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# WOMEN LEADING ACTIONS FOR GENDER-RESPONSIVE AND INCLUSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE PHILIPPINES

## Project overview:

The Philippines is one of the world's most disaster-prone countries, with communities increasingly vulnerable to climate change. Due to existing gender inequalities, women are disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change as well as ongoing conflict in parts of the Philippines. Whilst there is recognition of the specific needs of women during crises, enhancing their participation in leadership and decision-making roles, along with acknowledging the diversity among women, remains crucial.

This project aims to empower women leaders and young people through a Women in Emergencies Network (WENet), which currently in 2024 comprises five women-led organisations. Through capacity development, supporting women-led initiatives, and advocating at local and national levels for women's rights and resilience, participants will lead their communities in promoting human rights, gender inclusivity, disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), and climate change adaptation. This will strengthen community resilience and sustainability.

## Key project activities and outputs:

The primary goal of this project is to promote women-led and gender-responsive resilient communities through:

- Training women in Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Assessment, and gender responsive DRRM and climate change adaptation.
- Transforming the leadership capabilities of women across organisations.
- Facilitating women and young-people-led meetings and learning sessions with local governments.
- Developing skills to engage in successful advocacy on gender, DRRM, and climate change.

## Project duration:

July 2022 – June 2025

## Supported by:

Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)

**In partnership with:** Pambansang Kongreso ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan (PKKK) and Women in Emergency Network (WENet)

**Location:** Bilaran Calabarzon, Negros Oriental Central Visayas, Samar Eastern Visayas, Metro Cebu Central Visayas, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, Bohol Central Visayas, Surigao del Sur Caraga, Cagayan de Oro City Northern Mindanao, Quezon Calabarzon, Camarines Sur Bicol Region, Bukidnon Northern Mindanao, and Maguindanao Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

## Project objectives:

- Support young, older, and Indigenous women to lead actions on gender, disaster risk reduction and management, and Climate Change Adaptation
- Establish the Women in Emergency Network (WENet) as a key network of women human rights defenders in emergencies and crises

## Impact:

- As of 2023, 760 people have been engaged in the project
- A second womanitarian summit has been held to build consensus and solidarity and produced an outcome statement that provides guidance for advocacy on policy and practice.
- 325 women have been supported in assuming leadership positions, through activities such as a training of trainers on gender and disaster preparedness for rural women.
- Women and young people have participated in communication workshops to develop advocacy skills and strategies.
- WENet hosted a webinar in celebration of Earth Day 2023 with 124 community women and government in partnership with the Philippine Commission on Women.
- A learning session with indigenous women on DRRM and Climate Change was held to raise awareness among indigenous women about DRRM concepts, principles, and strategies.