

**COOPERATIVES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO  
SERVE THEIR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES AMIDST COVID-19  
PANDEMIC: REPORT FROM REGION 9  
#CoopsAgainstCovid19**

**When challenged, *Coops* Overcome and Heal as One**

It continues to amaze us how aptly cooperatives responded, refused to be baffled by the Covid19 crisis, and stubbornly persisted in providing support to their members and community.

More at point is the knowledge that while many of such initiatives were in close coordination with their respective local government units, there were few which were relentlessly pursued by some coops on their own.

Looking into the positive effects of this crisis, it is noteworthy to mention that this pandemic has strengthened the cooperative leaders' conviction and diligence in allocating and using the required statutory funds, such as the *Community Development Fund (CDF)* and the *Optional Fund (OF)* which were specifically allowed to be utilized to reinforce prevention and control actions to support the government. This crisis has provided ample working experience for them, as entrepreneurs, in pursuing business strategy and continuity plans.

On the part of coop members, admittedly, many were distraught, yet gained more confidence in their cooperatives' strength and resilience during difficult times because of their cooperative's assistance.

Remarkably, in a span of only four (4) days (April 6-8 and 13, 2020) the CDA Regional Office has documented twenty-five (25) activities undertaken by cooperatives in the region, as shown below.



**WMSU MPC** in Zamboanga City spent Php 103,500.00 from their optional fund and purchased 450 bags of rice, which were distributed to coop members. A total of 307 members received 5 kilos each.

**IMAVEMCO** distributed relief goods to 60 coop members, and 32 job contract workers. The cooperative also distributed relief goods to frontliners stationed at brgys. Don Andres, Taway and Tiayan, Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay.



**Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Government Officials and Employees MPC**

granted cash assistance to 80 coop members totaling to Php 67,300.00 out of the coop's Optional Fund.



**Illana Bay MPC** distributed 3 kilos of rice, 2 canned goods and 1/2 kilo dried fish to 630 coop members while on community quarantine.



**YL-NY Unified Employees MPC** distributed 131 food packs (5 kilos of rice, canned goods, coffee, noodles, sugar & milk) to its members at YL Fishing compound and 15 food packs to members affected by the lockdown at Sinunuc, Zamboanga City on April 3, 2020.



**Zamboanga del Sur National High School Credit Cooperative** donated 10 sacks of rice at 25 kilos per sack to the City Government of Pagadian to support its efforts against Covid19.

**Timbermines MPC (TIMMULCO)** donated food items to the Municipal Government of Bayog, Zamboanga del Sur worth Php100,000.00 (50 sacks of milled rice, 17 cases of sardines and 39 boxes of noodles).



**Dipolog City Government Employees MPC's** response to Covid19 dubbed "Bayanihan Spirit" saw them (1) distributing a total of 6,500 kilos milled rice equally divided at 10 kls. each for 357 coop members and 293 frontliners, worth a total sum of Php325,000.00; and (2) donating Php5,000.00 to the Dipolog City Incident Command System (ICS) Logistics Section.

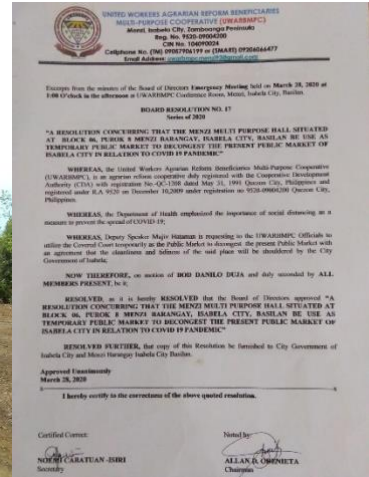
**MEMPCO Dipolog Branch** spent Php1.076M worth of relief assistance and distributed to 1,977 low-income members under CARE program within the city of Dipolog and Dapitan plus 10 municipalities in the province of Zamboanga del Norte (5kg bag of rice and Php300.00 per member)





**SAPSTAII Credit Cooperative** donated Php20,000.00 worth of goods (14-25kls. sacks of rice, 200 cans of mackerel and 4x72 boxes of instant noodles) to the local government of Salug, Zamboanga del Norte through the MDRRMC for the affected barangays within the municipality.

**UWARBMPC** partnered with the city government of Isabela, province of Basilan, purposely to decongest the present public market by allowing the use of menzi covered court located within the private land owned by the coop as an extension of the Isabela City public market, to ensure proper observance of social distancing by the buying public.



**Zamboanga del Norte Provincial Government Officials and Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative** donated Php 5,000.00 to the Dipolog City Incident Command System (ICS) Logistics Section on April 7, 2020, as additional support to the fight against Covid19.

**MIFAMCO Molave Branch** distributed to 50 sikad drivers in Molave, Zamboanga del Sur, 3 kilos of rice with 2 pack noodles and 1 can of sardines.





**Zamboanga del Norte Teachers and Employees MPC (ZaNorte-MPC)** distributed 140 pcs of burger and bottled water worth P6,000.00 to health workers of Corazon Aquino Hospital and ZaNorte Hospital in Dipolog City.

**CoopBank Personnel (CBP) Enterprise Multi-Purpose Cooperative** jointly with Zamboanga del Norte Cooperative Bank donated packs of relief goods worth Php35,000.00 (cup noodles, coffee, biscuits and bottled water) through the Dipolog City Cooperative Development Council for the (1) quarantine control check points at brgy. Punta, Dipolog City and brgy. Polanco, ZDN, and (2) hospitals namely: ZaNorte Medical Hospital, National highway, Dipolog City and Corazon Aquino Hospital, Brgy. Biasong, Dipolog City.



**Western Mindanao State University Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed additional 50 bags of rice to 50 cooperative members (Php 320.00 worth per bag) amounting to Php 16,000.00

**J.H. Cerilles State College Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed 50 pack meals with orange juice and bottled mineral water to frontliners (AFP, PNP, Barangay Tanod and Volunteers) in stations located at brgys. Mati, Bulawan, Butterfly and Poblacion at San Miguel, Zamboanga del Sur.





**Barangay Sipawa Multi-Purpose Cooperative** of Sirawai Zamboanga del Norte distributed 108 food packs to its members (10 kilos of rice, 10 pcs canned goods, 10 pcs noodles and 2 bath soaps).

**Dapitan City Government Employees Association Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed food packs (for snacks and dinner) to frontliners in Dapitan City boundaries and outpost good for 80 individuals worth Php 10,400.00.



**Z.C. United Fish Vendors Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed 133 packed meals with 9 kilos of ripe bananas and 6 boxes of mineral water worth Php 10,350.00 to 133 frontliners guarding the 15 check points in Zamboanga City.



**Pagadian City Government Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PACIGEMPCO)** donated 250 sacks of rice to the Pagadian City government and distributed 5 kilos rice to 320 cooperative members worth Php 329,850.00.

**MMGGHSCP - Zamboanga del Norte Service Cooperative Hospital** distributed sustainability assistance to 109 coop employees at Php1,000.00 each worth a total of Php109,000.00.



**Micro-Entrepreneurs Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed relief assistance worth Php2M to 3,647 low income earning members through its San Jose Branch. Through its Ayala Branch, the cooperative distributed relief assistance (5 kilos of rice and Php 3000 cash assistance) to 2,753 low

income earning members. The worth of this relief assistance is Php 1.5 M.

**LABASON ZNA CREDIT COOPERATIVE** distributed 5 kgs. rice and grocery items to 350 coop members.



**Goodyear Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Multi-Purpose Cooperative** initiated to provide free haircut to 15 workers and members worth Php600.00.