

In partnership with Ayala Land Inc., Ayala Property Management Corporation, Ayala Center Association, Makati Commercial Estate Association, and other institutions, AFI promoted greater public awareness of environmental concerns and introduced innovative strategies that encourage public involvement in managing solid waste. As part of its campaign to educate the public on ecological solid-waste management, AFI conducted 32 waste-management seminars in the Ayala malls and Ayala properties, as well as in AFI's partner communities in Taguig City. AFI also kept its focus on working with the buildings in the MCBD. Out of 372 buildings in the district, 319 are now managing their solid waste. As a result, approximately 1.8 million kilograms of recyclable waste—worth an estimated P11 million—was recovered from the MCBD and Ayala properties. To further communicate the importance of caring for the environment, AFI coordinated with recyclers for the Ayala Recyclables Fair (formerly called Waste Market). These fairs were held in different Ayala venues, and provided a convenient way for the proper disposal of their recyclable waste materials and even the chance to earn money on the side. In past years, these fairs were usually held only in universities expressed interest in holding special fairs were held at the University of the Philippines Manila, De La Salle University, and Ateneo de Manila University. The fairs had a total of 1,725 participants worth P1 million and collected 118 kilos of recyclable materials support in high school theirrecyclables week. As a result, a total of 11 tons of recyclables, worth P51,800, from July to December. Since 2001 when the program started, 24,000 tons of waste (worth an estimated P113 million) has been recycled, saving about 12,000 cubic meters of landfill space. Despite the challenges of implementing the solid-waste-management program because of the fall in prices of recyclables, AFI continued to tap the strength of its partnerships to sustain the project. In 2008, AFI invested in building relationships with local governments to promote environmental awareness, and to gain public support in protecting our natural environment. As environmental issues go beyond solid waste, AFI has also begun developing a program that will focus on other critical areas of environmental protection. Building on the platform of its solid-waste-management program, AFI is expanding its environmental initiative to include clean air, clean water, and energy-efficiency programs. AFI brought together 73 young student leaders from all over the country for the 2008 Ayala Young Leaders Congress. The AYLC is an annual three-day summit of some of the most promising student leaders in the country. Over 400 alumni attended AYLC's 10th-anniversary grand reunion, which brought together participants from previous congresses. The reunion showcased various initiatives of AYLC alumni, and included workshop sessions and a talk by Pampanga governor Ed Panlilio. The program's youth-leadership-development unit, with the help of AYLC alumni, also organized activities such as the I Am Ninoy Congress, the AYLC Leadership Forum, and the AYLA-CESB Intergenerational Leaders Dialogue. Partners for these events included the Benigno S. Aquino Foundation and the Kaya Natin Movement, among others. In 2008, the Resource and Fund Generation Project for Disaster Management of Ayala Young Leaders' Alliance (AYLA) carried out three relief operations in Eastern Samar, Iloilo and Aklan, and North Cotabato, offering assistance to families affected by natural disasters. A total of P1,088,348 in donations was gathered to support these efforts. The AYLC Secretariat, AYLA Iloilo Chapter, and AYLC Region XII chapter led these operations, which benefited over 5,599 families. For the 2009 congress, students from 251 schools nationwide were invited through school caravans, which yielded 524 applications. From a pool of 141 short-listed nominees interviewed by Ayala executives, 75 participants to the 2009 AYLC were selected. Through the Gearing Up Internet Literacy and Access for Students (GILAS) consortium, AFI advanced its goal of providing the youth with access to innovative educational tools by connecting an additional 448 public high schools or around 224,000 students in the country to the Internet. As program manager and secretariat of GILAS, AFI seeks to connect the more than 6,300 public high schools in the Philippines to the World Wide Web. A total of 2,102 public high schools or around 2,000,000 students in the Philippines are now linked to the



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