



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE PHILIPPINES

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DISASTER BULLETIN ALERT

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SOLAR LIGHT TECHNOLOGY HAS COME TO POOR VILLAGES

Perched up on a makeshift wooden stair after he inserted the proverbial LED bulb to the socket, Junido Baludo exuded a beaming face when it finally lighted. His smile is one for the books not only because his pure joy was captured on camera but because it is the first time that he and his family ever experienced to have light in their house since he built it many years ago and has rebuilt it again because it was destroyed by typhoon Haiyan last year.

Solar light technology has come to the villages. And Junido's family was among the recipients of the DC10 solar home system provided by the UCCP as part of its rehabilitation project in Sambulawan village in Villaba town, Leyte. Junido's house is located in the mountainous part of Sambulawan where it remains unreachable by the electrification program of the government. In this far-flung part of the countryside, people here use the famous "kingki" (a rudimentary kerosene lamp) to light their homes during the night.

Barely a year after typhoon Haiyan, electricity is not yet fully restored in the Visayas, especially in remote villages in the mountains. Like Junido, thousands of families in the countryside grapple in the dark due to lack of access to electricity.

The DC10 solar home system package distributed to beneficiaries consisted of a 10Wp solar module, 12V7Ah battery, 12V3A charge controller and 2 pcs. of 3W LED bulb. It can provide energy for basic household lighting, cellular phone charging and power a small transistor radio.

Solar power is an efficient and renewable source of energy that can be harnessed for the benefit of the poor. By promoting such project among the poor beneficiaries, the UCCP works together with the people in the advocacy and actual utilization of eco-friendly, cost-effective technologies.

Many units of the solar home system were also distributed to family beneficiaries in other areas in the Visayas including Samar, Bohol and Antique provinces. However, many households still are needing the solar home system as the needs have exceeded the supply of units.



Junido Baludo now have light in his household



The house of Junido Baludo and his neighbors in the far-flung area in the mountain



Technicians installing the small solar dish on the roof of a house

UCCP would like to thank the donors from different partner churches for their support including The United Church of Canada, Global Ministries, United Evangelical Mission, Reformed Church in America, Sign of Hope, Presbyterian Church-USA, United Church of Christ in Japan- Hyogo and many individuals whose hearts abound with God's gift of generosity.

BENEFICIARIES OF THE SOLAR HOME SYSTEM



TECHNICIANS INSTALLING THE SOLAR HOME SYSTEM IN HOUSES (BELOW)

