

Session 1

Context Setting

An **International Perspective** was shared by **Mr. Roberto Bissio**, **Coordinator of Social Watch and Executive Director, Third World Institute [TWI]**.

In his talk, Mr. Bissio gave a historical account of the development of the new world economic order and its promise of eradicating worldwide poverty. That such a promise has not yet materialized, inspite of the fact that “humanity has the resources” to deliver such a promise is a paradox , according to Mr. Bissio. Further, he expressed disappointment that the MDG Summit held in September 2010 failed to make any decision to implement fast track measures for poverty eradication and meeting MDG targets.

This situation puts into context the importance and urgency by which Social Watch has to fulfill its mandate. It is imperative that Social Watch “constantly ask what is happening and what has been done”. Mr. Bissio further reiterated the role of Social Watch in pushing for government accountability and for the allocation of government funds, that will ensure that the marginalized sector is able to benefit from it.

With Social Watch now present in 64 countries, Mr Bissio stressed that the vision is to put forward a strong voice in the United





Nations and to showcase models that governments can learn from. (A more detailed notes on the content of Mr. Bissio's message and of the open forum that followed can be found as Annex B.)

Session 2

Social Watch Asia Sharing of Status and Plans

Report on the Pan-Asia Capacity Building held in February 2010

Mr. Himanshu Jha, National Coordinator, National Social Watch Coalition-India shared the results of the workshop entitled "Pan-Asia Workshop Who Pays? The Global Crises and What Needs to be Done-An Asian Perspective" held February 22-24, 2010 in New Delhi, India.

The workshop, which was attended by representatives from Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Burma, Mongolia, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Nepal and India aimed to look into the far-reaching impact of globalization in the Asian region, discuss the dynamics of international financial institutions' delimiting factors to state sovereignty, and issues on government transparency and accountability towards its citizens. It was an opportunity for strengthening the SW coalitions in Asia, forge links and construct a common advocacy and campaigning agenda. (Please refer to Annex C for a full presentation of the workshop outputs and recommendations.)



National Coalition Sharing

Ten National Coalitions gave brief presentations on the Social Watch status and plans in their respective countries.

Social Watch Bangladesh Coalition

M.D. Akhter Hossain, Coordinator, Social Watch Bangladesh Coalition

SW Bangladesh Coalition is very young, having been launched only three months ago. Media persons from more than twenty media organizations attended the launching activity. The launching generated interest from among leading CSOs in the country as to what SW is all about. Currently, the group is working on its campaign issues for the coming months. They are also working towards expanding the membership of the coalition.

SILAKA Cambodia

Mr. Sothea Sak

SW Cambodia, is represented by SILAKA, a national coalition registered with the Ministry of Interior . It works together with other local and International NGOs on various themes and advocacies, such as children's welfare/right, decentralization, demining, democracy & human rights, disability & rehabilitation, education, environment & natural resources management, gender and health. *(Please refer to Annex D for the Cambodia presentation.)*





Social Watch Indonesia

Mr. Achmad Uzair and Ms. Octavia Pramita Purwaningtyas

Social Watch Indonesia is composed of individual and organizational members, including NFID and its network, Lafadl Initiatives, PEKKA (Women headed Household Empowerment Program) and ASPPUK.

Having successfully weathered problems in the past, current members are now working on a major initiative that calls for a coalition-wide consultation with the end view of reactivating SW Indonesia as a watchdog of the government's accomplishments on its MDG commitment.

Other planned activities are research and political lobbying on the issues of development, MDGs, environment, migrants, aid, debt, governance and gender. (*Please refer to Annex E for the Indonesia presentation.*)

Rural Reconstruction of Nepal

Ms. Mingma Bonzan

Social Watch in Nepal is coordinated by the Rural Reconstruction of Nepal, a national coalition composed of people's organization working on various issues including faith, religion, debt, conflict, gender justice, climate change and issues of cultural minorities.



Pakistan Social Watch Coalition

Mr. Noor Muhammed Soonharane

Social Watch in Pakistan started in 2007 and was initially called the Pakistan NGO Forum. Comprising of the different NGOs and CSOs operating in the country, it later became known as the Pakistan SW Coalition.

Because of the diversity of social development issues amongst Pakistan's provinces, the coalition finds itself facing many challenges and is doing its best to respond effectively to these challenges. While many CSOs exist in the provinces, there is lack of unity in putting forward recommendations and actions to resolve social development issues.

Mr. Soonharane feels that Pakistan's SW coalition is in need of technical support that will 1) help facilitate consensus building among the different CSO actors in the area and 2) maximize the media and other information channels in putting forward to the people issues and concerns the country is facing. For the next years, he said, the SW coalition would focus on building its capacity towards this end.

Mr Soonharane presented plans/proposals for strengthening Pakistan's SW Coalition, which calls for the following:

1. for an organizational structure that will have a presence in all of the provinces, where a council, composed of the various





- CSOs and NGOs in that particular area, would be formed. These councils will then form the national SW council.
2. for SW to tackle governance issues such as accountability and interact with various levels of government to ensure that social development services are reaching its intended beneficiaries, particularly the poor and marginalized. Towards this end, the SW coalition should have dialogues, workshops and other events with government agencies and bodies. Activists from all sectors and across themes are to be invited to these dialogues with government to surface all possible issues and recommendations.
 3. as part of its capacity building, for the coalition to hold regular assessment and planning sessions with the different stakeholders.
 4. for each province to hold a focused group discussion on particular issue facing that province or area. This is a strategy, to gather all CSOs and NGOs on a single issue.

Mr Soonharane expressed confidence that once all above plans and strategies have been implemented, the Pakistan SW Coalition would be stronger organizationally. He further shared that Pakistan SW is expecting technical support and assistance from India and other neighboring SW coalitions and added that they also expect SW International to play a role towards the strengthening of the Pakistan SW coalition. *(Please Refer to Annex F for the Pakistan presentation)*



Social Watch Philippines

Mr. Alvic Padilla

SW Philippines is composed of almost 100 NGOs, coalitions, networks and individual members. Convenors are Prof. Leonor Magtolis Briones, Isagani R. Serrano, Marivic Raquiza, Rene Raya and Jeck Cantos.

SWP's main activities are research and advocacy work, capacity building and development of tools for monitoring MDG and budget.

For its advocacy work, SWP actively engages the national government and its national policies. This aspect is divided into three [3] categories: 1] social development and MDG monitoring, 2] financing for development, and 3] engaging the local governments.

