



Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
MIMAROPA Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

REFERENCE FOLDER

Third Quarter Meeting
August 03, 2023
Quezon City

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Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
MIMAROPA Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Second Quarter Meeting
04 May 2023 Ermita, Manila

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ATTENDANCE

Present

Represented by

EDC Officers

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Hon. Armi D.C. Carrion | Municipal Government of Boac, Marinduque and EDC Chairperson | EnP. Luna Eulogio Manrique |
| 2. Mr. Delfin M. Natal, Jr. | Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement and EDC Co-Chairperson | |
| 3. Dir. Agustin C. Mendoza | NEDA MIMAROPA Regional Director and RDC Vice-Chairperson | |
| 4. ARD Apollo Edwin S. Pagano | NEDA MIMAROPA Assistant Regional Director RDC Secretary | |
| 5. Mr. Bernardino A. Atienza, Jr. | NEDA MIMAROPA and EDC Secretary | |

Regional Directors of National Government Agencies

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 6. MGen. Roberto S. Capulong, PA 2ID-AFP | | Mr. Noel Wamil |
| 7. Atty. Tomas J. Cariño, Jr. | BSP South Luzon | Mr. Keith Edward S. Hidalgo |
| 8. Sec. Robert E.A Borje | CCC | Mr. Joe Mari S. Francisco |
| 9. Dir. Alberto A. Sabarias | CDA MIMAROPA | |
| 10. RED Ma. Christine C. Inting | DA MIMAROPA | Ms. Annielyn Del Rosario |
| 11. Atty. Marvin V. Bernal | DAR MIMAROPA | Ms. Ma. Liza A. Diaz |
| 12. RED Lormelyn E. Claudio | DENR MIMAROPA | Ms. Maricris M. Limpiada |
| 13. Dir. Ma. Josefina P. Abilay | DOST MIMAROPA | Ms. Jelyn A. Doctor |
| 14. Dr. Azucena C. Pallugna | DOT MIMAROPA | Mr. Reynaldo P. Gabriel Jr. |
| 15. Dir. Rodolfo J. Mariposque | DTI MIMAROPA | Mr. Romel Macatol |
| 16. Dir. Joe Amil M. Salino | EMB MIMAROPA | Ms. Ma. Siena N. De Luna |
| 17. Dir. Glenn Marcelo Marcelo C. Noble | MGB MIMAROPA | Ms. Mariella Anna Hizola |
| 18. Engr. Ronilio M. Cervantes | NIA MIMAROPA | |
| 19. RM Bibiano C. Concibido, Jr. | PCA Region 4 | |
| 20. Dir. Niño Rey C. Estoya, MNSA | PCSD | Mr. John Francisco Pontillas |
| 21. Dir. Piolito C. Santos | NFA Region 4 | Ms. Gemini M. Hernandez |
| 22. Dir. Edel M. Dondonilla | PhilFIDA Region 4 | |
| 23. Usec. Honey Rose V. Mercado | PMS-ORC | Mr. Cesar Contreras |

City and Provincial Planning and Development Offices

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 24. EnP. Marian M. Cunanan | PPDO-Marinduque | |
| 25. EnP. Anthony A. Dantis | PPDO-Occidental Mindoro | Mr. Ron Lowell Karl A. Daproza |
| 26. EnP. Lydia Muñeca S. Melgar | PPDO-Oriental Mindoro | Ms. Marilyn A. Ramos |
| 27. EnP. Sharlene D. Vilches | PPDO-Palawan | |
| 28. EnP. Willard B. Mortos | PPDO-Romblon | Mr. Christoper M. Mariño |
| 29. EnP. Joselito R. Bautista | CPDO-Calapan | |

Private Sector Representative

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 30. Mr. Rodne R. Galicha | Bayay Sibuyanon, Inc |
| 31. Mr. Solomon C. Rosario | Taw Kabui for a Child, Inc. |

Absent

32. Dir. Marie Grace T. Pascua	NCIP MIMAROPA
33. Engr. Jovenee C. Sagun	CPDO-Puerto Princesa
34. Engr. Ana Margarita Lustre-Malijan	PCCI-Puerto Princesa City
35. Dir. Emmanuel H. Asis	BFAR MIMAROPA
36. Dir. Arnold G. Alindada	FDA South Luzon Cluster

Guests

37. Ms. Faith Janica Manalo	DA-PRDP
38. Ms. Danica Brutas	DA-PRDP
39. Ms. Gerly Llanes	DA-PRDP
40. Mr. Manuel Carba	DA-PRDP
41. Mr. Jimmy T. Nebreja	PLGU Marinduque
42. Mr. Alain Maulion	MBC-PMU
43. Ms. Rachel Ortega	MBC-PMU
44. Ms. Susan Arellano-Uy	PLGU Marinduque
45. Mr. John Junico Lida	EMB MIMAROPA
46. Ms. Emelita L. Magpalo	PPDO- Occidental Mindoro
47. Ms. Kathleen Aisa Estacio	PPDO-Palawan
48. Fr. Edwin A. Gariguez	Mangyan Mission

Secretariat

49. Mr. Ryan O. Manrique	NEDA MIMAROPA
50. Ms. Jobelle M. Cruzado	NEDA MIMAROPA
51. Mr. Ruther John B. Col-long	NEDA MIMAROPA
52. Mr. Dean M. Baja	NEDA MIMAROPA
53. Ms. Aimie F. Abante	NEDA MIMAROPA
54. Mr. Wilfred Anthony P. Dela Cruz	NEDA MIMAROPA
55. Mr. Joel Tobias	NEDA MIMAROPA
56. Mr. Walter Balancio	NEDA MIMAROPA
57. Mr. Reyson G. Luceriano	NEDA MIMAROPA

A. PRELIMINARIES

The meeting started at 1:45 PM with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem followed by an invocation and the singing of the MIMAROPA Hymn.

B. BUSINESS PROPER

A. Declaration of Quorum

Mr. Bernardino A. Atienza, Jr. of NEDA MIMAROPA called the roll and declared a quorum. Of the 34 members, 11 were present and 18 were represented registering 85.29% attendance.

B. Welcome Remarks and Messages

EDC Co-Chairperson and PSR Delfin Natal, delivered the welcome message on behalf of Mayor Armi D.C. Carrion. He welcomed the members and guests present and thanked everyone for their dedication to their work. He stated the importance of the agenda under the matters for action to be discussed such as the 2022 MIMAROPA Regional Development Report, the Philippine Rural Development Program (PRDP) Scale-Up, and the Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC). Further, he informed the members that the National Irrigation Administration and Philippine Coconut Authority during the first quarter

EDC meeting, were requested to present the National Irrigation Master Plan and the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan, respectively, as part of the Matters for Information. He then requested the participation of the members in discussion of the agenda.

C. Proposed Agenda

On motion duly seconded, the proposed agenda was approved with the inclusion of (1) updates on the status of Mining in Brookes Point Palawan and Sibuyan Island, Romblon, (2) Updates on the causeway project in Calatrava, Romblon and Palawan by EMB, and (3) inclusion of the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor in the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System.

D. Approval of the Minutes of the previous EDC Meeting

On motion duly seconded, the minutes of the 1st Quarter EDC meeting conducted on 22 February 2022 was approved.

E. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Mr. Atienza Jr. reported the status of agreements during the 1st quarter EDC meeting. There were seven agenda items presented: a) FY 2024 RDC Budget Review; b) Establishment of Integrated Coconut Processing Center in Marinduque; c) Marinduque LGUs Priority Development Projects; d) Creation of the Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC); e) CY 2023 EDC Work Program; f) CY 2022 EDC Accomplishment Report; and g) CY 2022 EDC Summary of Attendance.

He discussed that the RDC resolutions for the FY 2024 budget proposals of BFAR, CDA, DA, DAR, DENR, DOST, DTI, EMB, FDA South Luzon Cluster, MGB, NIA, PCA, and PCSD were already transmitted to their respective agency central offices copy furnished MIMAROPA Congressional District Representatives, DBM Central Office, DBM MIMAROPA, and respective regional offices.

In addition to the approved budget resolutions, Mr. Atienza discussed that the following resolutions emanated from the EDC meeting were approved by the MIMAROPA RDC during its 81st full council meeting held on 24 March 2023 in Pasay City and were transmitted to the concerned agencies for their appropriate action:

- a. **RDC Resolution No. 2023-081-1162** *“Favorably Endorsing the Proposed Priority Development Projects of the Province of Marinduque”*; and,
- b. **RDC Resolution No. 2023-081-1163** *“Endorsing the Establishment of the Integrated Coconut Processing Center in the Province of Marinduque to the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) for Implementation”*.

F. Matters for Approval/Review/Endorsement

1. Proposed PRDP Scale-Up

Ms. Annielyn Del Rosario of DA MIMAROPA presented the profile of the proposed project including the background, project objectives, accomplishments of the existing PRDP, project beneficiaries, project components, project schedule and financial requirements, and the regional pipeline of projects.

She highlighted that the PRDP Scale Up is one of the flagship programs of DA to address the gaps in the commodity value chains by improving the efficiency of the food supply chain towards greater connectivity, mobility, accessibility, and affordability of food in the market.

On the other hand, Mr. Atienza Jr. provided the comments of the secretariat based on the proposal.

PSR Galicha, asked about the updates on the payment schedule of the PRDP loan. RDC Vice-Chair Mendoza responded that the financial information regarding the payment schedule, interest rate, and amortization for the project is beyond the responsibility of the proponent and is vested with the DOF. Nevertheless, the metrics for the measurement of external debt ratio and interest rates remain on track.

