



Sun Life Foundation  
Annual Report  
**2016**

*Lives  
Changed*



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Through the years, generosity has become a pillar that has shaped the very culture of Sun Life.

Only a year shy of celebrating its first decade, Sun Life Foundation finds itself in the perfect place to reflect and evaluate – on its impact on the organization, particularly its growing volunteer force, and on its own beneficiaries.

Now, more than ever, our Sun Life volunteers - collectively called Brighter World Builders – are energized and inspired as participants in both selecting the initiatives of the Foundation and in executing them. Their invaluable feedback and support paved the way for activities such as planting trees around Ipo watershed. Serving as the brightest ambassadors, they inspired new faces every year to join in Foundation activities, ensuring a continuous supply of goodwill and benevolence.

As the spirit of generosity swept through the company, we also looked at how we could broaden our horizons and create a lasting impact on our beneficiaries. This prompted the strategic shift of our metric from Lives Touched to LIVES CHANGED, where we take on more sustainable and focused initiatives. We are also highlighting Financial Literacy as a core pillar of the Foundation, aligning with the lessons espoused by Sun Life upon reaching Philippine shores 121 years ago.

All these would not have been possible without the trust that our partners have given us. From the communities we have nurtured to the scholars that we have assisted, we hope that our projects will continue to have a sustained impact. That together, we are doing our share in helping more Filipinos live brighter lives.

May we always shine for others.



Riza Mantaring  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
SUN LIFE FOUNDATION



## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



In the context of developmental work, what does it mean to CHANGE?

When we look at the origin of the word change, it came from an old French word *changier* which means “to alter; exchange; to switch.” This encapsulates the reason for being of an organization like the Sun Life Foundation.

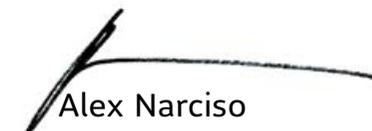
We exist because there is a yearning to alter the condition of communities that have been neglected for so long. There is a call to exchange ideas on how to help create a brighter future for every Filipino family. And we have to switch our mindset towards more sustainable and expansive design that can truly make an impact to those who are most in need.

So how did the Foundation change for the past nine years? Going beyond our assessment and other technical tools, our incorporation back in 2007 institutionalized the generous works that Sun Lifers have been doing for decades. It channeled 1% of our net income to projects aligned with our four pillars of education, health, the environment, as well as arts and culture. We widened our reach via long-term partnerships, and now enshrined Financial Literacy as one of our key focus.

One of the monumental decisions we made before we turn a decade old next year was to shift the metrics by which we evaluate our projects, from LIVES TOUCHED to **LIVES CHANGED**. Our new metric is also a commitment to support more sustainable and long-term initiatives, where we can be instrumental in bringing about life-changing transformation to our beneficiaries.

**Lives Changed** is also about the Foundation reshaping its own identity. This internal exercise is our way to be relevant and progressive amidst the evolving nature of an organization such as ours. For as we rise to meet the challenges of our times, we want to remain grounded to the needs of those who need our intervention the most.

After all, evolving is more than a survival instinct. It is also a path towards building a brighter world. One brighter community at a time.

  
Alex Narciso  
PRESIDENT  
SUN LIFE FOUNDATION



# A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR EDUCATION

Lifelong learning ensures that the next generations are empowered and equipped for the future.

# Project 120 Classrooms

The Foundation's commitment to assist in post-Yolanda rehabilitation efforts culminated with PROJECT 120 CLASSROOMS. To date, we already completed 71 classrooms in the provinces of Aklan, Bohol, Iloilo, Leyte, and Roxas – with 49 more scheduled for construction in the next two years. Aside from their new buildings, several beneficiary schools also received sports equipment, teachers' kits, hygiene packs, and other items from our volunteer force.

This year, students of Panalaron Central School in Tacloban (Leyte) and Calizo Elementary School in Balete (Aklan) left their uncomfortable makeshift tents. Finally, they can continue with their education inside their new classrooms.



**96,500**  
**Beneficiaries**





2,620  
Beneficiaries



## Brigada Eskwela under the Sun

Education remains at the core of the Sun Life Foundation and its volunteer corps.

Even before the Foundation's incorporation, Sun Lifers have been participating in the Brigada Eskwela initiative since 2001. Then known as the Adopt-a-School program before evolving to a partnership evoking the bayanihan spirit between the Department of Education and private entities, this volunteer activity has become one of the 'baptisms of fire' to induct new Brighter World Builders into the company's penchant for CSR.

