

SUNDIAL

Updates from Project Propel

ECOFARMS: PROPELLING INDIGENOUS FARMERS IN LUZON



The EcoFarms are designed to propel indigenous communities towards health, self-reliance, and economic empowerment through organic farming.

Indigenous peoples experience major structural barriers in achieving health equity when compared to non-indigenous counterparts. This is affected by their living conditions, income levels, employment rates, access to safe water, sanitation, health services and food availability. They are historically seminomadic hunter-gatherer societies whose lands are continually threatened by the effects of climate change and environmental degradation.

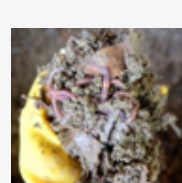
EcoFarms combine indigenous farming knowledge with permaculture principles. Permaculture comes from *permanent agriculture*. It uses a whole-systems thinking approach, leading to sustainability, both for those cultivating the earth as well as the ecological health of the soil and natural environment.

The EcoFarms are now flourishing in two primary locations on the island of Luzon. The Pamihahaup EcoFarms of the Aeta tribe are located in Tarlac about 2 hours north of Metro Manila. The Manide EcoFarm is located 8 hours south of Manila in the Bicol region. In total, 25 farmer families are involved and growing a number of crops such as peanuts, rice, string beans, corn, eggplant, and chili. In addition, they have all been trained in organic compost & concoction making, and will undergo financial management training, merchandising, and value-added production.

To support or get involved in the EcoFarms visit:
<http://www.projectpropel.org/ecofarms>

THE ECOFARMS INCLUDE:

- Multi-purpose area / nursery
- Livelihood store
- Conventional compost area
- Vermicompost area
- Clivus composting toilet
- Drinking water filtration system
- Rice hull carbonizer



1. https://www.un-ilibrary.org/human-rights-and-refugees/state-of-the-world-s-indigenous-peoples_47f7e4f3-en

PROVIDING RELIEF TO COVID-19 AFFECTED COMMUNITIES



Countries around the globe continue to face challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This global situation has impacted millions, and our hearts are with all who have been affected. In the Philippines, Project Propel through its livelihood program began manufacturing and distributing EcoMasks (washable facemasks). The urban EcoGardens provide sustainable food security for eight urban communities in Metro Manila. We continue to operate our Manila office, adjusting the physical workplace, staff schedules, and health protocols as required by the local government.

Project Propel, in partnership with Sierreza and Good Food Community, was able to distribute fresh organic vegetables to urban families severely at risk of food insecurity during the strict quarantine measures in Manila. Fresh vegetable packs were distributed throughout the month of June to six communities comprising more than 600 families. These distributions were a double blessing, enabling indigenous farmers to still sell their produce despite the lockdowns, and providing healthy food to struggling daily-wage worker families in Manila. Many thanks to the Project Propel volunteers and local government officials who facilitated the distributions!



ECOWINGS LIVELIHOOD GOES ONLINE

EcoWings, an eco-conscious livelihood program of Project Propel, has launched its very own online store on Lazada! At the online store you can find EcoWings & EcoLiners (menstrual products), EcoRounds (facial rounds), and EcoMasks (facemasks)! All of the products are washable and reusable, ensuring less non-biodegradable waste reaches our waterways and landfills!

Purchase of these products is threefold--helping the consumer, the planet, and providing economic empowerment to the dedicated ladies of the EcoWings team!



Project Propel welcomes Eianna Lontoc, as the EcoWings program coordinator. She originally conducted this program's vocational training and is now training six women to manage and take over EcoWings as an independent social enterprise.

VISIT THE ECOWINGS ONLINE STORE:



<https://www.lazada.com.ph/shop/ecowings-ph>

FOLLOW ECOWINGS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @EcoWingsPH

Instagram: @EcoWings_ph

HELP US REACH OUR YEAR-END FUNDRAISING GOAL

Current individual donor contributions:	USD \$6,806.80
Year-end fundraising goal:	USD \$40,000.00
Amount remaining:	USD \$33,193.20



THANK YOU to the Project Propel Donor Family.

Donations to Project Propel are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

To give a GIFT THAT GROWS, please visit www.projectpropel.org

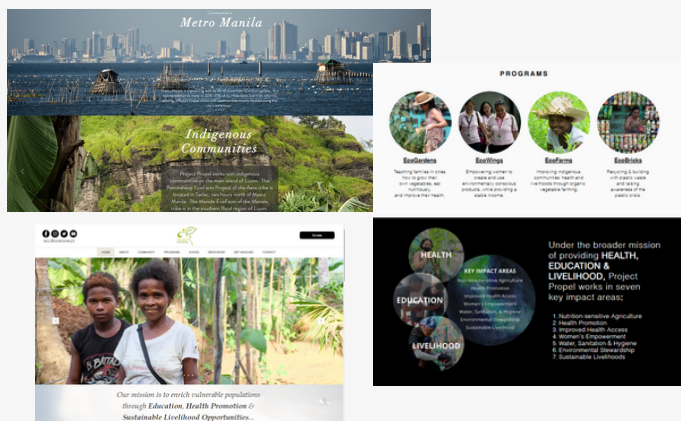
PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: MERCY



This is Mercy working diligently from her home. She is part of the Project Propel EcoWings team, crafting eco-conscious products like menstrual pads, facial rounds, and face masks.

Mercy is a senior citizen and due to the pandemic, she now works from home. When she joined EcoWings in 2018, she informed us that it was her first job, one that she has held with joy and pride. With her earnings, she supports her basic needs and also those of her four grandchildren. We applaud Mercy for her hard work and her continual positive outlook, especially during this time!

PROJECT PROPEL WEBSITE LAUNCH



Take some time to visit our newly launched website at:

www.projectpropel.org

TRIBUTE TO PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ROBERTA PLANTAK



Project Propel Program Director, Roberta Plantak completed her post in the Philippines earlier this year. Roberta was instrumental in establishing Project Propel as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the United States before moving to the Philippines in 2016. Though she will be missed by all in Manila, Roberta remains as an active member of the Board of Directors and continues to support the organization through fundraising activities.

Her infectious energy has truly propelled action within communities and the organization. While in the Philippines, Roberta spearheaded program development, community organizing, and helped expand the Project Propel network.

The Fresh Perspectives (children's arts & writing program) and the EcoWings (sustainable, eco-conscious livelihood) both came to fruition thanks to Roberta's drive and passion for women, children & the environment.

Words simply can't grasp our gratitude for all she has done! ***Maraming salamat, Roberta!***

Support our mission of *enriching vulnerable populations through education, health promotion, and sustainable livelihood opportunities while nurturing respect for our Earth* by making a gift at www.PROJECTPROPEL.org