



OVERVIEW OF

Philippines

Overview of Philippines



YEAR OF
1898*
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION
107,668,231
MILLION

26.5%
Population
BELOW
poverty line

Languages

Filipino and English are official languages, and are widely spoken. There are at least 120–indigenous languages also found in different regions of the archipelago.

Under-five Mortality Rate: 30 per 1,000 live births.
Philippines ranks 75 in the world.

Human Development Index (HDI) for 2013:
0.660 (ranked 117 out of 187, indicating medi-
um human development).

*The Philippines officially mark June 12, 1898 as Independence Day, when the first Philippine President declared independence from the Spanish colonial government, shortly before America, also then at war with the Spanish, occupied the Philippines. The CIA World Factbook notes July 4, 1946 as Philippine Independence Day, when America ended the 'Commonwealth' government, and returned autonomy to local leadership.

Brief History of ChildFund in Philippines

ChildFund came to Philippines: 1954

Number of provinces: 80 provinces and 39
chartered cities / ChildFund works in 17 areas

Number of enrolled children (FY14): 29,895

Number of participants (FY14): 422,360

PROGRAM MAP

LOCAL PARTNERS:

LUZON:

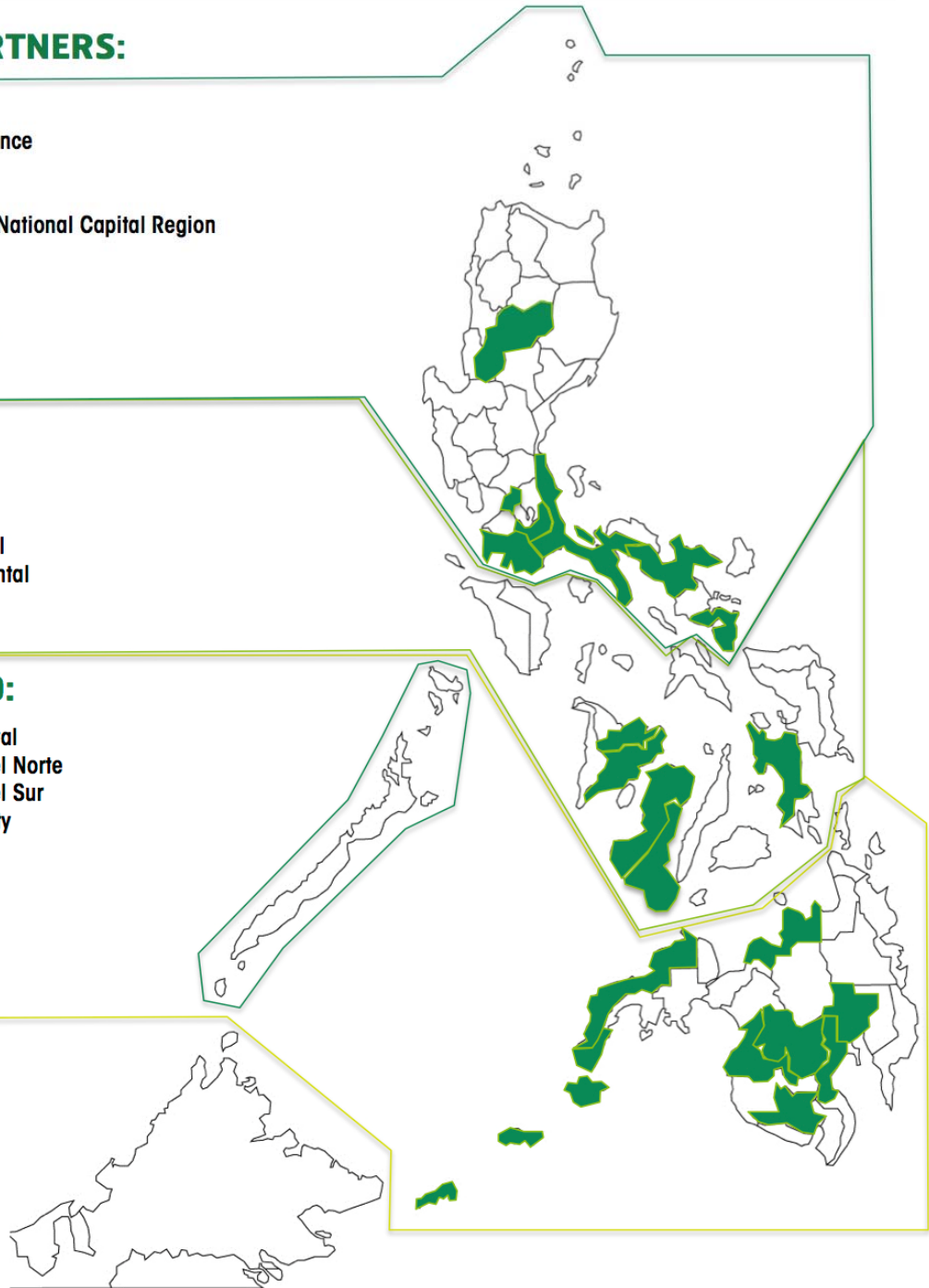
- Mountain Province
- Ifugao
- Benguet
- Metro Manila /National Capital Region
- Batangas
- Quezon
- Laguna
- Camarines Sur
- Sorsogon

