



Welcome to the August 2010 Newsletter of IIRR

Thank you for being a part of the IIRR community. We strive to keep you informed of the great work happening in the field, the exciting new programs we are developing with partners worldwide, and the current challenges in rural reconstruction and international development.

Please send us your feedback so we can keep this newsletter relevant to your concerns.

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1. Bill Kizorek of Two Parrot Productions doing a sound check outside of a school in Ethiopia, 2. one of the students, 3. Carly Kizorek listening to the translator. All pictures by Two Parrot Productions, www.twoparrot.com

Schools for Pastoralists Featured in an Upcoming Film

IIRR was the lucky recipient of a grant from [Two Parrot Productions](#), an international video production company. The resulting documentary-style video was filmed earlier this month in Ethiopia. The filmmakers, Bill and Carly Kizorek along with IIRR staff traveled for more than 26 long, bumpy, hours on rural roads to visit the schools that IIRR supports through its Pastoralist Education Program. The Two Parrot Productions team will return to the US with the footage to be edited later this month and has featured their work with us in a [blog post on Charity Navigator](#). We are very excited about the film and expect it to be ready for release by November. In the meantime, we have some fabulous pictures that they took during their trip. (See the pictures above and below) We will be sharing more with you on our website in the coming weeks.



Herder by day, schoolgirl by night

Photo by Two Parrot Productions, www.twoparrot.com

Advising new Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management in South Sudan

IIRR Program Coordinator, Sirak Abebe and President Isaac Bekalo recently advised at a policy development meeting in Juba, South Sudan for the newly formed Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management. What an honor! The Ministry staff were familiar with our work through past trainings and we were invited to the meeting after Sirak met with them and gave a very successful presentation on IIRR and our capacity and experience.

As you may know, South Sudan is IIRR's newest country office. We are planning to roll out several of our popular and effective community development programs and are currently seeking funding partners to support our work there.



[More on our work in South Sudan](#)

Register Now for Upcoming Courses

September

Local Governance for Rural Development - KENYA

Strengthening Community-Managed Health Systems - PHILIPPINES

October

Facilitating Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction - UGANDA

December

Community-Based Watershed Management - PHILIPPINES

[Link to IIRR's Courses Page](#)



Community Dialogue, the Cornerstone of
Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction

IIRR, Kenya trains Ford Foundation Program Officers and Grantees

In Nairobi this month, IIRR, Kenya staff led a Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop for the Ford Foundation. In all, 50 Ford Foundation grantees and all of the local Ford Foundation Program Officers attended the 4 day workshop. It was the first time the Ford Foundation participated in a Monitoring & Evaluation training and the regional representatives assured us that they will now promote the work of IIRR with their other regions and plan to hold this training annually in Africa.



[More on IIRR's Monitoring and Evaluation trainings](#)

Bio-Intensive Gardening Brings Students to Our Garden



Students from Sisters of Mercy, Boys town School Visited IIRR's Garden to Learn about Vermiculture, Organic Pesticide Creation, and the Latest in Bio-Intensive Gardening. Pictures by IIRR, Philippines

As part of our work with the Sisters of Mary, Boystown school, IIRR recently hosted a Bio-Intensive Gardening Field Trip for students. The group toured the Bio-Intensive Garden and the Yen Center grounds and observed first-hand some key Bio-Intensive Gardening activities- composting, organic fertilizing (using madre de cacao leaves), bio-pesticide formulation (using hot peppers), and active vermiculture. The students also collected madre de cacao and calliandra cuttings for use on their newly expanded farm plots.

[More on our Bio-Intensive Gardening program](#)

The Yen Center is Busy

IIRR's conference facility, The Yen Center, had a very busy July hosting nine different groups ranging from the Loma Linda University Integrated Community Development course to a team- building event for San Technology Inc, and even a family gathering.

The Yen Center, located just 39 kilometers from the bustle of Manila, is a lush, quiet campus with meeting halls, private accommodations, catering services, and many recreational options like hiking, swimming, and exploring the Yen Museum, touring the gardens, and visiting the agro-forestry experimental site. There is also a business center with 24-7 internet connectivity.



IIRR encourages groups in need of a unique meeting space to consider the Philippines.

[More on the Yen Center](#)

THANK YOU for your support and involvement with IIRR.

If you would like to do more with IIRR or have feedback for us, please visit our [Get Involved Page](#) or email us at [US.Office \(at\) IIRR \(dot\) org](mailto:US.Office@IIRR.org)

We look forward to hearing from you!