



Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
MIMAROPA Region

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**REFERENCE FOLDER**

Second Quarter Meeting  
May 06, 2021  
Via Zoom

# **CONFIDENTIAL**

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Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
MIMAROPA Region

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
Special Meeting  
January 13, 2021 Calapan City (online)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present**

**Represented by**

**EDC Officers**

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. Rodne R. Galicha               | Bayay Sibuyanon, EDC Chairperson              |
| 2. OIC-Dir. Susan A. Sumbeling        | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting RDC Vice Chairperson |
| 3. OIC-ARD Bernardino A. Atienza, Jr. | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting RDC Secretary        |
| 4. Ms. Jobelle M. Cruzado             | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting EDC Secretary        |

**Regional Directors of National Government Agencies**

- |                                   |                         |                            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5. MGen. Greg T. Almerol, AFP     | 2nd ID, Philippine Army | Ms. Teresita Gangan        |
| 6. Dir. Elizer S. Salilig         | BFAR MIMAROPA           |                            |
| 7. Dir. Carina P. Del Rosario     | BSP Region 4            | Ms. Karel Saskia B. Odiver |
| 8. Dir. Cristina H. Villamil      | CDA MIMAROPA            | Mr. Alberto Sabarias       |
| 9. Dir. Antonio G. Gerundio       | DA MIMAROPA             | Mr. Nex Basi               |
| 10. Dir. Zoraida O. Macadindang   | DAR MIMAROPA            | ARD Lilibeth Lee           |
| 11. Dir. Ma. Lourdes Ferrer       | DENR MIMAROPA           | ARD Bighani M. Manipula    |
| 12. Dir. Ma. Josefina P. Abilay   | DOST MIMAROPA           |                            |
| 13. Dir. Christopher V. Morales   | DOT MIMAROPA            |                            |
| 14. Dir. Joel B. Valera           | DTI MIMAROPA            | ARD Rodolfo Mariposque     |
| 15. Atty. Michael Drake P. Matias | EMB MIMAROPA            | Ms. Angela Quijano         |
| 16. Dr. Arnold Alindada           | FDA MIMAROPA            |                            |
| 17. Dir. Roland A. De Jesus       | MGB MIMAROPA            |                            |
| 18. Dir. William P. Ragadon       | NIA MIMAROPA            | Mr. Lowell Lozano          |
| 19. Dir. Ramon L. Rivera          | PCA MIMAROPA            | Engr. Edilberto Escobar    |
| 20. Dir. Emelie F. Geroy          | PFIDA 4                 |                            |
| 21. Asec. Joseph B. Encabo        | PMS-ORC                 | Mr. Cesar Contreras        |
| 22. Atty. Teodoro Jose S. Matta   | PCSD                    |                            |

**Private Sector Representatives**

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 23. Ms. Juvelyn V. Gumal-in | Pampamayanang Mangyan Ugnayan, Inc.               |
| 24. Mr. Darius M. Guerero   | Philippine Trade and General Workers Organization |
| 25. Mr. Delfin Natal        | Philippine Rural Construction Movement            |

**Provincial Planning and Development Offices**

- |                                 |                           |                             |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26. EnP. Marian M. Cunanan      | PPDO Marinduque           |                             |
| 27. EnP. Anthony Dantis         | PPDO Occidental Mindoro   | Mr. Ron Lowell Karl Daproza |
| 28. EnP. Lydia Muñeca S. Melgar | PPDO Or. Mindoro          |                             |
| 29. EnP. Ninfa B. Rubio         | PPDO Palawan              |                             |
| 30. EnP. Willard P. Mortos      | PPDO Romblon              |                             |
| 31. EnP. Amormio CJS. Benter    | CPDO Calapan City         |                             |
| 32. EnP. Jovenec C. Sagun       | CPDO Puerto Princesa City |                             |

**Absent**

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 33. Sec. Emmanuel M. De Guzman | Climate Change Commission |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|

|    |                                  |   |
|----|----------------------------------|---|
| 58 | 34. Dir. Piolito C. Santos       | NFA 4   |
| 59 | 35. Mr. Luis S. Caraan           | PAAOF   |
| 60 | 36. Ma. Cristina Grace           | MBCFI   |
| 61 |                                  |   |
| 62 | <b><u>Guests</u></b>             |   |
| 63 | 37. Mr. Alvin Amil               | DBM-LGCRB   |
| 64 | 38. Ms. Anna Cena                | DBM MIMAROPA  |
| 65 | 39. Mr. Jonathan Ronquillo       | Representative of Rep. Josephine R. Sato                  |
| 66 | 40. Ms. Agnes A. Acosta-Magdaob  | Representative of Rep. Gil. A. Acosta JR.                 |
| 67 | 41. Ms. Lorely Gacusan           | Representative of House Speaker Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco |
| 68 | 42. Ms. Jade Zapata              | OPAST   |
| 69 | 43. Ms. Michelle G. Tabuno       | OPAST   |
| 70 | 44. Ms. Maria Milagros G. Quieng | Private Sector Representative                             |
| 71 | 45. Ms. Marvi R. Trudeau         | Private Sector Representative                             |
| 72 | 46. Ms. Joanna J. Elideros       | Private Sector Representative                             |
| 73 | 47. Mr. Oscar Ricaflanca         | Basic Sector Representative                               |
| 74 | 48. ARD Rodrigo Marquez          | DBM MIMAROPA  |
| 75 | 49. Mr. Michael Lacsamana        | DBM MIMAROPA  |
| 76 | 50. Ms. Ma. Eunice Delos Santos  | DBM MIMAROPA  |
| 77 | 51. Mr. Christian Mendoza        | DBM MIMAROPA  |
| 78 | 52. Ms. Marilyn Limpiada         | DENR MIMAROPA   |
| 79 | 53. ARD Jerry Mercado            | DOST MIMAROPA   |
| 80 | 54. Ms. Jelyn Doctor             | DOST MIMAROPA   |
| 81 | 55. Ms. Gladys Quesea            | DOT MIMAROPA  |
| 82 | 56. Ms. Dionne Cruz              | DTI MIMAROPA  |
| 83 | 57. Ms. Karen Leander            | DTI MIMAROPA  |
| 84 | 58. Ms. Luzviminda Atienza       | FDA   |
| 85 | 59. Ms. Mariella Anna Hizola     | MGB MIMAROPA  |
| 86 | 60. Ms. Josefina Lopez           | DAR MIMAROPA  |
| 87 | 61. Mr. John Francisco Pontillas | PCSD  |

88

#### 89 **Secretariat**

|    |                                 |               |
|----|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 90 | 62. Mr. Ryan O. Manrique        | NEDA MIMROPA  |
| 91 | 63. Ms. Mirabelle V. Lanuza     | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 92 | 64. Mr. Ruther John B. Col-long | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 93 | 65. Ms. Charmaine Bejasa        | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 94 | 66. Ms. Sheryll B. Sarabia      | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 95 | 67. Ms. Judy Mae V. Masangkay   | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 96 | 68. Mr. Roy A. Dimayuga         | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 97 | 69. Mr. Emerson Kim J. Lineses  | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 98 | 70. Ms. Kenneth Joy T. Arteza   | NEDA MIMAROPA |
| 99 | 71. Mr. Loreto H. Castillo Jr.  | NEDA MIMAROPA |

100

101

## 102 I. PRELIMINARIES

103

104 The meeting started at 9:20 in the morning with an invocation and the  
105 singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

106

## 107 II. BUSINESS PROPER

108

### 109 A. Declaration of Quorum

110

111 Ms. Jobelle M. Cruzado of NEDA MIMAROPA called the roll and  
112 declared a quorum. Of the 34 members, 18 were present and 12 were  
113 represented, registering a quorum at 88.24 percent attendance.

114 B. Welcome Remarks and Messages

115  
116 EDC Chairperson Rodne R. Galicha welcomed the members and  
117 guests present.

118  
119 Acting RDC Vice Chairperson and NEDA MIMAROPA OIC-Regional  
120 Director delivered the message of RDC Chairperson and Romblon  
121 Governor Jose Riano. The agencies were encouraged to work harder  
122 and propose more projects for the development of the region. She  
123 added that the RDC is optimistic that our House Speaker Lord Allan  
124 Velasco of the Lone District of Marinduque, would be instrumental  
125 in ensuring that this coming 2022, we will be able to finally get our  
126 fair share to the national budget. She said that the year 2022, also  
127 an election year, might be a challenging year for the local  
128 government units (LGUs) as they begin to assume greater  
129 responsibilities in terms of devolved PAPs and functions under the  
130 Local Government Code (LGC). She further expressed the need to  
131 capacitate LGUs that will be involved in financing development  
132 programs and facilitating synergy in the implementation of national  
133 and local measures. He urged the agencies and other stakeholders  
134 to provide inputs, comments, and recommendations to improve the  
135 FY 2022 budget proposals of RLAs and SUCs.

136  
137 C. Proposed Agenda

138  
139 On motion duly seconded, the proposed agenda was approved  
140 as presented.

141  
142 D. Matters for Approval/Review/Endorsement

143  
144 1. Draft Executive Order on Mandanas-Garcia Case Ruling

145  
146 Mr. Alvin Amil of the Local Government and Regional Coordination  
147 Bureau (LGRCB) of DBM Central Office presented the salient features  
148 of the implementation of the Supreme Court decision on Mandanas-  
149 Garcia Ruling. Topics presented included the following: a)  
150 Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) and the Supreme Court (SC) ruling  
151 on the Mandanas Case; b) full devolution as measure to mitigate  
152 impact of SC ruling on the Mandanas Case; and c) Draft EO on full  
153 devolution and its salient features.

154  
155 He also noted that based on program allocation for IRA from 2019-  
156 2022, the LGUs are expected to have 55.7 percent increase in  
157 allotment in 2022.

158  
159 Mr. Amil presented that salient features of the Draft EO and stressed  
160 that in pursuing the full devolution of functions to the LGUs, department  
161 secretaries and agency heads concerned shall conduct a functional and  
162 organizational review guided by the following principles: a) the proper  
163 role of the national government is to set the national policy and service  
164 delivery standards, and assist, oversee, and monitor the LGUs, and b)  
165 the national government in coordination with LGUs shall formulate and

166 pursue a long-term institutional development program for LGUs to  
167 strengthen their capacities and capabilities to fully assume the  
168 devolved functions. He also added that the DBM and DILG have on-  
169 going activities and policy studies to further refine and update the  
170 delineation of expenditure assignments across different LGU levels.  
171 To provide a more strategic devolution of functions, programs, and  
172 facilities, departments and agencies are directed to prepare and  
173 implement a Devolution Transition Plan (DTP) from FY 2020 until the  
174 end of FY 2021. To monitor the implementation of EO, a Committee  
175 on Devolution shall be reactivated.

176  
177 He also discussed the options that can be availed by the personnel who  
178 will be affected by the devolution of functions of the executive branch.

179  
180 Dir. Ma. Josefina P. Abilay of DOST MIMAROPA suggested that the  
181 framework shall include the readiness of the LGUs in the  
182 implementation of the devolved functions. She also requested to  
183 define or identify the PAPs to be devolved to the LGUs for guidance.  
184 Mr. Amil said that the Committee can invite the Local Government  
185 Academy to present the capacity development agenda and discuss the  
186 plan for the capacity building of the LGUs.

187  
188 ARD Rodolfo J. Mariposque of DTI MIMAROPA agreed with the  
189 comment of Director Abilay and suggested to identify and define the  
190 specific functions to be performed by the agency, the provincial  
191 government down to the barangay. He added that devolution of PAPs  
192 shall be implemented by phase and there should be a transition in the  
193 implementation of the devolved function. Mr. Amil responded that a  
194 study is being conducted on the functional assignment for each level  
195 of LGU.

196  
197 Dir. Sumbeling inquired if the experiences of the regional offices on  
198 the current devolution were considered in the preparation of the  
199 transition plan. She also asked if an orientation with regional office  
200 was part of the roadmap in the preparation of the transition plan. Mr.  
201 Amil answered that the DBM has been conducting one on one  
202 meetings with concerned national agencies and they were expecting  
203 that the national agencies already coordinated with their respective  
204 regional offices on the matter.

205  
206 Dir. Sumbeling suggested to conduct an orientation on Mandanas-  
207 Garcia case ruling for the regional line agencies (RLAs) and local  
208 government units (LGUs) once the Executive Order is finalized  
209 and approved.

210  
211 On the motion duly seconded, the conduct of the orientation on the  
212 Executive Order re: Full Devolution as measures to mitigate impact of  
213 Supreme Court Ruling of the Mandanas-Garcia Case through the RDC  
214 with the regional line agencies (RLAs) and local government units  
215 (LGUs) was approved.

Dir. Cristopher V. Morales of DOT MIMAROPA asked if the implementation will be pushed through given with the impacts of the COVID-19 and the ruling was made prior to the pandemic. He suggested that the readiness of LGUs shall be considered in implementing the devolution of functions such as LGU's sectoral plans. Mr. Amil responded that the implementation of ruling is on 2022 and there was no plan to delay the implementation.

Mr. Cesar Contreras expressed that since the implementation of the RA 7160 or Local Government Code, there was no significant accomplishment or development on the four devolved functions to the LGUs due to the 3-year term of the local government officials. He suggested for the RDC sectoral committees to submit the issues and concerns on the draft EO and to solicit other RDC's position on the draft EO. The issues and concerns will be submitted to DBM for consideration in finalizing the EO. Dir. Sumbeling requested the members to submit their inputs on or before January 15.

On the motion duly seconded, a resolution soliciting other RDCs position, issues, and concerns was recommended for RDC approval.

## 2. National Budget Memorandum (FY 2022 Budget Call)

Ms. Anna Roneliza M. Cena of DBM MIMAROPA presented the salient features of the National Budget Memorandum No. 138 dated January 06, 2021 or the FY 2022 National Budget Call (NBC). The FY 2022 National Budget Call adopted the policies, guidelines and instructions of the FY 2021 National Budget Call.

She added NBM No. 138 was issued for continued implementation of budget reform. This Reform has two pillars: a) annual Cash Budgeting System (CBS); and consolidation of NG funds to the Treasury Single Account (TSA).

She narrated that starting FY 2022, the roll-out of the SC decision on the consolidated cases of Mandanas and Garcia shall take effect. It will provide the LGUs greater access to funds for devolved services. The NGAs shall focus on policy and standards development of service delivery, provision of technical assistance, monitoring, and performance assistance of LGUs. The NGAs shall also treat LGUs as partners in development and consider cost-sharing arrangements in the implementation of devolved projects.

Ms. Cena added that relative to the devolved functions, concerned agencies shall be guided by the following: a) refrain from including in their proposals, funding for devolved local projects for LGUs belonging to the 1st to 4th income classifications; b) include the funding requirement for capacity building for these LGUs to enable them to assume these functions; and c) limit subsidies for local projects of LGUs belonging to the 5th and 6th income classes, the Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDAs) as well

as those with the highest poverty incidences, ranked in top third highest.

She also presented other updates in the budget preparation forms, instructions, and the calendar of activities as follows: a) in January, a budget forum for NGAs, GOCCs, AROs, and SUCs shall be conducted; b) in February, RDC consultation with ACO and AROs shall be conducted as well as consultations with RDC, CSOs, student faculty associations and PASUC, and other stakeholders in the LGUs; and c) from February and March, the FY 2020 actual obligations, FY 2020-2024 Revenue Program and requirements for compulsory retirees shall be encoded and submitted through the online submission of budget proposals system (OSBPS).

### 3. FY 2019-2020 agency budget implementation

Ms. Cruzado presented the FYs 2019 and 2020 budget utilization reports submitted by economic sector agencies. Per MIMAROPA RDC budget review guidelines, the AROs are required to provide feedback on the implementation status of the FY 2019 and 2020 RDC-endorsed programs and projects through the submission of accomplished RDC Budget Form B-2.

- a. For BFAR MIMAROPA, the budget utilization rate decreased by 0.05 percent from 100% in 2019 to 99.95% in 2020.
- b. CDA MIMAROPA reported 94.42% utilization in 2020. CDA has no RDC endorsed budget in 2019.
- c. DA MIMAROPA recorded 99.65% and 95.38% utilization rates in FY 2019 and FY 2020, respectively.
- d. DAR MIMAROPA recorded an improved utilization from 87.68% in 2019 to 91.55% in 2020.
- e. DENR MIMAROPA's budget utilization rate decreased from 75.47 percent in 2019 to 61.39 percent in 2020.
- f. DOST MIMAROPA recorded an improved utilization from 99.87 in 2019 to 100.00% in 2020.
- g. DOT MIMAROPA's budget utilization rate decreased by 1.27 percent from 100.00 percent in 2019 to 98.73 percent in 2020.
- h. DTI MIMAROPA recorded 68.77% and 78.87% utilization rates in FY 2019 and FY 2020, respectively.
- i. EMB MIMAROPA recorded increase in the agency's budget utilization rate from 89.10 percent in 2019 to 100.00 percent in 2020.

- j. MGB MIMAROPA's budget utilization rate decreased by 6.45 percent from 99.67 percent in 2019 to 93.22 percent in 2020.
- k. PCA in the region recorded 99.67 percent and 69.36 percent utilization rates in FY 2019 and 2020, respectively.
- l. PCSD has no RDC endorsement of PAPs for 2019 and 2020. The secretariat thanked the PCSD for still sharing and submitting their RDC Budget Review Form B2. PCSD has 99.69% and 93.85% utilization rates for 2019 and 2020, respectively.

#### 4. Updates on the status of FY 2021 RDC-endorsed budget proposals

Ms. Cruzado presented the agency feedback on FY 2021 budget proposals based on the submitted RDC Budget Form B-1. In summary, the share of the economic sector agencies budgets to their national agency budgets ranges from 1.79 percent to 4.38 percent. This was relatively higher compared to last year's share in the FY 2020 GAA. She reported that the trend of having a lower number and amount of RDC endorsed projects included in the GAA can still be observed on the reports of the EDC regional line agencies on the status of their FY 2021 budget proposals:

Ms. Cruzado presented the following reports of EDC regional line agencies on the status of FY 2021 budget proposals in terms of the number and amount of PAPs considered in the FY 2021 GAA and the share of ARO budget to the FY 2021 total agency budget:

- a. BFAR MIMAROPA has 29 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱862.406 million, however, only seven PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 24.13 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱88.480 million or 10.26 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 3.06 percent.
- b. CDA MIMAROPA has 30 RDC endorsed PAPs amounting to ₱37.130 million for FY 2021, of which 21 PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 70.00 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱3.200 million or 8.61 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 1.79 percent.
- c. DA MIMAROPA has 26 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱5.556 billion, however, only 17 PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 65.38 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱2.420 billion or 46.41 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 3.97 percent.
- d. DAR MIMAROPA has nine RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱198.321 million, three PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 33.33 percent of which were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱49.957 million or 25.19 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 4.53 percent.

- e. DENR MIMAROPA has 18 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱1.216 billion. All the proposed PAPs were considered in the FY 2021 GAA but with lesser amount at ₱779.642 million pesos. The batting average of the RDC endorsed budget in the GAA was 64.08 percent. The agency's share to the national agency budget is 4.53 percent.
- f. DOST MIMAROPA has 19 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱195.890 million, however, only 5 PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 26.31 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱111.866 million or 57.11 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY 2021 is 2.34 percent.
- g. DOT MIMAROPA has seven RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱67.238 million, however, only five PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 71.43 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱28.046 million or 41.71 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY 2021 is 1.32 percent.
- h. DTI MIMAROPA has 23 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱297.100 million, 20 PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 86.96 percent of which were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱66.255 million or 22.30 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 2.12 percent.
- i. EMB MIMAROPA has 29 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱170.895 million, however, only ten PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 34.48 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱41.748 million or 24.43 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY 2021 is 3.35 percent.
- j. MGB MIMAROPA has seven RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱73.743 million, however, only four PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 57.14 percent were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱20.561 million or 27.88 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY 2021 is 4.00 percent.
- k. PCA has 16 RDC endorsed PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱229.832 million, five PAPs (all Tier 1 PAPs) or 31.35 percent of which were considered in the FY 2021 GAA amounting to ₱43.375 million or 18.88 batting average. The agency's share to national agency budget for FY2021 is 4.53 percent.
- l. PCSD has three RDC endorsed Tier 2 PAPs for FY 2021 amounting to ₱123.626 million. All the proposed PAPs were considered in the FY 2021 GAA but with lesser amount of ₱25.819 million pesos.

Ms. Trudeau pointed out that although the approved budgets for FY 2021 were lower than the RDC endorsed budget, most of the RDC endorsed PAPs were approved but with a lesser amount.

5. RDC FY 2021 Budget Review

**Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) MIMAROPA**

ARD Lilibeth Lee of DAR MIMAROPA presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of DAR MIMAROPA with a total of seven PAPs amounting to ₱69,129,750.00.

Dir. Sumbeling inquired on the priority PAPs on ELCAC that should have been included in the FY 2022 proposal of DAR MIMAROPA. Dir. Lee answered that they will revise their proposal and include ELCAC activities in the revision.

Dir. Sumbeling reminded DAR MIMAROPA that based on the Mandanas-Garcia Ruling, the following should not be included in their proposed PAPs: a) agriculture extension and on-site research services, b) distribution of production inputs, c) market development and assistance, and d) infrastructure facilities development. Dir. Lee mentioned that their central office is still finalizing the list of devolved PAPs relative to the Mandanas-Garcia case.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of DAR MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement subject to inclusion of the ELCAC PAPs.

Dir. Sumbeling reminded the concerned members to submit their revised budget proposals, signed by the Head of Agency, on January 25.

**Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) MIMAROPA**

Dir. Elizer S. Salilig of BFAR MIMAROPA presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of BFAR MIMAROPA with a total of 30 PAPs amounting to ₱211,822,000.00.

Mr. Delfin M. Natal suggested hiring additional personnel to handle capability building for the operationalization of community fish landing centers. Dir. Salilig responded that their request to fund the hiring of fisheries livelihood development technicians were removed from their FY 2021 budget. Because of this, BFAR MIMAROPA will be limited in hiring carpenters and masons for the maintenance of fish landing centers. He agreed to increase the FY 2022 proposed budget on capacity building.

Ms. Agnes Acosta-Magdaob of the Office of Hon. Gil P. Acosta inquired on the updates on the establishment of fish landing site in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Palawan. Dir. Salilig responded that the location site for the fish landing site has yet to be finalized.

Ms. Magdaob mentioned that the LGU encountered difficulty in complying with the documentary requirements set by BFAR and requested for a more lenient compliance with the requirements. She requested for a copy of the proposals for the establishment of fish

472 landing sites and extension. Dir. Salilig committed to provide copy  
473 of the proposal.

474  
475 On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of BFAR MIMAROPA  
476 were recommended for RDC endorsement.

477  
478 **Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) MIMAROPA**

479  
480 Mr. Alberto Sabarias presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of CDA  
481 MIMAROPA covering 19 PAPs amounting to ₱34,500,000.00.

482  
483 Ms. Gumail-In inquired on the proposed budget for the Kooperatiba  
484 para sa Kabataan. She asked if there were already identified  
485 recipient of the program and suggested to include the Mangyan  
486 youth organization as one of the recipients. Mr. Sabarias answered  
487 that the CDA MIMAROPA is willing to provide assistance on the  
488 registration of any youth organization as a cooperative.

489  
490 On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of CDA MIMAROPA  
491 were recommended for RDC endorsement.

492  
493 **Department of Science and Technology (DOST) MIMAROPA**

494  
495 ARD Jerry B. Mercado presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of  
496 DOST MIMAROPA covering a total of 51 priority PAPs amounting to  
497 ₱166,961,030.00.

498  
499 PSR Gumail-In expressed interest to avail the grant aid on  
500 community empowerment through science and technology. Dir.  
501 Abilay replied that they are very much willing to help the  
502 organization but they should first provide a proposal to the DOST  
503 MIMAROPA.

504  
505 On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of DOST MIMAROPA  
506 were recommended for RDC endorsement.

507  
508 **Department of Tourism MIMAROPA**

509  
510 Engr. Christopher V. Morales of DOT MIMAROPA presented the FY  
511 2022 budget proposal of DOT MIMAROPA with a total of 12 priority  
512 PAPs amounting to ₱70,557,000.00. He said that they have already  
513 included the proposal for the site development and access road to  
514 Lambingan Falls in Boac, Marinduque but the proponent shall submit the  
515 documentary requirements (TIEZA & TRIP).

516  
517 Dir. Sumbeling reminded DOT MIMAROPA that based on the  
518 Mandanas-Garcia Ruling, tourism marketing and promotions should  
519 not be included in their proposed PAPs.

520  
521 ARD Atienza inquired on the counterpart of the region on the funding  
522 of the Sustainable Tourism Development Project (STDP) in Coron  
523 and El Nido. Dir. Morales said that they will check with their central

office if the budget allocation for the Sustainable Tourism Development Project (STDP) in Coron and El Nido, Palawan should be reflected in the region's budget proposal.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of DOT MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement subject to modifications based on the comments and recommendations of the Committee.

Dir. Abilay requested the attendance of DBM Central Office staff on the next RDC or sectoral committee budget review and consultation to answer agencies' inquiries/concerns which are not under the supervision of DBM MIMAROPA.