VISAYAS:

- Iloilo
- Capiz
- Negros Oriental
- Negros Occidental
- Leyte

MINDANAO:

- Misamis Oriental
- Zamboanga Del Norte
- Zamboanga Del Sur
- Zamboanga City
- Cotabato
- Maguindanao
- Davao del Sur
- Basilan
- Sulu
- Tawi-tawi



Brief History of ChildFund in Philippines (continued)

ChildFund began its work in the Philippines in 1971, partnering first with religious organizations, and then with communities. The partnership model progressed and evolved over the years. Now, ChildFund partners with people's organizations, many of which have federated.

Brief Program Overview

ChildFund is a leading global, child development agency. We exist to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children improve their lives and grow into young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting positive change in their communities. We build communities that protect and advance the worth and rights of children.

ChildFund works to address expressions of deprivation, exclusion and vulnerability, as children experience it throughout different stages of their life, from infancy to adulthood. In FY14, ChildFund Philippine's projects directly benefitted 33,027 children through sponsorship, and an additional 60,872 children through emergency and grant projects. Our community-based approach allows our work to indirectly reach children's communities, benefitting close to 422,360 more Filipinos.

In times of emergency, ChildFund responds accordingly to need within areas where we operate. Super typhoon Haiyan in November 2013 saw ChildFund respond in a large-scale capacity to the burgeoning need across affected areas. It was only the third time in ChildFund's 75-year history where such a large-scale response has been mounted.

2014 Program Achievements

Emergency Response—Super Typhoon Haiyan

ChildFund mounted its largest emergency response effort in the Philippine Country Program, after the strongest recorded typhoon, Super Typhoon Haiyan, ravaged the central Philippines in November 2013. ChildFund prepositioned rapid assessment teams before the typhoon's landfall, and was one of the first NGOs to set up psychosocial response efforts for children. The extent of damage and need spread from the island of Leyte in the east, over Bantayan in Northern Cebu, and ChildFund responded in each of these locations. ChildFund delivered a total of 30 tons of food aid, and 10 tons of essential non-food items. More than 8,000 children benefitted from psychosocial support from ChildFund. A total of 150 water purifiers, suitable for serving small communities, were also spread across locations whose supply of potable water was inundated by the typhoon.

ChildFund remains invested in a recovery strategy for the Visayas, *REstoring Sustainable and Inclusive Livelihoods In Environments that NurTure and protect (RESILIENT)*. The strategy targets 80,000 people, more than half of which are children under five. This strategy takes a holistic approach to health, nutrition and development concerns for infants and young children, and the early recovery of commerce and livelihoods in post-Haiyan Visayas.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



Under the RESILIENT strategy, 32 Day Care Centers ruined by the typhoon have been repaired and rehabilitated, and furnished with learning kits, supplies, and teaching aids. A total of 15 semi-permanent Temporary Learning Spaces have been built on public school grounds, to help these schools cope with having fewer classrooms after the typhoon. In affected communities, health workers and parent volunteers have been engaged as health action teams, benefitting from training in nutrition and child protection.

Livelihood recovery is well under way in the Visayas. ChildFund has committed to livelihood initiatives benefitting 2,000 typhoon-affected families. A total of 50 sewing machines, 10 industrial-sized rice threshers and 10 heavy-duty irrigation pumps have been delivered to help jumpstart urban and agricultural livelihoods. Rapid market scanning was also done in affected areas, to identify livelihood opportunities. Livelihood training in cosmetic and salon services, t-shirt printing, and food production has also been completed.

ChildFund also prioritized returning 7,200 children across the Visayas to school through improving access.

ChildFund has been actively combatting child labor in the Philippines, through a consortium lead by World Vision, funded by a multi-year grant from the US Department of Labor. Currently called LEAP (Livelihoods, Education, Advocacy and Protection to reduce child labor in sugarcane areas), the consortium is now invested in sugarcane-growing communities all over the Philippines. Through participation in LEAP, ChildFund targets keeping 20,000 children participating, or at risk of falling into child labor in the sugar industry, outside of child labor and in formal or vocational schooling.

