



## **17 Proyekto ng NTF-ELCAC sa Occidental Mindoro, Pinasinayaan**

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## 17 Proyekto ng NTF-ELCAC sa Occidental Mindoro, Pinasinayaan

Pinangunahan ni Gobernador Eduardo Gadiano ng Occidental Mindoro ang ceremonial groundbreaking ng 17 proyekto na nagkakahalaga ng mahigit P78 milyon, na pinondohan sa ilalim ng Local Government Support Fund-Support to Barangay Development Program (LGSF-SBDP) ng National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), sa mga bayan ng San Jose, Paluan, at Magsaysay sa lalawigan ng Occidental Mindoro.

Kabilang sa mga naunang pinasinayaan ay ang proyektong farm-to-market road ng Barangay Purnaga, Magsaysay, na nagkakahalaga ng P19,990,011.11.

Kasabay nito, pinasinayaan din ang farm-to-market road, gusaling pampaaralan, at pagtatayo ng street lights sa Barangay Batasan, San Jose, at ang proyektong patubig, pagtatayo ng gusaling pampaaralan at pangkalusugan, at solar street light sa Barangay Harrison, Paluan.

Gayundin, naging hudyat ang ceremonial groundbreaking sa pagpapatayo ng gusaling pampaaralan at pangkalusugan, solar street lights, at proyektong patubig sa Barangay Harrison, Paluan. Samantala, gusaling pampaaralan at pangkalusugan, at pagpapatayo ng solar street lights naman ang pinasinayaan sa Barangay Mananao, Paluan.

Ang aktibidad ay dinaluhan ng mga kawani mula sa iba't ibang ahensiya at lokal na pamahalaan. Katuwang sa nasabing pagpapasinaya ay ang kinatawan mula sa Kagawaran ng Interyor at Pamahalaang Lokal na si PDMU Chief Lorenzo Suarez; PD Juanito Olave, Jr., ng DILG Occidental Mindoro; Mayor Romulo Festin ng San Jose; Mayor Cesar Tria ng Magsaysay; Mayor Carl Michael Pangilinan ng Paluan; at mga punong barangay ng Barangay Batasan, San Jose; Barangay Harrison at Mananao, Paluan; at Barangay Purnaga ng Magsaysay.

Sa kanyang mensahe, hinimok ni Gobernador Gadiano ang mga mamamayan ng nasabing mga pamayanan na patuloy na makipagtulungan sa mga programa at proyekto ng pamahalaan upang magpatuloy ang kapayapaan.

"Pag-usapan natin kung ano ang problema at tugunan natin ng tulong-tulong. Hindi na kailangan na daanin sa dahas upang ang ipinaglalaban ay makamit," pahayag niya.

Alinsunod sa Local Budget Circular Blg. 135 ng Kagawaran ng Pagbabadyet at Pamamahala, ang mga barangay na kabilang sa programa ay makakatanggap ng hindi lalampas sa P20 milyon na maaring gamitin sa pagpapatayo ng kalsada, gusaling pampaaralan, patubig, gusaling pangkalusugan, rural electrification, pagsasaayos, pagkukumpuni, at rehabilitasyon ng mga estruktura o proyekto na nasalanta ng kalamidad, armadong pakikipaglaban, terorismo, insurhensiya, at ilan pang sakuna; pabahay; programa para sa pagpapabakuna kontra COVID-19 at mga kahalintulad na proyektong medikal; proyektong pang-agrikultura, pangkabuhayan at teknikal bokasyonal na pagsasanay at tulong para sa mga mahihirap na indibidwal o pamilya sa pamamaraang medikal, libing, transportasyon, pagkain, cash for work, at pang-edukasyon.

Sa panayam kay DILG Regional Director Wilhelm Suyko, ipinaabot nito ang pagbati sa mga benepisyaryo ng mga proyekto sa rehiyon. Aniya, ito ay patunay na ang pamahalaan ay seryoso sa kampanya upang makamit ang kapayapaan at laging handang tumulong sa pangangailangan ng ating mga kababayan.

"Hindi na mahihirapang maglakad sa putikan at baku-bakong kalsada ang ating mga mag-aaral tuwing sila ay papasok sa eskwelahan at mabilis na ring makaaabot sa pamilihan ang mga produkto ng ating mga magsasaka. Mas mapapabilis na rin ang transportasyon ng ating mga kababayan lalo na sa panahon ng emergency," dagdag niya.

Sang-ayon sa Atas Tagapaganap Blg. 70 na nilagdaan ni Pangulong Rodrigo R. Duterte noong Disyembre 2018, ang NTF-ELCAC ang siyang mangunguna at magsisiguro ng epektibong implementasyon ng "whole-of-nation approach" upang makamit ang inklusibo at pangmatagalang kapayapaan. Samantala, ang DILG naman ang naatasan upang masiguro at matiyak na maayos ang implementasyon ng mga programa at proyekto. Batay sa pinakahuling datos ng DILG MIMAROPA, umabot na sa P340 milyon ang naibaba ng Kagawaran ng Pananalapi-Kawanihan ng Ingatang-Yaman para sa 17 barangay ng rehiyon.

Sa kabuuan, aabot sa P500 milyon ang alokasyon para sa 25 na "insurgency-cleared" na mga barangay sa rehiyon. Nagpaabot naman ng pasasalamat ang mga punong bayan at punong barangay na nabiyayaan ng P20 milyong halaga ng mga proyekto at programa.