The first looks into how the Philippine fares in its commitment to the MDG targets and regularly publishes alternative reports at the end of the year. For 2010, the SW Philippines published "The Other MDG Report: Winning the Number, Losing the War".

The second looks into how governments at the national and local levels finance its MDG commitments. Through its Alternative Budget Initiative [ABI], SW Philippines conducts annual budget campaigns with the executive and legislative branches of





government. It also conducts capacity building on budget analysis for legislators, including media personnel. After successfully inserting budget items in the proposed General Appropriations Act, the ABI actively lobbies members of both houses of Congress to pass these insertions.

As it engages members of Congress, SW Philippines also slowly introduces budget reforms, which includes accountability, transparency, participation, and timely budget release.

The third is engaging the local governments for the localization of the MDG. This aspect requires capacity building and advocacy to local chief executives and legislative bodies to include MDG targets in local development plans and budget. It is also engaged in the development of monitoring tools that can be effectively and efficiently utilized by local governments in assessing and planning MDG targets. One special area being undertaken by SW Philippines through its Mindanao partners is the involvement of indigenous peoples in the local budget process.

SW Philippines has different partners and platforms of advocacy in realizing its mandate. It has partnered with formal governmental bodies such as the National Economic and Development Authority for the MCIHD commitments. It is also a member of the Social Development Committee's Sub-Committee on Social Protection. For budgeting purposes, SW Philippines has open budget partnership with both the executive and legislative bodies. It is actively involved in UNDP processes. One of these is



in the area of governance portfolio where it discusses public finance. It is also involved with the United Nations Millennium Campaign [UNMC]. It is active in Oxfam's campaign for universalizing health care coverage and health financing and climate-sensitive budget preparation.

As with the rest of the SW coalitions in Asia, SW Philippines is faced with many challenges. Mr. Padilla said the coalition is undergoing continuing institutional strengthening. Strengthening the secretariat refers to staffing, building staff capacities to effectively conduct researches and sustain advocacy campaigns. For the next step, a strategic planning is being eyed to guide the coalition in its work. Another concern is funding to sustain current initiatives for its researches and policy advocacies. Organizationally, SW Philippines needs to create broader avenues for membership participation and recruitment. This means expanding its membership to the three [3] island clusters and effectively sharing information to partners in the provinces and regions in the country.

Social Watch Thailand

Ms. Ranee Haswsarungsee, Social Agenda Working Group

SW in Thailand works with various CSOs and NGOs in the country which are now mostly focused on health and health-related issues because NGOs engaged in comprehensive social development work has been increasingly decreasing over the years due to lack of funding support.





However, recent events in Thailand highlight the numerous social development problems facing the city of Bangkok and the country as a whole. These problems include, but are not limited to the economic crisis hitting the country, similar to the 1997 Asian economic crisis. This situation places the country in very volatile social and political environment amidst a restless, angry and hungry population.

In the light of this situation, SW Thailand, for the next years, would also have to emphasize on labor, consumer's welfare rights, society and cultural rights and conflict resolution among others. In addition, SW Thailand will also have to do collaborative work with government on various issues, e.g., policy advocacy, technical support and assistance on social reform.

Afghanistan

Dr. Ziullah Shafiq, Sanayee Development Organization

The Afghanistan Social Watch National Coalition (ASWNC) is a young coalition that paved the way for the expansion of the SW network in Afghanistan. Its members are the Sanyee Development Organization (SDO) a registered Afghan development non-governmental organization established in 1990 and the Coordination of Human Assistance (CHA), a non-profit, non-political humanitarian organization, formed in 1987 by a team of educated and experienced Afghan volunteers.



SDO's programs focus on community-based peace building, education, civil society development, and community health in the 10 provinces of Afghanistan, while CHA's program is focused in providing emergency aid to war victims, assisting in the rehabilitation of rural and urban life, and working with communities for sustainable development in Afghanistan.

Other potential SW members include the Saba Media Organization (SMO), the Organization for Human Development (OHD), and the Afghan Development Association (ADA).

Currently, the national coalition is not only active in expanding its membership base but is also strongly involved in raising public awareness and advocacy in the fields of peace building, violence against women, education and human rights. It also conducts campaigns, peace rallies, and football friendly matches. As well, it spearheads celebrations like the Peace Day and Women's International Day in the 10 provinces of Afghanistan.

Dr. Ziullah Shafiq stresses that peace is a precondition for the realization of human and women's' rights and the eradication of poverty and that therefore the current instability (political, social, and economic) in Afghanistan remains as the big challenge. Existing security problems have resulted to a very weak involvement of civil society in public awareness and campaigns work.





Financial support from SW and capacity building activities with SW members through exposure visits, experience sharing, and enhancing linkages between and among SW national coalitions is proposed to help SW Afghanistan and enable it to effectively do its work. (Please refer to Annex G for the Afghanistan presentation.)

Mongolia

Ms.Undral Gombodorj

Social Watch in Mongolia has not been established yet. Several meetings with civil society groups have been organized and interviews have been conducted with potential SW members but this has not been enough to take a Social Watch off the ground. Ms. UndralGombodorj added that fund raising for the conduct of local activities is difficult because the CSOs are also funding their own activities.

Azerbaijan

Mr.Kanan Aslanli

Mr. Kanan Aslanli's presentation focused on NBG [National Budget Group], and its success in making the government's budget process transparent. As a bckgrounder, he gave a brief introduction on Azerbaijan, covering geography, territory, population, natural resources, economy and foreign trade, among others.



One of Azerbaijan's main problems is the lack of transparency and public control over the budget expenses. Accessing information on the budget and status of its economy is difficult as indicated by the Open Budget Index in 2010, where Azerbaijan ranked 52nd of the 94 countries. This is the problem that NBG addresses.

NBG was established in February in 2006. It has 9 members with broad experience in budgeting process. It aims to achieve transparency and effectiveness of budget expenses by providing public oversight over budgetary issues. Another goal is to increase and popularize budget information, improve budget legislation, increase participation in budget process, achieve public influence in decision-making process, ensure accountability in budget process and increase the effectiveness of budget implementation and participation in international budgeting initiatives.

Since its formation in 2006, NBG has done various activities and made important achievements. These are outlined in the attached presentation. *(Please refer to Annex H for the Azerbaijan presentation)*

Workshop Session 1

Ms. Marivic Raquiza, Facilitator

The body was divided into 3 groups (South Asia, Central Asia and East Asia) and tasked to answer the following questions:





1. What seems to be the model that works which we could learn from?
2. What are these challenges?
3. How do we address these challenges?