And this year is no exception, as Builders from around the country share their time and talent to help adopted schools – including the inaugural Senior High School level – be ready for a new academic year.

# Reaching out to Off-Grid Schools

At the southern end of the Cordillera Mountain Range, the municipality of Itogon is generally mountainous in terrain with steep slopes and deep valleys. This terrain results to off-grid public schools serving families of small-time farmers and small-scale artisanal miners, where students walk several kilometers every day to attend class. With limited income and restricted access, children tend to drop out in the middle of the school year. Among those who do stay, only a small percentage can go to high school since the nearest facility is in the poblacion or town center.

Reaching out to these communities, the Sun Life Foundation thru the generosity of its volunteers donated 1,000 back-to-school kits as incentive for students to stay for the whole school year. It consists of a brand new bag filled with supplies like notebooks and art materials.



**1,000**  
Beneficiaries

## A State of Scarcity in the Public Schools of Itogon



**1** TEACHER EVERY GRADE LEVEL

**9** BARANGAYS



**38** PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**253** SITIOS

Lack basic facilities like Libraries, Health Clinics, Comfort Rooms



# A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR HEALTH

Holistic wellness needs to be nurtured  
and protected like one's wealth.



# Bloodletting is a Life-Giving Gift

- 📍 Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Taguig
- 🤝 Philippine National Red Cross

Thrice a year, the Sun Life Foundation appeals for both employees and advisors to lay down and share the gift of life with a nationwide mass blood donation activity. Since 1992, Sun Lifers have trooped to makeshift clinics set up by the Philippine National Red Cross to donate more than 1000 units annually.

As a tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who participated in the bloodletting activities, the company received the honor of Outstanding Blood Services Partner of the Year for 2016.



**1,374**  
**Beneficiaries**





# A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

We only have one Earth, a place to call home,  
and a sanctuary for our hopes and dreams.





**2,527**  
**Beneficiaries**

## Earth Hour Village: Upgrading the Community, Combatting Climate Change

📍 Masbate

🤝 World Wide Fund for Nature-Philippines

Agrarian communities bear the biggest brunt of climate change. It disrupts the livelihood of those who depend on the land and sea for sustenance. In the Philippines, where poverty incidence is very high especially in the provinces, an intervention is necessary to help low-income areas become resilient to the impact of this phenomenon. Such is the goal of the Sun Life Foundation in helping build the country's very first Earth Hour with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) – Philippines, where it adopted five of the eight sitios covered by the project.

In its pilot site of Brgy. Guinhadap, Monreal in Masbate, where 51.3% live in poverty\*, the main source of livelihood is fishing. Moreover, 70% of their food source are dependent on marine resources, which results to over-exploitation and illegal fishing practices. They subsist without electricity and their only water supply is a communal well shared by 400 families. They either trek for several kilometers or travel by boat every day just to fetch water.

*\*according to the 2012 National Statistical Coordination Board report*

With depleted resources and the “new normal” of a rapidly changing environment, technology transfer can improve the living conditions of its residents. Multiple adaptive technology such as solar lighting, container farming, and rainwater harvesting give beneficiaries sustainable access to food, water, and energy. To inspire a sense of ownership, WWF-Philippines coordinated with LGUs or local government units as well as trained volunteer members to build, operate, and maintain these collective tools. This holistic transfer of technical knowledge completes the vision of the Earth Hour Village, which seeks for enduring and environmentally sound means to support development amidst the reality of climate change.

### **Solar Lighting: Powered by the Sun**

Without electricity, families rely on kerosene lamps to light up their homes as children study at night while parents either do livelihood work or prepare for the next day’s grind. As fisherfolks, they also need these lamps during forays to the sea. However, kerosene lamps are not only detrimental to the environment but are also fire hazards that can result to irreparable damage or even loss of lives.

With solar lighting, beneficiaries can harness the sun’s energy to create a sustainable source of lighting – minus the daily amount spent on gas. A daily rental scheme with prices equivalent to what they spend on kerosene allows them to own a solar lamp in just a year’s time. In turn, the money collected from rental fees channels back to the community by purchasing more lamps for other households. The new owners also train for proper record keeping, basic troubleshooting, as well as charging and maintenance of their solar lamp kits.





### **Container Farming: Food for Life**

Though 'container farming' is a buzzword for growing vegetation in urban areas with limited space, this practice can address immediate food security issues faced by residents of Guinhadap. Several families are able to harvest vegetables and other crops in the mountainous area of the barangay, but some households lack access to farmland – only to rocky soil not ideal for planting.

