



DAWN-BEM HOLISTIC REINTEGRATION

by Masako Ono

The Development Action for Women Network (DAWN), in partnership with the British Embassy Manila (BEM), conducted a series of psychosocial activities, skills trainings and seminars-workshops for women migrant returnees, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) & trafficking and members of their families from November 2022 to March 2023. This is part of the project, “Providing a Holistic Approach to the Prevention, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Trafficked Women Migrants,” which provided psychosocial and economic interventions to forty (40) women migrant returnees, women migrant workers and members of their families. Through this holistic approach to reintegration, they were transformed from victims to survivors to advocates of their own issues and concerns.

Group Work Activities

Women and members of their families participated in various group work and counselling activities facilitated by DAWN’s Social Services Program Coordinator, Ms. Crezol Mar L. Navarro, RSW. These activities provided a safe space for women migrant returnees, survivors of GBV & trafficking and members of their families to express themselves, strengthen their inner resiliency, and establish a support system that helps them to overcome their traumatic experiences.



Group Work Activities with DAWN-BEM trainees facilitated by Ms. Crezol Mar Navarro, RSW at the DAWN Office.



Ms. Amelita Collado and Ms. Blessie Llemos during the DAWN-BEM Training on Sewing on January 18, 2023 & February 1, 2023.



Ms. Maria Elena Mendoza and Ms. Nemia Padua during the DAWN-BEM Training on Handloom Weaving on January 19, 2023 & February 24, 2023.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1-4 DAWN-BEM’s HOLISTIC REINTEGRATION
- 5 DAWN-BEM Feedbacks from Trainees
- 6 DAWN-BEM Engagements
- 7 TESDA Manila Meeting
- 11 People, Places, Events

Skills Training on Sewing and Handloom Weaving

Participants also underwent skills training in sewing and handloom weaving. DAWN believes that sewing and handloom weaving are therapeutic activities that gives women migrant workers, survivors of GBV & trafficking and members of their families a sense of belongingness. It also provides a new learning experience that can also be used as an alternative livelihood opportunity after their stay abroad.

(to be continued on page 2)

DAWN-BEM's HOLISTIC...



Participants, speakers and guests of the DAWN-BEM Seminar-Workshop on Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children on January 24, 2023 at the Bayview Park Hotel.

With these skills training sessions, they were able to make bags, apron skirts, coasters and placemats. These were facilitated by DAWN's Alternative Livelihood Coordinator, Ms. Mary Joy Barcelona, and DAWN's Sewing and Weaving Project Coordinator, Ms. Gilda Mosatalla.

SEMINARS-WORKSHOPS

DAWN also provided seminars-workshops to raise awareness on various issues and concerns of women migrant workers and returnees, survivors of GBV, trafficking & Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and members of their families.

These activities were held at the Bayview Park Hotel Manila.

Seminar-Workshop on OSAEC

DAWN conducted a Seminar-Workshop on Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) on January 24, 2023, which raised awareness on OSAEC, its impact on children, families and communities and practical ways of preventing this.

Mr. Amiel Cohen, Second Secretary of Political, Human Rights & Peace Process of BEM, shared in his message the importance of tackling issues, such as OSAEC, among multiple stakeholders and finding ways to address them. SASP Lilian Doris S. Alejo of the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking of the Department of Justice (IACAT - DOJ)

discussed the overview of Trafficking and OSAEC in the Philippines and the Salient Features of the Republic Act 11862, the law that strengthens the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act.

She highlighted that with these laws in place, and with the proper reporting mechanism from involved stakeholders, they are able to prosecute human traffickers and help minimize various incidents of trafficking.

PLTCOL Divina C. Mencio of the Philippine National Police (PNP) - Anti-Cybercrime Group shared their interventions through awareness campaigns, entrapment operations and rescue missions. She also added the importance of parents' vigilance in monitoring their children's online behavior and social media presence.

Mr. Alfred Ari Regino facilitated the workshop on practical ways of preventing OSAEC. He informed the participants to always be updated with the latest social media platforms where children may be vulnerable to OSAEC and to remember how to promptly report OSAEC-related incidents to the proper authorities.