RD Mendoza recommended the conduct of an impact evaluation study for the proposed project which will provide the before and after the project scenario.

On motion duly seconded, the proposed PRDP Scale-Up was recommended for RDC endorsement.

2. Creation of Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC)

Mr. Alain Maulion of the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor-Project Management Unit presented the proposed creation of CAAC which was deferred during the first quarter meeting of the EDC pending the submission of other supporting documents. On the other hand, the comments and recommendations of the EDC Secretariat were presented by the EDC Secretary.

PSR Natal inquired whether the project would benefit the distribution of CADTs/CALTs. Mr. Maulion responded that the project will help in the delineation and segregation of CADTs. A segregation map will also be provided as part of the deliverables of the project to better manage ancestral domains. Further, Co-Chair Natal requested the proponent to include definitions of terms and acronyms in the TOR.

PSR Galicha inquired whether there is a specific provision in the project document that the CAAC shall be created under the EDC and RDC. He raised if it is possible for the DENR to create CAAC independent from the EDC and RDC. He added that the institutionalization of CAAC through a MOA will be more binding and strategic to ensure the

221 participation of the concerned LGUs. This may also include the
222 participation of the PAMBs and SUCs.

223
224 Mr. Maulion explained that there is no specific provision in the project
225 document stating the CAAC should be established under any specific
226 body. However, based on their consultation with other stakeholders, it
227 was determined that it is best to institutionalize CAAC under the RDC
228 prior to signing of MOA with LGUs and other stakeholders. He also added
229 that CAAC for Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor Project is also
230 being pushed for creation under the RDC.

231
232 He also shared that consultations and orientation with local stakeholders
233 and partners are ongoing. He added that for the provincial level, a
234 Memorandum of Cooperation is being finalized to ensure participation
235 from the LGU.

236
237 PSR Galicha requested the inclusion of concerned PAMBs, local civil
238 society organizations, and SUCs in the CAAC to strengthen its
239 membership and structure.

240
241 On motion duly seconded, the EDC recommended the creation of CAAC
242 under the RDC subject to the comments provided by the EDC members.

243 **3. 2022 MIMAROPA Regional Development Report (RDR)**

244
245 Mr. Atienza Jr. presented the four chapters in the RDR concerning the
246 economic sector such as (1) expanding economic opportunities in
247 agriculture, forestry, and fisheries; (2) expanding economic
248 opportunities in industry and services and trabaho and negosyo; (3)
249 vigorously advancing science, technology, and innovation; (4) and
250 ensuring ecological integrity, clean, and healthy environment.

251
252
253 Mr. John Pontillas suggested including the formulation of an incentive
254 scheme to encourage investments from the private sector in STI as part
255 of the strategy under Chapter 14: Vigorously Advancing Science
256 Technology and Innovation. Moreover, Mr. Galicha also suggested
257 including activities on how to incentivize and encourage investment in
258 Green Jobs in the private sector.

259
260 Mr. Joe Francisco of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) provided
261 updates on the status of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)
262 and Policies and Measures (PAMs). He suggested including climate
263 change expenditure figures at the national and local level in the future
264 RDR in order to provide data on the level of LGUs, RLAs, and SUCs. He
265 further added that the CCC is currently working with other agencies in
266 formulating a Joint Memorandum Circular for the implementation
267 guidelines of the Green Jobs Act since CCC is only a part of the
268 component certification for the said law.

269
270 On motion duly seconded, the economic sector chapters of the 2022
271 RDR chapters were recommended for RDC approval.

273 **4. Proposed Improvement/ Upgrading of Provincial Tourism and**
274 **Agriculture Development Center (PTADC)**
275

276 Ms. Susan Arellano-Uy, Assistant Provincial Agriculturist of the Provincial
277 Government of Marinduque, presented the proposed upgrading of the
278 PTADC. The PTADC aims to improve and upgrade the existing facilities
279 and to establish new enterprises in the area that will be used to promote
280 farm tourism and envisioned to generate additional revenue for the local
281 economy.
282

283 She justified that the proposed project is supportive of President Marcos'
284 eight point agenda particularly on creating more quality jobs by
285 promoting investment, improving infrastructure, increasing
286 employability, and encouraging research, development, and innovation,
287 and creating jobs, pursuing a green economy, and establishing livable
288 and sustainable communities. She added that the project is aligned with
289 the goals of the MIMAROPA RDP 2023-2028 particularly on modernizing
290 agriculture and agribusiness, reinvigorating services, and revitalizing
291 industry. She stressed that the project is also considered one of the
292 priority thrusts of the province of Marinduque.
293

294 PSR Galicha inquired if the project was already endorsed by Provincial
295 Development Council and if it is included in the local and tourism
296 development plans. Ms. Uy provided an affirmative response and added
297 that the proposal is for the improvement of an existing facility.
298

299 On motion duly seconded, the Proposed Improvement/Upgrading of
300 Provincial Tourism and Agriculture Development Center was
301 recommended for RDC endorsement to Tourism Infrastructure and
302 Enterprise Zone Authority.
303

304 **G. Matters for information**
305

306 **5. National Irrigation Master Plan (NIMP) 2020-2030**
307

308 Engr. Ronilio M. Cervantes, Regional Director of NIA MIMAROPA
309 presented the MIMAROPA components of the NIMP. The NIMP 2020-
310 2030 is a comprehensive, integrated, collaborative, and scientifically
311 based blueprint for the accelerated and sustained irrigation
312 development plan of the Philippines. Included in the presentation are
313 the activities implemented by NIA MIMAROPA, information on the
314 irrigation development projects in the region, and challenges in the
315 implementation of irrigation projects.
316

317 Director Cervantes shared that the implementation of irrigation projects
318 in the region resulted to 184.04 percent cropping and production yield of
319 4.74 MT/ha in 2022. He added that the Mandanas-Garcia ruling on
320 devolution may have an effect on the implementation of irrigation projects
321 in the region for 2023. For the communal irrigation system (CIS), the NIA
322 requested the Office of President to exempt the devolution of CIS since
323 the LGUs and irrigation associations shared during consultations that
324 they have limited capacity to manage the systems.
325

Mr. John Pontillas of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development requested data and map of the irrigation service areas.

PSR Natal inquired about the preparation of NIA MIMAROPA relative to possible impacts of El Niño in the region. Director Cervantes replied that they have recently conducted initial meetings with stakeholders regarding the matter.

6. Updates on Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP)

Dir. Bibiano C. Concibido, Jr. of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) presented the updates on the CFIDP. The CFIDP primarily aims to strengthen the Philippine coconut industry through the implementation of various programs and projects. He shared that the regional breakdown of the total funds relative to CFIDP is not yet available. He presented the activities undertaken relative to CFIDP, fund utilization report for the region, and the issues and concerns relative to implementation of CFIDP.

PPDC Sharlene D. Vilches of Palawan requested Director Concibido Jr. to coordinate with the provincial government to assist them in the implementation of the project.

Co-Chair Natal inquired about the previous suggestion to hire more personnel. Director Concibido Jr. said that the reorganization of PCA will be done soon to address the limited personnel concerns.

Mr. Pontillas requested a bilateral discussion between the PCSD and PCA to discuss concerns relative to oil pump development in Palawan.

7. Mining in Brooke's Point, Palawan and Sibuyan, Romblon

PSR Galicha discussed the mining concerns in Brooke's Point and Sibuyan, Romblon. He requested the MGB MIMAROPA to provide updates on the mining activities in Brooke's Point Palawan and Sibuyan Island in Romblon through email.

8. EMB-MIMAROPA update on the Causeway Project in Calatrava

PSR Galicha informed the Committee that a Notice of Violation (NOV) was issued to DPWH District Office in Romblon to suspend the implementation of the Causeway Project in Calatrava, Romblon which was confirmed by Ms. Maria Siena M. De Luna of EMB MIMAROPA. Ms. De Luna added that the DPWH was ordered to suspend its activities until an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) is secured.

PSR Galicha shared that despite the suspension, the implementation of the project still continues. He inquired about the reason for the non-issuance of the cease-and-desist order on the implementation of the project. Mr. John Junico Udal of EMB MIMAROPA added that a Joint Order has been issued by DENR and EMB to stop the operation. He added that it is possible that the activities that PSR Galicha were referring are the mitigating measures that need to be complied by the

proponent such as siltation prevention and coastal areas protection measures.

Ms. De Luna informed the members that a technical conference with DPWH was conducted last 03 March to discuss the concerns on the implementation of the project. Among the agreements during the technical conference was for the DPWH to secure a certification from the Philippine Reclamation Authority that no reclamation activity is being implemented in the area. Further, a case has already been filed with the Regional Trial Court to stop the implementation of the project.

Ms. De Luna also shared that a joint investigation on the project was conducted by EMB MIMAROPA and DENR-PENRO last 14 April 2023. The results of the investigation will be provided to the EDC Secretariat once available.

9. Proposed Inclusion of the Verde Island Passage (VIP) Marine Corridor in the e-NIPAS and the reactivation of the VIP task force and the Marine Protected Area Law Enforcement Network.

PSR Edwin A. Gariguez of Mangyan Mission presented his proposal which aimed to protect and improve the management of the VIP Marine Corridor through legislation. He discussed several issues and concerns being faced by the VIP such as the oil spill incident, deteriorating water quality, presence of gas-fired power plants, among others.

EDC Secretary Atienza stated that the presentation of the draft Resolution in the EDC is only for the information of the Committee. He further added that the Secretariat will review the proposal and provide recommendations to the EDC to be discussed in the next EDC meeting.

