

VISION

The Department is the primary catalyst for excellence in local governance that nurtures self-reliant, progressive, orderly, safe and globally-competitive communities sustained by God-centered and empowered citizenry.

MISSION

The Department shall promote peace and order, ensure public safety and strengthen capability of local government units through active people participation and a professionalized corps of civil servants.



Mayor Amante Sworn in as new RPOC Chair before SILG Robredo

Butuan City - Mayor Ferdinand M. Amante, Jr., took his Oath of Office as the newly-installed Regional Peace and Order Council Chairman of Caraga Region under the PNOY Administration before Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary and Chairman of the National Peace and Order Council, Hon. Jesse M. Robredo, during the Oath Taking Ceremony and RPOC 13 First Regular Meeting recently in Almont Hotel's Inland Resort, this city.

Secretary Robredo graced the occasion and observed the first RPOC meeting for 2012 having a Regional Chairperson.

In his acceptance speech, Mayor Amante said that the problem of insurgency will always be there when there is poverty.

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New DILG XIII Regional Director Assumes Post

Former DILG XIII Assistant Regional Director (ARD) Lilibeth A. Famacion now assumes the post of being the OIC - Regional Director during the Turnover Program on March 20, 2012 as outgoing Regional Director Atty. Rene K. Burdeos is transferred to DILG Region X.

The assumption of Director Famacion is based on Department Order No. 2012-199 dated March 13, 2012 which is to take effect immediately.

Outgoing Director Burdeos, in his message, thanked the management and personnel of DILG XIII for their support during his five-year stint in this region. He acknowledged the hard work of everyone in the office that made Caraga a nationwide consistent frontrunner in program implementation of this department.

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Editor's Notes

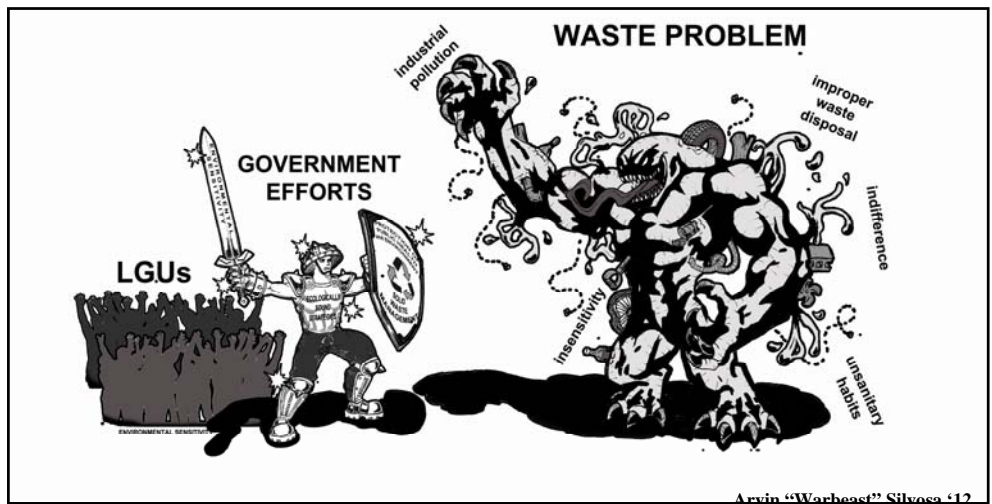
Mary Christine Anthonette M. Salise

The saying, "Your foolishness will go home to your body" is closely synonymous with - "Your trash or garbage will surely come back to you."

We, Filipinos believe in that saying especially in time of calamities simply because we fail to manage our wastes. Consequently, our garbage or trash clog our drainage and canals, causing flood to our locality.

The Birth of Republic Act 9003, otherwise known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000" makes it a policy of the State to adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program. Part of its mandate is to ensure the protection of the public health and environment, utilize environmentally - sound methods that maximize the utilization of valuable resources, encourage resource conservation and recovery, set guidelines and targets for solid waste avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization measures, including composting and recycling. It also creates a responsibility for local government units to encourage greater private sector participation in solid waste management.

The law insistently demands from the LGU to instill the importance of solving one of the foremost and mounting problem in any part of the globe—the waste problem. This problem is not only hazardous to human health but also the cause of depletion to our lands. In our country, solid waste management is a serious matter



and a multimillion—peso concern, thus, it needs to be given priority.

This poses a great challenge for LGUs to propose innovations or strategies in making solid waste management part of the system of their respective constituents. As to how it should be done and how to make it sustainable is bloody (figuratively, that is) but it's worth everything and it will even save not only properties but lives.

The process like recycling to manage or reduce wastes should be instilled not only in the minds of every Filipino but it should also be imprinted in his/her behavior as well. Once the process becomes a way of life, managing wastes and reducing it will not be taken as a responsibility anymore but it becomes a habit.

Wastes will continue to exist as long as humans do, perhaps even much longer as most scientists and environmentalists cry out. It is easier said than done but it has to start from us. Everyone can do his/her part in preserving the chastity of Mother Nature. It is just a matter of managing it well with a pound of initiative from our local government units (LGUs), if not to eliminate it but to minimize it.

New DILG XIII Regional Director...

From page 1



Director Famacion delivers her message of acceptance.

Outgoing RD Burdeos turns his post to new OIC-RD Famacion.

Director Famacion, in turn acknowledged the important role of Atty. Burdeos in her career path during her acceptance speech.