(A consolidated output of the first workshop is attached as Appendix I)

The Steering Committee summarized the workshop results as follows:

Some highlights on what worked:

- a. Balancing institutionalizing SW in the context of movement building. This was demonstrated in India where they were able to balance institutionalizing Social Watch (meaning with funding, etc.) in the context of movement building. This is also true in the Philippines where SW is basically supported by two institutions – Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement and Action for Economic Reforms and two individual members, Prof. Leonor Briones and Marivic Raquiza. These institutions and individuals bring with them the stature and resources into SW and they helped set up the secretariat. SW Philippines worked with institutions and individual members.
- b. The mobilization of domestic resources given the funding problem. The experience of Thailand in mobilizing domestic resources in the form of SIN taxes to fund health programs was noted as an example.
- c. Starting with a simple activity like writing of national report.



This is a basic mandate of the Social Watch. By simply writing a report, a whole development process could be galvanized because it entails inputs from partners and friends.

Some challenges that were identified:

- a. Lack of funding. Many of the members of SW are very busy and also represent other institutions. It was noted that it is also important for Social Watch to look for people who can really devote their time to SW. To be able to get these people would require some amount of funding.
- b. Lack of capacities. These would include capacity to write a national report, and capacity for policy advocacy work, policy research, and campaign work.
- c. Value Added with being a member of SW. At the country level, networks and coalitions are already normally part of other larger formations. The question that needs to be addressed therefore is to be able to distinctly identify the additionality that membership in SW brings to their work.
- d. Identity, Leadership Crisis.

Some recommendations in the discussion:

- a. To explore domestic funding, learning from the experience of Thailand.
- b. To conduct a campaign on ODA (Official Development Aid). Many of SW members may come from middle-income countries but due to inequality, poverty remains high in many of these countries. There is a need to campaign on the ODA





- agenda and the drying up of resources in many of these middle income countries.
- c. For SW to facilitate in-country training wherein countries with advanced skills and experiences (for example, in national country report writing or in policy advocacy work) can share their expertise with those countries that need support in developing these skills. This can also be done through internship and exchange programs which SW can facilitate. Roberto Bissio can perhaps include this component in future proposal.
 - d. The need to identify core group members to help in the work.
 - e. To explore the various ways of institutionalizing SW without losing the flavor of a movement. There is no hard and fast rule on this because this will be based on the country situation.

Session 3

Regional Economic Alternatives

In his talk on Alternative Economic Approaches, **Mr. Michael Lim Mah Hui of the Social Economic and Environmental Institute** started his discussion by explaining why the financial crisis happened. He reviewed the concept of “Market Fundamentalism”, explained the reason for its failure , and gave his conclusion that “the misplaced fundamentalist ideology underlies the financial crisis”.



Mr. Mah Hui then traced the history of financial deregulation starting from the 1970s with Reagan and Thatcher. He noted two financial deregulations acts that were passed – the Rudd-Graham Act in 1999 and the Commodity Futures Modernization Act in 2000 [S1] and explained how deregulation has negatively affected the overall economy.

In his recommendations, Mr. Hui said that remedies must be rooted on the causes of financial crisis and therefore, there is a need for a new paradigm to replace market fundamentalism. In terms of medium term solution, he stressed that there is a need to redefine the terms and indicators of human progress, saying that human progress is more than GDP.

As a long term alternative paradigm, he said that the choice is not just between capitalism/market fundamentalism and communism/central planning. What we need, according to him, is a mixture of both depending on the local and national context. There will be no one model. Instead, different models will have to be created.

As an example, he shared the experience of Zapotec Indians in doing Sustainable Forest Management where the forest was communally owned. Mr. Hui emphasized that we must grow in sustainable ways instead of continuously pursuing hyper-growth, as there are limits to unsustainable growth. Gandhi, he said, once had an observation that the measure of the level of progress





of a civilization is not how much desires and wants it can create and satisfy, but how much desires they can control.

Mr. Hui ended his presentation by discussing the principles of alternative paradigms and by saying that to be able to reverse this great transformation, there is a need to apply the principles from the alternative paradigms as we work in the existing system. “In the Great Transformation, everything was commoditized – man became labor, trees became timber, and land became real estate. These have to be reversed.”

In **Prof. Joseph Anthony Y. Lim of Ateneo De Manila University [ADMU]** Reaction to Mr. Hui’s talk, he said that all theories of economics fail because people are not rational, and can be greedy and desperate. He thus affirmed the importance of Mr. Hui’s talk, noting that “it extended the concept of greed and speculation in the financial products that are related into a very important commodity - the market”. He further related how various Asian countries have been victimized by speculation on food and commodities.

Prof. Lim fully agrees with all of Mr. Hui’s prescriptions, but offered a reformulation of the recommendations “ to reflect the global and regional needs”.

On the alternative paradigms, Prof. Lim mentioned people who have formulated and advocated for alternative paradigms such as



Hudini and Mikael who have predicted the crisis. He said that the crisis was a clear indication of the need for market regulation or state regulated market and added that China is the only country doing the right thing.

(Please Refer to Annex J for the complete notes on Mr. Hu's talk as well as Prof Lim's reaction to it and the points raised at the Open forum. A copy of Mr's Hui's slide presentation is also attached as Annex K)

Session 4 **Pathways to Alternatives**

The Alternative Budget Initiative: Broadening People's Participation in Securing Financing for Development

By Prof. Leonor Magtolis Briones, Co-Convenor, Social Watch Philippines

In her presentation, Prof. Briones talked about the concept and objectives behind the formation of SW Philippines' Alternative Budget Initiative (ABI) and went on to narrate its experiences and successes for the past 6 years of its existence.

The key points that came out of the ABI experience are as follows:

1. that it is not sufficient to do budget analysis; that budget analysis must be done with the objective of moving forward to participatory budgeting and alternative budgets; that ABI is a





partnership between Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and legislators and mentioned the key Congressional representatives and organizations that were initially instrumental in setting ABI off to its track.

