

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



REAL CHANGE TAKES TIME.
AND YET, PRECISELY BECAUSE IT DOES,
THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE.

- JOHN J. CARROLL, SJ



MAYA LYN MANOCOSOC

OUR VISION

A Filipino society that upholds the dignity and nature of the human person with a special concern for improving the quality of life of the poor

OUR MISSION

Guided by Catholic Social Teaching, we catalyze critical thinking, discussion and action principally through advocacy-oriented research and capacity building to bring about ethically informed choices and effective solutions to poverty

ABOUT US

The John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues (JJCICSI) is an organization and community of professional researchers and advocates committed to faith that does justice. Working in solidarity with the Church and various sectors, JJCICSI strives to respond to the issues and concerns of the poor.

More recently, JJCICSI's efforts have focused more strategically on capacitating local actors as an added dimension to the research and advocacy work for which the Institute is known. The Institute's programs continue to undertake research-based policy advocacy but they have also ventured into developing projects that benefit the urban and rural poor, women and children, and local communities in environmentally vulnerable areas. At the same time, they are engaged in mentoring, training, providing consulting services, and the production of manuals, templates and other tools to facilitate and make more effective the development of pro-poor projects on the ground.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The year 2014 was a most eventful year for the John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues (JJCICSI). We celebrated thirty years of research and advocacy work on various issues affecting the family, children, informal settlers, farmers, fishers, migrants, Church personnel, and many other sectors of society. We prayed in thanksgiving for all of you, our collaborators, partners, and benefactors, most especially MISEREOR which has, from the beginning, helped give major support. Through these years, JJCICSI (named ICSI from 1984 to 2007) has drawn inspiration and guidance from the social teaching of the Church in carrying out its different programs and projects.

JJCICSI organized two major events to commemorate its 30th anniversary. The first was a forum in July held in line with the Year of the Laity, back-to-back with the launching of Fr. John J. Carroll, SJ's book titled *Engaging Society II: Musings of an Oxymoron*. The forum featured His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle of the Archdiocese of Manila as the main speaker who shared his thoughts and ideas on the role and contribution of the laity in promoting the Gospel. It was attended by the partners of JJCICSI from people's organizations, non-government organizations and the academe who were given an opportunity to dialogue with the

Cardinal. On the same occasion, the book of Fr. Carroll was presented to the Cardinal Archbishop of Manila. The book consists of Fr. Carroll's thoughtful selection from among his many articles published mainly in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* since 2000 to provide us with an enlightening and at times provocative commentary on the recent history of the Philippines. Fr. Carroll laments the lack of what may be called short-term or medium-term memory of the Filipino nation, and offers the book as a way of remedying our short-term amnesia as a people regarding many crucial events current during the first decade and a half of the 21st century. So, although his essays cover a diverse set of topics, mostly matters relating population, family, the reproductive health bill, and other social issues such as agrarian reform, migration, and rural development, they are united by a perspective of a social scientist who is a true person of faith and a staunch advocate of the social teaching of the Church. (At least a few at the book launch who bought some copies, ordered more as they found the book so engaging and readable.)

The second event of JJCICSI's 30th year was another forum held in August, this time on the 200th year of the restoration of the Society of Jesus with its suppression in 1814. After the forum, a ceremony was conducted to rename the Social Development

Complex (SDC) Audio-Visual Hall inside the campus of the Ateneo de Manila University in honor of San Alberto Hurtado SJ, a Chilean Jesuit priest who spent his life helping the poor and disadvantaged sectors in his country.

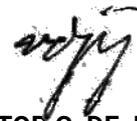
While we celebrated joyous occasions during the year, including the above-mentioned events, the Institute was deeply saddened by the demise of Fr. John Carroll, one of ICSI's three co-founders who also spent the most number of years in active involvement with the Institute. In July, three days after his book was launched, Fr. Carroll passed away quietly. He was 90. It was not too long ago when he celebrated his 70th year as a Jesuit. He is esteemed and remembered in so many ways: sociologist, dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Jesuit-run Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, professor of sociology and social science subjects until in his 80s, and writer/ author/columnist whose essays and commentaries have appeared in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, and various Church and academic publications. I believe Fr. Jack, as he is known to many, will be remembered most for his love and concern for the Filipino people, having spent much of his priestly and professional life in the Philippines. He

especially took to heart the Catholic social teaching principle of the preferential option for the poor and the marginalized manifested not only in his writings, but also in the scholarship and feeding programs he initiated in Payatas and Pansol. He mentored many ICSI personnel who have moved on to other equally important social endeavors. He was father, friend, mentor, confessor, benefactor, guardian, formator, and a true priest of Christ.

