

Isaias Jalasan and his community

Community name: So-ong
Information for: Deutsch-philipp-f.verein E.v
Information collected by: Necerita Bacolod, community volunteer
Person Interviewed: Isaias' grandmother Lourdes

Introducing this update

This report follows a visit to Isaias' family and uses a standard format to ensure that it provides an update on how Isaias and his family are and outlines the work that Plan is doing with them and their whole community.

Strengthening a bond

Below are some key facts, but please also write and send greetings to Isaias and his family. Perhaps you would like to know more about his life in the community?

Isaias' Health

Isaias has been healthy over the last year. and is receiving the basic vaccinations on time.

Isaias' Education

Isaias does not attend school because he is too young.

Isaias' family situation

There have been no changes to who lives with Isaias.

The family's access to basic services

Isaias' family use a private toilet for their toilet facilities. The family's water comes from a public stand pipe.

The nearest health facility is the health centre which is about fifteen minutes away.

What has been happening in the area where Isaias lives

Plan facilitates situational analysis and planning activities in all our partner communities. Community members-village councils, parents and children collectively gathered data on health, education, socio-economic or livelihood, socio-political and socio cultural aspects of the village. Most of them were surprised that for how many years they had been staying in the community, they were conscious only of their own family situation not knowing that other families are also suffering the same. Data gathered were consolidated and transformed into a community profile that shows the village's overall situation with emphasis on children's plight.

The projects undertaken to benefit Isaias' community include:

Capacitating ECCD Service Providers

Sponsored child Number : 0771 - 009218
Sponsor Number : 008 - 0689036

There is a low participation of children under 6 years old children in Early Childhood Care and Development. Several factors like poor understanding of parents on ECCD, ineffective service providers and poorly maintained if not non-existence of center-based and home-based services and others are believed contributes to this findings. To respond these, Plan in partnership with Department of Social Welfare supported series of skills training to ECCD service providers to improve in the early formation and development of children. Parent Volunteers were also provided with ladderized skills training to facilitate the Supervised Neighborhood Play, as an alternative way in reaching more children to participate in ECCD. Moreover, ECCD coordinating committees is being organized and capacitated to ensure that needs and basic services of children under 6 years old are being responded to and programs for children are pushed forward.

Enhancing Capacities of Teachers and School Administrators

Ineffective teaching method/skills and poor school management is still a pressing problems faced by teachers and school administrators in Plan areas. The teachers recognized their weaknesses and need to be provided with necessary support like regular training enhancement supplemented with appropriate teaching aid devices and learning materials to carry out the tasks. To respond to this, Plan through its strong partnership with Department of Education provided financial support in the conduct of series of trainings for teachers to enhance their attitude, commitment and teaching competencies. Trainings were focused on English, Science and Math as core subjects, understanding child development, child rights and protection, revitalization of inner resources and stress management. These advancements in the capacity of teachers contributed to the triumph of the province as one of the top ten achievers during the National Achievement Test.

Capacitating School Improvement Committees

Reach of parents and community for school development to facilitate increase participation of children in school is still a challenge in areas where Plan works. Recognizing the meaningful participation of children, parents and community in school development, composition of School Improvement Committee were expanded. To perform these tasks, they are capacitated with training like understanding child rights, child friendly school, team building, leadership and values enhancement and resource generation. The committee assist the school management in the community. They also actively participate in the school situation assessment, analyzing and prioritizing school needs and problems, planning, implementing and assessing school improvement plans.

Children's Month and Family Day Celebration

October is Children's month. This year's theme was "Bright Child: Yaman ng Magulang, Lakas ng Bayan" (Bright Child: Wealth of the Parents, Strength of the Nation). The activities are geared towards the continuous development education of the people in the community including children. Specifically, the activities includes session for parents on effective parenting, rights and responsibilities of children, importance of birth registration, proper hygiene for the children. While parlor games were also part of the activity enjoyed by all children to build and promotes camaraderie among them. Tokens were provided to children. The success of the activity was a fruit of the communities' eagerness to watch their children laugh.

Awakening Communities to Support Children's

Education Series of community campaigns regarding importance of education and other psycho-social stimulation activities for children integrated in community activities like general assemblies, consultation with education partners, theater shows and film viewing were conducted. These campaigns aims to address the issues of out-of school children/youth and reducing dropping out of children due to poor economic situation of the families. The campaigns hoped to reinforce awareness of children, families and local officials on the importance of

Sponsored child Number : 0771 - 009218
Sponsor Number : 008 - 0689036

education especially to their children. This activity was also integrated with the livelihood activities of Plan that are provided to the families to reduce the out-migration of families, causing their children to dropout from classes.