School supplies have currently been provided for more than half the total target number. Technical and vocational training has been given to 93 children. Forty-five (45) of these children have received government certification for their vocational training. Orientations for young people about vocational course options have been conducted in 11 cities or municipalities.

ChildFund recognizes the relationship between a child's poor performance at school and dropping out and finding their way into child labor. Through LEAP, alternative learning modules are reproduced for schools in sugarcane areas, and additional teaching aids are provided to help educators attract children to learning. Nearly 600 peer tutors and para-teachers have been organized to provide catch-up sessions for peers experiencing difficulties with academics. More than 500 local teachers have also been provided with training to better reach out to challenged learners. LEAP also repairs and constructs classrooms among schools in sugarcane areas, to foster an environment more conducive for learning.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



Financial systems for parents and families also help them keep their children in school. ChildFund has organized 224 Community-Managed Savings and Credit Associations (COMSCA) with almost 5,000 households now participating. Livelihood training and startup capital has been provided for close to 2,000 families in the industries of food processing, agri-enterprise, trading and services. Young people are also trained in commercial cooking, nail care and cosmetology, massage therapy, employability and life skills training for young people.

Committees among local governments have been established in support of anti-child labor advocacy. Ordinances have also been lobbied and approved across different communities in support of keeping children in school, and away from sugarcane labor.

Healthy and Secure Infants

Early Childhood Development (ECD) is a niche core program and this year, 4,200 children below 5 enjoyed quality ECD activities through home or center-based services. Home-based ECD services operate in remote communities where there are no day care centers.

Clean, potable water has proven essential to ECD services in villages whose only water source are deep wells. In Mindanao in the Southern Philippines, ChildFund has provided safe, potable water to 20,388 children under five, through Day Care Centers supported by ChildFund. These are found across six of the poorest provinces in the Philippines.

Educated and Confident Children

ChildFund provides conditional socialized education assistance for school-aged children in our programs, particularly those at risk of dropping out. In FY14, ChildFund helped 26,551 children and youth (14,015 girls and 12,536 boys) stay in school. This was done by covering unmet needs such as school supplies, uniforms, fares for transportation, and resources for school projects.

Further, ChildFund invests in learning support mechanisms for school-aged children. Support mechanisms between teachers, peers, and other tutors from outside school have demonstrated success in improving academic performance.

The *Not in Our Community* Project (Establishing ZERO-Tolerance Child Protection Mechanisms in Schools and Communities) worked with 4,585 children from municipalities of Irosin and Matnog in Sorsogon, and in Pili, Camarines Sur. The project conducted advocacy activities in Mixed Art, Radio and TV Broadcasting, and Creative Writing. Communication and advocacy materials were produced to popularize raising awareness of child protection mechanisms among children, teachers, parents, caregivers and their larger community.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



ChildFund worked with 392 parents, caregivers, and teachers through the “Talking Circle” workshops, aimed at bridging the gap between formal and informal child protection mechanisms in the community. Twenty (20) School Protection Teams in 9 schools forming 56 CPC members. There was an additional 69 parents and teachers were given orientation on child protection laws, and 10 school based peer counselling teams against bullying. The formal mechanism reached and targeted by NIOC includes the structures and reporting processes in the community such as the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC), close coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), School Child Protection Committee, the police, the courts, etc. With the introduction of this informal mechanism, the most deprived, excluded and vulnerable population might be able to have access to child protection mechanisms in their community.

Skilled and Involved Youth

ChildFund has observed and learned that leadership development and life skills training provide young people opportunities to become leaders within their community. ChildFund works through local youth organizations, and barangay children’s associations to advocate Youth Disaster Risk Reduction (YDRR), Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) and other youth issues.

Several representatives of the Children and Youth sector of the President’s National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) are products of ChildFund’s leadership development efforts. The current NAPC youth commissioner is the fourth ChildFund youth leader in a row to occupy the position.

Civil Society

ChildFund works in cooperation with government structures, strengthening the capacities of Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPCs) and School Pupil Governments.

