INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Catao Community
Saint Tonis College
Tabuk, Kalinga

Saint Tonis College is located in Kalinga, a province in the Cordillera region. Faculty and students are mostly from the different indigenous tribes in the area.

The Catao community is an indigenous community. It is developed, supported and accompanied by Saint Tonis College through whose initiative the community now has a water reservoir, community toilets, herbal garden, vegetable garden, fishpond, piggery, botika sa barangay, rice cooperative...
Community Organizing
Before the project started, meetings were held to assess the needs of the community. The women and men all said that what they wanted was food on their tables. Also, some economic activities that would help augment family income. Health and sanitation were also identified as critical to the life of the community especially women and children. Eventually, the people were assisted in planning and organizing.

Food and Nutrition
Focus was given to intensive backyard gardening for more food on the table.

High school and college students helped dig the ground for a fishpond.
The tilapia fish, the kind that the community harvested from the fishpond

The men built pig pens. The pigs are for income generation. They are kept communally and proceeds are shared.
**Rice Cooperative**
The community has a small rice cooperative managed by the women. The idea is that families can borrow/loan rice during the lean months, to be paid at harvest time.

![Image of rice cooperative]

**Health and Sanitation**
The first thing that was put up was a water tank used as depository for spring water carried from the mountain.

![Image of water tank]

Water sealed toilets were constructed in strategic places in the community. This is important in order to prevent the spread communicable diseases caused by poor sanitation.

![Image of toilets]
There are herbs and medicinal plants around the houses for natural medication. But, they also have a *botika*, a small “drug store”.

Here the “pharmacist” is showing the financial records to Mrs Presentacion Bartolo, President of Saint Tonis College.

**Multi-Purpose Building**

This was the old UCCP Church where worship services, meetings, assemblies and worship services were held.
A multi-purpose building was constructed to be used to the maximum - as a place of worship, assembly hall, training center and assembly hall.

Female college students of Saint Tonis College help the community in backfilling the flooring of the multi-purpose building.

They now have a church building cared for by a pastor.
Impact/Influence
The work of Saint Tonis College and the initiatives undertaken in the community have caught the attention of the government, which has begun putting up a school in the area. They now have two classrooms there.

However, there is a problem in the area, and it is environmental. In months, small cracks on the ground became large open spaces as wide as more than a meter and it is expanding.