



### Dear Friends,

Our first letter of 2022 and so much news to share! As we jump into Spring, PhilDev finds itself in the middle of several programs - some new and some recurring and longstanding.

In January, PhilDev launched two new entrepreneurship projects in partnership with the Philippine Department of Trade & Industry (DTI): IDEA and ADVANCE. Both projects aim to support startups with IDEA bringing on 20 early stage startups and ADVANCE providing custom guidance to 6 mature startups. Please read below to learn more about the programs and the participating startups.

To add to that, last month PhilDev kicked off 2 mentorship programs! We are excited to announce the inaugural KAPWA Mentorship Program in partnership with the Filipino Googler Network. The ultimate goal of the program is to create pathways for Filipino college students and professionals to enter careers in tech. Learn more about the program we've created to make this possible.

We also started year two of the MULAT Mentorship program in partnership with Intel for our Philippine based scholars. In almost





doubling our participating scholars to 68, we are truly grateful to Intel mentors who raised their hand and are volunteering their time to work with the PhilDev scholars. PhilDev believes that mentorship is key to the development of our future leaders and we are committed to offering programs that enable their success.

Lastly, we are finally planning in-person events again and our annual gala is set for October 2022 and golf tournament following in November 2022. Furthermore, PhilDev is lining up more Innovation Challenges, the Jumpstart program, and digital online classes available on the Xepto Education platform! All events will offer online access when appropriate so that everyone can participate. So, make sure to follow our social media and subscribe to our newsletter as we are planning many more activities and events for the summer and second half of the year.

As we all excitedly return to in-office work, social engagements and summer travel, please continue to stay healthy and safe.

### **Cheers,** Angelina "Jonesy" Castro

# What's Next?

Be part of our upcoming events and activities!

#### **United States**

- PhilDev Annual Gala Waterfront Huntington Resort OCTOBER 2022
- PhilDev Golf Tournament Blackhawk Country Club, Danville NOVEMBER 2022

#### Philippines

- Project Del Carmen Fundraiser APRIL 21, 2022
- ADVanCE Demo Day JUNE 08, 2022
- IDEA Demo Day JUNE 15, 2022



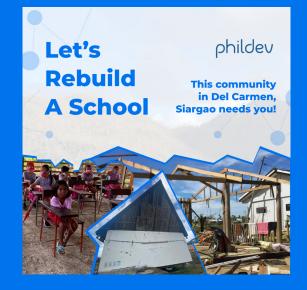
We have officially launched the **PhilDev Rebuilding Fund** on 21 April 2022 dedicated to annually raising USD 50,000 for our natural disaster rebuilding efforts to help Filipinos after natural calamities.

For this year's rebuilding efforts, we are focusing on our Post-Typhoon Odette Rebuilding Efforts through **Project Del Carmen**. We partnered with Espoir School of Life to help them rebuild their school not only to allow their students to continue learning but also to protect them and their community during calamities.

## PhilDev Rebuilding Fund

## Donate now through our BDO account:

Acct. Name: Philippine S&T Development Foundation-Manila Inc. Peso Account: 002860208441 Dollar Account: 102860195315





Filipino Googler Network



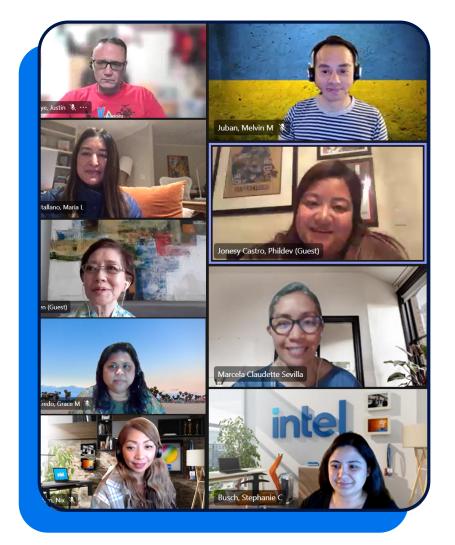
## PhilDev teams up with Google for Kapwa Mentorship Program

With the aim of creating pathways for Filipino college students and young professionals to enter careers in tech, PhilDev and the Filipino Googler Network (FGN) jointly launched the Kapwa Mentorship Program last April 01, 2022.

The Kapwa Mentorship Program offers a 6-month support to students to guide and provide them insights on tech internships and job opportunities.

FGN is PhilDev's long-time partner in providing support to the global Filipino community. With Kapwa, or kindred as translated in English, it calls us to act for the common good and support our community.

In the sentiment of our mentors, "this is a program that we as Filipinos entering the workforce wish we had available to us. To have examples and allies that we could reach out to or aspire to would have made a world of difference."





