

Disaster Preparedness through Sanfran System Replication Project (SSRP)

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The Municipality of San Francisco, Cebu, Philippines being Expanded Green and Wholesome Environment that Nurtures (E-GWEN) Grand Champion for three consecutive years since this program was launched in 2009 by the Provincial Government of Cebu in partnership with the Ramon Aboitez Foundation Incorporated (RAFI), is now frequently visited with municipal and barangay Officials from different towns of Cebu Province, regions which include local and national and even Asia Countries official for educational tours.

Recently LGU Sanfran partnered with RAFI in conducting Sanfran System Replication Project which aims to share Sanfran's best practices to other LGUs specifically the Purok System where empowered communities have done a lot for what Sanfran had achieved for the past three years not only locally but globally as UNISDR SASAKAWA Awardee for Disaster Reduction 2011. This is Sanfran unique approach for disaster reduction.

Four Local Government Unit (LGU's) and Barangay Officials from the Province of Cebu served as pilot participants for this project representing the towns of Alcoy, Alegria, Catmon and Tuburan. Each delegation was headed by no less than the Honorable Mayors of their respective municipality. Phase 1 of this project is a two-day activity, January 11-12, 2011, which includes ocular visit to the puroks where the participants observed, scanned documents and have some interactions with the purok leaders on how the purok is being manage especially when it comes to disaster preparedness.

They also visited the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), where they observed and discussed the procedure of vermi culture and composting, proper solid waste segregation and recycling. They also visited outstanding barangays of Sanfran and tackled about governance, tourism, health and sanitation, Disaster Risk Reduction and environmental protection.

Municipal Mayors are very much inspired of what they've learned and experienced and these process would be of great help for them to somehow replicate the Purok System in their own localities. Tuburan Official said "To experience is to learn" Learning Sanfran experience give us more possibilities that things may happen if we will put into action. The four mayors commit themselves to apply and replicate the Sanfran System (SS) and support this Sanfran System Replication Project (SSRP) that conceptualized by UNISDR Asia Regional Champion Alfredo A. Arquillano, Jr for Making Cities Resilient in partnerships with the RAFI a non-government organization based in Cebu, Philippines.