She warmly expressed her gratitude for the motivation of the outgoing Regional Director Burdeos and his support way back when they were still in DILG Region VII. She also solicited the cooperation of all employees emphasizing that teamwork will still be the key for the office to perform at par or even better than other regional offices of the department.

Further, she said that everyone should contribute and play their part in achieving the DILG mandate.



DILG XIII conducts Business Planning Workshop for LGUs



The Department of the Interior and Local Government Regional Office XIII in partnership with the Local Government Academy and Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo conducts a Business Planning Workshop on January 18-19, 2012 in Almont Hotel's Inland Resort, this city.

Fifteen LGUs attended the said training, to wit: the City/Municipal Economic Enterprises

Development Officers, City/Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators, City/Municipal Accountants, Sangguniang Panlungsod Chairpersons of the Committee on Trade and Commerce and City / Municipal Local Government Operations Officers.

DILG Regional Director- Atty. Rene K. Burdeos said that the workshop aims to assist the local government units' economic enterprises

through the significant inputs to be given by speakers which will help bridge gaps relative to the management and development of their respective entrepreneurial activities.

He also said that the workshop will stress the importance and purpose of business plan and will be an eye opener for LGUs to identify new business opportunities which will best suit them. Mr. Lowell C. Brillante-Economic Enterprise Manager of Tagum City will share the City's Best Practice on LGU Economic Enterprise Practices to inspire LGUs of Caraga Region in improving their respective economic enterprise.

At the end of the workshop, the participants are expected to craft and present action plans for the development of their economic activities.

Caraga LGUs full blast with DRRM/CCA for 2012



Twenty five (25) local government units in Region XIII have formulated a draft of their Disaster Risk Reduction and Management/Climate Change Adaption (DRRM/CCA) Plan for 2012 during the DRRM/CCA Planning Workshop on January 11-12, 2012 sponsored by the Department of the Interior and Local Government, in partnership with Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo and the Local Government Academy under the Strengthening Local Governments of the Philippines (SLGP) Project in Almont Hotel's Inland Resort, this City.

The activity, which was attended by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officers, Municipal Planning and Development Coordinators, Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officers, Municipal Engineers and Municipal Local Government Operations Officers, is designed to build the capacities of the members of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (LDRRMCs) in the formulation of DRRM/CCA Plans.

In her opening remarks, DILG Assistant Regional Director Lilibeth A. Famacion encouraged the LGUs to strengthen their LDRRMCs to mitigate if not prevent destruction to life, limb and property brought by disasters due to climate change. She further said that disasters are inevitable and will eventually hit any place so the best that LGUs could do is to respond and adapt to the vast changing of climate to mitigate its destructive effects.

"We don't want a repeat of what happened to our neighbors Cagayan de Oro and

Iligan Cities. You must be prepared at all times to fight back disasters like Sendong which can be likened to an unseen enemy, a thief in the night which strikes when least expected. Be prepared because it's not Batman or Superman who can help us, but only us who must be prepared at all times," she said.

During the workshop, the participants were briefed on the salient features of RA 10121 known as "The Phil. DRRM Act of 2010 and NDRRM Framework," Geo-Hazard Mapping, RA 9729 known as "Climate Change Act of 2009," and the Government's Plans and Programs for DRRM/CCA. The participants were also able to assess the vulnerability and capacity of their respective LGUs in DRRM/CCA which will gauge the latter's success/performance in strengthening the DRRM/CCA.

This makes a total of forty eight (48) LGUs that were trained on DRRM/CCA. The rest of the LGUs, twenty five (25) of them, were trained by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).

Mayor Amante Sworn in as new RPOC Chair...

From page 1

According to him, when there is no development there will always be insurgency.

He also added that peace is not the absence of war/anger but the presence of cooperative/collaborative efforts from among us to attain it.

"I will accept the challenge in attaining lasting peace and we will work together, reason together as a committee in addressing these concerns," he said.

After the Oath Taking, the First Regular RPOC 13 Meeting presided over by RPOC Chairperson, Mayor Ferdinand M. Amante, Jr., transpired.

SILG Robredo gave his keynote speech during the meeting and said that the Region is identified as one having rich natural resources and high poverty incidence at the same time.

He also said that those resources usually become the roots of abuses by local officials and the people.

"Ang susi sa katahimikan ay maibsan ang kahirapan ng mamayan," said Robredo.

"Sugpuon ang kahirapan, palakas ang pamahalaan o ang otoridad na namamahala dito," he also added.

Robredo challenged the Peace and Order Council Committee to use all the legal means that are possible to attain peace and order in Caraga Region.

During the meeting, updates on the Peace and Order Situation were given by the representatives of the Philippine Army, Philippine National Police, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, Mindanao Development Authority (MinDa) and Payapa at Masaganang Pamanayan (PAMANA) to apprise the Honorable Secretary and the members of the Council of the developments in their quest of attaining lasting peace in Region XIII.

Feature Stories

TOURISTS SURGE IN HINATUAN'S

Enchanted River

The Enchanted River in Hinatuan continues to entice tourists with its most striking natural and mystique beauty. The truly enchanting river as it is named, is found at Barangay Talisay of Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur. Its mystical blue water is abundant with different variety of fishes. No wonder, more and more people come to get a glimpse of the worth-seeing scenery.

Unlike any tourist destination or any hot spot in the country, the Enchanted River magnifies the image of tranquility suitable for tourist who needs a peaceful and relaxing destination for their vacation. This is the reason why the Enchanted River is known for being a secret paradise hidden somewhere in the province of Surigao del Sur.