## PhilDev, Intel relaunch MULAT Mentorship Program for scholars

With the success of the pilot implementation in 2021, PhilDev and Intel, through the Intel Filipino Employee Network (IFEN), relaunches the MULAT Mentorship program to support PhilDev's STEM scholars.

In the next six months, volunteer employees of Intel across the globe will mentor a total of 69 scholars, double the number from the previous year's implementation. The MULAT mentorship program is part of PhilDev's support to scholars to motivate and inspire them to do better in school.

## PhilDev onboards new STEM scholars

We are proud to welcome the **40 new STEM** students joining the PhilDev Scholarship family! We are excited to be part of your academic and professional journey. Here are the list of universities with new scholars:

- Batangas State University
- Central Luzon State University
- Mindanao State University Illigan Institute of Technology
- University of the Philippines Diliman
- University of the Philippines Los Banos
- University of San Carlos
- University of Santo Tomas
- Xavier University Ateneo de Cagayan









## Breaking gender barriers in STEM with RJ Bool

Reaner Jacqueline Bool is one of our very own scholars at PhilDev Foundation, and garnered one of the top prizes during the World Engineering Day Hackathon by UNESCO along with her group Team WONDERPETS!

The all-girl Filipino group developed a solution to reduce water pollution by using metal-organic framework from PET bottles to perform water remediation. Through their innovation, they were able to address the global plastic pollution problem.

WATCH: Girl in Science with RJ Bool







# Innovation

## Kids Who Farm enables 'hyperlocal' access to capital through savings clubs

Kids Who Farm continues to organize more community savings clubs through their Hyperlokal Kapital project to mobilize savings into accessible capital.

In a recent Instagram post, Kids Who Farm successfully organized a savings club with the women members of the Mampang Fisherfolk and Seaweed Growers Association (MAFISGA) in Zamboanga City to help them sustain their livelihood as seaweed farmers.

Kids Who Farm's Hyperlokal Kapital is a winning social innovation during the Financial Literacy Innovation Challenge where they received a PHP 100,000 grant for their project implementation. Since winning the challenge, the social enterprise has organized a total of 14 community savings clubs with an aggregate savings of PHP 1,000,000.

## UST students spearhead financial literacy project in Laur, Nueva Ecija

Team Salazars, one of the winners during the Financial Literacy Innovation Challenge, is launching FILEx -Financial Inclusion and Literacy Express in Laur, Nueva Ecija on April 24, 2022.

The team's social innovation aims to raise awareness about financial literacy and bring financial services closer to underserved communities. FILEx's first phase is a webinar on financial literacy which will help their target community become familiar with financial literacy concepts. Although the webinar is for their partner community, the event will also be streamed live via Facebook.

In May 2021, the Team Salazars received a PHP 20,000 grant through the innovation challenge to support their project implementation efforts.





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# Entrepreneurship

## DTI, PhilDev announce 26 tech startups joining 'IDEA' and 'ADVanCE'

In February, PhilDev in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) onboarded 26 Filipino tech startups in the Incubation, Development, and Entrepreneurial Assistance (IDEA) and Accelerating Development, Valuation, and Corporate Entrepreneurship (ADVanCE) programs.

IDEA and ADVanCE are DTI's first incubator and accelerator programs to support the growing startup

ecosystem in the Philippines. The programs aim to provide customized support to Filipino startups to become market and investment-ready.

Get to know the IDEA cohort and ADVanCE cohort:

#### Meet the IDEA Startups

Meet the ADVANCE Startups



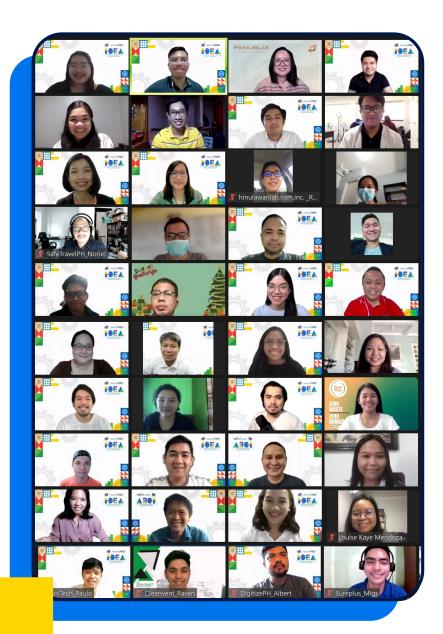
## 8 Steps to Create a Strong Foundation for Your Startup (with tools!)

The IDEA cohort recently participated in a 3-day bootcamp to strengthen their business foundations, organizational capacities, and help them develop guiding documents to increase their market-readiness.

PhilDev brought together speakers from the startup community to share their expertise and experiences in building companies, managing government compliance, marketing, and measuring startup performance.

