

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG

Our work in the Philippines



**FRIEDRICH
EBERT** 
STIFTUNG
Philippines






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Friedrich Ebert

(1871-1925)

Friedrich Ebert served from 1919 to 1925 as the first President of the Weimar Republic. He advocated the development of parliamentary democracy, viewed himself as the president of all Germans, and was committed to a politics geared to social balance and compromise. In his will, he specified that the proceeds from donations at his funeral should be used to create a foundation. The main concern of FES from then on was to work against discrimination of workers in the area of education.



Scan here to learn more about
Friedrich Ebert's life

Photo: © Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung



About Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany with a rich tradition dating back to its foundation in 1925. The foundation owes its formation and its mission to the political legacy of its namesake Friedrich Ebert, the first democratically elected German President. Today, it remains loyal to the legacy of its namesake and campaigns for the core ideas and values of social democracy: freedom, justice and solidarity. It has a close connection to social democracy and free trade unions.

Values are at the core of everything we do and stand for. Social Democracy and the trade union movement stand united in the pursuit of freedom, justice, solidarity and the preservation of peace.

We keep our finger on the pulse of the major trends of our times and are always endeavouring to inject fresh ideas to advance Social Democracy now and in the future. Harnessing innovative solutions, we address today's challenges in a quest to build a just and fair society steeped in solidarity for the future – in Germany, Europe and worldwide.

We fight against parochialism and inequality, and work for social progress that strengthens workers' rights and safeguards and ensures decent work. We are committed to a socially just economy that serves people, preserves our natural resources, and in which each and every member of society benefits from the digital transformation.

We stand for a strong, vibrant and diverse democracy in which the participation of all people is a given. We shall defend our democracy with all our might.

We are committed to gender justice – in every aspect of life. Because only democracy that establishes real equality between the sexes is true Social Democracy.

A just future can only be achieved together. We can attain our goals through a strong and social Europe, global solidarity and policies that promote peace. This is our aim and objective.



Photo: The FES headquarters in
Bonn and Berlin, © FES

Our Mission in the Philippines



We connect people and their ideas to form a network of Social Democracy. We work with more than 40 partners on forward-looking projects at the local and national level – on topics furthering social democracy such as the future of

work, geopolitics, social-ecological transformation, labor migration and trade unions, gender justice, and a just energy transition.

WE EMPOWER PEOPLE FOR POLITICS

We endeavour, promote and work for a society based on solidarity that truly offers equal opportunities for all members of society to participate in politics, economic life and culture. To this end, we empower, inform and train each and every individual who ascribes to these goals.

One such programme is the Academy of Political Management (APM) training future leaders of progressive organizations, and serving as a dialogue platform for young progressive leaders.

[Learn more on page 5](#)

WE ARE THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY BAROMETER FOR FUTURE TRENDS

We analyse political trends from a progressive perspective and seek to bring about a future society founded on solidarity with sound arguments. We share our knowledge and innovative ideas with all those who want to make a contribution.

Our newest regional project – Navigating the New Geopolitics of Asia and Global Order of Tomorrow – looks at current geopolitical realities and policy challenges the Philippines is facing, emerging trends and the potential impact on the country's future, and a strategy for the future – an international, outward-looking Philippines.



Scan here to learn more about our discussion on Philippines geopolitics

WE SUPPORT TALENTED AND COMMITTED YOUNG PEOPLE

Because Social Democracy can only thrive if all people, regardless of their social and cultural background, have the same opportunities, we support students and doctoral candidates, especially those from working-class and immigrant families. We provide free training programmes like (1) our Youth for Just Transition Network's community rollouts, teaching communities about just transition, and (2) our Renewable Energy Bootcamp (REBOOT), combining technical training with community immersion to provide participants with direct, solution-oriented learning.

[Learn more on page 9-10](#)

WE GET THINGS ROLLING

We want to inspire others with our values and services. Each and every day anew. That's why the FES Philippines team is made up of bright minds and committed individuals who perform their activities in an agile manner, with appreciation for one another and a clear focus on our mission. We view criticism and mistakes as an opportunity to review our actions and generate new ideas for our work as a team.