Despite the economic doldrums, tourist arrivals increased and its constant rise can be attributed to the river's captivating water and panorama. In fact, the local government continuously supports the developments around the Enchanted River's premises. As of the year 2011, tourist arrivals totaled 137,955 with a significant income of P2,857,338.36.

While the peak of the summer getaway is happening, tourists are expected to surge in the Enchanted River. The Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), an attached agency of the Department of Tourism (DOT) has provided adequate funding to fully develop the Enchanted River. Aside from that, it is dedicated to keep the spot attractive, responsive and at par to the needs of the visitors. The development of the Enchanted River, if already in place, is projected to push the municipality's tourism industry, making the Enchanted River as the municipality's premiere tourist attraction.

The Enchanted River Development Plan is now being crafted as a guideline for the priority projects, specifically in the establishment and construction of infrastructures and establishments. The crafting of the master plan will enable the Enchanted River to cater more visitors which, will flourish their tourism industry and at the same time attract more investors in the municipality and the province as well. Consequently,

this will pave the way for generating greater income, more livelihood and opportunities for the Hinatuans.

The local officials of Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur headed by Mayor Candelario J. Viola, Jr., placed tourism on top of their agenda for development. The Department of the Interior and Local Government sees to it that tourism in the Municipality of Hinatuan will benefit the LGU itself as well as the community in general.

Hinatuan Mayor Viola, Jr. is firm in his commitment that tourism will be the bridge for creating revenue for the municipality including the creation of jobs.

"Tourism is definitely big business on the local front and the government remains intense on developing Enchanted River and other tourist attractions of the municipality without sacrificing their biggest unique asset—natural beauty," Mayor Viola disclosed.

The Enchanted River Management is headed by the Manager, Engr. Josephine C. Lapeciros, and the Chairman of Hinatuan Tourism Council, Engr. Jose Hilario V. Pandili, Jr. who have always been at the frontline of tourism activities.



ATTY. CANDELARIO J. VIOLA, JR.

-A Profile

By: Arleigh Bautista



His name as a local chief executive rings a bell. He steered his Municipality to various heights in the different fields of governance. His accomplishments as Municipal Mayor are exemplary, numerous and still counting. He is Atty. Candelario J. Viola, Jr. of Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur.

With the present stature of Mayor Viola, no one would have thought that he had serious learning struggles during his youth. He finished primary school in eight long years simply because he could not read. Fortunately, in the 8th year of his primary school, a young teacher named

Feliciana Bague motivated and patiently taught him the rudiments of reading. With so much inspiration from the teacher, he became resourceful enough to buy self-study books and English reading materials which honed his once poor command in English to respectability. He read voraciously until he could easily develop topics even in short notice. This made him realize that he has the intelligence to cope with studies. Mayor Viola recalls the Teacher as heaven-sent, as she prevented him from giving-up his quest for learning. The rest is history.

After passing the Bar Exams and short stints as Deputy Clerk of Court in the Court of 1st Instance, Ministry of Justice (1975-77) and as Technical Assistant with the Batasang Pambansa (1978-80), he went back to his beloved Hinatuan to become Municipal Mayor under the Martial Law regime of then President Ferdinand E. Marcos from 1980 to 1986. When Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino took over as President, Mayor Viola was not spared from the mass

Congratulations !

New DILG XIII Personnel Compliment

replacement of political leaders with “OICs”. Out of the political scene, he took the opportunity to practice law again by being Legal Consultant of the defunct Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines in nearby Bislig, until he was tapped as Provincial Administrator to support newly elected Surigao del Sur Provincial Governor Salvacion Castillo-Cejoco from 1988 to 1990. After which, he became Public Attorney-I at the Province’s Public Attorney’s Office and later became Municipal Circuit Judge of the MCTC – CAR-CANMADCARLAN from 1991 to 1992.

Mayor Viola’s love for Hinatuan and its people streamed in his system, hence, he again vied for the Mayoralty race in 1992 and his easy win jump-started him to three terms as Hinatuan Mayor (1992-95, 1995-98 and 1998-2001). His legend as a local leader and environmentalist started soaring with landmark accomplishments and citations for Hinatuan. Aside from elevating living conditions in the Municipality through infra-structures and economic development, Mayor Viola steered the Municipality to top finishes in health and environment related derbies such as the “1995 Cleanest River in Surigao del Sur”; “1996 Best Performing Local Health Board”; “1998 Cleanest and Greenest Municipality in Surigao del Sur”; and “1999 Regional Sentrong Sigla Movement” which brought Hinatuan to being national level nominee, among others.

Mayor Viola used foresight, creativeness and love for environment in the effective implementation of RA 9003, otherwise known as The Philippine Ecological Management Act of 2000, through the adoption of Hinatuan’s Ecological Solid Waste Management Program (ESWMP). His sheer political will rallied the people to religiously implement the mechanics of the ESWMP until it became soundly sustainable and a simple way of life. It was then no accident that Hinatuan ran away as Grand National Champion of the “Zero Basura Olympics and Garbology Marathon” jointly sponsored by the DILG and DENR. Hinatuan became a favorite Lakbay Aral destination for other LGUs and agencies who aspire to emulate its systems and procedures; while Mayor Viola became a virtual living legend as selfless motivator and resource person on the features of Hinatuan’s Ecological Solid Waste Management Program. This did not escape unnoticed by the Office of Senator Loren Legarda who lauded in a press release Mayor Viola’s waste management feat.