Advocating for Child Rights and Participation

In Plan areas, children still lived in an environment where there is less participation and unaware of children's rights. In support to this, Plan is working closely with local government units and local agencies through its financial and technical expertise to increase the level of awareness of the families and communities on children's rights and issues and re-direct the local official priorities to focus on building an environment fit for children. Series of community campaigns and orientations are continually done like theater shows on child rights and issues, child trafficking, violence against women and children, criminal justice system, billboard and streamers display and consultations. Parents Effectiveness Services was also among the strategy to influence parents on proper parenting that are child-rights based.

Supporting Farmers and Fisherfolks

Fishing and farming are the primary source of income among families in Eastern Samar. However, communities' coastal resources are threatened and mismanaged while farm harvests are deteriorating. To respond to these issues, Plan linked the communities to the Department of Trade and Industry, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture and to Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office for technical training support. Coastal Resource Management was provided to raise awareness on the importance of marine resource protection. Training on the establishment of seaweeds farm and on site coaching on vegetable production were also provided to these families with support materials like farm tools, seaweeds planting materials, and sea cucumber. Through these initiatives the families is hoped to continue their own livelihood with increased income and ensure food sufficiency for their children while establishing a sustainable environment.

Provision of Medicines to the Barangay

Lack of medicines and vitamins for children is a common issue that also contributes to family's financial stresses when preventable and common illnesses occur. It is for these reasons service providers requested the assistance of Plan for the provisions of supplements and medicines for common childhood illnesses. As part of the continuous support to partner families, Plan supports the provision of medicines. This was also intended to equipped barangay health centers with the basic medicines for common childhood illnesses.

Supporting Birth Registration

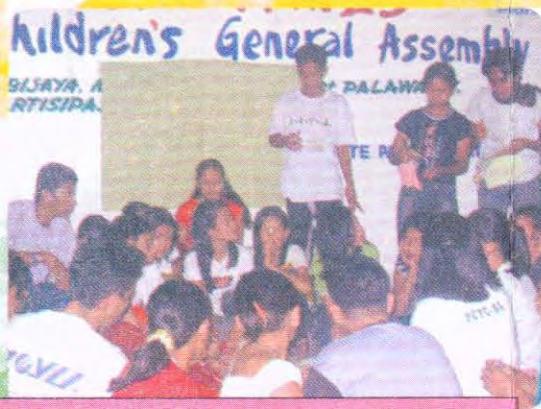
Birth registration protects children from exploitation and abuse. Unregistered children are prone to be a victim of child labor, abuse and child trafficking because they do not have documents to prove that they are minors. Plan supported through the Local Civil Registrar on the establishment of Barangay Civil Registration System through training the the Barangay Civil Registration Agents (BCRAs) composed of Local Civil Registrar, officials and volunteers of the community. The training and mobile registration increased awareness among parents and unwed couples to register their children. The activity created a dramatic increase of registered children.

We hope you have enjoyed reading this report. We will continue to work with the community to improve the life of Isaias and all the other children in the area, for them to be able to realize their potential.

Through your link with Isaias you share in the work of the whole community. Your contributions help to fund community projects that families are doing with Plan to benefit their children. We thank you for your continued commitment..

Sponsored child Number : 0771 - 009218
Sponsor Number : 008 - 0689036

Project Photos



Advocacy for Children's rights and participation.



Birth registration project- the right to have a name and nationality.



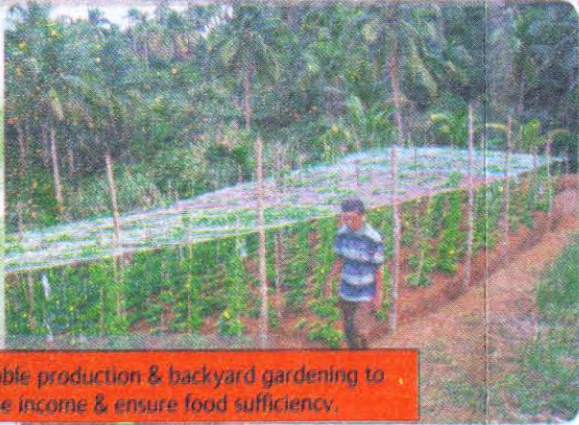
Handicrafts making made from indigenous materials for livelihood.



Primary Health Care training to provide basic health services.



Children's month celebration



Vegetable production & backyard gardening to increase income & ensure food sufficiency.

School building for high school children.



Water tank to ensure potable water to the community.

Plan Eastern Samar Program Unit