NEDA ARD Apollo Edwin S. Pagano and RDC Secretary recognized the urgency of the said matter. However, to properly assess the issue and the proposed Resolution, the agenda should first be presented during the 3rd quarter EDC meeting based on the RDC Manual of Operations. He further added that there is no assurance that the agenda will be included during the 2nd quarter RDC Meeting on 02 June 2023 but the Secretariat will do its best to review the document.

C. ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

ATTESTED:

BERNARDINO A. ATIENZA, JR.
EDC Secretary

ARMI D.C. CARRION
EDC Chairperson

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
MIMAROPA Region

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Third Quarter Meeting
03 August 2023 Quezon City

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS EDC MEETING AND
EDC RESOLUTIONS PASSED**

Agenda Items	Instructions/ Agreements	Status
Inclusion of the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor in the ENIPAS reactivation of the VIP task force and the marine protected area law enforcement network	The agenda will be included as one of the agenda during the 3rd quarter EDC meeting on 03 August 2023	For discussion in the 3 rd quarter EDC meeting.

Resolution No.	Title	Status
2023-19	Recommending RDC approval of the 2022 Regional Development Report (RDR)	During the 82 nd RDC full council meeting held on 02 June in Pasay City, the RDC approved the 2022 MIMAROPA RDR.
2023-20	Favorably Endorsing the Proposed Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) Scale-Up (MIMAROPA Component) of the Department of Agriculture (DA)	The RDC, during its 82 nd RDC full council meeting held on 02 June in Pasay City, endorsed the project to the NEDA ICC through RDC Resolution No. 2023-082-1179. Copy of the resolution was provided to DA MIMAROPA on 02 June 2023.
2023-21	Favorably Endorsing the Creation of the Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) for	The RDC, during its 82 nd RDC full council meeting held on 02 June in Pasay City, approved the creation of CAAC through RDC Resolution No. 2023-082-1180.

Resolution No.	Title	Status
	the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor Project	<p>A copy of the resolution was provided to DA MIMAROPA on 13 June 2023.</p> <p>The DENR MIMAROPA Regional Director, as Chairperson of CAAC, has yet to conduct its first organizational meeting.</p>
2023-22	Favorably Endorsing the Proposed Improvement/Upgrading of the Marinduque Provincial Tourism and Agriculture Development Center (PTADC) to Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)	<p>The RDC, during its 82nd RDC full council meeting held on 02 June in Pasay City, endorsed the proposed project to TIEZA through RDC Resolution No. 2023-082-1181.</p> <p>A copy of the resolution was provided to TIEZA on 16 June 2023.</p> <p>TIEZA, in its letter to Governor Presbitero Velasco, Jr. dated 06 July 2023, informed that there is no sufficient fund available to cover the funding of project requests. TIEZA will prioritize the implementation of suspended projects once the fund is available per the Board-approved Guidelines on Prioritization of suspended projects.</p> <p>While awaiting for funding, the province was requested submission of documentary requirements to DOT MIMAROPA for their endorsement to TIEZA and for evaluation.</p>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
August 03, 2023 Quezon City

Brief from the EDC Secretariat

Subject: 2023 Regional Development Report Guidelines

1. The MIMAROPA Regional Development Report (RDR) provides an annual assessment of the implementation of the development objectives and targets as set forth in the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP).
2. The MIMAROPA RDR contains an assessment of the performance of the region for a given year based on the targets in the MIMAROPA RDP 2023-2028 and its accompanying Results Matrix (RM). It also provides strategic and policy direction to focus priorities with the target indicators.
3. The 2023 RDR preparation guidelines provide the standard procedures, data requirements, and schedule of activities.
4. The annual accomplishment reports and other sectoral inputs of the agency regional offices (AROs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), government-owned and-controlled corporation (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs), and private sector representatives (PSRs) will be used as bases in the evaluation of the performance of the region.
5. The 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall be prepared using the most recent available data from at least the first three quarters of 2023 and be subsequently vetted by relevant approving bodies for verification, validation, and approval in the final quarter of 2023.
6. The schedule of preparatory activities for the 2023 MIMAROPA RDR will be compressed and conducted in an expeditious manner to deliver timely and up-to-date information and relevant data.
7. Gender-fair language (GFL) will be used in the writing of the regional development report. GFL aims to reduce gender stereotyping and discrimination in the documents and reports prepared by NEDA.
8. The secretariat will present the guidelines on the preparation of the 2023 MIMAROPA RDR for review and approval of the RDC.
9. Attached is the proposed 2023 MIMAROPA RDR preparation guidelines.
10. Action requested: Recommend for RDC approval.

GUIDELINES ON THE PREPARATION OF THE 2023 MIMAROPA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Background

The MIMAROPA Regional Development Report (RDR) provides an annual assessment of the implementation of the development objectives and targets as set forth in the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP).

The 2023 MIMAROPA RDR is the beginning of plan assessment of the performance of the region for the first year of the MIMAROPA RDP 2023-2028 and its accompanying Results Matrix (RM).

The accomplishment reports and other sectoral inputs of agency regional offices (AROs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), government owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units (LGUs), and private sector representatives (PSRs) are used as bases in the evaluation of the performance of the region for the beginning of plan target and its transition to the current President Marcos administration.

The 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall be prepared using the most recent available data from at least the first three quarters of 2023. Subsequently, in the final quarter of 2023, the report shall be vetted by relevant approving bodies for verification, validation, and approval (refer to schedule of activities and preparation processes d and e).

The 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall undergo early preparation to capture the latest developments, trends, and data relevant to the region. The core focus of expediting the preparation process of the said report is to deliver timely and up-to-date information and pertinent data, empowering both policymakers and stakeholders to make informed decisions and effective plans and drive positive change within the region.

Purpose

The guidelines on the preparation of the 2023 MIMAROPA RDR are intended to:

- a. provide standard procedures, data requirements, and schedule of activities in the preparation of the report and
- b. ensure consistency with the Philippine Socioeconomic Report (SER) submitted to the President

Content

The 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall contain the following chapters for consistency with the SER and the MIMAROPA RDP 2023-2028:

Chapter	Title	Concerned Agency
01	Overview of the Regional Economy, Development Context, and Trends	NEDA
02	Regional Spatial Development Framework	NEDA
03	Overview of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2023-2028 Strategy Framework	NEDA
04	Promote Human and Social Development	
04.1	Boost Health	DOH, POPCOM, PSA, NNC, DBM, DOST, DOLE, CHED, DILG, PHIC, NCIP, NYC, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
04.2	Improve Education and Lifelong Learning	DepEd, TESDA, CHED, DICT, DOST, DOLE, PSA, SUCs, DPWH, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
04.3	Establish Livable Communities	DHSUD, NHA, PAGIBIG, DPWH, CCC, LWUA, OCD, DOTr, DILG, DOE, NCIP, DTI, DOT, DENR, DOST, DOH, DOLE, DICT, PCSD, EMB, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
05	Reduce Vulnerabilities and Protect Purchasing Power	
05.1	Ensure Food Security and Proper Nutrition	DA, DAR, FDA, BFAR, DOH, NNC, DSWD, DepEd, TESDA, NCIP, LRA, DENR, DTI, DOLE, PSA, CDA, PCIC 4, ATI, ACPC, DOST, NIA, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
05.2	Strengthen Social Protection	DSWD, CHED, DA, DILG, GSIS Calapan, NAPC, NCIP, NYC, PCW, TESDA, OWWA, DMW, SSS Calapan, CWC, DAR, DepEd, DOH, LPP, DTI, NNC, OCD, PHIC Calapan, DFA Consular Office Puerto Princesa, PSA, DOLE, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
06	Increase Income-Earning Ability	DOLE, CHED, TESDA, DTI, DICT, NYC, PIDS, DepEd, RTWPB, DA, DOST, PCW, PSA, PRC, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
07	Modernize Agriculture and Agribusiness	DA, DAR, FDA, BFAR, TESDA, DTI, DOLE, PSA, ATI, CDA, PCIC 4, ACPC, NIA, DOST, PFIDA, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
08	Revitalize Industry: Science, Technology, and Innovation-driven Industrialization	DTI, TESDA, DENR, CDA, DTI, PEZA, DOLE, DILG, DOST, PIDS, BSP South Luzon, DOE, DA, BFAR, DBP Calapan, PSA, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
09	Reinvigorate Services	DTI, NCCA, DICT, DOLE, TIEZA, DOTr, MARINA, CAAP, TESDA, PIDS, BSP South Luzon, PPA, DOT, PEZA, PSA, NTC,