Another big swing made by the Mayor is the development of the Enchanted River. He walked to and fro until this gem of nature became a favorite tourist destination in the region – walked further to eventually turn the place into an economic enterprise to significantly augment Hinatuan’s financial resource, aside from affording livelihood to local residents. He also brain-worked the creation of the “Serbisyo Ipaabot sa Baranggay Program” or SIBP intended to extend municipal office services to all Barangays. This manifests his intention to serve and give due attention to his constituents up to the hinterlands.

He became an exemplar in institutionalizing important aspects of leadership and public service particularly in addressing environmental issues, poverty alleviation, health and safety, skills and development and you name it. He is now observed to be the favorite “go-to” person and helpline in the region for the promotion of RA 9003 and the implementation of Spanish Government – assisted projects and activities. He helped Hinatuan District Hospital to become the best performing hospital in the province. On top of it, Hinatuan now has a sound Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management ready for any eventuality.

Butuan City

CD Romeo A. Solis	City Director
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Agusan del Norte

PD Romeo A. Solis	Provincial Director
LG00 VI Annabell O. Cadigal	Outcome Manager
LG00 VI Ellen Vee P. Chua	Program Manager

Agusan del Sur

PD Arleen Ann R. Sanchez	Provincial Director
LG00 VI Elva Theresa D. Velmonte	Outcome Manager
LG00 V Shiela D. Jaramillo	Program Manager

Surigao del Norte

PD Domingo E. Bulabog	Provincial Director
LG00 VI Lydia S. Bajan	Outcome Manager
LG00 VI Marceliano Ali C. Tabacon III	Program Manager

Surigao del Sur

PD Pedrito P. Alacaba	Provincial Director
LG00 VI Joseph G. Porgatorio	Outcome Manager
LG00 VI Ma. Lourdes C. Martinez	Program Manager

Newly Promoted Personnel

Marilou R. Autor	LG00 II	LG00 V
Emmylou P. Burias	LG00 IV	LG00 V
Belle c. Decena	LG00 II	LG00 V
Maricel G. Dumanglas	LG00 II	LG00 V
Merrill B. Espinido	LG00 II	LG00 V
Sheila H. Gesta	LG00 II	LG00 V
Shiela D. Jaramillo	Planning Officer III	LG00 V
Renelou F. Jaranilla	LG00 IV	LG00 V
Jacky A. Mellorin	Clerk II	LG00 II
Joemar S. Salmoro	Clerk II	LG00 II
Baltazar G. Camporedondo	Clerk II	Acctg. Clerk III

Newly Hired Personnel

Ma. Rosario M. Ambray	LG00 II - SDN
Ferdy Benigno R. Avila	LG00 II - ADS
Hazel Anne C. Baluca	LG00 II - ADS
Florian Faith Jr. P. Bayawa	LG00 II - R.O.
Gretchen N. Dumanjog	LG00 II - SDN
Bryan F. Edulzura	LG00 II - R.O.
Redgy V. Panilan	LG00 II - SDS
Michelle V. Calo	LG00 II - ADN
Catherine Eve L Cagang	Acctg. Clerk III - R.O.
Margie D. Montero	Clerk II - ADN

A Taste of Water is a Taste of Life . . .

By: LG00 II Florian Faith Jr. P. Bayawa



Sibagat, Agusandel Sur - *"It was not an easy life."* This was the famous, yet desperate line of the residents in Brgy. San Vicente and Brgy. Ilihan in the Municipality of Sibagat, Agusandel Sur. The reason behind their bitter condition was the lack of access to water. This was the face of a waterless community. A face of poverty.

The answer to this very unfortunate situation was addressed with the construction of Level II Water Supply System through a grant of the Poner y Prosperidad de la Comunidad (PYPC) under the auspices of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

However, their glorious days did not last long. Access to water was just short-lived. The San Vicente-Ilihan Water System Association (SIWASA) organized for the management and operation of the water supply system lacked the know-how in maintaining the project. The SIWASA, like any other association formed, found it difficult to mobilize in itself and sustain the water system facility. This was even worsened by the fact that the community did not cooperate in maintaining the project.

"Naa na tanay tap stand duol sa among balay, ang nakalisud lang kay dili permanente ang agas sa tubig. Kinahanglan pa ko mag sag-ob sa atabay duol sa sapa nga usahay maoy hinungdan nga atakihon ko sa akong asthma," said Metyang. *"Labad pa gayud ning uban mogamit kay dili mamayad sa among buwanan nga bay-ranan. Pero mao lagi pud kay kinsa may ganahan mobayad nga dili man maayu ang serbisyo"* added Charlita, another beneficiary of the water facility.

With this depressed situation, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) through the Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDGF 1919) with its banner: "Enhancing access to and provision of water services with the active participation of the poor" responded to the situation.

Through MDGF 1919, the department provided support to community-based initiatives to enhance the delivery of water and to ensure its sustainability through locally capacitating the local government units in the municipal and barangay level, water service providers and the barangay water association concerned in the management and operation of the water facility. This included the Sibagat - Ilihan Water System Association (SIWASA).

The DILG trained the officers of SIWASA in order to improve their water service delivery to the beneficiaries. The SIWASA officers were introduced to the local customer service code so that they will provide quality water service to the target beneficiaries with an assured continuous supply. They were taught on administrative bookkeeping, production efficiency, service level and most of all on how to sustain the water facility. Part of DILG's intervention was the empowerment of women, children, youth, and other groups to actively participate in capacity building activities.

