



BAGONG PILIPINAS

# Santala

## SANG DOSE

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# RD's MESSAGE

We consider 2023 as a year of harvest after years of hard work and a year of doing better as we continue to aim for the best.

This quarter has been one of the fullest for DILG Dose as we have received several recognition for the impact created by our innovations. Indeed, success is sweeter when achieved through struggles. It is the time when the GAD Seal Program, which was intended for the regional line agencies and local government units of Region 12, was implemented nationwide. It was a humbling experience that DILG Dose was chosen as one of the assessors for the National GAD Seal.

We also take pride that the CSO Academy for SOCCSKSARGEN also gained national and international recognition. This program was established with the aim to help the CSOs in the region gain confidence in engaging with the government. We are glad that this simple dream of seeing an active government-citizen participation in the region will now help other regions as well.

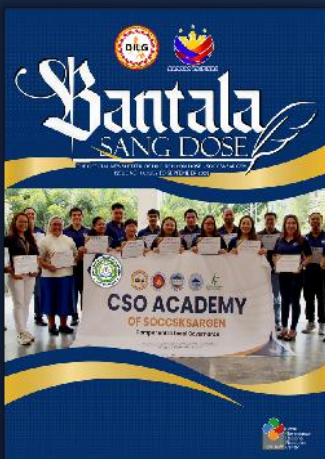
Furthermore, our commitment has remained intact to continue to implement the mandates, programs, and services of the Department. These, too, have placed not only DILG Dose but the LGUs of Region 12 into the lime light.

These are not all smooth and peaceful, we have and will experience rough days and trying times but our passion will transcend our difficulties.

We continue to strive harder and aim higher towards the end of the year, and start sharpening our weapons and preparing our gears for the following year putting our best foot forward.

May this quarter's Bantala sang Dose show you how DILG Dose has worked its way to provide the best services to its clientele and contribute to good and participatory governance.

**JOSEPHINE CABRIDO-LEYSA, CESO III**  
Regional Director, DILG XII



## ABOUT THE COVER

This quarter's cover features the first batch of scholars of the CSO Academy in South Cotabato. These 20 scholars came from different Civil Society Organizations in South Cotabato who just finished the second component of the program focusing on local governance and the participation on CSOs.

This cover highlights the importance of equipping the CSOs to gain their confidence in advancing issues and concerns of communities, and propose recommendations for effective delivery of government's programs and services.

# SLGP - RCT Nationwide Gathers for Co-Creation of Innovation and Strategies in Philippine - Open Government Partnership (OH-OGP)



The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) - Support for the Local Governance Program (SLGP) representatives headed by SLGP-PMO Program Manager Mr. Richard L. Villacorte gathered its Regional Coordination Teams for the Co-Creation of Innovation and Strategies in Preparation for the Formulation of the PH-OGP 6th National Action Plan with Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III, of DILG Rehiyon Dose, as the Host Region. This activity was held last July 4-7, 2023 in General Santos City.

Asec. Ester A. Aldana, CESO II, Assistant Secretary for Administration, Finance and Comptrollership and Director Vivian P. Suansing of Planning Service discussed the main points of the Philippine Open Government Partnership, including all the plans and activities within the Program that aims to enhance open and participatory governance across local governments in the Philippines.

Carlito Y. Uy, South Cotabato Integrity Circle Chairperson, shared to the participants, which came from all the regions, the OGP Local: Learnings and Showcasing Strategies from South Cotabato.

Roel Ian Blanker, Program Manager of Mahintana Foundation, Inc, talked on institution Building and Governance and he also presented the Application of Civic Technology: The Kobo Toolbox.

DILG XII, Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III discussed the CSO Academy of SOCSARGEN which was considered to be "the first learning institution in the country created purposely to capacitate civil society organization (CSO) leaders who play a vital role in influencing governments to improve the quality of their processes, particularly on the use of public funds and upholding transparency and accountability."

The CSO Academy shall serve as the entry of the Philippines through the DILG-SLGP for the 2023 OGP Global Summit on September 6-7, 2023 in Tallinn, Republic of Estonia in Northern Europe. The summit will bring together the Heads of State and Government, representatives of civil society, and policymakers around the world.

With this forthcoming summit, RD Leysa and other top officials of the Department, will be part of the official Philippine entourage, headed by DILG Sec. Benjamin "Benhur" C. Abalos, Jr.



# Sharpening the Saw (SDS): Advancing the Competencies of DILG Rehiyon Dose's Admin and Technical Personnel

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) plays a crucial role in promoting good governance and effective local government administration in a rapidly changing landscape. To address emerging challenges and ensure the continuous professional development of its administrative and technical personnel, it is important to implement a training program that will focus on advancing the competencies of the Department's workforce. In the context of DILG Rehiyon Dose, this annual development session is known as "Sharpening the Saw."

"Sharpening the saw" is a metaphor coined by Stephen R. Covey, which emphasizes the importance of self-renewal and continuous improvement.

In DILG Rehiyon Dose, it refers to the need for personnel to enhance their competencies and stay updated on the latest developments in local governance, policies, legal opinions, jurisprudence, quality management system and financial literacy - the subject matters of this semesters SDS.



Last July 5-7, 2023 the DILG Rehiyon Dose Regional and Field Personnel are all gathered at the GreenLeaf Hotel in General Santos City for a series of valuable lectures delivered by top-calibre DILG-Central Office resource speakers including former USLG Marivel C. Sacendoncillo, ASEC. Ester A. Aldana, Assistant Secretary for Admin, Finance and Comptrollership, Asec. Romeo P. Benitez, Assistant Secretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs, Director Vivian P. Suansing of the Planning Service (PS), SLGP Program Manager Richard L. Villacorte and HDMF Koronadal Branch Head Engr. Marlon D. Barluado represented by HDMF Koronadal Branch Marketing and Sales Department Head Jose N. Imasa, Jr.

More than a hundred participants joined the Day 1, and Day 2 is packed with the attendance of the Department's Contract of Service Personnel and other administrative personnel.

This activity aims to further inspire and motivate our personnel to go that extra mile and keep the fire burning as we continue to display that Winning Attitude and reach our full potential as public servants.

This is also our avenue to recognize and award our personnel that worked really hard and gave their dedication and commitment to excellence in providing technical and administrative assistance to our client LGUs.



# SGLG Regional Calibration



Based on the result of the said calibration, the following are shortlisted LGUs in Region XII:

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. PLGU Sultan Kudarat | 14. Polomolok         |
| 2. PLGU South Cotabato | 15. Tantaran          |
| 3. PLGU Sarangani      | 16. Alabel            |
| 4. General Santos      | 17. Malungon          |
| 5. City of Tacurong    | 18. Malapatan         |
| 6. City of Kidapawan   | 19. Maasim            |
| 7. City of Koronadal   | 20. Kiamba            |
| 8. Magpet              | 21. Lambayong         |
| 9. Kabacan             | 22. Columbio          |
| 10. Midsayap           | 23. Esperanza         |
| 11. Pigcawayan         | 24. Bagumbayan        |
| 12. Tupi               | 25. Kalamansig        |
| 13. Surallah           | 26. President Quirino |

Local governments play an important role in the daily lives of citizens in the pursuit of good governance. They are in charge of providing critical services, managing resources, and guaranteeing operational transparency and accountability. Thus, the Seal of Good Local Governance - a prestigious recognition given to local government units in the Philippines that showcase excellent governance.