#### **Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)**

Engr. Edilberto Escobar of PCA presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of PCA MIMAROPA comprising of 12 priority PAPs amounting to ₱357,856,630.00

Mr. Galicha inquired if palm oil development was included in the mandate of PCA. Mr. Escobar responded that coconut and other palm oil were included in the PCA charter.

Mr. John Pontillas of PCSD informed the body that they conducted an evaluation and assessment of the palm oil initiative projects in southern part of Palawan last 2018. He added that there were some issues and concerns that should be tackled relative to the matter. He suggested to have a round-table discussion between PCA and PCSD with DENR on the issues/concerns regarding the Oil Palm project in Palawan.

Mr. Pontillas and Mr. Galicha agreed to include in the agenda for the next EDC meeting the update on the agreements regarding the Oil Palm project of PCA.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of PCA in the region were recommended for RDC endorsement

#### **Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) MIMAROPA**

ARD Rodolfo Mariposque presented the FY 2021 budget proposal of DTI MIMAROPA comprising of seven priority PAPs amounting to ₱143,050,000.00.

Dir. Sumbeling said that the proposed MSME Promotion thru Quad Medias should not be included in their proposed PAPs as it was already part of the devolved function under NBM No. 138. She suggested to review the proposal and consider the devolved functions identified under Annex A of NBM No. 138. ARD Mariposque noted the suggestion and recommendation.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of DTI MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement subject to modification in accordance with Annex A of NBM No. 138.

Dir. Sumbeling reminded the concerned members to submit their revised budget proposals, signed by the Head of Agency, on January 25.

**Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD)**

Mr. John Francisco Pontillas of the PCSD presented the 2022 thrust and priorities of PCSD. He reported that their total FY 2022 proposed budget was ₱306.583 million composed of Tier 1 proposals amounting to ₱116.901 million and Tier 2 proposals amounting to ₱189.682 million.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of PCSD were recommended for RDC endorsement.

**Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) MIMAROPA**

Dir. Roland A. De Jesus presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of MGB MIMAROPA comprising of 6 priority PAPs amounting to ₱16,036,200.00.

Dir. Sumbeling inquired on the status of the proposed Marinduque Gabion Dam. Dir. De Jesus answered that the contractor was already in Marinduque undertaking the study and the final report will be submitted to the DPWH on February.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of MGB MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement.

**Department of Agriculture (DA) MIMAROPA**

Mr. Nex Basi of DA MIMAROPA presented the FY 2021 budget proposals of DA MIMAROPA comprising 78 priority PAPs amounting to ₱7,919,307,000.00. He said that included in the proposals were the farm to market road projects proposed by the LGUs.

EnP. Marian Cunanan, PPDC Marinduque, inquired on the inclusion of the Magapua-Malayak FMR project in the agency proposal. Mr. Basi assured EnP Cunanan that the project will be included in the revised budget proposal.

Dir. Sumbeling reminded DA MIMAROPA to revise their proposal and consider the devolved functions as stated in the Annex A of NBM 138. Dir. Sumbeling inquired whether the PAPs under the RRP on COVID-19 and Balik Probinsya Bagong Pag-asa (BP2) Action Plan were included in the FY 2022 proposal of DA MIMAROPA. Mr. Ron Lowell Karl Daproza of PPDO Occidental Mindoro suggested to verify whether proposed PAPs for BP2 and RRP COVID-19

submitted by LGUs were considered in the proposals. Mr. Basi said he will have these PAPs checked and included in the proposal.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed FY 2022 PAPs of DA MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement subject to modifications based on the comments and recommendations of the Committee.

#### **Environment Management Bureau (EMB) MIMAROPA**

Ms. Angela Quijano presented the FY 2022 budget proposals of EMB MIMAROPA amounting to ₱127,013,310.00.

Mr. Natal inquired if solid waste management was included in the proposal. He asked on programs that will convert solid plastic wastes into something beneficial to the community and environment. Ms. Quijano responded that on CY 2021 they will provide 36 shredders/molders to the LGUs (5 provinces, 29 municipalities, and 2 cities) in the region. Mr. Galicha suggested to PSR Natal to coordinate with EMB on the list of 36 LGUs beneficiaries of plastic molder/shredder equipment.

Mr. Cesar Contreras of PMS asked on EMB's efforts related to water quality management of the tourist destinations in the region. Ms. Quijano answered that the region has water quality management area governing board which regularly conducts monitoring of the water quality in the region, particularly in the tourist destinations of the area.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of EMB MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement.

#### **Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) MIMAROPA**

Ms. Marilyn Limpiada presented the FY 2022 budget proposal of DENR MIMAROPA comprising of eight PAPs amounting to ₱697,542,000.00.

Ms. Magdaob requested to allocate funds for validation on the conversion of timberland.

Chairperson Galicha suggested to include in the budget proposal of DENR the IEC programs on the red list of plants and endangered species.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PAPs of DENR MIMAROPA were recommended for RDC endorsement subject to modifications based on the comments and recommendations of the Committee.

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

678 CERTIFIED CORRECT:

679

680

681

682 JOBELLE M. CRUZADO

683 Acting EDC Secretary

ATTESTED:

RODNE R. GALICHA

EDC Chairperson

Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
MIMAROPA Region

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
First Quarter Meeting  
February 04, 2021 Calapan City (online)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present**

**Represented by**

**EDC Officers**

|  |                          |                      |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 72. Mr. Rodne R. Galicha               | Bayay Sibuyanon,         | EDC Chairperson      |
| 73. OIC-Dir. Susan A. Sumbeling        | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting | RDC Vice Chairperson |
| 74. OIC-ARD Bernardino A. Atienza, Jr. | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting | RDC Secretary        |
| 75. Ms. Jobelle M. Cruzado             | NEDA MIMAROPA and Acting | EDC Secretary        |

**Regional Directors of National Government Agencies**

|                                   |                           |                             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 76. Dir. Elizer S. Salilig        | BFAR MIMAROPA             | Mr. Rene Parreño            |
| 77. Dir. Carina P. Del Rosario    | BSP Region 4              | Ms. Melanie N. Condes       |
| 78. Dir. Antonio G. Gerundio      | DA MIMAROPA               | Dr. Nex Basi                |
| 79. Dir. Ma. Lourdes G. Ferrer    | DENR MIMAROPA             | ARD Vince Tuddao            |
| 80. Dir. Ma. Josefina P. Abilay   | DOST MIMAROPA             | Ms. Jelyn Doctor            |
| 81. Engr. Christopher V. Morales  | DOT MIMAROPA              |                             |
| 82. Dir. Joel B. Valera           | DTI MIMAROPA              | ARD Rodolfo J. Mariposque   |
| 83. Atty. Michael Drake P. Matias | EMB MIMAROPA              | Ms. Angela Quijano          |
| 84. Dir. Arnold G. Alindada       | FDA MIMAROPA              | Ms. Luzviminda Atienza      |
| 85. Sec. Emmanuel M. De Guzman    | Climate Change Commission | Mr. Arnold GS Belver        |
| 86. Dir. William P. Ragadon       | NIA MIMAROPA              | Mr. Lowell L. Lozano        |
| 87. Dir. Ramon L. Rivera          | PCA MIMAROPA              | Ms. Nerizza Mendez          |
| 88. Dir. Emelie F. Geroy          | PFIDA 4                   |                             |
| 89. Asec. Joseph B. Encabo        | PMS-ORC                   | Mr. Cesar Contreras         |
| 90. MGen. Greg T. Almerol         | 2nd Infantry Division, PA | Lt. Col. Del Rosario        |
| 91. Atty. Teodoro Jose S. Matta   | PCSD                      | Dir. Josephine Matulac      |
| 92. Dir. Piolito Santos           | NFA                       | Ms. Czarina Loren Gutierrez |
| 93. Dir. Zoraida O. Macadindang   | DAR MIMAROPA              | Ms. Fe Guevarra             |
| 94. Dir. Roland A. De Jesus       | MGB MIMAROPA              | Ms. Marinella Anna Hizola   |

**Private Sector Representatives**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 95. Mr. Delfin Natal        | Philippine Rural Construction Movement            |
| 96. Ms. Juvelyn V. Gumal-in | Pampamayanang Mangyan Ugnayan, Inc.               |
| 97. Mr. Darius M. Guerero   | Philippine Trade and General Workers Organization |
| 98. Mr. Luis Caraan         | Kabang Kalikasan ng Pilipinas                     |

**Provincial Planning and Development Offices**

|                                  |                           |                             |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 99. EnP. Marian M. Cunanan       | PPDO Marinduque           |                             |
| 100. EnP. Lydia Muñeca S. Melgar | PPDO Oriental Mindoro     |                             |
| 101. EnP. Ninfa B. Rubio         | PPDO Palawan              |                             |
| 102. EnP. Anthony Dantis         | PPDO Occidental Mindoro   | Mr. Ron Lowell Karl Daproza |
| 103. EnP. Amormio CJS. Benter    | CPDO Calapan City         | EnP. Dulce Lao              |
| 104. EnP. Willard P. Mortos      | PPDO Romblon              |                             |
| 105. Engr. Jovenee C. Sagun      | CPDO Puerto Princesa City |                             |

**Absent**

106. Ms. Marie Grace Cristina G. Faylona MBCFI  
107. Dir. Cristina H. Villamil CDA MIMAROPA

**Guests**

108. Ms. Gladys Quesea DOT  
109. Mr. Jonathan Laxamana DTI  
110. Mr. Kenly Monteaguado CCC  
111. Ms. Marilyn Limpiada DENR  
112. Ms. Eloisa Riano PMS  
113. Ma. Luisa Marasigan NFA  
114. Mr. John Fontillas PCSD  
115. Maj Kim Evangelista AFP-OG 7  
116. Engr. Jimmy Nebrija Marinduque  
117. Ms. Sheryll B. Sarabia NEDA MIMAROPA and DAC Secretary  
118. Mr. Roy A. Dimayuga NEDA MIMAROPA and IDC Secretary  
119. Mr. Emerson Kim J. Lineses NEDA MIMAROPA and SDC Secretary  
120. Mr. Ryan O. Manrique NEDA MIMAROPA  
121. Mr. Ruther John B. Col-long NEDA MIMAROPA  
122. Ms. Charmaine Bejasa NEDA MIMAROPA  
123. Mr. Jhunjun F. Fajutagana NEDA MIMAROPA  
124. Mr. Loreto H. Castillo NEDA MIMAROPA  
125. Mr. Joel Paule NEDA MIMAROPA

**IV. PRELIMINARIES**

The meeting started at 1:35 in the afternoon with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem followed by an invocation and the singing of the MIMAROPA Hymn.

**V. BUSINESS PROPER**

**E. Declaration of Quorum**

Ms. Jobelle M. Cruzado of NEDA MIMAROPA called the roll. Of the 34 members, 14 were present and 18 were represented, registering a quorum at 94.12 percent attendance.

**F. Welcome Remarks**

EDC Chairperson Rodne R. Galicha welcomed the members and guests present. He informed the body that the Philippines is set to submit the Nationally Determined Contributions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as part of the country's commitments to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. He stressed the importance of aligning the regional and local plans to these commitments.

**G. Proposed Agenda**

On motion duly seconded, the proposed agenda was approved as amended.

**H. Approval of the Minutes of the previous EDC meeting**

On motion duly seconded, the minutes of the CY 2020 4th quarter EDC meeting was approved.

## **I. Secretary's Report**

Ms. Cruzado reported the status of the agreements during the fourth quarter meeting.

She informed the body that the RDC, during its 73rd full council meeting held on December 04, 2020 through video conferencing, passed RDC Resolution No. 2020-073-914, endorsing the Sustainable Tourism Development Project in Coron and El Nido to the NEDA-ICC. Copy of the resolution was provided to DOT Secretary and other concerned agencies. Among the identified next steps for the project was the finalization of project financing agreements.

She also reported that the FY 2022 Budget Review Guidelines, the CY 2020 MIMAROPA RDR preparation guidelines, and the schedule of CY 2021 RDC meetings were also approved by the RDC during the full council meeting. Concerned agencies were provided with the copies of the resolution.

Ms. Cruzado also informed the members that the RDC endorsed the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) retrofitting US\$ 280 million second additional financing, Philippine-Israel Solar-Powered Fertigation Project, and the construction and improvement of Sitio Dagal-Dagal Road in Barangay Corong-Corong, El Nido, Palawan to the concerned agencies. Copy of the resolution were provided to all concerned agencies.

On the Luzon RDCom Resolution No. 2, s. 2020, Ms. Cruzado reported that the RDC approved the adoption of the Luzon RDCom Resolution subject to presentation to the Regional Research, Development, and Innovation Committee (RRDIC). Copy of the resolution was provided to NEDA-CALABARZON On December 15, 2020. The matter was presented to the first quarter MIMAROPA RRDIC meeting on February 03.

## **J. Matters for Approval/Review/Endorsement**

### **• Marinduque Proposed Projects**

Mr. Junmuel Regio of the local government unit (LGU) Sta Cruz, Marinduque presented the proposed preparation of a site development plan for the construction of the Giant Cross in Sta. Cruz, Marinduque amounting to P5,000,000.00. He justified that the project will support their vision of becoming the major tourism hub of Marinduque.

PSR Delfin Natal inquired on the estimated amount for the construction of the Giant Cross. Mr. Regio responded that they have yet to estimate cost for the Giant Cross.

Ms. Gladys Quesea of DOT MIMAROPA said that the request for funding of the project was already coordinated to their office and the DOT MIMAROPA has already provided feedback on the request. She reiterated on the necessary documentary requirements needed for funding of the project under Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).

PSR Darius Guerrero inquired if stakeholder consultations were conducted for this project. Mr. Regio responded that the Sta. Cruz Municipal Development Council (MDC) has already endorsed the project. The MDC requires the conduct of stakeholder consultation prior to endorsement.

Ms. Cruzado presented the comments and recommendations in the Project Evaluation Report (PER) prepared by the Secretariat. Among these were: a) for the proponent to review the expenditure assignment based on the Local Government Code of 1991 or Annex A of the National Budget Memorandum No. 138 before submitting a proposal for funding to the national agency; b) ensure concurrence from the funding agency; c) ensure strict compliance with environmental rules and regulations; and d) to secure Environment Compliance Certificate (CCC) or Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC).

Chairperson Galicha stressed that the project is aligned with the identified strategies under Chapter 7 of the MIMAROPA RDP, Promoting Philippine Culture and Values. However, he suggested to provide further justification that the project does not focus on a particular religion. ARD Rudy Mariposque of DTI MIMAROPA agreed with the suggestion of Mr. Galicha and added that government projects shall avoid religious discrimination.

ARD Vicente Tuddao of DENR MIMAROPA inquired whether the site is located in a forest land or titled property. He added that a geohazard study shall be conducted given that the project is a high rise building. Tenorial instruments should also be ready prior to the implementation of the project.

Since there were still several suggestions and requirements that should be complied by the proponent, NEDA MIMAROPA RD Susan Sumbeling moved for the deferment of the project. This was seconded by Ms. Quesea. Mr. Mr. Regio said that all suggestions were noted and will be included in the revision of the project proposal. EnP. Marian Cunanan of Marinduque clarified whether the motion is a conditional approval of the project subject to revision of the proposal. RD Sumbeling reiterated that the project needs to be presented again to the EDC for approval of the body since there are several documentary requirements that needed to be complied first by the proponent such as environmental compliance certificates and other TIEZA requirements. Chairperson Galicha stressed that the proposed project shall be implementation ready.

- Proposed Development of Polo Island

Engr. Jimmy Nebrija of LGU Marinduque presented the proposed development of Polo Island. The project aims to promote socio-economic development in the area by developing the island's tourism potential, establishing tourism infrastructure, and by providing economic opportunities for the local resident via local business and market for local produce. The proposed project cost is estimated at P26 million to be implemented for one year.

Engr. Nebrija presented the location and zoning plan as well as the project concept plan and design. Chairperson Galicha inquired from the DENR if Polo Island mangroves are protected under the Proclamation No. 2152. ARD Tuddao stated that they will be verifying this concern with concerned staff. ARD Tuddao informed the proponents on the DENR policy for small islands that are considered forest lands. He stressed that the development of forestland areas requires necessary environmental clearances, conduct the environmental impact assessments and mitigation studies, geohazard certifications, and secure tenurial certificates.

Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) representative Dir. Josephine Matulac asked if there were fresh water sources located in the island. Mr. Nebrija answered that fresh water may be sourced from the island of Santa Cruz due to its proximity to the area. He added that the project will utilize a small shoreline portion of the island and will not affect the mangroves in the area.

Ms. Cruzado presented the evaluation report prepared by the secretariat. Among the recommendations were: a) the proponent to review the Expenditure Assignment Based on the Local Government Code of 1991 or Annex A of the National Budget Memorandum No. 138 before submitting a proposal for funding of a national agency; b) the proponent should identify the specific tourism infrastructure facilities and budgetary costs needed for the development of Polo Island; c) clarify the type of assistance needed whether capital or technical assistance; d) to improve the proposal with inclusion of the activities relative to the construction of the proposed facilities in the Polo Island; e) secure concurrence of DOT MIMAROPA to include the project in the agency investment program under the MIMAROPA RDIP 2017-2022; and f) revision/completion of the proposals specifically on the institutional arrangements, costing as well as expand the scope to construction of proposed facilities.

Chairperson Galicha recommended to formulate a sustainable development plan for the Polo Island. The plan shall consider protection measures for the island. Engr. Nebrija stated that they will be revising the proposal with the assistance of the PLGU of Marinduque.

ARD Bernardino Atienza, Jr. of NEDA MIMAROPA said that the project did not mention about the ownership of the island. He, then, asked the DOT MIMAROPA if the project can be included under the Tourism Enterprise Zone (TEZ). Ms. Quesea responded that establishment of

TEZs requires an area of 5 hectares and above. ARD Atienza suggested to the proponent to look into the possibility of including the project under the TEZ.

PSR Natal said that access to fresh water remains a problem in Polo Island and shall be included in the formulation of the sustainable development plan. ARD Mariposque also suggested to include the development limitation for the project such as no build zone areas. He added that the area is historically rich and is known for hamleting and may be proposed for historical tourism. PSR Luis Caraan also suggested to study the proper waste water disposal and management in the area. Mr. Kenly Monteagudo of the Climate Change Commission suggested the inclusion of a rain water catchment system to address issues on fresh water sources.

The EDC agreed to defer the endorsement of the project and requested the proponent to revise the proposal based on the comments and recommendations of the committee and ensure that the project is implementation ready prior to EDC endorsement.

- Construction of Lapote-Candahon-Bintakay-Farm-to-Market Road

Ms. Melissa Nieva of LGU Mogpog, Marinduque presented the proposed construction of Lapote-Candahon-Bintakay-Farm-to-Market Road (FMR) amounting to Php 35.5 million. The project output consists of concreting a 3.00 kms x 5.0 meters width x 0.20 meters thick road including the construction of drainage structures, slope protection and other miscellaneous structures. The project is expected to improve the road condition and accessibility in the area as well as increase productivity of the farmers in the three barangays of Mogpog.

Dir. Christopher Morales of DOT MIMAROPA commented that the proponent must ensure the standards of the FMR with the commodity being transported as well as study the benefits of the project with regard to lessened travel times and the usual benefits of FMRs. PSR Natal mentioned that the project will really address the ease of transportation issues in the area.

Ms. Cruzado presented the project evaluation report prepared by the secretariat. Among the comments in the report include a) the project needs to comply with the selection and prioritization criteria set by DA under the DA Administrative Order no. 04 series of 2016 or the General Guidelines in the Implementation of Farm-to-Market Road Development Program (FMRDP); b) the proposed project was included in the list of devolved PAPs to the LGUs as a result of the Supreme Court Ruling on the Mandanas-Garcia Cases, thus, the proponent shall review the Expenditure Assignment Based on the Local Government Code of 1991 or Annex A of the National Budget Memorandum No. 138 before submitting a proposal for funding to the national agency; and c) the proponent shall secure the concurrence of DA MIMAROPA for inclusion of the project in their agency investment program. Dr. Nex Basi of DA MIMAROPA had no objection

with the project but expressed that the project might be included as a devolved project under Mandanas ruling. Because of this, the DA MIMAROPA conditionally concurred the inclusion of the project in their agency investment program.

On motion duly seconded, the EDC recommend RDC endorsement of the Construction of Lapote-Candahon-Bintakay-Farm-to-Market Road for inclusion in the FY 2022 DA MIMAROPA budget subject to compliance to the requirements of DA MIMAROPA.

- Construction of Lapote-Mangyan-Mababad Farm-to-Market Road (FMR)

Ms. Nieva presented the brief profile and background of the FMR project amounting to P21 million. The project output consists of concreting of 1.80 kilometer x 5.0 meter width x 0.20 meter thick road including the construction of drainage structure, slope protection and other miscellaneous structures. The project aims to provide a safe passage way for travel and transportation especially during times of typhoons and calamities. The project is also expected to establish a road network that will connect Brgy. Mangyan-Mababad to trading centers and public market to expand economic opportunities and increase agricultural productivity in the area.

Similar to the first project, Dr. Basi acknowledged the importance of FMR in alleviating poverty but expressed that the project might be included as a devolved project under Mandanas ruling. Because of this, the DA MIMAROPA conditionally concurred the inclusion of the project in their agency investment program.

Mr. Monteagudo of CCC suggested the possible inclusion of streetlights in the proposed FMR. EnP. Cunanan answered that they have already appropriated budget for the streetlights project under the rural electrification program of the province. Chairperson Galicha suggested that such project can also be included in their climate expenditure program.

On motion duly seconded, the EDC recommended RDC endorsement of the proposed project for inclusion in the FY 2022 agency budget subject to compliance with the requirements of DA MIMAROPA.

- Proposed 2021 EDC Work Program

Ms. Cruzado presented the proposed CY 2021 EDC work program. Among the proposed activities for the year include participation and inputs to the following: a) RDC FY 2022 budget review and consultation; b) regional consultation on the updating of the regional development investment program; c) preparation of Regional Development Report; d) monitoring of RDC proposed and endorsed projects; e) conduct of project development trainings and LGU orientation on PPP; f) Review of project proposals; g) monitoring of the implementation of PAPs for the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-

asa Action Plan ; and h) monitoring of the implementation of PAPs for MIMAROPA Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan for COVID-19.

On motion duly seconded the proposed 2021 EDC work program was approved for adoption.

## **K. Matters for Information**

- **MIMAROPA Naturally Virtual Fair 2020**

ARD Rudy Mariposque presented the highlights of the MIMAROPA Naturally Virtual Fair conducted on December 1-5, 2020. The activity aimed to promote the MIMAROPA products online and create an online avenue for MSMEs to display their products. The fair also featured interviews from some of the MIMAROPA sellers.

A total of 47 MSMEs from MIMAROPA joined the virtual trade fair generating about Php 351,484 combined cash and booked sales. This was lower than the sales generated from the usual trade fair. Rejano's bakery was reported the top seller for food based products while Sheena's butterfly farm and by-products was reported the top seller for the non-food category. Marinduque recorded the highest total cash and booked sales at Php 219,064.00. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with Php 118, 650.00, Romblon with Php 9,100.00, and Occidental Mindoro with Php 4,670.00.

DTI MIMAROPA mentioned the challenges they have encountered in the conduct of the virtual trade fair such as internet connection stability, no unified or centralized logistics partner for the shipment of products, among others. He relayed that during the pre-registration, some exhibitors had to visit their provincial offices to register for the fair. He also cited that some exhibitors have limited knowledge on computer system. Thus, MSMEs have to be assisted by DTI through the conduct of a briefing.

Chairperson Galicha inquired on the profile of the buyers during the fair. ARD Marisposque responded that the available information are for institutional buyers only. He was optimistic that once partnership with online platforms is established, DTI would be able to access buyers' information. PSR Darius Guerrero commended the efforts of DTI in conducting the online trade fair. He added that if the online trade fair will be continued and improved, the fair will be able to reach wider markets and promote the products of the region better.

Dir. Arnold Alindada of FDA reminded that MSMEs participating in such trade fairs shall have FDA license-to-operate and certificates of product registrations for the safety of consumers. ARD Mariposque agreed with Director Alindada and added that DTI MIMAROPA provides assistance for product registrations and certifications with FDA and other agencies. He requested FDA to continue conducting the Qualified Persons in Industry Regulatory Affairs (QPIRA) Training Licensing Seminar. This was noted by Director Alindada and he

mentioned that the QPIRA training was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. He also added that the center for food for drugs and cosmetics of FDA will be provide online seminars relative to Certificate of Product Registration (CPR) applications and other related concerns in addition to the QPIRA.

- La Niña Action Plan

ARD Tuddao presented the MIMAROPA La Niña Action Plan which includes the framework strategy and list of programs, activities, and other proposed interventions to address the impact of La Niña in the region.

Mr. Monteaguado of CCC inquired about the nature of the Trainings for Farmers on High Value Crops under Climate Resiliency Farm Productivity Project. ARD Tuddao said that the training program includes awareness program such as but not limited to quick response/early action during flooding, harvesting techniques, harvesting schedules, proper harvesting techniques, and marketing in response to La Niña which may help mitigate losses of farmers.