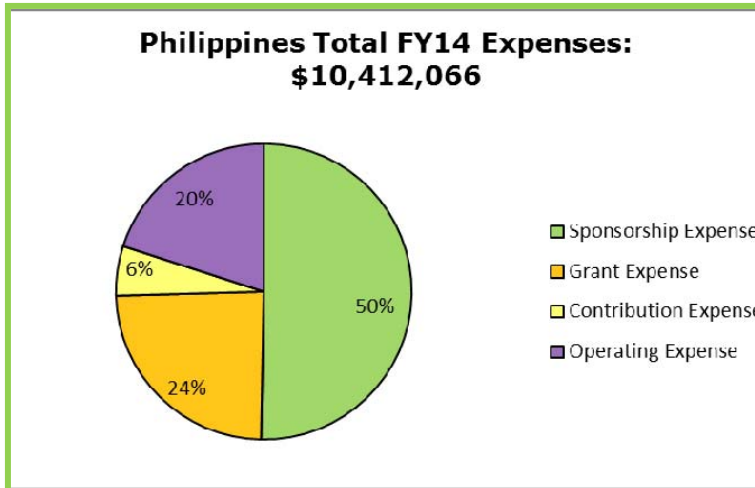
ChildFund Philippines promotes a zero-tolerance policy for any act of child abuse, exploitation, violence, discrimination, bullying and other forms of abuse in schools. We accomplish this through collaboration and coordination with local Child Protection Committees (CPCs) in schools, who work to implement protection mechanisms.



In communities where we work, vulnerable families now enjoy at least twice as much or more access to medical, and psychosocial support services. These same families claim their ability to provide for their family’s basic needs is up to three times improved.

We also provide Boardmanship Training to build the capacities of our Local Partners in governance disaster preparedness, resource mobilization, and other relevant areas.

Financial Report



Philippines FY14

Sponsorship Expense	5,237,187	50%
Grant Expense	2,526,494	24%
Contribution Expense	564,074	5%
Operating Expense	2,084,311	20%
Total Expense	10,412,066	100%

ChildFund Alliance

Sponsorship: At the end of FY14, ChildFund Philippines had 23,563 active sponsorships from the following Alliance members: (1) ChildFund International—13,970; (2) ChildFund Australia-3,961; (3) Taiwan Fund for Children & Families—3,458; (4) ChildFund Deutschland-524; (5) Barnfonden - 522; (6) BORNEfonden - 373; (7) ChildFund Ireland—366; (8) ChildFund New Zealand - 222; and Un Enfant par la Main - 167.

Grants: In July 2012, ChildFund Philippines received a 2-year grant totaling \$172,930 to enhance the collective action of young people around disaster risk reduction and management in the Municipality of Guinayangan, Quezon. During FY13, ChildFund Philippines expended \$79,486 from this grant.

Beginning in July 2012, ChildFund Philippines received three grants from ChildFund Australia and Ausaid totaling \$559,037 of which \$473,071 was expended in FY14. One grant, Capacity Building—Youth Led DRRM in Guinayangan Quezon is a two-year project, and aims to enhance the collective action of young people towards disaster risk reduction and management by (1) enhancing the capacities of children and youth ages 10-24 in disaster risk reduction and management; (2) enhancing the capacity of the local government units in the Barangay and municipality levels; and (3) developing local DRRM plans integrating children and youth participation. The project will directly benefit 288 children, youth, and local officials and indirectly benefit 22,520, involving families and communities in the 10 covered barangays. The other two grants are Tolerance Child Protection Mechanisms in Schools and Communities in the Bicol Region and Typhoon Haiyan Emergency Response.

ChildFund Philippines also received grants from the following Alliance members for the Typhoon Yolanda/Haiyan Emergency Response:

- ChildFund Korea and KOICA—\$107,518;
- Barnfonden—\$177,028;
- ChildFund New Zealand—\$337,218; and
- CCF Canada and CIDA—\$864,168.

Financial Report (continued)

Contributions: During FY14, ChildFund Philippines received \$51,005 from ChildFund Deutschland and ChildFund Australia.



Free From Violence Campaign: Children's Charters of what they desire in the Post-2015 agenda.

Challenges

ChildFund Philippines' Country Strategic Plan describes our intent to increase investments in the southern Philippines region of Mindanao, where deprivation, exclusion, and vulnerability are pronounced among indigenous and Muslim communities. Recurring insecurity in this region has prevented ChildFund from fulfilling these plans. Instead, ChildFund has directed efforts towards interventions in urban poverty centers, like those found in the capital of Metro Manila.



Urban expansion in Metro Manila presents a fresh set of challenges for ChildFund, as poverty conditions in the Capital are dramatically different from the provinces. Urban poor communities are often susceptible to flooding during the monsoons, and there are risks posed by inner city crime.

Ultimately, the sustainability of our investments is our primary challenge. We provide technical expertise and training in organizational development to our local partners. Our goal is to equip our partners so they can continue to represent and champion children's well-being and protection, independent of ChildFund.