Source: DILG MIMAROPA/LGOO II Whalee Ferrera



Pagpapasinaya ng proyektong patubig, pagtatayo ng gusaling pampaaralan at pangkalusugan, at solar street light sa Barangay Harrison, Paluan, Occidental Mindoro.



## BALAI FAMERS HOUSING PROJECT PROPOSED SITES IN MIMAROPA REGION

The Department of Agrarian Reform conducted a series of virtual orientations for the Building Adequate Livable Affordable and Inclusive (BALAI) Farmers Housing Project on August 17 and 24, 2021, which was participated in by DAR MIMAROPA regional and provincial office personnel and LGU representatives from Occidental Mindoro, Palawan, and Romblon.

The BALAI is a housing project, in partnership with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, for Assisted Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Organization (ARBOs) and farmers under the low-income category. It seeks to develop affordable and eco-friendly housing designs with production and income generating facilities for farmers. Relevant stakeholders, namely, DA, DSWD, TESDA, DTI, DILG, DENR, and private contractors, are also participating in this project.

Under BALAI, farmers are provided with a two-bedroom, 36-square-meter duplex-type house, complete with a bathroom and toilet, electricity and water connection, tiled floorings, and fully painted interior and exterior walls. Each unit approximately costs P350,000.00 - P400,000.00. This can be paid through their cooperatives with an interest rate of two percent every year for the next 30 years.

To date, there are 32 sites nationwide which are ready to proceed with the project. In MIMAROPA region, the municipalities of Abra de Ilog and Magsaysay in Occidental Mindoro and Brooke's Point in Palawan have signified their interest in the project and are waiting for site validation from the DAR Central Office team once the MECQ classification is lifted in the NCR.

For details of this project, you may send your inquiries to CARPO Ricky Sunga of the Climate Resilient Farm Productivity Division of the DAR Central Office through [ricky.sunga@gmail.com](mailto:ricky.sunga@gmail.com) or to Engr. Roberto Gavina through [bobbygavina@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbygavina@yahoo.com).

Source: Liza Diaz-RIO-DARRO MIMAROPA



MOU signing between DAR Secretary John Castricones and DHSUD Secretary Eduardo D. del Rosario on December 4, 2020.

## DOT AND NIATF LEAD MASS VACCINATION FOR TOURISM FRONTLINERS IN PALAWAN

Department of Tourism (DOT) Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat and COVID-19 Testing Czar Secretary Vince Dizon of the National Inter-Agency Task Force (NIATF) led the mass vaccination activity for tourism frontline workers in the municipalities of Coron, El Nido, and San Vicente on August 3, 2021.



A nurse administers a dose while Sec. Dizon looks on.



DOT Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat gives a message.

This mass vaccination program was made possible through the effort of the Provincial Government of Palawan under the leadership of Governor Jose Ch. Alvarez. The Province of Palawan, being one of the top tourist destinations in the country, is included in the priority list of the national government for the vaccination rollout among tourism frontliners.

Source: PPDO Palawan



## KATIG PROJECT NOW IN OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

**K**ATIG: An IP Community Health Project of the Department of Health–Center for Health Development MIMAROPA, which started implementation in 2020 in the municipalities of Mansalay and Bulalacao, Oriental Mindoro, has now expanded to the Municipality of Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro.

The project aims to ensure availability, accessibility, and delivery of quality primary care services to IP communities through well-equipped community health workers supervised by a multidisciplinary health team.

A basic training/workshop on the delivery of health services was conducted in Isla de Oro Hotel on June 28-30, 2021, for the newly hired Indigenous Peoples Community Health Workers (IP CHWs) as part of its expansion. It was attended by seven IP health workers who will help in providing health services to the IP communities in Abra de Ilog.

At the end of the training, the participants came up with programs and plans to address common health issues in their communities as starting point of the project.

Meanwhile, meetings with the municipal health office staff and IP community health workers were conducted for the Municipality of Mansalay on July 16 and Bulalacao on July 28, respectively. This activity was conducted to assess the current status of the areas where the IP CHWs are deployed and to address issues and concerns that they encountered during the conduct of their field work.

## 24M ROAD PROJECT NA MAGKOKONEKTA SA BACAWAN, POLA AT RANZO, PINAMALAYAN, SINIMULAN NA



Naasahang magiging malaking tulong sa mga residente ng Brgy. Bacawan, Pola, ang isinasagawang P24 million road project ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Oriental Mindoro na magbibigay daan upang pagdugtungan ang naturang barangay papuntang Brgy. Ranzo, Pinamalayan.

Ang naturang proyekto ng pamahalaang panlalawigan ay isa sa mga maituturing na mga flagship projects ni Gobernador Humerlito A. Dolor. Sa pamamagitan ng naturang proyekto, magkakaroon ng pagkakataon ang mga residente ng Bacawan na makakuha ng mga pangunahing serbisyo gaya ng mga serbisyong medikal at pagbili ng mga kalakal sa lokal na pamilihan ng Pinamalayan.

Bubutasan at gagawan din ng daan ang Brgy. Buhay na Tubig, Pola, upang maikonekta rin sa Ranzo, nang sa gayon ay hindi na mahirapan ang mga mamamayan sa pagbiyahe. Ayon kay Gob. Dolor, makatutulong ang naturang proyekto sa pagtaas ng ekonomiya dahil sa pagdami ng mga maaaring makakuha ng mga nabanggit na pangunahing serbisyo.

Sa huli, bilang dagdag tulong sa naturang lugar, lalong lalo na sa mga mag-aaral na nag-momodular classes, ipinahayag ng gobernador na aasikasuhin nito ang pagpapatayo ng cell tower dito upang magkaroon ng signal sa naturang lugar na magiging malaking kapakinabangan ng mga mamamayan lalong higit ng mga mag-aaral.





