... Join the movement to highlight the role of Overseas Filipinos in local development  
Represent Visayas and Mindanao during the October 2008  
Governors -OF memorandum signing in Manila...

During the successful OFW week of initiatives, BisDak Network Nederland hosted the Fiesta Filipiniana in Rotterdam where the Philippine American German Cultural Troupe performed. The event did not only showcase our rich cultural heritage but was also able to raise €1400 for Damayan's Gintong Aral projects of Damayan. BisDak was greatly inspired by PAG who had been sponsoring early learning projects for their town Bansalan in Davao del Sur, and saw the possibilities of forging a BisDak Europa wide campaign for hometown development.

During the 2 November Amsterdam Conference, Governor Oca Moreno emphasized the bridging role of people who come from the rural towns, who know the situation in their locality well, in seeking out projects and investments needed for uplifting their communities back home. Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Governor, BisDak joined Damayan and Stichting Habagat in a ground-breaking partnership with local government around a Peso por Peso matching for development in Misamis Oriental.

In the spirit of spearheading a broader mobilization of our kababayans, BisDak is now organizing this contest for Queen of Development. We hope to stimulate the BisDak community to get fired up with the dream of **Kalambuan sa Kabaryuhan**. Join our effort to share the bounties we have earned during our stay in the Netherlands with the less fortunate members of our community back home. Support your provincial candidate and join the canvassing and crowning of Rayna sa Kalambuan 2008.



## Rules and Criteria of the Contest

1. If you come from one of the Visayas and Mindanao provinces, you could represent your province. One entry shall be chosen per province.
2. If you could motivate family, friends, and networks to donate in support of your candidacy, you have a winning chance.
3. Register before 28 march 2008. Participation fee is only € 25. Certified envelopes will be provided in return.
4. First counting of money-votes will be made on the 24th May 2008 during a Bayle.
5. Final counting of money-votes will be made during the Feast of San Agustin on 30 August 2008

**Winner** will receive back 25% of money raised and 50% of total will go to the project chosen by the winning candidate for her province. BisDak will work to have this counterparted by Dutch funds. She will also receive a round trip ticket for the October 2008 Governors - OF MOA signing in Manila.

Bisdak launches Queen of Development in February to stimulate hometown associations;

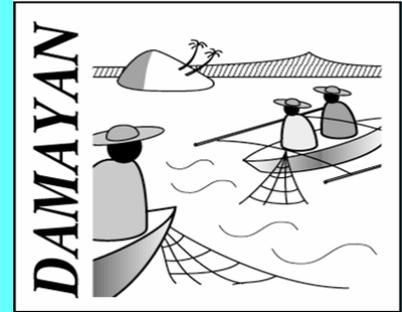
7 candidates join in with winners joining signing with governors; 7 other governors provided by Philippine NGOs

Habagat provides financial literacy for residents & hometown supporters;

Bisdak, Habagat, Damayan helps establish Diaspora Forum for Development, a platform of 32 organizations from Africa, Latin-America & Asia. Anchors social media for GFMD participation

For details, contact: **Flora (0621449860); Jessie (0649104959); Nening (0638760542)**  
Email your application to [jessie.ligan@kersentuin.net](mailto:jessie.ligan@kersentuin.net) and deposit your participation fee to Girorek 3812434

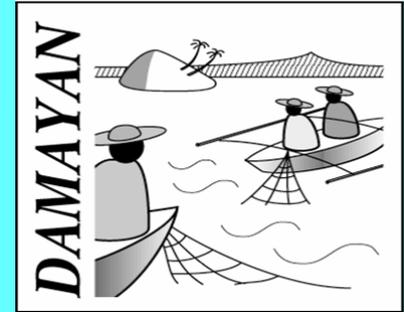
# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise



Significance of this 9 month breakthrough:

1. Diaspora organizations are able to act as initiator of multi-stakeholder partnerships with government, development NGOs, faith institutions and business;
2. The social capital of diaspora needs to be leveraged, especially at the local levels in rural areas where its projects are most felt, where diaspora families are located;
3. Diaspora social capital could build conditions favorable to combat corruption and good governance by seeking co-development in partnerships. It also shows its potential for peacebuilding and in addressing gender and economic inequalities

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise



## A CLOSER LOOK AT SOCIAL CAPITAL BUILDING

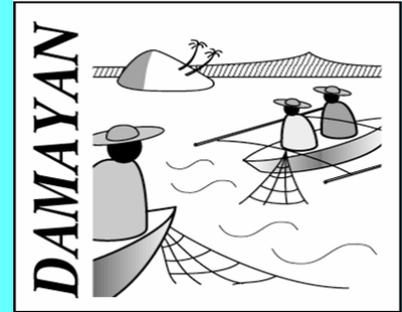


Individual migration  
diffuses flow and  
slows down social  
capital...