"Naa ra man di-ay ni! Kani rajud di-ay kulang namo tanan. Kinahanglan gayud namo ang kapasidad ug kahibalo un-saon pagkupo ani nga proyekto," Ricardo Butao said, the incumbent chairman of SIWASA.

The DILG intervention showed positive results. On the operation side, the monthly collection was efficiently managed by the association and the proceeds were kept in a bank deposit as a source of fund for the project's operation and maintenance. To ensure compliance according to government standards, the SIWASA has been doing a periodic water treatment – chlorination, which is done on a



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Anti-Poverty Projects of DILG





SAN JOSE FISH PORT: HARBORING DINAGAT'S ECONOMIC LIFELINE

by: LGOO II Bryan F. Edulzura

SAN JOSE, Province of Dinagat. For the people of San Jose, Province of Dinagat Islands, the construction of the fish port is a realization of their dreams and aspirations to improve their status of living. For the first time since the founding of the municipality of San Jose, the fishermen and businessmen alike now take advantage of a concrete and permanent fish port to harbor boats and market bounties in the hope of selling and buying at a competitive cost.

"Sa nilabay na mga katu-igan, ang fish port hinimo gikan lang sa kahoy nga dali ra mahugno ug mabungkag sa paghapak sa hanging habagat.", Nestor, a middleman laments. *"Kung kini mahitabo, mas mahal ang among angkat sa isda tungod sa dugang galastuhanan. Wala kami mahimo kun dili among ipasa sa kunsumidor ang gasto pinaagi sa pagdugang sa presyo sa among baligya nga isda sa merkado"*. Teresa, a fish vendor also expressed her delight with the construction of the port because it gave her an opportunity to buy wholesale fish at a lower cost and sold at retail for a profit. *"Ang kwarta nga akong gigahin alang sa pag-kaon, sinina ug eskwela sa akong mga bata gikan sa akong kita sa pagsuroy ug isda"*, she said.



Fishing is a major industry not only in San Jose but all of the Province of Dinagat. Construction of the fish port in San Jose, aside from being strategic, also facilitates other economic activities such as fish selling and ice vending. Above all, it stabilizes the price of fish in the market that can be accessed even by the poor members of the community. It also saves the government from spending funds for the perennial repair of the wooden fish port.

The total Fish Port Facility Project cost was P 2 million, half of which was funded under the Performance Challenge Fund (PCF) of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG). The said amount was part of the P 51 million PCF released to the different LGUs within Caraga Region. According to Dir. Lilibeth A. Famacion of DILG Caraga, the PCF can only be accessed by the LGU who is conferred with the Seal of Good Housekeeping.

"An LGU can only become a Seal of Good Housekeeping recipient if it has no adverse or disclaimer COA opinion and has complied with the Full Disclosure Policy. In brief, an LGU with Seal of Good Housekeeping promotes good governance, accountability and transparency. PCF grant will inspire the LGUs to perform better and achieve more", she added.

With a population of around 28,000, the Municipality of San Jose relies on the Internal Revenue Allotment to defray government operations cost. Any source of income to augment IRA is very much welcome. For this reason, the Local Government Unit of San Jose invested P1 million as counterpart for the construction of the facility. The fish port does not only improve the services to the fishing industry but it aids in improving LGU performance on local revenue generation. It can be noted that based on the Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMMS) 2010 result, the LGU had 8.93% locally sourced income, way below the average of 4th class municipalities of 15.10%.

The San Jose fish port is one of the testaments that the government is serious in its efforts to combat poverty. The facility was constructed not for the reason of flaunting a tangible infrastructure project for people to see but primarily because of the people's needs. It also contributes in generating more economic activity. In totality, the fishery sector is not the only beneficiary of said development but vendors, sari-sari stall owners, habal-habal drivers, the ordinary people and the government. In the same manner, the funding of the projects which is anchored in Seal of Good Housekeeping is an affirmation of P-NOY's *"Tungo sa Daang Matuwid"* Campaign and DILG's battlecry of *"Tapat na Palakad, Bayang Maunlad"*.

LG00 II Personnel undergo training

Six Local Government Operations Officer (LG00) II personnel from DILG Region XIII-Caraga went to Cagayan de Oro City in order to undergo the Component II training on Local Government Operation from March 23 to May 14, 2012. The trainees are the following:

LG00 II Ernie Y. Gultiano – Surigao del Sur
 LG00 II Marichelle O. Gultiano – Surigao del Sur
 LG00 II Jason Ryan R. Lam – Agusan del Sur
 LG00 II Charles V. Lim – Agusan del Sur
 LG00 II Jane G. Moreno – Surigao del Sur
 LG00 II Mary Anthonette M. Salise – Regional Office

The LG00 training is divided in three parts – center, field immersion, and revalida. During the training, the trainees are equipped with the principles and concepts of local governance. Likewise, they are imbued with different skills in performing their duties and responsibilities as a

full-pledged Local Government Operations Officers (LG00).

In field immersion, the trainees will directly observe and experience the actual operation of the local government unit where they will be assigned, in the municipalities of Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur. They are expected to learn the LGU Operations Assessment, Learning Events Management and Capacity Development (CapDev) Agenda Formulation.

The last phase of the training will be the revalida, which is to be administered by the Local Government Academy (LGA). This will be the time that the trainees are measured in the extent of their knowledge, skills and abilities through written and oral assessment.

Andam ba kita?



