

DM2009 Project Summary

Project Number: 4657 Booth Number: 60

Gulay 4 Salambao: Contained Vegetable Farming for Fisherfolk's Survival

COUNTRY: Philippines

ORGANIZATION: International Resources Group–Philippines

FUNDING REQUEST: \$200,000

OBJECTIVE: To provide access to fresh vegetables for at least 50 percent of the 241 households of Salambao through organic "container farming." The project aims to implement a closed-loop solution to Salambao's problem of lack of food by introducing container farming, establishing a vermicomposting center for kitchen wastes that will produce organic fertilizer for vegetable farming, and partnering with existing neighborhood stores to sell surplus produce, thus providing additional income to the households.

RATIONALE: The poor fishing village of Salambao is a long, narrow island bordered by two rivers that open up to the sea. Its geography makes it very vulnerable to the effects of climate change, especially the rising seawater level, which they are already experiencing. Floods, caused by the rising tide and unusually strong typhoons, have become part of daily life for the 1,160 people living there. With an average weekly income of \$6, families barely have enough for food. Fishing in the rivers had become nearly impossible because of worsening pollution. Fishermen must go out to the open sea, but very few have the large boats required for open-sea fishing. They are in dire need of a sustainable source of food and an additional source of livelihood.

INNOVATION: The Gulay 4 Salambao project presents four innovations: introducing vegetable farming to a fishing village, using container farming for vegetable growing, institutionalizing project activities through tie-ins with a previous DM project, and establishing localized vermicomposting centers.

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