# DICT Free Wi-Fi for All: CONNECTING FILIPINOS IN GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED AND DISADVANTAGED AREAS



DICT Mission: DICT of the people and for the people.



NAIBUAN MINORITY SCHOOL,  
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO



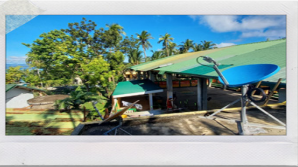
The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) recognizes the vital role of Information and Communications Technology especially during crucial time of pandemic. Through its Free Wi-Fi for All (FW4A) Program, DICT ensures the availability and accessibility of reliable and secure internet access suited to the needs of the nation.



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MONGPONG ISLAND BARANGAY  
MULTI-PURPOSE HALL, MARINDUQUE



BALOGO BARANGAY HALL,  
ROMBLON



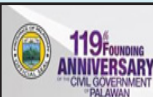
## PALAWAN COMPLETES 7,000 KILOMETERS OF ROAD PROJECTS

The Provincial Government of Palawan has completed more than 7,000 kilometers of road projects since 2013.

Included in this project are the road networks connecting to key tourism destinations and farm-to-market roads.

Governor Jose Ch. Alvarez vowed to improve inter-island connectivity by constructing more than 30 concrete and hanging bridges across the province.

Source: IHelp



### INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads and Bridges - "KALSADA tungo sa kaunlaran,  
TULAY sa katuparan ng mga pangarap ng mga Palaweno"



Several road projects in Palawan

## SINAG SAN VICENTE PROJECT POWERS ISLAND FISHING COMMUNITIES IN SAN VICENTE, PALAWAN

A total of 227 off-grid households in two island sitios in San Vicente, Palawan, have been energized through the strategic partnership of the Pilipinas Shell Foundation Inc. (PSFI) and the local government units (LGU) under the Save, Invest and Nurture Access to Green Energy and Technologies or SINAG San Vicente Program.

The project successfully installed power generation systems that provide 24/7 electricity to 107 families in Sitio Casoyan, Barangay Poblacion, and 120 families in Sitio Albaguen, Bgy. Port Barton, that are dependent on fishing for their livelihood. These artisanal fisherfolks can now produce their own ice to preserve the quality of their catch.

A hybrid micro-grid power systems was installed in each sitio of a 20 KW solar system, 3 KW wind turbine, 100 KW lithium batteries, and a 35 KVA diesel generator to guarantee an uninterrupted and clean power supply to the community.

Project partners headed by Mayor Amy Roa Alvarez, PSFI Deputy Executive Director Marvi Trudeau, together with Governor Jose Ch. Alvarez, and Board Member Juan Antonio E. Alvarez, led the inauguration.

An elementary school, daycare centers, churches, and street lights in the community are among those that benefited from the project.

extended her appreciation to the PSFI for the partnership and its initiative of helping off-grid communities.

“Thanks to the PSFI for accommodating my request to include our two sitios in their SINAG project. This is a huge help for the livelihood of our residents especially that Sitio Casoyan and Sitio Albaguen are known fishing villages,” said Mayor Alvarez.

The inaugurated micro-grid system in Casoyan was the eighth SINAG project of the PSFI. In December 2020, the same micro-grid system was installed and inaugurated in Sitio Albaguen.

“Ang SINAG po ay patuloy na magbibigay ng liwanag hindi lamang po sa mga bahay ngunit pati na rin po sa mga buhay ng mga napagkalooban po nito,” said Trudeau.

Community associations were organized and tasked with the operation and maintenance of the system with the assistance of a management committee and technical working group from the LGU.

Under the project, each household will contribute P300 a month for their minimum electricity consumption that will in turn be used to buy diesel for the back up generator, repairs, and replacement battery.

*Source: PPDO Palawan*

In her message, the local chief executive of San Vicente



Mayor Amy Roa Alvarez (center) together with PSFI's management team and barangay and province officials during the countdown to power up the Casoyan Hybrid Micro-Grid Power System on August 5, 2021



## DAR MIMAROPA LAUNCHES BUHAY SA GULAY PROGRAM IN MIMAROPA REGION

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) MIMAROPA launched the Buhay Sa Gulay Program in the capital cities and towns of the region from July to August 2021. The program, which aims to provide interventions to urban dwellers/informal settlers during this pandemic, has kicked off in Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, on July 9, 2021; in Boac, Marinduque, on July 23; and Puerto Princesa City, on August 26.

Initiated by the DAR and in partnership with local government units (LGUs) and other line agencies. The program focuses on the establishment of vegetable gardens in cities and municipalities. It encouraged nearby residents to participate in the cultivation and management of the sites to ensure food security in this time of pandemic.



Buhay sa gulay project launching and MOA Signing



Several residents participated in the cultivation



Newly purchased farming equipments

## I HELP PROGRAM BOOSTS INFRASTRUCTURE IN PALAWAN

The Provincial Government of Palawan has completed 93 out of the target 184 covered courts and 30 evacuation centers.

The construction of barangay covered courts has become an essential component of the infrastructure sector as it serves many purposes such as evacuation centers during calamities and as venue for educational and recreational activities.

Source: IHelp



Before, more than 70% of barangays in the province did not have covered courts. Now, 119 covered courts have been completed and 91 covered courts are ongoing construction in the municipalities of Aborlan, Araceli, Busuanga, Cagayancillo, Coron, Cuyo, Dumarán, El Nido, Linapacan, Magsaysay, Quezon, Roxas, Sofrionio Española, and Taytay. Covered courts serve many purposes as they can be used as evacuation centers during calamities and venues for educational and recreational activities.



