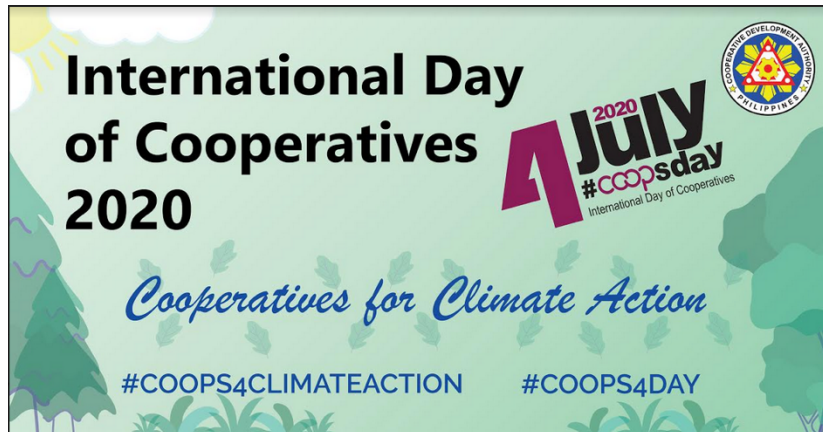


CDA and Cooperatives Join in the Celebration of the International Day of Cooperatives 2020
#COOPS4CLIMATEACTION #COOPSDAY

As we celebrate today, July 4, 2020, the International Day of Cooperatives 2020, the Cooperative Development Authority and cooperatives in the Philippines are one with the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) in its call for climate action to cooperatives around the world.



Cooperatives in the Philippines have been participating in environmental awareness way before this call of the ICA. Activities such as planting of trees, mangroves, and seeds, as well as clean-up drive, coastal clean-up, waste segregation and others, may appear to be insignificant compared to what other organizations do, but when taken together, the benefits they can expect to derive in the long run cannot be overemphasized, especially to the communities where they belong.

Nonetheless, there are cooperatives that cause such a large impact when it comes to their environmental programs, that it is worthy to take cognizance of their hard work to respond to the call of the ICA for climate action. Examples of these cooperatives are the San Jose Sic Landfill MPC, in Batangas City and Lamac MPC, in Cebu, whose laudable efforts were captured in documentary films.

SAN JOSE SICO LANDFILL MPC

Waste pickers or garbage sorters: these are the means of support or subsistence of most of the members of San Jose Sico Landfill MPC, and they are proud of it. As they say, "*may pera sa basura.*" True enough, because of their livelihood, the members were able to send their children to school, provide food on their table and at the same time, keep their dignity.

And that is not all. The cooperative does not only contribute to the community by providing its members with means to fend for themselves. It also ensures that in doing its responsibility as the first landfill cooperative in the Philippines, it does not cause air pollution by wayward throwing of wastes. The waste materials are hauled by the cooperative, in partnership with the local government units in Batangas. The cooperative also ensures that the water is not polluted by the fluids coming from such wastes.

To know more about the cooperative and how character defining is its trade, you may CLICK HERE to watch the full documentary. <https://youtu.be/Fm6xycQdEj4>

LAMAC MPC

The organization started with the objective of helping far-flung communities to have basic needs such as electricity, potable water, transportation and farm-to-market-road. From there, it flourished into what is now a well-known cooperative, not only in Region 7 but nationwide, providing not only basic needs, but as well as livelihood opportunities, capability building, environmental awareness and a lot more.

What is most notable about the LAMAC MPC is that despite being a billionaire cooperative, it provides access to the vulnerable sector, specifically, the small farmers. Not only does it provide access to credit, but it also gives trainings and educates farmers on sustainable agriculture such as the use of organic farming technology.

To know more about the cooperative and how character defining it is to be a member, you may CLICK HERE to watch the full documentary. <https://youtu.be/L66HuJXoV8E> - CBMarders