

**Session 5: *The Role of Transnational
Communities in Local Development***

**Cagayan Valley and CAR
Results**

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- Transnational communities respond to immediate and more visible problems (medical mission, school classrooms, educational support to indigent students)
- Organizations abroad respond to expressed needs (in town fiestas, in correspondence, in visits of local executives abroad)
- Organizations and individuals abroad proactively offer assistance (improvement of school facilities, scholarships, donation of books and medical equipment, travel overseas for training)

Types of migrant-supported projects found in CAR and Cagayan Valley

Name of Project	Objectives	Location
Classroom, Galing sa Mamamayang Pilipino Abroad (CGMA)	To build 10,000 classrooms in elementary and secondary public schools through donations	Nationwide 3 in CAR 6 in Region 2
Gearing up Internet Literacy and Access for Students (GILAS)	To provide Internet access to public high school students in the Philippines	Nation-wide So far, 5 in Cagayan, 11 in Isabela, 2 in Nueva Vizcaya
Gawad Kalinga (ANCOP CANADA) in Nueva Vizcaya	To provide housing for indigent families.	Nueva Vizcaya

Name of Project	Objectives	Location
GK333 Scholarship programs	To support indigent but academically promising students	Nueva Vizcaya
Toilets at the Our Lady of Piat church compound	To provide sufficient facilities for devotees, pilgrims and tourists	Piat, Cagayan
Construction of a building and provision of computers	To construct a building and provide up-to-date computer facilities at Malabbac Elementary School.	Iguig, Cagayan

Name of Project	Objectives	Location
Medical and Dental Missions	To provide free medical services to indigent families.	Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya
Children's Park	To build a park that is accessible to all children of Nueva Vizcaya and its visitors	Provincial Capitol, Nueva Vizcaya
School improvements	To support projects that will improve school facilities.	Ilagan, Isabela
Investment in a resort and school	To invest in projects that will bring in income for the family of the overseas Filipino.	Naguilian, Isabela

Investment on an international courier service (specifically to service OFs)		Cordillera region
Igorot Scholarship Program Of the Igorot Global Organization	To provide scholarship funds for Igorot college students	Cordillera region
School improvements	Support priority projects of the school	Baguio City National High School, Pines National High School, Saint Louis High School – Itogon , etc

Balik Scientist Program

Science and Technology experts who are Filipinos, or foreigners of Filipino descent, are encouraged to return or reside in the Philippines and share their expertise in order to accelerate the scientific, agro-industrial and economic development of the country

Two from the first batch since the program was revived in 2007 went to CAR

Medical assistance to teachers	To contribute to medical expenses of teachers	Baguio City
Distribution of medical equipment and supplies		Specified hospitals and RHUs in Benguet
Construction of a Training Center	To build a training center for over-age mentally impaired students.	Special Education (SPED) Center

Our Lady of Piat Shrine



Comfort room project funded by the Piat OFWs in Hong Kong and implemented by the church and the local government



- Proposal came from the local government
- Improving tourist facilities is reflected in the local development plan
- Piat OFWs offered the financial assistance
- Municipal engineer and other staff provided technical support
- Rev. Father of the Shrine manages donations

Balik Scientist

Dr. Norberto Ison, an alumnus of UP Los Baños and currently with the University of California at Berkeley

- a visiting professor for one sem in 2007-2008 at the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, College of Science, UP Baguio
- Supported by the DOST under the BSP
- No contribution from UP Baguio except office space and board for two weeks

His contributions:

- Taught Math 101 and Bio 101
- Set up less known methods for student access to course materials: www.google.com/a/ntison.org/math-101 and google.com/a/ntison.org/bio-101
- Suggested putting up a wireless access point at the campus library (done and operational)

- Shared ideas on possible future directions in statistics
 - Formation of a statistical group on campus to be made up of faculty
 - Formation of a computing support group on campus to expand the current computing support staff

In summary...

- There are many partnerships between migrant associations (and individuals) and local organizations or communities and/or local governments
- Documentation and institutionalization of partnerships not a usual practice
- So, effects and impacts of contributions are hard to measure

- Local chief executives and government workers are aware of the untapped resources from international migration
- But efforts are sporadic, unsystematic, not institutionalized
- Other partnerships are more systematically and formally undertaken.