# NEDA MIMAROPA TO ASSIST OCCIDENTAL MINDORO FORMULATE ITS PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAM



Chief of Staff Economist, Ms. Rio Andrea A. Angeles, resource speaker of PDIP

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Office MIMAROPA conducted an online meeting on July 13, 2021, to discuss the requested technical assistance in the formulation of the Provincial Development Investment Program (PDIP) of the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro and to determine the schedule of activities and other arrangements relative to the requested assistance.

NEDA MIMAROPA Regional Director Agustin C. Mendoza welcomed the representatives from Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) and Local Economic Development and Investment Promotion Division (LEDIPD) of Occidental Mindoro. He highlighted several considerations in the formulation of the PDIP, such as 1) determination or familiarization of the current annual investment program; 2) review and validation of the existing Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) and its alignment to the current Regional Development Plan (RDP), Sustainable Development Goals, and Ambisyon Natin 2040; 3) utilization of the integrated framework on planning, investment programming, and budgeting; 4) generation of long list of programs and projects; 5) prioritization of programs and projects using the Goal Achievement Matrix; 6) formulation of project briefs for priority projects; and 7) formulation of the Executive Legislative Agenda supportive of the

province's development priorities, among others.

Meanwhile, Ms. Rio Andrea A. Angeles from the LEDIPD of Occidental Mindoro provided a brief presentation on the following topics relative to the formulation of the Provincial Development Investment Program (PDIP): a) Rationale; b) Objective; c) Timeline of Activities; and d) Trainings Needed.

It was noted during the meeting that the PPDO is currently updating the PDPFP with assistance from the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development. This effort should be harmonized with the initiatives of the LEDIPD.

The provincial government requested the assistance of NEDA MIMAROPA in providing the following trainings: a) crafting of PDIP, b) crafting of PDIP policies, and c) public-private partnership (PPP) training for municipal local government units (MLGUs).

NEDA MIMAROPA will prepare the activity design of the requested capacity building program and refer the training needs of the MLGUs to the PPP Center. The NRO is expected to provide the requested trainings to the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro on the fourth quarter of the year.

Source: NEDA MIMAROPA



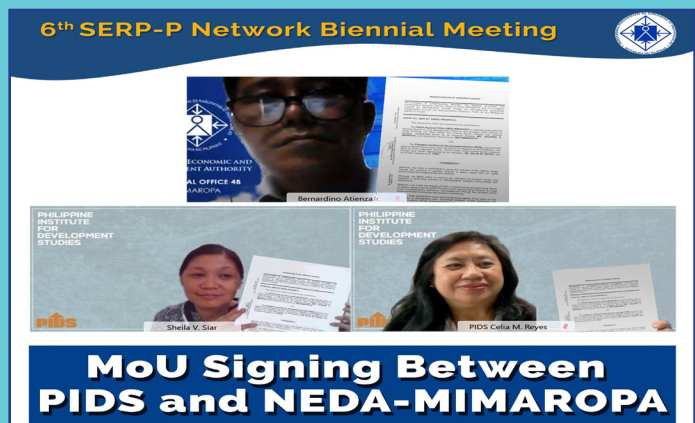


## NEDA MIMAROPA SIGNS MOU WITH PIDS AS NEW MEMBER OF SERP-P

The NEDA Regional Office MIMAROPA signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) to become the latest institutional member of the Socio Economic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P) during the 6th Biennial Meeting on July 28, 2021.

Assistant Regional Director Bernardino A. Atienza, Jr., represented NEDA MIMAROPA during the simple signing ceremony, while President Celia M. Reyes represented PIDS.

In his remarks, Atienza thanked the PIDS SERP-P for accepting NEDA MIMAROPA's request to become an institutional member of the SERP-P. This will help the agency in the dissemination of relevant information to MIMAROPA such as analysis of various programs and projects.



The signing ceremony was witnessed by Dr. Sheila V. Siar, SERP-P Project Manager, and representatives from the public and private institutional members of the portal.

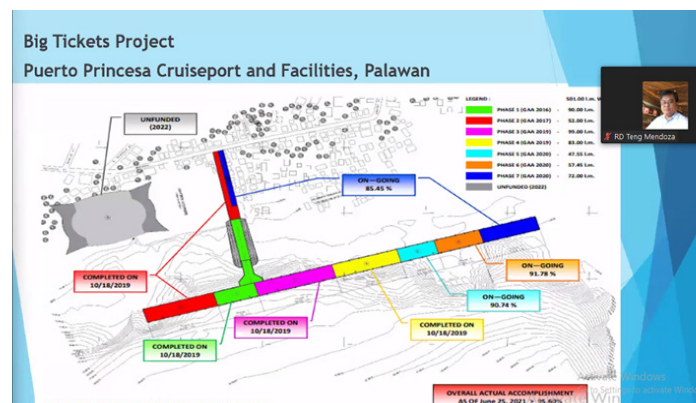
SERP-P is the country's first electronic repository of policy research and information that capitalizes on research networking. SERP-P users can access socioeconomic publications/materials in various formats which can be easily disseminated to partner institutions, academe, and the general public.

## MIMAROPA RPMC HOLDS Q3 MEETING, FOLLOWS UP PROGRESS OF MAJOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The MIMAROPA Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC) virtually conducted its third quarter meeting on August 24, 2021, to discuss the implementation status of major development projects in the region.

