

A LIVELIHOOD PROJECT FOR THE POOR: PIGLET RECYCLING



Backyard hog raising can be a good source of income among the barrio folks. But it is reality that piglets are costly and far beyond the reach of poor farmers who'd rather allot their meager incomes to feeding their stomachs, which often is not even enough. But as experienced by those who are able to afford piglets, backyard hog raising provide cash income to cover a big part of the family's basic needs, including their ability to send their children to school.

Capitalizing on the simple skills already familiar to most of the barrio residents, a livelihood assistance project can be launched on backyard swine raising. The project will target interested families affected by Typhoon Yolanda who wanted to rise up from the rubble wrought by the typhoon, recoup lost earnings, expand their livelihood skills, take advantage of the productive nature of the pig and make it a sustainable endeavor towards improvement of the quality of their lives. Apart from providing direct income to the beneficiaries, the project will also bring additional benefit to the community by introducing improved breed of swine.

OBJECTIVES

1. To help 80 families in two barangays in the Municipalities of Salcedo, and Borongan, Eastern Samar namely:
 - a. Salcedo, Eastern Samar
 - Barangay Matarinao, 50 families

b. Borongan, Eastern Samar

- Bry. Canlaray, 30 families

in establishing livelihood projects that can augment family income on sustainable basis;

2. To reduce threats to hunger and poverty in these upland barangays after typhoon Yolanda.
3. To strengthen the resolve of the mission to assist underserved communities get opportunities for growth by introducing entrepreneurial projects that will provide a stable and adequate source of income for them.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is dispersal type starting initially with 50 families in one barangay and another with 30 families. It is designed to spread out to other households in the community in due time. Just one seed of charity or one piglet could be made to jump by leaps and bounds over the years because of its multiplier effect. Since the program is designed to provide livelihood opportunities to survivors of calamities and disasters with a preferential option for the poorest of the poor, prospective recipients would be provided with a one-time subsidy for pigpen construction in the amount of P2,500 and feeds worth P1,000.

- **STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION.** This animal husbandry intervention shall be implemented by OIKOS. It will provide regular technical assistance to the recipients especially when the project demands for additional skills training and replication. An **AGREEMENT FORM** must be signed by OIKOS and the recipient family containing the following:

PIGLET RECYCLING

1. It is the responsibility of the piglet recipient to raise the piglet at their own expense, using proper feeds, pigpen, sanitation, medicines until it gives birth.

2. The recipient shall give two (2) piglets in return on the first breeding of at least six (6) or more piglets, after having weaned out in five to six weeks. OIKOS will disperse one (1) female piglet to another recipient family but will retain the other piglet for project expenses and the continuance of the program implementation to other barangays in the locality.

For five (5) offspring, one piglet is returned for dispersal. But for four(4) offsprings and below, no return is made on the first breeding, but on the second breeding.

After completing the full 'paybacks', the recipient family owns the original pig, leftover pigs, and the future piglets to be born. That is the big livelihood opportunity that the program makes way for them.

3. In case of theft or death of the pig, the recipient family will have no obligation except for the proper documentation of the case in coordination with the farm technician.
4. In case of incapacity to breed, the recipient shall refund the cost of the piglet within one year.

HOG FATTENING

1. Oikos will provide the recipient family a 20-25kg pig for fattening. The recipient will be responsible in raising the pig up to its marketable stage, generally 90-100kg liveweight.
2. A 50-50 percent sharing scheme will be implemented. Thus, the recipient shall give 50% share of the total sale of the pig to Oikos. However, if the sale of the pig reaches P9,000 - P10,000, the recipient will receive an incentive of P500, and P1,000 if the sale is over P10,000.

3. The recipient has no authority to dispose/sale the pig without the presence of the farm technician or any representative from OIKOS.

4. In case of death of the pig, at anytime during rearing, due to sickness, accident, or calamity, the recipient shall have no more obligation to OIKOS and contract is deemed terminated, provided the recipient can show the dead pig or secure a certification from the local authority about the situation. Otherwise, he/she shall payback the original cost of the piglet, or revive the contract by raising a new piglet at his/her own cost, despite the delay.

5. In case of theft, if there is a proper Police Report, the recipient shall have no more obligation and contract is deemed terminated. Without a Police Report, recipient shall payback as in number 4.

- **MONITORING.** It shall be the responsibility of OIKOS to validate and ascertain the progress and development of the project. Assistance from the local agriculture office may be tapped from time to time.
- **ORGANIZATION.** The recipients shall be gradually encouraged to form themselves into an association of farmer cooperators so they could receive more farm/livelihood input support from the government and other private organizations.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICATION POTENTIAL

The sustainability and replicability of the project are a top concerns of OIKOS. In fact it has shown sustainability in the barangays OIKOS has previously implemented the program. It continues to be a pilot project that could be easily replicated among clusters of farmers/families in other barangays of the province. As one author (Elises, 2009) says, "It is easy to build and establish a charitable program around the pig. A pyramid-type of charity could be formulated. A pyramid scheme that will not be for personal benefit or earning income from investments, but a kind of investment in reverse that will grow to help many families."

PIG RECYCLING and HOG FATTENING PROGRAM: A Livelihood Project for the Poor

PROJECT COST: P884,000

= P11,050/family beneficiary

Target Beneficiaries: 80 families in 2 Barangays

ITEM	COST/UNIT	TOTAL	Total for 80 family beneficiaries (two Barangays)
Organizing		P14,000	P14,000
Masterlisting of Beneficiaries/ Orientation Seminar (one whole day)		P30,000	P30,000
Pigpen assistance	P2,500/beneficiary	P200,000	P200,000
Purchase of Piglets 40 for recycling 40 for fattening	P4,000/piglet for recycling P5,500/piglet for fattening	P160,000 P220,000	P160,000 P220,000
Distribution of Piglets (truck for hire and 2 assistants: two days)	P15,000/day	P30,000	P30,000
One-time Feed assistance	P1,000/beneficiary	P80,000	P80,000
Swine Raising Seminars/ Trainings (2)	P25,000	P50,000	P50,000
Evaluation/Monthly monitoring/ technical visits (8)	P5,000	P40,000	P40,000
Technical support: monthly allowance of Farm technician	P5,000	P60,000	P60,000
Dispersal of piglets (paybacks) to other qualified new beneficiaries to start the program in another poor barangay		c/o OIKOS	c/o OIKOS

PROJECTED TOTAL COST = P884,000.00
(Euro 14,374 at 61.5) 62.62

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(The Poor Household of God)
June 7, 2018