Why Sponsorship is Important

High School Teacher and Former Sponsored Child Reflects on His Sponsorship Journey

Larry is a High School professor at a private school, and the president of a youth association in his community. He narrates how ChildFund was essential to keeping him in school, and helping him become assertive:

"I am Larry, 22 years old, and now in my second year teaching High School English at a private institution. My unforgettable journey with ChildFund and its local partner, Community's Hope and Initiative for Lasting Development, Incorporated (CHILD, Inc.), and my sponsor began 15 years ago. In all of those years she never failed to support me every step of the way. Even though we haven't met her, nor was she in the habit of writing, I always knew she had my back, because of her ceaseless support. I hope she's proud of what I've made of myself so far.



Beyond my need to stay in school, ChildFund helped me discover what I wanted the most –I wanted to share my blessings with others. I didn't have much in the way of material goods, but what I learned from participating in ChildFund's activities, I learned I could also share with others.

I remained involved in ChildFund's programs until graduating, and one of the more recent things they introduced were Psychosocial Sessions for children. The local partner, CHILD, Inc. trains trainers who can look after the immediate emotional needs of children, should there be an emergency. I was chosen to join the first batch, and soon found the opportunity to test what I learned when flash floods from Typhoon Washi (locally known as "Sendong") claimed thousands of lives and demolished entire communities in my province.

There was no shortage of children in the dozens of evacuation centers that sprouted after the typhoon, and ChildFund called on us to assist. My own home was not very badly affected by the typhoon, thankfully, so I was free to devote my effort to helping other young people. The experience was tiring but seeing the first smiles on children's faces since the typhoon, was rewarding. We produced artwork, and helped the children express themselves and their experiences, along with their ambitions in life. It also saddened me to discover and share their pain, as they opened up their feelings to us.

ChildFund brought me to a lot of trainings and seminars which made me more aware of their plans for the community. These activities honed and developed me into the person I am today. I joined an advocacy newsletter project and became editor-in-chief. This directly influenced my desire to pursue a teaching career.

ChildFund also sent me to National Conferences where I was able to meet fellow youth leaders from all over the Philippines. I discovered their cultures and traditions as I interact with them. I was amazed at how children and youth are able to articulate local issues and concerns, and assemble response plans.



Why Sponsorship is Important (continued)

Now I'm employed, and contributing to my family's economic resilience, I remain involved in ChildFund's activities. I participate at the local partner's Special Children Outreach for Rehabilitation (SCORe Project), and I volunteer helping the Sponsorship Program.

My heart's filled with gratitude for my kind and generous sponsor, Catherine [Brennan] for her unceasing support, and for ChildFund, for molding me to what I am now. "

Jane and Carol Meet Their Sponsor

Jane and Carol had never met each other before. Though about the same age –Jane is 14 and Carol 13, they're from different communities in the southern Philippines. Both girls had something in common—they had the same sponsor.

This sponsor began sponsoring both girls in 2011. Timing was everything in this sponsor's sponsorship journey. "It's always been something I wanted to do –helping out less-fortunate people in the world. The timing was right for me to go and sponsor," he says. Work kept him busy the past couple of years, however, and he had to content himself with sending gifts and letters to his two sponsored children.



Jane had been sponsored before, but her sponsor was not in the habit of writing her. "I was thrilled when my new sponsor wrote me," Jane says. "I collected all his letters afterwards, so I could re-read them," she adds.

Recently, circumstances had allowed the sponsor to take the next step in his sponsorship journey –he arranged to visit his two sponsored children in the Philippines. Jane and Carol, and members of their family, were flown to Manila to meet with the girls' sponsor. Both have never been to the capital before, and that added to their excitement finally meeting their generous benefactor.

The meeting took place at the ChildFund Philippines National Office. "I was so excited, and nervous meeting my sponsor for the first time," Carol says. The girls were tentative at first, but they could understand more English than they were confident to speak, and through some translation by ChildFund staff, both parties found themselves communicating casually.

It was a day of firsts for Jane, Carol, and their sponsor. After a brief introduction at the ChildFund office, they proceeded to lunch at a popular fast food chicken restaurant. Both Jane and Carol had never dined there before. It was a short walk to one of Metro Manila's largest shopping malls afterwards, and the girls and their sponsor bonded over an afternoon of shopping and treats.

Jane, Carol, their sponsor, and their companions from their families all had to part ways at the end of the day. They'd traded gifts each carried in their hands and hearts. "Now that I've done it, I want to visit more often, maybe once a year, over school break," the sponsor says. Carol and Jane both agree that's something to look forward to.