The meeting started with an opening message from RPMC Chairperson and NEDA MIMAROPA Regional Director Agustin C. Mendoza, who welcomed the members and partner agencies. He provided an overview of the flow of discussion with emphasis on the second quarter Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) report and field monitoring visit in Oriental Mindoro.

Engr. Corie Mercader of DPWH MIMAROPA presented the status of the Puerto Galera-Abra de Ilog Mindoro Island Circumferential Road and Victoria-Sabluyan Mindoro Cross Island Road with portions reported to be already completed and nearing completion. The Coron-Culion Inter-Island Bridge in Palawan and Balabac Runway in Marinduque projects were reported to be suspended because of regulatory requirements yet to be complied and approved. The Puerto Princesa Cruise Port was reported to be near its completion as well.



Presentation of Big Ticket Projects

The National Housing Authority Region 4 reported the latest updates on the Yolanda Permanent Housing Program. Land development in Coron is underway for the implementation of

2,670 housing units, while the rest of the targeted areas with 2,620 units are for issuance of Notice to Proceed to the contractor.

Engr. Lowell Lozano of National Irrigation Administration MIMAROPA presented the implementation status of the Ibat-Iraan Small Reservoir Irrigation Project in Aborlan, Palawan. He mentioned that the project is expected to be operational by May 2023.

The Department of Agriculture MIMAROPA also discussed the progress of the projects under the Philippine Rural Development Program particularly on I-PLAN, I-BUILD, and I-REAP sub-projects, MIMAROPA Pipelined sub-projects, and the Marine Protected Areas in Roxas, Palawan.

The secretariat also presented the second quarter RPMES report with updates from the ProyekTanglaw system, citing 456 regional projects being implemented by 22 MIMAROPA government agencies. Of the reported 456 projects, 148 (32.46%) were completed. Meanwhile, a total of 173 (37.64%) projects encountered problems in implementation. Reported projects comprise mostly of regular projects of agencies (92.54%) with portions of projects under the Official Development Assistance (4.61%), COVID-19 Recovery and Rehabilitation (2.41%), and End Local Communist Armed Conflict (0.44%).

The field monitoring visit in Oriental Mindoro conducted on July 22, 2021, was also reported by the secretariat. The Regional Project Monitoring Team inspected the PPA PMO Mindoro's passenger terminal buildings, Calapan Airport Development project, and DPWH-implemented infrastructure projects in support of national security.

Other matter was raised by Mr. Rodne Galicha of Bayay Sibuyan, Inc. requesting DPWH to provide supporting documents that led to the green-lighting of implemented seawall and bay walk projects along some coastal areas in the region.

The secretariat also announced training and monitoring activities lined up for the rest of the year for LPMCs, RPMC, and RPMT members.

Source: NEDA MIMAROPA

## PSA MIMAROPA CONDUCTS REGIONAL DATA DISSEMINATION FORUM ON THE RESULTS OF THE 2020 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING



The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA conducted the Regional Data Dissemination Forum on the Results of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) on 27 July 2021 through Zoom and was broadcasted live at the official Facebook account of PSA MIMAROPA.

Participants in this online forum were regional line agencies, provincial local government units, higher education institutions, and selected members from the local media.

The keynote speech of Regional Director Agustin C. Mendoza of the National Economic and Development Authority Regional Office MIMAROPA highlighted the use of census data in the updating of the development and physical framework plan and its provinces that is vital in achieving demographic dividend. "With the increase in the population of the region, there is a need to accelerate human capital development by investing on health, education, social protection, infrastructure, environmental protection among others," Mendoza emphasized.

Dir. Leni R. Rioflorido of PSA MIMAROPA presented the report on the Official 2020 Population Counts of MIMAROPA based from the 2020 CPH. It was showed that the region recorded a total population of 3,228,558 as of 12:01 a.m. on 1 May 2020, which was 2.96 percent of the Philippine population in 2020. Consequently, the region registered a 1.82 percent annual population growth rate which was faster than the national annual population growth rate of 1.63 percent. With a total land area of 29,606.25 square kilometers, the region was regarded as sparsely populated with its population density of the region has only reached 109 persons per square kilometer, compared to the national density of 363 persons per square kilometer.

Among provinces in the region, Rioflorido informed that Palawan, excluding the City of Puerto Princesa, got the highest population count of 939,594 as of May 1, 2020. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro (908,339), Occidental Mindoro (525,354), and Romblon (308,985).

Marinduque, on the other hand, had the smallest population in MIMAROPA with 239,207 people. Meanwhile, the City of Puerto Princesa, being the lone highly urbanized city in the region had the population count of 307,079.

Rioflorido extended her sincere gratitude to all officials of the Census Coordinating Boards at the regional, provincial, and city/municipal levels, and all barangay officials and citizens for their full support to the successful implementation of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meanwhile, Dir. Reynaldo O. Wong of the Commission on Population and Development MIMAROPA and the reactor in the on-line forum, pointed out the faster growth rate that has been experiencing by the region. "There is a need to double the efforts on family planning campaign to attain a better demographic scenario for the region," Wong added.

The dissemination of statistical data generated from the 2020 CPH serves as its culminating phase after several months of preparation and implementation of its various plans and programs. Population statistics is useful both to the government and private sectors in their decision-making process and formulation of various programs and projects for the people. Census data also play an increasingly significant role in the information needs of researchers, both local and abroad.

## DOST MIMAROPA INSTALLS SOLAR-POWERED WATER PUMPING STATION ON MANIWAYA ISLAND

As part of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) MIMAROPA's initiative to provide reliable and safe water access to water-scarce areas in the region, a solar-powered water pumping station was installed on Maniwaya Island, Sta. Cruz, Marinduque, on July 9, 2021.

