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INDIGENOUS PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT IN MINDORO ISLAND (PH) - BAKERY SHOP CONSTRUCTION

Project summary

Our project aims at building a **bakery** and provide the necessary professional equipment needed. Along with the construction activities, we will also provide **trainings** aimed at the poorest community of Mindoro Island - the Mangyan, which is a marginalized indigenous community – in order to become empowered and part of the wider community. This will enable them to be economically stable while providing food security to malnourished children.

Context

The Mangyan indigenous population is extremely poor, living in a situation of social exclusion, which today has worsened due to the global pandemic. Therefore, the members of this community, especially women, hardly possess professional skills and in most cases they do not find a stable job within their village. During the global pandemic, our organization has engaged in the distribution of food for the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Kito Odv has been operating in the country since 2014 and is aware of the economic and social barriers that the indigenous people have to face. The **bakery** will thus ensure regular salary and better living conditions to all families involved (3,600 inhabitants) as well as a safe and sustainable source of food.

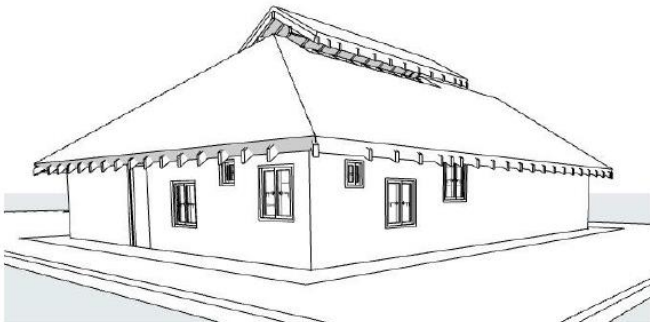
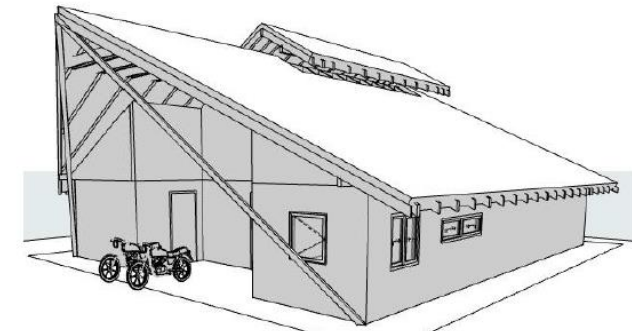


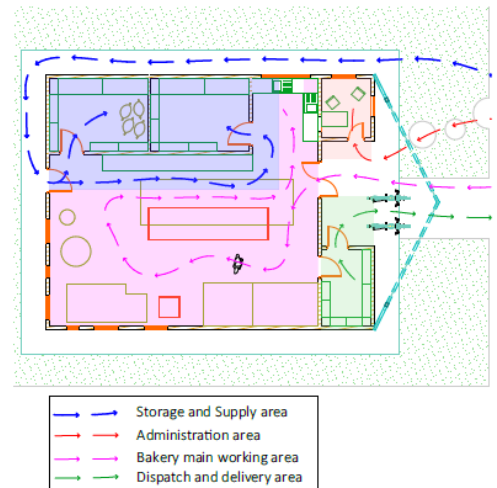
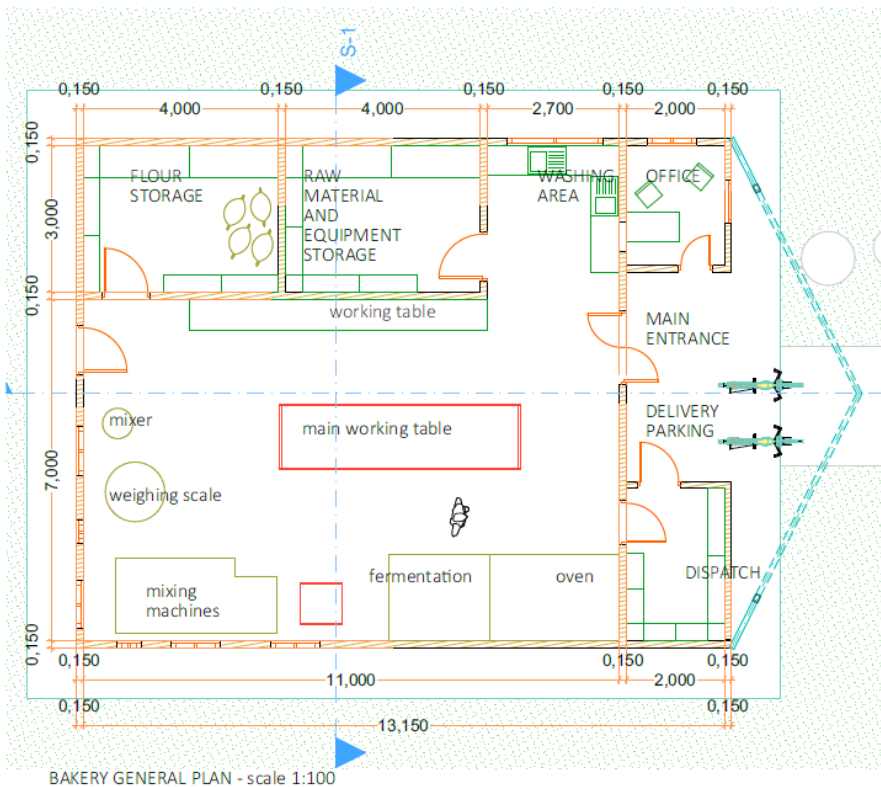
Project description

