



Kindernothilfe Luxembourg

Philippines: Education against poverty in the countryside

Project: Fight poverty, preschool education and catastrophe prevention

Location: Salcedo and Mercedes, East Samar, Philippines

Partner: AMURT

Aided: 180 Children aged 3 to 5 years



Poverty in the countryside

The disparity between poverty and wealth is big in the Philippines: 60 percent of the population has less than 1.50€ to live on per day. Specifically the population that lives far from any source of education such as Salcedo and Mercedes are hit by poverty. Here people seldom find a fulltime job and predominantly live off of their own agriculture and fishing.

Education as the key in fighting poverty

The best way to permanently get away from poverty lies in educating children. Many studies have shown that early childhood education is particularly important for educational and professional success in later life. Nursery schools are especially important to train the learning capabilities of children as well as their intellectual and primary activities. It is equally important to strengthen their faculty of speech and social competence. Particularly socially disadvantaged children that live far from educational facilities could compensate early enough for the deficit.

Broken roofs, windows and doors

Particularly nurseries in areas hit by natural disasters in the Philippines are in a bad state. Children are often housed in small cramped buildings that lack the basic safety, hygienic or visual criteria of a children's nursery.

Quite often the roofs and ceilings are damaged and temporarily covered with tarpaulin not to mention that many of the doors and windows are broken. The communes don't have the means to build typhoon proof buildings or a new interior.

With your help we would like to help these communities to repair or even rebuild nurseries and equip them with tables, chairs and learning materials so that the children can learn in a safe and fun environment.

That way they can prepare for the basic primary school which is offered by the government educational system. This will enable them further education and increases their chances of an apprenticeship which in return will offer them the possibility of a job and a secure livelihood.

This is how we help

- **9 nurseries are repaired** to a typhoon safe standard so that in case of an emergency it can be used as shelter. They will also be painted and **bathroom facilities will be added**.
- All nurseries will be equipped with **chairs, tables and educational material** such as blackboards, pens, paper, geometrical shapes etc.
- The teaching staff will receive **specialised training** to support children from socially disadvantaged families.

Interview with Kristine Weyland regarding her project visit

How did this project come about?

K.W.: In October last year I visited a demo farm-project in Mercedes and Salcedo in the Philippines. I drew attention to the bleak state of the so called daycare centers.

Why are the buildings in such a bad state?

K.W.: The construction sector in the Philippines is distinctly underfinanced. The daycare centers are run by the communes. Due to the frequent natural disasters there was a lot of damage. The communes didn't have the money to rebuild to a typhoon safe level.

How does this project help the local children?

K.W.: Particularly children from socially poor families can catch up on deficits so that poverty does not continue from generation to generation. For example few have pens at home with which the children can train their fine motor skills, which is important in school later on.



Hëlleft mat!

25 €

will allow us to get geometrical shapes, letters and numbers

41 €

allow us to buy a dolls house with a play kitchen

133 €

are enough to buy tables for all the children in one nursery

Your donations to the Kindernothilfe Luxembourg asbl as a state recognised non-governmental organisation (ONG) are tax deductible under Article 109 and 112 L.I.R. You will automatically receive a tax certificate at the beginning of the year.