

Emergency Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods after Super Typhoon Haiyan



Even as a skilled worker, 38-year old **Marites Veleganio** did not find it easy to recover from the devastation to facilities, housing, infrastructure, agricultural resources, businesses, employment, and lives caused by Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda). The International Labour Organization (ILO), with the help of partners, gave people like her an opportunity to get back on their feet.

Before the typhoon struck, Marites' household, which included six school-aged children, relied on a tiny *sari-sari* store and a backyard vegetable garden for their daily subsistence. Her husband, a fisherman, also brought home money but the daily pay was unreliable, ranging from PHP300 to nothing at all.

When Haiyan swept away their house and livelihood, they took to relying on relief goods, like many other families in Northern Cebu. Marites eventually joined a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) training course offered through the Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU) of Sta. Fe, Bantayan Island, where she earned a certification in masonry.

Her new skill paved the way for her inclusion in the ILO's Post-Haiyan Community Rebuilding for Northern Cebu programme, which needed some skilled workers to assist the non-skilled hires. Marites participated in the construction of a training centre in a Gawad Kalinga (GK) housing development (village)

in Medellin, Bantayan Island that would help its Haiyan-displaced residents secure better livelihoods.

As a skilled worker, Marites received a PHP320 per day wage, three months' enrolment in social security, three months' health insurance, one year of accident insurance, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

This being her first construction job right after the TESDA training, Marites' morale was especially buoyed up as she looked forward to accepting more construction work in the future.

"With my TESDA certificate and ILO work experience, I'm in a better position to provide for my family," she declared with confidence.

Helping one's self by helping others



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