Enabling women-led social enterprise for agri-processing with clean energy from community hydropower in Mindanao

ADB ACEF 2023
Danao Micro Hydropower System

- Located in Sitio Danao, Barangay Pangaleon, Municipality of Malita, Davao Occidental
- Within the Ancestral Domain of the Tagakaulo tribe
- 29-kilowatt capacity
- Tier 4 energy access for 135 households
- Drives productive end-uses (agricultural processing, water pump for a level 2 potable water system, motorized loads)
- Operational since 2021; fully community-owned and managed
The significance of women action

- Women spearheaded the mobilization of community resources for the project
- Out of 576 volunteers in ‘bayanihan’ activities, 41% were women
- Sustained enthusiasm during and after project implementation
The significance of women action

- Out of 57 individuals holding decision-making positions in community energy users' association, 74% are women.
- Female chairperson elected by the community and is now effectively leading the community energy users' association, and operation and maintenance team.
The significance of women action

- Recognize the link between healthy river systems and the sustainability of micro hydropower
- 8,000 seedlings transplanted over a 390-hectare catchment area
- Women took the lead in developing the community’s Watershed Protection and Management Plan that is integrated into the Barangay Development Plan (BDP) and the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP)
- Deep appreciation for watershed protection
Danao Women’s Enterprise Committee

A cohesive and functional women’s association dedicated to promoting the interest of the Tagakaulo women in the community through entrepreneurial activities

• Established a small coffee milling facility reducing time needed to process coffee beans, and significantly reducing the physical burden of the task.

• Actively seeking out new opportunities to improve agricultural production and livelihoods
The role of Yamog

- Providing sound engineering and technical input
- Strengthening social formations
- Facilitating important linkages with other stakeholders and institutions
- **Yamog’s Women-centric, Just Energy Transition Unit** - composed of six women who have a combined expertise in gender development, engineering, community organizing and financial management.
Maintaining long-term partnerships for sustainability

• Yamog conducts regular periodic monitoring of the community’s performance (technical, financial, social cohesion)

• Continuous mentoring and improvement of skills
Maintaining long-term partnerships for sustainability

- Yamog established the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Technologies (ReSET) center in 2021 to provide trainings on operation and maintenance and to develop a pool of all-women home-grown renewable energy technicians.
- In partnership with the Department of Science and Technology Region XI
- Supported by European Union Access to Sustainable Energy Program (EU-ASEP), Misereor-KZE Germany, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
Women have shown how access to clean energy empowers

They have also shown how their own power elevates the benefits of clean energy

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