After 30 years with Fr. Jack, JJCICSI now feels orphaned. But consoled by our faith in the Resurrection and the Communion of Saints, we are confident that the same Holy Spirit that inspired the late Fr. John J. Carroll, SJ will empower us to continue the work that he began.

May the Triune God bless our work and everyone involved in our pursuit of the common good and the upliftment of the poor with whom Jesus identified.

Yours truly in the Lord,



FR. VICTOR C. DE JESUS, S.J.



REGIE MATIÑO

IN MEMORIAM

FR. JOHN J. CARROLL, SJ

1924 – 2014

In 1943, a slightly built nineteen-year-old from Orange, New Jersey named Jack Carroll entered the New York Province of the Society of Jesus.



In 1946, that choice took Jack Carroll to the other side of the world, where he and several other young Jesuits made their home in an unfamiliar country. After his ordination in 1955, he would leave that country several times to serve where the Society of Jesus thought he was needed more. But the Philippines—and his conviction in God's compassionate grace for Filipinos, especially for the poor—formed the smoldering core of his concern as a social scientist, a political activist, and a Jesuit.

In the 1950s, Fr. Jack went back to the United States for a masters in sociology at Fordham University and a doctorate in sociology at Cornell University. After his return to the Philippines in the 1960s, Fr. Jack joined the Institute of Social Order (ISO), a Jesuit apostolate dedicated to the application of Catholic social teaching to the persistent problems of poverty, inequity, and injustice in Philippine society.

The search for solutions to those problems fueled his career as a social scientist. In the 1960s he was among the earliest faculty members of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of the Ateneo de Manila University. In the late 1960s and early 1970s he served as a member of the board of

that university and of the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC). But he continued to work directly with and for the poor into the 1970s in the National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA), the fledgling executive arm of the Episcopal Commission on Social Action of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

After President Ferdinand E. Marcos declared martial law in 1972, Fr. Jack went full-time into an academic career. In 1973 he left the Philippines to teach at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, serving as dean of its Faculty of Social Sciences from 1975 to 1981. In 1981 and 1982 he was a Visiting Professor at Cornell University.

All those years he was also monitoring events under the Marcos dictatorship. In the mid-1970s he started writing articles against the dictatorship under a pseudonym, Benjamin A. McCloskey. The articles were published in a Catholic publication in the Philippines, *The Communicator*, soon closed by the military, and in the Jesuit publications *Études* in France and *America* in the United States.

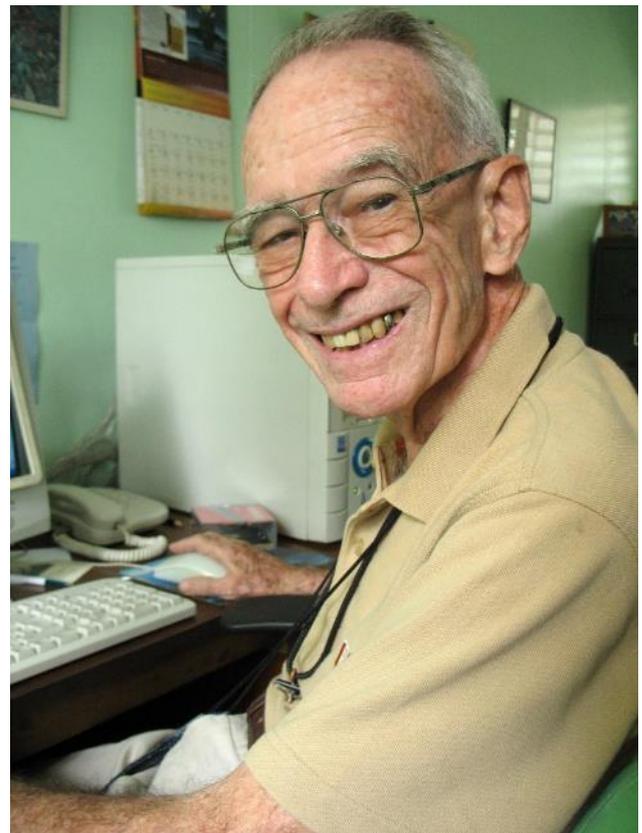
In 1984, Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, SJ, then superior of the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus, asked Fr. Jack to establish a think tank that would articulate an analysis and vision of Philippine society founded on Catholic social teaching. It was hoped that this analysis and vision could become a foundation upon which the nonviolent forces of the opposition could build a democratic program of government as an alternative to the Extreme Left and the Marcos dictatorship.

