



Peace on Trees Project





IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Name of the Project : PEACE ON TREES PROJECT: a paper drive for a cause

Project Duration : May 28 – Dcember 23, 2012

Project Location : Pandan, Antique

Requested budget : 50000 or (number of worth of notebooks)

Counterpart : Mobilization and Monitoring

Address of the Proponent : Centro Norte, Pandan, Antique 5712, Philippines

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Purpose and Need for the Project

Peace on Trees is a youth-led project designed to promote for the awareness of the importance of recycling waste paper products particularly the white bond papers among people in the targeted Municipality of Pandan, Antique.

The proposed project serves a number of identified needs that were determined in an assessment meeting of Pagtatap Youth last March 11, 2012 and by concerned individuals. These needs include:

1. An institution/agency or private individuals to buy gathered waste paper products.

In the Municipality of Pandan, Antique, segregation of solid waste materials is a well known practice of folks especially in the town proper. However paper products are usually sent to dumping sites instead of getting recycled. The obvious reason is that nobody knows of anybody or institution that is willing to buy the garbage paper products so that these are just mixed with non recyclable solid waste to rot. This project then is targeted to address the problem.

2. To get the attention of the community especially the youth to participate in the protection of the local forest and to promote sustainable development, particularly the Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park.

Pandan, and Libertad in the Province of Antique are two of the five municipalities that houses the only low elevation rainforest situated in the northwest boundaries of Aklan and Antique, in the Northwest of Panay Island in the Philippines named as Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park. This Important Biodiversity Area (IBA) has a total area of 12,009.29 ha. Is a habitat of Veranus Mabitang, a bird known to be living only in the area, is threatened of timber poaching, kaingin, and hunting. The most recent is the threat of iron ore mining in the mountain boundaries between the municipalities of Pandan and Libertad in the Province of Antique.

The people in the area should move to protect this biodiversity hotspot. The provision of school supplies particularly notebooks and papers matters much to the barangay folks. It is hoped then that giving them these gifts would awaken their awareness of the importance and inculcate in them the value of forest trees and their effects on the global environment.



Rationale

Papers and paper products are just all around us. They come in diverse forms and properties and have a vast range of useful applications. But what is paper? A substance typically prepared in thin, flat sheets, made from mechanically and chemically treated fibrous cellulose, usually from wood, rag, etc., and used as a writing and printing surface in packaging, etc. (Websters Dictionary) Originally, paper was derived from cloth rags and grasses. Now it is predominantly made with wood.

The history of use of paper can be traced back up to the advent of Chinese civilization. According to a number of books, the invention of such was widely credited to Tsai Lun of China. (Grummer 2011) (McKiney 1995) (Hunter 1974) Early Chinese people used it to record what has been happening to their lives during that time. In fact, it can be considered as one of the preservers or the record holders of history. It was widely produced using different raw materials like jute, linen, straw hemp, rags, wasp house and the most important of all are the wood and bark. (McKiney 1995).

In 1719, a French naturalist named René-Antoine de Réaumur placed a report before the French Royal Academy of Sciences that says about the possibility of making papers through the use of fiber of plants even without the use of rags and linen. After such report the idea of making paper out of trees was conceptualized. It was in 1765 when Dr. Jacob Christian Schaffer, a German naturalist, read the report and proceeded to make paper in the laboratory from plants, trees and wasp's nests. (Grummer 2011). From then on the production of paper greatly relied on trees and plants as its major raw material.

At present, papers come in diverse forms and properties and have a vast range of useful applications: paper cups, receipts, office files, paper plates, tissues, boxes, decorations, printed materials in educational institutions, and thousand others. Even way back in 1914, it was written, that an estimated number of manufactured products was 14, 000. Today, the world consumption of paper has grown up to 400 percent in the last 40 years. (Martin 2011).

Paper pulp is 90 per cent made of wood. The global production of the pulp for use by paper publishing sectors is expected to increase by 77% from 1995 to 2020. (OECD 2001). Four billion trees or 35 percent of the total trees cut around the world are used in paper industries on every continent. It can be construed then, that this high demand of paper products, also gives rise to the number of trees needed to be cut down.

