

## **Fourth Annual Report Web Update**

### **GTF222 Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies**

#### **“Institutionalising Local and National Partnerships to Address Urban Poverty and Homelessness in the Philippines”**

PHILSSA’s programme with DFID-GTF aims to develop, implement and disseminate partnership models for the improvement of access to housing and community services for the urban poor in 4 pilot cities and 10 partner cities in the Philippines.

The fourth year of programme implementation (April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012) continues to be interesting and challenging for governance and transparency work in the Philippines as we maximized spaces and opportunities offered by the anti-corruption stance of President Aquino and his administration.

In the period, urban poor federations and confederations in the pilot and partner cities were sustained and consolidated, building their skills and capacities towards engaging their city government and national agencies in governance and development concerns, as well as provision of housing and community services.

These engagements with the city and national government was enhanced by participation in local special bodies, such as the Local Housing Boards and City Development Councils, and in development planning processes such as the land use and shelter planning and national budget partnerships.

Demonstration and innovation projects were also implemented to address issues on security of tenure, access to community services, and livelihood, promoting community equity and leveraging resources from government and other development partners.

Dissemination materials, events and platforms were also launched. Several publications and videos were produced. Several City and Regional Housing Summits were conducted to tackle urban poverty and housing issues. In May 2011, PHILSSA organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Philippine Urbanisation Forum with the Vice-President as keynote speaker and two Cabinet Secretaries participating.

These programme strategies and activities had contributed significantly to achieve the appointment of reform-minded officials in the Presidential Commission on the Urban Poor (PCUP) and Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC) from the recommendation of civil society organizations, as well as the allotment of an additional 1.26 Billion Pesos (around £19 Million) through the National Housing Authority (NHA) for social housing projects identified by civil society groups, and the announcement of another 10 Billion Pesos (around £150 Million) by President Aquino in September 2011 as part of the government economic stimulus package aimed at addressing informal settlements in danger areas of Metro Manila.

The programme will continue to assist and strengthen the partner urban poor federations in their engagement and advocacy work with the local and national government to promote good governance and transparency towards effective and responsive policies, programmes and services addressing urban poverty and housing issues in the Philippines

To read more about PHILSSA and their GTF programme, please visit <http://philssa.org.ph/programs/philssa-dfid-project/>.

At the bottom of this page you can also access their Annual Reports, Mid-Term Report and submitted appendices.



**Launching of the ESBACONA Block 2 HOA Re-Blocking Project**

Photo by **Foundation for the Development of the Urban Poor**