Maniwaya is an island municipality in Marinduque and is considered as one of the geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas in the MIMAROPA region. It can be accessed from the Buyabod Pier from the mainland via motorized banca, and it takes around 30 to 45 minutes to get there depending on the weather condition.



*Solar-powered Water Pumping Station in Maniwaya Island*





Left: A resident sets up a container as rainwater reservoir. Right: Residents gather water from the tap connected to the Solar-Powered Water Pumping Station.



According to the 2015 data obtained from the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), 280 households, or approximately 1480 individuals, in the island do not have access to a reliable water source. During rainy season, most of the residents rely on rainwater as their main water supply, collected using makeshift collectors attached to the gutter of their roofs.

Rainwater is used for bathing, cooking, doing laundry and dishes, cleaning the house, and washing their animals. Some families drink it too as they cannot afford to buy. Some bathe in the open, like rivers or sea, just to conserve water. These put residents at high risk for water-borne diseases and other health hazards.

When dry season comes, the residents are forced to gather water from a deep well located 3 kilometers away from the residential area. Most of the residents can only use habal-habal or motorcycle taxis and karitons as primary means to ferry the collected water since the road leading to the source is narrow. Sometimes, the residents have to make two or more trips to collect enough water to last them a day or more.

Payment of P2.00 for every 30 liters of water is collected for the maintenance of the deep well while others who cannot physically gather their own water are also compelled to pay an additional P40-50 for delivery costs.

Businesses like resorts also expressed concerns on the negative impacts of having no reliable water source in the island. Maniwaya Island, with long stretch of powdery white sand beaches, is now considered as a tourist gem of

the province. However, they fear that without clean water, people would refuse to go to the island which will gravely affect their livelihood.

Now through the solar-powered water pumping station, a total of 76 households or about 340 members of the community are now provided with access to sustainable supply of water. The station was built just 1.5 kilometers away from the residential area and connects the residents to a water source via a communal faucet or tap stand located at the center of the barangay. It has a total capacity of 2000L which can be shared by the residents and business owners within the area.

Residents now enjoy affordable and safe water closer to their homes for drinking and domestic use, instead of having to drive or walk 3 kilometers several times a day just to get by. With an assured protected source, residents are now free from the danger of contracting diseases carried through contaminated water. The resorts near the solar-powered water pumping station were also thankful as they can now provide cleaner water and environment for their customers.

The collection of P2.00 per 30 liters of water will still be imposed by the barangay, and collected fees will now be used for the maintenance of the solar-powered water pumping station.

“Nagpapasalamat po kami sa DOST MIMAROPA dahil nailapit po sa amin ang tubig. Hindi na po kami mahirapan magtabo o maghinatay ng ulan” said Julian Penon, a 59-year-old resident in the island.



Residents carry water gathered from the deep well.

The solar-powered pumping water station was provided as part of DOST’s Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) program that aims to transform the quality of life of disadvantaged communities in the country. The initiative was realized in collaboration with the Local Government Unit of Sta. Cruz. LGU-Sta. Cruz will monitor and maintain the facility and is committed to champion the science and technology, particularly the use of solar energy systems, in the province.

Source: DOST MIMAROPA

## NIA-MOMARO-IMO FAST-TRACKS IMPLEMENTATION OF CY2021 PROJECTS

The National Irrigation Administration Mindoro Oriental-Marinduque-Romblon Irrigation Management Office (NIA MOMARO IMO) ensures timely and effective implementation of its CY2021 projects while observing proper health and safety protocols amid pandemic. The IMO completed the implementation of four contracts early this third quarter of 2021. These projects with an aggregate cost of P11,686,989.10 aim to deliver efficient, reliable, and sustainable irrigation service to the Filipino farmers in conjunction with the mandate to support and enhance the development of agricultural, environmental, and economic program of the government.

A newly-paved service road constructed by NIA-MOMARO-IMO benefits rice farmers of Brgy. Pula, Pola, Oriental Mindoro, by reducing the transport cost of their harvested crops.

The project consists of a 330.50-meter road with 4.00-m two lane carriageway width and 150-mm thick concrete pavement along the Lateral B of Pula River Irrigation Systems (RIS) at Brgy. Pula, Pola, Oriental Mindoro. The improvement of service road in Pula RIS was constructed with a total contract amount of P2,286,035.43 and was implemented from May 2021 to August 2021.

Service roads on embankments of major canals of national irrigation systems (NIS) are linked with roads leading to villages or towns and also serve as farm-to-market roads providing access to agricultural trades and industries.

On the other hand, 65 hectares of agricultural lands of Brgy. Malibago, Pola, Oriental Mindoro, is expected to be provided with substantial water supply upon the conclusion of CY2021 Malibago Communal Irrigation System (CIS) Extension. The total amount of the completed contract works is P4,730,888.00. It consists of purchase, delivery, and installation of submersible pump and generator set complete with accessories.

The project will install two units of brand-new submersible



pump with 150-mm diameter discharge size, rated to deliver 2,500 l/min – 5,150 l/min against 21.1 meters – 4.6 meters total dynamic head (TDH) and powered by one-unit brand-new generator set with diesel engine.

Meanwhile, a total of 70 farmer beneficiaries tilling 126.85 hectares of agricultural land will benefit from the recently completed CY2021 Lapog CIS Extension.