2. that what made it possible for ABI to make strides are a) capacity building for CSOs on Philippine budget system, budget process and entry points of NGOs in the budget process, b) clustering of organization along thematic concerns so as to facilitate the formulation of the “alternative” budget proposals and c) active campaigns in and out of congress halls through media work, press releases and mobilizations not only during budget deliberations but even after the budget has been passed

3. among ABI’s achievements are a) institutionalizing CSO participation in crafting the budget and b) success in pushing for increased funding for social development from 2007 budget onwards. (*Refer to Annex L for the full presentation on the ABI experience*)

Articulating an Alternative Macroeconomic and Gender and Development Feminist Perspective

Ms. Marina Durano, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era

After giving a quick run down of what her discussion would cover, Ms. Marina Durano started her presentation with a table which gives details of the Asia Pacific Stimulus Packages,



representing the responses of international organizations to the financial crisis. Making a judgement on the packages, she stressed that there is money and quoted Duncan Green, Oxfam-UK who said that “the resources devoted to the global Financial bailout are sufficient to end world poverty for half a century”.

Ms. Durano also elaborated on the content of the social protection packages, which she said, needs to receive more emphasis over that of bailing out the economy.

However, she noted that the data failed to present statistics on the low-income countries and the social protection packages that are targeted specifically for women. No clear assessment was done on the effect or impact of this to the position of women in the national economy.

Ms. Durano presented other tables, among them, a) the World Bank Vulnerability Financing Facility Framework, b) the ODA Disbursement by region and by theme where she noted a drop in disbursements on environmental and gender equality in 2008 and c) the budget deficit as a percentage of GDP, where she noted a huge drop in 2010, indicating a little stability for most countries.

On the issue of social protection, she explained that in this particular environment, there is a need for policy measures that create behavioral incentives and institutional structures that change the sharing of responsibilities for social provisioning and





care so that these are more evenly shared among major social institutions — markets, states, households/ communities, and non-profit/volunteer organizations — and among women and men.

According to Ms. Durano, to be able to recover, automatic macro stabilizers - such as progressive tax structures, stabilization funds and social/pension funds with universal access - must be established to reduce output volatility and finance universal social protection.

There should also be policy space for industrialization strategies that take into account gender segmentation of labor markets including unpaid domestic/care work as well as employment growth and decent work, not jobless growth. Lastly, the politics of aid should be confronted including the question of gender equality in the South-South cooperation. *(Please refer to Annex M for the full presentation)*

PATHWAYS TO ALTERNATIVES, An Ecological Perspective

By Isagani R. Serrano, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement [PRRM]

Mr. Serrano started his presentation by sharing his favorite quotation - "The future is not some place we are going to, but one we are creating; the paths to it are not found but made; and the making of those pathways changes both the maker and the destination." - by the Australian Commission for the Future.



Mr. Serrano eloquently stated the continuing development dilemma: that which makes us rich now will make us beggars later; that the forces that produced the 'miracle' and lifted 270M Asians out of poverty in one generation are the same ones creating all the inequalities between and within countries , damaging Asia's environment and compromising long-term sustainability.

Giving data on the extent of the environmental problem that the world is facing, he noted that while there is agreement that global warming is happening, there are differences on how the phenomenon is perceived. Contrary to what some others say (that there is no alternative but grow the economy regardless of ecological damage which can be fixed later), Mr. Serrano says that there is another way and that another world is possible.

He then shared a list of what might be used as indicators of a world "where there is prosperity without growth" and a listing of possible global mechanisms and agreements that can be set up to support the creation of this new world. Positive examples from China and South Korea were also noted.

He ended by reiterating the need for a climate-sensitive national development and provided a listing of what such should consider. Lastly, he stressed the importance of citizen/people/women participation in government planning and budgeting processes. *(Please refer Annex N for the full presentation)*





Climate Debt and Reparations: Justice and Rights-Claiming in Response to Climate Change

By Ms. Mae Buenaventura

Ms. Buenaventura premised her discussion on the fact that on one hand, the source of climate crisis are the Northern industrialized governments, corporations and wealthy individuals to whom 70% of climate emission can be attributed and on the other hand, those who now bear its harshest impacts are the developing countries. As such, the developing countries view the solution to global warming and climate change as a matter of Justice.

She then elaborated on the UNFCC principles, the concepts of climate and ecological debt, as well as the principles of justice and reparations and gave a listing of climate vulnerable countries, adding that the most severely affected sectors are women and children.

While there are many mechanisms that try to address this problem, there is very little available money. There is also concern about the increasing role in climate change adaptation programs of international financial institutions, who are, at the same time funding dirty projects such as coal plants and fossil fuel.

“Climate reparation is a process, instigated and propelled by the moral challenge of a massive wrong, to construct methods to



improve the lives of current victims into the future. It is the effort to assess the harm caused by the past emissions of the major polluters and to improve the lives of the climate vulnerable through direct programs, policies and/or mechanisms for significant resource transfers, to assure the ability of the climate vulnerable to contemplate a better livelihood in light of future climate challenges. All those engaged in the reparative effort will have to squarely confront the deep moral questions posed by both the initiating harm — excess emissions — and the continuing harm or the failure to adequately include the plight of the climate vulnerable in the current processes developed to mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis.”² (Please refer to Annex O for the full presentation.)

Session 5 Skills Sharing

Resource Mobilization: How to Fund Raise for the Sustainability of National Coalitions

By Mayan Quebral, Venture for Fund Raising

Ms. Quebral, introduced the Venture for Fund Raising [VFR], an organization that has been in the business of assisting individuals and organizations raise and give resources. Among its activities are fund raising training, mentoring, research and public information.





According to Ms. Quebral, Venture has helped over 800 organizations in 24 countries across 5 continents; and has implemented 50 public courses and 3 fund raising congresses in its 10 years of existence. Venture has also printed various publications related to fund generation such as A Practical Guide for Research and Community-Based Organizations, The Fund Raiser’s Guide to Fund Raising, Investing in Ourselves: Giving and Fund Raising in Asia, and Survey on Giving conducted in 2001, 2003 and 2006.

Ms. Quebral equates fund raising to “friend raising” and further explained that it is a “management process that involves identifying people who share the same values as the organization so that they can be cultivated into more involved stakeholders, and taking steps to manage that relationship.” She added that fund raising is a strategic process and needs to be well planned and thoroughly prepared for, in order to succeed. “It relies on the correct integration of many steps and processes.”

Sources of funds for non-profit organizations could be any or all the following:

- a) grants – which are usually project based and restricted, normally coming from governments and foundations
- b) gifts – which are unrestricted and could come from groups or individuals and
- c) earned income – which is unrestricted and could come from sale of products or fee for services, among others.