DILG Komiks

Part of the Department's project is to provide and equip the people with the necessary information regarding what to do and the how to's in times of disaster.

All the barangays in Caraga Region were given copies of the komiks entitled: "Talamdan sa Pagpangandam Kung May Katalagman ug Kalamidad / Pag-usab usab sa Klima."

The language used in the *komiks* was localized - "Cebuano or Bisaya" so that it would cater the public, which is the target audience. This way, the people within the region could better understand and likewise appreciate the informative material received by them.

The *komiks* received positive comments from the DILG Central Office.

To grab a copy, contact the DILG Regional Office at Tel. No. 342 2045 or visit us at Km. 4 Libertad, Butuan City.

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A Taste of Water is a Taste of Life . . .

monthly basis during rainy season. The association is now registered with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) as a non-stock/non-profit organization and with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) for its authority to issue official receipts in its monthly collection.

"Dako na ang kalainan sa serbisyo sa tubig sa una ug karon. Permanente na ug paspas na ang agas sa tubig. Dili na lisod kanako ang pag-abot sa tubig. Dako kini ug guikatabang sa akong panginabuhian labi na kay nagluto-luto ko ug ginagmay isip pang sustenar namo sa inadlaw-adlaw namo nga panginahanglan," Metyang added.

The MDGF 1919 through DILG's implementation has changed the lives of the people in the area. Access to water is not as difficult as before. They were no longer knocking on heaven's door every time they needed water for their daily use. Taking a bath and drinking large quantities of water, as well as cleaning their plates every after meal is no longer a big deal.

Today, supply of water is abundant. The project's beneficiaries are now promptly paying their dues because of service satisfaction. The capacity development instilled by DILG to SIWASA resulted in a significant progress to the community as a whole. There is also a noted increase of water users who applied for Level III water system.

The noteworthy impact of the MDGF 1919 was the fact that the residents of Brgy. San Vicente and Brgy. Ilihan have access to safe, potable, continuous water. Community health improved, while infant mortality decreased. Most importantly, losing a life due to water-borne diseases is not as threatening as before.

The SIWASA improved management is a product of the capacity development (CapDev) efforts and MDGF 1919 water project is a remarkable initiative of DILG to address abject poverty in the country. The quality of life is alleviated when people, especially the poor have the unlimited access to potable water. For them, the government's project mirrors efficient local governance in the countryside. Water is not just a need. The residents of Brgy. San Vicente and Brgy. Ilihan sees water as their LIFE. Indeed, a taste of water is a taste of LIFE.



PERFORMANCE CHALLENGE FUND 2012

INCENTIVE FOR GOOD PERFORMANCE

DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2012-68

The **Performance Challenge Fund (PCF)** is a facility envisioned to help stimulate local governments to put premium on transparency and accountability to enable them to avail themselves of financial support to jumpstart and sustain local socio-economic development initiatives supportive of national government goals and priorities. This is an incentive system for local governments excelling good local governance performance.

Objectives:

The PCF is a facility that envisions to:

1. Help stimulate local governments to put premium on transparency and accountability to enable them to avail themselves of financial support to jumpstart and sustain socio-economic development initiatives;
2. Complement with other programs of other national government agencies providing incentives to LGUs; and
3. Address support requirements of the LGUs in the delivery of their responsibilities such as the supply side requirements of the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)*.

Eligible LGUs for 2012 PCF:

1. Provinces, cities and municipalities belonging to the 1st to 3rd income class, and the newly created 4th to 5th class cities both passed the Seal of Good Housekeeping Round 2 assessment dated August 26, 2011 and have not received the PCF subsidy in 2011. Target recipients shall be prioritized according to the following ranking:

- ◇ 1st priority - 3rd income class LGUs and the 2011 newly-converted cities.
- ◇ 2nd priority - 2nd income class LGUs
- ◇ 3rd priority - 1st income class of LGUs

NOTE: In the event that the fund shall not be enough to cover all eligible LGUs, they shall be further ranked according to poverty incidence based on 2009 NSCB Survey

2. All 2012 *Gawad Pamana ng Lahi* awardees shall be eligible to receive the 2012 PCF.

Eligible Projects under 2012 PCF

Projects eligible for the PCF subsidy are those consistent with the current administration's thrusts and the provisions of the General Appropriations Act of 2012, as follows:

1. **Attainment of MDGs** e.g.: school buildings, rural health units/health centers, birthing or lying-in facilities, water and sanitation, and housing and settlements.
2. **Local Economic Development** e.g.: core local roads and bridges, farm-to-market roads, tourism facilities, irrigation systems, post harvest facilities, cold storage facilities, ports and wharves, and other economic structures and growth enhancement projects like markets or slaughterhouses
3. **Preparedness for Disasters / Adaptation to Climate Change** e.g.: flood control, reforestations, storm drainage, dikes, seawall and related flood protection measures and slope protection, evacuation centers, rainwater collection facility, early warning system/devices and rescue equipment.
4. **Ecological Solid Waste Management** e.g.: sanitary landfill, material recovery facilities, sewerage system
5. **Promotion of Transparency and Accountability**

CRYPTOMANIA

by: **ARVIN "WARBEAST" SILVOSA** Statistician I,
LGMED, DILGRO XIII

CODE KEY:

T = 22	O = 4	Y = 6	R = 19	H = 11
L = 5	B = 12	N = 18	C = 16	S = 17

22 11 21	10 21 20 9 19 22 8 21 18 22	7 17	22 11 21	20 19 7 8 9 19 6	16 9 22 9 5 6 17 22	15 4 19
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12 6	3 4 10	16 21 18 22 21 19 21 10	9 18 10	21 8 20 4 W 21 19 21 10	16 7 22 7 1 21 18 19 6	

TIPS AND INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Using the CODE KEY above, fill in the blank boxes with the corresponding letters to unlock some of the letters.
2. When you have unlocked some of the letters, try to figure out the missing letters in each group of boxes.
3. The rest of the code keys can be unlocked through guesswork. Good luck!