Using container farming, residents can keep their own vegetable gardens for both household and livelihood. Interested families attended a training session before receiving their very own starter kits that contain organic fertilizers, seedling trays, as well as seeds for bitter melon, chili, eggplants, and tomatoes.

### **Rainwater Harvesting: Water for All**

Collecting and storing run-off rainwater for future use is a practice that can address the absence of a water supply pipeline not only in Guinhadap but also in other provinces facing the same problem. With proper filtration methods, harvested rainwater becomes potable for drinking and cooking.

After undergoing training, volunteer community members build rainwater harvesting tanks in every sitio covered by the partnership. These alternative water sources augment the overuse communal well that used to supply the whole barangay. These tanks are equipped with filters to ensure that the harvested water is potable. With this development, residents can devote their time for more productive activities instead of enduring hard labor every day just to get their supply of water.

# Sustaining the Environment, Upgrading the Community

📍 Isabela

🤝 World Wide Fund for Nature-Philippines

The hillsides of Ilagan, the capital city of Isabela in Cagayan Valley, possess a hazy and haloed skyline where one can actually see the heat suspended in the air. With very dry and hot temperatures, its communities are vulnerable to droughts and health complications due to lack of safe drinking water.

Relying on agriculture as a source of living, these El Niño dry spells also have an economic impact to already impoverished families. In order to cope with such conditions aggravated by widespread climate change, sustainable farming practices are key for them to be able to cope.

The Sun Life Foundation, together with the WWF-Philippines, has set up two projects to help communities manage with the changing conditions. Four thousand fruit tree seedlings, planted by Brighter World Builders themselves back in 2012 for the Watershed Agroforestry Project, are now bearing mangoes and satsuma mandarins. Soon, they can offer sustenance to the residents of Abuan.



**1,655**  
**Beneficiaries**



As the trees tower over the rejuvenated land, the Foundation and WWF turn its attention to places like Sitio Pulang Lupa, where women and children walk for miles to reach a source of potable water. As an intervention, they replace the makeshift “outlets” made of bamboo pipes and recycled PVC pipes with five strategically located spring boxes.

Equipped with a bio-sand filtration system, the spring boxes sift the deposits found in running water. This decreases the chances for contamination, which can lead to sickness and infection. By situating it closer to living quarters, families can be spared from the long treks and free up time for more productive pursuits.

However, the real upgrade lies on the bayanihan spirit that made the spring boxes a shared resource among barangays. Five teams composed of eight members from beneficiary families constructed their new, more advanced filters. They will also clean, repair, and maintain the boxes.

With Environmental Sustainability as one of the pillars that buoy the Foundation, a sustainable partnership with organizations such as WWF-Philippines can create more opportunities to ensure that man and nature can co-exist for generations to come.

# Reforesting Ipo Watershed for a Water-Strong Capital

- 📍 Bulacan province, Rizal province
- 🤝 World Wide Fund for Nature-Philippines

According to the 2015 Census of Population,\* the National Capital Region is the most densely populated of the 18 administrative regions. This creates pressure in the Angat-Umiray-Ipo watershed system, which supplies 98% of water in Metro Manila. Moreover, problems caused by dwindling forestland have hounded the watershed located closest to the capital, which saw forest coverage dropping from 85% to 40% through the years.

Why are trees and forests important for watersheds? They act as natural filters to remove pollutants. They also protect the capital from extreme flooding by regulating the flow of storm water. Imagine the green canopies as an enormous sponge that absorb precipitation before releasing it to natural channels such as lakes.

This case of diminished forestland is what the Sun Life Foundation in partnership with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) – Philippines want to help address. More than a simple reforestation effort, the project will develop a sustainable watershed management plan. This move ensures that the trees will grow to provide full benefits not only to the environment but also to households who depend on Ipo's water supply. The Foundation and its Brighter World Builders have adopted five hectares of land to be rehabilitated using 2,500 seedlings. Volunteers and their families visited the site for activities such as tree planting and nursery establishment.

\* Accessed at <https://psa.gov.ph/content/philippine-population-density-based-2015-census-population>





# A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

Communal identity cultivates a shared vision  
grounded in history and heritage.