Chairperson Galicha suggested to consider the national climate change action plan and the local climate change development plans of the LGUs in the plan. He also inquired on the membership of the CCC in the TWG for Water Resources Management. ARD Tuddao answered that the CCC is included in the TWG.

- Provincial Tourism Development Plans

Ms. Gladys Quesea of DOT MIMAROPA presented the status of Provincial Tourism Development Plans (PTDPs) in the region including the legal basis of the plans. She stressed that Section 38 of the RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991 states that all LGUs shall prepare an inventory of its available resources as basis for local and national tourism planning as well as compile regular reports on the status of their tourism plans and programs, including tourist arrivals, tourism enterprises, among others. She added that the local tourism development plans (LTDPs) shall be harmonized and shall form part of the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) and Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

Ms. Quesea emphasized the importance of having an approved LTDP. She presented the status of the PTDP as follows:

| Province           | Coverage                      | Status   |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Mindoro Occidental | -                             | Pending bidding due to insufficient fund                   |
| Mindoro Oriental   | Tourism Master Plan 2016-2022 | Due for updating   |
| Marinduque         | -                             | Awarded to consultant this January 2021                    |
| Romblon            | -                             | Awarded but Contract signing was postponed due to COVID 19 |

| Province | Coverage                           | Status  |
|----------|------------------------------------|---|
| Palawan  | Tourism Development Plan 2019-2025 | Approved and adopted by the Sangguniang Panlalawiagan ng Palawan per Resolution No. 15065-20 dated March 17, 2020 |

Ms. Quesea added that the plans shall consider the new normal scenario and the implementation of Mandanas-Garcia case ruling. She informed the LGUs that the DOT MIMAROPA will conduct a nationwide workshop to discuss the identified PAPs to be devolved to LGUs.

Chairperson Galicha commended the province of Palawan for having an approved tourism development plan. Dir. Sumbeling inquired if DOT MIMAROPA provides technical assistance for the formulation of the LTDP. Ms. Quesea answered that since the roll out of the tourism planning guidebook in 2015, they have conducted annual workshops to assist the LGUs. However, the LGUs were still not able to complete their local tourism development plans. She said that the lack of a permanent tourism officer who will handle the preparatory activities can be one of the reasons for non-completion of the plan.

Chairperson Galicha shared that he volunteered to provide assistance in the formulation of the LTDP in Romblon. He added that the LGUs are challenged with the lack of experts in the field to steer or oversee the formulation of the plan. He suggested discussing the matter during the MIMAROPA Regional Tourism Committee (MRTC).

Mr. Ron Lowell Karl Daproza of the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro updated the body that their LTDP has already passed the Provincial Development Council (PDC) and that all municipalities in Occidental Mindoro agreed to allocate funds for the plan. On the other hand, EnP. Cunanan of the Provincial Government of Marinduque reported that they hired a consultant to formulate the plan and the draft plan was already subject for review and revision.

PSR Caraan shared that the municipality of Sablayan in Occidental Mindoro has an existing tourism development plan for updating. He added that the private sector was involved in the planning process. He also expressed willingness to provide assistance to the LGUs in the development of the plans. Director Sumbeling commended the willingness of the private sector to assist the LGUs. She emphasized the importance of participatory planning especially for tourism which is considered as one of the region's primary growth drivers.

- CY 2020 EDC Accomplishment Report

Mr. Ryan Manrique of NEDA MIMAROPA presented the CY 2020 EDC Accomplishments. He highlighted that the EDC conducted three (3) regular meetings and two (2) special meetings in 2020. The committee recommended the RDC endorsement/adoption of 31 resolutions. The committee also conducted and participated in the following major activities: a) FY 2021 RDC Budget Review and Consultation; b) regional consultation on the updating of the MIMAROPA Regional

Development Investment Program; (c) preparation of MIMAROPA Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan for COVID-19; (d) preparation of Balik Probinsya Bagong Pag-asa Action Plan; (e) review of project proposals for RDC endorsement; and (f) confirmation of additional EDC member.

- EDC 2020 Summary of Attendance

Mr. Manrique presented the CY 2020 summary of attendance of the EDC members. He acknowledged the following agencies/offices with complete attendance to the five (5) meetings: a) Bayay Sibuyanon, b) DTI MIMAROPA, c) BFAR MIMAROPA, d) CDA MIMAROPA, e) DOST MIMAROPA, f) DOT MIMAROPA, g) NIA MIMAROPA, h) PCA Region IV, i) DENR MIMAROPA, j) Philippine Trade and General Workers Organization, k) Pampamayanang Mangyan Ugnayan, Inc., l) PPDO Marinduque, and m) PPDO Occidental Mindoro.

A certificate of recognition was awarded to Mr. Rodne Galicha, PSR Darius M. Guerrero, PSR Juvelyn V. Gumal-in, Engr. Christopher V. Morales, and EnP. Marian M. Cunanan.

- Other Concerns

Ms. Cruzado reminded the DOST MIMAROPA, DENR MIMAROPA, and DOT MIMAROPA on the submission of accomplishments to DTI MIMAROPA for the report of the COVID 19-Economic Recovery Cluster Task Group which is presented during the Regional Task Force meetings.

Chairperson Galicha requested to include in the agenda of the next EDC and RDC meeting the nationally determined contributions.

## **L. ADJOURNMENT**

In closing, RD Sumbeling thanked the members for their participation, untiring support to the committee, and for providing invaluable inputs and comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

ATTESTED:

JOBELLE M. CRUZADO  
Acting EDC Secretary

RODNE R. GALICHA  
EDC Chairperson

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
MIMAROPA Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
First Quarter Meeting  
February 04, 2021      Calapan City (Online)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EDC SPECIAL MEETING

| AGENDA<br>ITEM/ISSUE                                    | AGREEMENTS  | STATUS   |
|---|---|--|
| Draft EO<br>on<br>Mandanas-<br>Garcia<br>Case<br>Ruling | The Committee agreed to submit the list of issues and concerns to DBM for consideration in the finalization of the Executive Order.   | A copy of the consolidated comments, issues, and concerns raised by the RDC sectoral committee members relative to the draft EO was provided to NEDA Regional Development Group and DBM Local Government and Regional Coordination Bureau (LGRCB) on January 20, for information and consideration in the finalization of the EO.  |
|   | The EDC recommended RDC approval of the conduct of regional forum on full devolution of certain functions of the Executive Departments of the national government to local government units.                      | The RDC approved the conduct of the regional forum through RDC Resolution No. 2021-074-979.<br><br>The Secretariat is in the process of preparing the activity design for the regional forum. The forum will be participated by the regional stakeholders and will be conducted once the Executive Order is finalized and approved.  |
| FY 2022<br>Budget<br>Review<br>Guidelines               | The Committee recommended RDC endorsement of the FY 2022 budget proposals subject to modifications based on the comments of the Committee.<br>The deadline for submission of required documents is on January 25. | The RDC endorsed the proposed FY 2022 budget proposals of the following EDC members agencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BFAR MIMAROPA</li> <li>• CDA MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DA MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DAR MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DENR MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DOST MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DOT MIMAROPA</li> <li>• DTI MIMAROPA</li> <li>• EMB MIMAROPA</li> <li>• PCA IV</li> <li>• PCSD</li> </ul> Copies of the resolution and the list of PAPs were transmitted to their respective central offices on March 15. |

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
MIMAROPA Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Second Quarter Meeting  
February 04, 2021 Calapan City (Online)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FIRST QUARTER MEETING

| AGENDA<br>ITEM/ISSUE                             | AGREEMENTS   | STATUS   |
|--|--|--|
| Proposed Construction of Giant Cross Project     | The endorsement of the project was deferred due to several comments and requirements that still need to be complied by the proponent such as TIEZA documentary requirements, geohazard analysis, and environmental compliance certificates, among others. ,    | As to date, the secretariat has yet to receive the revised copy of the proposal from LGU Sta. Cruz.  |
| Proposed Development of Polo Island              | The EDC agreed to defer the endorsement of the project and requested the proponent to revise the proposal based on the comments and recommendations of the committee and ensure that the project is implementation ready prior to EDC endorsement.             | As to date, the secretariat has yet to receive the revised copy of the proposal from LGU Sta. Cruz.  |
| FMR Lapote-Candahon-Bintakay-Farm-to-Market Road | The EDC recommended RDC endorsement of the proposed project for inclusion in the FY 2022 agency budget subject to compliance with the requirements of DA MIMAROPA.   | The RDC during its 74 <sup>th</sup> RDC Full Council Meeting held on March 5, 2021 approved the proposed project through RDC Resolution No. 2021-074-982. Copy of the resolution was forwarded to DA MIMAROPA on March 31. |
| FMR Lapote-Mangyan-Mababad Farm-to-Market Road   | On motion duly seconded, the EDC recommended RDC endorsement of the proposed project for inclusion in the FY 2022 agency budget and the MIMAROPA Regional Development Investment Program 2017-2022 subject to compliance with the requirements of DA MIMAROPA. | The RDC during its 74 <sup>th</sup> RDC Full Council Meeting held on March 5, 2021 approved the proposed project through RDC Resolution No. 2021-074-981. Copy of the resolution was forwarded to DA on March 31           |

| AGENDA<br>ITEM/ISSUE   | AGREEMENTS   | STATUS   |
|--|--|--|
| CY 2021 EDC<br>Work<br>Program   | The proposed CY 2021 EDC<br>Work Program was approved for<br>adoption.   | The work program was filed<br>for reference purposes.  |
| CCC<br>presentation<br>on the<br>Nationally<br>Determined<br>Contribution<br>(NDC) | Chairperson Galicha requested to<br>include in the agenda of the next<br>EDC and RDC meetings the<br>nationally determined<br>contributions. | The secretariat requested the<br>CCC to present the<br>highlights/salient features of<br>the NDC as well as the next<br>steps during the second<br>quarter EDC meeting as part<br>of the agenda. |

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting

May 06, 2021 (Online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: 2020 Regional Development Report

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1. The MIMAROPA Regional Development Report (RDR) provides an annual assessment of the implementation of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP).
2. The MIMAROPA RDR contains an assessment of the socioeconomic performance of the region for a given year based on the targets indicated in the MIMAROPA RDP and its accompanying Results Matrix (RM). It also provides strategic and policy direction to refocus priorities and/or catch-up with targets.
3. The NEDA MIMAROPA prepared the technical instructions, specific guidelines, and forms to ensure a more in-depth assessment of the implementation of the RDP.
4. The RDC, during its 73<sup>rd</sup> full council online meeting held on December 04, 2020, approved the proposed 2020 RDR preparation guidelines through RDC Resolution No. 2020-073-923.
5. The assessment was prepared based on statistical data, annual accomplishment reports, and other sectoral inputs of the regional line agencies (RLAs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs), and private sector representatives (PSRs).
6. The region's performance is assessed relative to the implementation of the Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan for COVID-19, Bayahihan to Recover as One Act, Bayanihan 2, Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa (BP<sup>2</sup>) Program, and End Local Communist Armed Conflict (ELCAC), all of which are under the whole-of-nation approach.
7. Gender-fair language (GFL) was used in writing the regional development report.
8. The draft 2020 RDR will be presented for validation.
9. Action requested: For review.

## Chapter 02

### Global and Regional Trends and Prospects

In 2020, the world faced the challenge of containing and managing the COVID-19 pandemic which is considered as one of the most devastating health diseases in many years. There were thousands of people succumbed to the virus that causes the government to implement quarantine measures to avoid wider spread of the virus. The imposition of enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in Luzon on March 15, 2020 caught many sectors of the society unprepared. Imposition of the ECQ resulted in the temporary closure of many establishments, a significant number of displaced workers, disruptions in the supply chain, pressure in the health capacity of the country, among others.

This chapter discusses some of the expected scenarios for the coming years within and outside the region, the country, and globally that may influence the Regional Development Council's decisions and priority interventions.

#### Political/Legal Trends

- a. On peace and security. The region will remain to be one of the most peaceful and secured communities despite having few isolated insurgency incidences in the next coming years. The whole-of-nation approach will continue to be implemented in the region. Active participation of the Cabinet Officer for Regional Development and Security (CORDS) and Office of the Presidential Adviser for Southern Tagalog (OPAST) in the MIMAROPA Regional Development Council activities can be expected. More convergence and intraregional projects will also be implemented. However, virtual meetings will now be favored over face-to-face meetings due to the threats from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- b. COVID-19 situation. The COVID-19 threat will likely persist until such time that the number of vaccinated population reached herd immunity. Expectations on local government units' capabilities on delivering basic services particularly on the aspects of health and sanitation and demand for health system capacities will increase as it may be characterized as the "new normal". In many service-oriented organizations in the private and public sector, flexible work arrangements (e.g., work from home) will continue to be implemented in accordance with strict physical distancing protocols. In many instances, part of the new normal means working and interacting virtually instead of face-to-face. Workspaces (e.g., factories and office spaces) will be re-configured to address the need for physical distancing.

As the industrial setting of the region is heavily reliant on micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), there will be a growing concern from the MSMEs for the government to provide assistance to cope up with the financial and physical losses from COVID-19.

- c. Low Share of MIMAROPA region in the National Budget. Through the years, the MIMAROPA region has struggled in getting its fair share from the national budget as well as in securing the inclusion of the proposed regional agency budgets in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). The four sectoral committees of the Regional Development Council (RDC) reported the status of FY 2021 RDC endorsed budget proposals. The RDC monitors the status of RDC-endorsed budget to determine the batting average (RDC endorsed vs. GAA) in terms of PAPs and the amount as well as the share of the regional agency budgets to the national agency budgets. Below is the summary of the report:

| Sector/Agencies                     | Percentage of FY 2021 RDC endorsed PAPs included in the GAA |                    | Range of the Share of FY 2021 proposed budget for MIMAROPA to the national agency budget |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
|                                     | In terms of PAPs  | In terms of Amount |  |
| Development Administration agencies | 33.89%  | 19.67%             | 0.12% - 7%   |
| Economic Sector agencies            | 54.63%  | 42.52              | 1.32% - 4.53%  |
| Infrastructure sector agencies      | 29.23%  | 5.92%              | 0.34% - 3.13%  |
| Social sector agencies              | 24.72%  | 39.18%             | 0.03% - 3.90%  |

The MIMAROPA regional line agencies' share to their FY 2021 national agency budget ranges from 0.03 percent to 7 percent. The batting average of the percentage of FY 2021 RDC-endorsed PAPs included in the GAA is also low.

For FY 2021, about 239 PAPs amounting to P1.78 billion were proposed by the development administration sector agencies such as AFP, DBM, DILG, DOLE, NAPOLCOM, NEDA, PDEA, PIA, PNP, and PSA. However, only 33.89 percent of these PAPs amounting to P350.52 million were funded under the GAA. On the other hand, a total of 216 PAPs amounting to P9.029 billion proposed by economic sector agencies such as BFAR, CDA, DA, DAR, DENR, DOST, DOT, DTI, EMB, MGB, PCA, and PCSD was endorsed by the RDC. Out of these PAPs only 118 or 54.63 percent were funded amounting to P3.84 billion.

Out of the 127 PAPs amounting to P117.22 billion pesos proposed by infrastructure agencies such as DPWH, DOTr, LTO, NIA, and NTC, only 43 PAPs or 29.23 percent were included in the GAA amounting to P21.58 billion pesos. On the other hand, the social sector agencies namely DSWD, DOH, DEPED, CHED, POPCOM, TESDA, NNC, NCIP, NNC, and the six state universities and colleges in the region proposed 647 PAPs for FY 2021 funding amounting to P25.30 billion pesos. However only 24.72 percent of these PAPs were funded under GAA amounting P9.91 billion pesos.

Similarly, there were 225 PAPs amounting to P10,123,162,000 proposed for FY 2021 funding under the MIMAROPA Rehabilitation and Recovery Plan for COVID-19. However, only 43.56 percent, or 98 PAPs, amounting to P3,999,865.50 were funded.

The region needs to explore other funding mechanisms such as public-private partnership (PPP) and official development assistance (ODA) should they want that all proposed projects are implemented. However, complete documentary requirements will be critical in the approval of the projects under such funding scheme. Thus, the regional agencies, SUCs, and LGUs shall capitalize on improving their capacities in preparing project proposals.

- d. Readiness of the MIMAROPA LGUs in the implementation of Mandanas-Garcia Ruling. For the past decade, the MIMAROPA provinces, like other provinces, have been very dependent on the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA). The largest portion of their income came from the national government allocation in terms of IRA.

The Supreme Court (SC), in its decision on July 03, 2018, which was reaffirmed on April 10, 2019, ruled that: a) the aggregate IRA should be computed as 40% of all taxes; b) deductions from the IRA being questioned by Mandanas are valid; c) application is prospective on the basis of the post-operative doctrine; and d) increase in the IRA arising from the ruling will start in 2022.<sup>1</sup> The SC ruling is expected to be implemented in 2022, and the significant increase in the share of the LGUs from national taxes presents an opportunity to fully transfer to LGUs the remaining functions and services that have been devolved under Section 17 of the Local Government Code.

Further, it also imposes challenges on how LGUs are going to manage such large amount of funding and on the continuity of the ongoing PAPs by the national government. Experts recommend that in order to make fiscal space to fund the IRA allotment to

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.pids.gov.ph/seminars/421> - SC IRA Ruling of April 2019, Fiscal Sustainability and Equity by former PIDS Senior Research Fellow Dr. Rosario G. Manasan

LGUs, the national government should defund some of its ongoing PAPs under the GAA for it will be devolved to the LGUs.

It is crucial to establish the readiness of the five MIMAROPA provinces (Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, and Romblon) in the implementation of SC ruling on Mandanas case relative to the increase of IRA and devolution of functions and responsibilities from the national government agencies by 2022.

## **Economic Trends**

- a. Increased demand for modern agricultural machinery and equipment. On the production side, there will be an increased demand for modern agricultural machinery and equipment in place of manual labor. Innovative technologies on processing and packaging shall keep up with the increased demand for processed food with longer shelf life. This also means that there will be a higher demand for raw materials to be used for preserving food, e.g., salt, sugar, vinegar. A shift in consumer preferences for healthier diets, which will increase the demand for safe and nutritious food, is also expected in the coming years. Consumers will be more health-conscious and selective of the food they eat and will prefer eating fruits and vegetables to boost their immune system against diseases. Urban agriculture in the form of backyard food production will also continue to surge. Higher demand for agro-industrial products like rubber (for making gloves and personal protective equipment), fiber (for making masks, etc.), and raw materials for soap and disinfectants is also expected.
- b. High cost of doing business. Investors and business owners are constrained by high cost of doing business. Start-ups incur high cost of rental fee in strategic locations such as Calapan City and Puerto Princesa City. Adding to this is the high cost of transporting goods and raw materials because MIMAROPA requires multimodal transportation before reaching the bigger markets.
- c. Limited number of available contractors in the region. The available contractors in the region that can bid on big projects are very limited. Hence, large-scale projects are awarded to the same contractors, which causes delay in the implementation of projects.
- d. Weak Supply Chain System. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the supply chain inefficiency in the region, as it affected the manufacturing and agricultural sectors including distribution systems. The imposition of enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) restrained the movement of agricultural produce, which resulted in increased food waste due to spoilage, lower farm gate prices of agriculture/fishery products, and higher retail prices of food

commodities. During the ECQ, the direct losses from unsold produce in MIMAROPA reached P1.52 million. With these, there is a need to study and identify the bottlenecks and gaps in the supply chain system in the region.

- e. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to the regional economy. A significant impact on the regional economy is expected for 2020, particularly on industry and services subsectors, if not all subsectors, due to the losses incurred during the implementation of community quarantines and transition to the new normal until 2021.<sup>2</sup> The imposition of localized community quarantine in the region resulted in

## **Social Trends**

- a. Impact of inflation on region's vulnerable sectors. People with low income have suffered from high inflation than those with high income. This often leads to lower levels of consumer spending or changes in consumption patterns since poorer households tend to spend a greater proportion of their expenditure on food commodities.
- b. Increased demand for health services. Health-seeking behavior of Filipinos is expected to improve. This implies increased demand for health workers. However, global demand for health workers is also expected to increase, especially over the short term. Vulnerable groups or those most at risk population (MARPs) are expected to limit their travel outside the house.
- c. Low capacity of health care system. There are only 28 licensed hospitals in the region, 14 of which are owned and managed by the government. The region has only three level II hospitals, all of which are privately owned. The rest are level I hospitals. In addition, there are 40 infirmaries in MIMAROPA serving the region's total population.
- d. Continuous utilization of online learning. Online learning will still be utilized in the region. However, in order for this to be effective, the region needs to invest in stable, fast, and accessible internet connection. There is also a need to fast-track the passage of Senate Bill No. 1831, "An Act Requiring All Public Telecommunications Entities and Internet Service Providers in the Country to Increase Service Coverage and Deliver a Minimum Standard for Internet Connection Speed" (or Better Internet Act), which seeks to improve internet services in the country.

During the MIMAROPA SDC meeting held on November 6, 2020, the Department of Education (DepEd) MIMAROPA reported that

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<sup>2</sup> 2020 Gross Regional Domestic Product will be tentatively released this April

there are issues concerning the indigenous peoples (IPs), more specifically on their difficulty in answering the modules. The following issues and challenges identified for SY 2020-2021 in relation to the learning modality for IPs: transfer of residence of students without informing the advisers and other school personnel; limitations of parents in providing instructional support to their children; unavailability of vehicle for teachers to monitor pupils (especially the IP learners who live up the mountains) and to deliver the modules per sitio; risky visitation due to weather condition; not conducive class home environment; insufficient time to accomplish indicated activities in the self-learning modules (SLMs); and no internet connectivity to do some research. Kinder to Grade 1 parents including the minorities are doubtful about their ability to teach their children. Some parents have their livelihood to attend to, which leaves their children unattended and unmonitored. Specific issues and challenges identified concerning IPs and those in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs) are as follows: lack of learning facilitators; no electricity/internet connection and are only using analog phones; modules returned were crumpled and unanswered; and the transfer of residence of indigenous cultural community (ICC) families.

There is a need to ensure quality of modules being distributed/disseminated and address other issues and concerns related to basic education learning delivery modalities. It is important to identify other means of delivering learning to students especially to indigenous peoples and those who are in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas. It is also recommended to allow face-to-face interventions under strict conditions set by the DepEd, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID).

## **Infrastructure Trends**

- a. Physical connectivity. One of the major challenges in the development of the MIMAROPA region is physical connectivity due to its geographic characteristics. The challenge includes interconnecting a) the five provinces and island municipalities to Calapan City (which is the regional government center); b) MIMAROPA to the rest of the Philippines; and c) MIMAROPA's production areas and tourism destinations to promote the region's economic integration and marketing efficiencies.

MIMAROPA Region needs dependable infrastructure and efficient delivery of transportation support services to integrate the island economies of the five provinces in the region and with other regions.

The following are the three of the major infrastructure projects in the region:

- Mindoro Island Circumferential Road, Abra de Ilog–Puerto Galera Section. The road project started in 2014. Three sections on the Oriental Mindoro side were already completed with only the off-carriage improvement and drainage works remaining to be completed. Construction at the Occidental Mindoro side has picked up pace, with an average weighted accomplishment of 77.44%. Only the construction of the bridge section remains unfunded.
  - Coron-Busuanga Road, Palawan. Coron-Busuanga Road has a total length of 72.53 km, and it has a carriageway width of 6.70 m; 280 mm thick pavement and a shoulder width of 2.0 meter on both sides in conformance with the design guidelines, criteria, and standards for national roads. It was started in 2017 with a total cost of ₱1.80 billion.
  - Puerto Princesa Cruise Port and Facilities. The PPC Cruise Port consist of a 500 linear meter x 21 lineal meter wharf to accommodate a large cruise liner; it is provided with 36 lineal meter x 12 lineal meter trestle and 64 lineal meter x 13.4 lineal meter causeway, which serves as an entrance to the terminal building. The cruise ship terminal building has an approximate area of 10,000 square meters that can accommodate 2,500 persons where passengers will also be provided with tourist lounge, coffee shops, restaurants, souvenir and novelty shops and amenities for spa and wellness. It was started in 2016 with a total cost of ₱3.50 billion. The PPC Cruise port is expected to contribute to the promotion of the tourism industry.
- b. High power rates and frequent outages. Rotational brownouts are often experienced in the provinces and island municipalities. The region recorded a dependable capacity of 228 MW from various power generation facilities with the maximum system demand of 214 MW. Generation of additional capacities in energy projects particularly in power generation is required to improve systems reliability.
- c. Increase in cost of maintenance and operations in the transportation sector. The new normal in air, water, and land transport shall consist of observation of physical distancing. This may also include lessened number of passengers per travel of transport vehicles to ensure that social distancing will be observed. However, due to lessened number of passengers, price of fares may also increase. Airports, seaports, and passenger terminals shall also observe strict protocols such as limitation in capacity, health and hygiene, and security. This may increase in cost of

maintenance and operation over a much lower revenue. In the next years, cost of travelling is expected to increase.