As part of the implementation of CY 2023 Seal of Good Local Governance and in order to maintain the credibility and fairness of the award, the SGLG Regional Assessment Team from Cotabato, Sarangani, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Regional Office conducted the SGLG Regional Validation on July 27-21, 2023 at Wagi Hall, 3rd Floor, DILG Regional Office XII.

The SGLG Validation program serves as a beacon of hope for communities across the Philippines. It not only recognizes the efforts of local governments but also fosters a culture of excellence and accountability in governance.

As local governments continue their journey toward earning the seal, the real winners are the citizens who benefit from improved services, increased resilience, and a brighter future.

In this pursuit of good governance, the SGLG Validation program stands as a testament to the power of transparency, accountability, and the relentless commitment to serving the people.



# DILG REHIYON DOSES' LGCDD HOLDS TRAINING ON THE RATIONALIZATION OF FEES AND CHARGES



The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) XII, through the Local Government Capability Development Division (LGCDD), in partnership with the Bureau of Local Government Development (BLGD) and the Department of Finance-Bureau of Local Government Finance (DOF-BLFG) XII conducted the Training on Rationalization of Fees and Charges for the City/Municipal Treasurers, Budget Officers, Business Permit and Licensing Officers, Sangguniang Bayan Members of five (5) LGUs from LGU Pigcawayan (Cotabato Province), Tantaran (South Cotabato), Senator Ninoy Aquino (Sultan Kudarat), Maasim (Province of Sarangani), and General Santos City together with the DILG EODB Provincial/City Focal Persons/Alternates on July 19-20, 2023 at the Viajera Dine and Café, City of Koronadal, South Cotabato.

The activity generally aims for the attendees to enhance their technical competencies on the use of Local Fees and Charges Toolkit which will help them in adjusting and revising their fees and charges at a just and reasonable rates sufficient to cover the cost of services rendered in their respective local government units.

DILG XII Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa CESO III, in her message, shared the statement of Brad Lomenick, a consultant, speaker and author of The Catalyst Leader and H3 Leadership, that "Chase after a level of Excellence that will stretch you and astonish others." She emphasized that the said saying exactly reminds us to work for excellence, be empowered and be able to empower other people. It points out how essential it is to gain professional growth and become the best version of ourselves willing to help others to become the best versions of themselves.



LGOO VI Engr. Mary Ann R. Traspe, LGCDD Assistant Division Chief presented the overview of the activity followed by the DILG Presentation: Fast Check of LGU Compliance and DILG-DOF JMC No. 2019-01: Guidelines for the Review, Adjustment, Setting and/or Adoption of Reasonable Regulatory Fees and Charges of Local Government Units by LGOO VI Engr. Almie G. Castillo, Program Manager/EODB Focal Person, DILG Province of Sultan Kudarat.

The training was graced by two invited resource persons from DOF-BLGF XII. LTOO IV Jonathan B. Susvilla who talked about the BLGF MC No. 020.2019 Local Fees and Charges (LFC) Toolkit on the Review, Setting, and/or Adoption of Reasonable Local Fees and Charges and Subsequent Steps of the LFC Toolkit. The other resource person was FA IV Rogelio G. Rubellano III who discussed the LFC Toolkit on day 1.



On the next day of the training, FA IV Rogelio G. Rubellano III shared the Workshop on the Rationalization of Fees and Charges (Guided workshop on the LFC Toolkit Computation and Generation of Results Per LGU Rates, Fees and Charges).

The training ended with the workshop output on RFC evaluated and critiqued by the esteemed resource persons.

# DILG REHIYON Dose's FaMEALy Day!

In line with the celebration of Nutrition Month, the whole DILG Rehiyon Dose Family under the leadership of RD Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III turned the office's kitchen into a main activity hub with all the smoke, sizzling and slicing as each division whip up some dishes for the "FaMEALy Day" on July 21, 2023.

The cookfest is part of the Regional Office's Wellness Program. RD Leysa explained that "Physical wellness is not merely the absence of illness, but about maintaining a thriving lifestyle. This area of wellness includes adopting healthy habits such as routine medical exams (which is one of the proposed programs), immunizations, safety precautions, sexually transmitted infection screenings, adequate sleep, a balanced diet, regular exercise, and more Physical Wellness."

It is also about avoiding or minimizing risky behaviors like alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Most importantly, it is about discovering what healthy habits make you feel better and suit your lifestyle and level of mobility and fitness.

"Today, each division made preparations for our 'salu-salo at lunchtime' with some nutritious and homestyle dishes using available materials from the office backyard and local vegetable stores," ARD Lailyn A. Ortiz elaborated as she moves around each table where ingredients are prepped. She also added that the activity is jointly pushed by LGRRC XII and DILG Rehiyon Dose's recently launched "Well-Care Program."

At the office lobby, well-decorated center tables were prepared by the staff to help enhance the presentation of the dishes they have prepared.

DILG Rehiyon Dose has made this practice into a Nutrition Month routine to highlight good fellowship before a nice meal, feature nutritious and equally savory dishes and the the culinary skills of the personnel and staff.





# DILG 12 DRR-CCA Focal Persons Coached on Integration of Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory and Low Emission Development (LED) in the E-LCCAP



To help local government units adapt to the changing climate and its devastating impacts, DILG Region 12 initiated a Coaching on the Integration of Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory and Low Emission Development (LED) PPAs in the Enhanced Local Climate Change Action Plan (ELCCAP) for all DILG Provincial and City Focal Persons on August 16-17, 2023, at The Farm @ Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City, South Cotabato.

The DILG DRR-CCA Focal Persons were trained on E-LCCAP for them to become coach-facilitators in capacitating local government units in their areas of responsibility in the E-LCCAP formulation. The 9-step LCCAP Formulation Process, which includes social preparation, risk assessment, planning, and monitoring, is an important topic covered throughout the coaching to better support LGUs in developing quality and implementable policies.

During the coaching sessions, facilitators emphasized the Climate and Disaster

Risk Assessment (CDRA) as an entry point to the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment process, the concept of 'adaptation' as strategies to moderate, cope with, and take advantage of the consequences of climatic events, and 'mitigation' as human interventions to address anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks should be contained in the plan.

The concept of low emission development strategies (LEDs) was also introduced as a new enhancement of the ELCCAP Formulation Process that needs to be integrated into the LCCAP to pursue long-term, sustainable, and transformative local development while maintaining ecological balance. Moreover, the participants were also trained on Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHGI) and accounting, facilitated by technical personnel from DENR-EMB XII.

This initiative is also a proactive stance of DILG Dose to better assist local government units in their compliance with future SGLG Assessments and poise them to become disaster-resilient and climate change-adaptive through their climate-responsive PPAs.