A significant number of this paper usage is accounted to printing and writing use in schools. Last 2000, in the United States, 28% percent of their whole paper production, that was accounted for printing and writing use in schools only, all came from wood. In the Philippines, 19% of the total garbage came from paper products weighing 1,586,000 MT. The 232,000 metric tons of which, was accounted to printing and writing use only which ranked number two in the paper usage. (Parayno and Busmente n.d.)

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Faced by these hard facts, we also need to consider that papermaking gives negative environmental impacts that occur at three stages in the life cycle of paper: starting with the harvesting of trees for fiber, continuing with the processing of wood fiber into pulp for making paper, and finishing with the disposal of paper products at the end of their useful life.



Another thing to note is that paper-making is itself very energy intensive. It requires extremely large amounts of water, and often entails the use of toxic chemicals, of which the most problematic are the chlorine compounds used in bleaching pulp to make paper bright white. Chlorine compounds are rated among the most hazardous industrial chemicals in large volume use, that affect human health and the environment. Their use in the pulp bleaching process also results into the formation of "organochlorines," a harmful byproducts also known to cause cancer and are suspected of causing developmental, reproductive, and immune system damage

One important question needs to be answered: Does paper manufacturing have to be as damaging to the environment as it is at present? The answer is NO. There are ways now of reducing the damaging effects of paper manufacturing. Firstly, its wood fiber can already be sourced from sustainably managed forests. Secondly, cutting down of trees can be minimized by increasing the use of post-consumer recycled papers. Lastly, by improving the efficiency of its use of energy and water, and completely eliminating chlorine bleaching. In fact, a number of paper manufacturers in the U.S. are working to do just this. (http://www.secret-life.org/paper/paper_environment.php)

Our forests are critical protectors of biodiversity and of climate stability by virtue of the habitat they provide and the carbon they store. Logging companies often do devastating clear cutting practices. These practices degrade the ecosystems which sustain diverse plants and animals, and are responsible for the release of millions of tons of stored carbon. Peace and survival on earth are threatened by human activities that lack commitment to human values.

Thus, this proposal of project **Peace on Trees**. I propose to promote the use of post-consumer recycled papers. This is aimed at reducing the damaging effects of paper manufacturing, lessen paper garbage disposal, and most importantly to minimize the cutting down of trees and conserve our forest resources.



TIMELINE:

Launching:

The launching of the project will be held virtually through Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/coloringtheworldwithhappiness>)

Formal launching:

End week of May – caravan.

Targeted culmination date:

This will be a nine-month-long project of collection of papers. The collection of papers will end on November. But the distribution of collected funds including notebook will be held five days before Christmas.

Target Beneficiary:

School Children of hinterland barangays of Pandan and Libertad Antique: 3 of the seven hinterland barangays (Napuid, Badiangan, Maadyos), hilly sitios of Brgy. Guia and Brgy. Luhod-Bayang of the Municipality of Pandan and Sitio San Juan of Brgy. San Roque of the Municipality of Libertad.

- a. In the town of Pandan, these areas are usually the barangays that are hardly reached. These hinterland barangays in Pandan , have grades schools. However, the children still need to take a very long walk just to buy their school supplies especially NOTEBOOKS and PAPERS. The farthest barangay *Maadios* can be reached through a five-hour walk from the service road.
- b. In Libertad, Sitio San Juan of Brgy. San Roque is at the foot of the legendary Mt. Pinupo of which portion is targeted for iron ore mining.



METHODOLOGY

An initial collection of papers will be given to major paper dealers. In return, the money that we can get from the collected papers will be used as the seed money for the mobilization of the project. Earning a sufficient amount, a poster will be printed for the publicity of the project.

Two months after the virtual launching, a formal launch will be held at Pandan Antique in partnership with the Pandan Radio. A caravan will be conducted monitored by media around Pandan, Antique in May. Together with the caravan, boxes (with the poster) will be given out to schools and offices together with the approved proposal.