Scan here to learn more about
our work in the Philippines



We support young leaders: Academy of Political Management (APM)

APM is a leadership training course for young individuals and second-line leaders of progressive organizations who plan to pursue social and political development work and political management positions. The course is composed of 5 cluster sessions (Personal Development Skills, Political Communication Skills, Basic Economic Literacy, Political Theories, and Project Management Tools and Skills), consisting of 3-day modules,

spread over a calendar year.

A programme fully supported and managed by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Philippine Office - APM is now on its ninth cycle. 2022 sees the APM alumni network forming Balai APM and working to pursue the continuation of the APM alumni's education and network building.



“ APM is an empowering platform for young leaders from diverse backgrounds. Coming from an indigenous peoples community and as a cultural worker myself, APM allowed me to create common ground with other young people — a safe space to stay together, share moments together, and dare to create a future we can all agree on. ”



Raydan Masangkay Tangwayan,
APM Alumni Batch 8



We promote dialogue: The Operational Law Course (OPLAW)

Operational Law Course (OPLAW): The Legal Dimensions of Military Operations is a 5-day seminar designed to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal aspects of conducting military operations among officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and NGO representatives. The course aims to familiarize participants with the theoretical bases, legal aspects, and international practice of the Rules of Engagement, International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Human Rights (HR) as applied in International and Non-International Armed Conflict.

Designed for active military personnel, the course presents a variety of discussions applicable to contemporary security operations and takes participants through realistic but fictional crisis scenarios to facilitate an exchange that will help military planners, operators, and practitioners meet the legal challenges inherent to their conduct of operations.

Since 2013, this programme has been done in partnership with the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) and the AFP.



“ It is important to understand the operational law applicable to contemporary security operations in order to act in compliance with the law. NDCP and all others involved must be in a position to train and implement the said issues independently from others in order to ensure that the national interests of the Republic of the Philippines can be pursued effectively and in accordance with the applicable international legal framework. ”



Prof. Dr. Wolff Heintschel Von Heinegg,
Europa-Universität Viadrina

We empower LGUs: The LeadGov Hub

The link between good governance and people's participation is inextricable. Therefore, the openness of a government to citizens' participation, and the capacity for the citizens to participate in local governance, are essential in addressing social inequalities. By institutionalizing people's participation as a central thrust in governance, governments recognize the role of ordinary citizens in nation-building.

FES Philippines, in partnership with the Institute of Politics and Governance and College of St Benilde School of Diplomacy and Governance, developed Leadership in Governance Learning and Collaboration Hub or LeadGov Hub as a knowledge production

platform, intended to capacitate create a network of reform-oriented local leaders, civil society members, academe, and local governance experts—highlighting the importance of innovation, gender-responsiveness, transparency, and accountability. In 2021, The LeadGov Hub officially launched the leadgovhub.ph – a learning management system (LMS) that allows local government officials and members of community-based organizations online access to the three (3) training courses: Community-based Mental Health Program; Survivor-Centered and Community-based Response to Gender-based Violence; and, Accountable Local Fiscal Management.



We strengthen youth participation: Model SK

Sangguniang Kabataan (SK), a feature unique to Philippine bureaucracy, provides young people (ages 15 to 24) the chance to directly participate in local governance. In 2018, the Model Sangguniang Kabataan (Model SK) was created with the Center for Youth Advocacy and Networking (CYAN) to maximize the newly reformed SK and ensure that the 2016 SK Reform Law leads to progressive political engagement of the youth in their communities. It also promotes progressive, transparent, accountable and efficient leadership among the elected SK leaders.

In 2021, the Model SK programme launched the Model SK Online Academy—a learning platform that trains SK Councils on financial and organizational management. For the general youth to know about the SK and their roles, an open-access Barangay Interactive Map <https://map.modelsk.org/> was developed. This includes 14 pit stops with video explainers, each covering various details of how SKs operate and opportunities for the youth to engage in (e.g. What is SK, how to be a member, accreditation steps, roles of youth, how an SK works with the barangay, etc.)