The training was funded by the Local Government Academy (LGA) in its Enhancement of Local Government's Capacity on DRRM-CCAM: Operation LISTO Program to enhance the resilience of local government units against climate change by building their capacities in LCCAP Plan Formulation. The training was facilitated by DRR-CCA Champions Maria Theresa D. Bautista, LGOO V Sheila Mae G. Kubik, and Izar Jesson Claudio of DENR-EMB XII.



# National Inspection on **SBDP** Projects

The Support to Barangay Development Program (SBDP) is a cornerstone of local development, focusing on empowering barangays to undertake community-based projects that address their specific needs, enhancing their overall quality of life.

DILG Central Office, LEO 70 representatives namely; Project Evaluation Officer III, Catherine Joy C. Leon and Engineer III, Benjo M. De Guzman and the Technical Engineers of Rehiyon Dose along with the Municipal Engineers, embarked on a significant endeavor to ensure the success of Support to Barangay Development Program (SBDP) Projects.

Project Development and Management Unit (PDMU) Chief, Engr. Herminia S. Ontoy, led the collaborative effort aimed to monitor and evaluate the progress of SBDP Projects in these selected areas.

On August 14 to 18, 2023, the team inspected multiple municipalities in the region, namely Maasim in Sarangani, Columbio in Sultan Kudarat, and Tulunan and Antipas in Cotabato Province.

The inspection commenced on the ongoing Construction of a Health Station worth Php 2.5M in Barangay Nomoh, Maasim, Sarangani Province on August 14, 2023. Representatives from Barangay Council of Nomoh and Municipal Engineering Office were present during the activity. A courtesy call was also arranged by Municipal Administrator Anecito Lopez III to discuss the progress of the said projects to ensure their timely completion.

On August 15, 2023, the team in partnership with the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Columbio took a proactive step towards transparent governance and community development by conducting a comprehensive project assessment of their Support to Barangay Development

Program (SBDP) 2021. The assessment aimed not only to review the physical achievements but also to gauge the socio-economic benefits realized by the residents of Columbio's barangays through the SBDP initiatives.

On August 16, 2023, the team inspected and evaluated the FMR, PWS and School Building in Brgy. Sucob, Columbio, Sultan Kudarat. An exit conference was also arranged with the Provincial Officials and Provincial Engineering Office Representatives to discuss findings on the projects at the King's Hall of the Provincial Capitol of Isulan, Sultan Kudarat.

On August 17, 2023 the team marched on their way to assess FMR projects of Brgys. Daig, Magbok, Nabundasan, Bacong and the School Building of Tuburan in Tulunan.

Finally, on August 18, 2023 the team monitored and validated FMR projects in Brgys Malire and Kiyaab of Antipas Cotabato.

This collaborative effort underscores the commitment of both national and local government bodies to ensure the effective implementation of community-oriented programs.

By conducting on-ground assessments and evaluations, the team seeks to ensure that SBDP Projects are effectively meeting their objectives and delivering tangible benefits to the communities they serve.



# Bantay Korapsyon Orientation



Baseline Data on Local Sanggunians' Quasi-Judicial Functions.

In particular, the guidelines covering all processes, procedures and work instructions in undertaking the activities relative to the conduct of the Baseline Survey was presented. This activity also intends to facilitate the deployment process where the C/MLGOOs are enjoined to administer the survey directly to the LGUs under their area of responsibility and to submit the accomplished survey forms to the DILG-RO for consolidation.

C/MLGOOs, shall also ensure that the LGU respondents were informed about the required data, records and other documentation on administrative cases which have been received, handled (acted upon), dismissed, and/or resolved in the last three (3) years to be made available during the conduct of the survey.

DILG Rehiyon Dose, through the Bantay Korapsyon Program Management Office (BK-PMO), in coordination with various DILG Regional Offices from Regions 6 to 13 conducts the NATION-WIDE BASELINE SURVEY ON THE STATUS OF THE LOCAL SANGGUNIAN'S QUASI-JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS for Visayas and Mindanao Cluster on July 4, 2023 at the Grand Summit Hotel, General Santos City.

The Participants-Secretaries will also accomplish the Survey Forms as their output for this activity and they will be sharing their issues and concerns on this matter during the open forum. Ultimately, the data gathered will serve as basis or reference in crafting responsive capacity development interventions that will enhance the knowledge and capacity of the Local Sanggunians in the exercise of their quasi-judicial functions.

The hybrid orientation, aims to discuss the salient features of the Baseline Survey Tool and Administration process in preparation for establishing the



# CSO Academy Component II Implementation



The first batch of CSO Academy scholars are on their way to completing the course as they recently finished its second component on August 29-31, 2023. The said component focuses on the main principles of local governance and participation of CSOs.

The three-day activity equipped the scholars with the knowledge on the Philippine Government System, participatory governance and good governance, legal provision on CSOs' participation, rationalized planning system, the Philippine Development Plan in a nutshell, and the core LGU functions where CSOs are involved, among others.

DILG Dose Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III made sure that the activity provides enough experience for the scholars as they go out and participate in their respective local special bodies and in other programs of their LGUs.



In her message, she emphasized that this batch of CSO Academy is the pioneering batch for the program and they will be the benchmark for another round of implementation in the province, and in other LGUs. The resource persons are experts from DBM XII, NEDA XII, Association of Foundation, and no less than RD Leysa and Asst. Regional Director Lailyn A. Ortiz, CESO V.

The scholars are expected to accomplish their individual action plan, which enumerated activities that they plan to undertake and give priority to within the next 6 months to one year. This will serve as their guide towards effective participation in local governance.



# 3rd Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill



It is time to “duck, cover, and hold” for the personnel of DILG Dose as they participated in the 3rd Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) on September 7, 2023.

Assistant Regional Director Lailyn A. Ortiz, CESO V headed the DILG Dose workforce in doing the activity. In her message, she emphasized that NSED aims to make the public aware of the steps or protocol to follow when an earthquake occurs. She encouraged all personnel to participate and learn from the activity to prepare them for possible disasters or calamities.



A post activity evaluation took place after the drill where everyone assessed the activity based on the parameters on the Earthquake Evaluation Form. It was agreed that DILG Dose’s preparedness for earthquake is satisfactory but still needs improvement specifically on first aid, search and rescue, and fire safety demonstration.

A post activity evaluation followed after the drill was completed and personnel answered a survey on the quality and effectiveness of the conduct of the drill.





# Third Party Monitoring

In the fulfillment of the DILG’s role to pursue the Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) of the state funded projects as specified in the Chapter 14 of the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, and the directive to monitor and evaluate the implementation LGSF-SBDP pursuant to the Special Provision of the DILG-OSEC in the FY General Appropriations Act (GAA), the Department shall continue to engage accredited non-government entities as service providers to assist in the monitoring of the implementation of LGSF-SBDP. This shall augment the existing monitoring efforts of DILG, with focus on the following areas: (i) governance and oversight (ii) implementation process; and (iii) results and citizens satisfaction.

The TPM shall cover infrastructure and non-infrastructure LGSF-SBDP projects reported as completed and/or on-going in the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) as of January 31, 2023. The scope of the monitoring shall include the planning phase, project implementation phase, results and outcomes.