## **Technological Trends**

- a. Increased demand in ICT services and digital technology. Demand for ICT services and the use of digital technology are likely to increase significantly. E-commerce will be hugely utilized as businesses and consumers are expected to prefer the use of online transactions, including the expanded use of cashless payment system and other financial technology platforms. This bodes well for the retail and other business activities sectors, including information technology and business process management.
- b. Internet connectivity in the region. Fast, reliable, accessible, and affordable internet connectivity is a major concern faced by the island provinces of MIMAROPA region. In line with this, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) has rolled out its “Free Wi-Fi for All” project in 70 public places in the region in CY 2020. Through the “Managed Internet Service” arrangement, these newly activated sites are in state universities and colleges, hospitals, and LGUs in Occidental Mindoro (10 sites), Oriental Mindoro (9 sites), Marinduque (7 sites), Palawan (32 sites), and Romblon (12 sites).

The DICT also lent 19 LTE routers with unlimited data, calls and SMS subscription to several quarantine facilities, isolation facilities, and rural health units in the region.

## **Environmental Trends**

- a. **Linkage between public health and the environment.** There will be an expected increase in volume of hazardous wastes from medical facilities. Solid wastes from packaging materials will also increase due to the surge in delivery of food and other essential supplies. Higher demand for water is also expected in the next years because people will continue to practice frequent handwashing and sanitation in households, workplaces, and public places. Nonetheless, in the next years, people will be more aware of the importance of preserving the natural resources while ensuring environmental sustainability and safeguarding the quality of public health.
- b. **Vulnerability to natural disasters.** The region is prone to natural disasters, particularly typhoons and flooding that often disrupt economic activities.

# Chapter 08

## Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

### a. Abstract

The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (AFF) Sector is one of the primary growth drivers of the MIMAROPA economy. The region's AFF sector continues to contribute to the country's goal of food security as MIMAROPA is known as one of the top producers of rice, corn, cashew, calamansi, onion, garlic, cacao, and fishery products.

Based on the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2017-2022 Midterm Update, the desired outcomes for the AFF are: (a) Sustainable Growth in Agriculture and Fisheries Achieved, (b) Food Security Improved, (c) Sector Resilience to Climate Change Improved, and (d) Rural Income Increased.

In 2020, the performance of the AFF sector in the region is expected to decrease. The onset of COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the limited movement of workers and agricultural products especially during the early stage of enhanced community quarantine (ECQ). This, combined with the archipelagic nature of the region, resulted in the oversupply of some crops such as watermelon and melon which further resulted to the lower market price of these products. There was also an increase in the distribution cost of products due to impositions of local policies. Based on the business rapid assessment survey for AFF sector, the estimated direct losses from unsold agricultural produce in the region was at least ₱1.5 million. Almost 50% of the incurred losses were from cereals.

This chapter discusses the performance of the AFF sector in the region and its contribution to the attainment of the development goals set in the MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 Midterm Update.

### b. Accomplishments

#### ***Achieving Sustainable Growth in Agriculture and Fisheries*** (2020 Data from PSA not yet available)

At constant 2018 prices, MIMAROPA's economy grew at a slower pace by 3.9% in 2019 compared to 8.6% growth in 2018. Services contributed 2.7 percentage points to the 3.9% growth in 2019, AFF contributed 0.9 percentage point, while industry contributed 0.3 percentage point. AFF gross value added (GVA) for agriculture and fisheries accelerated by

4.7% in 2019 from 0.9% in 2018. This was also higher than the 2019 RDP target of 2.5% growth<sup>3</sup>.

The services sector accounted for the largest share in the region's economy with 46.7%. This was followed by the industry sector with 35.1% and the AFF sector with 18.2%.

### ***Improving Food Security***

\*Self Sufficiency levels of six commodities achieved the 2019 RDP target. Sufficiency levels of rice, onion, chicken, beef, pork, and chevon achieved the 2019 RDP targets. Onion recorded the highest sufficiency level with 4,596.40%. This was way higher than the 2019 RDP target of 48.76% onion sufficiency level. This was followed by chevon with 642.97% sufficiency level, beef with 447.13% sufficiency level, rice with 267.53% sufficiency level, and pork with 262.06% sufficiency level. Chicken registered the lowest sufficiency level at 69.43%. Garlic recorded 53.13% sufficiency level and did not meet its 2019 RDP target of 146.18% sufficiency.

*Total crops production generally decreased.* Generally, decreases in the production of major commodities in the region were observed in CY 2020. These may be attributed to typhoons that hit the region in 2020 along with the onset of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the imposed restrictions that came with it.

- Palay production in MIMAROPA slightly decreased by 1.01%, from 1,195,197 metric tons (MT) in 2019 to 1,183,149.32 MT in 2020. This was lower than the 2020 RDP target of 1,286,998.34 MT for palay production. Among all the MIMAROPA provinces, Oriental Mindoro and Palawan were the major producers of palay contributing 36.43% and 32.73%, respectively. Palay yield in the region increased by 1.25% but fell short of the 2020 RDP target of 4.19 MT/ha.
- Corn production also missed the RDP target for 2020 of 136,068.07 MT despite registering a 13.34% increase from 106,939.80 MT in 2019 to 121,201.15 MT in 2020. Occidental Mindoro remains the biggest producer of corn in the region with a share of 74.24%. Production of yellow corn increased by 15.63% from 91,213.90 MT in 2019 to 105,467.99 MT in 2020 while the production of white corn slightly increased by 0.05% from 15,725.90 MT in 2019 to 15,733.16 MT in 2020. However, these were still lower than the RDP targets for 2020.
- Banana production significantly decreased by 42.11% from 108,084.09 MT in 2019 to 62,574.73 MT in 2020 and fell short of the 2020 RDP target set at 98,875.57 MT. Palawan and Oriental Mindoro were the major contributors to banana production in the

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<sup>3</sup> This portion will be updated once 2020 GRDP is released

\* This portion will be updated upon submission of data from DA MIMAROPA

region with a share of 54.81% and 32.82%, respectively. *Saba* remains the dominant banana variety being produced in MIMAROPA with a 63.31% share to the total banana production. The region's banana yield showed improvement from 4.54 MT/ha in 2018 to 4.72 MT/ha in 2019 exceeding the 2019 RDP target of 4.27 MT/ha. Oriental Mindoro and Palawan were the highest banana producers in the region producing 64,318.38 metric tons and 32,935.29 metric tons of banana, respectively<sup>4</sup>.

- The region's total calamansi production of 35,382.35 MT significantly decreased by 32.99%. This was lower than the 2020 RDP target production of 42,176.58 MT. All MIMAROPA provinces recorded decreases in outputs. Oriental Mindoro continuous to be the highest producer of calamansi in the region with a share of 96.77%. Calamansi yield of 8.03 MT/ha also exceeded the 2019 target of 6.27 MT/ha<sup>5</sup>.
- Coconut outputs of the region decreased by 4.01% from 791,120.73 MT in 2019 to 759,368.93 MT in 2020. This was lower than the 2020 RDP target of 819,760.88 MT of coconut. All MIMAROPA provinces decreases in coconut production except for Palawan which registered an increase of 5.00% from 409,832.98 MT in 2019 to 430,283.74 MT in 2020. \*The coconut yield of 3.55 MT/ha also fell below the target of 3.69 MT/ha. The decrease can be attributed to the decrease in the coconut production of Romblon.
- The volume of cashew nuts produced in the region exceeded the CY 2020 RDP target by 1.09% as the production of such commodity increased by 5.82% from 235,334.74 MT in 2019 to 249,023.78 MT in 2020. Palawan remains the biggest producer of cashew nuts contributing 99.92% or 249,023.78 MT to the total cashew nut production in the region. Cashew nuts yielded 0.90 MT/ha in 2019<sup>6</sup>.
- Mango production increased by 5.27% from 17,180.55 MT in 2019 to 18,085.66 MT in 2020 and exceeded the 2020 RDP target by 1.11%. Palawan was the highest producer of mango contributing 85.18% share to the total mango production of the region. Mango yield also increased to 4.91 MT/ha, which was higher than the 2019 RDP target for mango yield of 4.48 MT/ha<sup>7</sup>.
- Garlic production in the region significantly decreased by 22.33% from 1,479.93 MT in 2019 to 1,149.51 MT in 2020. The 2020 RDP target for garlic production of 1,823.67 MT was not achieved. All MIMAROPA provinces recorded a decrease in production except

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<sup>4</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

<sup>5</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

<sup>6</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

\*This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

<sup>7</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

Romblon. Occidental Mindoro is still the biggest producer of garlic in the region contributing 91.60% of the total garlic produced in MIMAROPA. Garlic yield was recorded at 6.15 MT/ha which is lower than the 2019 RDP targets<sup>8</sup>.

- Onion production in the region decreased by 4.07% from 35,055.30 MT produced in 2019 to 33,629.85 MT produced in 2020. All MIMAROPA provinces registered decreases in onion production. Occidental Mindoro remains the top onion producer among all MIMAROPA provinces, contributing 94.02% of the region's total onion production. The decrease in the production of onion was associated with the increase of area harvested in 2019 of about 1,194.98 hectares. The yield of onion also increased from 8.27 MT/ha in 2018 to 10.14 MT/ha in 2019. The region exceeded its 2019 RDP targets<sup>9</sup>.
- Cacao production increased by 5.29% from 99.94 MT in 2019 to 105.23 MT in 2020 exceeding the 2020 RDP target of 90.03 MT cacao production. Palawan was the highest producer of cacao in the region contributing 83.54% to the total cacao production. However, the cacao yield fell short of its 2019 target and recorded a 0.38 MT/ha yield in the same period<sup>10</sup>.
- Coffee production in the region decreased by 8.37% from 154.66 MT produced in 2019 to 141.72 MT produced in 2020. This was also lower than the 2020 RDP target of 171.31 MT for coffee production. Similarly, cassava production in the region also fell short of the RDP target production of 23,222.16 MT. Cassava outputs in the region decreased by 9.19% from 21,210.10 MT produced in 2019 to 19,260.38 MT produced in 2020.

Some livestock and poultry commodities increased production and some showed a decreased production. The livestock volume of production decreased by 2.44% from 98,039 MT produced in 2019 to 95,650 MT produced in 2020. Poultry production in the region reached 19,198.72 MT which exceeded the CY 2020 RDP target of 19,172.38 MT.

- Carabao production decreased by 2.81%, from 4,916 MT in 2019 to 4,778 MT in 2020. This was also lower than the 2020 RDP target set at 5,909.17 MT carabao production. Cattle production also recorded a decrease of 24.42% from 11,448 MT produced in 2019 to 8,652 MT produced in 2020. This was also lower than the 2020 RDP target set at 5,909.17 MT cattle production.
- Hog production slightly increased by 0.52% from 79,381 MT produced in 2019 to 79,794 MT produced in 2020. This was,

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<sup>8</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

<sup>9</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

<sup>10</sup> This portion shall be updated once data from PSA is available

however, lower than the 2020 RDP target set at 84,518.22 MT hog production. Goat production also increased by 5.75% from 2,294 MT in 2019 to 2,426 MT in 2020. This exceeded the 2020 RDP target set at 2,344.01 MT goat production.

- Chicken production decreased by 2.41% from 11,174 MT produced in 2019 to 10,905 MT produced in 2020. This was lower than the 2020 RDP target set at 11,362.49 MT chicken production. Chicken eggs, on the other hand, increased by 7.14% and surpassed the 2020 RDP target of 6,912.85 MT chicken eggs production.
- Duck and duck eggs production decreased by 15.41% and 10.01%, respectively. The 2020 RDP targets for both duck and duck eggs production were not achieved.

*Fish production for all fishing types declined.* The total fisheries production in the region reached 474,217.69 MT in 2020. This was lower than the RDP target for the year of 557,666.93 MT.

- Commercial fisheries production decreased by 3.75% from 29,305.92 MT outputs in 2019 to 28,207.82 MT in 2020. The decline in commercial fish production may be attributed to the decrease in fishing days and trips. All MIMAROPA provinces recorded decreases in commercial fisheries production. Palawan remains the top producers of commercial fish products contributing 71.03% to the region's total production.
- Municipal fisheries production decreased by 2.70% from 29,305.92 MT produced in 2019 to 28,207.82 MT in 2020. The 2020 RDP target set at 136,509.99 MT municipal fisheries production was not achieved. The provinces of Palawan, Oriental Mindoro, and Romblon suffered losses during the year. Only the provinces of Occidental Mindoro and Marinduque recorded increases in production by 16.66% and 6.15%, respectively. Large pelagic fish like Yellow Fin Tuna and blue marlin (malasugue) that feed on round scads have been observed in Occidental Mindoro. Catching Yellow Fin Tuna in Occidental Mindoro is done by hand line (kawil) using a single hook-and-line method and involves the use of drop-stone technique. Starting in 2010, Mamburao's tuna was being exported to the European Union member countries because it conformed to international standards for exporting tuna. Importers from European and Asian countries are said to prefer tuna fished through hand line methods because it maintains the intactness of the flesh as well as maintain its excellent fresh taste.

Today, most of the tuna being exported by the Philippines to Japan, Korea, Australia, Switzerland, and Germany mostly come from Mamburao and Sablayan. The tuna industry has long been considered as one of the backbones of Occidental Mindoro's economy. Now Mamburao Occidental Mindoro is tagged by World

Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Philippines as the “emerging new tuna capital of the Philippines.

- Aquaculture production in the region decreased by 6.19% from 344,326.59 MT produced in 2019 to 323,024.30 MT in 2020. This was also lower than the 2020 RDP target set at 384,126.79 aquaculture production. All MIMAROPA provinces registered decreases in aquaculture production except for Oriental Mindoro and Occidental Mindoro which registered an increase of 29.07% and 9.48%, respectively. Palawan remains the top producer of aquaculture products (seaweeds) with a share of 99.26%.

### *Improving AFF Sector Resilience to Climate Change*

The 2020 RDP target set at ₱408 million annual agri and fishery production loss due to weather and climate related disasters, was not achieved. The onslaught of typhoons Quinta (October 2020), Rolly (November 2020), and Ulysses (November 2020) caused a total of ₱1,674,537,728.79 worth of damages for AFF in the region. Occidental Mindoro recorded the highest estimated cost of damages amounting to ₱1,083,974,829.87. Moreover, a total of ₱5,292,880,150.91 worth of losses was reported in the region. The province of Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest estimated cost of losses amounting to ₱2,931,589,121.38. The amount of damages and losses covered crops, livestock, and irrigation facilities, among others.

The fisheries sub-sector also incurred heavy damages estimated at ₱138,636,075 with losses amounting to ₱15,468,337.00. Reported damages in fisheries were from destroyed motorized boats and gears that were washed out by storm surges in the coastal communities. Estimated losses in aquaculture were recorded at 345.61 MT amounting to ₱15,468,337.00 due to floods caused by continuous rains that led to the overflowing of fishponds of different aquaculture commodities such as shrimp, tilapia, milkfish, and seaweeds.

Table 8.1 Chapter 8 – Results Matrix

| Indicator   | Baseline     | Targets                   |                           |                           | Accomplishment 2020 | Reporting Entity |
|---|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|   | 2016         | 2020                      | 2021                      | 2022                      |                     |                  |
| <b>GVA in AFF increased (in percent)</b>                                      | -6.8         | 2.0% (low)<br>3.0% (high) | 2.0% (low)<br>3.0% (high) | 2.0% (low)<br>3.0% (high) | -4.7 (2019 data)    | PSA              |
| <b>Growth in GVA of AHFF by subsector(Constant Price)</b>                     |              |                           |                           |                           |                     |                  |
| <b>crops</b>  | -6.54        | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>livestock</b>  | 2.75         | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>poultry</b>  | -3.26        | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>Fishery</b>  | -14.51       | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             |                  |
| <b>Growth in Value of Production in million pesos (constant)</b>              |              |                           |                           |                           |                     |                  |
| <b>crops</b>  | - 7.01       | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>livestock</b>  | 2.23         | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>poultry</b>  | - 3.75       | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>fisheries</b>  | - 14.94      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | 2.50                      | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>Value of Production of Fisheries by type of fishing activity increased</b> |              |                           |                           |                           |                     |                  |
| <b>Commercial Fisheries ('000)</b>  | 1,714,727.63 | 1,801.98                  | 1,838.01                  | 1,874.77                  | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>Municipal Fisheries ('000)</b>   | 7,756,153.83 | 8,150.80                  | 8,313.81                  | 8,480.09                  | No data             | PSA              |
| <b>Aquaculture ('000)</b>   | 1,808,213.33 | 1,900.22                  | 1,938.22                  | 1,976.699                 | No data             | PSA              |

| Indicator  | Baseline     | Targets      |              |              | Accomplishment<br>2020 | Reporti<br>ng<br>Entity |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | 2016         | 2020         | 2021         | 2022         |                        |                         |
| Rice self-sufficiency level maintained (%)   | 151.56       | 171.45       | 175.73       | 180.13       | 262.53                 | DA                      |
| <i>Sufficiency levels of other priority commodity</i>  |              |              |              |              |                        |                         |
| Banana (%)   | 17.12        | 42.16        | 56.92        | 76.84        | No data                | DA                      |
| Calamansi (%)  | 1,576.91     | 1,876.22     | 1,932.51     | 1,990.49     | No data                | DA                      |
| Cashew (%)   | 7,445.35     | 7,744.52     | 7,976.85     | 8,216.15     | No data                | DA                      |
| Mango (%)  | 13.64        | 30.39        | 41.03        | 55.39        | No data                | DA                      |
| Garlic (%)   | 113.61       | 153.48       | 161.15       | 169.21       | No data                | DA                      |
| Onion (%)  | 23.86        | 58.52        | 70.22        | 84.27        | No data                | DA                      |
| Chicken (%)  | 24.93        | 31.78        | 42.9         | 57.91        | No data                | DA                      |
| Beef (%)   | 215.43       | 207.21       | 211.35       | 217.69       | No data                | DA                      |
| Pork (%)   | 112.50       | 78.58        | 84.09        | 90.00        | No data                | DA                      |
| Chevon (%)   | 182.36       | 94.81        | 104.29       | 114.72       | No data                | DA                      |
| <i>Yield of major commodities increased (MT/ha)</i>  |              |              |              |              |                        |                         |
| Palay  | 3.75         | 4.19         | 4.30         | 4.40         | 4.04                   | PSA                     |
| Corn   | 3.27         | 3.63         | 3.72         | 3.81         | 3.98                   |                         |
| White Corn   | 2.31         | 2.42         | 2.48         | 2.54         | 2.31                   | PSA                     |
| Yellow Corn  | 4.23         | 4.83         | 4.95         | 5.07         | 4.47                   | PSA                     |
| Banana   | 4.31         | 4.38         | 4.49         | 4.61         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Calamansi  | 6.44         | 6.43         | 6.59         | 6.75         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Coconut  | 3.53         | 3.78         | 3.87         | 3.96         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Cashew Nuts  | 0.80         | 0.88         | 0.90         | 0.93         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Mango  | 4.18         | 4.59         | 4.71         | 4.83         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Garlic   | 6.23         | 6.90         | 7.07         | 7.25         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Onion  | 8.64         | 9.17         | 9.38         | 9.63         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Vegetables   | 4.06         | 5.04         | 5.17         | 5.30         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Cacao  | 0.74         | 0.74         | 0.76         | 0.78         | No data                | PSA                     |
| Coffee - dried berries   | 0.18         | 0.18         | 0.19         | 0.20         | No data                |                         |
| Cassava  | 7.03         | 8.24         | 8.45         | 8.66         | No data                | PSA                     |
| <i>Volume of Production increased (MT)</i>   |              |              |              |              |                        |                         |
| Volume of Crop Production  | 2,511,652.00 | 2,780,620.75 | 2,850,136.27 | 2,921,389.67 | 2,628,758.46           | PSA                     |
| Palay  | 1,080,408.00 | 1,286,998.34 | 1,319,173.30 | 1,352,152.63 | 1,183,149.32           | PSA                     |
| Corn   | 114,604.00   | 136,068.07   | 139,469.77   | 142,956.51   | 121,201.15             | PSA                     |
| White Corn   | 17,287.00    | 16,152.32    | 16,556.12    | 16,970.02    | 15,733.16              | PSA                     |
| Yellow Corn  | 97,317.00    | 119,915.75   | 122,913.65   | 125,986.49   | 105,467.99             | PSA                     |
| Banana   | 97,993.93    | 98,875.57    | 101,347.46   | 103,881.15   | 62,574.73              | PSA                     |
| Calamansi  | 42,315.15    | 42,176.58    | 43,230.99    | 44,311.77    | 35,382.35              | PSA                     |
| Coconut w/ husk  | 758,748.45   | 819,760.88   | 840,245.90   | 861,261.27   | 759,368.93             | PSA                     |
| Cashew nuts  | 209,378.90   | 228,711.70   | 234,429.50   | 240,290.30   | 249,023.78             | PSA                     |
| Mango  | 14,939.10    | 16,341.19    | 16,749.72    | 17,168.46    | 18,085.66              | PSA                     |
| Garlic Dried Bulb (MT)   | 1,818.84     | 1,823.67     | 1,869.28     | 1,915.99     | 1,149.51               | PSA                     |
| Onion (MT)   | 14,664.58    | 20,592.58    | 21,107.39    | 21,635.07    | 33,629.85              | PSA                     |
| Vegetables (Ampalaya, Eggplant, Gabi, Kangkong, Monggo, Okra, Pechay, Radish, Stringbeans, Tomato, Cabbage, Squash) (MT) | 20,876.77    | 27,889.55    | 28,586.79    | 29,301.46    | 24,484.70              | PSA                     |
| Other Crops (MT)   | 48,433.51    | 52,713.28    | 54,031.11    | 55,381.88    |                        | PSA                     |
| Cacao (MT)   | 84.26        | 90.03        | 92.28        | 94.59        | 105.23                 | PSA                     |
| Coffee - dried berries (MT)  | 166.73       | 171.31       | 175.59       | 179.98       | 141.72                 | PSA                     |
| Cassava (MT)   | 19,888.18    | 23,222.16    | 23,802.72    | 24,397.79    | 19,260.38              | PSA                     |

| Indicator   | Baseline       | Targets     |             |                | Accomplishment<br>2020 | Reporti<br>ng<br>Entity |
|---|----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | 2016           | 2020        | 2021        | 2022           |                        |                         |
| <b>Volume of Livestock Production</b>   | 100,712.00     | 105,501.41  | 108,138.94  | 110,842.41     | 95,650.30              | PSA                     |
| Carabao (MT)  | 6,169.00       | 5,909.17    | 6,056.90    | 6,208.32       | 4,777.85               | PSA                     |
| Cattle (MT)   | 12,466.00      | 12,730.00   | 13,048.25   | 13,374.46      | 8,652.27               | PSA                     |
| Swine (MT)  | 79,585.00      | 84,518.22   | 86,631.18   | 88,796.95      | 79,794.00              | PSA                     |
| Goat (MT)   | 2,492.00       | 2,344.01    | 2,402.61    | 2,462.68       | 2,426.18               | PSA                     |
| <b>Volume of Poultry Production</b>   | 16,486.00      | 19,172.38   | 19,651.69   | 20,142.98      | 19,198.72              | PSA                     |
| Chicken (MT)  | 10,302.00      | 11,362.49   | 11,646.56   | 11,937.72      | 10,905.00              | PSA                     |
| Chicken Eggs (MT)   | 5,401.00       | 6,912.85    | 7,085.66    | 7,262.81       | 7,437.91               | PSA                     |
| Duck (MT)   | 321.00         | 372.20      | 381.50      | 391.04         | 351.89                 | PSA                     |
| Duck Eggs (MT)  | 463.00         | 524.84      | 537.96      | 551.41         | 503.92                 | PSA                     |
| <b>Volume of Fisheries Production</b>   | 482,790.72     | 557,666.93  | 578,608.67  | 600,528.08     | 474,217.69             | PSA                     |
| Commercial Fisheries (MT)   | 35,585.00      | 37,030.14   | 37,400.44   | 37,774.45      | 28,200.02              | PSA                     |
| Municipal Fisheries (MT)  | 131,183.00     | 136,509.99  | 137,875.09  | 139,253.84     | 122,993.37             | PSA                     |
| Aquaculture (MT)  | 316,022.00     | 384,126.79  | 403,333.13  | 432,499.78     | 323,024.30             | PSA                     |
| Tilapia   | 1,076.96       | 1,483.77    | 1,520.86    | 1,558.88       | 186.54                 | PSA                     |
| Bangus  | 2,514.45       | 1,516.06    | 1,553.96    | 1,592.81       | 1,604.55               | PSA                     |
| Seaweed   | 312,922.64     | 362,052.49  | 371,103.80  | 380,381.39     | 320,717.21             | PSA                     |
| Tiger Prawns  | 341.36         | 285.96      | 293.11      | 300.44         | 249.08                 | PSA                     |
| White Shrimp  | 122.91         | 81.22       | 83.25       | 85.34          | 1.87                   | PSA                     |
| Other   |                |             |             |                | 265.05                 | PSA                     |
| <b>Annual agri and fishery production loss due to weather and climate-related disasters reduced on the average (Php )</b> | 312,032,283.00 | 408,655,738 | 367,790,165 | 331,011,149.00 | 2,169,886,699.02       | PSA                     |
| <b>Growth in Labor Productivity of Farmers and Fisherfolk Increased</b>   | -1.26          | 2-3         | 2-3         | 2-3            | 1.69                   | PSA                     |

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA and Department of Agriculture MIMAROPA

### c. Moving Forward

As a way forward, there is a need to empower MIMAROPA's farmers and fisherfolk as well as the private sector to increase agricultural productivity and profitability, taking into account sustainability and resilience. This can be done through the use of relevant and innovative technologies, provision of affordable credit, value-adding, developing markets at the local and national levels, and sustained empowerment and skills development of farmers and fisherfolk. With the onset of COVID-19 and the *new normal*, there will be an increased demand for modern agricultural machinery and equipment in place of manual labor, given the need to limit the movement of people. Innovative technologies on processing and packaging need to keep up with the increased demand for processed food with longer shelf life. This also means that there will be a higher demand for raw materials to be used for preserving food such as salt, sugar, and vinegar. These innovative coping mechanisms, which have rapidly sprung up, are proving to be a lifeline for farmers allowing them to take advantage of the recent increased demand for locally sourced goods.

