



Visit to the Philippines February 24–March 3, 2005

The Philippines

The Philippines prides itself on having a stable democracy, abundant natural resources, and a dynamic civil society. Although poverty and social inequality persist, the country offers an enormous amount of hope and opportunity for its citizens. As the birthplace of “people power” its civil society sector is one of the world’s most vibrant and the practice of social responsibility is a model for other countries. Synergos has developed a unique agenda that guides us through the dynamism and challenges facing the country today. We will visit cutting-edge projects, meet with government officials, business leaders and community actors, and engage with local GPC members while enjoying the wonderful spirit and culture the country has to offer. The trip will enable participants to connect these experiences directly to their own work and challenges, and reflect more deeply on their larger roles as concerned, global actors.

Wednesday, February 23

Arrival and Check-in

*Shangri-la Makati, Manila
Ayala Avenue corner Makati
Makati City 1200
Tel: +63 (2) 813 8888
Fax: +63 (2) 813-5499
<http://www.shangri-la.com/en/>*



As the official agenda begins on Thursday afternoon, February 24, participants are asked to arrive on Wednesday evening to have a chance to adjust to the time zone changes before our energetic schedule kicks-off.

Thursday, February 24

Theme: Overview and Introduction

Morning

Optional Walking Tour of Intramuros

Unique in Asia, we will tour this European-style medieval fortified city that functioned as the seat of government from 1571 to 1898. The massive walls stretch some 4.5 kilometers, enclosing a 64-hectare area once occupied by palaces, churches, monasteries, schools and wealthy residences. While the city suffered extensive damage during the bombings of World War II, most of the walls, gates and bulwarks have been restored, affording visitors a rare glimpse into the Philippines’ past.

1:00-3:00

Welcome to the Philippines: Lunch and Orientation Discussion

Synergos staff will review the objectives for the trip and address relevant logistical, security, and other issues.

3:00-4:30

Free Time

Participants will rest and change for the evening events.

5:00-6:30

Panel Discussion on Philippines Social, Economic, Political Environment

A panel of three distinguished experts will present their perspectives on the Philippines current socio-economic scenario. Presentations will be followed by 45 minutes of discussion and dialogue. Our speakers, key actors from the government, private sector and NGO community, are Corazón “Dinky” Soliman, currently Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and considered one of the original community organizers in the Philippines; Solita Monsod, the former Minister of Economic planning who is currently a professor of economics at the University of the Philippines and chair of the Philippine Human Development Network; and Juan Santos, chairman of Nestle Philippines and a trustee of Philippines Business for Social Progress, the nation’s largest business-led social development foundation.

7:00-9:00

Welcome Dinner

As we begin the country visit together, participants will have the chance to share their own experiences and philanthropic challenges and reflect on their goals for the week. This discussion will be facilitated by Adam Kahane, a founding partner of Generon Consulting and a leading expert in facilitation of processes through which business, government, and civil society leaders can work together to solve their toughest, most complex problems.

Friday, February 25

Theme: Environmental Preservation, Early Childhood Development

8:00

Depart for Site Visit

8:30

Project Overview and Site Visit to Healthy Start, Paco, Manila

Healthy Start (a project of the Consuelo Foundation) is a community-based, early prevention and intervention program that is successfully addressing the challenges of raising infants and young children in conditions of severe poverty. It is designed to improve family coping skills and functioning,



promote positive, nurturing parenting skills and parent child relationships, promote optimal child development, and as a result, prevent child abuse and neglect among impoverished families with children up to three years of age. Program staff also undertake referral, advocacy and networking activities focused on communities, local government agencies and other non-government organizations.

Our briefing will be led by Teresita Silva, President of Families and Children for Empowerment and Development (FCED).

9:30-11:00

FCED Project Visit

The participants will be split into small groups to visit different baranguays, attend training sessions, meet with community organizers, parents, and children to observe, interact, and share.

12:00-2:30

Lunch Briefing and Tour of La Mesa Watershed Project with Founder and GPC Member Gina Lopez

Manila's 12 million residents rely on the 2,700 hectare La Mesa watershed for their daily water needs, but widespread deforestation have depleted its holding capacity. The La Mesa Reforestation Project aims to reforest 1,000 hectares and to convert part of the watershed into a nature reserve. The La Mesa project is a key program of Bantay Kalikasan, the environmental arm of the ABS-CBN Foundation.