Seminar on Reintegration Programs and Services

DAWN also conducted the Seminar on Reintegration Programs and Services on February 23, 2023. Several key people shared their messages of support in the importance of sustainable reintegration to promoting the well-being of families:



Mr. Amiel Cohen of BEM, giving his opening message during the Seminar/Workshop on OSAEC.



Senior Assistant State Prosecutor Lilian Doris Alejo of IACAT-DOJ



PLTCOL Divina Mencio of the PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group and Mr. Alfred Ari Regiono sharing ways of preventing and reporting OSAEC incidents.



Mr. Alfred Ari Regiono sharing ways of preventing and reporting OSAEC incidents.



From left: Prof. Aurora Javate-De Dios, President of DAWN's BOT; Ms. Camille Parpan of BEM; Usec. Eduardo Jose De Vega of the DFA; Dr. Jeremaiah Opiniano of IMDI; and Ms. Mary Joy Barcelona of DAWN.

Prof. Aurora Javate-De Dios, President of DAWN's Board of Trustees; Ms. Camille Ross Parpan, Human Rights Advisor of BEM; and Usec. Eduardo Jose de Vega of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Jeremaiah M. Opiniano of the Institute for Migration and Development Issues (IMDI) presented a situationer on reintegration of migrants in the Philippines.

This was followed by the showcase of reintegration programs and services of various government agencies.

Ms. Corona Olivia Rivera of the Department of Trade and Industry - National Capital Region Office (DTI-NCRO) shared DTI's reintegration programs and services for migrant workers and members of their families. Among their programs are assistance on setting up their respective businesses and provision of long-term loans to jumpstart their ventures.

Dir. Dindi Tan of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) shared their assistance programs for returning migrant workers, especially those repatriated during the pandemic. One assistance is their Tulong PUSO Program, where groups of migrant returnees pool together to setup their livelihood program, and OWWA will provide them with the appropriate grant. Aside from the grant, migrant returnee proponents will be provided with a series of seminars on how to start and sustain their livelihood opportunities.

Mr. Jansen Paolo Hernandez of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shared about their technology-based reintegration programs. Through their Innovations for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH) Program,



Participants, speakers and guests of the DAWN-BEM Seminar on Reintegration Programs and Services on February 23, 2023, at the Bayview Park Hotel Manila.



Resource persons from different government agencies showcasing the reintegration programs and services they provide for OFWs and members of their families.

the DOST may provide technical assistance and flexible loan packages to acquire the necessary machines and equipment for selected industries.

Asec. Venecio V. Legaspi of the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) explained their 5-year roadmap of the full cycle reintegration operational framework, which includes a variety of programs and services under

DMW. He also emphasized the role of families in a migrant's reintegration.

Ms. Mary Joy Barcelona shared DAWN's holistic approach to reintegration through its psychosocial and economic interventions. She said that this approach transform women and members of their families from victims to survivors to advocates of their own issues & concerns.



Participants, speakers and guests of the DAWN-BEM Seminar on Entrepreneurial Management and Orientation on Cooperative on March 21, 2023 at the Bayview Park Hotel Manila.



Ms. Novi Avila, Human Rights Officer of the British Embassy Manila.

Seminar on Entrepreneurial Management & Orientation in Cooperative, International Women’s Month Celebration & Graduation on DAWN-BEM Project Activities

The project’s culminating activity was the Seminar on Entrepreneurial Management and Orientation on Cooperative, International Women’s Month Celebration, & DAWN - BEM Project Activities on March 21, 2023.

Ms. Novi Avila, Human Rights Officer of BEM, shared that DAWN is the embassy’s valuable partner, particularly in addressing the issues and concerns in their modern slavery work.

Prof. Zandro T. Estella of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines - Quezon City gave a comprehensive discussion on entrepreneurship and an overview of establishing and maintaining a cooperative.

For the graduation activity, Ms. Carmelita Nuqui provided an overview of the DAWN-BEM project and DTI-NCRO Regional Director Marcelina Alcantara gave her inspirational message.