For MIMAROPA's AFF Sector to transition to the new normal and ways forward, the following strategies shall be implemented in the region:

1. **Development of programs that will modernize agriculture and promote diversification.** Modernizing the agriculture sector holds the key to reducing, if not eliminating, rural poverty in the Philippines. Part of the modernization process is farm diversification or a more balanced agricultural production that is not necessarily focused on rice, corn, and coconut but shall include those products with export potential in processed or value-added forms such as coffee, cacao, cassava, tropical fruits, and rubber, among others.
2. **Agriculture and Food Supply Resiliency Strategy in place.** The unhampered movement of AFF goods and services through efficient transport and logistics systems is necessary. This shall involve the construction of better roads and transport infrastructures as well as sufficient and strategically-located facilities such as wholesale food terminals and trading centers, warehouses, cold storage and refrigeration facilities, mobile storage, mobile marketplaces, rolling stores, and food banks. Crafting a plan and developing strategies on how to ensure a steady supply of these goods are recommended.
3. **Research, development, and extension activities shall be intensified.** The government shall intensify financial support for public research institutions and state universities and colleges (SUCs) on research and development programs for commercialization of safe, nutritious, medicinal or therapeutic, and well-packaged agri-food products. Partnerships and joint projects by AFF agencies should be explored for the development of agri-food processed products with improved nutritional content and longer shelf-life.
4. **Encourage Go Lokal.** Buying locally produced goods and services will benefit the MIMAROPA economy. There is a need to promote the local products and improve packaging to make the products more attractive to consumers. Establishing online transactions among MSMEs should be encouraged. Agricultural commodity production needs to adopt urban agriculture, backyard/household gardening of edibles, and community farming. Vacant urban spaces could be utilized for gardening/farming. Households shall be encouraged to establish backyard 'edible' gardens and community farming shall be promoted especially in schools.

#### ***d. Recommendations***

Apart from ensuring the implementation of the strategies identified in the PDP 2017-2022 Midterm Update and MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 Midterm Update, the following identified strategies and interventions need to be implemented:

| Challenges   | Recommended Strategies   | Implementing Agencies                        |
|--|--|--|
| Low productivity   | Increase budget allocation to PAPs gearing towards modernization of the AFF sector.  | DA, BFAR                                     |
| Lack of market outlets   | Training on post-harvest processing<br><br>Promotion of local produce to the local markets in the region   | DA, BFAR                                     |
| Weak resilience to risks especially those from natural disasters brought about by climate change phenomena | Development/establishment of disaster-resilient agriculture related facilities (e.g., irrigation infrastructure facilities, cold storage) that can withstand extreme temperature and off-season typhoons.<br><br>Adoption of disaster-resilient farming technologies and practices and development or updating of cropping models in the region, which can guide farmers especially during the onset of El Niño/La Niña<br><br>Provide crop insurance to farmers | NIA/DA, BFAR<br><br>DA/DOST/BSWM<br><br>PCIC |

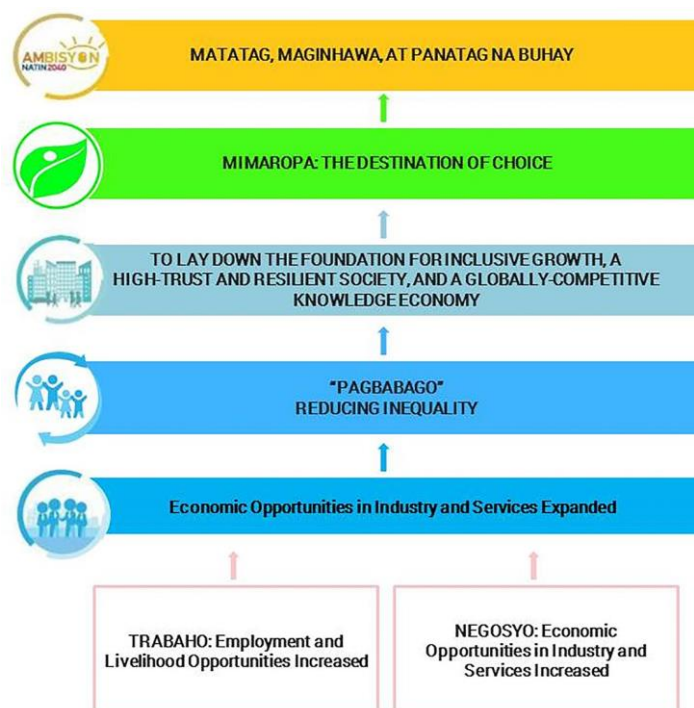
# Chapter 09

## Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo

This chapter discusses the performance of the industry and services sectors in achieving the desired outcome of reducing inequality through: Trabaho or expanding economic opportunities in the sector and Negosyo or increasing access to economic opportunities for MSMEs and cooperatives.

In 2020, the pandemic had a huge impact in the industry and services sectors as it temporarily suspended production activities for both goods and services. The imposition of lockdown resulted to the temporary closure of many establishments and a huge number of displaced workers. The workers from the manufacturing, hotel accommodations, restaurants, and other tourism-related businesses are the most affected by the pandemic. The economic opportunities in the industry and services contracted due to decrease in investments, decreased employment and livelihood, among others.

**Figure 9.1 Strategic Framework for Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo**



## Accomplishments

### Industry

**Table 9.1 Targets and Accomplishments on Industry, MIMAROPA, 2020, 2021 and 2022**

| Indicator  | Baseline Data (2016) | Annual Plan Targets       |                           |                           | Accomplishment         | Reporting Entity |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
|  |                      | 2020                      | 2021                      | 2022                      | 2020                   |                  |
| Increased employment and livelihood opportunities in industry                                |                      |                           |                           |                           |                        |                  |
| GVA in Industry increased (in %)   | 2% (actual)          | 4.0% (low)<br>5.0% (high) | 4.5% (low)<br>5.5% (high) | 5.0% (low)<br>6.0% (high) | data not yet available | PSA MIMAROPA     |
| Manufacturing GVA as proportion of GRDP Increased  | 5.17%                | No set target             |                           |                           | data not yet available |                  |
| Employment Generated by the industry increased ('000) (10% increase annually)                |                      | 9,616                     | 10,577                    | 11,635                    | data not yet available |                  |
| Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita increased                    |                      | No set target             | No set target             | No set target             | data not yet available |                  |
| Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment increased (%) (annual increase) |                      | 17%                       | 18%                       | 19%                       | data not yet available |                  |
| Number of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises assisted (by DTI)                             | 4,717                | 10,500                    | 11,025                    | 11,576                    | 14,071                 | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Jobs to MSMEs ratio  | 5                    | 7                         | 8                         | 8                         | 2                      | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Sales to MSMEs ratio (in peso per MSME)  | 808,491              | 889,428.00                | 898,322.00                | 907,306.00                | 584,390.00             | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| No. of LGUs with automated business transaction processes (e-BPLS, RPTACS)                   | 25                   | 41                        | 45                        | 50                        | 35 (eBPLS)             | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Number of Business Name Registered   | 9,490                | 22,477                    | 24,724                    | 27,197                    | 14,610                 | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Number of shared service facilities established and maintained                               | 27                   | 41                        | 45                        | 50                        | 61                     | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Number of shared service facilities beneficiaries  | 2,866                | 3,300                     | 3,630                     | 3,993                     | 118                    | DTI MIMAROPA     |

| Indicator  | Baseline Data (2016) | Annual Plan Targets |                  |                  | Accomplishment   | Reporting Entity |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  |                      | 2020                | 2021             | 2022             | 2020             |                  |
| Number of established and maintained Negosyo Centers | 31                   | 58                  | 63               | 63               | 51               | DTI MIMAROPA     |
| Volume of exports                                    | 1,308,509,683        | 5,767,877,427.32    | 6,921,452,912.79 | 8,305,743,495.34 | 4,402,891,816.00 | PSA MIMAROPA     |
| Volume of imports                                    | 601,284,514          | 500,794,666.20      | 450,715,199.58   | 405,643,679.62   | 620,622,418.00   | PSA MIMAROPA     |

Source: PSA MIMAROPA, DTI MIMAROPA

*GVA Growth Rate (no data yet)*

Business One-Stop-Shop (BOSS) in the region created.

The Business One-Stop-Shop (BOSS) is part of the government's initiative to streamline the processing of business permits and licenses and improve the ease of doing business. Seventy-two (72) out of seventy-three (73) municipalities and cities in the region have their Business One Stop Shop, only the municipality of El Nido in Palawan does not have a BOSS. The establishment of business one-stop-shop for business licensing improved the local government units' (LGUs) efficient delivery of services.

Total approved investments declined.

The total approved Foreign and Filipino investments in the region declined by 26.14% in 2020, from P5.53 billion pesos in 2019 to P4.21 billion pesos in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic affected the flow of investments in the region as it recorded 0 investments during the first and second quarters of 2020. Decline in foreign investments was also observed as it only contributed 1.26% to the total approved investments in the region. The region's contribution to the country's total investments of 1.13 trillion in 2020 remained marginal at 0.4%.

The jobs to MSMEs ratio and sales to MSMEs ratio failed to meet RDP target.

In 2020, the job to MSMEs ratio contracted to two jobs generated per MSME. The average sales generated per MSME was recorded at 584,390 thousand in 2020, falling below the RDP target for the year by 34.3% and 35.6% below the end-of-plan target (refer to Table 9.1)

LGU's Adoption of Electronic Business Permits and Licensing System (e-BPLS) showed slight improvement.

The number of LGUs with automated transactions and e-BPLS slightly increased by 6.06% in 2020 reaching 35 LGUs compared to 33 recorded for the previous year. However, the RDP target of 41 LGUs was not achieved.

Established and Maintained Negosyo Centers (NC) failed to meet RDP target.

Negosyo Centers (NCs) aims to expand economic opportunities by encouraging entrepreneurs to establish their own business by promoting the ease of doing business in the municipalities and cities in the region. NCs provide MSMEs with assistance/ services to ensure sustainability and continuity of their operations. In 2020, the number of established

and maintained NCs was 51 which was 12.07% lower than the 2020 RDP target.

Business Name Registration slightly decreased.

The business name registration in the region decreased by 3.6% from 15,156 business names registered in 2019 to 14,610 business names registered in 2020. This was 35% lower than the 2020 target of 22,476 business name registration in the MIMAROPA RDP. The province of Palawan recorded the highest number of business names registered comprising 42.27% of the region's total business name registration. Provinces of Occidental Mindoro and Palawan recorded an increase in business names registration with 6.05 percent and 5.02 percent, respectively.

On the other hand, the province of Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest decrease in business names registration at 19.99%. This was followed by the provinces of Marinduque and Romblon at 7.37% and 2.68% decreases, respectively.

**Table 9.2 Business Name Registration, MIMAROPA, 2019 -2020**

| Region/ Province   |  |  | Percent Change<br>(2020/2019) |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| MIMAROPA           |  |  | (3.6)                         |
| Marinduque         |  |  | (7.37)                        |
| Occidental Mindoro |  |  | 6.05                          |
| Oriental Mindoro   |  |  | (19.99)                       |
| Palawan            |  |  | 5.02                          |
| Romblon            |  |  | (2.68)                        |

Source: DTI MIMAROPA

MSMEs assisted recorded a significant increase.

The total number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) assisted in the region increased by 28.78% from 10,926 MSMEs assisted in 2019 to 14,071 MSMEs assisted in 2020, exceeding the RDP target for 2020. The assisted MSMEs were comprise of 8,901 registered new MSMEs, 712 unregistered new MSMEs, 3,975 registered existing MSMEs and 483 registered existing MSMEs. Assistance includes trainings, seminars and other interventions related to MSME and industry development. These were reached through the various programs and activities implemented such as Negosyo Centers, CARP, One Town One Product Next Generation, Shared Service Facilities Projects, P3 Loan Application, Industry Cluster Enhancement Program and Consumerism.

The provinces of Palawan and Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest number of MSMEs assisted with 5,172 and 3,123 respectively. The province of

Palawan recorded the highest percentage increase with 94.95%. All provinces recorded an increase in the number of MSMEs assisted in 2020.

*Table 9.3 Number of MSMEs Assisted, MIMAROPA, 2019 -2020*

| Region/ Province   |        |        | Percent Change |
|--------------------|--------|--------|----------------|
| MIMAROPA           | 10,926 | 14,071 | 28.78          |
| Marinduque         | 1,715  | 1,789  | 4.31           |
| Occidental Mindoro | 2,001  | 2,067  | 3.3            |
| Oriental Mindoro   | 2,831  | 3,123  | 10.31          |
| Palawan            | 2,653  | 5,172  | 94.95          |
| Romblon            | 1,726  | 1,920  | 11.24          |

Source: Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) MIMAROPA

Marketing activities were also conducted to help MSMEs generate sales amidst the challenges of product marketing during the pandemic. OTOP Hubs were established in Marinduque and Romblon to provide market access on local products in the provinces. Several Mini Bazaars and Mobile Trade Fairs were held in MIMAROPA provinces. Lastly, DTI MIMAROPA came up with its first online trade fair, the MIMAROPA Naturally Virtual Fair 2020, to adapt to the growing popularity of e-commerce.

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) MIMAROPA also implemented programs and activities to assist MSMEs and the grassroots communities in terms of adopting to technological innovations, improving productivity and operations, and developing a sustainable livelihood opportunity. The agency provided a total of 254 intervention projects to MSMEs, communities, and other beneficiaries in the region under the following programs: (1) Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP), (2) Grants-In-Aid Program (GIA), (3) Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST), (4) technology trainings, and (5) technology consultancy services.

The number of shared service facilities (SSFs) established and maintained exceeded the RDP target.

In 2020, a total of 61 SSFs including the Business Resource Centers (BRCs) was established and maintained, exceeding the RDP target by 48.78%. Numerous forms of assistance were provided to 118 SSF beneficiaries. About 97% of the established SSFs were operational, and one unit was already transferred to the Cooperator, following the Usufruct Agreement. Direct and indirect beneficiaries were still aided through involvements in SSF projects despite the threat caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

The region posted a foreign trade surplus of US\$206.71 million.

The region's total export value went up by 12% percent from US\$233,394,232.00 in 2019 to US\$261,408,976.00 in 2020. High export earnings were recorded in the months of February, October, and November.

All export commodities (mostly from mining) of the region originated from Palawan. China emerged as the top destination of exports accounting for 43.32% of the region's total exports. This was followed by Thailand and Korea with 32.64% and 9.0%, respectively. Other major export trading partners were Singapore, Japan, United States of America, and United Kingdom. Ores were the region's primary export commodity contributing to 49.60% the region's total exported goods. This was followed by condensates and crude petroleum oils with 38.27% and 14.76% contribution, respectively.

On the other hand, the total value of imports in 2020 US\$ 54,700,097.00 decreased by 40.06 percent compared to 2019's value of US\$ 76,611,843.00. This may be attributed to less demand for import commodities particularly the industrial machinery and equipment commodity group. The value of imported goods was highest during the month of August with US\$6,541,948.00 and lowest in April with US\$ 1,446,551.00. Indonesia was the leading source of imported goods in the region amounting to US\$ 10,774,355, or 19.69 percent of the total imports in 2020. The port in Rio Tuba Export Processing Zone in Palawan recorded a huge quantity of imported products from Japan, Vietnam, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Netherlands and Thailand, among others. Coal from Indonesia accounted for the largest share of the total imported goods of the region in 2020 valued at US\$7,278,875.00, or 13.31 percent.

The region posted a foreign trade surplus of US\$206.71 million from 2019 to 2020.

The production of minerals in the region showed mixed performance in 2020.

The total value of minerals produced increased by 7% compared to the value of minerals produced in 2019.

The nickel direct shipping ore production increased by 27%. This resulted in about 55% increase in its production value. Generally, the COVID-19 pandemic has not affected the mining operations in the region. The significant increase may be attributed to the higher price of nickel in the global market caused by unstable supply of raw materials as well as the increasing demand on stainless steel production in China.

The main metal product is a mixed sulfide of nickel and cobalt produced by Coral Bay Nickel Corporation (CNBC). In 2020, the volume and value of main metal product decreased by 4% and 2%, respectively. The operation was affected by the global market prices of nickel and cobalt and the supply of low grade ore from Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC), which caused the decreased in production.

The sand and gravel production in the region in 2020 reached 35,314 cubic meters, a decrease by 91% compared to the volume produced in 2019. Its production value consequently decreased by 88%. However, it has to be noted that the data on volume and value were based on the submission of production reports by permit holders and operators per

province. Non-submission or submission of partial reports affected the accuracy of the data on sand and gravel production in the region.

The volume and value of limestone fell by 55% and 31%, respectively, in 2020. Incomplete data on limestone production were also noted by the MGB MIMAROPA. The RTNMC is the sole large - scale producer of limestone in the region. The demand for limestone is dependent on the operations of CNBC and UNICHAMP Mineral Philippines, Inc, as buyers of limestone produced.

## Services

**Table 9.4 Targets and Accomplishments on Services including Tourism. MIMAROPA, 2020**

| Indicators   | Baseline Data (2016) | Annual Plan               |                           |                           | Accomplishment 2020   | Reporting Entity    |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
|  |                      | 2020                      | 2021                      | 2022                      |                       |                     |
| GVA in Services increased (in %)   | 7.90%                | 7.5% (low)<br>8.5% (high) | 8.0% (low)<br>9.0% (high) | 8.5% (low)<br>9.5% (high) | data not yet availabl | PSA<br>MIMAROPA     |
| No. of tourism products developed based on the NTDP product portfolios                               | 12                   | 20                        | 21                        | 22                        | 6                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| Interregional Flights  | 1                    | 2                         | 2                         | 2                         | 0                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| International Flights  | 1                    | 1                         | 1                         | 1                         | 0                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| No. of sustain-able destinations developed   | 2                    | 1                         | 1                         | 1                         | 0                     |                     |
| No. of road projects endorsed to the DOT-DPWH  | 0                    | 25                        | 25                        | 25                        | 2                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| No. of softscapes built through DOT-TIEZA  | 2                    | 2                         | 2                         | 2                         | 0                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| Percentage increase in tourist arrivals, both in foreign and domestic                                | 10%                  | 10%                       | 10%                       | 10%                       | (91.87%)              | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| No. of provinces/cities/ municipalities with instituted tourism offices                              | 6                    | 2                         | 2                         | 2                         | 0                     | DOT<br>MIMAROPA     |
| No. of prov-inces/cities/ municipalities with tourism development plans and tourism codes formulated | 3                    | 5                         | 5                         | 5                         | 1                     | DOT<br>MIMAROP<br>A |

| Indicators  | Baseline Data (2016) | Annual Plan |      |      | Accomplishment 2020 | Reporting Entity |
|---|----------------------|-------------|------|------|---------------------|------------------|
|   |                      | 2020        | 2021 | 2022 |                     |                  |
| No. of properties/ establishments accredited                    | 397                  | 600         | 660  | 726  | 515                 | DOT MIMAROPA     |
| No. of capability building programs and activities for LGUs     | 185                  | 355         | 400  | 445  | 388                 | DOT MIMAROPA     |
| No. of industry workers trained to enhance skills and knowledge | 225                  | 580         | 600  | 620  | 1,702               | DOT MIMAROPA     |

Source: Department of Tourism (DOT) MIMAROPA

### *GVA in Services (no data yet)*

### *Number of tourist arrivals recorded huge decline.*

Tourism industry is one of the major economic growth drivers of the MIMAROPA region. It is also the sector that was hardest hit by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The implementation of the enhanced/general/modified community quarantine in the country restricted travel of both local and foreign tourists in the region's tourist destination areas.

Recorded tourist arrivals dropped by 91.87% in 2020 compared to the previous year record. Tourist arrivals for the year was recorded at a meager 176,214 compared to the 2,167,695 recorded tourist arrivals for 2019. The decrease in tourist arrivals was greatly felt during the 2nd quarter of 2020 where there were no guests or tourist arrivals recorded in the region due to the implementation of the enhanced community quarantine in Luzon, which caused temporary closure of hotel accommodations and other tourism-related businesses. The suspension of land and sea transport and the cancellation of international and domestic flights also resulted to low mobility of tourists. There were no new interregional and international flights recorded in 2020, The number of accredited tourism establishments decreased by 6.02% from 548 in 2019 to 515 in 2020. This was 14.17% lower than the RDP target of 600 accredited tourism establishments.

In 2020, there were no sustainable destinations or accommodation with green initiatives developed. There were also no softscapes built through TIEZA support.

### *Tourism appreciation and recognition conducted.*

The Department of Tourism MIMAROPA recently awarded outstanding individuals, public and private stakeholders, who provided valuable support to the national efforts to contain the COVID-19 pandemic despite its impact on the tourism industry. Themed "Pink Life: Nurture, Foster and Understand amid a Pandemic!" the MIMAROPA Tourism Appreciation and Recognition Day honored tourism players who rendered

the Filipino brand of service beyond the call of duty. DOT was able to extend assistance to 6,893 foreign tourists and 318 local tourists by arranging sweeper flights from various domestic gateways and facilitating repatriation flights mounted by foreign governments. A total of 244 tourists was assisted through Tourist Care Program of the DOT.

#### Road projects endorsed under the DOT-DPWH convergence program decreased.

Tourism Road Infrastructure Program of the DOT and DPWH aims to improve access and connectivity to tourism gateways, service centers and tourism sites. The DPWH and the DOT have embarked on a convergence program where they worked together in prioritizing tourism road infrastructure. In 2020, only two (2) new road projects were endorsed under the said program. This is 88.89% lower than the previous year.

#### Provision of skills training program for industry workers pursued.

A total of 388 tourism industry trainings was conducted to increase the capability and skills of 1,702 tourism industry workers. The skills training provided include: homestay training program, child safe tourism training, community guiding seminar, and occupational basic life support for tourism frontliners, among others.

#### Moving Forward

The pandemic deeply impacted the industry and services sectors as it restricted production activities for both goods and services. The following are the interventions and strategies to help the sectors bounce back under the “new normal” and address the issues and challenges.

1. Develop mechanisms to increase the resilience and capacity of MSMEs. There's a need to build MSMEs' resilience through capacity building on formulating and implementing business continuity plans (BCPs). The government shall provide stimulus package that will help the MSMEs especially those in the tourism and industry sector recover and provide social protection and benefits for workers involved in the delivery of goods and services. Provide sustained COVID-19 response and support to heavily affected tourism stakeholders in destinations in the region.
2. Continue the implementation of programs and projects that will enhance MSME development which include Kapatid Mentor Me, OTOP Next Gen, Pondo sa Pagbabago at Pag-asenso, Shared Service Facilities, Negosyo Centers, Go Local, and participation to trade fairs and exhibits. MSMEs should also be encouraged to adopt digital solutions and online transactions to increase financial inclusion, improve operations, and expand access to market.

3. Adopt universal and standard health and safety measures. Coming out of this pandemic requires establishment of new protocols and better programs for the country to adapt to the “new normal”. It is also important that all MIMAROPAns would practice and strict enforcement of these measures shall be implemented. Minimize confusion for travellers by developing travel applications/system that will provide tourists with updated documentary requirements for open domestic destinations.
4. Formulate local development plans. Formulation of local development plans and local incentives and investment codes are necessary to provide direction and prioritization of interventions. Development plans are sources of investment programs both for public and private sector. This includes infrastructure support, capability building, manpower development, revenue generation, and promotion and identification of priority development areas or destination. LGUs should be able to harmonize their plans, incentives, and investment codes.
5. Ensure appropriation for the development of ICT infrastructure. Increased demand in ICT services and digital technology. Demand for ICT services and the use of digital technology are likely to increase significantly. E-commerce will be hugely utilized as businesses and consumers are expected to prefer the use of online transactions, including the expanded use of cashless payment system and other financial technology platforms. This bodes well for the retail and other business activities sectors, including information technology and business process management.
6. Confident restarting and restoring the tourism sector. The tourism sector is one of the hard-hit sectors in terms of economic impact. Since tourism is one of the region’s primary growth drivers, needs assessment among tourism stakeholders shall be done. The development of proper trainings, marketing, and livelihood assistance to MIMAROPA tourism stakeholders shall complement the efforts at the national level. There is also a need to become more innovative in handling domestic tourists without jeopardizing their health and safety.
7. The availability and rollout of the vaccine will have a major influence on boosting international and domestic travel. Foreign tourists are expected only to travel to destinations that require a pre-travel vaccination. This is why promoting domestic tourism will be vital. Enhance and promote the travel bubble strategy to operate and reopen to visitors from within and outside the region.
8. Improve physical and virtual connectivity. Improving connectivity and access within and outside the region through intermodal transportation and ICT programs shall be done.
9. To help the industry and services sector to bounce back, there is a need to create more attractive and competitive business environment

at the local level and sustain the access to economic opportunities for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and cooperatives.