The contract comprised of construction of concrete canal lining of Lateral A and Lateral B, which has a total length of 395 meters and 410 meters, respectively, complete with concrete canal structures such as headgates, turn-outs and bullcart crossings. The total cost of the contract is P4,247,772.00 and completed early this quarter, May 2021 to July 2021. The project is set to generate 20.7 hectares of irrigable area in addition to the initial service area 106.15 hectares of agricultural land in Brgy. Lapog, Socorro, Oriental Mindoro.

Romblon Provincial Irrigation Office (PIO) received a facelift after the fulfillment of the CY2021 Renovation of Front Perimeter of Romblon PIO.

Construction started on May 2021 and concluded on June 2021 with contract amount of Php 422,293.67. The project which composed of construction and painting of fence and installation of gate around Romblon PIO was realized to ensure a more efficient, convenient and professional service to irrigation stakeholders in the province.

*Source: NIA MIMAROPA*





## PUERTO PRINCESA CITY COVAC, PRIVATE AGENCIES VACCINATED 186 PREGNANT AND LACTATING MOMS.

The City Health Office–Puerto Princesa City COVAC, alongside the Palawan Medical Society and Palawan Obstetrics and Gynecological Chapter, conducted a vaccination activity exclusive for pregnant women and lactating mothers on August 21, 2021, at the Puerto Princesa City Coliseum.

A total of 186 lactating mothers and pregnant women received their first jab of COVID-19 vaccine.



Puerto Princesa, Palawan, COVID-19 vaccination for Pregnant Women (Expanded A3) on August 21, 2021

City Health Officer Dr. Ricardo Panganiban emphasized that pregnant women and lactating mothers are not exempted from getting COVID-19. It is also important to have them vaccinated for an added layer of protection as well as a protection for their children from getting infected with the virus.

“Hindi naman sila exempted from the virus,” he added. “Actually, pregnant women have high risk for infection, yung ibang buntis may mga comorbidities din. Syempre you have to protect two persons—the mother and the baby—and just how important na ma-protect natin ang mga mother and baby from COVID-19.”

The city health officer also mentioned that there are still many hesitant mothers. But still they encourage pregnant women and lactating mothers to protect themselves and their infants through vaccination.



## DICT-LC3 PROGRESSES WITH D-VAS GO-LIVE IN MIMAROPA

The Department of Information and Communications Technology–Luzon Cluster 3 (DICT-LC3) successfully launched the DICT Vaccine Administration System (D-VAS) in ten local government units (LGUs) of MIMAROPA.

LGUs of Bongabong and Socorro in Oriental Mindoro; Mogpog, Boac, and Gasan in Marinduque; Alcantara, Odiongan, San Jose, and Banton in Romblon, and Culion in Palawan are included in the D-VAS go-live.

The D-VAS is a free software that can help LGUs cut down the COVID-19 inoculation processing time by half with its digitized inoculation process from registration, vital signs entry, health screening, inoculation recording, and post vaccination monitoring of Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI). The D-VAS facilitates the accurate, complete, and timely reporting of vaccination-related data in support of the national immunization program of the government.

The number of the LGUs implementing DVAS is expected to increase as the DICT, thru its Data Resiliency for Ease of Access and Management (DREAM) Team, is incessantly reaching for all LGUs to adopt the system and work hand in hand in the battle against the COVID.

The DICT leads the DREAM Team as per Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious

Diseases (IATF) Resolution No. 85, s. 2020. Following the resolution, the DREAM team is mandated to deploy and monitor the use of ICT solutions that are part of the official COVID-19 ICT ecosystem.

Pursuant to the objective of upskilling different agencies and LGUs with COVID-19 ICT systems for the implementation of the vaccination program across the country, the DICT also led other capacity-building activities and trainings for the Vaccine Information Management System (VIMS) and other related ICT systems used by LGUs.

Source: DICT-LC3



Registration of citizens using D-VAS

# Regional Economic Situationer

2ND QUARTER 2021

## MACROECONOMY

### INFLATION



MIMAROPA's average inflation rate increased to **5.1% in April to June 2021** from previous year's 3.1 percent. All provinces registered higher inflation rates. Marinduque registered the highest inflation rate at 8.8 percent. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro and Romblon with 7.2 percent and 7.0 percent, respectively. Palawan recorded the lowest inflation rate with 2.6%.

### PURCHASING POWER

The purchasing power of peso in the region decreased from last year's 0.80 to 0.76.



### PRICES

All commodity groups registered upward price movements compared to previous year's index levels, which contributed to the region's 5.1% average inflation rate in April to June 2021.



#### TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INCREASE OF CPI



Alcoholic beverages and tobacco



Clothing and footwear



Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels

### LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT



The region's working age population increased by 1.17 percent from **2,049,000 in April 2020 to 2,073,000 in April 2021**.

**Employment rate** increased by 6.6 percentage points from 87.5 percent in April 2020 to 94.1 percent in April 2021.



The region's **unemployment rate** of 5.9 percent was lower by 2.80 percentage points compared to the national average unemployment rate of 8.7 percent.



**Underemployment rate** increased by 2.20 percentage points from 22.0 percent in April 2020 to 24.2 percent in April 2021.



## AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

### CREALS



Palay

2Q 2020: 213,045.06 MT  
2Q 2021: 224,070.00 MT



Corn

2Q 2020: 37,200.56 MT  
2Q 2021: 34,744.00 MT

### MAJOR CROPS

BANANA  
2Q 2020: 10,707.02 MT  
2Q 2021: 10,798.54 MT



ONION  
2Q 2020: 31,476.07 MT  
2Q 2021: 45,621.34 MT



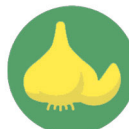
CALAMANSI  
2Q 2020: 3,137.20 MT  
2Q 2021: 2,070.37 MT



COCONUT  
2Q 2020: 162,397.45 MT  
2Q 2021: 163,517.03 MT



GARLIC  
2Q 2020: 10,707.02 MT  
2Q 2021: 10,798.54 MT



CASHEW  
2Q 2020: 249,006.83 MT  
2Q 2021: 250,326.77 MT



The livestock subsector increased by 17.25 percent during the second quarter of 2021.



Production of poultry animals and chicken eggs in the region increased during the same period in 2021.



Commercial fisheries increased by 11.29 percent. All provinces recorded decreases in commercial fisheries production except Occidental Mindoro that registered a significant increase of 124.68 percent.

Municipal marine fisheries recorded an increase of 33.69% from 25,037.18 MT produced during the second quarter of 2020 to 33,472.61 MT produced during the same period in 2021.

Aquaculture fisheries produced during the second quarter of 2021 was 47,526.53 metric tons, 4.71 percent higher than the production during the same period in 2020.



## INVESTMENTS AND INDUSTRY

### INVESTMENTS

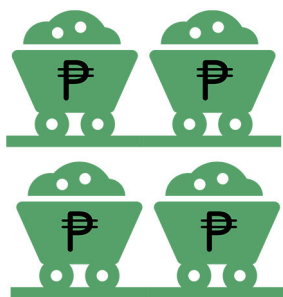


Business names registration in the region recorded a double-digit increase of 33.73 percent, from 1,957 business names registered in the second quarter of 2020 to 2,617 business names registered in the same period of 2021.

The provinces of Occidental Mindoro and Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest percentage increase in business names registered at 82.55 percent and 81.51 percent, respectively.

The total number of MSMEs assisted in the region decreased by 6.99 percent, from 3,206 MSMEs in the second quarter of 2020 to 2,982 MSMEs assisted during the same quarter in 2021

### MINING AND QUARRYING



**Value**  
Q2 2020: PHP 4,572,478,463.72  
Q2 2021: PHP 6,053,971,768.04

The recorded value of metallic and non-metallic minerals produced in the region during the second quarter 2021 showed varied performance.

The significant increase in the production of nickel was brought about by the consistent high demand of nickel used in the production of stainless steel and new types of energy-efficient electric vehicle batteries associated with the higher global market prices and the lifting of COVID-19 boundary restrictions.

## SERVICES

### TOURISM



The travel restrictions and community quarantine measures due to COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the number of tourist arrivals in the region. Tourist arrivals in the region increased remarkably by 230.57 percent, with 17,560 tourist arrivals in April to June 2021 compared to 5,312 in the same period of 2020. There were 93 foreign tourists recorded in the region during the quarter.

The highest number of tourist arrivals during the second quarter was recorded in Occidental Mindoro, with 9,351 visitors, or 53.54 percent of the total tourist arrivals in the region.





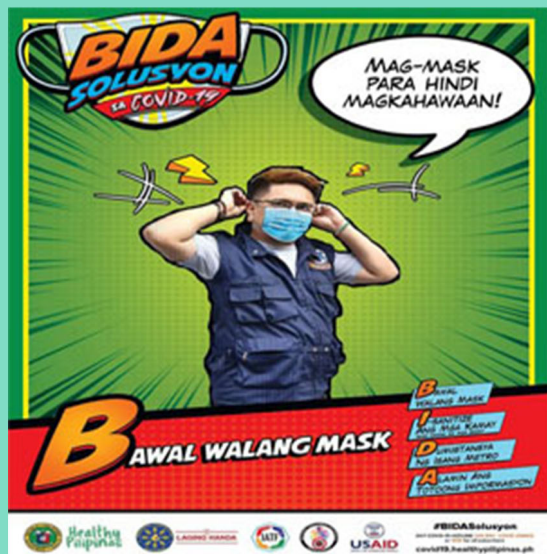
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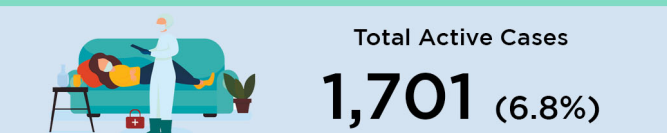


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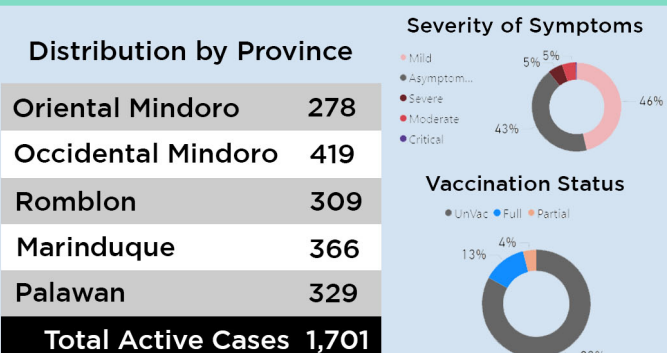


# COVID-19 REGIONAL CASE BULLETIN

CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT - MIMAROPA | 03 SEPTEMBER 2021



137 new active case(s) | 100 additional recoveries



Cumulative Number of Cases

19,864

Total Cases  
MIMAROPA

DISCLAIMER: Every effort has been made to provide accurate and verified information, however, surveillance data is dynamic, and error can occur. Users/readers are advised to check often to get the latest and updated data. Cut-off time and release is 12 PM daily

We welcome contributions.  
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