Chapter	Title	Concerned Agency
		DPWH, DA, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
10	Advance Research and Development, Technology, and Innovation	DOST, DENR, DBM, CHED, DICT, DILG, DFA Consular Office Puerto Princesa, DOLE, DTI, DA, DOH, DOTr, DOE, OCD, DepEd, IPO, PSA, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
11	Promote Trade and Investments	DTI, DOLE, DOST, DICT, PEZA, BoC Sub-Port Puerto Princesa, PIDS, BSP South Luzon, DA, BLGF, DFA Consular Office Puerto Princesa, PSA, BOI, PCG, NSC, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
12	Ensure Macroeconomic Stability	
12.1	Promote an Innovative, Inclusive, and Healthy Financial Sector	BSP South Luzon, PSA, CDA, DTI, BLGF, LBP Calapan, Pag-IBIG Calapan, DPB Calapan, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
12.2	Ensure Sound Fiscal Management and Improve the Tax Regime	DBM, BLGF, BTr, BIR, BoC Sub-Port Puerto Princesa, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
13	Expand and Upgrade Infrastructure	DPWH, DICT, DOTr, DOE, NWRB, LWUA, Electric Cooperatives, NGCP, NPC, NEA, PPA, CAAP, PCG, NTC, PPC, EMB, LTO, MARINA, LTFRB, PRA, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
14	Ensure Peace and Security and Enhance Administration of Justice	
14.1	Ensure Peace and Security	PNP, OCD, DILG, DICT, CHR, PDEA, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
14.2	Enhance Administration of Justice	DOJ Regional State Prosecutor 4, DILG, CHR, BJMP, BuCor, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
15	Practice Good Governance and Improve Bureaucratic and Regulatory Efficiency	DBM, ARTA, DILG, DAP, DICT, CSC, COA, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
16	Accelerate Climate Action and Strengthen Disaster Resilience	DENR, DBM, DILG, DOST, CCC, PSA, DPWH, DOLE, DHSUD, DA, DOE, DOT, DOTr, OCD, BLGF, DTI, PAGASA, MGB, EMB, BMB, SUCs, PPDCs/CPDCs and PSRs
17	Plan Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation	NEDA

1. For brevity, write-ups shall not exceed ten pages per chapter. Each chapter shall contain the following:

- a. Abstract

This section shall summarize the sectoral assessment and priority strategies/programs moving forward. A short description of the chapter framework shall also be included. The abstract should not exceed one page.

- b. Accomplishment

This section shall discuss the sector's/thematic area's achievement by outcome, including the reasons why target indicators (outcome or aggregate output) were achieved or not achieved. This section shall also highlight which provinces are leading or lagging.

The accomplishment for the first three quarters (Q1-Q3 of reporting year) with provincial breakdown shall be provided to the extent possible. If not available, regional level indicators shall be assessed.

The summary table of accomplishment shall be presented as follows:

Table 1: Chapter XX Results Matrix

Indicator*	Region/ Province	Baseline	End of Plan Target	Accomplishment**	Reporting Entity
		Value (2021)	2028	Q1-Q3 2023	
Indicator 1	MIMAROPA				
	Province 1				
	Province 2				
Indicator 2	Province 1				
	Province 2				

* Report on either core indicator or intermediate outcomes/outputs depending on availability. Provincial data may be included, if available.

** Latest available data (Q1-Q3 of reporting year)

This section shall also discuss the region's performance relative to the implementation of the whole-of-nation approach and climate change adaptation principles

c. Moving Forward

This section shall discuss the sector's priority strategies/programs outlined in the MIMAROPA RDP 2023-2028.

2. Preparation Process

- a. All concerned AROs, SUCs, GOCCs, and LGUs shall submit to NEDA MIMAROPA their first to third quarter agency accomplishment reports and chapter results matrices (refer to Table 1).
 - b. A technical writeshop shall be conducted to prepare the first draft of 2023 MIMAROPA RDR.
 - c. The draft report shall be presented to the RDC sectoral committees during the CY 2023 fourth quarter meetings for validation. Necessary revisions shall be made based on comments and additional inputs from committee members (refer to schedule of activities).
 - d. Final draft of 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall be presented during the CY 2023 fourth quarter RDC Full Council meeting for approval (refer to schedule of activities).
 - e. The approved 2023 MIMAROPA RDR shall be printed for dissemination or electronically disseminated to RDC and Sectoral Committee members during the CY 2024 1st quarter RDC Full Council meeting (refer to schedule of activities).
3. Gender-fair language (GFL) will be used in writing the regional development report. GFL aims at reducing gender stereotyping and discrimination. Two strategies will be employed to make languages gender-fair and to treat women and men symmetrically: neutralization and feminization. Neutralization is achieved, for example, by replacing male-masculine forms (policeman) with gender-unmarked forms (police officer), whereas feminization relies on the use of feminine forms to make female referents visible (i.e., the applicant... he or she instead of the applicant... he).

4. Schedule of Activities

Activity	Output	Schedule	Responsible Entity
1. Issue RDR preparation guidelines	Guidelines on the preparation of the 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	August 2023	RDC Secretariat
2. Submit inputs	Annual agency accomplishment reports (preliminary) and	October 2-20, 2023	RLAs, SUCs, GOCCs, LGUs, and PSRs

Activity	Output	Schedule	Responsible Entity
	Chapter results matrices		
3. Conduct technical writeshop	1st draft of 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	October 25, 2023	RDC Secretariat
4. Present to RDC SecComs for validation	Additional comments and inputs	November 9-10, 2023	RDC SecComs
5. Revise draft RDR	Final draft of 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	November 13-24, 2023	RDC Secretariat
6. Present to RDC for approval	Approved 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	December 01, 2023	RDC
7. Final review for layout	Final 2023 MIMAROPA RDR for printing	December 2023 to January 2024	RDC Secretariat
8. Publish final report	Published 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	February 2024	RDC Secretariat
9. Disseminate copies of 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	Disseminated 2023 MIMAROPA RDR	March 2024	RDC Secretariat

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
03 August 2023 Quezon City

BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT

Subject: Pang-Agraryong Tulay Para Sa Bagong Bayanihan Ng Mga Magsasaka (PBBM) Bridges

1. In a letter dated 29 June 2023, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) MIMAROPA requested RDC endorsement of the proposed PBBM Bridges to be implemented nationwide for five years, from 2024 to 2028.
2. The PBBM Bridges Project aims to improve access of women and men to more efficient, safe, secured, and climate-resilient infrastructure services. Specifically, it aims to:
 - a. Construct 350 well-designed permanent bridges adopting a turnkey approach, using high-quality materials and technology for modular steel bridges in the identified sites within or near the agrarian reform communities (ARCs);
 - b. Develop an information system and geo-map of 350 bridges in relation to agrarian reform beneficiary organizations (ARBO) - ARC agricultural activities to facilitate effective monitoring and reporting of accomplishments as well as in documentation of the completed and proposed bridge projects; and
 - c. Link agricultural produce and socio-economic activities of various ARBOs and communities nationwide.
3. The estimated total cost of the project is Php 28.24 billion with the following financing details:

Funding Source	Cost (in Php Billion)	Percent Share
ODA Funding	22.39	79%
GOP Counterpart	5.85	21%
Total Project Cost	28.24	100%

4. The PBBM Bridges will adopt a permanent modular steel bridges designed with simple climate resilient structure but can carry the standard load requirements.¹ The length of bridges to be constructed will be within 20-50 linear meters, with 50-100 meters approach on both sides. Said bridges are double lane with pedestrian on one side and will be equipped with solar-powered street lighting.

¹ Project Proposal on PBBM Bridges (Updated Version)

5. A total of 26 bridges in the MIMAROPA region were included in the proposal consisting of six bridges in Marinduque, four bridges in Occidental Mindoro, two bridges in Oriental Mindoro, and 14 bridges in Palawan.
6. A representative from DAR MIMAROPA will present the salient features of the project. Comments and recommendations of the Secretariat is provided in the Project Brief.
7. Action requested: For review and endorsement.

PROJECT BRIEF

PROJECT TITLE : Pang-Agraryong Tulay Para Sa Bagong Bayanihan
Ng Mga Magsasaka (PBBM) Bridges

PROPONENT : Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)

DURATION : Five Years (2024-2028)