LGUs undergo Best Practices Documentation Writeshop for Ecological Tourism Roadmap

The Department of the Interior and Local Government Regional Office XIII in partnership with the Local Government Academy and Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo conducted a two-day workshop dubbed as "Best Practices Documentation Writeshop: Ecological Tourism Roadmap of Caraga in Focus" on January 25-26, 2012 in Almont Hotel's Inland Resort, this city.

Seventy (70) participants from twenty (20) pre-identified local government units with potential best practices on ecotourism that are replicable attended the said workshop which consists of Designated LGU Best Documenters, LGU Tourism Officers/Designate, City / Municipal Local Government

Operations Officers, partners from the Academe, representatives from partner CSOs and representatives from partner NGAs.

The purpose of the writeshop is to capacitate LGU documenters and equip them with necessary skills in the proper documentation of best practices using the GO-FAR template. It also aims to enhance the skills of LGU tourism officers/designate in the preparation of advocacy materials on ecotourism.

During her opening remarks, DILG Assistant Regional Director Lilibeth A. Famacion said that replication of best practices is considered an effective strategy of local government units in the area



of good governance. It helps the LGUs achieve effective delivery of basic services as well as achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other national awards and recognitions. "The substantivity of

replication of best practices depends on the wealth of information the LGUs can give in their documentation," she said.

During the writeshop the participants were briefed on the Relevant Environmental Laws on EcoTourism and the

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ATTY. ANTHONY P. VITOR
Regional Legal Officer



THE DOCTRINE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

If our local elective officials passed a measure that we do not like because we think or know that it's illegal or not valid, can we immediately file a case for injunction before the courts?

This is the issue that needs to be resolved in the case between one of the barangays of Parañaque City and the homeowners subdivision located in that barangay.

The facts of the case are the following:

The Sangguniang Barangay of Barangay Sun Valley ("BSV Sangguniang Barangay") passed BSV Resolution No. 98-096 on Oct. 13, 1998 entitled: "Directing the New Sun Valley

Homeowners Association to Open Rosemallow and Aster Streets to Vehicular and Pedestrian Traffic." The New Sun Valley Homeowners Association, Inc. (NSVHAI) filed a Petition for a "Writ of Preliminary Injunction/Permanent Injunction with prayer for issuance of TRO" with the Regional Trial Court (RTC) of Parañaque City. They claimed that the implementation of BSV Resolution No. 98-096 would "cause grave injustice and irreparable injury" as the affected homeowners acquired their properties for strictly residential purposes; that the subdivision is a place that the homeowners envisioned would provide them privacy and a peaceful neighborhood, free from the hassles of public places; and that the passage of the resolution would destroy the character of the subdivision.

Defendant Barangay Sun Valley moved to dismiss the instant case on the ground that the subject streets Aster and Rosemallow inside Sun Valley Subdivision are owned by the City Government of Parañaque. Defendant further contend that NSVHAI failed to exhaust administrative remedies as ordained in Sections 32 and 57 of the Local Government Code (R.A. 7160) giving the city mayor, the supervisory power and the

sangguniang panlungsod, the power of review, respectively.

The case reached the Supreme Court which finally held that the NSVHAI recourse in questioning BSV Resolution No. 98-096 should have been with the Mayor of Parañaque City, as clearly stated in Section 32 of the Local Government Code, which provides:

"Section 32. City and Municipal Supervision over their Respective Barangays. - The city or municipality, through the city or municipal mayor concerned, shall exercise general supervision over component barangays to ensure that said barangays act within the scope of their prescribed powers and functions."

The Court has emphasized the importance of applying the doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies. The doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies is a cornerstone of the judicial system. The thrust of the rule is that courts must allow administrative agencies to carry out their functions and discharge their responsibilities within the specialized areas of their respective competence. The rationale for this doctrine is obvious. It entails lesser expense and provides for the speedy resolution

of controversies. Comity and convenience also impel courts of justice to shy away from a dispute until the system of administrative redress has been completed.

The Court said that it is the mayor who can best review the Sangguniang Barangay's actions to see if it acted within the scope of its prescribed powers and functions. Indeed, this is a local problem to be resolved within the local government. Thus, the case should be dismissed for failure of NSVHAI to exhaust administrative remedies (*New Sun Valley Homeowners' Association, Inc. vs. Sangguniang Barangay, Barangay Sun Valley, Parañaque City*, G.R. No. 156686, July 27, 2011).

After reading this decision, a question now comes into my mind. If an elected barangay official stand as respondent in an administrative complaint filed before the Office of the Ombudsman or the Sangguniang Bayan/Panlungsod, can he move (or as a defense) for the dismissal of the case for failure of the complainant to exhaust administrative remedies?

RD Famacion heads Caraga delegation to AECID-Sponsored Study Tour in Spain



The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region XIII – Caraga Regional Director, Lilibeth A. Famacion heads the Caraga delegation on a study tour in Madrid and Sevilla, Spain sponsored by the Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID) on February 17 – 24, 2012.