With Fr. Nebres and Bishop Francisco F. Claver, SJ, Fr. Jack founded the Institute on Church and Social Issues (ICSI), of which he became the first Executive Director in 1984. ICSI's early activities included writing papers that formulated strategies and scenarios for the anti-dictatorship opposition. One such paper is said to have been found in the bedroom of the First Lady, Imelda R. Marcos, after the Marcoses fled the presidential palace in February 1986, although this rumor has never been confirmed.

In the post-authoritarian era, Fr. Jack wrote and published—this time under his own name—numerous articles and books on Philippine issues. He was a consultant for the Commission on Social Concerns of the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (PCP-II), the 1991 gathering of bishops, clergy, religious,

and laity which determined the directions of the Catholic Church in the Philippines for the third millennium. He also helped to craft a number of pastoral documents of the CBCP.

Fr. Jack was himself a pastor to the poor. His close engagement with the people of Payatas caused him to reflect that while long-term structural change is the answer to poverty and injustice, the poor cannot wait for long-term change. This moved him to establish a college scholarship program for the youth, a feeding program for children, and Natural Family Planning (NFP) training for couples in Payatas.



DIANA JEAN MORALEDA

Even at 90, Fr. Jack continued to be a keen and often witty observer of Philippine society and the Catholic Church, a trusted mentor and adviser for the staff members of ICSI—now renamed the John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues (JJCICSI)—and its most prolific and published research associate.

On 14 July 2014, JJCICSI launched his last book, *Engaging Society II: Musings of an Oxymoron*. That same day he was brought home from the hospital to Loyola House of Studies, following his wish to spend his last days in community with his brother Jesuits. On 17 July 2014, God embraced him into the community of saints. - ELEANOR R. DIONISIO

PROGRAM REPORTS



CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The Church and Society Program aims to deepen the understanding of the role of the Catholic Church in Philippine society, with an emphasis on the dissemination of Catholic Social Teaching. Recognizing the crucial role that the Catholic Church has played in influencing Philippine social, political, and economic issues, the program seeks to foster reflection on the interface between the Philippine Church and society.

RESEARCH

Together with the Institute of Philippine Culture (IPC), JJCICSI, through its Church and Society Program, conducted a study on the knowledge needs, acquisition and use practices of bishops and randomly selected clergy of the archdiocese of Manila, its suffragan dioceses, and three neighboring archdioceses. The study has both practical and academic objectives. First is to help JJCICSI to develop an information product for the bishops and for other Catholic Church personnel who may have need for data to formulate positions and/or design action programs on social issues in their diocese. Another objective is to publish a monograph based on the findings of the study. To date, 62 active bishops shared their insights and opinion on their knowledge needs, and specific issues on the family. The final report is expected to be released in September 2015.

Other topics of research projects undertaken by the program were:

- Religion, public policy and social transformation in Southeast Asia. This research project received funding support from the Indonesia Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS). The paper was

presented at the First International Research Conference on Religion, Public Policy and Social Transformation in Southeast Asia held in March 2014 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The findings of the paper were also discussed in a televised roundtable discussion on religion entitled “Managing Religious Diversity in Maritime Southeast Asia” over Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI) Yogyakarta, the public television station in Yogyakarta.

- Catholic partisanship and democracy. An article on this topic appeared in *Landas*, the journal of one of the premier theologates in the Philippines, the Loyola School of Theology (LST). Another article, “Catholic partisanship in the 2013 elections: ‘churchifying’ democracy or democratizing the church?”, was published in the *Philippine Sociological Review* (PSR), a peer-reviewed academic journal of sociology in the country.

- The Catholic Church and political parties. A paper on this theme was presented in a forum attended by church personnel and representatives from civil society in February 2014.



JJCICSI also participated in the Vatican Survey on the Family in preparation for the III Extraordinary Synod of Bishops on Pastoral Challenges to the Family in the Context of Evangelization. The accomplished form was submitted to the Diocese of Cubao in March 2014.



ADVOCACY

The program took the lead in promoting principles of Catholic social teaching (CST) among partner organizations of JJCICSI. It designed an evaluation instrument based on CST principles which community groups and NGOs the Institute works with can use in assessing how consistent their work is with the principles of social justice, love for the poor, integrity of creation, among others. The said tool was also presented to the CBCP for possible adoption in dioceses.

