The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

- ☑ Institutional governance/strategic level
- $\hfill\square$ SDGs in research
- \Box SDGs in campus operations
- $\hfill\square$ SDGs in curriculum development
- $\hfill\square$ SDGs in student engagement activities
- \boxtimes SDGs into community activities
- \boxtimes SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- ⊠ Goal 1 No poverty
- 🗆 Goal 2 Zero hunger
- □ Goal 3 Good health and wellbeing
- ⊠ Goal 4 Quality education
- □ Goal 5 Gender equality
- $\hfill\square$ Goal 6 Clean water and sanitation
- □ Goal 7 Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 Decent work and economic growth
- □ Goal 9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- □ Goal 10 Reduced inequalities
- \square Goal 11 Sustainable cities and communities
- □ Goal 12 Responsible consumption and production
- □ Goal 13 Climate action
- □ Goal 14 Life below water
- □ Goal 15 Life on land
- \square Goal 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 Partnerships for the goals

FEATURED SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE:



In response to the institution's strategic direction of "Embracing Our Shared Humanity and Championing Social Inclusion and Justice Initiatives", De La Salle Lipa (DLSL), through its Community Involvement Office (CIO) has taken the lead in organizing the **Hanunuo Mangyan Livelihood & Consumers Cooperative or HAMALICON Coop** for indigenous Mangyans at Barangay Benli, Town of Bulalacao, Province of Oriental Mindoro, Philippines. It is a cooperative of the Hanunuo Mangyan tribe that was registered February 17, 2020 at the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) MIMAROPA, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines. It was established to address the various concerns of Mangyan farmers such as the low price of agricultural products bought by traders, insufficient capital to continue farming, and lack of innovative farming methods that will help them become more resilient to climate change.

It is the school's drive to promote the welfare and well-being of the Hanunuo farmers to give them strength to help them to meet their basic needs, provide for the needs of the community and bring products and services to all consumers at the right and fair price. The cooperative aims to make a way for the tribe to have consistent livelihood opportunities while contributing to environmental conservation by restoring spoiled forest and mountains in the area. An initial One Hundred Thousand Philippine Peso (approximate USD2,084.00) has been donated by the school to run the initiative.

The HAMALICON COOP initiative was organized to:

1. develop and uplift the livelihood and social conditions of some 584 families from seven (7) sitios of Hanunuo-Mangyan farmers in the town;

2. enrich the income of the Indigenous Hanunuo Mangyan to meet their daily needs and have a livelihood that will benefit its members; and,

3. restore the damaged forests/mountains in the town of Bulalacao, Province of Oriental Mindoro, Philippines and conserve the remaining forests that provide water and livelihoods

Challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:

The insufficient knowledge of Hanunuo Mangyan Farmers to trade their crops and run the cooperative was a major challenge to the community. DLSL Community Involvement Office, thru teaching and collaboration with local government units and non-governmental organizations, found ways to increase the knowledge of each member by continuous education, mentoring and seminars. Intervention seminar-workshops for cooperative officers were done. Cooperative members were expected also to take part by providing the goods/crops to the cooperative store, pack and transport their goods and ultimately help in selling their goods.

With the current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, updates on intervention programs with the community were put on hold. However, virtual meetings with the cooperative officers were done to check cooperative's status, progress, and achievements. To date, there are a total of three (3) sitio cooperative stores, namely, Benli Store, Bailan Store and Umabang Store.



The typical cooperative store set-up at the community site of Benli, Bailan and Umabang.



De La Salle Lipa Partner's/Volunteers donated two (2) carabaos, as initial means to help in the operational challenges of transporting goods of HAMALICON Coop from one location to another.





Seminars and Workshops has been conducted to educate members of the cooperative.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Partnership for growth and development, targeting the SDGs Goal 1, Goal 8 and Goal 10, is the ultimate bottom-line why DLSL has taken the lead to organize the HAMALICON Coop. Typically, the HAMALICON Coop will build market strength for and economic synergy to various trades and crops that an independent farmer may have difficulty in achieving. As a consumer cooperative, it zero-ins on the collective purchase, storage, and distribution of products or basic needs of members and communities. The cooperative acts as integrator, distributor, collecting output from members and delivering it to many people downstream through marketing and coordination channels.

It is likewise imperative that organizing this kind of initiative requires a close coordination with members of the indigenous community, educating and empowering them how to address the current pressing concerns in their farm produce from low process to opportunistic businessmen that take advantage of their lack of knowledge and capabilities.

Related link: https://www.dlsl.edu.ph/dlsl-takes-lead-in-organizing-hamalicon-coop/