This was followed by a video presentation of the highlights of the DAWN-BEM project activities and messages from the DAWN staff. Certificates and tokens, which contain their project outputs, were given to the graduates and ended with a community song from DAWN Teatro Akebono’s “Iba’t-ibang Mukha ni Misty.”

An exhibit of the graduates’ outputs from their skills trainings and testimonials were showcased during the seminar.



Exhibit of sewing and handloom weaving outputs and testimonials of the trainees of the DAWN-BEM project.



Prof. Zandro Estella of PUP - Quezon City asking Ms. Rosario Tamayo, one of the DAWN-BEM trainees, about the challenges she faced in setting-up a business.



Ms. Carmelita Nuqui of DAWN and DTI-NCRO Director Marcelina Alcantara

DAWN-BEM Feedback from Trainees/Participants

Seminars - Workshops

I learned a lot, especially the proper use of the internet and online sites and how it can cause harm to us and our children.

-Erica Manabat, migrant returnee from KSA

What I like most about the event is how the speakers were able to relate their topic/s to the needs of the participants.

I learned a lot.

-Ludy Magtangob, migrant returnee from Hong Kong

The programs and services discussed and provided by various government agencies and NGOs are relevant for future resource mobilization.

This could help us on how to assist migrant workers in our office.

-Louie Rival, Department of Migrant Workers

Group Work Activity

In this workshop, I was able to receive good ideas and suggestions in life that I can apply to my family and myself.

Wherever I go, I will always have the learnings I got from here and no one can take it away from me.

-Merly Brillo, applicant for work overseas

I learned how teamwork is done, to guide, to trust myself and to the group that I belonged to. I am also very happy.

-Beverly Huerto, migrant returnee from UAE

I felt that I am really welcomed here. I learned the importance of self-worth and to recognize it. I also learned how to take care of myself more and to reward myself sometimes.

-Fe Zaragosa, migrant returnee from Israel

Skills Training on Sewing & Weaving

For me, sewing is easier than weaving, But weaving became easier when all the threads are in the right places. It becomes addictive that I just want to weave all day.

-Helen Datol, seafarer's wife

I learned a lot, not only new skills on sewing and handloom weaving, but to be more patient, tolerant and understanding in doing my craft. I felt DAWN is my family and I felt I belong.

-Rebecca Dumip-ig, seafarer's wife

I would like to thank DAWN for inviting me to be one of the participants in the sewing and weaving trainings. I appreciate that the trainings taught us everything about sewing and weaving.

The staff are very helpful and kind, -and we don't feel stressed.

-Anita Manabat, migrant returnee from Australia

SUBSCRIPTION

Development Action for Women Network
(DAWN)
Unit 3 3rd Floor,
Bocobo Commercial Center
1253 J. Bocobo corner Padre Faura Sts.
Ermita 1000, Manila Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 85269098
Fax No. (632) 85269101
E-mail: dawnwomennetwork@gmail.com
Website: www.dawnphil.com

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DAWN - BEM Engagements

by Crezol Mar L. Navarro, RSW



Ms. Carmelita Nuqui with UK Migration and Modern Slavery Envoy Andrew Patrick discussing the situation of Modern Slavery in the Philippines on February 27, 2023 at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel.

Roundtable Discussion with UK’s Migration and Modern Slavery Envoy

Ms. Carmelita Nuqui and Mr. Lance Velasco of DAWN had the opportunity to meet UK’s Migration and Modern Slavery Envoy, Mr. Andrew Patrick, on February 27, 2023 at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel.

DAWN was one of the civil society organizations (CSOs) that was invited to provide a situationer on human trafficking in the Philippines. CSO representatives shared the issues on their respective sectors and provided their best practices on how to address human trafficking.

DAWN highlighted the importance of providing decent job opportunities back home to minimize vulnerabilities of human trafficking while working abroad. DAWN also shared its holistic approach to reintegration for women migrant returnees, survivors of gender-based violence & trafficking and members of their families.



DAWN and CSO representatives during the Roundtable Discussion on the human trafficking situation with UK Migration and Modern Slavery Envoy Andrew Patrick.