In Manila, there will still be a continuous collection of papers from offices and schools to be extended up to the end of the project. This will include collection of papers from professors and students of the University of Santo Tomas.

Letters will be sent out to a number of companies, offices and schools eager to participate in this endeavor. Recognition of gratitude for the sponsors will be included on the posters identifying them as major stakeholders of the project. Also, if they have the tarpaulin, we could include it in our caravan. The target companies are those who engage in paper manufacturing like Sterling, United Pulp and Co. etc.

Disposed boxes will be collected in November and will be transported back to Manila for another round of collection activity.

Post Collection Activities:

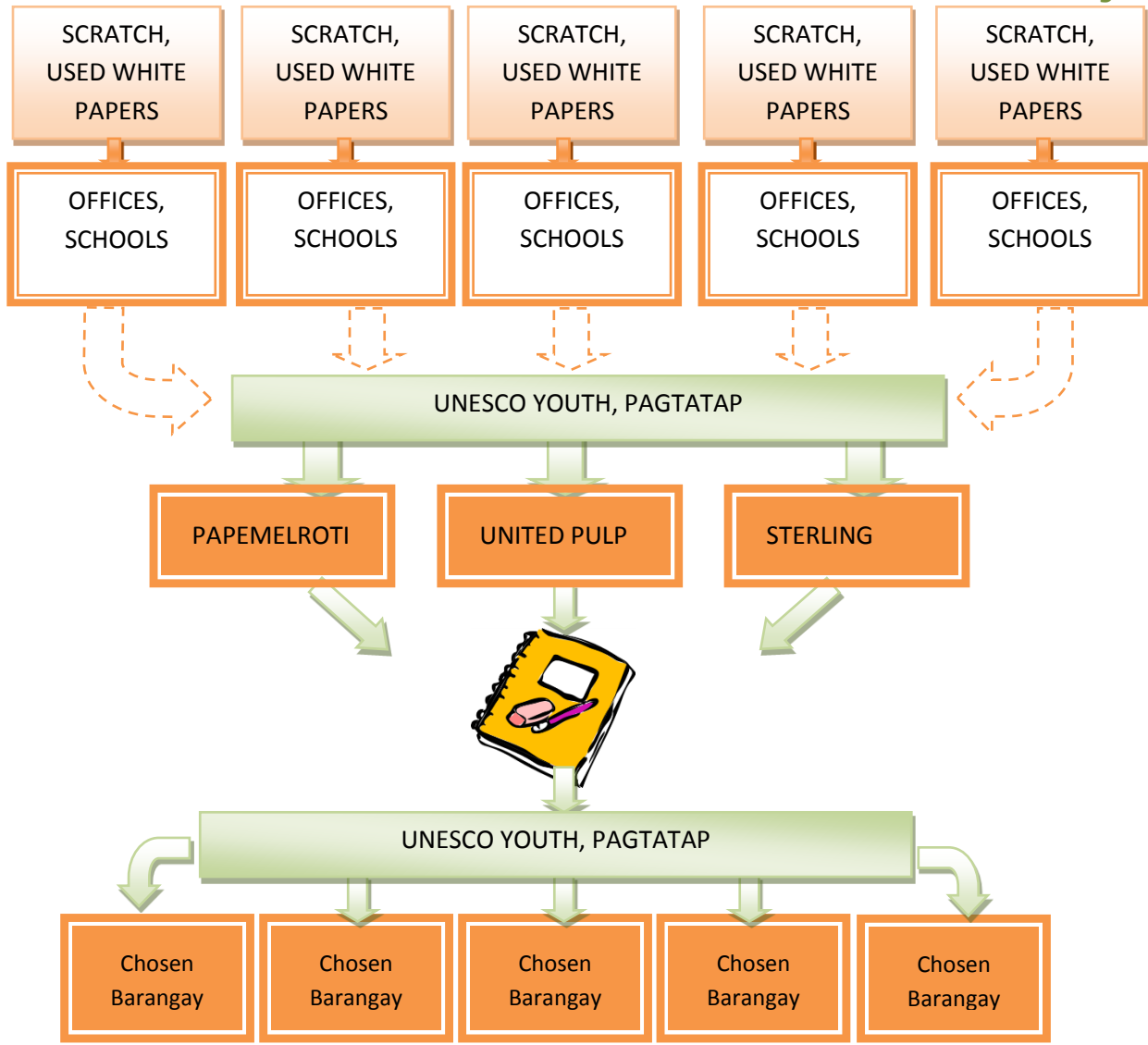
1. Submit the collected papers to companies for processing / recycling.
2. Collect notebooks/ pad papers from companies.
3. Conduct a small workshop on paper recycling in a mini program that will be held on the day of the distribution of notebooks.