Gender obstacles  
slows down  
community building  
...

Right to socialization,  
De-skilling (non-  
recognition of  
diplomas) are issues

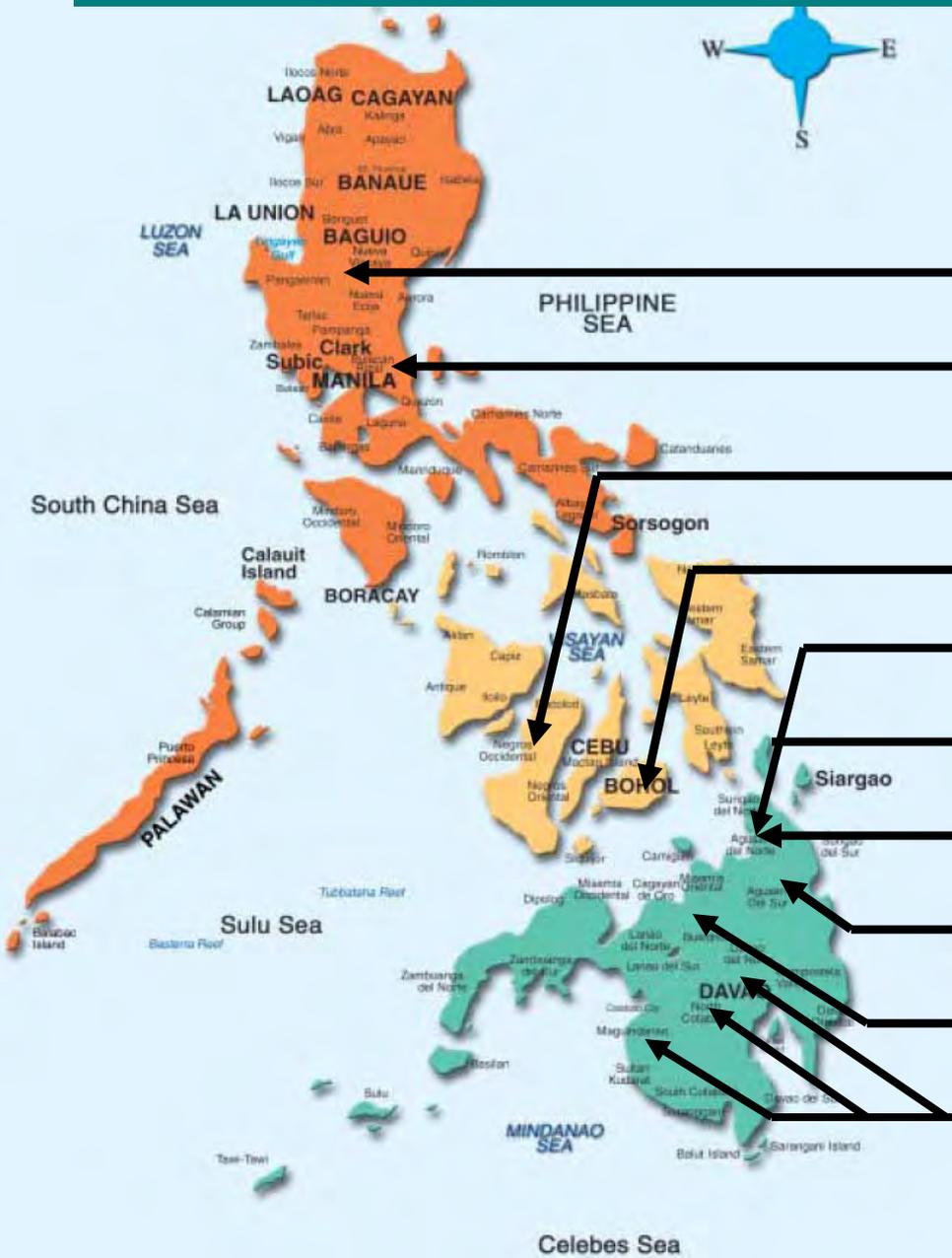
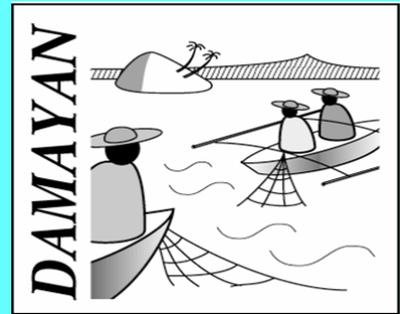
# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise



