

Written by Earth Institute Asia Press Office  
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Filipino women’s participation in nation-building has been significant. But their contribution to the national economy has not been as significant because most of them hold lower-paying jobs than those of men. Thus, more women leave the country for better livelihood opportunities. More than 70% of Overseas Filipino Workers in recent years are women. But many of them, even with college degrees, end up as housemaids, often with no benefits and protection.

Mobilizing women for economic development while ensuring their individual personal and professional growth is a big challenge that some women leaders and women organizations are working on. For example, EARTH Institute Asia has a program that mobilizes women to help build the pillars of sustainable development (or 5K – Kababaihan Para sa Katauhan, Kalahatan, Kalikasan at Kaunlaran – Para sa Likas Kayang Pagunlad) while providing them enhanced livelihood opportunities. Supported by The Sister Fund of New York, the program now covers several local communities that EARTH helps, with focus first on improving local emergency preparedness while enhancing the income potential, especially of women, with the help of EARTH Trustee Julius Labrador’s newly patented solar dryer-oven.

Hear more about other initiatives for and with women--tune in/watch Kalikasan, Kaunlaran! (KK!) on March 31, 2010, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., DZRH-AM radio (666 in Metro Manila, other kHz nationwide), TV (Ch. 9 in Metro Manila, other cable TV channels nationwide), and Internet <http://dzh.rh.prepys.com> or (<http://dzh.rh.tripod.com>).

Guests are: Ambassador Delia Domingo-Albert, Outstanding Diplomat Awardee 2010, former

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Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and Member, International Planning Committee of the Global Summit of Women 2010 on May 20-22, 2010, in Beijing, China; Dr. Edna Azurin, educator and president of the Association of Administrators, Professionals, and Seniors (AAPS); Ms. Jhet van Ruyven, best-selling author (The Tale of Juliet) and People Asia Awardee who is visiting from Canada.

Join the Quiz, contests, campaigns and projects of EARTH and KK! To join all, register at 2299: earth<space>your message.

EARTH Institute Asia and DZRH co-produce KK!, with the support of Unilever, Unilab, Air21, Toby's Sports, Le Cellier French Wine Selection, Yehey.Com, Management Association of the Philippines (MAP), and Brahma Kumaris, and with the cooperation of various organizations—GREEN Army, PFST, TOWNS, PBE, AIJC, MAP AgriBusiness & Countryside Development Foundation, PEIA, DENR, MabuhayRadio.com, and other groups and individuals.

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