

Implementing Partners

Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST) is a non-stock, non-profit international organization based in Makati City Philippines that aims to improve the quality of life of all stakeholders in society by bringing about better environmental, economic and social outcomes through the use of coherent, innovative and efficient human, financial and physical resources as instruments for learning, growth and sustainable development. ASSIST advocates the interrelation of both the social and industrial sector in achieving real and sustainable progress.

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Women’s Crisis Center (WCC) is a non-stock, non-profit organization with a firm commitment to end violence against women and to work towards a just and humane society. It is the first ever crisis center in the Philippines for women survivors of battering, rape, incest, sexual harassment, prostitution, and sex trafficking. On February 19, 1989, the Women’s Crisis Center was formally established. It also introduced the radical concept of feminist counseling in the country.

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National Network of Family Violence Prevention Programs WCC is the convener of this partnership of 48 women’s organizations serving urban, rural, and indigenous communities within Metro Manila and in different sites of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Its activities include center- and community-based prevention and intervention strategies addressing violence against women, family violence, gender-fair education programs, peer advocacy, programs for men and feminist andragogy.

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The European Union is a major player in international cooperation and development aid. It is made up of 27 Member States who have over 50 years engaged in building zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The EU is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.



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USE RA 9262

Undertaking Survivors’ Experiences (in accessing) RA 9262

A National research, capacity building & networking program on monitoring and facilitation of the implementation of RA 9262 or the Anti Violence against Women and their Children Act of 2004 in the Philippines.



This project is funded by the European Union’s Philippine- based EIDHR Programme



Project Implementers

Background

What is RA 9262?

Republic Act No. 9262 of 2004 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children provides protection for abused women and their children against their partners or former male partners or those with whom they had or are having a dating relationship.

USE RA 9262 – Undertaking Survivors’ Experiences in accessing RA 9262

Through the European Union’s funding under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), the Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST) and the Women’s Crisis Center (WCC) together with the National Network of Family Violence Prevention Programs (NNFVPP) recognize these issues thus launching on November 2009 USE R.A. 9262 – Undertaking Survivor’s Experiences – Monitoring and Facilitation of Implementation of RA 9262 Through Enhanced Claim Making of Women Victim Survivors. For the past few months, USE R.A. 9262 conducted activities empowering women in claiming their rights, strengthening of women’s organizations and NNFVPP, and engaging duty bearers in understanding their responsibility in the implementation of the law.

Project Goal

The project aims to establish a monitoring system on RA 9262 that is anchored on women’s experiences and on the enhanced capabilities of non-government organizations handling domestic violence that will lead to the implementation of the law that works for women victim-survivors in reclaiming their rights.

Project Duration: 24 months
Project Location: Philippines (Nationwide)
Target Groups – WCC, 48 Member organisations of National Network of Family Violence Prevention Programs (NNFVPP), other Women NGOs

Project Activities:

What has been done.

1. RESEACH CLUSTER: QUARTER 1 AND 2

a. Gap Assessment

Rapid Appraisal – December 2009 to February 2010

- ▶ Collation of survey results for a better understanding of the root causes of violations.
- ▶ Assessed the current level of human rights awareness and identified the constraints and obstacles faced by the victims, claimants, duty bearers and institutional facilitators.
- ▶ Gathered data for the development of RA 9262 database and monitoring portal.

b. Evidence Gathering

Project Partners’ Forum – Cebu City, Cebu: 27 – 28 January 2010

Project Partners’ Forum – UP Diliman, Quezon City: 18 – 19 February 2010

- ▶ Participated by different stakeholders from women’s organizations, private law firms, VAWC victims support groups, local police, and local barangay officials.
- ▶ Evaluation of preliminary local assessment findings for verification of project partners.
- ▶ Strengthened collaboration among VAWC advocates in the Philippines through the forum and reiteration of partners’ support for an evidence-based data gathering for RA 9262.



2. ALTERNATIVE MONITORING SYSTEM CLUSTER: Quarter 2 and 3



a. Demystifying RA 9262 & Toolkit

Write-shop on the Development of Demystifying RA 9262 & Toolkit – WCC: 26 – 27 May 2010

- ▶ Consolidated Quarter 1 and 2 activity outputs for the drafting of the training manual.
- ▶ Invited project partners for the evaluation of the preliminary draft and gathering of comments and suggestion.
- ▶ Identified keys project target groups and possible challenges during the conduct of the training

Future Agenda

3. CAPACITY BUILDING CLUSTER



a. Institutional strengthening of NNFVPP

- ▶ At least 20 members of NNFVPP will be enabled to improve their administrative and organizational skills to carry forward the initiative in a more structured and professional manner.
- ▶ They will be educated on the use of the alternative monitoring portal.

b. Awareness-Raising Initiatives

- ▶ One campaign is targeted at women’s organizations, POs and government agencies to highlight their respective role in the implementation process.
- ▶ The second campaign targets at least 20 barangays to educate them on RA 9262 through innovative activities like a drama contest and setting up of information kiosk.
- ▶ Awareness is created at family and individual level through family conferences that in addition to educating people would also promote justice and healing.

4. ALTERNATIVE MONITORING SYSTEM CLUSTER



A. Monitoring Portal

- ▶ It is meant to provide a platform for information exchange between various stakeholders and it will hold a measurement and monitoring system aimed at capturing the degree of implementation of RA 9262.

B. Court Watch

- ▶ A network of service providers and women survivors will be formed on a voluntary basis to monitor the implementation of the law, which will draw attention of the main stream media and government to proceedings of cases before court.

C. Training Monitor

- ▶ A training monitor shall be established through the Regional Inter Agency Council for Violence against Women (RIAC-VAW).

5. ADVOCACY CLUSTER



a. Dialogue / Discussion

- ▶ A series of FGDs and round table conferences will be held with various duty bearers (PNP, DOJ, DOSW and Barangay councils) through regional Interagency council, to identify roles & responsibilities of each duty bearer, level of interaction / cooperation existing between them and how it can be enhanced to uphold the rights of women.

b. Campaigns

- ▶ Based on the data gathered from the alternative monitoring system an evidence based campaign to advocate for changes in law, legal procedure will be launched.