

MARIA LISA T. ALANO

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Professional Background

April 1995 to Present

Fellow

Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao (AFRIM), Inc.
Unit 1-H Anda Corporate Centre, F. Iñigo Street (formerly Anda Street), Davao City, Philippines

AFRIM is an independent research, communication, and advocacy non-governmental organization established in 1979 that works for the upliftment of the poor in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao. It addresses development issues such as peace and conflict, sustainable livelihoods, agricultural trade and development policy, natural resource management, asset reforms, and regional planning

Functions

- Conducts researches and writes publications based on research results
- Promotes AFRIM's programs and services by developing strong research and advocacy partnerships with local, national, and international NGOs and academic institutions

Held Various Key Positions from April 1995 to May 2010

Executive Director; Coordinator of Research, Advocacy, Information Services, and Administration and Finance Departments; Researcher-Writer

Research Interests

rural livelihoods, gender, agrarian issues, plantation expansion, mining, land rights of indigenous peoples and women, resource management

Recent and Current Involvements

- Coordinates and acts as co-lead researcher for a joint-research on land investments in the Philippines with specific cases on Mindanao in partnership with the Canada Research Chair for International Development Studies
- Coordinates and acts as researcher for a regional research on oil palm in partnership with Samdhana Institute, a regional research think-tank
- Convened a South-East Asian Conference on indigenous peoples' land rights and the changing policy and natural environment that was attended by some 150 participants from NGOs, academe, donor agencies, and IP people's organizations

July 1994 to March 1995

Metropolitan Environmental Improvement Program (MEIP)-World Bank DENR Central Office, Visayas Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines

MEIP-WB is an Official Development Assistance project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The program implemented solid waste management projects in partnership with national government agencies, private sector, local government units, and schools in Metro Manila

Community Development Officer

- Developed linkages with selected local government units in Metro Manila for the implementation of MEIP's Public Sanitation Facilities Project
- Coordinated environmental awareness projects for various high schools and universities in Metro Manila

April to July 1994

University of the Philippines Social Action Research for Development Foundation (UPSARDF)

UP College of Social Work and Community Development, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

Research Assistant

- Conducted data gathering (interviews, focus group discussions, secondary data) for the "Participatory Action Planning for the Development of Two Public Sanitation Facilities in Metro Manila" Project for the Metropolitan Environmental Improvement Program (MEIP)-World Bank
- Prepared a case study on one of the communities covered by the project

Education

September 2007 to December 2008

Institute of Social Studies

The Hague, The Netherlands

Master of Arts in Development Studies,
Specialization - Rural Livelihoods and Global Change
Minor - Poverty Studies

Commendation Received: Nominated for Best Research Paper

1989 to 1994

University of the Philippines

Quezon City, Philippines

Bachelor of Science in Community Development

1985 to 1989

Manila Science High School

Manila, Philippines

Publications and Researches

After the Claim, Who's in Control? Women's Changing Resource Access and Control in Titled Ancestral Domains, Mindanao Focus Number 1, AFRIM, 2009.

An Exercise in Worldmaking 2007/2008, Institute of Social Studies, 2009. (contributing writer)

Principal Author. *Green Patches of Hope*, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM. 2006. (principal author)

A Study on Resource Investment in Mindanao. 2001-2004. Commissioned research for Oxfam Great Britain-Philippine Office. AFRIM, 2005. (research coordinator and principal writer)

A Study on the Impact of Culture of Peace (CoP) Training Program on Individuals and Communities in Selected Communities in Central Mindanao and the ARMM. Commissioned research for the Catholic Relief Services. 2002. (project team leader and principal writer)

Fueling Conflict with the Promise of Development, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM, 2002.

Poverty in Abundance, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM, 2002. (principal author)

The Situation of Small Banana Growers of Stanfilco in Davao and Compostela Valley Provinces, Mindanao Focus Journal, AFRIM, 1999. (co-author)

Potential Gains and Drawbacks of Agri-Venture Arrangements, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM, 1998.

Hunger in the Land of Plenty, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM 1998. (co-author)

CARP in Mindanao: Running Out of Time, Mindanao Focus Journal, AFRIM, 1995. (principal author)

CARP Gains and Challenges, Bantaaw Journal, AFRIM, 1995. (principal author)

Policy Study on the Rice Industry in North Cotabato. Commissioned research for the Philippine Business for Social Progress, 1995/96, AFRIM, 1996. (co-writer)

References

Mr. Romulo J. de la Rosa
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Dr. Saturnino M. Borrás, Jr.
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