- Catholic teaching on gender. The program gave a talk on the Philippine Magna Carta of Women at the Symposium on the Filipino Family sponsored by the Theology Department of the Ateneo de Manila University.



ATENEO DE MANILA THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Opinion on social issues involving the Catholic Church were shared in published articles in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* (“John XXIII’s impossible miracle”) and as resource person for an article in the *Business World*.



FAMILY LIFE

Through research, advocacy, and direct services, the Family Life Program assists the Catholic Church in addressing the social and spiritual needs of Filipino families, especially those in underprivileged communities.

The program aims to influence Church and State policy on issues affecting population and family life, work with government and non-government agencies to promote juvenile justice, and assist Filipino families in poor communities through scholarships, feeding programs, and natural family planning seminars for couples.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

To promote children's rights in communities, the program sought to activate Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC) in at least five barangays in select Metro Manila cities. (The BCPC is a local council set up to respond to issues of child abuse, violence, and exploitation as well as to ensure the welfare of children in communities.)



In 2014, orientations were given to officials and personnel of three barangay with relatively huge number of poor households: Santulan in Malabon City, Ugong in Valenzuela City, and Tangos in Navotas. After the orientations, the program continued extending technical assistance to participants, especially the members of the council.

In preparation for the training for the other target barangay in Valenzuela City, the program has started meetings with the City Social and Development Office. A key output of these meetings was a set of training modules to be used in 2015.

Given the need to inform the public—especially decision-makers and program implementers in government—about the rights of children, JJCICSI continued its active participation in various networks such as:

- **Philippine Action for Youth Offenders (PAYO)** for the promotion and protection of the rights of children-in-conflict-with-the-law (CICL).
- **Philippine NGO Coalition on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** for monitoring the compliance of the government on the UNCRC
- **Child Rights Network** for advocating legislative measures that would promote the welfare of children (e.g., positive discipline, protection for children in armed conflict, and meaningful child participation in governance through the *Sangguniang Kabataan*)

JJCICSI contributed to the efforts of these networks in various ways. With JJCICSI serving as president of PAYO, reforms in internal processes were instituted and planning sessions were facilitated to develop its advocacy and research agenda. It also spearheaded the implementation of the “Child-Free Bilibid Project” of PAYO which aimed to provide legal and psychosocial assistance to identified individuals at the national penitentiary, who were children at the time of the commission of the crime.

It also drafted the position paper opposing bills that seek to lower the minimum age of criminal responsibility. Another statement was prepared calling for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OP3 CRC). The said “protocol” would allow children to access justice at the international level.

The Institute also took part in the development of monitoring tools and in the preparation of the civil society report on the implementation of the UNCRC.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVOCACY FOR RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD

The Institute’s advocacy for responsible parenthood continued through its involvement in the Responsible Parenthood-All Natural Family Planning (RP-ANFP) Network, composed of government agencies, private sector groups, community organizations and parishes. The said network implemented activities that raised the awareness of couples about natural family planning methods. It worked with faith-based organizations and barangay government units in putting up NFP programs and provided technical assistance to communities in Metro Manila (Quezon City and Manila) and Tuguegarao City in Cagayan.



JJCICSI is among the civil society organizations pushing for the mainstreaming of NFP in government-sponsored family planning programs. In 2014, the RP-ANFP Network discussed with the Department of Health (DOH) the possibility of including NFP in the menu of family planning methods offered to beneficiaries of the conditional cash transfer program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

In November 2014, the Family Life and Church and Society Programs of JJCICSI spearheaded a dialogue between social scientists and moral theologians on sexuality education. The dialogue identified common principles to serve as the basis for sexuality education programs for Catholic schools which are consistent with Catholic teaching and compliant with the requirements of the Republic Act No. 10354, the Reproductive Health Law.





URBAN POVERTY AND GOVERNANCE

The Urban Poverty and Governance Program addresses urban poverty and its principal manifestation – the lack of access to humane and secure housing. Through research and advocacy, the program aims to alleviate urban poverty by empowering urban poor groups to work for better urban governance.

RESEARCH

The UPG program conducted three studies on urban resettlement projects affecting informal settler families residing along waterways of Metro Manila.

1. Securing the Rights of Girls and Boys in Urban Poor Relocation Programs: A Child Rights Impact Assessment of the Philippine Government’s Relocation Program on Children Living in Informal Settlements Along Metro Manila Waterways



Supported by Save the Children-Philippines, the study looked at the impact of resettlement from the point of view of children in areas due to be resettled relocation and in distant resettlement areas. The findings of the report were used by Save the Children-Philippines and its partner organizations in coming up with a model of a child-centered relocation program to be advocated to government agencies.

