

History

Born out of pumice and ashes.

Founded by Jennifer Wallum, MBE, in June 1991, EVA was initially known as I.N.A. Special Projects - a small, self-funded, volunteer off-shoot of a Philippine NGO that was funded by France's Enfants et Development.

I.N.A. Special Projects organized livelihood projects as mental health activities for displaced persons living in extreme conditions in areas devastated by Mt. Pinatubo's eruption. By 1994, the registered name had been changed to EVA, and equipment, microloans, training, educational scholarships and other services were being offered to many worthy livelihood projects and communities. In 2000 the heritage conserving Traditional Origins Ethnic Education Schools (TOE²S) project began.

Mission and Purpose

To help preserve the rural indigenous cultural communities before they suffer the degradation of economic displacement, becoming squatters or street families in squalid urban environments.

In 1991, Mt. Pinatubo erupted, destroying the homes, livelihood, and way of life of thousands of the Aeta tribe in Central Luzon, Philippines. With the land they once farmed and hunted covered in lahar and ash, many Aetas found themselves unable to support their families and ended up on the streets of Manila and other urban areas. Seeing the need for economic development in the region, the Entrepreneur Volunteer Assistance Charity Foundation (EVACF) was founded to help the Aetas build a new foundation for their communities and families, through a range of training and loan programs, educational scholarships, adult literacy and livelihood projects. Help is given only when Aeta elders have made formal requests and clearly indicate a sense of responsibility. This is to avoid imposing on the Aeta unwanted effects. Similar help is now given to all Indigenous People groups in the Region 3 Philippines. All EVACF members donate their work.

Under EVA's Umbrella - Micro Finance projects, special needs livelihood groups helping create the handcrafted components of the fundraiser sets:

Krismana - Zambales (1992-98)
Montanosa - Mountain Province (1995-99)
Studio Potters - Antipolo (1991-present)
Cupertino - Quezon City (1991-present)
Yakan Weavers - Zamboanga (1994-present)
Muntinlupa Livelihood - Muntinlupa (1993-present)
Likha Potters/PSCBDW - Pampanga (1993-2002)
Kanlungan-sa-Erma - Laguna (1991-2007)
Vedruna Workshop - Sampaloc (1998-2004)
Bato Women's Association - Biliran (1996-present)
Trappists Contemplative Outreach for the Poor - Guimaras (1996-98)
Tahanan Walang Hagdanan - Rizal (1997-2007)
Islanders Ethnic Arts & Crafts - Makati (1998-2004)
Wenceslau Resettlement/SACOP - Pampanga (1994-present)
Pag-asa sa Paglaya - Muntinlupa (1993-2002)
Pinatubo Sandwares - Pampanga (1991-2007)
Igorot Handicrafts/DTI - Mountain Province (1995-present)

Maryland Resettlement - Pampanga (1994-present)
Madapdap Aeta Ladies Group - Pampanga (1998-2007)
Salay - Misamis Oriental (1999-2006)
Bahi - Talisay, Cebu (2000-present)
Paper Alley - Rizal (1998-2000)
Castro Art - Quezon City (1999-2002)
Glassart - Pasig (1999-present)
Tagle Pottery Village - Tagaytay (1999-2001)
Aksesoría - Quezon (1999-2001)
Botolan Serpentine - Zambales (1997-99)
Nature's Garden - Quezon Province (2000-present)
Pandaquaqoi Resettlement - Pampanga (2001-2007)
QJC Livelihood - Quezon City (2001-2004)



*Mt. Pinatubo
Ashglaze Stoneware*

Programs

Helping people to help themselves and each other.

- Purchase of quality handicrafts, with their Mount Pinatubo theme. These items are designed and created exclusively for EVA, and most are made at least in part from Mount Pinatubo itself - papers, ceramics and glazes of volcanic residue. They are then sold to fund EVA's work. Thus, EVA's fundraising creates more jobs in the region and in many poor regions throughout the Philippines. Begun 1991.
- Equipment and training for small livelihood groups in the Pinatubo Region. These investments, primarily in Aeta women, enable them to support their families and hold them together, keeping their children off the streets and an indigenous community intact. Begun 1991.
- Support for Aeta initiatives to protect and rehabilitate the forest and their Mt. Pinatubo homeland. Tree seedlings, seeds and tools provided. Begun 1993.
- Loans to the National Commission on Indigenous People Region III and the Social Action Center of Pampanga at 0% interest. They augment the funds and then lend the money in small amounts to Aeta tribal members, lowland women entrepreneurs in financial need in the Aurora, Bataan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales areas. Begun 1993.
- University scholarships for Aeta (women encouraged.) Now inclusive of other Indigenous People (IP) scholars. Begun 1995.
- 3A3Rs literacy program for adults in remote villages using I.P. literacy 'Activators'. Begun 1998.
- 'TOE²S' traditional origins ethnic education schools: funding for construction, furniture and school supplies. Begun 2000.
- Tribal language literacy books for 'first language' component. Begun 2001.
- TOWARDS HAPPY TOE²S - training, residential conference/seminars for I.P. community leaders. Begun 2004.

