



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our Network!



Lumina Ventures



Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.



Zuellig Family Foundation

Sibul Coconut Products Manufacturing

Together, let us build a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient Philippines.



ARISE-Philippines welcomes the new members of the network, officially onboarded last April 24 and June 9, 2023 via Zoom online meeting. Here is the list with the names of official representatives:

SM Foundation Inc.

Ms. Carmen Linda Atayde - Exec. Director, Education Program
 Ms. Connie Angeles - SAVP, Health & Medical Programs
 Ms. Juris Soliman - Consultant, Education Program
 Ms. Cristina Angeles - AVP, Outreach Programs
 Mr. Victor Chan - AVP, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability

Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.

Mirabel May Perez - Asst. Vice President, Sustainability
 Yhol Colegado - Sustainability Manager

Sibul Coconut Products Manufacturing

Celeste Volfango - Proprietor

Lumina Ventures

Gaynor Tanyang - Managing Director

Zuellig Family Foundation

Catherine Raisa Kimberly Mandigma - Partnerships Associate

SM Participates in Galing Pook Governance Fair on Local Economic Development



Vice Admiral Alexander Pama, together with Ms. Liza B. Silerio of SM Prime, participated in the Governance Fair on Local Economic Development, which took place on April 12, 2023, at Microtel by Wyndham - UP Technohub, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City. Vice Admiral Pama have provided valuable insights and guidance to the participating LGUs (Local Government Units) to enhance their public value for constituents and stakeholders.

The Governance Fair aimed to foster collaborations among stakeholders from the national government, civil society, private sector, and local government.

The event also served as the culmination of Galing Pook's Adaptive and Innovative (A+I) Leadership Course which was made possible through a partnership with the Department of the Interior and Local Government - Local Government Academy (DILG-LGA).

Participants included were the city mayors and administrators from the local government offices of Palayan City, Nueva Ecija; Olongapo City; Ibaan, Batangas; Cavinti, Laguna; Leganes, Iloilo; Ubay, Bohol; Allen, Northern Samar; Arteche, Eastern Samar; Iligan City; Koronadal City, South Cotabato; and BARMM Cotabato City.

Strengthening Disaster Resilience: ARISE Board Members Visit SM Clark Resilience Center



SM Prime Holding Inc., a pioneer member of the ARISE Philippines, has been one of the leading advocates for private sector participation in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programs and capacity building for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Their goal is to foster sustainable business practices and resilient value chains. Notably, one of their significant contribution is the establishment of the SM Resilience Center in Clark, Pampanga. This state-of-the-art center serves as a crucial hub for data storage and capacity building, benefiting their SME partners. Additionally, the center has partnered with DRR-related organizations like the National Resilience Council and Manila Observatory to enhance its operations.

On April 20, 2023, Ms. Liza B. Silerio, ARISE Global Board and SM Vice President for Compliance Group, along with ARISE Philippines Co-Chair Vadm Alexander P. Pama and Fr. Jose Villarin, ARISE Philippines Work Theme Lead for Education and Training and President of Manila Observatory visited the center. During the visit, they assessed the center's developments and provided commendation, as well as inputs and recommendations for its operations.

ARISE Global Network Leaders Convened Virtually for the Review of the ARISE Networks Activities



On April 25, 2023, the ARISE Network Leaders Meeting took place virtually, gathering ARISE Board members and international leaders. Chaired by Co-Chair Hans-Peter Teufers, the meeting included all network leads, with Ms. Mami Mizutori, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head. ARISE-Philippines was represented by Co-Chair VAdm. Alexander Pama (ret) and ARISE Global Board member, Ms. Liza B. Silerio, VP for Compliance at SM Prime Holdings.

This periodic meeting aims to update members on the progress of initiatives undertaken by ARISE networks globally, as well as to gather recommendations for upcoming events related to the SFDRR Midterm Review.

During the meeting, highlights included discussions on the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) reporting status for each country network, where the targets for Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) were exceeded, showcasing commendable progress in other priority areas. The meeting also announced the invitation for possible Sherpas and nominees for the upcoming ARISE Global Board election, scheduled for the 3rd quarter of the year. This reiterated the opportunities and responsibilities of the seven (7) elected 3-year term board members.

Additional network reports covered the following: *a)* the launch of ARISE Uruguay, *b)* India's hosting of the upcoming AGM, *c)* the introduction of the CARICHAM Center for Excellence web app by ARISE Dominica that features the 5 thematic areas aimed at benefiting MSMEs, and *d)* updates on the redrafted ARISE Start-up Tool Kit by Ms. Yoshiko of ARISE Japan.