Transnational Mission:

Respond collectively to Filipino needs in the Netherlands and Philippines

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development



1999 Livelihood Aetas in Zambales

1999 Migrant daycare, Manila

1993 Fishers Livelihood, Negros

2001 School library in Bohol

2005 Hospital in Magsaysay

2006 Cabubuhan School Fence

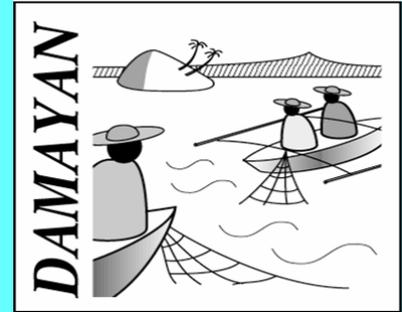
2006 women's market & enterprise

1991 20 Manobo scholars, Agusan

1997 Livelihood, Drivers wives CdO

2007 Indigenous people schooling

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

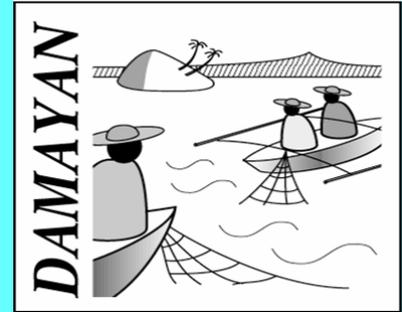


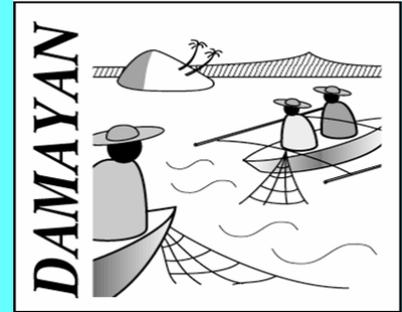
How our engagements developed ?

1. Micro initiatives lead to integrated approaches
2. Educational initiatives encounter issues of sustainability
3. Special attention to women & other marginal sectors (indigenous communities);
4. Growing concerns on impact and transformation value
5. From Philanthropy to Social Enterprise

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Breakthrough in social mobilization 2006 – 2008



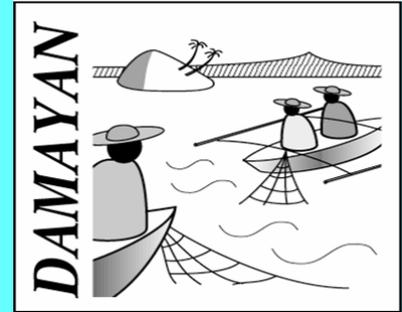


## 3 Changes in diaspora situation

- 2002 Cultural workshop for 700 children in 26 Schools result in 5 year partnership with St. Michael Elementary school ( 2 -5 X increase in funds)
- 2003 Second Generation promotion of Philippine Children's rights address role of the second generation in community (40%);
- 2005 Increasing recognition of role of Diaspora in development Remittance, Social Costs, and Diaspora investments

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Partnerships in Education

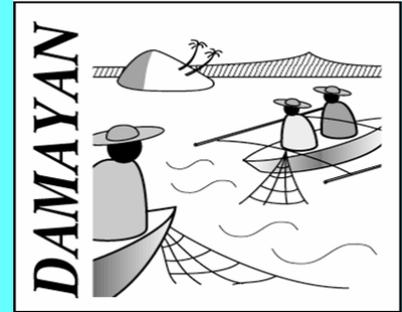


Damayan partners with Dutch primary school St. Michael and a global hometown association to raise 24,000 euros for school buildings and scholarships.

Dutch development funders double the amount ...

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Partnership in Education



Damayyan provide 270 scholars to post-conflict communities, 10x more than 2001

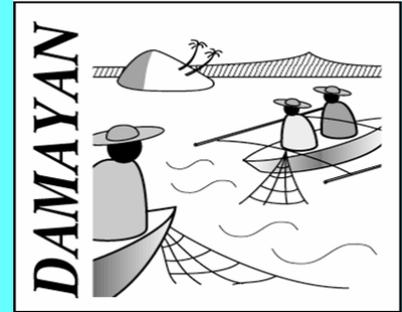
Local village government in Muslim-Christian community matches number of scholars as counterpart...

Computers donated recently...