On July 3, 2023, was the first TPM - RTWG Meeting/orientation and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Signing between DILG Rehiyon Dose and the Mahintana Foundation Inc. for Third Party Monitoring on LGSF-SBDP Projects. It was held at the 3rd Floor Wagi Room B, DILG Building, Prime Regional Government Center, and Brgy. Carpenter Hill, City of Koronadal.

DILG XII Regional Director, Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III, emphasized in her message the need "to strengthen the bond between two parties to ensure the stability and resilience of the Department, and uphold sustainability, trust and transparency."

Attendees from the Mahintana Foundation include Program Manager, Roel Ian P. Blanker, Evelyn Fajardo and Dennis Lebrado. The DILG XII, was represented by RD Leysa along with Chief Admin Officer, Dennis T. Sucol, LGCDD Chief, Jermie Eerie Yeager, Assistant LGMED Chief, Ian Jon Clemente, PDMU Chief, Engr. Herminia S. Ontoy, Assistant PDMU Chief Engr. Mila Inodio, and PDMU Technical Engineers.

On July 25, 2023, DILG XII arranged a Consultation with PDMU field engineers on TPM-strategic planning on the field deployment of Third Party Service Provider and finalize the

schedule of monitoring in the recipient LGUs of Region XII.

The Mahintana Foundation, Inc. an accredited non-government entity, commenced the Third-Party Monitoring in Cotabato Province on August 22-25, 2023.

The validators, in cooperation with the DILG Provincial Technical Engineers and MLGOO’s interviewed the direct beneficiaries of the Barangays with FY 2021 and FY 2022 Local Government Support Fund – Support to Barangay Development Program (LGSF-SBDP) projects.

During the First week of assessment on August 22-25, 2023, the Mahintana validators visited the DILG Provincial Office for a courtesy call and then proceeded to LGU Antipas, Cotabato to conduct assessment/ interview/ monitoring in Brgys: Kiyaab, Magsaysay, Malire, Badiangon, Binoongan, Datu Matangkil, Gambodes, Kinayawan, Kulaman Valley, Salasang, Sto. Niño, and Sumalili in Arakan, LGU Kidapawan City. BLGU beneficiaries in Brgys: Gayola, Katipunan, Malinan, San Isidro, San Roque and Sto. Niño were personally interviewed by Mahintana representatives.

On September 4-8, 2023, the Team visited Cotabato Province assessing a total of 6 Projects in Alibayon, Bagumbayan, Balete, Basak, Inac, and Temporan, Magpet. Subsequently, the Team proceeded to President Roxas, with a total of 21 Projects in Alegria, Bato-Bato, Cabangbangan, Camasi, Datu Indang, Datu Sandungan, Cajelo, Greenhill, Idaoman, Ilustre, Kamarahan, Kimaruhing, Kisupaan, Lama-Lama, Mabuhay, Poblacion, Sagcungan, Salat and Sarayan.

On September 11-15, 2023, the Team evaluated the Projects in Columbio, Sultan Kudarat namely: Bantangan, Datal Biao, Lasak, Libertad, Maligaya, Mayo, Natividad, Natividad Poblacion, Polomolok, and Sinapulan.

On September 18 and 19, 2023, Brgys. Sucob and Telafas of Columbio and Midtungok of Senator Ninoy Aquino, Sultan Kudarat were evaluated along with Brgy. Cebuano, Tupi, South Cotabato, the PLGU Sultan Kudarat, and PLGU South Cotabato were also assessed.

On September 26-28, 2023 the Team validated other agencies involved in the project implementation namely: DBM XII, NEDA XII, TESDA XII, DILG XII, PLGU Cotabato Province, 512 ECB, PLGU Sarangani, 1002nd Brigade, and PNP XII.

# RD LEYSA's participation to the 2023 OGP Global Summit at Tallinn, Estonia



DILG Rehiyon Dose joins the 2023 Open Government Partnership in Tallin, Estonia. Regional Director Josephine Leysa, CESO III participated in multiple plenary discussions; listened, observed and shared reforms and innovations on open government initiatives she spearheaded in the region. First, in a session Building National-Local Coalitions for Open Government; second, in the session Mainstreaming Open Government: Creating Systems Change; and lastly, the Philippine hosted session - From Inclusion to Impact: Harnessing the Power of People to Make Public Budgets More Responsive.

South Cotabato Provincial Governor Reynaldo Tamayo Jr., who was also present in the summit, also joined various sessions, one of which is, High-Level Roundtable: Making Democracies Stronger Through Openness. In the session, he emphasized various reforms that seeks to strengthen the quality participation of the Civil Society Organizations in Region 12 - the establishment of the CSO academy.

This is a reform that truly raises the capacity of our non-government partners in co-implementing government programs and projects.

Present also in the summit were the DILG Officials and Officers, Undersecretary Marlo Iringan, Assistant Secretary Ester Aldana, Director Vivian Suansing, Mr. Richard Villacorte and Mr. Glenn Miranda of the Support for the Local Governance Program.



# 3RD QUARTER REGIONAL GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (RGADC) XII MEETING



The Regional Gender and Development Committee (RGADC) XII conducted its 3rd Quarter meeting on September 22, 2023 in a hybrid set-up with twenty-nine (29) members –agencies in attendance.

To open the meeting, Regional Director Josephine Cabrido –Leysa, CESO III of DILG XII duly represented by Assst. Regional Director, Lailyn A. Ortiz, CESO V, expressed her heartfelt gratitude for the support shown by the Committee as the Chair of the RGADC in Rehiyon Dose. She also thanked the Regional Development Council XII for the recently awarded Plaque of Commendation to RGADC XII for paving the way in achieving the GAD milestone of SOCCSKSARGEN Region, during its Regional Development Full Council Meeting on June 21, 2023 at Viajera Dine Hotel. The Presiding Chair, RGADC XII Co-Chair PSR RET. BGEN. JOSELITO E. KAKILALA congratulated the body for untiring commitment and cooperation. ARD Ortiz said, “ kaya atin po ang tagumpay na ito”.

Another groundbreaking initiative forwarded by the RGADC XII is the GAD Seal implementation which is now being implemented in all DILG Regional Offices nationwide and by 2024 onwards, it will be implemented in all DILG Provincial offices and LGUs as provided in MC 2023-070. From August 14, to September 27, 2023 was the on-site validation of the National Assessment Committee (NAC) to the different regions in the country. The presiding chair highly encouraged all those members who are yet to be conferred with GAD Seal to submit their respective entries.

The Committee also conducted learning sessions dubbed as “Serye sa Dose: Alam Mo Ba?” during the National Peace Consciousness Month pursuant to Proclamation No. 675 series of 2024: Role of Filipino Women as a Marginalized Sections on Women’s Peace and Security. As a result, the body passed the resolution entitled: “Encouraging the NGAs, LGUs, and others concerned to incorporate in their GAD Plan and Budget PPA’s related to Women Peace, and Security”.