Why a bakery?

Baking is a fundamental trade, which is universally recognized and has the potential to be implemented everywhere. The foundation of this project is to foster a **work culture** and **encourage** individual responsibility while **fostering** teamwork and **providing** food security.

The project consists in the construction of a building using local and natural materials such as bamboo and local wood that will resist frequent typhoons and earthquakes. Kito Odv has always given top importance to the architectural sustainability of the projects in the long run and the added value that local crafts will provide. Moreover, we make sure that our projects are not only affecting the local population in a passive way. On the contrary, all of our projects are carried out in a participatory and active way by the community, providing local workers an extra source of income.





BAKERY MAIN WORKING FLUXES SCHEME - scale 1:200

Objectives

1. The **main objective** is the creation of a micro-enterprise that actively involves the indigenous Mangyan inhabitants, improving their living conditions and promoting equality and integration within the community. We forecast an increase of 30% in the monthly income of those families whose member is employed in the bakery.
2. Moreover, we **aim** at professionally enriching members of the Mangyan community employed in the bakery and expanding their knowledge in order for them to become trainers able to independently design and implement classes for new members of the community.
3. Ultimately, the **final goal** is to contribute significantly to the economic independence of the local community, opening new opportunities even outside the indigenous population.



Beneficiaries

The **direct** beneficiaries of the project are 20 people who will be working on a rotation basis and 200 people who will participate every year to professional trainings.

The **indirect** beneficiaries are their families, around 1,100 people, and the whole Mangyan community of 3,600 inhabitants in Puerto Galera.

Partners

Our projects have always been the result of an accurate field work and attentive choice of collaboration with our partners in order to provide the most efficient result for the beneficiaries. Hence, this project will be launched in partnership with **Amami Social Project Beach Resort**, which has been committed to hiring members of the indigenous community since 2014 to decrease their marginalization from the wider community. The employees of the Beach Resort's restaurant will provide professional trainings in order to allow even beginners to learn the techniques of baking.

Other partners that will contribute to an effective realization of the project are **Liter of Light** and **Filipino Women's Association**. Liter of Light is a global grassroots movement that uses inexpensive material to provide high quality solar lightening in those areas where there is limited access to electricity. Filipino Women's Association is instead based in Padua, Italy, and its focus is to promote the social and cultural heritage of Filipino women and kids in Italy. Their collaboration will be key in the implementation of the logistics of the events thanks to its network with key stakeholders and volunteers who will provide extra support to the project.

