

# ISEAN-Hivos Philippines: Strengthening Capacities of Community-based Organizations (CBOs) through Organizational Development (OD) for Sustainability of Community-led HIV, SOGIE and Rights-based Interventions



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**T**he ISEAN-Hivos Program (IHP) is a regional Global Fund AIDS grant focused on community systems strengthening (CSS) among males having sex with males (MSM) and transgender (TG) organizations in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Timor Leste. The program in the Philippines since October 2011 has been providing OD-focused capacity building trainings to MSM and TG CBOs. This includes program/financial management, monitoring/evaluation, research/documentation, leadership/governance, strategic planning, advocacy/networking, resource mobilization and proposal writing, among others.



**T**he capacity building series has contributed to strengthening the CBOs' organizational systems/procedures. This is evident for more than 20 CBOs whose proposals on innovative HIV, SOGIE and rights-based interventions were granted by IHP through small grants amounting to Php 250,000 maximum. Interventions varied from conducting HIV/SOGIE-related awareness campaigns; using theatre as medium for LGBT awareness; establishing a male wellness center, mobile testing van and BCC-awareness mobile, that contributed to community-led peer education and HIV counselling and testing (HCT) services.

**T**wo of the most noteworthy beneficiaries are LoveYourself and Cebuplus. LoveYourself's proposal for HIV awareness IEC video ("Fly Love Yourself") and BCC-awareness mobile ("LoveCar") has contributed in promoting testing services in their community clinics. For Cebuplus, their mobile testing vans and male wellness center has increased the number of MSM and TG clients reached by their HIV prevention services including HCT. Both have contributed to more than 50% of the total number of people undergoing HCT in Manila and Cebu, respectively. This has also translated into sustainable partnerships with their local government units and private foundations.



**T**his OD-approach model on capacity building for CBOs should continuously be monitored, evaluated, and foster linkage with local government partners and/or private institutions. This CSS intervention has a long-term perspective because it is geared towards the sustainable development of CBOs to continuously advocate and implement community-led HIV, SOGIE and rights-based interventions.