A Case Study on the Preparatory Activities for Training cum Production of Green Construction Materials

I. Background

The socialized housing sector was identified as the most viable sector for the implementation of a demonstration project in the Philippines. Introducing green jobs into the socialized housing construction sector could do its part in alleviating the strain that buildings put on the environment. Specifically, buildings has approximately 40% share in global energy use, more than 30% share in resource consumption, 30% of solid waste generation and 30% of greenhouse gas emissions globally. A feasibility study based on economic viability, environmental sustainability and potential for supporting decent work identified two building products for green jobs promotion namely Modified Concrete Hollow Blocks (mCHB) using coco fiber reinforcement and Coco Coir based erosion control systems. The pilot site of the demonstration project was further narrowed down to a resettlement area in Rodriguez (formerly Montalban) town, Rizal province and the preparatory activities for the training cum production of the two Green construction materials started on the month of April 2012.

II. Objectives

As part of the roles and responsibilities of MCM and COCOTECH, a training cum production activity will be conducted for the beneficiaries of the demonstration project. The training program for the two green construction materials are outlined into three parts namely:

1. Building according to climate change and the provision of decent work
2. Introduction to the green construction materials (mCHB and Coconet) for application to socialized housing in the Philippines
3. Production of green construction materials (mCHB and Coconet) and Hands-on Workshop
III. Achievements

- Training and orientation on labour standards and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) have been conducted for all participants of the training cum production.
- Initial training was given to 64 male and 3 female residents in using a manual approach to mCHB production conducted by MCM Eco Chem Corporation on April 24-27, 2012.
- A total of 35 women attended the coconet systems training cum production which started on May 8-9, 2012 by COCOTECH.
- Representatives from ILO discussed green jobs and decent work to the trainees.
- A quality circle was conducted by COCOTECH to assess the outcome of the training program.
- Participants in the training cum production receive a payment for the output of their training cum production.
- About 825 mCHBs and more than 10,000 pcs of coco coir twines were produced as of end of August 2012.

IV. Prospective of the Training cum Production of Green Construction Materials

Training cum production of green construction materials is conducted as part of the three-tiered approach to capacity building and training particularly under the lower skilled on the job community based training for production of mCHB and Coco Coir nets and laying of Coco coir nets for those living within social housing communities. Prospective activities as the training cum production and its preparatory activities are conducted will revolve on the other parts of the three-tiered approach namely the curricular development of Green Masonry integrated in existing Masonry Curriculum and the development of a Green Social Housing Guide for training of professionals.

References

*Process Documentation Report*

ILO Green Jobs in Asia Project, June 2012