## Recommendations

The following are the recommended strategies based on the challenges faced by the sector:

**Table 9.5 Targets and Accomplishments**

| Chapter Outcome/<br>Cross sectoral<br>concerns                    | Challenges  | Recommended Strategies   | Implementing<br>Agencies |
|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Economic<br>Opportunities in<br>Industry and<br>Services Expanded | Improving business<br>and investment<br>climate                           | Full implementation Ease of Doing Business<br>and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act<br>of 2018   | DTI, LGUs                |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursue Business Continuity Planning workshops for MSMEs</li> <li>Continue the promotion of automation of critical business transactions such as E-BPLS and e-RPTACS</li> <li>Provision of assistance and encourage MSMEs to adopt to digital solutions to increase financial inclusion, improve operations, and expand access to market.</li> </ul> | DTI, LGUs                |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support MSMEs to expand business by providing financial assistance packages like Pondo sa Pagbabago at Pag-asenso.</li> <li>Provision of interest free loans to MSMEs</li> </ul>  | DTI                      |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure efficient transport. Port integration, completion of roads, and improvement of airports must be accelerated to attract more investments and enhance the flow of goods and services in the region.</li> <li>Funding of the proposed projects under the Tourism Road Infrastructure Program (TRIP) shall also be pursued</li> </ul>            | DOT, DOTr, DPWH, LGUs    |
|   |   | Provide capacity-building to MSMEs and tourism workers   | DOT, DTI, SUCs, HEI      |
|   |   | Accelerate the development of ICT infrastructure   |                          |
|   | Jumpstarting tourism<br>and ensuring safety<br>and consumer<br>confidence | Provide sustained COVID-19 response and support to heavily affected tourism stakeholders   | DOT, LGUs                |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activate regional and provincial tourism councils to assist in the promotion and development of tourism products and services and improve tourist facilities</li> <li>Formulation of local development plans. Develop measures to build a more resilient tourism.</li> </ul>  | DOT, LGUs                |
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance and promote the travel bubble strategy</li> <li>Ensure compliance of tourism establishments to the DOT's health and safety guidelines</li> </ul>  | DOT, LGUs                |
|   |   | Continue the conduct of mobile accreditation of tourism establishments   | DOT                      |

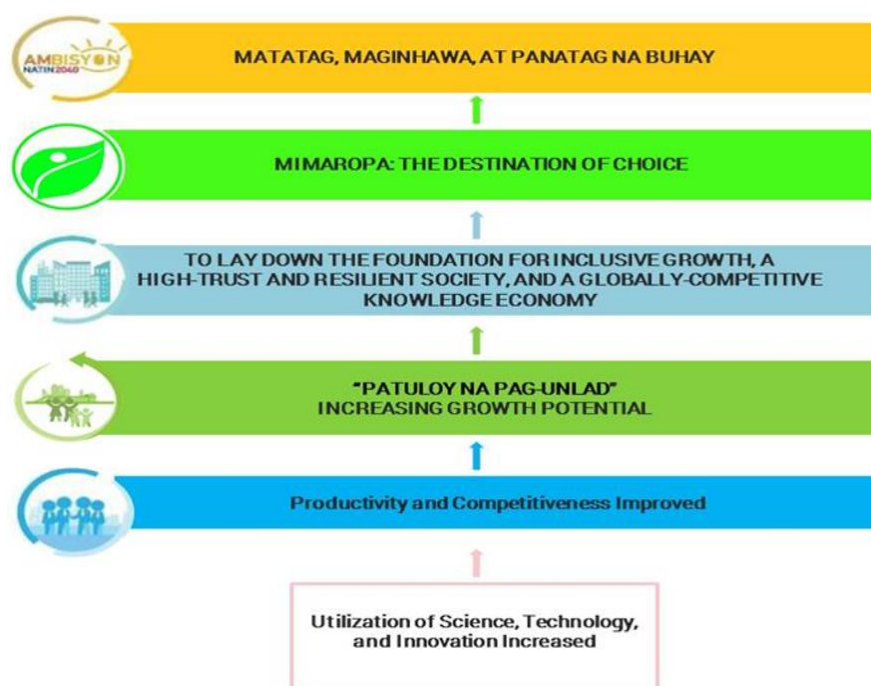
# Chapter 14

## Vigorously Advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation

### a. Abstract

The promotion of science, technology, and innovation (STI) is vital to long term socio-economic development. Thus, the strategy is part of the 0 to 10 point socio-economic agenda of the current administration. The MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2017-2022 Midterm Update provides interventions, legislative agenda, and recommendations on STI to expand economic activities, improve productivity in agriculture, industry and services, improve competitiveness to strengthen the regional economy, and increase delivery of social services.

This chapter assesses the activities and interventions relative to STI for 2020 vis-à-vis targets set updated MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 gearing towards the increased utilization of STI in the region.



### b. Accomplishments

The STI sector recorded mixed performances in terms of achieving the targets set in the updated MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 Midterm Update (Table 14.1).

Table 14.1 Targets and Accomplishments on Science, Technology, and Innovation, MIMAROPA, 2020, 2021, 2022

| Indicator  | Baseline Data (2018)                         | Targets |      |      | Accomplishment                               | Reporting Entity                                       |
|--|--|---------|------|------|--|--|
|  |  | 2020    | 2021 | 2022 | 2020   |  |
| Enhanced adoption of local research and development outputs to improve productivity and competitiveness        |  |         |      |      |  |  |
| Number of Technology adoptors/start-ups assisted under SETUP   | 92   | 96      | 98   | 100  | 62   | DOST   |
| Marinduque   |  |         |      |      | 14   |  |
| Occ. Mindoro   |  |         |      |      | 15   |  |
| Or. Mindoro  |  |         |      |      | 17   |  |
| Palawan  |  |         |      |      | 9  |  |
| Romblon  |  |         |      |      | 7  |  |
| Number of technology interventions under SETUP   |  |         |      |      |  |  |
| Technology upgrading   | 92   | 96      | 98   | 100  | 62   | DOST   |
| Consultancy  | 36   | 25      | 25   | 25   | 20   | DOST   |
| Marinduque   |  |         |      |      | 5  |  |
| Occ. Mindoro   |  |         |      |      | 5  |  |
| Or. Mindoro  |  |         |      |      | 5  |  |
| Palawan  |  |         |      |      | 5  |  |
| Laboratory testing   | 651 tests and calibration for 159 customers) | 600     | 650  | 700  | 1,513 tests and calibration to 103 customers | DOST   |
| Training & fora  | 148  | 65      | 76   | 83   | 72 training 4 fora                           | DOST   |
| Marinduque   |  |         |      |      | 10   |  |
| Occ. Mindoro   |  |         |      |      | 13   |  |
| Or. Mindoro  |  |         |      |      | 21   |  |
| Palawan  |  |         |      |      | 13   |  |
| Romblon  |  |         |      |      | 15   |  |
| For SETUP-assisted firms:  |  |         |      |      |  |  |
| Increase in productivity   | 16.18%                                       | 10%     | 10%  | 10%  | -8.52%                                       | DOST   |
| Jobs Generated   | 90   | 100     | 100  | 100  | 142  | DOST   |
| Creative capacity for knowledge and technology generation, acquisition, and adoptions enhanced (2019 baseline) |  |         |      |      |  |  |
| Research and development expenditure as proportion of GRDP increased (in percent, cumulative)                  | -  | -       | -    | -    | .03 % (2018)                                 | DOST R&D survey results (Data available every 3 years) |
| No. of industrial designs  | 1 filed and 1 granted                        | -       | -    | -    | 1 filed and 1 granted                        |  |

|  |     |   |   |   |                      |      |
|--|-----|---|---|---|----------------------|------|
| registered in RADIUS   |     |   |   |   |                      |      |
| No. of R&D proposals on applied and basic researches funded                  | 71  | - | - | - | 3                    | DOST |
| No. of researchers registered in RADIUS                                      | 516 | - | - | - | 624 (cumulative)     | DOST |
| No. of learning and development opportunities provided through R&D consortia | 17  | - | - | - | 14                   | DOST |
| No. of technologies developed as output of R&D                               | 25  | - | - | - | -                    | DOST |
| No. of technologies commercialized/ utilized/ adopted                        | 19  | 6 | 5 | 2 | 16                   | DOST |
| No. of publications registered in RADIUS                                     | 26  | - | - | - | 619 (cumulative)     | DOST |
| Number of patent applications registered in RADIUS                           | 1   | - | - | - | 21 filed; 2 granted  | DOST |
| No. of utility model registered in RADIUS                                    | 2   | - | - | - | 37 filed; 16 granted | DOST |

Source: Department of Science and Technology (DOST) MIMAROPA

Most of the technology adoption and other related activities fell below the RDP targets.

The Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SET-UP) continues to assist Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the region in adopting appropriate technological innovations to improve or develop their products, services, and operations. In 2020, the region assisted a total of 62 firms under the SET-UP. This was below the RDP target of 96 firms for the year and was 3.13% lower than the 64 assisted firms recorded in the previous year. The following were the accomplishments of each intervention under the SET-UP.

- Technology Upgrading. A total of 62 technology upgrading interventions was recorded in the region, a decrease by 36.73% compared to previous year. The RDP target on technology updating set at 96 interventions was not achieved.
- Consultancy Services. A total of 20 consultancy services under Manufacturing Productivity Extension (MPEx) for 2020 was recorded in the region. This accomplishment was 20 percent below the set RDP target of 25. The non-attainment of the target may be attributed to the effects of COVID-19 pandemic which restricted movements and travel within and outside the region.
- Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL). The RSTL was established to provide MSMEs with laboratory testing and analysis services. It is composed of three (3) laboratories on microbiology, physicochemical, and metrology laboratories. The sector was able to consistently exceed the set targets for 2018-2022 for laboratory testing analysis services. For 2020, a total of 1,513 tests and calibrations were offered to 103 customers. This exceeded the 1,271 tests and calibrations target for the year by 19.04 percent.
- Trainings and Fora. Due to travel restrictions brought by COVID-19 pandemic, trainings for 2020 were conducted online via various online platforms. A total of 76 trainings and fora was provided to clients during the year. The ease of conducting trainings online resulted to the increase number of trainings conducted exceeding the RDP target by 16.92 percent. Trainings and fora were conducted to enhance the capability of participants to maximize the usage of technologies to improve their products and services.

The SET-UP assisted firms recorded a total gross sales of Php 344,239,700.00 and generated about 142 employment opportunities in the region, surpassing the 2020 RDP targets. However, the productivity rate these firms was decreased to a negative 8.52 percent. This was lower than the previous year's rate of 24.20. The decrease in productivity was attributed to the effects of COVID-19 pandemic. The RDP target for 2020 of 10% productivity rate was not achieved.

#### Creative capacity for knowledge and technology generation, acquisition, and adoptions enhanced

The Research and Development Information Unified System (RADIUS) was established to provide the database for all R&D-related information and materials.

For 2020, there were one industrial designs filed and one designs registered in the region. Moreover, there were three (3) R&D proposals on applied and basic researches funded in the region. The total number of registered researchers in RADIUS increased by 20.93% from 516 in 2019 to 624 researchers in 2020.

A total of 14 learning and development opportunities provided through R&D consortia was recorded for the period. This was 17.65 percent

lower than the 17 recorded learning opportunities in 2019. On the other hand, a total of 16 technologies was commercialized/utilized/adopted under the RADIUS. This was 15.79% lower compared to the 19 technologies recorded for 2019.

The recorded number of publications registered in RADIUS for 2020 was 619 (cumulative). On the patent applications registered in RADIUS, a total 21 patents were filed and two (2) were granted. Moreover, there were 37 utility models and 16 models, filed and granted, respectively, as registered in the RADIUS.

### *Fourth Industrial Revolution (FIRe)*

Based on the assessment stated in the updated PDP 2017-2022, the Philippines is not yet prepared for the FIRE. The assessment further states there is a need to improve or capacitate the workforce to comply with the requirements of FIRe. Acquisition of logistics by firms and institutions that are responsive to the requirements of FIRe is also challenging, especially with the effect COVID-19 to the economy.

### **c. Moving Forward**

Assessment of the STI sector accomplishments showed varied performances in terms of achieving set targets. While some targets were exceeded, other targets set in the RDP 2017-2020 were not. The region should consider the following strategies identified in previous development reports as they are still applicable and consider the new strategies identified in response to COVID-19 pandemic to achieve the sector end-of-plan targets:

#### **1. Continue to strengthen collaboration among actors in the STI ecosystem.**

There is a need to continue to strengthen the implementation of the Republic Act No. 11337, otherwise known as Innovative Startup Act, which was signed by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on April 17, 2019.

The law aims to improve and promote a better business environment and entrepreneurial system in the country by providing benefits and removing constraints for aspiring entrepreneurs to establish businesses. As stated in the previous development reports, the DOST, DTI, DICT and other host agencies shall continue to promulgate appropriate policies, guidelines, rules, and regulations in accordance with their respective agency charters and enabling laws, for the coordinated implementation of the startup development programs through joint orders, memoranda of understanding. The said law may be used as legal basis for the possible creation of a Regional Innovation Council in MIMAROPA that will identify and discuss

activities to improve and strengthen the regions innovation program.

**2. Address the decreasing number of science and technology personnel.**

The Republic Act No. 11035 or the Balik Scientist Act should be promoted to Filipino scientists. The government should continue provide a more competitive working environment to encourage Filipino experts, scientists, and investors that are currently working in other countries to return to the country. The law and its benefits may be promoted by conducting intensive information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns on the said Act.

**3. Increase the STI utilization in the agriculture, industry, and services sectors.** As stated in previous development reports, there is still a need for the government to fast-track the establishment of more innovation hubs in the region. The innovation hubs serves as one-stop-shop food research and development centers in order for local food products. Innovation hubs in are currently located in the province of Oriental Mindoro and Palawan and continues to provide development opportunities for scientists, researchers, students, and entrepreneurs in the area. It is suggested that the same facilities should also be established in the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, and Romblon.

**4. Increase public awareness on R&D activities.** The government should ensure the availability of science and technology and R&D data for stakeholders. The establishment of RADIUS is a welcome development. Access to RADIUS should be promoted to stakeholders, this can be done by conducting of information, education, and communication campaigns to stakeholders. The access to these data shall provide better plan and policy formulation as well as better monitoring of the sectors development performance.

**5. Create an enabling environment for STI investments.**

The region recognizes the need to create a more competitive and enabling environment for STI investments. To address this, the updated PDP stated the need for the institutionalize implementation of the Science for Change Program (S4CP). The program seeks to establish and expand STI programs along with the accelerated R&D thrusts under NICER and RDLead. It is also expected to boost industrial competitiveness through the CRADLE and Business Innovation through S&T (BIST) Programs.

- 6. Increase investments in STI-based start-ups, enterprises, and spin-offs. Technology** adopters of commendable R&D products and services will be provided with incentives to encourage more clients to adopt this technologies.

#### **d. Recommendations**

The following strategies are recommended to address the challenges and gaps of the existing programs on vigorously advancing STI:

| Chapter Outcome/Cross sectoral concerns   | Challenges   | Recommended Strategies   | Implementing Agencies |
|---|--|--|-----------------------|
| Strengthen collaboration among actors in the STI ecosystem                          | The need to harmonize governance framework of the STI sector         | Encourage the DOST, DTI, and DICT to follow the IRR of the RA No. 11337 or the Innovative Startup Act  | DOST, DTI, DICT       |
|   |  | Intensify Collaborative R&D to Leverage Philippine Economy (CRADLE) Program  | DOST                  |
| Enhance capacity for knowledge and technology generation, acquisition, and adoption | “Brain Drain”/ Decreasing number of science and technology personnel | Promote the enhanced benefits and incentives of the balik scientists under Republic Act No. 11035, also known as an “Act Institutionalizing the Balik Scientist Program” through IEC campaigns | DOST                  |
|   |  | Provide more S&T scholarships to produce and develop more S&T professionals who will take lead in the S&T activities   | DOST                  |
|   |  | Sustain Young Innovators Program   | DOST                  |
| Increase STI utilization in agriculture, industry, and                              | Commercial viability and marketability of R&D                        | Introduce research outputs ready for adoption to SUCs, HEIs,   | DOST, SUCs, HEIs      |

| Chapter Outcome/Cross sectoral concerns                                 | Challenges                         | Recommended Strategies   | Implementing Agencies |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| services sectors  | outputs of HEIs                    | entrepreneurial organizations, and Negosyo Centers   |                       |
|   |                                    | Establishment of innovation hubs in the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, and Romblon   | DOST                  |
|   | Public awareness on R&D activities | Conduct more STI IEC campaigns, exhibits, and expositions  | DOST, SUCs            |
|   |                                    | Sustain initiatives such as funders forum relative to the approved MIMAROPA R&D Agenda 2017-2022   | DOST, SUCs, RRDIC     |
|   |                                    | Enhance the features of the MIMAROPA Research and Development Information Unified System (RADIUS) to include a link to and for easy access to researches | DOST                  |
| Increase investments in STI-based start-ups, enterprises, and spin-offs | Low STI investments                | Establish and expand STI programs along with accelerated R&D trusts under NICHE Centers in the region for R&D (NICER) and R&D Leadership (RLead) Program | DOST                  |
|   |                                    | Provide operational and monetary support to innovative and tech start-ups  | DOST, DTI, DICT       |

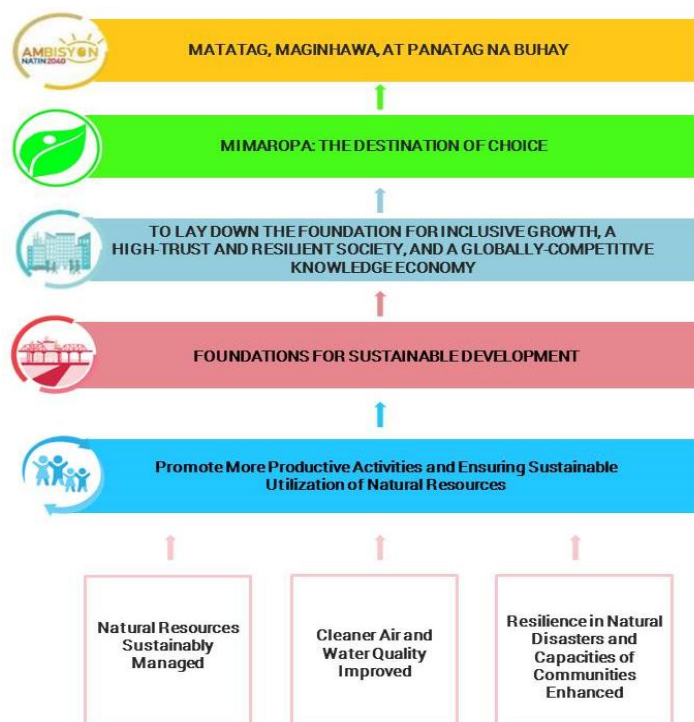
# Chapter 20

## ENSURING ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY, CLEAN, AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

### a. Abstract

Ensuring environmental balance is the priority of the region. The state of the region's environment and natural resources and its efforts on environmental preservation and environment protection remained on track.

*Figure 20.1 Strategic Framework for Ensuring Integrity, Clean and Healthy Environment*



### b. Accomplishments

#### Sub-Chapter Outcome 1: Natural Resources Sustainably Managed.

##### *a. Forest Resources and Watershed Management*

On the management and protection of forest resources, a 1.05 hectares clonal nursery situated in Sitio Balabag, Barangay Malamig in Gloria was maintained during the year through maintenance of facilities, establishment of hedge garden and production of high-quality planting material. In 2020, a total of 3,054 cloned seedlings of indigenous forest tree species (*Molave*, *Bitaog*, *Kalantas*, *Dao*, *Philippine Teak*, *Yakal*,

*Dalingdingan, Lauan, Guiho, Kamagong and Narra*) were produced and 1,550 cloned seedlings were planted.

The implementation of enhanced national greening program (eNGP) in the region during the year was challenged with the reprioritization of FY 2020 budget to PAPs related to COVID-19 response. This limited the activities of eNGP to patrolling, fireline construction, ring weeding, re-staking, fertilizer application and replanting. The RDP target of 7,713,030 NGP seedlings production for 2020 was not achieved. The region was able to produce only 18,971 seedlings, of which 89.11% was planted. The remaining 2,065 seedlings production was used as replacement seedlings. The 85% survival rate of planted seedlings in the region was maintained. The standard survival rate of 85 percent served as the basis of the DENR for the payment to the services of the eNGP partners (people's organizations).

On NGP site development, a total of 81 hectares of new bamboo plantations was established during the period. This was below the CY 2020 RDP target of 8,550 hectares. Moreover, about 12,323 hectares of NGP areas were maintained and protected, however, this was 82% lower than the RDP target.

A total of 56 forestry extension officers and NGP support staff were hired in 2020. This was 43% lower than the 2020 RDP target of 130 officers. These personnel were responsible in providing assistance to provincial environment and natural resources offices (PENROs) in the conduct of monitoring, maintenance, protection activities of NGP sites, and provision of assistance to the NGP contractors and partners in the region.

The delineation of boundaries between production and protection forests in the region are being done to address illegal forest activities and support forest developments for potential forest investment opportunities. In 2020, the RDP targeted delineation of 500 kilometers of forest production and protection areas was not achieved. Mapping of forest production and protection areas was also deferred to CY 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic. On the other hand, the forest cover survey which will be conducted by NAMRIA is scheduled on 2021.

Under the watershed monitoring, the region has a total of 5 installed watershed monitoring instruments located in Oriental Mindoro. The instrument provides a real-time and science-based data in the ongoing hydrologic processes within the watershed which can be used as bases for policy formulation and decision making for the effective management of critical watersheds and forest resources.

Among the notable activities of DENR MIMAROPA on watershed management was the preparation of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP). On December 2020, the IWMP of Caguray Watershed in Occidental Mindoro and Bansud River Watershed in Oriental Mindoro were finalized. Moreover, DENR MIMAROPA has already started its initial activities relative to the formulated Climate

Change-Responsive Integrated River Basin Management and Development Master Plan for Cluster 3 river basins from Oriental Mindoro (*Butas, Mag-asawang Tubig, Malaybalay-Baco, Pula, and Pulang Tubig river basins in Oriental Mindoro*) and Cluster 4 from Palawan (*Iwahig Penal, Inagawan, Aborlan, Malatgao, and Batangbatang river basins in Palawan*).

#### *b. Management of Protected Areas*

During the reference period, the region was able to manage and maintain all of its 15 protected areas, achieving 100% of its RDP target for 2020. The following four marine protected areas (MPAs) covering 414,733 hectares were managed and sustained during complying with the RDP target:

- i. Tubattaha Reef Natural Park
- ii. Apo Reef Natural Park
- iii. Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape
- iv. El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area

#### *c. Caves Management*

Four (4) caves namely (1) Hamindang Cave in Bongabong, Oriental Mindoro, (2) San Rafael Cave 2 in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro, (3) Andagao Cave System, and (4) Nabuhos Cave Connection in Calatrava, Romblon were assessed and recommended for classification, thus, achieving the 2020 RDP target.

Two (2) caves in Occidental Mindoro were targeted for management planning in 2020. These caves were Manturidao and Alibog Caves classified as Classes I and II respectively. However, only Alibog Cave was able to draft their management plan. Continuing activities for the formulation of the cave management plans will be done in the succeeding year.

#### *d. Inland Wetlands*

No activities relative to assessment of inland wetlands as well as preparation of management plans was recorded during the year due to budgetary constraints.

#### *e. Land Distribution*

Various activities to encourage land owners to secure registration and original certificates of title were conducted in the region. A total of 537 agricultural patents were reviewed, processed, and monitored in 2020. This was 24.80 percent higher than the 2020 RDP target. However, the region fell short by 17.70% of its target for residential free patents issuances with 1,440 issuances during the year.

Moreover, the Rapid Land Tenure Appraisal (RLTA) is a strategy identified by the DENR to accelerate land titling in the country. A consolidated Cadastral Map is one of the pre-requisites of the RLTA. As

of 2020, 19 barangays in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro have undergone activities related to cadastral mapping.

#### *f. Management of Foreshore Area*

The region fell short of its RDP target on draft permits/leases of contract reviewed and endorsed to Land Management Bureau (LMB) as there were only eight permits/leases of contracts that were reviewed and endorsed to LMB during the year.

#### *g. Coral Reef Management and Protection*

The MIMAROPA region has a total of four marine protected area networks (MPANs) established namely: a) SaCa (*Sablayan Calintaan*) MPAN in Occidental Mindoro; b) Verde Island Passage (VIP) MPANLEN (*Marine Protected Area Network and Law Enforcement Network*) covering the provinces of Mindoro, Romblon, Marinduque and Batangas; c) MPAN in South Palawan; and d) MPAN in North.