The study tour is part of the AECID's Strengthening Local Government Philippines (SLGP) in partnership with the Local Government Academy (LGA). It is aimed at providing the delegates with a view on Spain's experience in government decentralization and how the latter is operationalized to its three levels of political subdivisions: municipalities, provinces, and autonomous communities. Through this, the delegates were given opportunities to identify new programs and projects in the Philippines as well as to explore new areas of cooperation with other support agencies.

Delegates from Caraga region composed of Municipal Mayors Candelario J. Viola, Jr. of Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur; Leonida P. Manpatilan of Esperanza, Agusan del Sur; Ramon M. Calo of Carmen, Agusan del Norte; and Ramon B. Mondano of Mainit, Surigao del Norte. The National President the League of Municipalities in the Philippines Strike B. Revilla, Mayor of Bacoor, Cavite; AECID Program Manager Mr. Gonzalo Serrano; Asst. Director Thelma Vecina

and Ms. Joy Juanite of LGA also joined the tour.

A meeting was conducted with Spanish Government Agencies such as the Ministry of Finance and Local Administration and the Foundation for Administration and Public Policy. During the meeting, there was a sharing of the latest developments in their respective local government units. Part of it was the creation of a strategic plan by the delegates to enhance local initiative and their option to seek for assistance from Spanish government.

The Republic of the Philippines and the Spanish Government recognize the existence of strong connection between them brought by the countries' excellent historical and friendly relationship. With the significant and continued support given by Spain through AECID, the local government of the Philippines is continuously capacitated and at the same time strengthened to implement projects for local development.

The continued political and economic cooperation and the flow of technical support from their Spanish government have paved the way to an intensified relationship between the governments of Philippines and Spain. As part of this agenda, this will also increase Spanish investments in the Philippines.

Words to Live By...

By: Lucia B. Garrido - SAO / OIC Chief Admin. & Finance Division

When you are hurt, weary and overwhelmed, PRAY! For us - believers, we need to pray, pray and pray. This is the first thing to do everyday.

The Bible says: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." – Matthew 6:33

Ask, seek and knock. Talk to God about your plans, desires, needs and even your problems. We should thank Him for this is right. Everyone is encouraged to ask God's wisdom in our daily walk because the final indicator of wisdom is to do the right thing.

The words in the book of Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us to, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and

lean not unto your own understanding, in all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths straight." In the book of James 1:5, it says: "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God ... and it will be given to him."

My dear friends, this is our prayer to stand in awe of God. We thank God for the power of His presence. We spend time today and everyday in thanking and praising Him for all the things He has done for us.

Let us meditate on His faithfulness, goodness, beauty, wisdom and love. Let us praise HIM forever.

Ecological Tourism Roadmap...

From Page 6

Guidelines in Documenting Best Practices. They were also given inputs on the Preparation of Advocacy Materials particularly on Branding Guidelines and Using Catchy Tag Lines to give impact to their next best practices documentation.

Mr. Jimmy P. Abayon of the Tourism Office of Compostella Valley shared ComVal's Best Practices on tourism projects. He shared tips on documenting and packaging best practices to make them more appealing to the readers.

Mr. Rommel M. Oribe of the Department of Trade and Industry discussed the topic on Technical Writing to guide the participants to use simple, direct but concise words in documenting best practices to be able to convey the message clearly to the targeted audiences like the general public. He said that the words used especially in

documenting best practices should leave no room for imagination to the recipients so the language used must be plain and in layman's terms.

The writeshop also paved the way for some LGUs to showcase their Best Practice Documents and Advocacy Materials through the Gallery Display and the LGU which bested the other contingents is the Municipality of Esperanza.

A number of LGUs in Caraga Region have already demonstrated good local governance performance particularly on ecological concerns. Replication among LGUs is a powerful tool for development. More so, it increases the popularization of good practices in ecological solid waste management and climate change adaptation as well as the replication of ecotourism practices.

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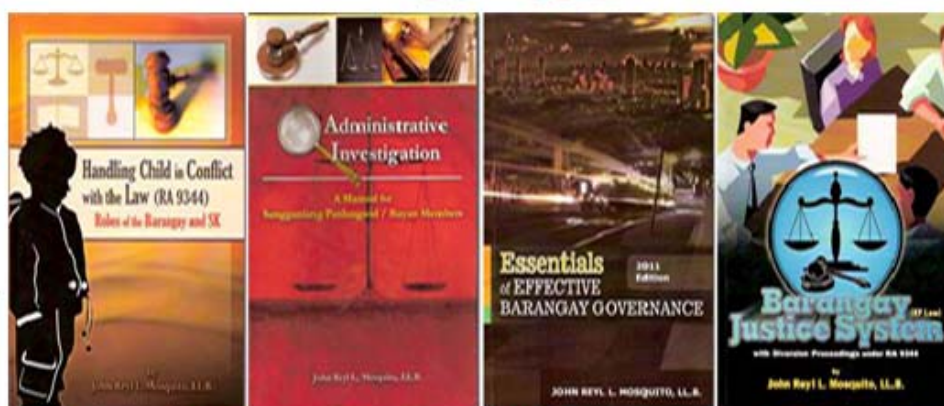


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Reference Materials Authored by our very own City Local Government Operations Officer of Surigao City

Mr. John Reyl L. Mosquito, LL. B.

"An unexamined life is a worthless life"

-Socrates

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