Further, the RGADC XII Head Secretariat, Jermie A. Erie-Yeager, LGOO VII/LGCCD-Chief, announced the upcoming activity of the Committee which is the “Rehiyon Dose RGADC Summit” to be conducted on October 18, 2023 at Elai Resort , Hotel & Creation Center, Brgy. Paco, Kidapawan City. This activity aim to convene all GAD advocates and partners to examine the roles, challenges and contributions of everyone and at the same time, celebrate milestones in the advancement of Gender and Development in our society.

Finally, RGADC XII Co-Chair KAKILALA, borrowing the words of Publilius Syrus, a well-known Latin writer, said:” Where there is Unity there is Always Victory.” He urged all members to continue working together, building on the momentum generated here, to create a world where gender equality is not just a goal but a reality.





# Nationwide GAD Seal Assessment



DILG Rehiyon Dose RD Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III joins the National Assessment Committee (NAC) for the GAD Seal certification, together with DILG Dose Assessors, namely LGOO VII Jermie A. Erie-Yeager, LGOO VI Mary Ann R. Traspe, SAO Katherine M. Llano, LGOO VII Musarapha A. Alim, CAO Dennis Sucol, LGOO VI Almie G. Castillo, LGOO II Rudelyn V. Timogtimog and LGOO II Shylack C. Limao to different DILG Regional Offices nationwide.

The CY 2023 assessment for all starts on, August 14, 2023 up to September 28, 2023 and for CY 2024 onwards, the GAD Seal will be cascaded to all DILG Provincial Offices and LGUs nationwide. This involvement underscores DILG Rehiyon Dose's commitment to fostering a gender-responsive approach not only in SOCCSARGEN but also across the nation.

Under DILG MC No. 2023-070, the National GAD Seal certification implementation through MC 2023-070 aims to assess the level of gender responsiveness of all DILG Regional Offices through a set of criteria culled out from the Magna Carta of Women and other GAD related laws and policies.



# PAGPUPUGAY SA MGA BAYANI NG BANSANG MAKABAYAN: AN ASSEMBLY AND THANKSGIVING WITH THE BENEFICIARIES OF CSBP



More than 300 KIA/KIPO beneficiaries of Regions in Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, CARAGA and Five gathered in Davao City for the Pagpupugay sa Mga Bayani ng Bansang Makabayan (PBBM): An Assembly and Thanksgiving with the Beneficiaries of Comprehensive Social Benefits Program, hosted by DILG Dose with support from DILG XI. This gathering aims recognize the sacrifices and bravery of our fallen officers, men and women in uniform while in performance of duty by granting several social benefit packages from the government to their families as directed by Republic Act No. 6963 or An Act Granting Financial Assistance and Benefits to the Family or Beneficiary of Any Police or Military Personnel or Fireman Killed or Permanently Incapacitated while in the Performance of his Duty or by Reason of His Office or

Position and for other Purposes, and Executive Order No. 110, s. 2020, Institutionalizing the Comprehensive Social Benefits Program (CBPS).

The activity also aims to further introduce the Program's objectives, mission, vision, and accomplishments to the new administration and to the Head of Agencies involved in the provision of benefits under CSBP, and to highlight the success stories of the beneficiaries through the assistance of the Program.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., in his speech, highlighted the honor that these fallen heroes brought to the country. "Kinikilala natin ang iniwan nilang malaking kontribusyon. Ang kanilang sakripisyo ay bahagi ng ating kolektibong kamalayan", "this activity is a celebration of the success of the CSBP, he added.



The President also enjoined the different partner agencies involved in the program to continue to ensure the implementation of the Program.”

A Special Financial Assistance (SFA) amounting to P500,000.00, and Land Title of Granted House and Lot from the National Housing Authority (NHA) were awarded to six (6) beneficiaries, while the rest of them also received the certificate of award for the allocated housing unit from the NHA and tokens from different government agencies such as DILG, TESDA, DepEd among others.

Present in the activity are Vice President Sara Z. Duterte, DILG Secretary Benjamin C. Abalos, Jr., DOH Secretary Teodoro J. Herbosa, Special Assistant to the President Antonio Lagdameo, Jr., DILG Officials, AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP and Philippine Coast Guard Officials, Heads of CSBP Partner Agencies, and the media.

# LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA INCENTIVE AWARDS (LTIA) NATIONAL VALIDATION

The Lupong Tagapamayapa Incentive Awards (LTIA) National Validation was successfully conducted on September 27-28, 2023. Barangay Upper Katungal, Tacurong City and Barangay Poblacion, Tupi, South Cotabato were shortlisted as National Finalists.

During the said activity, Regional Director Josephine Cabrido- Leysa, CESO III welcomed all members of the LTIA National Board of Judges (NBOJ) and expressed her support and congratulations to the Lupong Tagapamayapa of the said barangays. USEC Felicito Valmocina of DILG Central Office was also present during the validation. In his message, he emphasized the importance of unity from the barangay level up to the national level in terms of development and peacefulness. Local Officials were also present in the activity.

The National Board of Judges (NBOJ) includes USEC Irene de Torres-Alogoc of the OADR-DOJ, Chief Judicial Staff Officer Jose Name, Jr. of the Supreme Court, PLTCOL. Denver Alidao of Philippine National Police (PNP), Executive Director Glen Castro of the Gerry Roxas Foundation and Jose Denver Q. Calo, Division Chief, Recognition and Awards Division of DILG-BLGS.



Punong Barangay Joey Calumbres of Upper Katungal, Tacurong City and Punong Barangay Vergel Javier of Poblacion, Tupi had the chance to outline before the judges the steps that they have utilized to settle cases lodged before the katarungang pambarangay.

The two (2) barangays have earlier submitted their documents for review and they have been evaluated on the following: efficiency in operations, effectiveness in securing the settlement of interpersonal dispute objective of the KP Program, creativity and resourcefulness of the Lupon, area or facility for the KP activities, and financial and non- financial support to the KP.

The LTIA is an annual search which bestows honor and prestige to the chosen Lupong Tagapamayapa which displays excellence in settling matters which are brought before them.





PUGAY PANGKALUSUGAN AWARDS 2023:

## "SULONG KALUSUGAN, UNITED HEALTH CARE (UHC) Sama-Samang Makamtan" receives **1st DOH Red Orchid Award**

September 29, 2023 at Paraiso Verde Hotel, Koronadal City.



The Department of the Interior and Local Government XII received its first Red Orchid Award for its active implementation of a 100% Tobacco-Free Policy in its organization. Represented by Accountant Charisse Eliso and Planning Officer Karen Mohinog, DILG Dose received the award during the Pugay Pangkalusugan Awards 2023 hosted by the Department of Health-Center for Health Development XII with the theme, "Sulong Kalusugan, United Health Care (UHC) Sama-Samang Makamtan" at Paraiso Verde Hotel, Koronadal City last September 29, 2023. The Red Orchid Award is an awards system of DOH to encourage local government units and government agencies to meet the quality standards for tobacco prevention and control in the country and recognize and celebrate the milestones of the

National Government Agencies, Local Government Units, health facilities, healthcare workers and stakeholders for the numerous contributions in improving the health care delivery system of the region.