**6.25M**  
**Beneficiaries**

## Keeping the Memory of Lolong Alive

📍 Manila

🤝 National Museum of Natural History

As the steward of national heritage, the National Museum also manages and develops the natural history collection. With the environment providing a rich cultural and historical context, the Sun Life Foundation is helping preserve these treasures by sponsoring the construction of a new gallery at the National Museum of Natural History.

The new wing is called "Gallery I: Biodiversity of the Philippines" and will display a stuffed version of Lolong – once the world's largest saltwater crocodile in captivity – who was caught in Agusan del Sur. Through the story of Lolong, the Museum and the Foundation can raise awareness on marshland ecology and the local wildlife. The grant can allow generations of Filipinos to learn more about the rich legacy of conservation and diversity in the country.



BAYANIHAN PROJECTS

# DISASTER RELIEF

# Typhoon Lawin Disaster Response

- 📍 Abra province, Cagayan province
- 🤝 Philippine Army Search And Rescue Unit (SARU), SMILE for the Youth, Sun Life Tuguegarao ISO

In October 2016, Super Typhoon Lawin put the provinces of Cagayan and Isabela under the highest tropical cyclone warning signal number 5. It also put Abra under a state of calamity, with damages amounting to millions of pesos.

From such devastation, Sun Lifers and other partner organizations have become beacons of hope with disaster relief operations in Cagayan and Abra. Led by Sun Life Tuguegarao ISO, the team distributed more than a thousand assorted relief kits to residents of Iguig and Penablanca - two of the hardest-hit municipalities in Cagayan. These kits include food packs, school supplies, donated clothes, and new slippers.

Relief operations also reach Barangay Tumulip in Licuan-Baay, Abra. Together with SMILE for the Youth and the SARU (Search And Rescue Unity) of the Philippine Army, assistance in the form of food packs, school kits, and teacher's kits were given to 630 families, half of which live as indigents. Natural disasters like super typhoons push its poor residents to an even more vulnerable position, and temporary assistance in any form can greatly help in their recovery.



