

Grameen Gazette #19

Grameen Gazette, the Newsletter from **Grameen Australia** – the organisation empowering people to change their lives through the implementation of innovative Microfinance and Social Business Projects.

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 **Donate Now**

Grameen Australia joins the Team at ratio station Triple H FM to talk about poverty eradication

Grameen Australia's Michelle Sawyer joined Triple H FM announcers Violi Calvert and Bob Alipalo to raise awareness of Grameen Australia's work to eradicate poverty in Manila.



Grameen Australia's Social Business Hub is supporting families forced to live in the slums of Manila to escape poverty through the development of businesses to secure their income. Grameen Australia's Hub provides education, mentoring, and microfinance - tools essential to ensure its borrowers are able to develop robust and sustainable businesses.



Michelle outlined the history and impact of Grameen Australia's Hub:

- To date the Hub has 70 groups in 19 Centres with a total of 450 members.
- 446 loans have been released totalling nearly \$100,000, with 100% repayment rates.

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By the end of 2015 1,000 borrowers will have received loans and 5,000 will be released by the end of 2017 ensuring 5,000 families will have escaped poverty permanently.

Michelle thanked Bob and members of the Filipino expatriate community of Northern Sydney for their ongoing support of its Hub, through donations to its Silanganan Centre. These donations have helped fund 50 loans to 34 members totalling \$8,500 with a number of members on their second loans.



Michelle concluded, that the Manila Social Business Hub is only a year old but is already proving that the urban poverty stricken communities where it works have the power to climb out of poverty themselves, they just need support to make it happen. Grameen Australia hopes that Bob's community and many others continue to support its work to ensure many more lives can be changed permanently.