DILG Dose's Red Orchid journey started with awareness campaigns among employees of the Department of the ill effects of smoking, which also paved the way for the establishment of the Drug-Free Workplace policy and other health-related advocacies. "We are immensely happy for the said accomplishment. Together, let us protect one another by living a healthy life and building a safe community," DILG XII Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III said.



# Sarangani Province, targeted as pilot testing in the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP) Formulation of the National Anti-Poverty Commission



Republic Act No. 11291 or the Magna Carta of the Poor (MCP) directs the government to establish a system to provide the requirements, conditions, and opportunities for the full realization of the Five (5) fundamental rights of the poor; right to adequate food, decent work, relevant and quality education, adequate housing, and highest attainable standard of health.

With this, the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) is currently drafting the National Poverty Reduction Plan (NPRP) and is tasked to compile and harmonize the development plans of the Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities. The NPRP is the aggregation and consolidation of sectoral and local plans through a bottom-up approach, from the crafting the LPRAP towards formulating the national plan.

In the drafting of the NPRP, the NAPC with the technical assistance of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the DILG, aims to formulate the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP) of the Local Government Units (LGUs) to capture field-level observations and learnings in terms of process, outputs, and facilitating and hindering factors.

With these aspirations and by the directive of President Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos Jr., to embody a whole-of-nation approach to achieve poverty reduction from 18.1% to 9% by 2028, Sarangani Province and its Seven (7) Municipalities take part as pilot LGUs in undertaking the LPRAP formulation process and procedures.

The Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP) shall directly address the needs of the LGUs, its poor constituents, and the marginalized sectors through the attainment of the Five (5) fundamental rights.



The activity started with the Training of Trainers (ToT) for the Magna Carta of the Poor (MCP)-Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP) Formulation last August 23-25, 2023 at Mount Sabrina Panoramic View Resort, Barangay Tumbler, General Santos City which was attended by DILG Saragani PD Samuel A. Camaganacan, CE and DILG Regional personnel and focal persons.

A coordination meeting with the MLGOOs of the province was also called for technical coordination to identify the schedule of the activities and the necessary documents that will be essential in the formulation-workshop.

The LPRAP formulation-workshop was conducted per Municipality in the month of September and this was made possible with the participation of key heads/personnel from the Municipal Planning and Development Office, Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office, Municipal Health Office, Municipal Agriculture Office, Municipal Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Office, Municipal Public Employment and Service Office, Sangguniang Bayan Committee Chair on Appropriations,

Liga ng mga Barangay (LnB) President, and CSO representative.

The program encompassed the Orientation on the Salient Features of RA 1121, a discussion on the Rationalized Planning System (RPS) and Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) planning process, the LPRAP formulation steps, the progression of situating LPRAP in the CDP, integration of the LPRAP in the Provincial Development & Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP), and the LPRAP Monitoring and Evaluation.

This participatory approach in discussion was facilitated by the (NAPC) and the DILG Dose, and with the participation of the Provincial Planning and Development Office for alignment with the PDPFP.

The activity resulted to a significant success having the Seven Municipalities able to draft their Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan. The Technical Working Groups of the respective Municipalities are now set to consolidate and finalize the plan for submission to the PPDO for integration and alignment to the Provincial LPRAP formulation-workshop set on October 2023.



# SK MSAC MOU SIGNING



July 20, 2023 - Sultan Kudarat Local Governance Resource Center (SKLGRRC), as a central Knowledge Hub and linkage of information, successfully convene the pioneering members of the Multi-Stakeholders Advisory Council (MSAC) of the province thru the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) held at Wagi Room B, DILG Regional Office XII, Prime Government Regional Center, Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City.

The SK Multi-sectoral Advisory Council (SK MSAC) which stands as network of institutions collaborating to foster community relationship and strengthen partnerships for good governance was participated by the Twelve (12) pioneering members Sultan Kudarat Provincial agencies, Institutions and organizations namely DILG SK, DOST Field Office, CSC SK Field Office, DTI SK, DPWH District I, SKSU, LGU Tacurong City, PLGU SK-PSWDO, DENR-PENRO, SKPPO, NCIP AND CSO Representative.

The SK MSAC primarily aims to provide strategic direction to the SK LGRC to champion Best Practices in local governance, thus promoting the culture of learning and knowledge sharing through pooling of resources and efforts in the implementation of various programs for Local Government Units (LGUs).

DILG XII Assistant Regional Director Lailyn A. Ortiz, CESO V represented the Regional management and LGRRC DOSE and delivered the message of RD Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III. "As we sign the Memorandum of Understanding today, let us remember that it is not merely a symbolic act but a solemn commitment to action. We must



carry the spirit of cooperation and partnership forward with us, transforming it into tangible outcomes that touch lives and make difference." She warmly expressed her appreciation of the support shown by every member-agencies/organization/institution by taking part in the council.

ARD Ortiz and the LGRRC DOSE Team also served as witnesses to the momentous MOU signing of the SK MSAC.

Member Offices / Agencies / Institution / Organization expressed their support to the Knowledge Management Sharing endeavors of the newly organized provincial council.







# SULTAN KUDARAT JOINS SIMULTANEOUS NATIONWIDE LAUNCHING OF KADIWA NG PANGULO

DILG- Sultan Kudarat and the PLGU- SK have joined the National Launching of the Katuwang sa Diwa at Gawa Para sa Masaganang Ani at Mataas na Kita (KADIWA) 2023 on July 17 with its store set up at the Capitol Grounds, in Isulan, Sultan Kudarat.

SK KADIWA store launching was supported by the local chief executives from the Province and provincial government workers.

Fresh fruits and vegetables, locally-made products, like chips, local coffee brands, handicrafts, poultry products and other items were made available to the public, including rice at P25 per kilo.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) XII, under the leadership of Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa CESO III, has earlier given instructions to all its field officers to provide support to each of the PLGUs namely; the provinces of Cotabato, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Sarangani.

The other KADIWA stores are also located in the following sites: South Cotabato Province-along Alunan Avenue, close to the Provincial Capitol Gate, City of Koronadal, Capitol Compound, Amas, Kidapawan City and Capitol Grounds, Alabel, Sarangani Province.

The “KADIWA ng Pangulo (KNP)”, is a marketing initiative which seeks to provide consumers with access to quality yet affordable goods and commodities and facilitate access of farmers, fisher folks, and micro-enterprises to the market. The Department of Agriculture (DA) under the guidance of the Office of the President, served as the lead convenor, in partnership with DILG, DTI, DOLE, DSWD, other partners in government and in private sectors.

The DILG Regional and Provincial staff took part in coordinating with other partner agencies and extended necessary assistance and supervision to the LGUs for the successful conduct of this year’s KADIWA ng Pangulo launching.



## DILG Norala Orients Barangay Secretaries on SGLGB Documentation

In preparation for the Seal of Good Local Governance for Barangays (SGLGB) Audit in the first week of September 2023, the Department of the Interior and Local Government of Norala led by MLGOO Heidy A. Agustin discussed SGLGB documentation during the Regular Barangay Secretaries' Meeting on August 08, 2023.

SGLGB is a performance assessment and recognition system that aims to give distinction to barangays with remarkable performance across various governance areas.



