Dearest Friends in the Philippines

We always care From Japan



SANA YUN BABALIK MAHINAHON AT PAYAPA PARA SA PHILIPPINES SOONER.

FROM MACCHAN

Believe in our bright future and good luck to all of us!

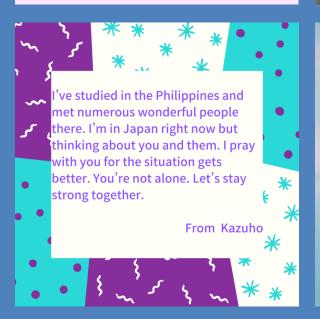
We are developing upcycling products that use Philippine products.

I hope this project will help people of your country.

We take a small step from Nagoya Japan for change.

Keep smile!!

FROM MIWA GOTO



In Philippines, the infection of COVID-19 is expanding and the government is forcing people not to go out. I'm worried this situation makes you tired. I continue to support you through ACCESS. Please take care of COVID-19 and I hope things return to normal as soon as possible.







I know you only through the website and some documents issued by Access Japan. I bought some fairtrade goods of ACCESS and sent it to my friend, then he/she was glad to receive it. In this sense, I have some link with you.

In this hard situation of COVID-19, although we also have many problems here in Japan, because of the fear of infection and severe lockdown, with economical poverty, I guess you're suffering in Philippines more than us in Japan. I want to send some words to cheer you up, but cannot find good words.

One of the famous Japanese authors Haruki Murakami said like this on the radio the other day;

The metaphor "The fight against COVID-19 is like a war" is wrong, I think. This is not the war to kill each other but the war of wisdom to protect lives of each other."

Perhaps you cannot find what you can do now facing COVID-19 crisis. However, I think you've been practicing "the war of wisdom to protect lives of each other" even before COVID-19 problem. What I want to say is that you are the ones who already have the experiences to solve the problems little by little with thinking hard and sharing knowledge. And I believe it will work even in this kind of situation with COVID-19. However the priority is to keep your health. Please take care of yourself well to recover your damaged heart by stress, to use your big energy to for good way, and to maximize your wisdom and power to take action for changes.



From Ryo Oishi



Hi, I can't much help you and meet you directly due to Covid-19 but I send this short message. With hope, we survive together. We hope to be alive strongly. If you feel sad these days, I believe COVID-19 will be over. Don't forget we're not alone, believe ourselves.

From Tomoyo Yoshida

Thank you for making wonderful hand-made cards by abaca papers. There are always heartwarming. Your cards are very appreciated by our customers in Tokyo! Staffs in our stores love your products, too. I know how stressful and inconvenient your life is now due to quarantine policy for a long period. I hope everyone will soon return back to your normal lives and will be able to live with a smile again. I pray for you from Japan.

From Ide (fairtrade shop vote for in Tokyo)

Though the situation is very severe globally, as long as we are alive, we have every chance. Chance to feel happy, laugh together, share feelings with someone, realize dreams, enhance our spirits, increase our experiences, fall in love with someone, deepen our love, help other people and love ourselves more.

Nothing happens coincidentally. Every occasion has its meanings and lessons, though we may not know them yet. I want to live counting our blessings. God bless you.

From Nakayama Miho

I am Ms. Akiko Mushika, the owner of fairtrade shop 'Huzu' in Nagoya city, Japan. We are selling fairtrade products of Mapayapa and Pangarap such as dishes, accessories made by coco shells and hand-made cards by abaca papers in our store. While most of products available in Japan are made by machines in the factories, those products from the Philippines are simply good as hand-made. Its natural beauty makes us comforted.

The other day, one of our customers shared us a comment like this. 'I can feel warmness when I touch this coco bowl.' I appreciate that you always deliver us great fairtrade products.

Now, COVID-19 is rampant all over the world, and I myself feel worried and anxious about unclear future. I came to know that you are under strict quarantine in the Philippines now and it makes you feel so much stressful not only by the fear of being infected, but also by the limitation of your freedom. My heart is aching when I think of your hardship. Please bear, and survive from this situation.