After a lunch briefing on the state of forest use and conservation in the country, we will have a tour of the site.

3:30

Free Time, Reflection

Participants will be able to rest, reflect on the days events, and change attire for the evening events.

5:00-6:30

Tour of the Ayala Museum

Originally envisioned by the late artist, Fernando Zobel de Ayala y Montojo, the Ayala Museum was founded in 1967. The new building was formally dedicated on September 28, 2004. Sixty handcrafted dioramas form the core of the museum's historical collections and chronicle the rich tapestry of Philippine history. The historical collection is complemented by archaeological, ethnographic, and fine arts collections spanning prehistory to the present.

7:00-10:00

Cultural Performance and Dinner, with Keynote Presentation by Former President Corazon Aquino

Corazon C. Aquino, President of the Philippines from 1986-1992, will discuss how the government, private sector and business leaders can work together more effectively to promote economic opportunity for the most impoverished. Following her remarks, we have a lively discussion with key local leaders on leading efforts to shape economic policies that reduce poverty and increase opportunity, and how commercial and private sector incentives can be used in developing effective programs to address poverty.



10:00 PM

Return to Hotel

Saturday, February 26

Theme: Bridging Divides in Mindanao

Breakfast at Leisure

9:00-12:30

Workshop on Bridging Divides in Mindanao

Mindanao is the home of the majority of the Philippines' Muslims and various indigenous communities, and has been the site of recurring armed conflict over the past thirty years, leading to the death or displacement of many hundreds of thousand of people. In addition to being the poorest region of the country, Mindanao faces national development neglect, poor governance at the local government level and the lack of tolerance and respect for religious as well as ethnic and cultural differences.

Mindanao is a primary example of the application of “bridging leadership,” developed by Synergos and The Asian Institute of Management (AIM) along with seven local organizations, to build common ground among diverse stakeholders in a way that fosters trust and stimulates collective action for the good of the community.

9:00-10:00

Orientation on the conflict in Mindanao and the Bridging Leadership Framework

AIM Professors Ernesto Garilao and Jacinto “Titong” Gavino will lead the group in exploring the three key elements of the bridging process: Claiming Ownership of the Societal Divide; Building Co-Ownership with other Stakeholders; and Undertaking Collaborative Action. Its relevance to the Mindanao context will be the highlight of the discussion. The story of Datu Ibrahim Paglas as a bridging leader will serve as a case to highlight the potential of dynamic leaders to effect transformative changes in divided communities.



10:30

Break

11:00-12:30

Panel Discussion on Bridging Divides in Mindanao Moderated by Peggy Dulany

A panel of distinguished local leaders will discuss the current initiative to promote bridging among the key stakeholders in Mindanao including the national and local government units, the military and non-state armed groups, the business and civil society sectors, and the Muslim, Christians and indigenous groups. GPC member María Eugenia Garcés will share her personal experience with creating a process for peace and reconciliation in Colombia. The panel discussion will be followed by questions and group discussion.

1:00-2:00

Lunch

3:00-4:30

Debriefing Led by Adam Kahane

Participants will deepen their learning process by contextualizing their experiences on the trip and sharing their thoughts and reflections

4:30-6:00

Rest

Change attire for the evening event.

6:00-8:00

Meeting with President of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (tentative)

Our group will have the unique opportunity to meet with Mrs. Arroyo, who was sworn in as President in 2001 with a huge mandate. Her government has adopted a comprehensive approach in the battle against poverty, composed of a market environment to create jobs, strong institutions of governance, social safety nets, agricultural modernization and educational reform.

8:00-10:00

Dinner at Cocina de Tita Moning Restaurant

Participants will enjoy a memorable dining experience reminiscent of the old world charm of the Spanish era in this well-preserved original Spanish home.

