## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **TEACH FOR THE PHILIPPINES LAUNCHES 2013 COHORT**

Fifty-four young leaders to leave their mark

MANILA, PHILIPPINES, April 2013 – Training begins for the first *Teach for the Philippines* cohort with 54 young leaders eager to leave their mark on their students and country. These individuals, called Fellows, will be spending the next two years teaching in ten high-need public schools in Quezon City, under the progressive leadership of its principals. In partnership with the Department of Education, the Quezon City local government, and corporations such as HSBC and UBS Optimus, *Teach for the Philippines* began its mission to expand educational opportunity in the country in September 2012 and is now just a month away from deploying its pioneer cohort of Fellows.

Co-founded by Margarita L. Delgado, Elizabeth E. Zobel and Clarissa L. Delgado, *Teach for the Philippines* is an official partner of the prestigious global education network *Teach For All*, a global network of social enterprises working to expand educational opportunity in their nations by enlisting their most promising future leaders in the effort. Their most prominent program partners include *Teach for America* and *Teach First* in the United Kingdom. Currently, Malaysia and the Philippines are the only two ASEAN countries in the network; North Asian and South Asian partner countries include China, Japan, and India.

The 2013 Cohort will be trained through an intensive program, called Summer Institute, from April 3 to June 1. In partnership with Ateneo de Manila University, Summer Institute will provide the Fellows with nine units towards a Master's Degree in Basic Education. They will be trained following the Teaching as Leadership framework, a set of principles created by *Teach for America*, through their study of successful, highly effective teachers in low-income communities. Sessions include topics on lesson planning, classroom management, literacy, and subject content among others. The Fellows will also receive practicum or practice teaching during Summer Institute to provide them with concrete feedback on their teaching skills. According to Evan Chen, Director for Training and Support, "Summer Institute was designed with the input of local teachers, trainers, and thought partners". He adds that it is designed as the last step of selection to ensure that the Fellows are properly equipped to teach in our country's public schools. During their two-year commitment, the Fellows will also be supported by *Teach for the Philippines* through regular visits to enhance their positive impact in the classrooms.

Upon completion of the program, the organization's Alumni Pathways helps Fellows find career paths that allow them to maximize their continued impact on education reform, whether inside or outside the classroom. Teach for the Philippines hopes that through the experience of leading public school students and working with teachers and principals, the Fellows gain and develop skills that are transferrable and applicable in any career path they choose after the program. If the experience throughout the Teach For All network applies, many Fellows can be expected to stay in education while others continue to make an impact as leaders in the public and private sector.

Ultimately, Teach for the Philippines is an organization dedicated to harnessing the leadership potential of our youth so that they can leave their mark on themselves, the communities they work in, and our nation.

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