

## **AUTHORS' PROFILE**

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**ANGELITO B. MENESES, DSD** is a faculty member at Philippine School of Social Work, Philippine Women's University. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Social Work from Saint Louis University, Baguio City. He holds a master's degree in Community Development and a Doctor of Social Development from the College of Social Work and Community Development, University of the Philippines, Diliman. Prior to joining the academe, he has been involved in development work with Kapatiran-Kaunlaran Foundation, Inc. He has worked with Ayta communities in Bamban, Tarlac and in Zambales when he served as Community Organizer in the Office for Community Development of the University of Santo Tomas and as Director of the Center for Institutional Community Involvement of St. Joseph's College of Quezon City.

**MARK ANTHONY D. ABENIR, DSD** earned his AB Philosophy (2003) from the University of Santo Tomas (UST) where he graduated with honors (cum laude). He is a graduate of Master of Community Development (2008) and Doctor of Social Development (2014) from the College of Social Work and Community Development (CSWCD), University of the Philippines-Diliman. In 2013-2014, he was a fellow of Brown University, USA under their Brown International Advanced Research Institute (BIARI) Program and at the same time received the BIARI Seed Grant Award in order to hold an international workshop and conference on children and youth studies in Universidad Militar Nueva Granada, Bogota, Colombia. Currently, Assoc. Prof. Abenir currently serves as the Director of the UST SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office. He teaches at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Letters, UST. He is also a research associate of the UST Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (RCSSD), and leads the research interest group on Community-engaged Studies (CEnS).

**EXCELSA C. TONGSON, DSD** is a faculty member of the Department of Family Life and Child Development, College of Home Economics, University of the Philippines. She is currently the Deputy Director for Training, Outreach, and Extension Program of the UP Center for Women's and Gender Studies. Her research interests include Early Childhood Education, women and gender studies, and unpaid care of women in the sandwich generation. She finished Bachelor of Elementary Education (Cum Laude) at the Philippine Normal University and Masters of Family Life and Child Development at the College of Home Economics, University of the Philippines. She also has a Doctoral degree in Social Development from the College of Social Work and Community Development, University of the Philippines.

**MEREDITH DEL PILAR-LABARDA, M.D., DSD** is a faculty member of the University of the Philippines Manila-School of Health Sciences (UPM-SHS), Leyte Campus. She was the former chairperson of the Medical Department. She finished BS Medical Technology and Doctor of Medicine at the Remedios Trinidad Romualdez Medical Foundation in Tacloban City. She took her Master of Health Social Science in La Salle University. In 2014, she became a Fellow of the Team Based Learning at Duke-National University of Singapore. She recently completed the Doctor of Social Development Program at the College of Social Work and Community Development (CSWCD),

University of the Philippines Diliman. She is an advocate for building equitable health systems, socially accountable medical education, transformative leadership, integration of spirituality in development work, empowering marginalized groups in the community and Filipino wellbeing.

**TERESITA VILLAMOR BARRAMEDA** is an Associate Professor and the Chairperson of the Department of Women and Development Studies, UP College of Social Work and Community Development. Prior to teaching, she has been a development worker for more than three decades in various fields of social development. She finished her Doctor of Social Development, Masters of Community Development, MA Women and Development, and BS Community Development at UP-CSWCD. She also completed BS Fisheries from the University of the Philippines.

**ROSALINDA PINEDA OFRENEO, Ph.D.** is professor emeritus of the University of the Philippines. She continues to teach at the Doctor of Social Development Program of the UPCSWCD, which she also served as Dean from 2011-2013, and Chair of the Department of Women and Development Studies for three terms. She has several researches and publications, focusing lately on gender equality, social protection, solidarity economy, poverty, and sustainable development in the context of climate change. She has been active in the women's movement for almost five decades, working mainly with women in the informal economy organized by PATAMABA, Homenet Philippines, and Homenet Southeast Asia. She also writes poetry, for which she won several awards.

**REDENTO B. RECIO, Ph.D.** is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Informal Urbanism (InfUr) Research Hub of the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning. Before joining the UniMelb in 2018, he worked with academic institutions, development NGOs, and social movements in the Philippines. His scholarly interests include urban informality, grassroots collective action, social inclusion policies and other urban planning and governance issues in the global South. He is currently pursuing a research examining the role of urban informal livelihoods in post-disaster recovery process. He took his BS Community Development (Magna Cum Laude) at the UP College of Social Work and Community Development and MA Urban and Regional Planning at the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning. He also obtained his Post Graduate Diploma in Children, Youth and Development from Erasmus University – International Institute of Social Studies, Netherlands.

**ALELI B. BAWAGAN, Ph.D.** is a professor of the Department of Community Development, UP College of Social Work and Community Development. She obtained her BS Chemical Engineering, Masters of Community Development and PhD Education at the University of the Philippines. She was on special detail as Assistant Secretary at the Department of Social Welfare and Development for three years. Concurrently, she is the Director of the UP Institute for Small-Scale Industries.

**MIGUELA M. MENA, Ph.D.** is a professor and former Dean of the University of the Philippines Asian Institute of Tourism. She obtained her Ph.D. in Tourism

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**RICHARD PHILIP A. GONZALO** is currently Assistant Vice President at the Office of the Vice President in Administrative Affairs, University of the Philippines. He is a faculty member of the UP Asian Institute of Tourism, where he teaches graduate courses in Investment Planning and Tourism Development Planning. He also provides technical assistance on Destination Development, Cultural Education, and Project Monitoring and Evaluation to a number of Local Government Units and National Government Agencies in the Philippines. He obtained his BS Business Administration & Accountancy and MS Finance degrees from the UP College of Business Administration. He is currently pursuing doctoral studies in the Doctor of Social Development program of the UP College of Social Work and Community Development.

**VICTOR G. OBEDICEN** finished his BS Community Development and Masters of Community Development at the UP College of Social Work and Community Development. He is currently teaching community organizing, participatory planning, and community-based disaster risk management. Prior to teaching, he worked with various Non-Government Organizations in the field of community-based resources and risk management.

**PAUL EDWARD N. MUEGO** is a faculty member of the Department of Community Development, UP College of Social Work and Community Development. Prior to joining UP-CSWCD, he worked with Asia Southeast Regional Office's CBR Coordinating Office in 2010 and the Philippine Coordinating Center for Inclusive Development in 2014 to 2018, which gave him the opportunity to further work closely with organizations of persons with disabilities and other support organizations. working with and for persons with disabilities on various development initiatives at the local, national He is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Social Development Program of CSWCD and is now working on his dissertation entitled *From KAPANSANAN towards KA-PASAN: Re-envisioning organizing of persons with disability towards inclusivity amidst complexities*.

**VIRGINIA B. DANDAN, DSD** is a former Dean of the UP College of Fine Arts where she graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Sculpture, with honors. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology from UP and has recently completed the Doctor of Social Development program at the UP College of Social Work and Community Development. She was a United Nations Independent Expert on human rights from 1990 to 2017 and continues to work extensively for the recognition, protection and promotion of human rights in development through advocacy, education and training.