Collected waste paper materials which may not recycled will be sold to waste paper buyers. The proceeds will be properly accounted and will be used for coordinating cost on the day of the distribution of notebooks.

With big depletion of number of trees, we know already what comes next: Flooding, Urban Heat Island, Global Warming, Climate Change to enumerate a few. But this doesn't end here, we can still do something.

Hope is still with us! We need to start an action that could help restore our the lost trees and win back our forest. Let us rebuild the world, reusing and recycling. Together, if we go hand in hand, we can make a great positive change on this crying world!

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Proponent Description

UNESCO works to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values. The organization believes that through dialogue the world can achieve global visions of sustainable development encompassing observance of human rights, mutual respect and the alleviation of poverty, all of which are at the heart of UNESCO'S mission and activities. The broad goals and concrete objectives of the international community – as set out in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – underpin all UNESCO'S strategies and activities. Thus UNESCO'S unique competencies in education, the sciences, culture and communication and information contribute towards the realization of those goals.

UNESCO'S mission is to contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information. The Organization focuses, in particular, on two global priorities:

Recognizing this goal and mission, one project that had been conducted by UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education in partnership with the New Zealand UNESCO National Commission and University of Canterbury was the Looking Beyond Disaster forum. This forum brought together 100 youth ambassadors coming from different countries in the world who have lived through and experienced natural disasters, together with youth who have experienced the recent earthquakes in Christchurch, New Zealand. This forum fostered information exchange between participants, and then focused on the development of action plans which meet the needs of young people in different communities affected by disasters. And this **Peace Trees project** was one of the fruits brought by the said forum.



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PAGTATAP Youth is a group of young individuals and students who are mostly based in Pandan, Antique, Philippines dedicated in community development. This group is the youth arm of PAGTATAP Foundation Inc., which is a a non-profit, non-stock organization geared toward helping people through various support programs, like Medical Missions.

Moreover, this youth organization has been enthusiastically engaged in many volunteering jobs in Pandan, We do river clean up, birds feeding and tree planting. Every year, a youth camp is made aimed at gathering more youths in Pandan and train them to become the positive changemaker of the society.

In this project the organization will play as the majoy key players and mobilizer of the project.



Possible Risks

Possible Risk	Measures to be taken to tackle predicted risks
Project Management	<p>1. Since good mobilization, for transportation of the papers and notebooks from going back and forth from Pandan to Manila, will play a very good role in this project, it is in the list of plans that the organization will seek assistance on companies that is in field of logistics to ensure a much lesser or free transportation the goods.</p> <p>2. A well synchronized delineation of responsibilities shall be established ensuring that there are only one focal person for the project and the team members are properly oriented on their specific roles. Ensuring that the lines of communication are clear and concise. Hence all accountabilities are shared minimizing possible risks of mismanagement and allowing transparent and accountable management of the project.</p> <p>3. For monitoring and evaluation of the project, there will be a report coming from the members after three months about the progress of the collection of papers. All sponsors will also be informed about the progress (financial and the project plan) of the project for transparency and accountability.</p>
Natural Disaster	<p>The unpredictable environmental condition might create a sudden change of weather that might cause not only the possible delay or cancellation of planned activities, but can also cost life. Because of this PAGTATAP YOUTH, will always monitor the weather forecasts and will make disseminate information regarding delay or cancellation immediately to ensure that no life is at risk.</p>

Approved by:

Mr. DARRYL MACER
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RAYMUND GUMBOC
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