In 2020, the activities relative to management and protection of SaCa MPAN and VIP Romblon were funded by DENR MIMAROPA. The region was able to sustain its 2020 RDP target in terms of management and protection of coastal and marine ecosystems (CMEs). A total of four CMEs covering 414,733 hectares was maintained and protected during the period.

#### *h. Wildlife Resources*

No tamaraw population count was conducted during the year. The annual Tamaraw count which was scheduled on April 14-21, 2020 was cancelled due to the implementation of the enhanced community quarantine in Luzon.

In 2020, there were nine reported incidence of dugong sightings in Palawan. One dugong was found dead in Aborlan due to head trauma as manifested by bleeding in its olfactory organ.

Monitoring activities on nesting sites (Olive Ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), and Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)) were conducted in the provinces of Palawan, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro and Romblon. A total of 28 marine turtles (26 Green Sea Turtle and 2 Hawksbill Turtle) was stranded, rescued, rehabilitated, tagged and released this year in the provinces of Palawan, Romblon and Occidental Mindoro

On January 2020, the Asia Water Bird Census was conducted in the provinces of Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Palawan. Based on the 2019 and 2020 records, approximately 73 species of water/migratory birds were identified in the region. The total number of water/migratory birds counted decreased by 60.27% from 14,358 birds

in 2019 to 5,705 birds in 2020 due to some sites in Palawan were not monitored/visited in 2020.

## Sub-Chapter Outcome 2: Clean Air and Water Quality Improved

### *a. Air and Water Quality Management*

In CY 2020, the ambient air quality in MIMAROPA was within the National Ambient Air Quality Guidelines Value (NAAQGV). Out of the four stations, three stations located in Oriental Mindoro (Baco, Calapan City, and Naujan) passed the standard level of total suspended particulate level (90ug/Ncm) and particulate matters (PM) 10 (60ug/Ncm) and 2.5 (25ug/Ncm) as targeted in the RDP. No data was recorded in one station located in Puerto Princesa City.

All the four (4) priority rivers in the region fellow below the standard criteria of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) level of less than 7mg/L. Calapan River in Oriental Mindoro recorded an average BOD level of 13mg/L, Madugo River in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro at 9mg/L, Pinamalayan River, in Oriental Mindoro at 10 mg/L, and Tagbuos River in Palawan at 7.5mg/L BOD level.

In MIMAROPA, there are three waterbodies officially designated as Water Quality Management Area (Coron Bay in Palawan, Sabang Bay in Puerto Galera, and Calapan River in Oriental Mindoro). The water quality monitoring for these three WQMA failed in terms of fecal coliform in CY 2020 (Table 20.1).

Table 20.1 Summary of Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Results by Station, MIMAROPA, 2020

| Monitoring Station                          | Water Pollutant                   |                      | Water Body Classification |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Standard Water Quality Guidelines | Fecal Coliform       |                           |
| Calapan River, Oriental Mindoro             | 200 MPN/100 ml                    | 92,989.63 MPN/100 ml | C                         |
| Coron Bay, Coron, Palawan                   | 100 MPN/100 ml                    | 734.00 MPN/100 ml    | SB                        |
| Sabang Bay, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro | 100 MPN/100 ml                    | 248.60 MPN/100 ml    | Class SB                  |

Source: EMB MIMAROPA

The region was able to sustain the monitoring of two priority and three recreational waterbodies as targeted in the RDP. Moreover, the region exceeded the target number of discharge permit issued for the year. The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) issued a total 181 discharge permits in 2020. The increase may be attributed to the intensive information advocacy of EMB on the requirements and process flow on the issuance of discharge permits and the ease of online permitting and monitoring system being implemented by EMB.

#### *b. Provision of technical assistance in Ecological Solid Waste Management*

On solid waste management, the region exceeded the target number of assistance provided to LGUs. About 40 LGUs were provided assistance in the preparation of the 10-year solid waste management plan. A total of 43 open and controlled dumpsites was subjected to proper closure and rehabilitation. This was higher than the 2020 RDP target of 10 dumpsites. However, the region fell short of its target in terms of providing assistance for the implementation of closure and rehabilitation plan. Only a total of 6 LGUs was assisted during the year in the implementation of closure and rehabilitation plan. This was lower than the 2019 record of 18 LGUs. The need for strict implementation of the RA 9003 on closure of dumpsite is an LGU undertakings on the matter.

#### *c. Other Sectors Assisted*

On waste generation, the total average volume of waste generated and collected per day was 192.90 cubic meters from April 27 to May 03, 2020 while an average daily volume of 407.24 kilograms hazardous waste was generated as of May 08, 2020 from 78 health care facilities in the region.

Among the five provinces in the region, only Palawan has treatment and storage facilities for hazardous wastes. As of 2020, there were 313 registered hazardous waste generators in the region mostly from healthcare facilities. This was two times higher than the 30 registered generators targeted in the RDP for 2020.

The increasing waste generations may be attributed to the increasing disposals of personal protective equipment and medical supplies used for COVID-19 safety measures during the quarantine period.

### *Sub-Chapter Outcome 3: Resilience in natural disasters and capacities of communities enhanced*

#### *a. Vulnerability and Risk Assessment*

In pursuing the region's resiliency of its communities and ecosystems, the DRR/CCA was mainstreamed in local planning processes. A total of three municipalities in the region were assessed for vulnerability and risk in 2020. This was lower than the 2020 RDP target. The assessment process undertaken determines the nature and extent of disaster risk posed by analyzing and evaluating the various hazards and vulnerabilities of the communities.

In 2020, a total of 45 LGUs have completed/updated their respective enhanced DRR/CCA comprehensive land used plans (CLUPs), 57 LGUs completed/updated their comprehensive development plans (CDPs), and 62 adopted their respective forest land use plans (FLUPs). The expected completion of FLUPs in the region was moved to 2021 due to restrictions

brought by COVID-19 pandemic. To account, a total of 62 LGUs in the region already adopted their respective FLUPs. Currently, the municipalities of Alcantara, Calatrava, Looc, San Agustin, and San Jose in Romblon are in the process of revising their FLUPs while the municipalities of Corcuera and Romblon in Romblon are in the process of completing their FLUPs.

On other local disaster plans implemented in the region, a total of 46 LGUs have completed/updated their local disaster risk reduction and management plans (LDRRMPs) while 44 LGUs have adopted their local climate change action plans (LCCAPs) based on the monitoring records of DILG MIMAROPA.

Given the region's high exposure to natural hazards such as typhoons, rain induced landslides, and flooding, among others, the resiliency has improved over the years. All the five provinces in the region have established Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Offices (PDRRMOs). As of 2020, 78 LGUs in the region (including the 5 provinces) have fully functional Disaster Risk Reduction Management Operations Centers. A total of 45 LGUs have 24/7 manned operators while 33 LGUs have on-call manned operators.

To serve as baseline parameters for immediate responses during disasters, a total of 146 units of hydromet sensors were installed in 53 municipalities in the region. Early warning systems in 29 LGUs were in place. However, due to the implementation of community quarantine which limited transportation and mobility, DOST-MIMAROPA was not able to conduct frequent early warning systems (EWS) maintenance and troubleshooting which affected to operation of the system. DOST MIMAROPA was set to conduct the maintenance, troubleshooting, and calibration of down stations in 2021.

Table 20.2 Targets and Accomplishments on Environment, MIMAROPA, 2019, 2020, and 2021

| Indicator   | Baseline Data (2016) | Targets  |           |           | Accomp. (2020)   | Reporting Entity |
|---|----------------------|--|-----------|-----------|--|------------------|
|   |                      | 2020   | 2021      | 2022      |  |                  |
| Forest area as proportion of total land area                              |                      |  |           |           |  |                  |
| NGP Number of seedlings produced  | 36,270,310           | 7,713,030  | 1,984,400 | 1,143,000 | 18,971   | DENR             |
| NGP Number of seedlings planted   | 32,213,952           | -  | -         | -         | 16,906   | DENR             |
| NGP Survival rate of seedlings equal or above 85%                         | 85%                  | 85%  | 85%       | 85%       | 85%  | DENR             |
| NGP area planted and site prepared (ha)                                   | 19,935.60            | 8,550  | 1,150     | 1,150     | 81   | DENR             |
| NGP area maintained and protected (ha)                                    | 62,411               | 66,631   | 46,239    | 27,945    | 12,323   | DENR             |
| Forest cover increased (in ha) from 2010 forest cover data vis-à-vis 2015 | 34,937.17            | Not measurable. Dependent of NAMRIA's forest cover survey every 5 years. |           |           | NAMRIA's forest cover survey will be conducted on 2021 | DENR             |
| Forest cover change (from close to open forest) - 2010                    | 3.51%                |  |           |           |  | DENR             |

| Indicator   | Baseline Data (2016) | Targets            |                    |                    | Accomp. (2020)           | Reporting Entity |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|   |                      | 2020               | 2021               | 2022               |                          |                  |
| forest cover vis-a-vis 2015 forest cover  |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| Delineation of Production and protection forests (km)   |                      | 500                | 500                | 500                | Deferred due to COVID 19 | DENR             |
| Hiring of extension officers  | 151                  | 130                | 96                 | 60                 | 56                       | DENR             |
| No. PAs subjected for the updating of their respective SRPAO database   | 4                    | No target          |                    |                    | completed                | DENR             |
| No. of protected areas managed and maintained   | 15                   | 15                 | 15                 | 15                 | 15                       | DENR             |
| Area of marine protected areas with high biodiversity value effectively managed (ha) (This include (Tubbataha Reef Natural Park (TRNP) and Apo Reef Natural Park (ARNP) , Malampaya sound Protected Landscape and Sea Scape and El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area) |                      | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has.       | DENR             |
| Coverage of protected areas (PAs) in relation to marine areas   | 4 PAs 414,733 has.   | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has. | 4 PAs 414,733 has.       | DENR             |
| <b>Caves management</b>   |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| No. of caves assessed   | 7                    | 4                  | No target          | No target          | 4                        | DENR             |
| No. of caves management plan prepared and recommended for approval  | 7                    | 2                  | 2                  | 2                  | 2                        | DENR             |
| No. of caves classified   | 2                    | No regional target |                    |                    | No data                  | DENR             |
| No. of caves recommended for classification   | 7                    | 4                  | No target          | No target          | 4                        | DENR             |
| <b>Inland Wetlands</b>  |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| No. of Inland wetlands assessed   | 1                    | 4                  | No target          | No target          | No data                  | DENR             |
| No. of Inland wetlands management plan prepared   | 1                    | 3                  | 3                  | 3                  | No data                  | DENR             |
| <b>Land Distribution</b>  |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| No. of land patents issued:   |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| Agricultural  | 400                  | 430                | 340                | 320                | 537                      | DENR             |
| Residential Free Patents  | 1,930                | 1,750              | 900                | 880                | 1,440                    | DENR             |
| <b>Management of Foreshore Area</b>   |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| Provincial Foreshore Management and Development Plan (PFMDP) Formulation  | -                    | -                  | -                  | -                  | completed in 2018        | DENR             |
| Provincial Foreshore Management and Development Plan Adoption   | -                    | -                  | -                  | -                  | No data                  | DENR             |
| No. of draft permits/lease of contracts reviewed and endorsed to LMB  | 17                   | 9                  | 2                  | 2                  | 8                        | DENR             |
| <b>Coral Reef Management and Protection</b>   |                      |                    |                    |                    |                          |                  |
| Coral reefs assessed and mapped (ha)  | 729                  | No target          |                    |                    | No data                  | DENR             |

| Indicator   | Baseline Data (2016) | Targets  |                     |                     | Accomp. (2020)   | Reporting Entity |
|---|----------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|--|------------------|
|   |                      | 2020   | 2021                | 2022                |  |                  |
| Coastal and marine ecosystems (CMEs) maintained and protected (ha)                            |                      | 4 CMEs 414,733 has.  | 4 CMEs 414,733 has. | 4 CMEs 414,733 has. | 4 CMEs 414,733 has.  | DENR             |
| Mangrove area rehabilitated (ha)  |                      | No target  |                     |                     | No data  | DENR             |
| Mangrove area managed and protected (ha)  | 10,175               | Target is inclusive with NGP   |                     |                     | No data  | DENR             |
| Tamaraw population  | 413                  | increasing   | increasing          | Increasing          | No data due to change of Tamaraw count method  | DENR             |
| Survey of wild duck habitat   | 1                    | 1  | 1                   | 1                   | No data  | DENR             |
| Watershed Characterization and Vulnerability Assessment conducted in critical watersheds      |                      | 2  | 2                   | 1                   | 3 watersheds (2019)  | DENR             |
| <b>Cleaner air and water quality improved</b>   |                      |  |                     |                     |  |                  |
| Maintain/Reduced total suspended particulate (TSP) level in major urban centers (90µg/Ncm.)   |                      |  |                     |                     | Baco, Oriental Mindoro is the only air quality monitoring station using TSP level; TSP level: 20 ug/Ncm                              | EMB              |
| 1. Calapan City   |                      | Maintain the Standard Particulate Matter (PM): PM10: 60 ug/Ncm; PM2.5: 25 ug/Ncm       |                     |                     | PM 10: 59 ug/Ncm   | EMB              |
| 2. Puerto Princesa City   |                      |  |                     |                     | -  | EMB              |
| BOD and other water tests of rivers within standard quality criteria                          |                      | Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels within standard criteria (less than 7 BOD mg/L) |                     |                     | Ave. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), mg/L: Calapan River = 13<br>Madugo River = 9<br>Pinamalayan River = 10<br>Tagburos River = 7.5 | EMB              |
| Priority Rivers , no.   |                      | 2  | 2                   | 2                   | 2  | EMB              |
| Other Waterbodies and Adopted Esteros (Outside WQMA), no.                                     |                      | 5  | 5                   | 5                   | 5  | EMB              |
| Other Waterbodies and Adopted Esteros (Within WQMA), no.                                      |                      | 3  | 3                   | 3                   | 3  | EMB              |
| Priority Recreational Waterbodies, no.  |                      | 2  | 2                   | 2                   | 2  | EMB              |
| Other Recreational Waterbodies, no.   |                      | 3  | 3                   | 3                   | 3  | EMB              |
| No. of discharge permits issued   |                      | 165  | 165                 | 165                 | 181  | EMB              |
| <b>Provision of technical assistance in the implementation of ESWM (No. of LGUs assisted)</b> |                      |  |                     |                     |  |                  |
| Proper closure & rehabilitation of open and controlled dumpsites (no)                         |                      | 10   | 10                  | 10                  | 43 dumpsites   | EMB              |

| Indicator   | Baseline Data (2016) | Targets  |      |      | Accomp. (2020)                      | Reporting Entity |
|---|----------------------|--|------|------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
|   |                      | 2020   | 2021 | 2022 |                                     |                  |
| 10 year SWM plans assisted (no.)  |                      | 10   | 10   | 5    | 40 LGUs                             | EMB              |
| <b>Other Sectors Assisted</b>   |                      |  |      |      |                                     |                  |
| Public markets oriented/monitored (no.)   |                      | No target  |      |      | No data                             | EMB              |
| Commercial establishment assisted and monitored (no.)   |                      | No target  |      |      | No data                             | EMB              |
| Closure and rehab plan implementation (no)  |                      | 18   | 15   | 15   | 6 LGUs                              | EMB              |
| Establishment of MRFs (with financial grants )<br>1. MRF with Shredder<br>2. MRF without shredder   |                      | The targets of Regional Offices for this activity are being downloaded by the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) |      |      | No data                             | EMB              |
| Compliant LGUs (no.) SWM plans, SS & SC, MRF,SLF/ environment-friendly disposal/alternative technology/ undergoing closure and rehab of OD and CDF) |                      | 5  | 5    | 5    | No data                             | EMB              |
| No. of registered hazardous waste generators  |                      | 30   | 30   | 30   | 313                                 | EMB              |
| <b>Resilience in natural disasters and capacities of communities enhanced</b>   |                      |  |      |      |                                     |                  |
| <b>Vulnerability and Risk Assessment</b>  |                      |  |      |      |                                     |                  |
| No. of municipalities and cities assessed for vulnerability and risk  | 11                   | 8  | 8    | 6    | 3                                   | MGB              |
| Number of (reviewed) completed/updated Climate Change (CC)/ Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM)-enhanced plans increased.                     |                      |  |      |      |                                     |                  |
| a. FLUP   |                      | to be completed by 2021  |      |      | 5 LGUs (with FLUPs adopted)         | DENR             |
| b. CLUP   |                      |  |      |      | 45 LGUs                             | DHSUD            |
| c. CDP  |                      |  |      |      | 57 LGUs                             | DILG             |
| d. LDRRMP   |                      |  |      |      | 46 LGUs                             | LGUs             |
| e. LCCAP  |                      |  |      |      | 44 LGUs                             | LGUs             |
| Number of LGUs with operating early warning systems (EWS) in place  |                      |  |      |      | 29 LGUs with operating EWS in place | DOST             |
| Number of fully functional DRRM operation centers increased   |                      |  |      |      | 71 MDRRMOC; 2 CDRRMOC; 5 PDRRMOC    | OCD              |
| <b>Groundwater resource assessment</b>  |                      |  |      |      |                                     |                  |
| No. of provinces assessed for groundwater resource  | 1                    |  |      |      | Completed in 2018                   | MGB              |

Sources: DENR, EMB, MGB MIMAROPA

### c. Moving Forward

Balancing economic growth and environmental conservation and protection is needed to optimize the possible gains of sustainable development. The 2020 performance of the region in terms of management of the environment and natural resources has successes and misses. The development, conservation, and protection of the region's natural resources and biodiversity must be accorded highest priority and shall never be compromised given the onset of COVID-19 pandemic.

Safety nets shall be developed and put in place to mitigate environmental degradation, over exploitation, and damaging uses of the region's resources. Parallel efforts between the government and private sectors shall be exerted to restore and rehabilitate denuded forest areas, mine sites, over logged areas, and damaged marine areas.

The role of protected area management boards (PAMBs) in the management and protection of the protected areas is important and need to be strengthened. Active participation of relevant stakeholders is necessary and should be institutionalized for stronger interagency board responsible in safeguarding the environmental integrity of the region. Enhanced capacity building should be provided to the members of the PAMB being the oversight body in ensuring sustainability of protected areas on the ground.

The pandemic created positive behavioral effects on people especially on the need to preserve the natural resources while ensuring environmental sustainability, and safeguard quality of public health. The new normal setting requires a strengthened and innovative actions from the government and private sectors in curbing solutions without prejudicing the risks posed by COVID-19 on environmental sustainability while ensuring public health.

Furthermore, the promotion of green spaces in major urban areas through urban forestry activities be strengthened. This may involve but not limited to the development of forest parks, greenbelts, nature center or road side planting including the planting of trees and ornamentals in vacant lots.

### d. Recommendations

The following supplemental strategies are recommended to address the persisting challenges/gaps towards maintaining ecological integrity and a clean and healthy environment:

| <b>CHALLENGES</b>                    | <b>RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES</b>                             | <b>IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Establishment of database management | Revisit the Department Order on establishing database to: | DENR, EMB, MGB, and LGUs     |

| <b>CHALLENGES</b>   | <b>RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES</b>  | <b>IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES</b>                          |
|---|--|---|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the database management systems of the environment sector; and</li> <li>• Standardize indicators with other regions for regular data generations</li> </ul>   |   |
| Enforcement of environmental laws   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalize the PAMBs;</li> <li>• Strengthen the role of PAMBs in environmental protection through conduct of capacity building;</li> <li>• Encourage community-based participatory activities in the implementation of environmental laws; and</li> <li>• Hire/deputize/deploy more forest rangers, bantay dagat, eco-warriors, PNP/AFP personnel in major areas for environmental conservation</li> <li>• Increase information and dissemination campaign</li> </ul> | DENR, BFAR, PNP, AFP, LGUs                            |
| Environmental Degradation   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inventory of the region's with critical and degradation hotspots</li> <li>• Intensify surveillance and enforcement activities to protect critical wildlife/endangered species and its habitats</li> <li>• Research and Development on agroforestry development</li> </ul>   | DENR, DA, BFAR, PNP, AFP, LGUs                        |
| Strengthen the air quality monitoring stations in the region                          | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upgrade/Standardize the equipment used in existing air quality monitoring stations to have a uniform parameters used</li> <li>2. Provision of additional monitoring stations in other provinces of the region</li> </ol>   | EMB, LGUs   |
| Maintain good water quality of major bodies of water like rivers, lakes, and beaches. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exercise constant patrolling, monitoring and testing of water quality of major bodies of water</li> <li>2. Apprehend violators and file appropriate charges</li> <li>3. Establishment of sanitary water treatment plant in major tourism destinations</li> <li>4. Require tourism related enterprises clearance from EMB prior to issuance of business permit.</li> <li>5. Provide laboratory for water quality analysis</li> </ol>  | DENR-EMB, DOH, BFAR, DILG, DOT, PNP, DOST, SUCS, LGUs |
| Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restructure the management of health care and infectious wastes through strict compliance of health care facilities with the standards for hazardous waste management and improvement of disposal of healthcare wastes at household/barangay levels; and</li> </ul>   | EMB, LGUs   |

| <b>CHALLENGES</b>        | <b>RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES</b>   | <b>IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES</b>                   |
|--------------------------|---|--|
|                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensify the information advocacy on hazardous waste management and disposal to combat the spread of COVID-19</li> </ul>  |  |
| Disaster risk management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen and improve the capacity of disaster risk management offices at the provincial and city/municipal levels through capability trainings and exercises, provision of sufficient emergency response equipment, formulation of DRRM plans and implementation of PAPs particular on the combat against COVID-19;</li> <li>• Existing DRRM and crisis management frameworks must be harmonized through revisions of the implementing rules and regulations of the Philippine DRRM Act 2010 (RA10121) to explicitly identify public health emergencies such as pandemics in the definition of disaster events; and</li> <li>• Provision of stockpiling of medical equipment and supplies, and adequate storage, logistic, and isolation facilities</li> </ul> | DENR, EMB, DOH, OCD, PDRRMOs/ CDRRMOs/ MDRRMOs |

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting

May 06, 2021 Calapan City (online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: Operation and Accreditation of Tourism Establishments

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1. Under the Republic Act 9593 or the Tourism Act of 2009, primary tourism establishments such as hotels, resorts, inns and others accommodation establishments are required to secure accreditation from the Department of Tourism as an additional requirement for the issuance of business permits.
2. The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) is mandated through RA 9275 or Philippine Clean Water Act to ensure that discharges from business establishments is compliant with the necessary effluent standards before providing the necessary discharge permits to businesses.
3. The EMB MIMAROPA, during the Regional Ecotourism Committee meeting held on March 11, raised that some ecotourism establishments in Oriental Mindoro and Palawan were able to secure DOT accreditation despite having existing pollution issues with EMB. Because of this, the EMB is proposing to include the proof of compliance to Philippine Clean Water as additional requirement for tourism establishments to secure DOT accreditation. This is to strengthen the compliance of establishments in environmental laws and as a safeguard to the environment particularly our water resources.
4. A representative from EMB MIMAROPA will present the overview, wastewater discharge permit requirements and process flow, status of wastewater discharge permit issuances in MIMAROPA, and other related issues, concerns, and challenges.
5. Action requested: For action/information.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting  
May 06, 2021 Calapan City (online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: Status of Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Management in MIMAROPA

1. Republic Act 9003 or the Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 aims to adopt a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological solid waste management program that shall ensure the protection of public health and environment such as proper segregation, collection, storage, treatment, and disposal of solid waste through the formulation and adaptation of best eco-waste products.
2. The government continuous to monitor the proper disposal of hazardous waste in the region including the proper disposal of personal protective equipment and other medical supplies used for the treatment of COVID-19 cases. As of 2020, there were 313 registered hazardous waste generators in the region mostly from healthcare facilities. The total average volume of waste generated and collected per day for the period April 27 to May 03, 2020 was 192.90 cubic meters. On the other hand, average daily volume of hazardous waste generated was recorded at 407.24 kilograms as of May 08, 2020 this was coming from 78 health care facilities in the region. In MIMAROPA, only Palawan has treatment and storage facilities for hazardous wastes.
3. The increase in hazardous waste generated is still expected to increase along with the increasing number of COVID-19 cases. The improper waste management/disposal of medical wastes may contribute to the uncontrolled spread of the pandemic and may result to irreversible adverse impacts to the environment.
4. The EMB MIMAROPA was requested to present the status of solid waste and hazardous waste management in the region along with the interventions and strategies to ensure the proper disposal and management of hazardous and solid wastes.
5. Action requested: For information.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting

May 06, 2021 Calapan City (online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: Salient Features of Nationally Determined Contributions

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1. EDC Chairperson Rodne R. Galicha, during the first quarter EDC meeting, requested to include the presentation on the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) as part of the agenda of the next meeting. He stressed that agency plans and policies should be aligned with the NDC targets to decrease greenhouse gas emission by 2050 in compliance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

2. The Paris Agreement (PA) was adopted by 196 countries at the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015. The PA is an international treaty on climate change which aims to limit global average temperature increase to 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels recognizing that this would significantly help reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.

