



## Community Bulletin Board

There will be a CDO  
Housing Summit on  
July 22, 2015.

### Venue:

Inquire at City Hous-  
ing Task Force Office,  
City Hall

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## Ecoville Project's ideation camp attracts Lumbia entreps, start-ups

By Niña Bea Cadorna

The Xavier Ecoville Project (XEP) management team brought together 15 social entrepreneurs from Barangay Lumbia to participate in "Ideya Patigayun" on May 23-26 at the Country Village Hotel and Southeast Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN).

With the theme "Negosyo mamugna gikan sa ideya," the four-day ideation camp was aimed at improving the economic opportunities of the participants (aged 18-50 years old) through discussions and training on product innovation, marketing and business management.

"Mismanagement was seen as one of the reasons why a business cannot be sustained at Lumbia. Thus, we considered conducting an ideation camp for entrepreneurs to guide them in starting up and venturing into a more innovative business," said Therese Baliwag, the project head of the said camp.

The first two days of the camp were allocated for discussions and coaching sessions wherein several business experts were invited to speak about starting, managing and sustaining a business.

The remaining two days were allotted for business pitching where the participants would convince the panelists to invest on their products.



*The winners and finalists of the Ideya Patigayun*

### Bright business pitches

During the business pitching session, the participants showcased their entrepreneurial ideas and products.

Most of them opted for businesses involving food production such as homemade longganisa (sausage), cashew nuts and calamay (sticky sweet rice delicacy packaged in a coconut shell), while others were more into catering the needs of the community such as putting up a barber shop and rice lending. (P.2)





### Promising business start-ups

At the end of the camp, five business ideas were chosen as the Best Pitches from the 15 participants.

The winners of the ideation camp were Irene Oragasajo (1st place - cashew nuts business), Leonilyn Tabaniag (2nd - corn coffee with herbs), Ritchelyn Echaves (3rd - homemade chicken and pork longganisa), Roy O Quilala (4th - yema or custard candy) and Ellen D Ampoloquio (5th - calamay).

"All of us have had a hard time choosing the best pitches. All of them have great business ideas but we were also considering how they are going to manage and sustain the business and how their products can, in a way, help the community," said Baba Pelaez, one of the speakers and member of the panel at the camp.

Through the sponsorship of SMART Communications and Petron Corporation and fundraising efforts of Team Lihok Arun Padulong sa

Kalambuan (LAPUK), the first place got a start-up capital worth Php30,000; the second place with Php20,000; the third place with Php15,000; while the fourth and fifth placers got Php10, 000 each.

"I feel proud for these Lumbia residents who have learned to propose and pitch their business plans. I am so excited to see their business boom," Pelaez added.

XEP is planning to conduct a bigger ideation camp with participants from other barangays. **T**



# A Letter to the Community



*Jhon Louie B Sabal*  
Program Officer for Organizational Development  
The Xavier Ecoville Project (May 01, 2014-May 15, 2015)

Working with you for a year was the most challenging and memorable I have so far!

When I started this journey, I had a lot of hesitations and uncertainties. Working with a community with diverse attitudes and personalities is totally not easy especially to a young and learning community development officer like me.

I thought that the task was merely a job and you are merely the people that I am obliged to work with and serve with. As months passed by, we have created memories together out from our challenges and successes.

I have undeniably enjoyed your company whenever we find for solutions on intertwining problems, on finding for the right projects which can truly serve our community, on creating the best possible system that would ensure that everyone can participate in--the planning and even on solving individual differences among ourselves.

The experience with all of you have taught me so many things and made me see a clearer look of the reality of our community. I hope that as I say farewell to all of you, we remember three things.

**LEARN CONTINUOUSLY**- All of us are not definite, regardless of our achievements, we must remain to seek for more learnings and knowledge. Our community is not the same as it was before, we must learn more to understand the problems better so we can find the best solutions.

**RESPECT EACH OTHER** - We might have our own individual differences; we might not agree on a lot of things but we must remind ourselves to respect each other. We might not have all the possessions and worldly things but at least we have made each other feel respected even on times of disagreements.