It also intends to encourage barangays to continuously progress in delivering efficient, equitable, and quality public services. It puts primacy on integrity and good performance as pillars of meaningful local autonomy and development.

DILG XII LGOO Apprentices assigned at the DILG Norala, LGOO II Kimberly T. Tuanzon presented the checklist of documentation that must be complied, while LGOO II Cheezza P. Mirasol discussed how to package the documents.

## DILG South Cotabato reorients LGU Focal Persons on the POPS-PCMS

On August 11, 2023, DILG Provincial Office of South Cotabato conducted a Reorientation on the Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan and Policy Compliance Monitoring System (POPS-PCMS) at the PDC Hall, Provincial Capitol Compound, City of Koronadal, South Cotabato.

The C/MLGOOs, Principal and Alternate Focal Persons of POPS-PCMS from the PLGU, and the 11 component LGUs of South Cotabato took part in the activity.

Furthermore, LGOO V Jon Leo J. Licayan, DILG Regional Focal Person, discussed the overview of the POPS Plan formulation and the step-by-step process of encoding to the portal to strengthen the technical capability of the focal persons and ensure that they are fully knowledgeable in navigating the said Portal.

This activity forms part of the continuing efforts of the Department of the Interior and Local Government in ensuring the quality of Local Government Unit (LGU) plans through various compliance systems, audit, assessment, and the like.



# DILG South Cotabato conducts Team Huddle re Seal of Good Local Governance for the Barangays

The DILG South Cotabato Team recently convened at the DILG Provincial Office to discuss matters re SGLGB Assessment and other pressing matters related to barangay assessments.

Led by PD Atty. Rochelle Mahinay-Sero, CESE, who delivered the opening message, the team huddle was attended by the City and Municipal Local Government Operations Officers (C/MLGOOs).

LG00 IV Chrysanthea Zorilla-Manait took the lead in presenting the SGLGB Assessment Timelines, and Criteria.

Additionally, LG00 II Belinda Lee Fabie provided updates re inclusion of SGLB criteria in the Dangal ng Barangay Awards of the PLGU. The session also provided a platform for open discussions. An open forum, moderated by Outcome

Manager Maria Theresa Bautista, facilitated dialogues surrounding various issues and concerns.

These conversations are aimed at streamlining processes and overcoming challenges encountered by the C/MLGOOs during assessments.

Program Manager Hayd Ali Suwaib was also present and engaged in discussions, particularly addressing questions about the BADAC functionality audit and other related topics.

The huddle served as an essential step in reinforcing collaboration, gathering insights, and formulating recommendations. Such efforts intend to ensure that barangays continually improve their performance, aligning with the vision of good local governance.



# “Salamat sa Aruga at Kalinga, Ina ng Agila”



DILG-XII Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III joins the Team Agila's (DILG-Cotabato) Team Conference today, August 25, 2023 in Brgy. Binoligan, Kidapawan City, Cotabato.

Inspired by her words, zeal, and dedication, RD Leysa led the 18 City/Municipal Local Government Operations Officers (C/MLGOOs) along with other technical and administrative personnel into a heartfelt and genuine discussion. Provincial Director Ali B. Abdullah facilitated the said conference. It commenced with a series of technical presentations by the provincial technical officers and followed with the discussions on administrative and financial matters.

A sharing of meaningful experiences and significant learning were also shared between and among the officers. LGOO VII Inecita Kionisala, Outcome Manager facilitated the processing of external

concerns of the field officers and facilitated the seeking of solutions and strategies to cope with existing circumstances.

Meanwhile, the DILG technical engineers presented data where the Province of Cotabato gained the Top 1 spot in the entire country in the latest assessment of DILG Central Office with regards to RSSA (Rapid Sub-project Sustainability Assessment). Likewise, the Provincial Team was also recognized to be the first in the country to conduct the implementation phase of Support to Barangay Development Program (SBDP) 2023 based on the PDMU data.

After the sharing of technical, personal, and other vital inputs, RD Leysa challenged the officers to become more affectionate and continuously build a family spirit in the institution. “Ang DILG ay pamilya natin pagdating sa trabaho. Mahalin natin ang institusyon. Mahalin natin ang lahat ng kasama sa institusyong ito.”



## DILG Rehiyon Dose ManCom, CotProv TeamCon a success



The first joint DILG Rehiyon Dose Mancom / DILG Cotabato Province TeamCon was held last July 28, 2023 at the Liga Hall, Magpet, Province of Cotabato.

The DILG Cotabato Province Team started out with their TeamCon in the morning discussing various concerns, submissions and compliances, along with updates provided by the various focal persons. Close to 50 MLGOOs showed up to the Team Con.

The activity also included the cookfest dubbed as 'HAPAG AGILA' where employees and staff of DILG Cotabato Province made their own versions of homecooked dishes with twists and varieties.



Magpet Mayor Jay Lourence Gonzaga joined the meeting as he welcomed all participants who came from various municipalities in the Province. VM Florenito Gonzaga likewise shared his experience as a former real chief executive wherein he conducted regular management committee meetings to thresh out concerns in his office.

RD Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III, shared the gains of the Regional Office which she considers to be a team effort. "I urge you to stake your ownership sa mga projects natin."

*Hindi kayang gawin ng iisang tao lang, like ng RD or ARD, ang lahat na ginagawa natin na umaani ng pagkilala," she stated.*

The Regional Office Contingent included RD Leysa, ARD Ortiz, CAO Dennis T. Socol, LGMED Chief Musarapha A. Alim, LGCDD Chief Jermie Yeager, Planning Officer Designate Raymart Miranda, Legal Officer Atty Jane Torreon and other regional office staff. Sarangani PD Samuel Camaganacan also joined the activity in Magpet while the other members of the ManCom joined online.

## RD Leysa graces culmination activity of 28th Police Community Relations Month at PNPRO XII



DILG Regional Director Josephine Cabrido- Leysa, CESO III received Foyer Honors as the Guest of Honor and Speaker at the PNPRO XII Grounds today, July 27 for the Culmination Ceremony of the 28th Police Community Relations Month Celebration.

The Director was warmly welcomed by PNPRO XII Regional Director PBGen.

Jimili L. Macaraeg and the Regional Command Group and RD Rodel M. Calo of the NAPOLCOM.

Five (5) local chief executives were also present to sign the MOA for the Community Service-Oriented Policing (CSOP) System with the DILG XII and PNPRO XII.

The local chief executives who signed the MOA include Maitum Mayor Bryan Paul Reganit, Tupi Mayor Romeo Tamayo, Norala Mayor Clemente Fedoc, Sto. Nino Sulpicio F. Villalobos and the representative for Tantangan Mayor Timee Gonzalez.

RD Leysa also headed the conferment of awards and medals to select PNP officials from its various field offices in Region XII.



## LGU Gensan conducts Benchmarking activity with Department of Building Official, Quezon City



On August 30-31, 2023, the Local Government Unit of General Santos City conducted a benchmarking activity with the Department of the Building Official, Quezon City. Gensan delegates include the City Administrator, Atty. Franklin Gacal, Jr., Office of the Building Official, City Planning and Development Office, Bureau of Fire Protection, City Treasurer's Office, and the DILG-General Santos City, City Director Rilimin Sandoval.