MODEL SK MAP



Scan here to learn more about
the interactive Model SK Map

We fight climate change: Youth for Just Transition Network (Y4JT)

A social-ecological transformation that promotes low-emission, resource-efficient and socially inclusive economies is one of the goals of FES work in the field of climate and energy in the Philippines. As a social democratic foundation, we are particularly committed to ensuring that the social question is given due consideration in the context of transformation.

The Youth for Just Transition Network. was formed to bring together youth from partner organizations and lay down a path towards transitioning towards a sustainable future without leaving anyone behind. The network consists of youth organizations coming from different sectors such as students,

young professionals, young trade unionists, queer advocates, youth organizers, and climate advocates.

Some of the major projects launched by the network have been the Y4JT Online Youth Camp and the Just Transition Caravan - a series of rollouts where young advocates visit communities around the country to raise awareness on climate justice and just transition, while gathering local stories of how technology, climate, and labor spaces are changing community and work dynamics. The network has also developed a Youth Agenda detailing the youth's participation in just transitions happening in their respective sectors.



“ While the horrors of climate change are already happening, we are seeing a huge demand for climate-just solutions from young people like us in the Philippines. Our task is challenging, but I remain hopeful that we can forward and mainstream just transition in the country. ”



Cheng Pagulayan,
Advocacy Officer at Oxfam
Philippines



We develop ideas: REBOOT Seminar and the RE Congress

Renewable Energy Bootcamp (REBOOT)

Reports clearly show that failing to achieve a just energy transition will lead to a climate catastrophe. This transition in the Philippine context comes with its own set of challenges. Business models, technologies, or policies that work in other countries might not work here. Transitioning haphazardly could bring about serious consequences to social and economic systems.

FES Philippines developed the Renewable Energy Bootcamp (REBOOT) - a 10-month training programme for young and proactive Renewable Energy (RE) Ambassadors who seek to lead the just energy transition movement in the country through decentralized, democratic, and fully-renewable systems.

REBOOT's rigorous programme is comprised of training clusters, community immersions, and online sprints that combine technical skills training with community interaction. This ensures that the final local energy transition project will address identified community needs, and integrate the community in both the design and implementation process.



In opening message emphasizing the clear role of RE in pandemics, disasters, the ecological crisis, and dynamic geopolitics:

“While dozens of solutions in going green are available and doable, the burning of fossil fuels is the culprit that must come to halt. The role of RE as an alternative system has never been clearer”



Dr. Johannes Kadura,
Former Resident Representative
of FES Philippines



RE Congress and Exhibit

Another renewable energy project is the RE Congress and Exhibit, a partnership with the Center of for Empowerment, Innovation, and Training on Renewable Energy. The Renewable Energy Congress is an annual conference that brings together renewable energy advocates, developers, producers, researchers, experts, students, and end-users or “prosumers” with the goal of exploring and reimagining an energy future attained through a transition that is just and democratic.

The RE Exhibit is an event open to the public that seeks to showcase the different products, services, and advocacies of RE players.

This event provides a valuable space for networking among RE advocates and sets the stage for further cooperation among civil society organizations, financial institutions and LGUs, working together to work towards an integrated sustainable development agenda.

“It is our future that is at stake. We are the ones who will bear the consequences brought upon the decisions our leaders make and the actions we take as a society today. The current pandemic has helped shed light on humanity's capacity to act and work together to face a global threat. It has also highlighted our need to secure a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive future. The same should be applied to the threat of climate change.”



Jasper Aaron M. Mallonga,
Mechanical Engineer from
REBOOT Batch 1





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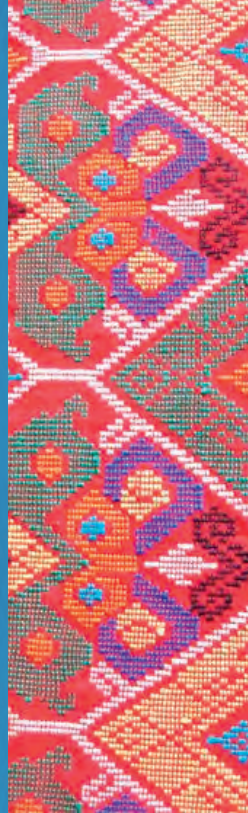
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about FES PH



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