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Maria Goes to Town

### A Case for Social Enterprise Mobilization



US\$ 15000 prize money  
from contest

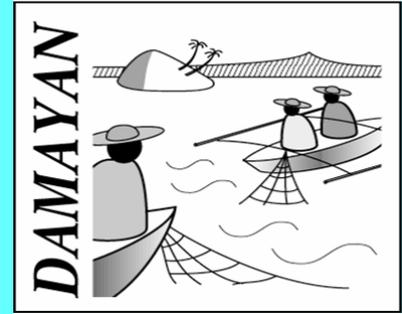
Tripled to US\$ 45000  
through Dutch match  
funds

Counterparting by  
Diaspora, municipal  
government and local  
organizations doubled  
project amount to USD  
90,000

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Maria Goes to Town

### A Case for Social Enterprise Mobilization



A women's federation  
200 women from 3  
village chapters formed;

Income has risen from  
production & retail by  
30 to 60 dollars or USD  
60,000 for first year;

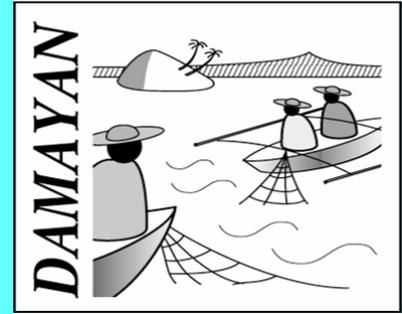
Women run the market  
and first woman village  
head is elected as head  
of municipal barangay  
association,

Gender orientation  
adopted by municipality

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Maria Goes to Town

### A Case for Social Enterprise Mobilization



The economic environment is now ready for diaspora investment with 44 women micro-entrepreneurs.

85 jobs for 425 families

5 diaspora investors from hometown have invested

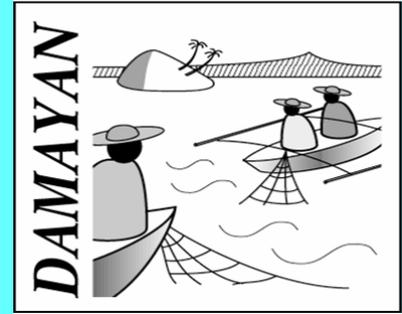
Local MFIs are helping but with low capital flows...

Repayment of credit has increased to 85 %

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise

## Maria Goes to Town

### A Case for Social Enterprise Mobilization

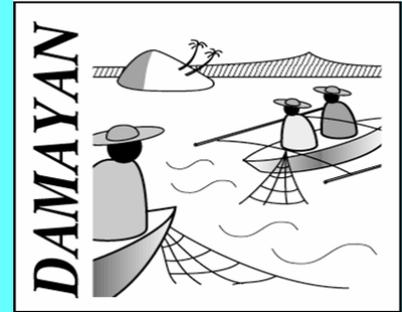


Empowering local counterparts;

Partnering with local government multiplies diaspora social capital

Counterparting is essential for stakeholderhip

## Insights developed



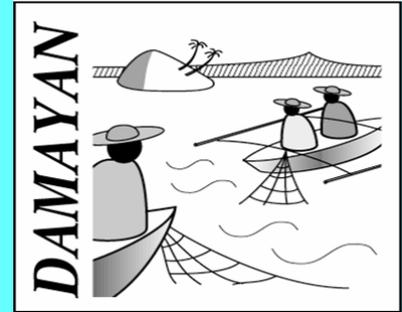
### MIRRORING STRATEGY

(Diaspora as the other half of Global Filipino Nation)

1. **Diaspora Social Gains are significant** (i.e., Values learned & Networks developed, and capital earned while in diaspora);
2. Our **social capital could be mobilized** for changes (Leveraging);
3. **Social Enterprise** involves using both Philanthropy and Investment components
4. Could diaspora engagement be the **missing link** in the Migration-Development nexus.... ???

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Development

## Lessons from 25 years of engagement



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We thank you for this Opportunity to share our lessons in mobilizing the diaspora for social development...

**SALAMAT PO ... Merci beaucoup !!!**

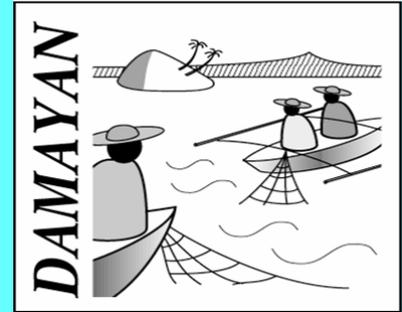
Habagat: <http://www.habagat.nl>

Damayan: <http://www.damayan.nl>

Bisdak-NL: <http://bisdak.pinoye-gain.info>;

OF Caucus: <http://ofw4development.pinoye-gain.info>

# Mobilizing the Diaspora for Social Enterprise



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SALAMAT PO