Sunday, February 27

Theme: Microfinance

- 7:30 **Leave Hotel**
En route to the day's first site visit, participants will enjoy a briefing on the current status of the microfinance sector in the Philippines and its innovative role in creating economic opportunity for some of the country's poorest citizens.
- 9:00 **Orientation at CARD Training Center in Bay, Laguna**
Aris Alip, founder and Chairman of CARD, the leading microfinance institution in the country, will lead a discussion on CARD's role in the creation and expansion of microfinance in the Philippines. More than 95% of CARD's clients are poor women in rural and semi-urban areas on four different islands in the archipelago. In addition to savings and loan products, CARD also offers micro-insurance services to clients..
- 10:15-11:30 **Visit clients of CARD and Bayan Foundation, Pila, Laguna**
ABS-CBN Bayan Foundation has developed an innovative microfinance program which offers several lending products which individuals or groups can access to support and sustain their development initiatives. Bayan emphasizes microfinance's role as a tool to facilitate a more harmonious family environment and to develop the family members' ability to fulfill their needs and enhance their options in life. They have approximately 30,000 clients in 123 municipalities and over 1,000 barangays.

Participants will have the opportunity to attend a client group meeting and interact with individuals who have benefited from the financing program.
- 1:00-2:30 **Lunch at Antonio's**
Participants will draw lessons from the morning events and discuss their ideas and feedback over lunch and this peaceful rural dining spot.
- 3:30 **Arrive at Punta Fuego**
Peninsula de Punta Fuego ("point of fire"), is the apt name for this 88-hectare flame shaped resort in Nasugbu, Batangas. Originally part of the Roxas Family's hacienda, historical accounts show Punta Fuego as the site of battle between the Spanish Galleon San Diego and the Dutch battleship Mauritius in December 1600.
- 3:30-5:00 **Rest**
Participants can relax or to take part in a hike to explore the beautiful natural setting of the area.
- 5:00 **Sunset Cruise**
- 6:00-8:00 **Dinner at Punta Fuego, Hosted by Pedro Roxas, Chair of Central Azucarera de Don Pedro**

Monday, February 28

Theme: Education

7:30-9:00

Breakfast Briefing on Education in the Philippines, Hosted by GPC Members Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala and Fernando Zobel de Ayala

During the day we will be visiting some of the key initiatives of the Ayala Foundation's innovative educational programs, and members of the Zobel family will kick off our visits by sharing their vision and goals. To provide context, a briefing on the overall educational situation in the country will be led by Education Secretary Florencio Abad, Senator Mar Roxas and Nene Guevarra.

10:00-11:00

Site visit to CENTEX (Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Education) in Bauan, Batangas



Centex is premised on the belief that by improving the physical, financial, and human resources one could transform an ordinary public elementary school into a center of excellence comparable to the best private schools but accessible to children of under resourced families. The program's long-term goal is to open CENTEX schools nationwide, hoping to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor by providing more and more children with access to quality education. Two schools have already been built in Tondo, Manila and this site in Bauan, Batangas.

11:00-2:00

Site Visit to Text2Teach project

Text2Teach is the Philippine project of the Bridgeit (a global program jointly developed by Nokia, the International Youth Foundation (IYF), Pearson and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)). The project is piloting programs in 40 elementary schools involving some 80 elementary teachers and close to 13,500 fifth and sixth grade students. Text2Teach allows teachers to use mobile phones supplied by Nokia to request more than 80 full-length videos which illustrate key components of the Philippine science curriculum. Upon texting, the requested video is sent via satellite to a digital recorder connected to a television in the teacher's classroom. We will have lunch at the school with students and faculty.

3:00- 4:00

Site Visit to YouthTech Project

YouthTech aims to increase the number of the public high schools in the Philippines that have access to computers and the Internet. Under the project, computer laboratories with Internet connection are set up in selected public high schools and teachers are provided with training on Internet use and basic network administration. There are now close to 30,000 students benefiting from the Youth Tech laboratories in 51 public high schools across the country.

5:00

Arrival at Hotel

Participants will have the opportunity to rest and change attire for the evening event.

7:30-10:00

Dinner hosted by GPC Member Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala

We will share our reflections on the events of the day with members of the Zobel de Ayala family and discuss strategic and family philanthropy over dinner.

Tuesday, March 1

Themes: Early Childhood Development. Education

- 8:00 **Leave Hotel**
This day will enable participants to explore in-depth two of the dynamic and successful programs the Lopez family has created to address some of the crucial challenges faced by children and youth in the Philippines.
- 9:30 **Orientation and Visit to the Knowledge Channel, Led by Founder and GPC Member Rina Lopez**
The briefing will be held at the San Jose Elementary School, Bulacan, led by Rina Lopez, Governor Josephina de la Cruz, and Undersecretary of Education Mike Luz.