2. Developing and Piloting Applicable Models for Post-Occupation Management and Monitoring of Affordable Housing Estates: A Study of Post-occupation Management Practices, Institutional Arrangements and Capacities



This World Bank-funded research documented practices and policies for proper maintenance and management of four multi-story housing projects for low-income families in different cities in Metro Manila. The Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC), a government-owned corporation providing housing loans for organized informal settlers planning to move in multi-story buildings located *in* the city, is the primary user of the results of the study. A capacity building program to be implemented by the SHFC based on the findings of the research will be piloted in 2015.

3. External Monitoring and Evaluation of the Pasig-Marikina River Channel Improvement Project Phase III (PMRCIP III) Resettlement Action Plan



Two monitoring reports were submitted in 2014, as part of the five-year monitoring project that aims to collect evidence on the impacts of resettlement on access to basic services and livelihood, household income, and overall living condition of relocated families. JJCICSI monitors the situation of more than 50 families from the banks of the Pasig River in Manila who have been relocated in three off-city resettlement sites to give way to the construction of

flood-mitigation infrastructure of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). It also documents efforts of the government agency at restoring livelihood of affected families.

ADVOCACY

As a support NGO for the Urban Poor Alliance (UP-ALL), JJCICSI contributed to facilitating the implementation of the in-city housing approach as part of the alliance's Covenant with President Aquino. The studies produced by JJCICSI either served as inputs during the study and reflection sessions of UP-ALL or used as reference in policy discussions with shelter agencies. JJCICSI facilitated, documented, and participated in policy discussions on designing an income-based subsidy scheme to make in-city multi-story housing affordable even to the poorest informal settler families. The said scheme was developed with technical support from the World Bank and is to be recommended for adoption by the shelter agencies.

Advocacy activities in 2014 included the following:

- Conduct of an assessment by UP-ALL of the Covenant with President Aquino
- Facilitation of learning sessions on (1) the ISF Housing Program and (2) the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process
- Facilitation of a meeting of civil society organizations in preparation for the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process for 2016
- Participation in the meetings called by the Philippine-MISEREOR Partnership, particularly its Special Working Group on Urban Livability and the NCR Urban Cluster
- Facilitation of technical working group meetings on designing a subsidy scheme for the ISF Housing Program for informal settlers in waterways



- Participation in workshops for crafting a capacity building program on community development and estate management for multi-story housing projects financed by the SHFC
- Participation in meetings with SHFC to represent the Partnership of Philippine Support Service Agencies (PHILSSA) as part of the network's budget partnership agreement (BPA), in which civil society organizations monitor the preparation and utilization of the agency's budget.
- Participation in meetings of the joint congressional committees on housing and urban development (House of Representatives and Senate) in preparation for the holding of a Housing Summit to discuss measures to address bottlenecks in the government's in-city housing program
- Presentation of a talk on informal settlers of Metro Manila in the context of disasters focusing on danger as a socially constructed and contested concept; three talks were delivered to professors and students in Japan who are conducting research on urban poverty in the Philippines.





RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Rural Development Program recognizes that the majority of the Filipino poor live in rural areas. It also sees that the lack of access to land and other productive resources hinders the rural poor from participating in economic activities to improve their incomes. In the face of formidable structures that perpetuate poverty in the countryside, the program sets its sight on alternatives, substitutes or options that would address the issue of access, along with control and management of resources.

RESEARCH

The Rural Development Program conducted two major research projects in 2014. The output of the first project underscored the importance of a national land use act (NLUA) and its benefits to different sectors, including the business sector. The second project was in line with the program's objective of improving access by rural poor to financial services; it evaluated the CCA-funded microinsurance project of RIMANSI which is a microinsurance service provider of microfinance institutions and cooperatives.

1. Policy paper on the passage of the National Land Use Act (NLUA)

JJCICSI drafted a policy paper titled "NLUA benefits all" that presented the objectives of the proposed legislation, with the private sector as a strategic audience in mind. The paper reiterated that as a framework, a national land use policy will guide local government units in land use and allocation planning that is rational and just. By emphasizing the principles of universal destination of goods and the promotion of the common good, it also sought to enrich the current discourse on land reform. This paper also served as one of the materials for the conference titled "Build Back Better: A National Conference on

the NLUA and Business” held in May 2014 which had representatives from the business and private sectors among the participants.