The said activity was an upshot of the meeting held on July 3, 2023, where the City Administrator expressed a keen interest in further exploration of OBO Quezon City's best practices.

DBO Quezon City Building Official Engr. Isagani Verzosa Jr. and Assistant City Administrator, Atty. Rene shared QC's exemplary practices in delivering the efficient services to its constituents.

These include innovative strategies, technology integration and as well as the City's QC Build Easy Program.

This activity aims to foster collaboration, sharing of knowledge, gathering insights, and developing advancements for the City's administrative and operational functions. In addition, participants also visited the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to seek guidance on streamlined processes and secure DILG clearance on the procurement of vehicles.

As a result of the benchmarking activity, the Office of the Building Official- City of General Santos will be empowered to further grow and improve, enhance service excellence, and contribute to the overall advancement and development of the City of General Santos.



## LTIA Benchmarking Activities and Sister Barangay Partnership between Brgy. Balibago, Angeles City and Brgy. Dad. West, General Santos City



The Lupong Tagapamayapa of Barangay Dadiangas West, General Santos City, headed by Punong Barangay Yolando B. Acharon together with DILG Gensan City Director Rilimin Sandoval, conducted a benchmarking activity in Brgy. Balibago, Angeles City, and visited Barangay Market View, Lucena City, on September 8, 2023.

City Director Yvette R. Cosio and DILG Officers of DILG Angeles City, Hon. Rodelio H. Mamac, Punong Barangay of Barangay Balibago, Lupon Members and Barangay Councilors of Barangay Balibago were in attendance to engage in a meaningful discussion and exchange of ideas.

The purpose of the said benchmarking activity is to establish mutual beneficial cooperation between the barangay officials and functionaries of barangay Balibago and Barangay Dad. West, as well as to share best practices and strategies in the administration of KP and other frontline services. This will also promote good will, understanding, and expanded community services between the two barangays.

As a result of the benchmarking, Barangay Balibago, Angeles City, and Barangay Dad. West, General Santos City, officially became sister barangays through a Memorandum of Agreement.



# The General Santos City Governance Exemplars for Meaningful Service (GEMS) for Sangguniang Kabataan 2023!

**“CULMINATION FOR THE GOVERNANCE EXEMPLARS FOR MEANINGFUL SERVICE (GEMS) FOR THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN (SK) HAS COME TO ITS GLORIOUS END.”**



The following are the top 10 highly performing SKs in General Santos City that qualify for the regional validation of the

The 10 Highly Performing SKs of General Santos City who qualifies for the Regional Validation of the GEMS for SK, together with the other regional qualifiers across Region 12, are the following:

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Calumpang       | 6. Labangal    |
| 2. Fatima          | 7. Baluan      |
| 3. Lagao           | 8. Upper Labay |
| 4. Sinawal         | 9. Ligaya      |
| 5. Dadiangas North | 10. Mabuhay    |

The search for the Most Outstanding Sangguniang Kabataan in Region XII is in its third year of implementation. GEMS for SK (Governance Exemplars for Meaningful Service for the Sangguniang Kabataan) is a program initiated by DILG Region XII based on the DILG Regional Memorandum Circular No. 2021-07.

The institutionalization of the GEMS for SK aims to establish a high standard of leadership, governance, and community engagement that do not only benefit the youth but also contributes to the community's overall development and well-being. It functions as a model for all SK councils to foster among young leaders a culture of excellence in public service.

In response, the General Santos City Sangguniang Panlungsod enacted Ordinance No. 9 series of 2022 - Institutionalizing the conduct of GEMS for SK: Search for Most Outstanding SK in the City of General Santos.



Finally the first round of implementation has come to its glorious end as the City Mayor's Office - Youth Affairs and Development Office (CMO-YADO) together with the Monitoring and Evaluation Team (MET) of this years' GEMS for SK award the top performing Sangguniang Kabataan Councils (SKC's) of General Santos City on August 17, 2023 1:00 PM at the Phela Grande Convention Center.



In a surprising turn of events, **Hayd-Ali S. Suwaib**, affectionately known as “**PM Bong**”, “**Sir Bong**”, “**Ga Bong**” or “**Kuya Bong**” has carved an impressive career trajectory, transitioning from a Biology graduate to an employee of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Rehiyon Dose. His journey is a testament to the unexpected avenues one's professional path can take.

**PM Bong** completed his Bachelor of Science in Biology at Notre Dame University between 1995 and 1999, laying the foundation for what would become an illustrious career in local governance. His entry into the world of statistics began on October 1, 2003, when he assumed the role of Statistician I at the DILG Regional Office XII.

He started ascending the career ladder with his transformative experience as a Local Government Operations Officer II in 2005. “I consider the LGOO Training as a life-changing experience. As a person who loves challenges, I openly accept the challenge of working and serving the people while ensuring that I contribute to the promotion of excellence in local governance,” he shared during an interview.

In the same year, PM Bong added Administrative Officer III to his repertoire, showcasing his adaptability and multifaceted skill set. From January 1, 2006, to October 4, 2009, he assumed the role of Chief Administrative Officer, demonstrating his capacity for leadership and strategic management.

His upward trajectory continued with a return to the Administrative Officer III position from October 5, 2009, to August 26, 2010. A defining moment came on August 27, 2010, as he embraced the Local Government Operations Officer IV position, setting the stage for further advancements.

PM Bong’s commitment and dedication were evident during his tenure as Local Government Operations Officer V from March 26, 2012, to May 4, 2020—a span of eight years and two months. Currently serving as an LGOO VI and the Program Manager of DILG South Cotabato, he reflects on his role, stating, “Aside from the LGOO Training, I consider my designation as a Program Manager of the Province of South Cotabato as a life-changing experience.”

Beyond his professional achievements, PM Bong wears multiple hats with grace. As a devoted husband and father to four children—Sittie Saharah, Hayd-ali II, Sittie Sophia, and Hansari—he excels at juggling the responsibilities of both work and family life. Suwaib's story is an inspiring narrative of dedication, adaptability, and the pursuit of excellence in unexpected places.

Known for his professional prowess, he emerges not only as a respected officer but also as a cherished big brother to many of his colleagues. His ability to foster strong camaraderie extends seamlessly among supervisors, provincial staff, field officers, and counterparts in the Regional Office, creating a harmonious work environment that goes beyond professional duties.

In accomplishing all these, PM Bong draws strength and confidence from a combination of faith, family, and continuous personal and professional development. God holds a special place in his journey, providing a foundation of confidence and resilience that permeates his leadership style. His family, comprising a wife and four children, serves as both a pillar of support and a source of inspiration.

In addition to divine and familial support, he acknowledges the pivotal role of the LGOO Training and other capacity development activities. These initiatives not only keep him well-informed about the evolving landscape of his role as a DILG Officer but also serve as sources of motivation and empowerment. Embracing a philosophy of lifelong learning, he remains dedicated to staying abreast of the latest trends, policies, and responsibilities in his field.





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**3rd Quarter CY 2023**

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