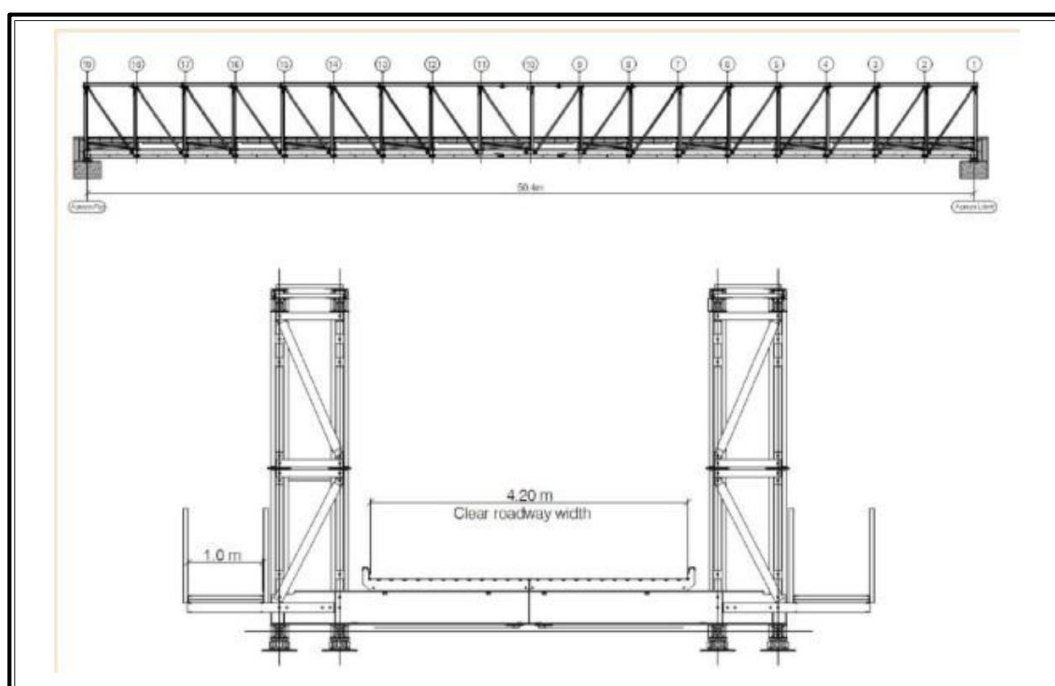
Background

1. In a letter dated 29 June 2023, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) MIMAROPA submitted the PBBM Bridges Project requesting MIMAROPA Regional Development Council (RDC) endorsement to the NEDA Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) for its approval. The proposal is a nationwide project which aims to contribute in the attainment of national food security and inclusive development through the provision of a better infrastructure services.
2. **Objectives.** The PBBM Bridges Project aims to improve the access of women and men for more efficient, safe, secured, and climate-resilient infrastructure services. Specifically, it aims to:
 - a. construct 350 well-designed permanent bridges adapting a turnkey approach, using high quality materials and technology for modular steel bridges in the identified sites within or near the agrarian reform communities (ARCs);
 - b. develop an information system and geo-map of the 350 bridges in relation to agrarian reform beneficiary organization (ARBO)-ARC agricultural activities to facilitate effective monitoring and reporting of accomplishments as well as in documentation of the completed and proposed bridge projects; and
 - c. link agricultural produce and socio-economic activities of various ARBOs and communities nationwide.
3. **Project Description.** The PBBM Bridges will adopt a permanent modular steel bridges designed with simple climate resilient structure but can carry the standard load requirements.¹ The length of bridges to be constructed will be within 20-50 linear meters, with 50-100 meters approach on both side. Said bridges are double lane with pedestrian on one side and will be equipped with solar-powered street lighting. The design of the bridge is simple and has adjustable length to address different sizes and adoptable to any type of soil, topography, and width of river. It consists of modular steel panels that are lightweight, shorter in length, and stackable parts for easy transport, handling, storage, and installation. This leads to lower construction cost and requires minimal

¹ Project Proposal on PBBM Bridges (Updated Version)

maintenance cost. In addition, steel bridges are resilient to typhoons and can withstand earthquakes. If the maintenance procedures are taken, the expected life span of the proposed bridge is 50 years.

Figure 1. Sample of Bridge Design



Source: Project Proposal of PBBM Bridge (Updated Version)

4. **Project Beneficiaries.** The proposed project will benefit local government units (LGUs), smallholder farmers, agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs), ARCs, and ARBOs, particularly men and women who are involved in on-farm and off-farm activities (e.g., farming, processing, and post-harvest activities, among others).

Table 1 shows the distribution of the PBBM bridges by island group. About 163 bridges will be allocated in Luzon, including the 26 bridges proposed to be constructed in MIMAROPA Region. The allocation of bridges was based on the shortlisting activities done by DAR on the requests submitted by ARCs and LGUs.

Table 1. Distribution List of Priority Bridges

Major Island	No. of ARCs	No. of Bridge Allocation
Luzon	119	163
Visayas	67	112
Mindanao	63	75
Total	249	350

Source: Project Proposal of PBBM Bridge (Updated Version)

5. **Project Cost and Financing.** The estimated total cost of the project is Php 28.24 billion with the following details (Table 2):

Table 2. Project Cost and Financing

Funding Source	Cost (in Php Billion)	Percent Share
ODA Funding	22.39	79%
GOP Counterpart	5.85	21%
Total Project Cost	28.24	100%

Source: Project Proposal of PBBM Bridge (Updated Version)

Estimated cost of a bridge with average length of 30 linear meter is Php 80,694,815.71 which include loan proceeds and GOP counter part. Estimated cost per linear meter is Php 2,689,827.00

6. **Implementation and Institutional Arrangement.** The project will be implemented in five years from 2024-2028. It shall be undertaken through a partnership agreement among DAR, DPWH, and host LGUs. The agencies will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. (Table 3).

Table 3. Functions and Responsibilities of Concerned Agencies

Agency/Office	Functions and Responsibilities
Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Serve as overall responsible for project planning, administration, control, management, and supervision; b. Serve as funds administrator and manager; c. Participate in the conduct of procurement of suppliers; d. Conduct progress monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of bridge construction; e. Initiate partnership agreements with Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and LGUs;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. Conduct quality assurance and inspection of completed bridges; g. Spearhead turn-over of completed bridges to partner LGUs; and, h. Conduct of regular Project Steering Committee meeting.
DAR Regional Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist and facilitate in securing endorsement of the project from the Regional Development Council; b. Conduct initial validation of proposed bridges; c. Submit duly accomplished initial validation forms (IVFs) with complete data; d. Coordinate LGUs in the implementation of social preparation activities; and, e. Monitor operations and maintenance.
Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conduct feasibility study, detailed design and engineering; b. Conduct procurement of suppliers; c. Implement construction of the bridges; d. Conduct quality assurance and inspection of the completed bridges; e. Conduct regular reporting to DAR on the status of bridge construction; and, f. Conduct documentation and reporting of completed bridges.
LGUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lead the social preparation activities during the pre-construction phase; b. Lead the implementation of Right-of-Way-Acquisition (ROWA) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP); and, c. Operate and maintain the bridge.

Source: Project Proposal of PBBM Bridge (Updated Version)

Comments and Recommendations

7. ***Alignment of the project's objective with sectoral priorities.*** The project is consistent with the strategies identified in the Philippine/Regional Development Plan 2023-2028 Chapter 7: Modernize Agriculture and Agribusiness and Chapter 5.1: Ensuring Food Security. In particular, the proposed project will improve access to markets, reduce transport and logistic costs, and improve trading activities throughout the country.

The project proposal also conforms to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): a) SDG 2 (End hunger, achieve food security, and improve nutrition through sustainable agriculture); b) SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); c) SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation,

and Infrastructure); and d) SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

Further, the project will contribute to addressing several challenges being faced by the agriculture sector, such as vulnerability to climate change and natural hazards, and weak agriculture supply chain system, among others.

8. ***Complementation with existing programs and projects.*** The project is expected to complement with the regular and special programs of DPWH and DA, in terms of improving mobility and connectivity (e.g., farm-to-market roads, e-Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita, among others).

The proposed project will also complement DAR's current and future projects for the ARBs, which include Support to Parcelization of Land Individual Titling Program (SPLIT), Sustainable Food and Agribusiness Value Chain Project, Rehabilitation and Improvement of Settlement Economies (RISE), and Inclusive Partnership for Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Competitiveness.

The proposal also noted the key issues and challenges faced by DAR in implementing the Tulay ng Pangulo para sa Kaunlarang Pang-Agraryo (TPKP)¹ project such as the significant delays in the completion of the project and suspension of the project from 2012-2016. The lessons learned from the implementation of this program will be carried out in the implementation of the proposed project.

9. ***MIMAROPA Component.*** The project proposal includes 26 bridges project for MIMAROPA consisting of six bridges in Marinduque, four bridges in Occidental Mindoro, two bridges in Oriental Mindoro, and 14 bridges in Palawan (Refer to Table 4). Initial review of the list for MIMAROPA revealed that only twelve bridge proposals have completed Initial Validation Forms conducted by DAR such as the socio-economic and technical surveys. It is recommended that DAR Regional and Provincial Offices to duly complete and accomplished the said surveys. Further, existing road and/or bridge projects and road network plans being implemented by the DPWH, DA, and concerned LGUs be incorporated in the profile of the bridges.

The province of Romblon, one of the most geographically challenged provinces in the region, has not submitted its lists of bridge proposals.

The proponent shall also provide the estimated project costs for each of the proposed bridges.

In case there is a need to shortlist and prioritize the proposed 26 bridge projects, it is suggested to include weight for each criterion.

¹ *Tulay ng Pangulo para sa Kaunlarang Pang-Agraryo (TPKP) is a joint project of the Philippine and French governments, which complements the farm-to-market roads program of DA. The TPKP was implemented by the DPWH Bridges Management Cluster-Unifood Project Management Office, started in March 2009. (Project Proposal on PBBM Bridges Updated Version).*

Table 4. Initial List of Priority Bridges Proposed under PBBM Bridges Project

No.	Province	Name of Bridge	Municipality	Location	Proposed Length (LM)
1	Marinduque	Tabionan Bridge	Gasán	Brgy. Tabionan, Gasán	25
2	Marinduque	Manlibunan-Maharlika Bridge	Sta Cruz	Public Market, Brgy Manlibunan	30
3	Marinduque	Banogbog Bridge	Sta Cruz	Brgy. Manogbog	30
4	Marinduque	Baliis Bridge	Sta Cruz	Brgy. Baliis	30
5	Marinduque	Tambangan Bridge	Sta Cruz	Brgy. Tambangan	30
6	Marinduque	Libjo Road Bridge	Sta Cruz	Brgy. Libjo	30
7	Occidental Mindoro	Malugao	Paluan	Brgy. Alipaoy, Paluan	50
8	Occidental Mindoro	Camburay-San Isidro	San Jose	Magsimula-Cabay Arc, San Jose	30
9	Occidental Mindoro	Inanggihan	Magsaysay	Brgy. Gapasan	25
10	Occidental Mindoro	Lower Ticol	Rizal	Brgy. Pitogo, Rizal	20
11	Oriental Mindoro	Bucayao Grande Bridge	Naujan	Brgys Mahabang Parang at Malvar	30
12	Oriental Mindoro	Bailey Bridge	Bulalacao	Cambunang, Bulalacao	20
13	Palawan	Iraan Bridge I	Roxas	Brgy. Iraan	30
14	Palawan	Sandoval Hanging	Roxas	Sandoval, Roxas	50
15	Palawan	Itabiak-Subingao Bridge	Roxas	Dumarao-Iraan	40
16	Palawan	Upper Ilian-ilian Bridge	Roxas	Dumarao-Iraan	30
17	Palawan	Masaya II Bridge	Roxas	Dumarao-Iraan	25
18	Palawan	New Rizal Hanging Bridge	Roxas	Dumarao-Iraan	25
19	Palawan	Construction of Suspension Bridge in Purok Ilang-Ilang	Roxas	Caramay	30
20	Palawan	Tabok	Coron	San Nicolas, Coron	25
21	Palawan	Macagua	Brooke's Point	Saraza, Brooke's Point	20
22	Palawan	Imulnod Hanging	Brooke's Point	Imulnod, Brooke's Point	50
23	Palawan	Pulot 2	Sofronio Española	Pulot Interior, Sofronio Española	50
24	Palawan	Cunanan St. - So. Dingli	Sofronio Española	Pulot Center, Sofronio Española	50
25	Palawan	So. Catel, Malinao - So. Mariwara, Princess Urduja	Narra	Malinao, Narra	25
26	Palawan	Bidiangao	Aborlan	Iraan - Barake, Aborlan	20

