

**DELGOSEA
lauds city officials
BY CHRYSSEE SAMILLANO**

The Partnership for Democratic Local Governance in Southeast Asia (DELGOSEA) lauded Bacolod Mayor Evelio Leonardia, citing his “strong commitment and brilliant leadership” in making Bacolod a better nurturer for the youth through the construction of the Bacolod Youth Home.

DELGOSEA project manager Susan Stephan said she thinks Bacolod is on the right track for investing in the youth sector, while not discounting support and commitment from the people, the public and the private sectors.

DELGOSEA has supported 16 cities from Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and the Philippines.

“The main indicator for selection is past merit in local governance projects. With that alone, it was not difficult to decide to have Bacolod on board,” Stephan also said.

In her letter of appreciation and congratulations, Stephan also praised Councilors Em Ang and Caesar Distrito, the Technical Working Group and the citizens of Bacolod for the initiatives and efforts in making the Youth Home project possible.

DELGOSEA is currently holding its final conference in Bangkok, Thailand, where delegates from pilot cities, best practice cities, and project teams from Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Philippines will discuss the impact of good local governance projects in these countries.

Leonardia, Ang and Distrito are expected to report on the outcome of the project replication of the PPPP model of Cambodia that Bacolod is adapting.

Assisting in the marketplace presentations are members of the TWG: Gilda Lluisma, Sally Abelarde, Loben Ceballos and Gloria Arguelles.*CGS