**4,150**  
**Beneficiaries**

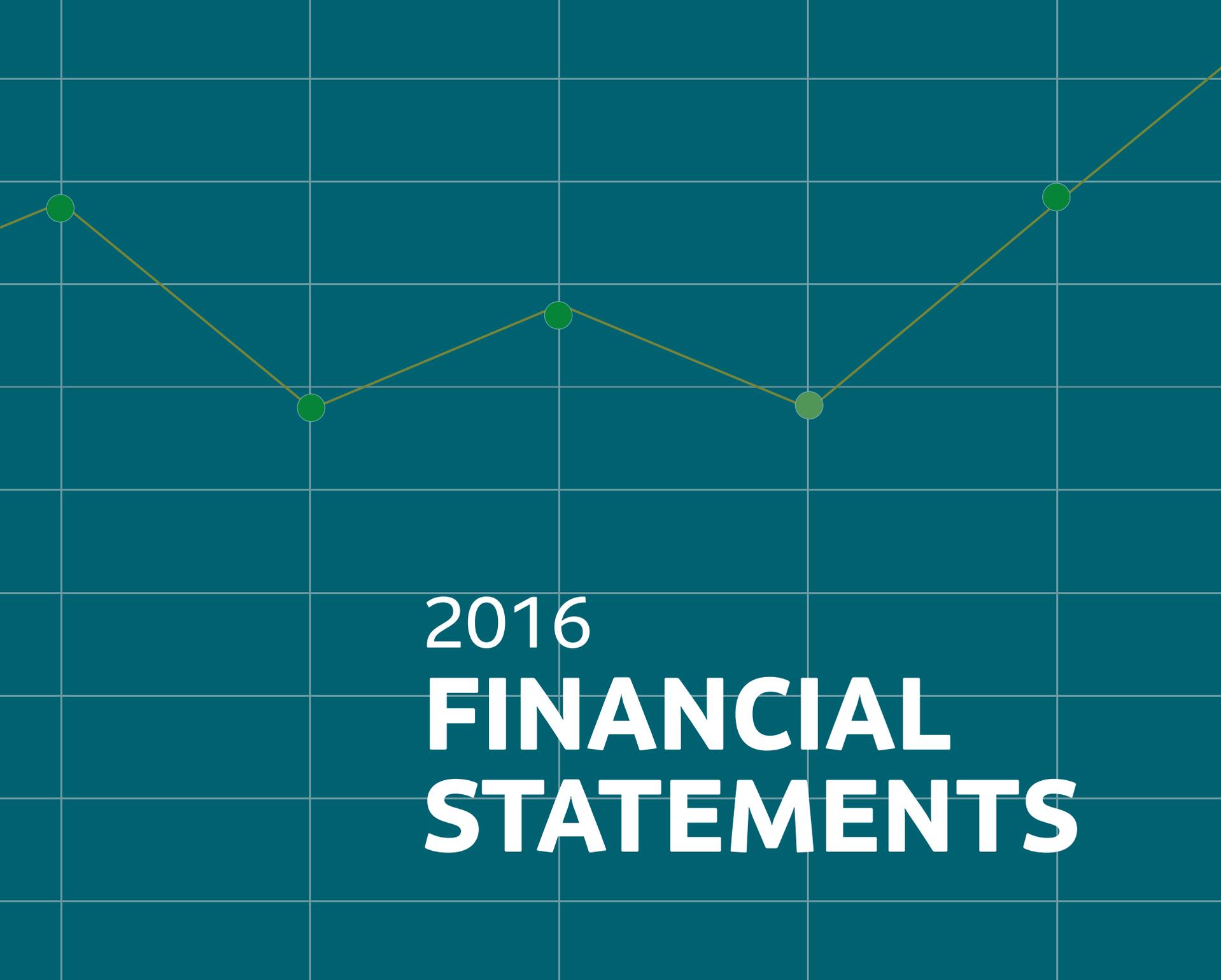




## Project 120 Boats

With PROJECT 120 BOATS, fisher folks from far-flung municipalities were able to recuperate their livelihood. From individuals to group donations, we were able to give more than 120 boats to affected families in Bohol, Iloilo, and Palawan.

For 2016, beneficiaries from Calubian (Leyte), Carnaza Island (Cebu), and Higatangan (Biliran) took sail once again in their new communal fishing boats and equipment.



2016  
**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

## Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance

	2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	P 50,598,385	P 51,571,519
Advances to employees	292,137	268,405
	<b>P 50,890,522</b>	<b>P 51,839,924</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other payables	P 394,345	P 2,479,538
Due to a related party	75,195	59,920
	<b>469,540</b>	<b>2,539,458</b>
Fund Balance	50,420,982	49,300,466
	<b>P 50,890,522</b>	<b>P 51,839,924</b>

## Statements of Receipts and Expenses

	2016	2015
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Grants	P 35,346,318	P 58,225,758
Other income	843,090	410,003
	<b>36,189,408</b>	<b>58,635,761</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program expenses	32,919,072	45,491,738
Salaries and other benefits	911,498	1,615,104
Professional and consultancy fees	848,352	799,516
Printing	76,566	1,947
Communication	49,100	41,721
Transportation	48,156	60,761
Meat allowance	22,502	45,272
SSS,PHIC,HDMF and other contributions	20,717	31,144
Office supplies	16,116	85,019
Taxes and licenses	12,927	62,383
Advertising	3,580	5,250
Seminar and training	3,552	-
Bank charges	1,250	650
Miscellaneous	135,504	236,434
	<b>35,068,892</b>	<b>48,476,939</b>
Net Receipts (Expenses) for the Year	<b>P 1,120,516</b>	<b>P 10,158,822</b>

## Statements of Changes in Fund Balance

Charged to Expenses		For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015	
Balance, January 1, 2015		P 39,141,644	
Net receipts for the year		10,158,822	
Balance, December 31, 2015		49,300,466	
Net receipts for the year		1,120,516	
Balance, December 31, 2016		P 50,420,982	

## Statements of Cash Flow

For the Years Ended December 31		
	2016	2015
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Net receipts for the year	P 1,120,516	P 10,158,822
Adjustments for:		
Interest income	(616,090)	(410,003)
Income from reversal of accrual	(227,000)	-
Operating cash flows before working capital changes	277,426	9,748,819
Increase in advances to employees	(23,732)	(85,240)
Increase (Decrease) in:		
Accrued Expenses and other payables	(1,858,193)	1,482,444
Due to a related party	15,275)	(69,473)
Net cash from (used in) operating activities	(1,589,224)	11,076,550
<b>Cash Flows from an Investing Activity</b>		
Interest income received	616,090	410,003
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash in Bank	(973,134)	11,486,553
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning	51,571,519	40,084,966
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End	P 50,598,385	P 51,571,519

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Rizalina Mantaring  
Chairman



Alex Narciso  
President



Yahmin Mattison  
Trustee



Mike Enriquez  
Vice President



Karen Casas  
Trustee