Read the key takeaways from the cohort

**Read More** 





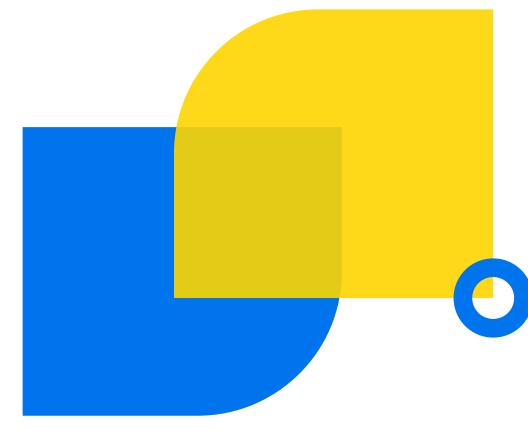
## PhilDev, DTI bring together PH startup ecosystem in networking session

We had a jam packed networking session last 21 April 2022 with the ADVanCE cohort where we brought together startups, investors, incubators, and other entrepreneur supporting organizations from all over the Philippines!

During the event, we also had a panel discussion with key stakeholders from the ecosystem as we talked about the golden age for Filipino startups and how we can further grow the ecosystem in the coming years.

## Watch Reel





# Partnerships

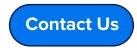
## **Digest**<sup>®</sup>

## Partner Feature: Making legal services accessible to startups with Digest PH

Digest PH is a startup on a mission to make access to legal help in the Philippines as "easy as ordering food online". Launched in 2019, Digest PH has built a robust marketplace where clients and lawyers can connect. In addition to this, they have also consolidated legal resources to support law students in their studies.

Digest PH is our official partner in providing legal support services to the IDEA Incubator and ADVanCE Accelerator cohorts. Through this partnership, we are able to provide our cohorts with one-on-one legal consultations, needsbased legal learning sessions, and contract generation services tailored for startups.

Interested in becoming a partner? Contact us!





Team

### Meet the PhilDev Team: Angelina "Jonesy" Castro

"I've always wanted to work for a company where I really feel like I'm making an impact."

She's written letters for you every quarter for this newsletter. Yes, it's Jonesy Castro, PhilDev US' Executive Director.

In our brief chat with her, she candidly shares how her career led her to PhilDev and what it's like to be an Executive Director managing the team from 8,000 miles away.





## Embrace the spirit of giving by making a gift to PhilDev

We rely on donors like you to ensure our operations continue to support scholars, entrepreneurs and friends in the upcoming new year.

When you make a gift to PhilDev, **you make a difference for our Filipino community.** Your generosity will boost our efforts to empower Filipinos to succeed through our initiatives in STEM education, innovation and entrepreneurship. Gifts of all sizes allow us to engage with students through scholarships & mentorships and connect with community through leadership opportunities, startup challenges & learning sessions and virtual events.

#### **GIVE TODAY**

## Be an enabler of Filipino success!

Other ways you can support PhilDev:



## Thank you for starting a Facebook fundraiser!

- Jessicar Cabaya
- Mel Hulleza Sabidalas
- Riyuzaki Nebuer Umalla
- AJ Araneta





# Resources

## Must-know Stories & Updates

Here are helpful resources to keep you updated about the latest happenings around the pandemic, the economy, tech, and Filipinos all over the world!

#### **COVID-19** Response

 Explainer: Omicron 'stealth' COVID variant BA.2 now dominant globally

The pandemic is far from over. Read about the dominating COVID variant globally.

#### Economy

Philippine Venture Capital Report 2022

The Philippine startup ecosystem is on the rise. How is it going to look like for 2022?

#### Growing optimism for Philippine property in 2022

Is the Philippine property market bouncing back? Colliers Philippines predicts it will.

#### Technology

The Esquire Trailblazers List: 70+ Most Influential People in the Philippine Startup Scene

Esquire unveils the list of most influential people in the Philippine startup ecosystem.

#### **Global Filipinos**

Pinoy Pride: Filipino-Americans Take Over Grammys 2022—Olivia Rodrigo, H.E.R., and More

Filipino-American artists won big at the 64th Annual Grammy Awards.

#### **Mental Health**

Space Care is Self-care: Interview with Ally Canita of 'Align Your Home'

How can we make our homes safe spaces for our mental health?



# In the Community

Get involved! Check out these upcoming activities and events in the startup community.

#### Philippines

## BusinessWorld Virtual Economic Forum 2022 MAY 25-26, 2022

BusinessWorld is bringing together leaders and experts in varous fields to discuss how the pandemic is affecting the world, our lessons learned, and how we can all thrive together in the "new world".

## Inclusive Innovation Conference 2022 MAY 25-26, 2022

With the theme "Leadership in Innovation: Key to Sustained Competitiveness and Economic Growth", the Department of Trade and Industry is set to hold IIC 2022 at Batangas State University.

Joining the conference are our partner startups under the IDEA & ADVANCE programs.