2. Evaluation of the ERMISEA III Project

The Canadian Co-operative Association tapped JJCICSI to undertake an evaluation of RIMANSI's microinsurance project called "Expanding the Reach of Microinsurance in Southeast Asia III" (ERMISEA III) project. Although the report will be for internal use of RIMANSI, the findings are expected to be shared to microinsurance-mutual benefit associations (MI-MBAs) who are the actual providers of microinsurance to low income groups.



ADVOCACY

This year, the Rural Development Program actively participated in lobbying activities of the People's Campaign for Agrarian Reform Network (AR Now!) for the completion of land distribution under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program with extension and reforms (CARPER). Other bills that AR now discussed considerably were on agribusiness venture agreements and agrarian credit.



JJCICSI was also among various civil society groups under the Campaign for Land Use Policy Now (CLUP Now!) network that pushed for the passage of NLUA.

INSTITUTE-WIDE ACTIVITIES

In celebration of the 30th founding anniversary of JJCICSI, the program organized two forums in 2014.

SIMBAHAN, LAIKO, AT KATARUNGANG PANLIPUNAN



The first forum was in connection with the Year of the Laity, the theme declared by the Catholic Church in the Philippines for 2014. The forum titled “*Simbahan, Laiko, at Katarungang Panlipunan* (Church, Laity, and Social Justice)” was held in July 2014. It featured His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, cardinal archbishop of Manila, as main speaker and six representatives from five sectoral partners of JJCICSI, namely the urban poor, women, farmers, youth, and users of natural family planning. The forum was held back-to-back with the launching of Fr. John J. Carroll’s book, *Engaging Society II: Musings of an Oxymoron*.

FORUM ON THE SUPPRESSION AND RESTORATION OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SOCIAL APOSTOLATE

In August 2014, another forum was organized to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the restoration of the Society of Jesus. Titled “*Suppression and Restoration of the Society of Jesus and its Implications for the Social Apostolate*”, the forum had, as main speaker, Fr. Antonio B. de Castro, SJ, a historian of Roman Catholicism. Colleagues in social development from the Loyola Schools-based NGOs and the social apostolate of

the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus attended the forum.



SOUTHEAST ASIA DIALOGUE FORUM ON DEVELOPMENT SERVING THE GLOBAL COMMON GOOD

In October 2014, a four-day dialogue forum, co-sponsored by MISEREOR and the *Institut für Gesellschaftspolitik* (IGP) in partnership with JJCICSI, brought together participants from seven countries in Southeast Asia and the Pacific to discuss what development serving the global common good might mean for the region. Countries represented were Fiji, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam.



The dialogue forum was part of a joint project by MISEREOR and the IGP, titled “*Development Serving the Global Common Good: An Intercultural Dialogue Project*.” MISEREOR and the IGP conceptualized the project, against the background of multiple global crises, as a three-year process aiming to draw out from different regions across the globe (1) an analysis of the present situation of development; (2)

a concept of what the “good life” might look like in different global contexts; (3) elements of a shared vision of the “common good” in the context of globalization challenges; and (4) strategies for coordinated transformational change toward the “global common good.”



The general objective of the Southeast Asian forum was to contribute to the global discourse on how to effect social, economic, political, and cultural change toward the vision of just and sustainable development. It provided a venue for community, country, and regional actors to engage with MISEREOR and the IGP in a dialogue on development alternatives for serving the common good in the context of key economic, social, and political realities in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Participants shared knowledge and country experiences from Southeast Asia and the Pacific on key social issues related to the effects of the global economy in terms of poverty, social injustice, and environmental degradation. As a group, they also evaluated current global and regional development paradigms especially in the context of ASEAN 2015, the prospective project for the Southeast Asian integration. One day was devoted to allow participants firsthand interaction with communities and other stakeholders in a particular project adversely affected by the dominant global development paradigm.

INTERSECT QUICK FACTS

In December 2014, JJCICSI resumed the publication of the *Intersect*, this time in a format that provides readers “bite-sized” and up-to-date data and information to help inform discussions on key social issues. Called the *Intersect Quick Facts* or IQF, the first issue tackled poverty and exclusion in a flourishing economy. As active commentators to problems besetting the country, Catholic bishops were among the first to be given copies of the IQF. Data in the IQF were also presented by the Church and Society Program during the 110th Plenary Assembly of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).



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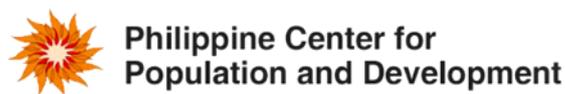
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