Ms. Quebral also shared the results of Venture's survey on the profile of donors to Philippine NGOs as well as the top causes that they support. In the National Capital Region, these would be housing for the poor at 71%, health and nutrition at 70%, education at 67%, caring for the elderly and disabled at 65%, rehabilitation of drug-dependent youth at 64%, reproductive health at 63%, orphans and street children at 61%, needs of abused women at 60%, employment and livelihood at 57%, and youth and juvenile delinquents at 57%.

In a study, Venture reported the different motivations in giving in seven countries, as follows:

- Bangladesh: Response to religious and humanitarian causes is great. Giving is highest to healthcare, followed by recreation, social welfare and education
- India: Compassion is the main motivation and the habit of giving is widespread. Giving to individuals is high followed by giving to religious organizations.
- Nepal: Giving is motivated by the Hindu belief, "doing good help earn credits in the afterlife". General public and business organizations when persuaded are willing to give
- Pakistan: Islam inspires giving. Pakistanis are spontaneous in their giving
- Thailand: Motivations are religion, merit making, charity, royalty and social reciprocity. Giving to relatives, religious and philanthropic organizations are most important
- Indonesia: Motivated by religion, Islam. Individuals would





- donate to organizations whose causes are on human welfare.
- Philippines: “a feeling of compassion for others”

Ms. Quebral also mentioned that according to the book “Donor Scoping” authored by The International Development Research Center and the Results Matter Consulting, aid to NGOs is changing and presented its new features. She added that it is expected that the declining trend of aid to Asia will continue in the future as the donor community focuses its aid on the African continent.

She also shared and discussed some fund raising strategies that have been adapted and implemented by Venture’s clients in the Philippines. Among these strategies are Special Events, Direct Mail, Internet Fund Raising, Corporate Partnerships, Memberships, Major Gift, Capital Campaign, Earned Income from Rental Fees, Earned Income from Endowments, and Grants.

(Please Refer to Annex P for the full presentation and Annex Q for actual examples of different fundraising strategies.)

Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms

Ms. Persevera Razon

Ms. Razon explained that the purpose of her topic is to give a broad view of CSO accountability issues and to share current and evolving practices for strengthening CSO accountability.



CSOs are accountable to many. Upward accountability refers to donors and governments; horizontal accountability refers to peers and colleagues; internal accountability refers to the organization's mission, its board, staff, members and supporters; downward accountability refers to beneficiaries, primary stakeholders, and those whom the organization speaks in behalf of. This is different from the traditional approach to accountability which only takes into account the organization and its donor or government and does not take into consideration horizontal peers and downward beneficiaries.

Ms. Razon listed the two types of accountability: the moral, which arises from the mission of the organization; and the procedural, which arises from the formal mechanisms adopted for management purposes. The former speaks of the political responsibility of the organization, accountability to the outside world [external] and towards its beneficiaries. The latter speaks of upward and internal accountabilities. As a procedure, it refers to management accountability.

Accountability is also measured in degrees. Most CSOs today, she said, have a higher degree of accountability to its donors/ governments and to its internal board of directors because upward and internal mechanisms of accountability are clear and developed. Donors and governments have laws, regulations, statutory requirements and funding, and organizations have their own governance rules like its constitution, by-laws, and policies.





On the other hand, the mechanisms for horizontal and downward accountability which are quality standards, code of conduct and participatory processes among others, are largely voluntary and still underdeveloped/evolving. *(Please Refer to Annex R for the full presentation).*

Workshop 2

Developing Indices for Monitoring Social Development: The Quality of Life Index (QLI)/ Basic Capabilities Index (BCI)

Mr. Rene Raya, of the Action for Economic Reforms [AER] and SWP

In his presentation, Mr. Raya shared the following:

Quality of Life Index (QLI) is an alternative measure of people's well being. It is based on the measure proposed and popularized by Amartya Sen which assigns equal weights to three basic capabilities - 1) the capability to be well nourished, 2) the capability for healthy and safe reproduction and 3) the capability to be educated and be knowledgeable. It is easily generated using existing data and is highly correlated with poverty measures. It serves as an advocacy tool that is effective for both national and local levels.

In the Philippines, the QLI was conceptualized and piloted by the Action for Economic Reform (AER), a member of SWP. Mr



Raya gave an account of how QLI was developed in the Philippines starting in 1998, giving details on variables/indicators to consider, as well as the different levels and options for generating it. He then shared some findings of their research, including the result of the survey identifying the Top 20 Philippine Provinces in Quality of Life Index from 1991 to 2003.

QLI was adopted and developed by Social Watch International for its Global Monitoring of Social Development and the MDGs into the Global Basic Capabilities Index (BCI). BCI is a measure of basic capabilities essential for social development, which includes the following: 1) under 5 mortality rate 2) births attended by skilled health personnel and 3) children reaching 5th grade.

QLI/BCI is highly correlated with other development indicators and data is available for most countries. Mr. Raya further shared there are now efforts in generating BCI and Gender Equity Index (GEI) at sub-national levels in 3 countries – Brazil, Philippines and India. Brazil has already completed its study. The Philippines study started in October 2010 and is on-going. India is just about to start its BCI study.

Given the various monitoring systems in place, measuring QLI/BCI is still the fastest way to monitor human development and capabilities. It adds to the basket of indicators needed in planning and budgeting. It is inexpensive and has a reasonable degree of accuracy. QLI/BCI has become even more important with the race





to MDG 2015 as it is MDG sensitive and complements the MDG localization initiatives.

Mr. Raya also discussed the research design for QLI/BCI in the Philippines, and the steps to be taken (data extrapolation, time series analysis, comparison with other data sets, validation and replication). He then shared a table showing the Quality of Life Index for 2003 and 2009 where he noted that 17 out of the 20 provinces listed are the same for both years.

Talking next about the Gender Equity Index (GEI), which was also conceptualized by Social Watch International, Mr. Raya presented its component indicators and explained that it is more complicated to generate at the local level because of the inavailability of data. Thus, an equivalent Index needs to be generated and tested using Proxy Indicators

Using GEI and, according to the World Economic Forum, the Philippines ranked high and was the only Asian country included among the top 10 in the Global Gender Gap Index. Social Watch GEI also ranked the Philippines very high at 9th place. However the Philippines ranked 78th in UNDP's Gender Inequality Index (GII) because of high maternal mortality, high fertility and low contraceptive use.