3. Article 4, paragraph 2 of the PA states that each party or country is required to prepare, communicate, and maintain its NDCs. The NDCs are national climate plans which highlight climate actions including climate related targets, policies, and measures of the government to contribute to the attainment of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

4. The first Philippine NDC was submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat on April 15, 2021. The NDC supports the country's national development objectives and priorities of a sustainable industrial development, poverty eradication and inclusive growth, energy security, social and climate justice, and the transformation of its socio-economic sectors towards a climate and disaster-resilient and low carbon economy.

5. The Philippine NDC also highlights the importance of participatory approach to planning and implementation of climate programs and actions. It also recognizes the importance of public- private sector collaboration in the future enhancements of the NDC to reflect increasing ambition and economy-wide mitigation potential based on the growth directions and projected climate change adaptation needs of the Filipino people.

6. The Climate Change Commission (CCC), as the lead policy-making body tasked to facilitate the development and implementation of the Philippine NDC, was requested to present the salient features of the NDC including the roles of the regional line agencies, local government units, and private sectors, and the NDC next steps/roadmap.

7. Action requested: For action/information.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting  
May 06, 2021      Online

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: RA 11524 or the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act

1. The Philippine Coconut Authority, in its letter dated April 13, requested the inclusion of the presentation on the salient features of Republic Act (RA) No. 11524 or the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act and the National Coconut Farmers Registry System (NCFRS) in the agenda of the second quarter EDC meeting.
2. The RA 11524 mandates the PCA to: a) create provincial and regional roadmaps/coconut development plans; b) facilitate nomination and selection of farmer representatives in the reconstituted PCA Board pursuant to Item III Section 5 (g) of RA 11524; c) inform concerned partner agencies including the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), and the Department of Agriculture (DA) and its attached agencies on the formulation of the development plans. The implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the said law as well as the specific and detailed roles of each of the partner agencies, is still being crafted.
3. The NCFRS includes the official updated list of coconut farmers in the country. Owners of coconut farms not exceeding five hectares, tenants, tillers, growers, or farm workers, shall receive benefits as stipulated in Item III Section 5 of RA 11524 and could possibly be selected as representatives in the PCA Board.
4. The NCFRS, which is done through a national survey, serves as a tool to ensure effective and efficient planning, delivery and monitoring of developmental programs and projects, and proper allocation and prioritization of scarce government resources.
5. PCA MIMAROPA will present the salient features of RA 11524 and the updates on the NCFR. Attached is the copy of presentation materials provided by PCA.

Action requested: For information.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY**  
Region IV, Brgy. Isabang, Lucena City  
Telephone Number: (042) 795-5472  
<http://www.pca.da.gov.ph> / Email address: [regioniv@pca.gov.ph](mailto:regioniv@pca.gov.ph)

13 April 2021

**Ms. SUSAN A. SUMBELING**

Regional Development Council Vice Chairperson and  
Regional Director, NEDA MIMAROPA  
043-288-6115/6118 / 6124 / [mimaropa@neda.gov.ph](mailto:mimaropa@neda.gov.ph)

**Thru : Ms. JOBELLE M. CRUZADO**  
EDC Secretary and OIC-Chief, Project Development,  
Investment Programming and Budget Division NEDA  
MIMAROPA

Dear Director Sumbeling:

This has reference to our scheduled 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter EDC meeting on 06 May 2021 1:30 PM to be held via Zoom video conferencing, in which we have earmarked five (5) tentative agenda.

Recently, President Rodrigo R. Duterte signed into law RA 11524, an *ACT CREATING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION, RECONSTITUTING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY BOARD, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES* otherwise known as the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act.

With the passage of the said Act, we at Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) is mandated to (1) create roadmap/development plan of the coconut industry at the regional and provincial level; (2) facilitate the nomination and selection of farmers' representative in the reconstituted PCA Board pursuant to Item III Section 5 (g); as well as (3) inform concerned agencies identified as partners in the formulation of development plan. These agencies are DTI, TESDA, DOST, DA and some of its attached agencies (NDA, DA-HVCDP, BAI), DA-ATI, CDA which are also members of the EDC.

The Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of the law as well as the specific and detailed roles of each partner agency shall be elucidated in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which are still underway, as of writing.

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In this regard, we are earnestly requesting for inclusion in the agenda topics on RA 11524 to discuss and present some of its salient provisions of the law which are deemed necessary for our partner agencies to know as well as discuss the National Coconut Farmers Registry System (NCFRS) which shall serve as one of the major bases in the agency's masterlist of beneficiaries in its Programs Activities and Projects (PAPs), for their information.

Attached is the copy of the presentation materials to be discussed during the said meeting.

Thank you and we look forward in working with the Council in achieving the goals under RA 11524.

Very truly yours,

  
**RAMON L. RIVERA**  
Acting Regional Manager III



## **SALIENT INFORMATION ON RA 11524 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY TRUST FUND ACT**

Presented by: RAMON L. RIVERA  
Acting Regional Manager III  
during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr EDC Meeting on 06 May 2021

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## **Topic**

### **Outline:**

- 1) Definition of a Coconut Farmer;**
- 2) Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (under Item II Section 4);**
- 3) Composition of PCA Board;**
- 4) Nomination and Selection of Farmers' Representative to PCA Board; and,**
- 5) Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund (Item V Section 8);**



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## 1) Definition of a Coconut Farmer

- An owner of a coconut farm that is not more than five (5) hectares, who:
  - (i) Tills the land / owner-cultivator; or
  - (ii) Does not till the land, but has control and supervision over the cultivation of the coconut farm which is not more than 5 hectares;
- A leaseholder with not more than 5 hectares or tenant who tills or supervise the cultivation of the coconut farm;
- A farm worker or laborer, whether seasonal or itinerant, engaged in the harvesting of nuts and processing of copra as a major means of livelihood



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Mga benepisaryo ng RA 11524 o  
Coconut Farmers and Industry  
Trust Fund Act:

- Farm owner\*
- Owner-tiller\*
- Grower
- Tenant/Tenant-worker\*
- Farm worker/Laborer



\*Mga magniniyog na mayroon o umuupa ng lupa na **hindi lalampas sa limang ektarya** lamang.



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The Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan under Section 4 shall take into account the distribution of the annual allocation of the Trust Fund, as follows:

| Purpose   | Partner Agencies Concerned | Percentage (%) Fund allocation |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Development of hybrid coconut seed farms and nursery for planting and replanting  | DOST-PCAARD                | 20%                            |
| Training of Farmers and their Families  | TESDA and ATI              | 8%                             |
| Research, Marketing and Promotion   | DTI                        | 5%                             |
| Crop Insurance  | PCIC                       | 4%                             |
| Farm Improvements through diversification and/or intercropping with livestock, dairy, poultry, coffee, cacao production | NDA, DA-HVCDP, DA-BAI      | 10%                            |
| Shared facilities for processing  | PhilMech                   | 10%                            |
| Organizing and empowerment of coconut farmer organization and their cooperatives  | CDA                        | 5%                             |
| Credit Program  | LBP and DBP                | 10%                            |
| Infrastructure Development  | DPWH                       | 10%                            |
| Scholarship program for farmers and their families  | CHED                       | 8%                             |
| Health and medical program for farmers and their families   | PCA                        | 10%                            |
| Total   |                            | 100%                           |



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### 3). Composition of PCA Board

**New PCA Board convenes to craft plan to make efficient use of P75-B coconut trust fund**

**NEW PCA BOARD**



The image shows a collage of the new PCA Board members, including representatives from DOST, DTI, PCIC, NDA, DA-HVCDP, DA-BAI, PhilMech, CDA, LBP, DBP, DPWH, CHED, and PCA. Below them are three coconut farmer leaders from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.



#### 4) Nomination and Selection of Farmers' Representative to PCA Board

##### *Item III Section (g)*

Three (3) members from the coconut farmers sector (one (1) each from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao): *Provided,*

1. Shall be Filipino citizens;
2. Registered with PCA's Coconut Farmers Registry;
3. Own not more than 5 hectares of coconut farm in the last ten (10) years;
4. Have considerable experience and reputable track record in promoting coconut farmers' interest and welfare; and,
5. Nominated by coconut farmer's organizations or cooperatives that are active for the past three (3) years in farmer organization and development or community enterprise development.

*They shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of four (4) nominees for each island grouping.*



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#### 5) Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund (Item V Section 8)

Immediately upon the enactment of this Act, the Bureau of Treasury (BTr) shall transfer Ten Billion pesos (Php 10,000,000,000.00) to the Trust Fun, and for the succeeding years, according to the following schedule:

Second Year: Ten Billion pesos (Php 10,000,000,000.00);  
Third Year: Fifteen Billion pesos (Php 15,000,000,000.00);  
Fourth Year: Fifteen Billion pesos (Php 15,000,000,000.00)

On the Fifth Year, Twenty-Five Billion pesos (Php 25,000,000,000.00) ;  
and any amount accruing including interest in the special account in the general fund to the Trust Fund.



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*Thank You!*



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To all our coconut farmers (owner, owner-tiller, grower, tenant, tenant-worker, worker-laborer):

# NCFRS REGISTRATION

Walk-in registrations every Monday-Friday, 8AM-5PM except holidays  
in all PCA regional and provincial offices



Presented by: RAMON L. RIVERA  
Acting Regional Manager III  
during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr EDC Meeting on 06 May 2021

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## Topic

### Outline:

- Ano ang NCFRS, bakit ito mahalaga at ano-ano ang mga layunin o objectives nito?;
- Sino-sino ang maaaring sumali sa talaan sa ilalim ng NCFRS?;
- Ano-ano ang mga dokumentong kelangan isumite sa PCA?;
- Paano isasagawa ang talaan?; at,
- Paano ang pag-fill-up ng NCFRS Enrollment Form?.



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## Ano ang

NCFRS

Ang National Coconut Farmers Registry System o NCFRS ay opisyal na talaan ng pamahalaan upang mabigyan ng pagkakakilanlan ang mga magniniyog na Pilipino.



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## Bakit ito mahalaga at ano-ano ang mga layunin o objectives ng NCFRS?

1). Para ma-update ang lumang talaan ng PCA na naisagawa noong mga nakalipas na taon, kung saan marami na sa mga impormasyon doon ay maaari ng nabago (mas kumpleto at mas kumprehinsibo);

2). Para mapasama/maparehistro ang mga hindi napabilang sa lumang talaan kung meron man (para sa mga bago pa lang nagsasaka ng niyugan);



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3). Para ma-iharmonize o ma-itugma ang mga datos ng RSBSA (Registry System for Basic Sector in Agriculture) na pinangangalagaan ng Dept. of Agriculture (DA) at NCFRS (pag-sasaayos);

4). Para magkaroon ang PCA ng reference na scientific-based at naaayon sa tunay at aktuwal na pangangailangan ng mga magsasaka ng niyog (para sa paggawa ng provincial at regional roadmap);



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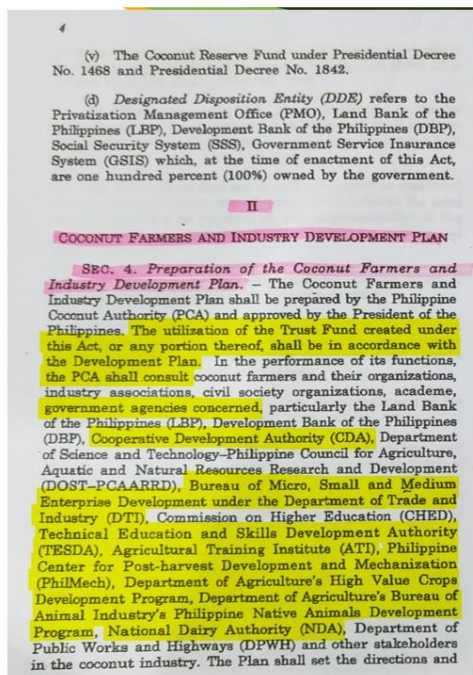
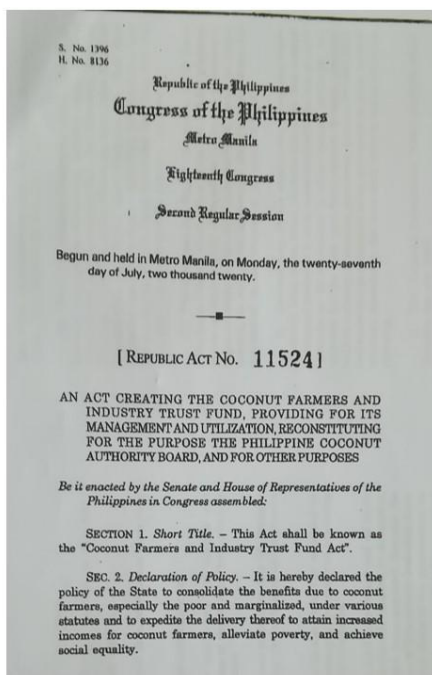
5). Ang mga napabilang sa talaan ng NCFRS ang siyang magiging batayan ng PCA sa pagpili ng mga magiging participants/beneficiaries nito para sa ibat-ibang proyekto sa mga susunod na taon, batay narin sa Item II Section 4 ng RA 11524 otherwise known as Coconut Farmers and Industry Fund Act na naisabatas at nilagdaan ni Pang. R.R. Duterte noong Pebrero 2021.

6). Alinsunod sa Item III Section 5 (g) ng nasabing batas na nagrereconstitute ng PCA Board, ang pagpapatala sa NCFRS ay isa sa mga panuntunan o requirements para mapabilang sa mga manonomina at mapipili para ma-appoint ng President bilang isa sa mga PCA Board.



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- (b) Whether the Plan manages Coconut Levy Assets and Funds judiciously and in a manner supportive of development objectives;
- (c) Whether the Plan accelerates and sustains economic growth for the coconut industry; and
- (d) Whether the Plan is programmed within the context of well-formulated and consistent long, medium, and short-term development plans and policies that will promote both the growth of the economy and the equitable distribution of the benefits of said growth to various members of society.

### III

#### THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY

SEC. 5. *The Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA).* – The PCA, an independent public corporation created under Presidential Decree No. 1468; shall be reconstituted and strengthened to ensure the participation of coconut farmers in the crafting and implementation of the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan. The composition of the PCA Board is hereby amended and the same shall now be composed of the following:

- (a) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Chairperson;
- (b) The Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF), as Vice Chairperson;
- (c) The Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- (d) The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- (e) The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);

10

- (f) The Administrator of the Authority; and

(g) Three (3) members from the coconut farmers sector (one (1) each from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao): *Provided*, That the representatives from the coconut farmers sector shall be Filipino citizens, registered with the PCA's Coconut Farmers Registry, own not more than five (5) hectares of coconut farm in the last ten (10) years, have considerable experience and reputable track record in promoting coconut farmers' interest and welfare, and nominated by coconut farmers organizations or cooperatives that are active for the past three (3) years in farmer organization and development or community enterprise development. They shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of four (4) nominees for each island grouping: *Provided*, That any appointment to fill a vacancy in the Board arising from death, removal, retirement, or resignation of the appointive members of the Board shall only be for the unexpired term: *Provided, further*, That the term of office of the appointive members of the Board shall be for one (1) year, unless sooner removed for cause: *Provided, finally*, That any appointive member of the Board shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed.

The government representatives in the reconstituted PCA Board shall, within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, coordinate with the PCA in promulgating a nomination and screening process for the nominees of representatives of the coconut farmers in consultation with their respective organizations or associations.

### IV

#### RECONVEYANCE OF COCONUT LEVY ASSETS AND/OR FUNDS

SEC. 6. *Reconveyance.* – Within one (1) year upon the effectivity of this Act, all government agencies, except the BTr, and any person having any Coconut Levy Asset and/or



  
New PCA Board convenes to craft plan  
to make efficient use of P75-B  
coconut trust fund

**NEW PCA BOARD**























  
**PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY  
REGION IV**

## MASS REGISTRATION of COCONUT FARMERS


• OWNER • OWNER - TILLER • GROWER • TENANT  
• TENANT - WORKER • WORKER - LABORER

FOR A RE-EVALUATION & RE-SURVEY OF THE  
**NATIONAL COCONUT FARMERS  
REGISTRY SYSTEM (NCFRS)**

The Registration will serve the purpose of updating the current  
coconut farmer's registry which will be the basis for the provision  
of vital government assistance / programs including PCA.



**PCA REGIONAL OFFICE & PROVINCIAL OFFICES (for walk-ins)**  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM) - starting November 23, 2020**  
 Mass Registration will also be conducted at Municipal and Barangay Levels  
 on a scheduled basis



## Operational Definition of Terms: Who may register?

01

### COCONUT FARM OWNER.

An individual who owns a minimum of 0.50-hectare land and planted to at least 50 coconut trees is a coconut farm owner.

1.A

### COCONUT FARM OWNER-TILLER.

The one that not only owns and manages the farm but is also actively involved in tilling is classified as **Owner-Tiller**.

02

### COCONUT FARM TENANT.

An individual who lease a coconut land from a legitimate coconut and is not involved in tilling the coconut farm is classified as **Tenant**.

2.A

The one that is **not only managing** the coconut farm but is **also actively involved in tilling** is classified as **Tenant-Worker**.



Philippine Coconut Authority Region IV



regioniv@pca.gov.ph



042-795-5472



3.0

### COCONUT FARM GROWER.

An individual who owns less than 0.50-hectare land and planted to less than 50 coconut trees is a coconut farm grower.

04

### COCONUT FARM WORKER OR LABORER.

An individual who is hired by a legitimate coconut farm owner or tenant is a **Farm Worker or Laborer**.

05

**OTHERS.** An individual who does not have any proof of ownership but are occupants of undocumented public or private lands planted with coconut trees is classified in this category.



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## WHAT TO BRING :

Bring original and photocopy (front & back) of ANY of the following valid Government ID :

- National ID
- TIN Card
- DOLE Card
- School ID
- SSS ID
- Passport
- Voter's ID
- LTO Driver's License
- UMID CARD
- PRC ID
- Senior Citizen's ID
- DAR ID
- Postal ID
- OWWA ID
- Barangay ID

For Coconut Farm Owners (ANY of the following documents)

- Certificate of Land Transfer
- Emancipation Patent (EP)
- Individual Certificate of Land Ownership Award (CLOA)
- Collective CLOA
- Co-Ownership CLOA
- Agricultural Sales Patent
- Homestead Patent
- Free Patent
- Certificate of Title or Regular Title
- Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
- Certificate of Ancestral Land Title
- Tax Declaration
- Extrajudicial Partition
- Deed of Sale

For more details you may contact the following :

|                       |                |                  |  |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| PCA Region IV         | (042) 795-5472 | PCA Mindoro      | (043) 441-3317/288-1032                                      |
| PCA Quezon I          | (042) 795-5578 | PCA Marinduque   | 0916-691-1409  |
| PCA Quezon II         | 0948-971-4410  | PCA Romblon      | (042) 567-2042   |
| PCA Laguna - Rizal    | (049) 521-0415 | PCA Palawan      | (048) 433-2430   |
| PCA Batangas - Cavite | (043) 404-6261 | or email us at : | <a href="mailto:regioniv@pca.gov.ph">regioniv@pca.gov.ph</a> |

For Coconut Farm Tenants :

- Lease Holding Agreement or Certification showing agreement with Farm Owner
- Photocopy of Farm Owner's Valid ID

For Coconut Farm Workers and Laborers :

- Certification showing agreement with Farm Owner or Tenant for the work or labor in the farm
- Photocopy of Farm Owner's Valid ID



## Iba't ibang paraan ng pagrehistro:



### A SA ON-SITE MASS REGISTRATIONS

Sa nakatakdang iskedyul sa inyong mga barangay o munisipalidad

### B WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Sa PCA regional/provincial office at sa mga authorized partners (i.e. LGUs)

### C PAG-FILL UP NG NCFRS FORM

Downloadable sa link na ito: [bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy](http://bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy)

### D ONLINE REGISTRATION

Sa link na ito: [bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy](http://bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy)

[pca.gov.ph](http://pca.gov.ph) [fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority](https://www.facebook.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority) [pca.ofad@gmail.com](mailto:pca.ofad@gmail.com)

## B WALK-IN REGISTRATION



Sa PCA regional/provincial office at sa mga authorized partners

01

Kumuha ng NCFRS Form (kung pen & paper) o umupo sa available na computer (kung computer-aided)



02

Sagutan ang NCFRS Form.



03

Kung computer aided, kuhaan ng picture ang mga dokumento na dala at i-attach sa online form




04



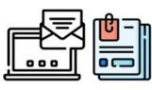

Kung pen & paper, ibigay ang nasagutang form kasama ang mga dokumentong kailangan sa PCA Authorized representative






[pca.gov.ph](http://pca.gov.ph) [fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority](https://www.facebook.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority) [pca.ofad@gmail.com](mailto:pca.ofad@gmail.com)



## D ONLINE REGISTRATION

- 01**  
 I-download ang NCFRS form: [bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy](http://bit.ly/ncfrscocolevy)

- 02**  
 Sagutan ang NCFRS Form at ihanda ang iba pang dokumento
 
- 03**  
 I-scan o kuhaan ng picture ang mga dokumento at i-attach sa online form
 
- 04**  
 Pindutin ang Submit Button
 

 [pca.gov.ph](http://pca.gov.ph)
 [fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority](https://fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority)
 [pca.ofad@gmail.com](mailto:pca.ofad@gmail.com)



## Kumpirmasyon ng rehistro



- Para sa pen-and-paper registration, kunin ang **reference number** mula sa PCA authorized representative.
- Para sa online registration, makatanggap ka ng **text message** na naglalaman ng iyong reference number.



**PAALALA:** Itago ang reference/control number upang magamit sa anumang transaksyon sa PCA o sa pag-update ng iyong impormasyon sa NCFRS.

 [pca.gov.ph](http://pca.gov.ph)
 [fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority](https://fb.com/PhilippineCoconutAuthority)
 [pca.ofad@gmail.com](mailto:pca.ofad@gmail.com)

For further details, you may visit PCA Region IV's official FB page.






*Thank You!*



Philippine Coconut Authority Region IV



regioniv@pca.gov.ph



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042-795-5472



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting  
May 06, 2021 (Online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: Updates on African Swine Fever in the MIMAROPA Region

1. The African Swine Fever (ASF), despite having no known effect to humans, is a severe and highly contagious viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs, with a case-fatality rate approaching 100%, caused by a resistant virus with no developed cure yet.
2. At present, the ASF is adversely affecting the local hog industry of the country. To date, the disease has already spread to 12 regions, 40 provinces, 466 cities and municipalities, and 2,425 barangays. Over 3 million heads of pig have been lost due to the disease, causing a contraction in pork supply and an unprecedented increase in the price of basic agricultural commodities.
3. Administrative Order No. 22 signed by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on February 05, ordered all concerned government agencies and offices to strictly implement and ensure compliance with the National Zoning and Movement Plan for the Prevention and Control of ASF as contained under DA Administrative Circular No. 12, s. 2019 to control and contain the spread of the fatal disease.
4. Under the zoning plan, areas in the country are classified by their ASF status: free zones, containment zones, surveillance zones, protected zones, and infected zones. Western and Central Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, and MIMAROPA regions are considered free zones. They are the last four regions with no recorded cases. This means that these areas can freely trade their products anywhere in the country. For the containment zones, regions 1 (Ilocos), 2 (Cagayan Valley), and 5 (Bicol) are protected zones; Regions 3 (Central Luzon) and 4A (CALABARZON) are surveillance zones; and Bulacan and Pampanga are infected zones.
5. The Philippine College of Swine Practitioners developed the Bantay ASF sa Barangay. This is a community based approach to prevent, control, and manage ASF through sound epidemiologic principles and technology such as the use of ASF rapid test kits. The program was piloted in the province of Batangas on February 11, 2021.
6. DA MIMAROPA will present updates on the ASF situation including the interventions being undertaken to manage the effects of ASF such as increasing prices of pork in the region, provincial demand and supply, number of local producers, and threat to local industry.
7. Action requested: For information.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Second Quarter Meeting

May 06, 2021 Calapan City (online)

### **BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT**

Subject: Integrated Approach in the Management of Biodiversity Corridors

1. The Integrated Approach in the Management of Major Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines (IA-Biological Corridors) is a foreign assisted project under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project, which was approved on April 16, 2020, has a total project cost amounting to USD75.23 million.
2. The project aims to operationalize the integrated management of biological corridors to generate multiple benefits including effective conservation of globally significant biodiversity, reduce deforestation and degradation, and enhance local biodiversity-friendly livelihoods.
3. The project has three inter-related and mutually complementary components: (1) Effective coordination and governance framework for integrated ecosystem management in the Philippines BCs system; (2) Application of corridor wide integrated ecosystems management (IEM) and integrated landscape management in BCs; and (3) Community-based sustainable use and management systems in the pilot biological corridors and replication to other the biological corridors system in the Philippines.
4. One of the project's pilot biological corridors is the Central Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor (CMBC). With the ongoing threats to its globally significant biodiversity resources, their critical importance as centers of endemism and biodiversity hotspot, economic significance, and the lack of support compared to other biodiversity corridors, the CMBC was chosen as one of the priority beneficiaries of the project.
5. The DENR MIMAROPA is requested to present the background, description, notable status of the project, and challenges and issues in the implementation of the project.
6. Action requested: For information.