# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



Throughout the years, PNB has played an active role in nation-building through its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. In 2016, the Bank continued to reach out to communities through social philanthropic activities focusing on education, youth development, and environmental protection.

# **Encouraging Employee Volunteerism**

PNB branches and other interest groups nationwide actively participated in various CSR activities by providing support to partner charities, communities, and schools for various projects on infrastructure improvement and social development, including assistance in times of disasters.

One such project, institutionalized by the Branch Banking Group (BBG), was the Piso-Piso Cada Linggo, a voluntary fund drive to support the Sisters of Mary Banneux, a religious congregation that establishes boystowns and girlstowns which serve as boarding schools for deserving students coming from less fortunate families. The program aimed to support the secondary and vocational education of children coming from the poorest families all over the country. From donations raised from the Bank's 630 branches and various groups under BBG, a check worth Php500,000 was handed over to the Sisters of Mary Banneux last December

2016. The donation helped sustain the education of more than a hundred scholars.

Heeding the call to serve, PNB Pototan Branch employees held their own outreach at Barangay Bucari in Leon, Iloilo. By sharing their time and energy, the volunteers helped preserved the environment by providing 1,000 hard wood and fruit bearing seedlings to the community. The team also donated packed goods to around 200 families and gave free haircuts for 100 kids and adults in partnership with the Philippine Army and the local government.

More PNB branches initiated their own outreach projects for the elderly and unfortunate children. Through the Maasin Philnabankers' Multi-Purpose Cooperative annual outreach program, employee volunteers from the PNB Maasin Branch distributed food and gift packs to 70 students of Maasin City SPED Center with disabilities and special needs. Meanwhile, North Metro Cebu branches joined hands in reaching out to the elderly of Ibo, Lapu Lapu City, an impoverished community. In Mindanao, the South Western Mindanao Area held a gift-giving party for the beneficiaries of the Akay-Kalinga Centre in Zamboanga City, a non-government organization that helps street children. PNB Basilan-Isabela Strong Boulevard Branch also organized a Christmas party for the sick children in Basilan General Hospital – Pediatrics Unit.

PNB continued its Pagtutulungan ng Bayan, a volunteer CSR initiative of the Bank's employees. Through this program, employees were able to raise funds for indigents, victims of calamities and other emergencies, and to support various employee-driven CSR projects.

# **Empowering the Youth**

In support of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSP) thrust to instill financial discipline and to involve the banking industry in teaching basic financial knowledge, PNB and ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation, Inc. (ALKFI) jointly engaged in a financial literacy program entitled, "Young and Empowered Students for the Philippines" or YESPh. The YESPh Financial Literacy Program seeks to educate and promote the importance of saving, budgeting, and wise money management among the youth. Being a pilot project, the YESPh was cascaded to at least 40 schools nationwide from December 2015 to March 2016. Through the collaborative efforts of PNB and the BSP. YESPh was able to reach an audience of over 10,700 students.

PNB also supports the BSP's Project BRO (BSP Reaches Out), a campaign that encourages children to open a bank account and learn the merits of "saving early, saving in banks, and spending wisely."

The Bank likewise continued its mission to

inspire hope for a brighter future among students nationwide through the Books Across The Seas (BATS) Project. This ongoing program aims to provide tools for learning through book donations to public schools and libraries.

PNB, through its Global Filipino Banking Group, conducted free financial literacy seminars for the benefit of our Overseas Filipino Workers. These included the following: (1) "Planning for your Retirement" last July 9, 2016 at Lucky Plaza, Singapore; (2) Seminar for BPI-ASKI Financial Education Participants last July 14, 2016 at Lucky Plaza, Singapore; (3) "Building Filipino Wealth" last October 19, 2016 at National University of Singapore; (4) "Capability Building & Convergence" for OFWs last December 2, 2016 at Zamboanga City; and (5) Financial Literacy Talk during the OWWA OFW Family Day last December 8, 2016 at the City Coliseum, Tetuan, Zamboanga City.

# **Protecting Natural Resources**

Committed to the cause of environmental preservation, Southern Luzon 3 Branches participated in the Marian Fluvial Procession in Laguna de Bay to show solidarity with the Ministry of Ecology of the Diocese of San Pablo City's run and relief activity dubbed as Lakbay-Lawa Kaisa ni Maria. The activity highlighted the need for the protection of Laguna de Bay. The branches also provided food and drinks to the participants.





# TAKING STEPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

PNB introduced bank-wide projects to reduce its carbon footprint, which include:

- ✓ Reducing power consumption by using LED lighting for and upgrading equipment at the head office and branches
- Utilizing more ozone-friendly and energy-efficient cooling equipment
- Using high-energy efficient inverter air-conditioning units
- Improving waste management through proper waste segregation
- ✓ Holding the annual tree-planting program, usually held during the Bank's anniversary
- ✓ Participating in the annual Earth Hour, a global event where non-essential electric usage is turned off to support strategies in solving climate change