Mr. Raya then explained UNDP's Gender Inequality Index, which he said, is designed to measure the negative human development



impact of deep social and economic disparities between men and women and explained how it differs with GEI. He further shared that most of the countries that ranked highest in the GEI also ranked high in the GII except for the Philippines and Rwanda.

In the course of Mr. Raya's presentation, Mr Bissio added the following points:

QLI/BCI is not yet widely recognized and accepted and many still stick to the one dollar a day measure that was popularized by the World Bank. He noted though that it is an inadequate measurement. However, he said that to question it entails joining the debate on the methodologies that measure poverty.

Mr. Bissio also mentioned the "Multi-Dimensional Poverty Indicators" (MPID), a new UNDP index to measure poverty and vulnerability. SW will be doing some correlation of the index used by the UNDP and SW. One option that they were thinking of was to engage the UNDP in a discussion to compare the reliability of the indices and the methodologies involved. He added that the World Economic Forum has also released a new index that the SW has not yet reviewed. In the coming GA, SW members will also be asked whether engagement with this endeavor is still worthwhile.

Mr. Bissio emphasized that it is important to put numbers in the table because it can change the perspective in terms of measuring





government's commitment to fulfill their promises. As an advocacy point, SW can challenge not only the index used but even the numbers or the result of the measurement. This is especially important in countries where the data submitted are being changed. He shared that in the case of the UN, they published data that is oftentimes not consistent with national data released by the country. He said that SW has tried to engage in clarifying this but the process is very long. The difference in the data is oftentimes due to the different definitions used.

(Please refer to Annex S for Mr. Raya's presentation and to Annex T for the notes on the open forum)

Workshop on Policy, Research and Advocacy Work

By Ms. Jelen Paclarin, Women's Legal and Human Rights Bureau, Inc.

Ms. Paclarin introduced the Women's Legal Bureau (WLB) and explained that it is a non-government organization that fights for and promotes women's human rights. It adheres to feminist and developmental perspectives and principles in its work. WLB's activities include education and training on women's human rights and the law. It also conducts researches, and is engaged in policy advocacy to transform the law and the legal system to advance women's rights and leadership.

She then gave four definitions of advocacy, including WLB's definition, which is "the process of influencing and transforming



institutions, rules, policies, structures, relationships and people, towards promoting gender equality, addressing women's rights, eliminating discrimination, and transforming conditions of oppression and violence." Further, she talked about the four components of advocacy, namely 1) research and monitoring, 2) public education and information, 3) lobbying and 4) coalition building, campaign and mobilization and discussed the elements of each one.

In the Philippine experience, advocacy work for women and by women have been done through (1) legal forms (legislative lobbying, dialogues, and position papers); (2) meta-legal forms (rallies, boycott, pressure politics); and (3) combination of both legal and meta-legal.

Ms. Paclarin also went into a discussion of the components of a legislative advocacy plan.

(Please refer to Annex U for Ms. Paclarin's presentation and to Annex V for the notes on the open forum.)

USES–Updates on Social Protection

By Ms. Marivic Raquiza, Co-Convenor, Social Watch-Philippines and Member, Social Watch-Coordinating Committee

Ms. Marivic Raquiza explained that the current global systemic crisis, which has exacerbated poverty and inequality around the





world, has also catalyzed /increased public discourse and interest in social protection (SP). Governments, multilateral financial institutions, citizens groups and social movements are now all engaged in shaping its discourse and practice. However, many government policies tend to be oriented more towards the approach prioritized by the WB: the risk management approach, and in approaches where provision of SP are seen mostly to fall on non-state actors (e.g., the market, NGOs, communities) and a much more muted role for the state.

This is the reason why a SEA conference on the need to enhance social protection in the context of universalizing socio-economic security was organized by Social Watch-Philippines, GCAP-SENCA and GCAP-Philippines held in April 2010 in Manila. The said conference produced a declaration on social protection and universalizing socio-economic security (*See Annex W*) and requested that Social Watch Asia serve as focal point for advocacy and campaign activities on social protection in the region.

In her presentation, Ms. Raquiza explained what social protection is, the concept of universal protection and its legal handles, (in terms of UN conventions and constitutional provisions at the national level) the different forms of social protection and the various paths in implementing universal and transformative social protection.

She also stressed the importance of engendering social protection



programs and explained that failure to do so can lead to a 'feminization of responsibility and obligation' and an increase in workload amongst women. She also mentioned the inadequacies of the current SP systems in SEA and noted the inadequacies of public social protection for the informal sector.

Ms. Raquiza also stressed the need to reexamine concepts, orientation and notions and challenged everyone to expand imagination when thinking of social protection. She also mentioned that social protection programs are largely a collection of targeted measures and safety nets: fragmented, piecemeal and residualist in character.

Apart from risks, social protection should also address social equality and social justice and the vulnerability of all sectors which is the basis for universalism. Ms. Raquiza also mentioned some good examples of specific social protection programs in the region, particularly in Thailand (The Universal Cooperative Scheme; Universal Tax Financed 500 Baht Pension Scheme), in Cambodia (The Social Protection Strategy for the Poor and Vulnerable), in China (New Rural Cooperative and Medical Scheme) and in India (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; Rastriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (health service insurance coverage)).

(See Annex W for Ms. Raquiza's presentation).





The following Social Protection Practices from different countries in the region were also presented:

1. India's National Rural Employment, presented by Ms. Pamela Phillipose, Guarantee Scheme and National Women's Feature Services Rural Health Mission (*Please refer to Annex X for the presentation*)
2. China's New Rural Cooperative Medical Scheme, presented by Ms. Tsui Sit, China Social Services and Development Research Center (*Please refer to Annex Y for the presentation*)
3. Cambodia's Policy Response to Social Protection, presented by SotheaSak, SILAKA (*Please refer to Annex Z for the presentation*)
4. Thailand Movement on Social Protection, presented by NattakarnKitprasong (*Please refer to Annex AA for the presentation*)

Other experiences and ideas were shared during the open forum. (*Please refer to Annex AB for the full notes on the open forum*)

Session 6 **Regional Action Planning**

Ms. Raquiza briefly walked the participants through the workshop's activities. She pointed to the highlights and gaps that need to be addressed by the different country-representatives. She then emphasized the need for SW coalitions in the region to focus on social protection.



She reiterated that the workshop aimed to discuss the different alternatives to the current development paradigm and recalled that in the last two days, the participants were able to discuss its different elements – economy, ecology and feminism. She noted that in each country, the participants were already working on some aspects of these. The steering committee of the workshop felt it was important that the participants leave the conference with a common agenda which are doable.

