

# Back to School

What we've learned...



CANADIAN ROTARY CLUBS  
WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH  
ROTARY PHILIPPINES

# Agenda



- Overview of PH, specifically Mactan
- History and Overview of Back to School
- Issues affecting an education project in the PH
- Thoughts on the Future



# Mactan Islands

- 75 square kilometres - about the size of Barrie Island
- Cebu International Airport on Mactan Island
- Mactan Export Processing Zone – duty-free import/export manufacturing hub with 35 major businesses
- Numerous resorts on the east coast and the other islands – diving mecca
- 3 bridges to 'Mainland' – Cebu Island







## Any Guesses?

Elevation?	6 Metres above sea level
Population?	Almost 600,000
Disaster Threats?	Typhoons and Earthquakes
Rotary Clubs?	1 for Mactan, 20 on Cebu



# 1. Public School System

- School is free, but children require clothes, shoes and school supplies
- Rotary Club of Mactan uses bulk purchases to ensure children have what they need

Since inception: 15,000+ students provided with materials for a school year





## 2. Alternative Learning System (ALS)



Self-paced learning for older students to complete Junior High School (grades 7-10).

Department of Education provides curriculum, teachers, facilitates standardized examinations and awards high school diplomas.

Rotary promotes, supplements materials and equipment, provides some of the facilities.

### 3. Livelihood and Skills Training

Short training: Simple food growing and prep, soap making, home sewing

Skills Training and Senior High School: high speed sewing, mini-hotel, construction trades

TESDA: construction trades with certification, agriculture, hospitality







# Issues *(unfortunately only a partial list)*

- Schools very overcrowded, partially due to covid but also economic growth, ALS not given formal space
- ALS is a separate part of the Department of Education – growth in enrolment vastly outpacing growth in resources
- Many learners work at outside jobs, advanced education has mandatory attendance
- No resources for computer/online training, expensive and poor quality internet





## Complications...

- Malnutrition
- Traffic/travel time
- Brain drain
- Risk management (disaster, theft)
- Project management style
- ...

# *OPPORTUNITIES!*

- Continue to support ALS, especially components focused on livelihood skills
- Support the ICT (Internet, Computer, Technology) ALS stream and self-learning through computers and internet access
- Support portable classrooms for Elementary and High School Learners
- Financial assistance for working students wanting to attend full-time programs
- Joint ventures with industry and research/learning organizations
- Fund infrastructure/projects that can provide revenue to schools and community organizations



# Strategic Decisions, Long Term Possibilities

- Silo vs Sprawl Solutions
- Transitioning from Learning to Earning – set up costs, microfinance?
- More local control, e.g. District decide and manage funding from us?
- Private sector participation – R&D opportunities?
- RI facilitate international funds transfers?



“INSTEAD OF  
THINKING  
OUTSIDE  
THE BOX,  
GET RID OF  
THE BOX.”

-DEEPAK CHOPRA

Technology Leapfrog

Watch Mark Rober's  
Zipline video on YouTube





# Come to the Philippines!

- 2024 World Rotary Conference is in Singapore – practically around the corner
- 2028 World Rotary Conference is in the Philippines (likely Manila)
- Host a PH style Rotary meeting of your own!





# Meetings

- Monthly, bi-weekly or weekly
- Both more formal and more casual at same time
- No outside speakers, usually just service planning and updates
- Mostly evening meetings with food and fellowship, lots of singing and celebration



# District 3860

- 10 Rotary Districts in PH, 3860 is largest
- 100 Rotary Clubs, 5 more being formed
- Rotaract, Interact, Community Corps
- Next 2 DG are female as well



**LILO I. ALIÑO**  
DISTRICT  
GOVERNOR  
**RI DISTRICT 3860**

Rotary Year 2022 - 2023  
*Imagine Rotary*

<b>100</b> Total Clubs	<b>23</b> Total Areas	<b>2,779</b> Total Members
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