Source: DAR MIMAROPA

10. **Monitoring and Evaluation.** To facilitate the implementation, monitoring and evaluation at the regional and provincial level, the DAR Regional and Provincial Offices shall prepare (i) a Work Program indicating deliverables, timelines, and responsible entity and (ii) a Logical Framework at the regional/provincial level indicating the

deliverables with quantitative and/or qualitative indicators/targets and assumptions.

The Secretariat recommends the DAR Regional Office to submit the quarterly monitoring and evaluation reports through RDC MIMAROPA Website *Proyektlaw* (<https://mimaropa.neda.gov.ph/proyektlaw>).

The proponent may explore impact evaluation as a mechanism to evaluate the project and document innovative strategies, including lessons learned in the implementation of the project that could be adopted in the design or implementation of similar initiatives in the future. Moreover, a database on indicators/targets with sex, ethnicity, and geographic disaggregated level may be established as inputs to possible impact evaluation study of the project in the future.

DAR should provide access to DA Agricultural and Biosystem Engineering Management Information System (ABEMIS) to the NEDA Regional Offices to be able to view the maps of projects once the DAR bridges database and geomap have been incorporated into said web-based monitoring application.

The proponent should conduct public consultations and related information education communication (IEC) activities with relevant agencies, LGUs, and communities prior to the implementation of the project to ensure the awareness, transparency, and acceptability among stakeholders of the proposed project.

11. **Local Endorsements.** To facilitate the RDC endorsement, it is recommended to complete the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) or Provincial Development Council (PDC) Resolutions of concerned provinces endorsing the PBBM Bridges Project to the MIMAROPA RDC. Table below is the summary of status of SP or PDC resolutions endorsing the said project to the MIMAROPA RDC.

Table 4. Status of PDC Resolution Endorsing PBBM Bridges Project

LGU	Resolution Number	Status
Marinduque	PDC Resolution No. 51-2023	Approved on 14 July 2023
Occidental Mindoro	PDC Resolution No. 21, s. 2023	Approved on 29 March 2023
Oriental Mindoro		Request for the PDC endorsement is still on-going
Palawan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDC Resolution No. 25, s. 2023 (Proposed Bridges Located in the Municipality of Roxas) • PDC Resolution No. 26, s. 2023 (Proposed 	<p>All PDC Resolutions were approved on 30 June 2023.</p> <p>Request for the PDC endorsement is still on-</p>

	<p>Bridges Located in the Municipality of Coron)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDC Resolution No. 27, s. 2023 (Proposed Bridges Located in the Municipality of Aborlan) • PDC Resolution No. 28, s. 2023 (Proposed Bridges Located in the Municipality of Brooke's Point) • PDC Resolution No. 29, s. 2023 (Proposed Bridges Located in the Municipality of Dumarán) 	<p>going for the following proposed bridges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Macagua Bridge in the municipality of Brooke's Point 2. Pulot 2 Bridge and Cunanan St. – So. Dingli Bridge in the municipality of Sofronio Española 3. So. Catel, Malinao - So. Mariwara, Princess Urduja in the municipality of Narra
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Source: DAR MIMAROPA

In addition, the Secretariat also recommends that the proponent secure the following: (i) Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC), (ii) Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) Zoning Certification, (iii) Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) or Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC), and (iv) right-of-way acquisition (ROWA), among others, if necessary for the environmental and social acceptability of the project.

12. ***Inclusion in the Investment Programs.*** The project is included in the Public Investment Program (PIP) FY 2023-2028 and the Three year Rolling Investment Program (TRIP) FY 2024-2026 which indicates that the project is among the priorities of the national government. The proposal should also be included in the MIMAROPA Regional Development Investment Program (RDIP) 2023-2028 in the next updating cycle.

To ensure local counterpart fund for the program, DAR MIMAROPA shall coordinate with LGUs concerned to allocate fund in the local development investment program for the Resettlement Action Plan and Right of Way Acquisition.

13. ***Recommendation.*** Given the project's benefits to the farmers as well as its perceived contribution to the performance of the agriculture sector in the region, the proposed PBBM Bridges Project is recommended for endorsement by the MIMAROPA Regional Development Council subject to (a) submission of endorsement from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan or Provincial Development Council of concerned LGUs, and (b) complete and duly accomplished Initial Validation Forms, (c) environmental and social acceptability documents, if required, and (d) regional/provincial work program and logical framework to the Secretariat.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
August 03, 2023 Quezon City

Brief from the EDC Secretariat

Subject: Inclusion of the Verde Island Passage (VIP) in the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) and Re-activation of the VIP Task Force and the Marine Protected Area Law Enforcement Network

1. The Verde Island Passage (VIP) lies within the provinces of Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Batangas. It is known as one of the global epicenters of marine shorefish biodiversity, given that the VIP is home to more than 1,736 species of fish, 338 species of corals, and thousands of other marine species such as whale sharks, sea turtles, and nudibranchs, among others.
2. It is part of the Coral Triangle and is regarded by experts as the center of the center of marine shore fish biodiversity for nesting 60 percent of all known shore fish species in the world, the highest concentration of fish species, crustaceans, mollusks, seagrasses, and mangroves making it the world's most biodiverse marine habitat. Given its rich biodiversity, being home to over 1,700 fish species and over 300 coral species and with at least 80 locally managed marine protected areas, it is dubbed as the Amazon of the oceans.
3. During the 2nd Quarter EDC Meeting held on 04 May 2023, the EDC Secretariat was requested to review and provide recommendations on the proposed inclusion of the VIP in the ENIPAS as well as the re-activation of the VIP Task Force and the MPA Law Enforcement Network which was presented by PSR Edwin A. Gariguez of Mangyan Mission Inc.
4. The secretariat will present the significant comments and recommendations highlighted in the attached discussion paper.
5. Action requested: Recommend for EDC endorsement.

Comments and Recommendations on the Proposed Inclusion of the Verde Island Passage (VIP) in the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS)

Background

1. The Verde Island Passage (VIP) lies within the provinces of Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Batangas. It is known as one of the global epicenters of marine shorefish biodiversity. VIP is home to more than 1,736 species of fish, 338 species of corals, and thousands of other marine species such as whale sharks, sea turtles, and nudibranchs, among others (please refer to Figure 1).
2. The VIP is part of the Coral Triangle and is regarded by experts as the *center of the center of marine shore fish biodiversity* for nesting 60 percent of all known shore fish species in the world, the highest concentration of fish species, crustaceans, mollusks, seagrasses, and mangroves making it the world's most biodiverse marine habitat. Given its rich biodiversity, being home to over 1,700 fish species and over 300 coral species and with at least 80 locally managed marine protected areas, it is dubbed as *Amazon of the oceans*.

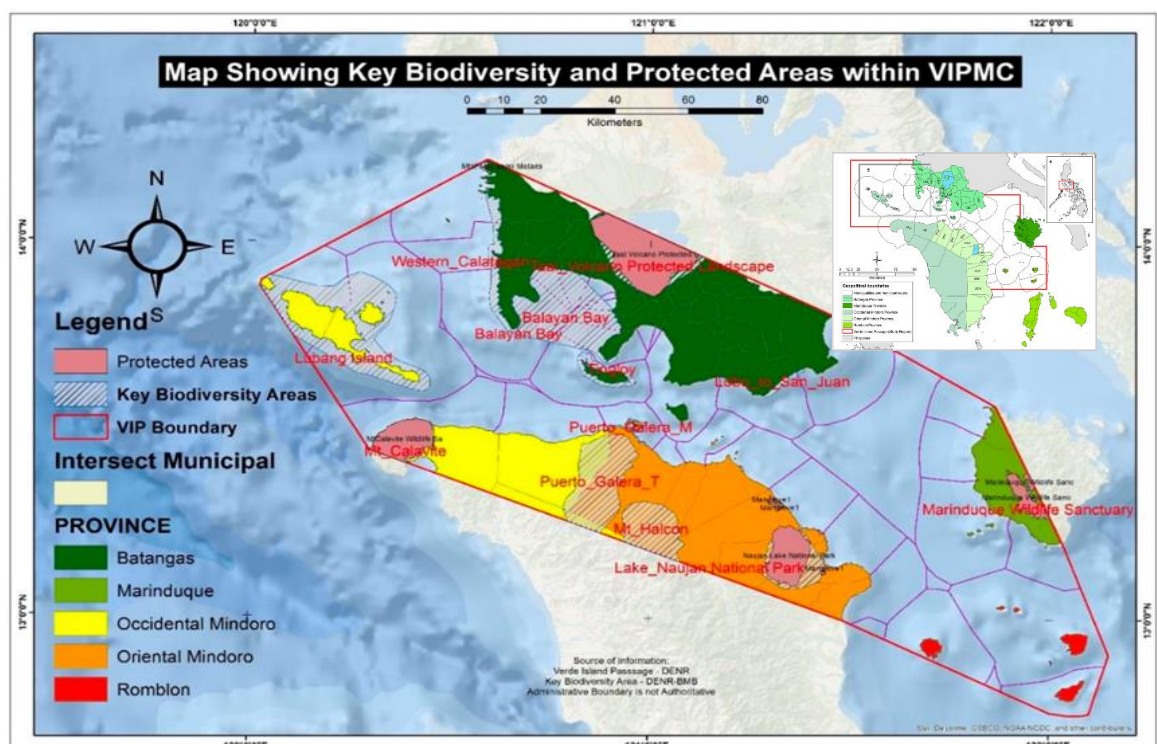


Fig.1 Map of key biodiversity and protected areas within VIP marine corridor (Source: DENR-BMB) with Geopolitical scales within Verde Island Passage (Source: ResearchGate website)