The meeting concluded with a break-out session to advance 2023 priorities in two main topics: "Communicating impact and targeting membership" and "Inspiring action to scale-up implementation of focus areas." The outputs included sharing of good practices, harmonizing activities, promoting public-private partnerships, supporting SMEs in building resilience, sharing information through various platforms, providing scholarships to disadvantaged individuals, collaborating with academia, and fostering a non-traditional approach to developing DRR. The Philippines shared its 7 focus areas, which includes Education and Training that capitalizes on public sector partnerships, and focuses on larger organizations to expand the network's reach.

IAAP and Insurance Philippines conducts 16th Philippine Insurance Summit Addressing Climate Change for Sustainability and Resilience



The Insurance Institute for Asia Pacific, in partnership with Insurance Philippines, hosted the 16th Philippine Insurance Summit on April 26, 2023, at the Dusit Thani Hotel, Makati City. This annual event serves as a platform for the insurance industry to gather, learn from local and international experts, and collectively tackle the industry's current issues and challenges.

Under the theme "Climate Change – A Deadly Threat to Mankind: Taking the Lead Towards Sustainability and Resilience," the summit focused on the urgent need to address climate change and its impact.

Among the distinguished guest speakers was VAdm. Alexander Pama, Co-Chair of ARISE-Philippines, who shared the latest initiatives undertaken by ARISE Philippines and its private sector network partners to address the exacerbating effects of climate change.

During his remarks, VAdm. Pama emphasized the essential role of the private sector in building a resilient society through disaster risk-informed investments and the direct relationship and critical role of insurance in disaster resilience. These investments have proven to be instrumental in ensuring survival and continuity of business operations during disasters, while also safeguarding communities and the environment.

New Resilience Rating Scale for IFC's Building Resilience Index Unveiled



After a year since its launch in the Philippines, the Building Resilience Index rating underwent a review by the Harvard College of Design, where results of which was presented and discussed in a webinar on May 4, 2023. The event, titled "IFC's Building Resilience Index: The New Resilience Rating Scale, Unlocking Opportunities in Resilience Rating for Buildings," introduced the updated BRI app and its modified rating scale.

The webinar presented the unveiling of the new rating scale applied in the risk assessment using the BRI app. The four-level system now evaluates both new buildings and retrofits of existing ones, replacing the previous five-level scheme. Buildings that achieved the highest rating of "AA+" signify incorporation of all recommended resilience practices. On the other hand, the lowest rating, labeled "NR," suggests inadequate adoption of BRI's recommended resilience practices, potentially leading to vulnerability to various hazards.

The hybrid event, moderated by Mr. Angelo Tan, IFC's Country Lead for Green and Resilient Buildings, and facilitated by Mr. Aris Papadopoulos, Resilience Action Fund Chair and BRI Technical Expert, provided in-depth insights about the BRI and its new rating scale to students and private sector organizations. Additionally, Ms. Pearl Mars, a BRI Technical Specialist at IFC, led a technical panel discussion with BRI project implementers from real estate companies NEO and Amaia. The panelists discussed how risk assessment and verification through the BRI app have significantly enhanced the resilience of their real estate projects. They also acknowledged the BRI app's potential for further evolution and improvement as it continues to develop.

The BRI app's new rating scale aims to provide a standardized language for the property sector to assess building resilience. This enhancement is expected to better reflect the resilience level of buildings in the assessment process, leading to improved preparedness for potential hazards and disasters.

Tripartite Collaboration: Knowledge Session on SFDRR with ARISE Japan, India, and The Philippines, in partnership with UNDRR-GETI



In June 2023, the ARISE country networks of Japan, India, and the Philippines partnered with the UNDRR Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) for the conduct of a Knowledge sharing Session through a series of Training-Webinar workshop. The webinar series, titled "Understanding Sendai Framework on DRR (SFDRR): An Option to Reduce Cost," aims to promote Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and share success stories of private sectors' successful implementation and adaptation to the Sendai Framework targets. The sessions emphasized SFDRR's value in reducing business operational costs and mitigating disaster-related losses.

The webinar series garnered active participation from delegates representing the three Asian countries. Distinguished attendees included Mr. Marco Toscano-Rivalta, Chief of UNDRR Regional Office in Asia and the Pacific, who graced the opening session on June 1, 2023. Expertly facilitated by GETI's Mr. Alf Ivar Blikberg and Mr. Sanjaya Bhatia, the sessions discussed "Global Disasters Overview: Trends and Concepts" and "Business Disaster Risk Management: Beyond Contingency Planning," respectively during its initial sessions.

IFC Masterclass Session on Business Resilience Index (BRI) with AIM



On June 29, 2023, a hybrid Masterclass focusing on the International Finance Corporation's Building Resilience Index (BRI) app and the Climate Business Department took place at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM).

The Masterclass, held as part of AIM's Executive Master in Disaster Risk and Crisis Management (EMDRCM) program, aimed to inform about the crucial importance of disaster resilience in the Philippines. The event was made possible through a collaborative effort involving Resilient.PH, IFC, AIM, ARISE-Philippines, the Government of the Netherlands, the Government of Australia, and The Rockefeller Foundation.