According to Ms. Raquiza, the Steering Committee of the workshop proposed that the theme Social Watch Asia could explore was social protection. Some of the reasons for this are the following:

- one, the multiple crises has underscored the urgent need for social protection measures in all our countries;
- two, there are many interesting social protection programs in our countries that we can learn from, and
- three, there are still large gaps and problems related to the issue of social protection so the space for policy research, advocacy and campaign on this issue is something we can all explore.

There are initially three areas of research SW can work at in terms of social protection. These are:

1. How can universal and transformative social protection be operationalized at the country level; this means we identify select countries for this;





2. How do we highlight the role of women in our social protection advocacy?
3. What is the fiscal space for social protection?

It is great that ASPBAE is offering to have a partnership in pushing for a common advocacy around social protection. They can help Social Watch in strengthening the education component in social protection. Ms. Raquiza asked the body if they are agreeable to the suggestion that some people write a concept note on a regional level work on social protection.

Prof. Briones strongly supported the idea of making social protection a common theme within Social Watch because she said that all the participants are suffering from the same problem. She added that Social Watch should also not forget to look at the cost of social protection and the question of where the money would come from. She said that while conditional cash transfers provide a temporary solution, universal social protection would entail putting it in the governance structure and implementing more sustainable ways of financing social policy.

A consensus was then reached in plenary to pursue a regional project on social protection and team was identified to put a concept note together. The team included the following: Noor, Akhter, Uzer, Rannee, Prerna, Himanshu and Marivic.

The participant from Mongolia shared that they also see social



protection as an important issue in their country. The country is now having a boom in mining sector and people tend to just wait for the money to come in. She said that this issue is important especially that the CSOs in their country are monitoring this. She also said that to her the workshop on indices were very important.

Ms. Rqquiza clarified that while Social Watch Asia would be focusing on social protection, this does not mean that Social Watch will be imposing this at the country level. It was also clarified that this does not rule out other common initiatives, such as the development of indices, that the group might wish to pursue on a regional level.

Other matters that were shared are the following:

1. Social Watch International will be submitting a concept note to the European Union's call for proposals. The deadline for submission is July 2011.
2. The meeting of the steering committee will be held in March in Cambodia.
3. SW General Assembly will be happening in July or early August in the Philippines. Guidelines for identifying the participants to the GA will be forthcoming.
4. There is a push for strengthening of sub regional teams





ANNEXES



Annex A

Directory of Guests and Participants

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Annex B

International Perspective

Notes on the talk given by Mr. Roberto Bissio, Coordinator, Social Watch and Executive Director, Third World Institute [TWI] and on the Open Forum that followed

Following are the key points made by Mr. Bissio in his message:

1. “Problematizing is what CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) need to do”. All around the world, CSOs challenge what is conventionally thought of. Noting that it is freedom that allows us to struggle for justice, he stressed that justice is an essential value that we stand for. He also made a point on the use of the term “capacity building” in the workshop title, and expressed his view that it “needs to be problematized because we are sharing knowledge and not building capacities.”

2. Mr. Bissio then took his audience to a review of recent history, starting from 1986 when the Philippines has just witnessed the end of a military rule . At this time, he said, the world was recovering from conditions of apartheid and the cold war; the call for freedom all around the world was very strong; the hope for peace was in the horizon; and the window of opportunity for change has become bigger. As a result, the need to redefine the world order has become essential.

3. This redefinition process started with the Rights of the Children Summit in 1990. In 1992, the concept of sustainable development was put forward through the Summit on Sustainable Development. Many more summits happened after that including the Climate Change and



Biodiversity Convention, the Human Rights Conference (1993), the World Summit on Social Development (1995) and the Beijing Summit.

4. These were the tasks that we set 20 years ago. He said that humanity has the resources to eradicate poverty and that there is no need for children to die because the world is rich with resources. It was imperative to commit to these agenda.

5. While these development agenda were being set, a new economic structure was born. This new economic structure created new rights for corporations that led to the birth of the World Trade Organization. The result was a web of bilateral and multilateral trade agreements. It created a strong discipline among countries which sought to control countries and investments. However, the promise of the new order – the flow of capital from countries with abundant capital to countries with limited capital – did not materialize, as capital remained concentrated in countries like the US.

6. In order for developing countries to attract these investments into their countries, they needed to change some of their policies. In Uruguay, for example, an anti-tobacco policy was recently instituted to fulfill the requirements of their foreign investors. As a reaction, Philip Morris sued the Uruguay government in the International Arbitration because of the latter's anti-tobacco stance.

6. In this new order, Corporations can sue governments in international venues. Given that international courts or arbitration are located in the US, this results to higher cost of legal litigation for countries like Latin America, creating a negative impact on spending for poverty reduction programs.

7. The promise of poverty reduction remained unfulfilled and instead, the situation led to economic and financial crisis for some giants like the US. Even Ireland, which was known to be self-sufficient, also recently experienced troubling times. Mr. Bissio pointed out that a mechanism should be devised to address these crises and stressed that one of the mandates and tasks of Social Watch is to constantly ask what is happening and what has been done.



8. Countries reacted differently to the financial/economic crises and chose different courses of actions. According to Mr. Bissio, those countries who mobilized their own resources to reinvigorate the economy were able to recover faster from the crisis than those countries who did not.

9. The financial/economic crises has made the future very uncertain for many countries. Previously, solutions to these problems would come from the north in the form of aid, albeit with conditions. But now that the effect of the new economic order was felt by developing countries, people are looking for other solutions. Korea was mentioned as an example, with its 10-page paper that talked about South-South cooperation, a concept that is not actually new to Asia as it was introduced 50 years ago.

10. Mr. Bissio also pointed out that in 2008, there was a historic increase in aid from the north. These are being cut back again now as a result of the recession of economies in the north.

11. He asserts that poverty should have declined in the last 10 years and it is a paradox that it has not. Further, he notes that while the MDG Summit in September should have addressed how to fast track the eradication of poverty, not a single recommendation to this effect came out on this in the Summit. He asserts that the contents of the documents were a rehash of agreements already made previously. In short, nothing new came out of the MDG Summit. Because of this, he feels that the credibility of the countries that attended should be put in question.



