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Photo of the team : (please insert here the picture of the team and attach it in jpeg format – 100 Ko maximum)

Country of intervention : Philippines
City(ies) : Manila, Caloocan, Malabon, Quezon, Marikina, Bulacan

Date of start-up of activities (month/year) : 1993
Date of institutional constitution (month/year) : 1993

Juridical status : Non Governmental Organization
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Manager (director) : Cecile Guilbault

Key figures :

Number and nature of the programs¹ / activities : 2 programmes Calma (Manila, Caloocan) and Bulazon (Bulacan, Quezon) Loans, savings, trainings.
 Uplift Resources Network “Space”: knowledge management, best practices, training.

Teams and number of field workers : 62
Teams in HO : 44

Total provisional budget 2006 (please mention the currency) : 11 mio php (Uplift only)

Total number of direct beneficiaries per year : around 8 000

Sources of private and public subventions :
 French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 European Union
 Entrepreneurs du Monde
 Others foundations

Historical of the creation : < 5 lines – Indicate the motivations of the founder(s), the objective of the initial project and its progressive transformation (different phases) until now.

The Urban Program for Livelihood, Finance and Training or UPLiFT Philippines, Inc. started in 1993 in Navotas, Manila under the name of “Neighborhood Business Association” (NBA), as a loan and savings program implemented by Inter-Aide, a French NGO. Its primary goal was to help the poorest members of the urban sector in their efforts to improve their economic conditions.

In 1998, NBA merged with Link, another project by Inter-Aide that offered business training and support in job hunting, and became UPLiFT. The merger paved the way for a more holistic approach to community development.

Objective/mission : < 5 lines – Indicate the general objective of the organization.

UPLiFT Philippines, Inc. wants to see a society without poverty where people are productive, self-reliant, and live a balanced life with dignity and social responsibility.

UPLiFT is committed to alleviate poverty in the Philippines by encouraging people in the depressed communities to achieve their full potential through microfinance, training and social services.

Action’s principles : < 5 lines – Indicate which are the values and principles on which the action and activities are based, and which are the grounds/basis to pursue the mission. What is the specificity of the approach ?

UPLiFT Phils Inc. uses a holistic approach to microfinance based on the belief that this will bring long-lasting benefits to the poorest families in urban depressed areas.

Specificity of the Holistic Approach :

- UPLiFT targets highly depressed urban communities
- UPLiFT provides easy access to capital for the very poor

- UPLiFT favors the proximity with its beneficiaries referred to as “partners”
- UPLiFT implements an integrated approach
- UPLiFT continuously improves its methodology according to partners’ needs
- UPLiFT provides capability building and social services to compliment the loans and savings

Programs : < 5 lines per program – Indicate the type(s) of program(s), their number, the activities implemented and the activities/ results ‘ indicators, and if the need arises, the objectives pursued by each program.

A. Financial Services

1. Loans. UPLiFT gives character loans to the poorest members of the depressed communities who want to start or expand their business.
2. Capital Build Up (CBU). To instill the value of Savings among its partners, UPLiFT requires that 25% of the loan amount be paid together with the weekly payments. When the loan is fully paid after 3 or 4 months, the partner is ensured that he/she has money saved with interest given by UPLiFT.

B. Non-Financial Services

1. Pulong.
These are trainings that help develop the business and entrepreneurial skills of the partners to aid them in the conduct of their businesses. There are also trainings that tackle social issues like Waste Management, Good Parenting, Family Budget, Reproductive Health, Values Formation, Gender Issues
2. Business Development Skills Training
These are business-oriented trainings that aim to equip partners with skills and knowledge to develop a certain product that can be an income generating activity. This program also makes referrals to partner agencies for external trainings on new businesses.
3. Access to Company Employment (ACE)
This is a program that supports the young find jobs in the formal sector through their Personality Effectiveness and Job Hunting Techniques Training, referral to partner companies, access to updated job lists as well as facilities and utilities.
4. Serbisyong Pangkalusugan
UPLiFT tied up with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation to help partners become Philhealth members and gain access to its health insurance services. It also has a program called “Oras ng Pamilya “ where Social Development Coordinators spend time with partners to discuss concerns on different social and health-related issues and give referrals for services needed from other agencies.
5. GabayBuhay
This is a bi-monthly magazine in Filipino specifically for its partners. The publication provides partners information on a variety of topics that are useful in everyday lives.

Target groups and beneficiaries : < 5 lines – Qualify and quantify (if possible) the target groups and indicate the number of beneficiaries reached by the organization (if possible by type of program).

UPLiFT provides services to the poorest members of the depressed communities in urban areas. (about 8000 persons / year)

Operational Partners : < 5 lines – Indicate the main operational partners, public and private, of the organization (NGO, associations, companies, ministries, city halls, care centers, etc.), membership in a network.

Inter-Aide, a French NGO provides the funding for the operation of the program.

UPLiFT is a member of Association of Foundations, a network of NGOs whose main mission is to enable its member foundations to develop sustainable programs that serve their communities.

UPLiFT has a network of seven member organizations: Bidlisiw Foundation and Share A Child Movement in Cebu, the Jose Luis Gonzaga Foundation in Bohol, KPKP in Malabon, BSRDC in Lumban, Laguna, and SEED and LEDC in Cavite.

Financing / Budget : < 5 lines – Indicate the provisional annual budget 2006 (please indicate the currency), as well as the main , public and private contributors and the % of the budget they cover.

Budget for Uplift is 11 mio php (does not include expenses incurred in France) half of it is for the

operational programs (Calma and Bulazon), the other half for the Central Head Office and the Resource Network.