VOTER EDUCATION
TRAINING MODULE

Prepared by the
Institute for Popular Democracy
Training Department
for the
Community Electoral Literacy
and Awareness Program

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Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement
Popular Education for People’s Empowerment
VOTER EDUCATION CONTEXT

The forthcoming elections is an important political crossroads for Filipino communities. The elections provide an opportunity for Filipinos to choose the leaders and programs that can best address the problems they face.

Unfortunately, Philippine electoral politics are not as simple as this. Real opportunities for change are squandered in the face of electoral fraud. The politics of patronage dominates rather than a politics of issues and programs. The spectre of electoral violence looms as the military reports the proliferation of loose firearms in the hands of various politicians.

Elections are essential to democracy and development. But meaningful elections can only be realized if an environment conducive to clean, free, and honest elections can be ensured.

Such an effort is premised on a well educated citizenry vigilantly assertive of their right to a free, clean, and meaningful electoral exercise in 1992.

In order to realize this objective, the Community Electoral Literacy and Awareness Program (CELAP), a consortium of various non-government organizations, organized the Voter Education Training Course (VET). Through the VET, Celap hopes to effectively respond to the Commission on Elections' call for a clean and free elections through a voter education/communication campaign.
OBJECTIVES

1) To prepare participants for the 1992 elections;

2) To help participants understand various components of the electoral process towards guarding against electoral fraud;

3) To help participants recognize the important role played by people's movements in elections and the significance of this role in governance, development, and nation-building;

4) To complement efforts in building a movement for clean and meaningful elections in 1992.
TRAINING FLOW

The Voter Education Module is one of the most important components of the Community Electoral Literacy and Awareness Program. Concretely, the VOTER EDUCATION consists of the following:

1) INTRODUCTION

2) MODULE 1: CONTEXT: The societal situation in 1992

3) MODULE 2: “It’s ELECTION TIME again!”

4) MODULE 3: OUR STAKES for 1992

5) MODULE 4: PLANNING and EVALUATION

TOTAL: 300 minutes or 5 hours

SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAINORS

The training course has a duration of more or less 5 hours. However, this can be extended (one and a half day) or shortened depending on the specific needs and objectives of the training participants.

Ideally, the course works best with 40 participants, facilitated by 2 trainors.

The course serves as a guide. The training sequence, methods, and contents of some modules can be changed depending on the specific needs and context of the participants. The authors of the module suggest that the course be related to the actual experiences of the participants during elections. In fact, the course works best when such factors as cultural and political nuances are integrated into the course.