12. Mr. Bissio also noted with interest the three concepts that came out of the the MDG Summit – social floor, decent work and universal services and equality. These concepts would have impacted on the definition of MDG where it is now being associated with the bottom billion or the poorest of the poor. This reflects the situation where half of the bottom billion could be located in Asia. Latin America has a wide equality issue. The concept of bottom billion is now being substituted by equity in provision of universal services. The concept of universal services means that governments are tasked to deliver services to the poor. He shared the experience in Latin America, comparing the service for the poor and poor service delivery that resulted to disparity of services received by the poor and by those who can afford services.

13. Social Watch believes that social development stems from local development building up to national development and thus, relies on its members to engage in local development work. The international secretariat collects the information, including national reports and brings the consolidated report to the international community.

14. Mr. Bissio also noted that politicians make promises that they rarely keep and that Social Watch should make them accountable for their promises by pushing for the right allocation of government funds to make sure that the marginalized sector benefit from it.

15. Social Watch is now present in 64 countries expressing differing views. The vision is to put forward a strong Social Watch voice in the United Nations and to showcase models that governments can learn from.

Mr. Bissio, responding to questions In the open forum that followed his presentation, also shared the following:

1. His pessimism over the May 2012 Conference on Sustainable Development that others refer to as Rio+20. While the ideas arising from the conference preparations are diverse, Mr. Bissio asserts that there is very little space for debate.

He added that the commission that was created to coordinate and make the conference report is so heavy



with people in power. It is co-chaired by ministers of environment and economy of different countries and as such, could be a venue for parallel negotiations instead of meeting of minds to set a blueprint for the future.

With this analysis, SW is now creating its own commission that cuts across different networks and coalitions. He also shared that in September, SW would be coming out with the new report that would focus on sustainable development. This will serve as the coalition's input to the 2012 Summit in Mexico.

2. Mr. Bissio also shared that Mother Earth's rights have been introduced in the two countries of Equador and Bolivia in Latin America. He said that the SW secretariat would be coming out with guidelines on how to approach the coming summit.

3. He also talked about two systems with polarity: a) a system that says that equality cannot be achieved at the expense of freedom and b) Mr. Bissio also stressed the need to be a revolutionary and to define a new system. He said that the world cannot be run in the same way as before as that system has only led to the collapse of the economies of the deveoped countries.

He said that because of this, there is a need to define a new system. He raised the need to define something new, what are the differences, and how will opposition come about. He also shared what happened in Uruguay that made him realize that there is a need to be a revolutionary. Many things are happening in the world that is not reported, i.e., labor problems in China. He said that the world needs a new kind of



revolution because the world cannot be run anymore the same way as before because it resulted to the collapse of the economies of the developed countries.

4. On Conditional Cash transfer (CCT) schemes.

a. Ms. Princes Nemenzo said that the WB designed the conditional cash transfer scheme and they heard that this scheme has succeeded in Brazil and Indonesia. She also referred to the presenter's point that no matter how massive the cash transfer is, it will not bring people out of poverty.

b. Mr. Bissio responded that the debate on cash transfer is very open. The Brazil model was successful because it did not rely on the local authorities in distributing the cash transfer. On the other hand, the debate in Uruguay stems from the fact that it is a conditional cash transfer. The point being is that it has conditions before it can be given. The line on who gets cash and who does not is very unclear. The condition is only arbitrary. In Mexico, they dictated that the condition is that it should be given to older people.

The purpose of cash transfer is to help spur the economy forward, generate wealth and generate a mechanism that will share that wealth and create jobs.

Mr. Bissio also raised the corrolary point that MDG and human rights are international standards that can be translated into services. "The question remains on what is the standard. How are we going to help in challenging government in court using these sets of standards? What is the legal definition of entitlements?"

c. Ms. Marivic Raquiza added that the WB did not create the concept of conditional cash transfer. It was an indigenous idea of the people in Maxico and Brazil that the WB developed into a model now being implemented by different countries.

She further added that the conditional cash transfers implemented in Mexico and Brazil are the most successful according to the 2010 UN report. However, the same report also said that even though the cash transfer has been successful, the level of poverty and inequality remained significant. The real challenge is in



addressing poverty at the structural level . She also shared the discussions during the SW Conference around the universal services in relation to poverty and ended by saying that the challenge would be in the implementation of the program in the context of public-private partnership as championed by neoliberal government. She said that it is important that SW talk about this at the country level and that the discussion should include a gender dimension.

d. Prof. Leonor Magtolis Briones also shared her thoughts on the conditional cash transfer and said that the problem with CCT is that it is giving money to individuals in exchange for particular government services. Many of the award winning local governments model that successfully combated the problem of poverty used group actions like organizing the farmers, the youth, women, families and government. In a study on CCT by Social Watch Philippines led by Marivic Raquiza, the sense was that they are grateful for the money but they prefer jobs. Prof. Briones related an anecdote where a Philippine provincial governor once felt embarrassed for being congratulated to be part of the conditional cash transfer program as it meant they are one of the poorest provinces in the country.

Prof. Briones also shared that while the Philippines has a very huge deficit, it is still implementing the conditional cash transfer. The plan was to provide conditional cash transfer this year amounting to Php 5 billion and to increase this to Php 20 billion next year. For 2012, the government would want this figure to increase. She explained that the basic question is how to sustain these levels of increase in CCT given the deficit that the country is experiencing. Yet, the commitment of the present government to CCT as the solution to poverty is very strong.



Another problem that she raised was the private-public partnership. The challenge is the long term sustainability of this program and how to encourage people to graduate out of dependence. She said that it was worrisome that the government declared that they will not tolerate any reduction of the budget for CCT sacrificing others strategies in addressing poverty.

5. On the changing role of the IMF, World Bank and ADB.

Before the crisis, the WB and IMF were in dire straits because many developing countries did not want WB money because of the attached conditionality. Many developing countries would rather go for financing from the market rather than with these institutions.

The crisis has given a new role for the IMF despite the fact that it is not able to mitigate the crisis. Now, the IMF is very active in Europe, imposing conditionality to the European economies. However, it does not have a clear role yet in the G20. It is trying to get funds for climate change, however its foreign portfolio is based on fossil fuel. Now, it is actively looking for funds for maternal mortality, as this is the fashion of the day. It is pushing for the charity approach, not the rights-based approach. There were some attempts to change the WB and ADB decision-making powers by increasing the voting power of the developing countries.

Prof. Briones also shared that the WB is investing Php 44B in the Philippines in public and private partnership, Php 2B of which will come from the government and all the rest will be from the WB. She added that the current President of the Philippines has already decided that the public-private partnership is the way to go in pushing for social reform agenda.