3. On November 8, 2006, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signed Executive Order (EO) 578, establishing the national policy on biodiversity, thereby directing national government agencies (NGAs) and local government units (LGUs) to create an Ad Hoc Task Force VIP and formulate the VIP Management Plan to ensure the protection, conservation, and sustainable resource use of the VIP marine corridor.
4. On March 29, 2017 representatives of provinces around VIP and various government agencies solidified their commitment to protect VIP through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) creating the VIP Marine Protected Area Network (MPAN) and Law Enforcement Network (LEN). The MOA enabled the NGAs and LGUs to work together to protect the ecological integrity of the said area.
5. During the 2nd Quarter EDC Meeting, PSR Edwin A. Gariguez of Mangyan Mission manifested the urgent need to protect the VIP given the current oil spill incident and other environmentally critical projects within the VIP such as the gas-fired power plants. He also shared that the water quality in the area was contaminated with heavy metals and pollutants and marine ecology assessment was also conducted.
6. PSR Gariguez is proposing the inclusion of the VIP in the ENIPAS as well as the re-activation of the VIP Task Force and the MPA Law Enforcement Network.

Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act

7. The National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) was established in 1992 by virtue of Republic Act (RA) No. 7586, as the classification and administration of all designated protected areas (PAs) to maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and to maintain their natural conditions to the greatest extent possible. It was amended by RA No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018". As a policy, ENIPAS Act aims "to secure for the Filipino people of present and future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through the establishment of a comprehensive system of integrated protected areas within the classification of national park as provided for in the Constitution. The system shall encompass ecologically rich, unique and biologically important areas that are habitats of threatened species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine, all of which shall be designated as protected areas.

8. MIMAROPA has 25 protected areas (please see Annex A for detailed list of protected areas in MIMAROPA, as of 2021). Six were legislated through Republic Acts, five were proclaimed through presidential proclamations, and 14 as initial components of the ENIPAS. These 14 PAs will undergo 11 stages in establishing a protected area under RA 11308.
9. Under the implementing rules and regulation (IRR) of the ENIPAS Act, the 11 stages to be undertaken in order for protected areas to be established are: a) preparation and compilation of maps with technical description of boundaries, b) public notification and public hearing, c) preparation of resource profile (PASA and SRPAO), d) public consultation, e) preparation of initial PA plan (IPAP), f) public hearing, g) regional review and recommendation, h) national review and recommendation, i) presidential proclamation (delineation), j) congressional action, and k) demarcation. At present, there is an ongoing Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) for the VIP and a consultation meeting with the local officials in Marinduque has been conducted.
10. Once established, the NIPAS will be administered by a three-tiered structure: 1) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Central office through the Parks and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB), 2) DENR regional office through the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) for site-based management; and, 3) DENR-designated Protected Area Superintendent (PAS) who must reside within the protected area for day-to-day site administration.

Issues, Concerns, and Recommendations

11. The overall intent of the proposal is supportive of the priority strategies identified in Chapter 4.3 Establish Livable Communities, Chapter 5.1 Ensuring Food Security, and Chapter 9 Reinvigorate Services of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP). It also conforms to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 2 Zero Hunger, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13 Climate Action, and SDG 14 Life Below Water.
12. The VIP is not included in the list of initial component of ENIPAS. However, Section 6 of the IRR of ENIPAS Act states that, Upon the recommendation of DENR, additional areas with unique physical features, anthropological significance and high biological diversity may be proposed for inclusion as part of the System. The Secretariat noted that the VIP also conforms to the characteristics that should be considered in the determination of areas for inclusion in the NIPAS as stipulated in Section 5.6 of the IRR.

13. Currently, the proposed bills in the Congress, indicates its high regard as to the critical role of the VIP:
 - a. House Bill 916, An act declaring VIP marine corridor as a maritime protected area;
 - b. House Bill 2729, An act declaring VIP as marine protected area and an eco-tourism zone; and,
 - c. Senate Bill 518, An Act declaring VIP a protected area with the category of protected seascape under NIPAS. The proposed bill also seek for the declaration of VIP with the inclusion of a portion of Quezon province due to its extensive mangrove area, as a protected area under the NIPAS.

In addition, the proposed legislation of VIP as a protected area is supported at the local level. Batangas Governor Hon. Hermilando L. Mandanas, and Marinduque Governor Hon. Presbitero J. Velasco, Jr., are among the LGU officials who called on the lawmakers to declare the VIP as a marine corridor and protected area through legislation.

14. Upon review of the proposal to re-activate the VIP Task Force and the Marine Protected Area Law Enforcement Network, such bodies may duplicate some of the roles and functions of the protected area management board (PAMB) which will be automatically established by legislation with the inclusion of the VIP in the ENIPAS. Thus, it is suggested that an assessment of the existing inter-agency bodies already in place for the VIP be conducted to avoid possible overlapping of functions.
15. The legislation of the Verde Island Passage will not only institutionalize and provide funds for its management but will also allow various relevant agencies such as the DENR, DA-BFAR, MARINA, Philippine Coast Guard, civil society organizations, the private sector, and the academe to mobilize their respective resources for a collective effort towards sustainable management. It is also an opportunity to generate resources to finance its operation over the long term through environmental user fees, licenses, permits, and other fees inside PA. With the presence of PAMB, policy formulation and enforcement can be effectively pursued among others, through zoning, monitoring, seasonal fishing, and community participation.
16. As such, the Secretariat is recommending to DENR the following:
 - a. Facilitate the passage of a Republic Act with joint DENR CALABARZON and DENR MIMAROPA to support processes to be undertaken which include the completion of the PASA for the VIP to be included in the ENIPAS;

- b. Conduct further assessment within the VIP to determine the current management gaps and necessary interventions; and,
- c. Strengthen the existing interagency bodies which are in place for the VIP such as the Marine Protected Area Network and Law Enforcement Network and the Ad Hoc Task Force to ensure the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of resources within the Verde Island Passage through the issuance of an Executive Order (EO).

Protected Areas in MIMAROPA (as of 2021)

Name of Protected Area	Legal Basis	Status under ENIPAS	Remarks
Occidental Mindoro			
1. Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary (MCWS)	Presidential Proclamation No. 292 s. Apr. 23, 2000 RA No. 11038 s. Aug. 01, 2018	Legislated	DENR-managed, with PAMB
2. Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP)	Presidential Proclamation No. 557 s. May 08, 1969 RA No. 6148 s. Nov. 09, 1970 RA No. 11038 s. Aug. 01, 2018	Legislated	DENR-managed, with PAMB
3. Apo Reef Natural Park (ARNP)	Presidential Proclamation No. 868 s. Sept. 06, 1996 Presidential Proclamation No. 1801 S. 1978 as "Apo Reef National Marine Reserve" RA No. 11038 s. Aug. 01, 2018	Legislated	DENR-managed, with PAMB
4. F.B. Harrison Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary	Executive Order No. 09 s. Jan. 28, 1920	Initial Component	With no interim PAMB, PASA is ongoing
5. Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve (Mamburao, Sta. Cruz, Sablayan, & San Jose)	Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 s. Dec. 29, 1981	Initial Component	With no interim PAMB, proposed for disestablishment as PA
Oriental Mindoro			
1. Naujan Lake National Park	Presidential Proclamation No. 335 s. Jan. 25, 1968	Initial Component	DENR-managed, with interim PAMB, proposed for legislation/establishment
2. Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve (Naujan, Bongabong, & Bulalacao)	Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 s. Dec. 29, 1981	Initial Component	With no interim PAMB, PASA is ongoing
Marinduque			
1. Marinduque Wildlife Sanctuary	Presidential Proclamation No. 696 s. Aug. 17, 2004 RA No. 11038 s. Aug. 01, 2018	Legislated	DENR-managed, with PAMB
2. Torrijos Watershed Forest Reserve	Presidential Proclamation No. 463 s. Apr. 06, 1932	Initial component	With no interim PAMB, proposed for disestablishment as PA
3. Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve (Sta. Cruz & Torrijos)	Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 s. Dec. 29, 1981	Initial component	With no interim PAMB, initial recommendation of PASA team is for legislation/establishment
Romblon			
1. Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park	Presidential Proclamation No. 746 s. Feb. 20, 1996 RA No. 11038 s. Aug. 01, 2018	Legislated	DENR-managed, with PAMB
2. CALSANAG Watershed Forest Reserve	Presidential Proclamation No. 2186 s. Apr. 29, 1982	Initial component	DENR-managed, with interim PAMB
3. Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve (Sibuyan)	Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 s. Dec. 29, 1981	Initial component	With no interim PAMB, initial recommendation of PASA team is for legislation/establishment

