

Religions for Peace Philippines

2017 National Report

The ACRP Chapter of Philippines presents to the ACRP Executive Committee its National Chapter Report throughout 2016.

1. RfPPH hosted the youth camp of the *Religions for Peace (RfP) Asia & Pacific Interfaith Youth Network (APIYN)*, November 18-20, 2016 venue: UST and Pope Pius Center Manila

The participants representing 60 multi-religious youth from 12 countries across the region gathered aim to educate, train and mobilize religious youth leaders in the Asia-Pacific region to understand the issues and concerns of Climate Change Together with RfP Philippines and its UNIHARMONY Partners, the youth camp was supported by the Religions for Peace International Global Interfaith Youth Network, Religions for Peace Asia and the ACRP Seoul Peace Education Center. The major activities of the youth camp included: a) Keynote Lecture by Dr. Lilian Sison Secretary General of RfPPH on “Climate Change and the Role of the Youth” b) Workshops on capacity Building of youth leaders; c) Clean, Pray, Love Campaign at the Golden Mosque and the Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene – A Muslim-Christian setting on dialogue of life.



2. Sustainable Development Goals: “Building Blocks for Peace” An Interfaith Celebration for the International Day of Peace, September 21, 2016. Pasig City, Philippines

As the key organizer and partner to this event, Religions for Peace Philippines contributed to the promotion of awareness and call to action for the Environment and Climate Change Action. The unique feature of the gathering is its interfaith and intergenerational dialogue, where senior religious leaders from various faith persuasions and key government officials have engaged with around 200 young people from various schools to achieve the following objectives: (1) Teach young people about the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals and how they can help build peace, (2) Promote peace and harmony among different religions, (3) Enhance intergenerational understanding to bridge the gap between the young and old.



3. Seminar-Workshop on Interreligious Dialogue with the theme: “Love, Mercy and Compassion across the Faith Traditions: Religion and the Millennials,”

February 2, 2017, Thursday, jointly organized by: Religions for Peace, Philippines, CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Interreligious Dialogue, Silsilah Peace Club, Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene, and Institute of Religion of the University of Santo Tomas.

The objective was to mainstream the voice of the youth in the dynamics of interreligious dialogue. In this workshop, 100 youth (Senior HS) Muslims, Buddhists and Christians from various public and private schools along the Quiapo area gathered for a peacebuilding workshop at the University of Santo Tomas. The workshop fostered inter-religious fellowship among the youth millennials and at the same time gave opportunities for the participants through the process of group dynamics to articulate the concept of peace from the perspective of their own Faith.





Degree of Implementation of Strategic Action Plan (SAP)

1. To what extent has your chapter been engaged in undertakings to achieve OUTCOMES listed in the SAP?

a) For Objective 1:

Religions for Peace Philippines is the co-founder and key coordinator of the Uni-harmony Partners Manila in implementing a year round interreligious programs and activities such as the World Interfaith Harmony Week and UN Day of Peace. Established in 2012, the UniHarmony Partners Manila was formed to implement the UNGA Resolution 65/5 proclaiming the celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week every first week of February. From a small group of five faith-based organizations, today the UniHarmony Partners is constituted by around 30 various religious communities, interfaith groups, and peace advocates.

UPM was instrumental in the enactment of Republic Act 10525 officially adopting the World Interfaith Harmony Week as a national celebration and mandating its observance by the different government agencies.

The King of Jordan, the author of the UNGA Resolution 65/5, awarded UPM the second prize for the 2016 World Interfaith Harmony Week Celebration.

Religions for Peace Philippines is also a member in the program development of the National Forum on Interfaith Dialogue organized by the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs for the ASEAN 50th Anniversary celebration.

b) For Objective 2

Religions for Peace Philippines, through the efforts of its President Hadja Lourdes Mastura, engages in dialogue and discussion in the ongoing implementation of the peace agreement between the GPH and the MILF under the Duterte administration.

2. To what extent has your chapter not been engaged in undertakings to achieve OUTCOMES listed in the SAP? And what, do you think, are reasons for the outcome?

b) For Objective 2:

3. Forward looking suggestions and recommendations for the next stage of SAP

a) Continue to coordinate the Uni-Harmony Partners Manila in implementing agreed interreligious programs and activities.

b) Continue to advocate and engage in the discussion for the full implementation of the GPH-MILF Peace Agreement.

c) Continue to engage with relevant key government sector to promote mutual partnership and cooperation in implementing interreligious programs and activities

And more!