

Zambo City Rehab in Full Gear – NHA

Zamboanga City is now on its road to recovery after the devastating conflict between the Philippine Military and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). National leaders, local stakeholders, and residents are helping each other to build back a better city and make it the gateway for trade and commerce in the region.

According to reports and on the same month last 2014, Zamboanga City Mayor Isabelle “Beng” Climaco affixed her signature on the National Housing Authority’s (NHA) housing plans and designs for the implementation of the Zamboanga Roadmap to Recovery and Reconstruction or the Z3R. This program which was implemented last year has provided rehabilitation and construction of shelters to the affected families who lost their homes during the 20-day siege in 2013.

And to further strengthen and uplift the quality of life of its project beneficiaries in its water redevelopment and sanitation services, specifically in the Z3R Rehabilitation Project in Mariki, the NHA Main Office’s Community Relations and Information Operations Department (CRIOD) under Ms. Ivanswenda Marquez, the Smokey Mountain Community Association Incorporation (SMCAI), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Zamboanga City Water District (ZCWD), and the Region 9 Office, co-partnered in the conduct of a Seminar-Workshop on Water Tendering and Purification for the officers of Mariki Homeowners’ Association in the City.

The training was held last March 16-17, 2016 and was attended by some 25 select leaders. It aimed at forging engagement between and among its members, ZCWD, and NGOs in equipping them on the knowledge, skills, and best practices in organizing a community-based structure that can manage water tendering and purification services in Mariki. When implemented successfully, this will be replicated in other sites in the region.

Meanwhile, NHA General Manager Atty. Sinforsoso R. Pagunsan said that the Z3R projects in Region 9 are now very much in progress and he is very optimistic that the entire Project Team can complete the construction of thousands of housing units within the year.

“We are very positive that the greater redevelopments and recovery efforts will transform better the quality of life of our project beneficiaries”, GM Pagunsan emphasized. “Our Filipino – Muslim brothers and sisters in Zamboanga City who were devastated by the siege are now ensured to benefit from the government’s rehabilitation efforts, particularly to our legitimate IDPs”, he added.

Ar. Alma Valenciano, Regional Manager for Region IX, Engr. Alfonso Borlagdan, and ARMM District Manager Engr. Al-Khwarizmi Indanan are expediting the construction of all the projects for the affected villages and have been addressing the concerns and challenges of the project beneficiaries. “We are working together with the LGU and the contractors to complete all the projects within the schedule”, Ar. Valenciano stressed.