The Knowledge Channel Foundation was launched by Rina Lopez in 1999 to improve the quality of education and create an impact on the public educational system. Its goal is to provide universal access to quality and relevant education through the creative use of audiovisual production and transmission technology. To date, KCFI has introduced the Knowledge Channel to 1,338 public schools serving 2.4 million students around the country, offering a complete, integrated package that includes free cabling to schools with access to a local cable provider, or the installation of wireless (satellite) technology to remote areas unreachable by cable. The Department of Education has declared the Knowledge Channel mandatory viewing for elementary and secondary students in the public schools.
- 9:45-12:00 **Site visit to a Knowledge Channel Project at Binakod Elementary School**
This school is located in a remote area accessible only by boat, and is a wonderful example of the importance of technology in improving educational opportunities for all children.
- 12:30-3:00 **Lunch Orientation and site visit to Children's Village, led by GPC Member Gina Lopez**
The Bantay Bata 163 Children's Village in Norzagaray, Bulacan, is a state-of-the-art integrated care facility that aims to provide the best possible childcare for abused, neglected and abandoned Filipino children. Through the Children's Village, Filipinos from all walks of life will have a resource center on children, for all children. A key factor in the effectiveness of Bantay Bata is its partnership with the national Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). An average of seven children a month, some referred by DSWD, are removed from abusive homes by Bantay Bata's rescue staff and are placed in Children's Village.
- 3:00 **Travel to Lopez Center, Antipolo**
- 4:00-6:30 **Rest, Reflection**
- 7:30-9:30 **Dinner Hosted by GPC Member Oscar Lopez**
Participants will have the opportunity to discuss multi-generational family philanthropy over cocktails and dinner.
- 9:30 **Return to Hotel**

Wednesday, March 2

Theme: Asset-based Community Development, Environmental Conservation

6:30 AM

Check-out of Hotel and Travel to El Nido, Palawan Island

Less than an hour's flight from Manila, Palawan has been called one of the most beautiful 20 islands in the world. It is rich in natural resources and boasts of exotic wildlife, white sand beaches, world class snorkeling and scuba diving. Also known as "the last frontier," it is a haven for adventure seekers and nature lovers. In addition to its natural beauty, Palawan is the site of crucial efforts to protect its rich natural ecosystem while strengthening the local indigenous communities.



10:00

Arrival in El Nido, Palawan Island

10:00-12:30

Panel Presentation and Discussion of the El Nido Foundation and the Asian Conservation Company Initiative

In 2004, the International Finance Corporation (IFC – part of the World Bank Group) approved a \$1.6 million grant for this innovative private sector initiative that aims to conserve more than 90,000 hectares of the El Nido-Taytay Marine Protected Area. The project seeks to strengthen the management of this important reserve, which contains extensive coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass beds, and tropical forest. It also provides habitat for numerous endangered species and supports the livelihoods of 19 local communities. The project activities will include environmental education, alternative livelihood development, marine surveillance, biological monitoring, and the establishment of financial sustainability mechanisms. This project presents a promising approach for leveraging improved environmental performance within the private sector and demonstrating the business case for biodiversity conservation.

After the discussion, which will include community leaders, representatives from the IFC, World Wildlife Fund and the Asian Conservation Company, we will have the opportunity to visit one of the local community livelihood projects and interact with local families who benefit.

12:30

Lunch

Location to be determined

2:30

Arrive at Lagen Island Resort

Lagen Island Resort is located in Bacuit Bay in the town of El Nido, Set in a marine reserve, Lagen Island is surrounded by sheer limestone cliffs and pristine waters. Its numerous coves are ideal for snorkeling and other marine sports. Its lush forest is host to more than 70 species of birds, a large number of which are endemic to Palawan.

The afternoon will be free for hiking, snorkeling or scuba diving in this unparalleled natural paradise.

7:00

Dinner, Cultural Event

Thursday, March 3

Theme: Reflection and Wrap-Up

9:00-11:30 **Final Trip De-briefing and Reflection, Led by Peggy Dulany**

12:00-1:30 **Picnic Lunch**

Afternoon **Departures**

Participants can leave for Manila after lunch today or on Friday morning depending on their flight schedules. Participants who choose to can extend their stay at Lagen Island Resort, or we can arrange lodgings at other resorts in this incomparable natural setting.