UK Minister for Indo-Pacific Anne-Marie Trevelyan with Ms. Bianca Gonzales during the fireside chat at BEM’s International Women’s Month reception on March 31, 2023.

International Women’s Month Reception and Visit of the UK Minister for Indo-Pacific

Mr. Lance Velasco of DAWN participated at BEM’s International Women’s Month Reception on March 31, 2023 at the British Ambassador’s Residence.

The theme of the reception was on “DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality,” which emphasized the role of digital channels to promote the welfare of women and girls. One of the highlights of this reception was the presence of the Rt. Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan, UK Minister for Indo-Pacific.

During her fireside chat, Minister Trevelyan shared the importance of empowering women and girls towards gender equality and the need to create a safe environment to hone and maximize their potential. The reception was participated by women leaders in the government, CSOs, private sector and the youth.



Mr. Lance Velasco of DAWN with UK Minister for Indo-Pacific Anne-Marie Trevelyan and British Ambassador Laure Beaufrils.

TESDA – Manila meets DAWN

by Mary Joy E. Barcelona



Ms. Niña Connie Dodd, District Director and Mr. Eugene Agcaoli of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Manila visit DAWN on January 27, 2023.

Officials of TESDA - Manila visited DAWN on January 27, 2023 to discuss possible partnership initiatives.

DAWN Executive Director, Ms. Carmelita Nuqui, discussed DAWN's programs and services to women migrant returnees, survivors of gender-based violence & trafficking and members of their families with Director Niña Connie Dodd and Mr. Eugene Agcaoli of TESDA - Manila.

With TESDA - Manila's goal to manage and supervise technical education and skills development in Manila, Director Dodd discussed the collaboration of TESDA - Manila.

Ms. Mary Joy Barcelona, Alternative Livelihood Program Coordinator of DAWN, also shared DAWN's SIKHAY products to TESDA - Manila officials.



Ms. Nuqui and Mr. Velasco explaining the weaving process as demonstrated by DAWN's trainee, Ms. Rezabel Mawali, to TESDA Manila officials on January 27, 2023 at the DAWN-SIKHAY Training Center.



Ms. Nuqui discusses DAWN's programs and services to Dir. Niña Connie Dodd and Mr. Eugene Agcaoli of TESDA Manila on January 27, 2023 at the DAWN Office.



SINAG (akebono or yoake in Japanese) means dawn or daybreak.

It is the quarterly publication of the Development Action for Women Network (DAWN), a non-government organization devoted to issues concerning migrant women returnees and their children/youth.

EDITORIAL TEAM

Carmelita G. Nuqui
Lance A. S. Velasco

CONTRIBUTORS

Mary Joy E. Barcelona
Cezol Mar L. Navarro, RSW
Masako R. Ono

LAYOUT: Masako Ono

People, Places and Events



Monitoring and Auditing of the Department of Trade and Industry - Commission on Audit (DTI-COA) of the Shared Service Facilities (SSF) of DAWN on January 25, 2023 at the DAWN Office.



Peace Boat's Adviser in Land Operation Division, Mr. Makoto Inoue, visited DAWN on March 17, 2023 in preparation for the DAWN – Peace Boat Exchange Activity.



PMRW members Ms. Carmelita Nuqui of DAWN (President), Fr. Roger Manalo of CBCP-ECMI (Vice-President) and Ms. Ellene Sana of CMA (Secretary) at the 36th session of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers on March 27, 2023 at Geneva, Switzerland.



Ms. Masachuseette T. Banza - Nacino, Social Welfare Officer III and Ms. Ma. Gloria O. Alcaraz, Social Welfare Officer III of the DSWD Standards Bureau Visit DAWN on March 27-28, 2023.

Development Action for Women Network (DAWN)

Unit 3, 3rd Floor, Bocobo Commercial Center
1253 J. Bocobo St. corner Padre Faura Sts., Ermita 1000
Manila, PHILIPPINES
Tel. No. (632) 8526-9098
Fax No. (632) 8526-9101
Email: dawnwomennetwork@gmail.com
Website: www.dawnphil.com