Mr. Angelo Tan, IFC's Country Lead for Green and Resilient Buildings, commenced the Masterclass by introducing the organization's climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, underscoring the important role of resilience in building structures.

The second part of the Masterclass focused on the presentation of BRI and its benefits to various stakeholders in enhancing community resilience led by Pearl Mars, IFC's Technical Specialist for BRI. During the event, attendees actively engaged in discussions, posing sharp questions about IFC's strategy in using BRI to influence policies and promote resilience in the construction and building sector of the country. The speakers also highlighted how BRI's goals align with the resilience agenda of AmBisyon Natin 2040. The open forum further explored BRI's potential contributions and value for financial institutions and community-level resilience.

ARISE Philippines Hold Courtesy Meeting with Undersecretary Nepomuceno, NDRRMC Executive Director and Civil Defense Administrator



On April 13th, the Board officers of ARISE with the newly appointed Undersecretary Ariel Nepomuceno, now serving as the NDRRMC Executive Director and the Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD). The primary objective of the meeting was to discuss the collaborations between the government and the private sector in advancing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) efforts throughout the country.

USec. Nepomuceno, affirmed his dedication to strengthening DRR initiatives and warmly welcomed the collaborations with ARISE. The courtesy meeting provided an opportunity to further enhance coordination and cooperation towards building a more resilient nation.



High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework



Risk Reduction Hub (RRH) and High-Level Meeting (HLM) of the General Assembly on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 17-19 May 2023 | UN Headquarters, New York



From May 17 to 19, 2023, the High-Level Meeting (HLM) and Risk Reduction Hub on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 were held at the UN Headquarters in New York. The HLM provided a significant platform for Member States, UN system partners, and stakeholders to comprehensively review the findings and recommendations of the Midterm Review.

The Philippine delegation was led by Secretary Antonia Yulo Loyzaga of the DENR as the Head of Delegation. At the invitation of OCD-NDRRMC, Mr. Hans T. Sy, Co-Chair of ARISE Philippines, took the lead in representing the private sector in the Philippine delegation at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

During the sessions, prominent presenters and intervenors included Ms. Jessica Sy from SM Prime Holdings and VAdm. Alexander Pama. VAdm. Pama in the session entitled "Private Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience," representing ARISE-Philippines.

The inclusion of ARISE-Philippines in the delegation highlighted the private sector's commitment to disaster risk reduction efforts in the country. The collaboration between government agencies and private sector underscores the shared goal of building a more disaster resilient society.



The delegates convened in the Risk Reduction Hub, which featured roundtable events and a High-level meeting under the UN General Assembly's auspices. The program included a formal plenary, a Leaders' Roundtable lunch discussions, and a day of multi-stakeholder panels focused on critical issues.

DENR Pre-launch of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR)



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) held the pre-launch event for the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) at the Philippine International Convention Center on May 8. The event marked the Philippines' hosting of the conference, scheduled for October 14-18, 2024. DENR Secretary Antonia Loyzaga and OIC Senior Undersecretary Carlito Galvez Jr. of the Department of National Defense, as well as the DOT Secretary Maria Esperanza Christina Frasco, expressed their commitment to co-chair the conference.

ARISE Philippines provided assistance in convening private sector to ensure its full support to the upcoming APMCDRR. Notable participants from the private sector included the members of the Board of ARISE Philippines such as SM Prime Holdings, Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA), Manila Observatory, Asia Pacific College, National Resilience Council, Unilever - Philippines, Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation, and Asian Institute Management, among others.

Launch of WIN DRR Philippines Network



The Philippines WIN DRR network was successfully launched on April 26, 2023, at Director's Club MOA. WIN DRR, a flagship women's leadership initiative of UNDRR supported by the Government of Australia, received assistance from SM Prime and Asia Pacific College.

The event was honored by the presence of Sen. Lauren Legarda, who shared her journey in promoting DRR and sustainability since her tenure in the Senate. She expressed relief knowing that organizations like WIN DRR are championing this advocacy. ARISE Philippines extends its congratulations to all members and organizations involved in the successful launch.

EVENTS AMONG MEMBERS AND PARTNERS



IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report Briefing for Civil Society Organizations
27 April 2023 | Mabini Social Hall, Malacañang



IFC joined CREBA 49th founding anniversary last April 26-28, 2023 held at GENSAN for the VISMIN Regional Housing Conference.



The City of Baguio has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in collaboration with SM Prime, National Resilience Council (NRC), and Carlos P. Romulo Foundation for the Resilient Local Government Unit Program - Adopt A City Initiative.



National Resilience Council spearheaded the workshop for Aboitiz Resilience 101 for its agriculture subsidiary.