I believe Fairtrade is 'to change the society.'

Let us believe that 'everything happens for the better and I would like to try to overcome this hardship together with you.

I also do my best to overcome this difficult situation with the hope of visiting you in the Philippines soon. Praying for the end of COVID-19 crisis will come soon, and study tours would start again!

From AIKIKO MUSIKA

CHEERS TO A GREAT 2020

At my shop, "flamant", we sell hand-made cards by abaca papers. Especially Christmas cards are very popular and salable, and we look forward to receiving them every year

The cards you make are full of warmness.

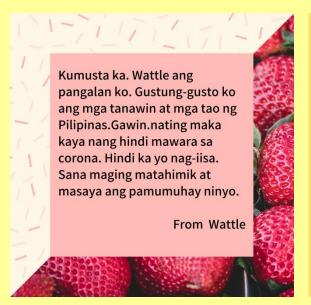
Just looking at it expands the imagination of the story and makes me feel fun.

It seems that every card is full of love for many people.

I think that love is spreading to both those who give and those who receive.

While thinking of their loved one, customers are excited about the choice of card. Often they can't decide which one to choose because all the cards are so nice.

From Junko from 'flamant,' a shop selling Pangarap cards



Dear all staffs of ACCES

In such a hard situation damaged by Covid-19 now, I got to know your great efforts to support the daily life of local people every day despite of such a severe situation that really hard to overcome. By knowing your effort, I made my mind to send a message for the control of the control of

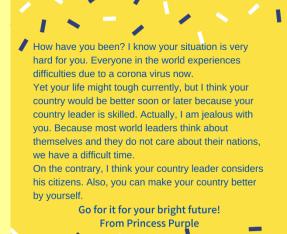
When I participated ACCESS study tour and visited Philippines 6 years ago, your dedicating work inspired me to ask myself what I can do. And also I was encouraged to start something or take action for change.

Now I'm a volunteer staff of translation of documents like Status Report and Thank you cards from scholars to supporters. I translate the letters from scholars one by one praying that may the scholars be happy in the future.

I can only do small things, on the other hand, I believe that we can make a big power if we take hands. Thank you very much that you try hard in the Philippines. I hope your daily life will improve in this difficult situation. May all of you keep healthy.

From Takako







We can beat COVID19. Let's have a hope in our mind. Let's imagine what we want to do as much as possible after COVID19.

From Hamaoka

Dear ACCE staffs,

Good day po, how have you been?
First of all, I want to appreciate so much for your everyday hard work for our program of ACCESS and also to send concern for physical and mental health of you and your family.

I want to show the voices from customers and business partners of our fairtrade goods and the faces who are joining the volunteer work for our fairtrade program.

Here are a lot of gifts and letters we received from supporter to their scholars in our office. After this COVID-19 situation started, around 200 people donated for us to continue our project in Philippines and Japan.

Even though you are in this kind of severe situation, you're still trying to continue thinking the people in Philippines and looking for what you can do there.

I think our supporters, volunteers, and business partners also see your big efforts for people there, and I've leaned a lot from you in this COVID-19 situation and was encouraged by you very much.

I do hope we can meet each other not through the Internet but face to face in Philippines and talk more and more about what we can do for people and for our future in Philippines and in Japan,

Thank you very much all the time.
Please do take great care of yourself first, your family and your friends.

Best regards,

Aya, a staff of fairtrade division, ACCESS Japan

Dearest my Filipino friends,

When I was too tired to face difficulties caused by COVID-19, it was YOU who gave me energy to go on.

Your hard work and never tiring attitude was the biggest encouragement for me through email or messenger talk.

I know you sometimes felt down, irritated, or lost motivation under strict quarantine which you don't know when it would be over.

But you always stand up and work for others.

I am very much proud of having friends like you who never stop trying to solve the problems of society. Let us keep working together even though we are not allowed to meet each other for the mean time.

Sayo