**BE HUMBLE** -This is in connection to the previous value, all of us are eager to suggest a lot of things for our community but remember our XLP session. Engage in a dialogue not in a debate, find your common ground and dwell on it. Xavier Ecoville does not want leaders who just argue but leaders who find a common ground with one another.

The Project Management Team will be leaving you so soon, Xavier Ecoville is your community, all that in it whether good and bad are all yours. Create a culture that will make it more conducive, a peaceful and loving community.

The challenge is totally in your hands, it shall rest in there the things that you want to do for Xavier Ecoville. Make it the model resettlement site, not because Xavier University is there but because you are in here, because you want to act and make a difference in your respective lives.

I shall be glad to watch it all happen from afar. I know that you can make it when all of you will work together to make it happen.

Thank you for the opportunity to be working with you. We haven't just built houses. We have built a community! God bless, Xavier Ecoville! **T**



"Malipayon kami nga nahatagan mi og higayon sa Xavier Ecoville Project nga makapatukod sa among kaugalingong negosyo pinaagi aning Ideya Patigayun," said Leonilyn Tabaniag, one of the participants.

[We are grateful to the Xavier Ecoville Project for giving us the opportunity to start our own business through this Ideation Camp.]

Another participant Roy Quilala added "Dili diay basta-basta ang pag negosyo. Kinahanglan naa ka'y sakto nga kaalam arun mas mulambo kini."

[Building a business is not that easy. You need to have the right knowledge in order to sustain your business.]



# XEMPCO gathers for 2nd general assembly

*By Therese Rhea Rose M. Baliwag*

Members of the Xavier Ecoville Multi-Purpose Cooperative (XEMPCO) gathered together for its 2nd Annual General Assembly on 22 March 2015 at the Xavier Ecoville Multi-Purpose Hall. The general assembly reached quorum as 148 members attended and listened to the reports given by the General Manager, Ms Marilou Alfabeto.

Since its organization and registration to CDA on 2012, XEMPCO has grown in terms of membership and has expanded its reach to the market. With its six enterprises: Credit and Loan, Wholesale, Sewing Enterprise, Food Processing and Bakery, Agri-enterprise, and Manpower, XEMPCO was able to employ more members from the Xavier Ecoville community and has also widened its market.

Ms Nancy Joy Tolinero, the previous Community Development Team Leader of the Xavier Ecoville Project and presently the Chapter Administrator of Philippine Red Cross Region X, graced the event with her presence as the Guest Speaker. She has cited the significant milestones of the cooperative and the challenges that the cooperative needs to hurdle for it to grow.

During the General Assembly, the election of new members of the Board of Directors, Election Committee, and the Auditor was also conducted.

The new XEMPCO BOD are Shirley Siarot, Shiela Mota, Ana Tabaniag, Lydia Berro, Teofanisa Ompoc, Eunice Cuarteros and Perlita Vertulfo.

The assemble ended at 11:30 AM with the giving out of tokens, door prizes, and dividend and patronage refund slip. **T**

## What's New in Xavier Ecoville?

**1. Children's Playground** - JCI Macajalar 24K, Inc. and JCI Manila turned over the study center playground to the Xavier Ecoville community last March 15, 2015.

**2. Community Block Directories** – To empower the block officers and reinforce the importance of their roles and responsibilities in the community, 29 block directories were constructed in Xavier Ecoville last March 21, 2015. Each block directory shows the name and position of officers per block. These block directories were assembled by the Manpower Association of Xavier Ecoville (MAXEMA).

**3. New Sewing Machines** - SMART Communications Inc. turned-over new sewing machines to Xavier Ecoville Multi-Purpose Cooperative's sewing enterprise last March 13, 2015. The XE sewers are now using these sewing machines for their bag production.

**4. Validated Stickers** – To update the Xavier Ecoville residents' profile, the Xavier Ecoville Project Management Team conducted a revalidation activity to all the 568 houses last April 11, 2015 and May 21, 2015. The validation was necessary to finalize the master list of official residents in XE and to monitor the residents as well. **T**