Palawan			
1. Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park	Presidential Proclamation No. 306 s. Aug. 11, 1988 -Presidential Proclamation No. 1126 s. Aug. 23, 2006 Republic Act No. 10067 s. Apr. 06, 2010	Legislated	TPAMB-managed
2. Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape	Presidential Proclamation No. 1815 s. June 23, 2009	Proclaimed	DENR-managed, with PAMB
3. Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary	Presidential Proclamation No. 1000 s. Feb. 15, 2006	Proclaimed	DENR-managed, with PAMB
4. Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape	Presidential Proclamation No. 342 s. July 12, 2000	Proclaimed	DENR-managed, with PAMB
5. El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area	Presidential Proclamation No. 32 s. Oct. 08, 1998 Presidential Proclamation No. 785 s. Mar. 28, 1935 as "Bacuit Watershed Forest Reserve"	Proclaimed	DENR-managed, with PAMB
6. Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park	Presidential Proclamation No. 212 s. Nov. 12, 1999 Presidential Proclamation No. 835 s. Mar. 26, 1971	Proclaimed	LGU PPC-managed, with PAMB
7. Ursula Island Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary	Parks and Wildlife Administrative Order No. 14 s. Apr. 30, 1960 Presidential Proclamation No. 219 s. July 22, 1967	Initial component	DENR-managed, with PAMB
8. Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve (entire Palawan)	Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 s. Dec. 29, 1981	Initial component	PASA is ongoing
9. Calauit Game Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary	-Presidential Proclamation No. 1578 s. Aug. 31, 1976	Initial component	LGU PPC-managed, with no PAMB, PASA is ongoing
10. Palawan Flora and Fauna Parcel 1	-Presidential Proclamation No. 2221 s. July 14, 1982	Initial component	LGU PPC-managed, with no PAMB, PASA is ongoing
11. Palawan Flora and Fauna Parcel 2	-Presidential Proclamation No. 2425 s. Nov. 22, 1985	Initial component	LGU PPC-managed, with no PAMB, PASA is ongoing
12. Palawan Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary	-Presidential Proclamation No. 219 s. July 22, 1967 -Presidential Proclamation No. 530B s. Mar. 08, 1968 -Presidential Proclamation No. 1232 s. Feb. 06, 1974 -Presidential Proclamation No. 1440 s. June 19, 1975	Initial component	With no PAMB, initial recommendation of PASA team is disestablishment

(Source: DENR MIMAROPA)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
03 August 2023 Quezon City

BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT

Subject: Preliminary Technical Meeting for the Regional-National Investment Programming (RNIP) Dialogue

1. The National Economic and Development Authority issued a memorandum dated 13 June 2023 regarding the conduct of the RNIP Dialogue. The RNIP Dialogue aims to facilitate the linking of the Regional Development Investment Program (RDIP) to the Public Investment Program (PIP) by aligning regional priorities with national/sectoral priorities.
2. The dialogue will cover 12 pilot national government agencies namely: the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the Department of Education (DepEd), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Housing, Settlements, and Urban Development (DHSUD), and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).
3. The RNIP Dialogue consists of the following activities:
 - a. Submission of regional disaggregation of plan targets by the agency central offices (ACOs);
 - b. Submission of the Top 30 regional priority PAPs by the RDC Secretariat;
 - c. Submission of the ACO responses on the proposed priority PAPs;
 - d. Conduct of Preliminary Technical Meeting between ACOs and the RDC Sectoral Committees; and
 - e. RNIP Dialogue proper between ACOs and RDC.
4. In compliance with the memorandum on the conduct of the RNIP Dialogue, the MIMAROPA Regional Development Council (RDC) submitted to the 12 pilot ACOs the Top 30 priority programs and projects (PAPs) of the MIMAROPA RDC. The 12 ACOs are expected to respond to the submitted regional priority PAPs and provide the RDCs with the regional disaggregation of the national sector targets in the PDP RM.
5. The NEDA MIMAROPA, as the Secretariat of the RDC, invited the 12 ACOs to present the regional targets and their response to the priority

PAPs of the region during the sectoral committee meetings. The sectoral committee meetings will serve as the venue for the preliminary technical meeting which aims to discuss concerns and agree on the regional priority PAPs to be included in the ACO's Public Investment Program.

6. The RDC Secretariat will present the Top 30 Priority PAPs of the region to be followed by the presentation of regional targets and response to the regional priority PAPs by the ACO representative.
7. Action requested: For discussion and RDC endorsement of the regional priority PAPs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
03 August 2023 Quezon City

BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT

Subject: Proposed Amendment of Executive Order 325, s. 1996

1. Article X, Section 14 of the Constitution provides that the President shall create regional development councils (RDCs) and other similar bodies composed of local government officials, regional heads of departments and other government offices and representatives from non-governmental organizations within the regions.
2. The purposes for the creation of the RDCs are administrative decentralization to strengthen the autonomy of the local government units therein and to accelerate the socio-economic development of the regions.
3. The RDCs were first established in all the administrative regions of the country by virtue of Letter of Implementation No. 22 issued on 31 December 1972. Thereafter, several Executive Orders (EO) were issued to improve the structure and functions of the RDCs.
4. Executive Order 325, s. 1996 provides for the reorganization of the Regional Development Councils repealing Executive Order No. 308, s. 1987, as amended by Executive Order Nos. 318 (s. 1988), 347 (s. 1989), 366 (s. 1989), 455 (s. 1991) and 505 (s. 1992).
5. The Regional Development Group of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) initiated a draft executive order (EO) repealing EO 325. The proposed amendment seeks to: a) rationalize the structure and operations of the RDC to take into account laws and executive issuances issued after EO 325, s. 1996; and b) further reorganize and strengthen the RDCs.
6. The Secretariat will present the comparative table of EO 325 and the draft EO repealing the latter for review of the members.
7. Action requested: Recommend RDC support.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
03 August 2023 Quezon City

BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT

Subject: Updates on the Interventions and Measures Relative to the Mitigation of Adverse Effects of El Niño on the Agriculture and Fisheries Sector in MIMAROPA

1. The warm phase of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO), commonly known as El Niño, is characterized by unusually warmer than average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific (CEEP).¹
2. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) issued El Niño Advisory No. 1 on 04 July 2023 stating that the unusual warming of sea surface temperatures along the equatorial Pacific that was established in the first quarter of 2023 has further developed into a weak El Niño phenomenon. The phenomenon is showing signs of strengthening in the coming months.
3. El Niño increases the likelihood of below-normal rainfall conditions, which could bring negative impacts (such as dry spells and droughts) in some areas of the country. This may affect climate-sensitive sectors such as water resources, agriculture, energy, health, and public safety. PAGASA forecasted the occurrence of dry spell in the MIMAROPA provinces by the end of December 2023.
4. The RDC, during its 82nd RDC Full Council Meeting on 02 June 2023, requested the Department of Agriculture to organize the Regional El Niño Task Force to identify the necessary interventions and preparations to mitigate the possible effect of El Niño in the region.
5. DA MIMAROPA Regional Director Ma. Christine C. Inting, as the Chairperson of the Task Force, convened a meeting last 11 May 2023 to discuss the immediate interventions on the adverse impact of El Niño and to provide assistance to farmers, fisherfolk, and communities who will be affected by El Niño.
6. A representative from the DA MIMAROPA will present updates on the interventions and measures identified to mitigate the effects of El Niño in the region.
7. Action requested: For information.

¹ Department of Science and Technology- Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA) Press Statement dated March 23, 2023, "El Niño Watch"

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Third Quarter Meeting
August 03, 2023 Quezon City

BRIEF FROM THE EDC SECRETARIAT

Subject: Proposed Restoration and Development of Sabang River

1. The Municipal Government of Sablayan in Occidental Mindoro submitted a project proposal on the Restoration and Development of Sabang River, a 3.5 kilometer stream flowing across the three urban barangays of Sto. Niño, Buenavista, and Poblacion that is used to be the source of food and livelihood for fisherfolks and nearby poor households. This integrated infrastructure project is envisioned to push for robust socio-economic and tourism development.
2. The intervention requires a multisector and integrated approach that will capacitate the communities in socio-economic development and disaster risk reduction. Estimated cost of the project is PhP 13.7 billion which has the following components:
 - a. Riverbank rehabilitation (clearing of waterway, embankment of riverbanks, installation of concrete piles, riprapping, and installation of streetlights);
 - b. Resettlement of informal settlers;
 - c. Removal of illegal structures;
 - d. Improvement of Tabuk Suspension bridge;
 - e. Development of parks and recreation spaces;
 - f. Construction of permanent irrigation system;
 - g. Construction of local access road connecting Buenavista - Sto. Niño - Ibud (construction of two bridges and cross drainage);
 - h. Construction of wastewater treatment facility;
 - i. Reforestation of the upstream portion; and
 - j. Formulation of development master plan (drainage and sewerage master plan, urban barangays road network plan, and resettlement plan).
3. The proposal is one of priority projects of the local government unit under the Capacity Development Executive-Legislative Agenda 2022-2025 and identified in the approved Local Development Investment Program FY 2022-2027.
4. A representative from the Municipal Government of Sablayan will present the details of the proposal for consideration of the members and possible inclusion in their technical assistance.
5. Action requested: For information.