Awards

The greatest awards of appreciation come in the form of cards and letters from people of all ages.

- Top NGO in RIII (1998, Department of Social Welfare Development)
- Award of Recognition (1998, Office of Northern Cultural Communities)
- Recognition of Outstanding Service and Commitment (1999, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples)
- Outstanding Service (1997, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2006 Metrobank Foundation)
- Member of the British Empire (MBE) to Jennifer Wallum (Dec. 1999, Queen Elizabeth II)
- Award for facilitating establishment of family-based income generating projects (2001, Social Action Center of Pampanga)
- 3A 3T Aeta Guides Kalaykbay Best Ecotourism Award (2001 Dept. of Tourism)
- TOE²S Morpeth Aeta School - top multigrade elementary school (2001 Dept. of Education: Bataan)
- Award of Thanks (2002 Cartwheel Foundation)
- Plaque of Recognition for the development of education among the indigenous cultural communities (2002 Panlalawigan Asosasyon Ng Mga Aeta Ng Bataan, PANABAT)
- UNHABITAT Good Practices (2002)
- Certificate of Appreciation for facilitating projects aimed at uplifting the socio-economic status of Indigenous Peoples in Region III (2003 National Commission on Indigenous Peoples)
- Conrad Hilton Foundation Award nominee (2002, 2004 & 2007)
- Anvil Awards for Excellence in Public Relations for Helping Mt. Pinatubo's People to Help Themselves (2005).
- Civic and Community Services Award (2006 Dasmariñas, Makati)
- UN/UNHABITAT/Dubai International Award BEST PRACTICE "From Pumice Stones to TOE²S" (schools). (2006)

The Logo with a message:



The **SUN** shines over all - symbolizing positive thinking. Its eight rays represent the original Philippine provinces.

The **MOON** within the sun - dependent upon it - symbolizes the need for interaction to succeed.



The **MOUNTAIN** is volcanic, a powerful force symbolizing strength of effort.

The **SIX DOTS** represent the major Philippine volcanoes and the great eruption which created the need for EVA.



The **LAPPING WAVES** stand for the seas, rivers and hot lahar - bringing challenges as well as sustenance.

The **PEOPLE** depict mankind surrounded and dwarfed by nature. One person has a stick to represent those in extra need. The people hold hands to show the importance of cooperation.

How You Can Help

Contact: Alain <merc8ph@yahoo.co.uk>

- **Volunteer** a few hours each Tuesday morning to assemble our orders, exchange ideas, discuss projects and have fun.
- **Travel** to Pampanga to visit livelihood projects, assess the performance of EVA's loans, and the progress of livelihood equipment and training recipients, 3A3R literacy activators and 3A3T Pinatubo Trekkers.
- **Donate** all or part of the funds to send an Aeta student to university or donate educational supplies to Aeta children.
- **Donate** used clothes, kitchenware and toys collected for emergencies and Christmas season gift giving to discourage begging.
- **Fund** the construction of a school by villagers in remote settlements to bring education opportunities to their children. TOE²S
- **Purchase** EVA's beautiful handicrafts, which are the sole source of financial support for the organization.

[The handicrafts are available from Silahis Arts and Artifacts (Intramuros & other locations) Holiday Inn Clarkfield, Tesoro's Handicrafts (Makati & other locations)]



Thank

You

To this day, it is only Mt. Pinatubo which acts as our "Funding Agent" on a regular basis. The charity is run by volunteers with no paid staff.

www.evacf.org

E.V.A. Charity Foundation

www.evacf.org

Helping the People of Mt. Pinatubo Help Themselves



"Special Projects
Charity Foundation"

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Heritage Conservation



Adult Literacy

Leaflet sponsor: 2008 Edition



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Thank you for your kindness

"The Aetas are a sensitive, courageous and hardworking people who have experienced displacements in their way of life, the most recent being the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in 1991, which destroyed most of their homelands.

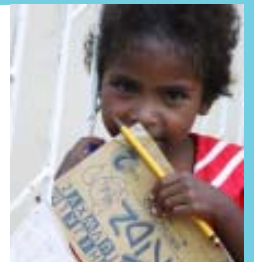
Despite such crises, they continue to fight for the preservation of their culture, the provision of educational opportunities for their youth and their economical livelihood in a dignified and productive manner.

The projects of Entrepreneur Volunteer Assistance Charity Foundation (EVACF), have been successful in achieving the above aspirations of the Aetas."

CESAR B. BAUTISTA, Ambassador
Embassy of the Philippines, London
April 2003



Livelihood projects, loans and grants



Aeta child - Aeta future



Traditional Origins Ethnic Education Schools -TOE²S

Tuesday Pack & Yack
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