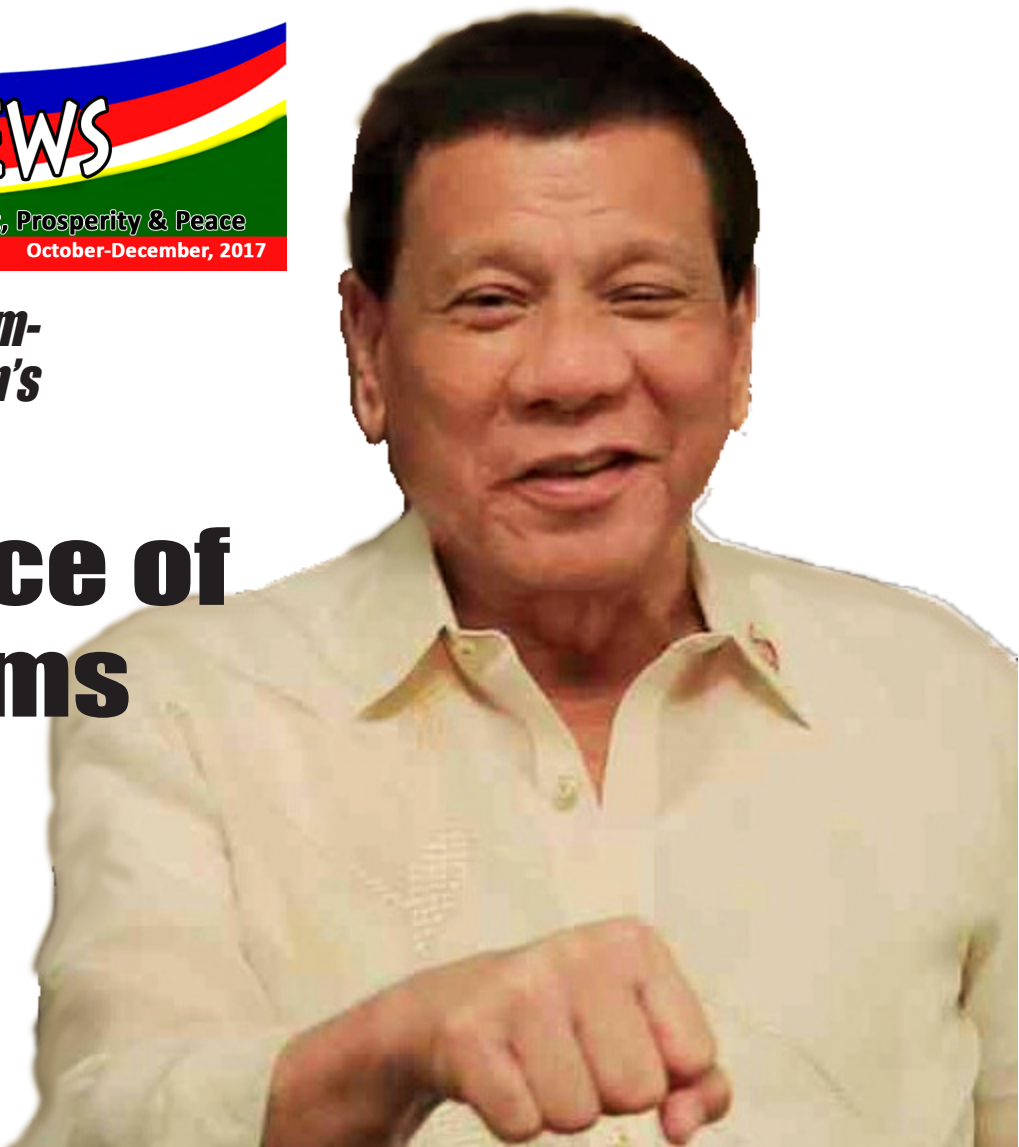


**The 26,600 cooperatives with some 14 million members are very supportive of the new dispensation's *Biyaya ng Pagbabago* Program ...**  
(Story on page 6, *Biyaya ng Pagbabago*)

# CDA, Root and Source of Pro- People Programs



*Pro-Poor Programs. Cabinet Secretary Leoncio Evasco Jr., all praise to the Cooperative Development Authority and the Coop Sector during the 3rd Central Visayas Cooperative Congress held in Tagbilaran City, Bohol for their pro-poor programs.*



## HE Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte

**October 5, 2017, Tagbilaran City, Bohol** – “The first Executive Order signed by the president is consolidating the agencies of the government that are the root and source of pro-people programs. And one of which is CDA (Cooperative Development Authority)”

This was the statement of Cabinet Secretary Leoncio Evasco Jr. in his solidarity message during the 3rd Central Visayas Cooperative Congress which was held at Bohol Tropics Resort. Infront of hundreds of cooperative leaders from all over Central Visayas, Sec. Evasco, who is also a Boholano, said that he came to the occasion not because he is a Boholano but because cooperativism is closer to his heart.

The 3rd Central Visayas Cooperative Congress was organized by the Regional Cooperative Development Council (RCDC-7) headed by Chairperson Betta Socorro S. Solera and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Region 7 Extension Office headed by OIC Dir. Nora P. Patron. It was in cooperation also with other stakeholders and local officials of Bohol who are very supportive to cooperatives.

Other officials who graced the occasion were CDA Chairman Orlando Ravanera as one of the guest speakers, Bohol Gov. Edgar M. Chato, Tagbilaran City Mayor John Geesnell “Baba”Yap, Acting Vice Gov and Bohol PCDC Chairman and Atty. Venzencio Arcamo and Cong. Sabiniano Canama of Coop Natcco.

Speaking in local dialect, Sec. Evasco congratulated the organizers and the coop sector in general for continuing their good work in spite of various obstacles.

“Congratulations for continuously doing your good work in spite of obstacles and hindrances caused by capitalists. You have continued even though there are some sectors of the government that do not want the cooperatives.

### CDA is for Strengthening!

It’s official and this should serve notice to all, the Cooperative



Development Authority (CDA) is for strengthening and not for departmentalizing of the agency.

In a special meeting of the CDA last October 8, the Board of Administrators (BOA) made its stand through Board Resolution No. 312 series of 2017 in favor of strengthening the CDA Charter. The BOA also issued the said memorandum to settle once and for all the question in the sector whether CDA is for strengthening or departmentalizing.

Although the BOA recognizes the need to create a Cooperative Department, it opted however to a more pragmatic approach and more doable for the needs of the time. It

see CDA/p. 8

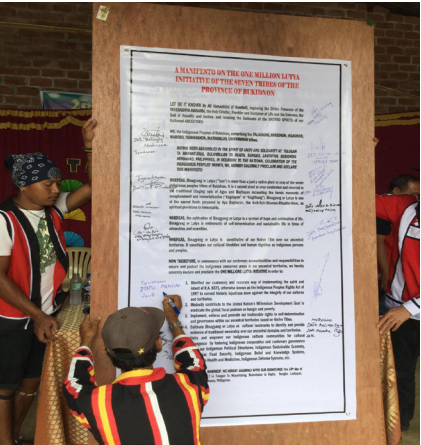
## OCS, CDA and NCIP Collaborate to Put IPs at the Forefront of Development

October 13, 2017, CDA Central Office – The Office of the Cabinet Secretary (OCS), the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) have conducted a series of meetings to create a covenant to jointly promote the growth and development of cooperativism among the Filipino Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) throughout the country. This will be done through a drafting of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that would spell out the guidelines and responsibilities of each office.

The OCS initiated the meeting between the CDA and NCIP to enhance the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which was forged by the two agencies in 1999 and to make it more practical and suitable to ICCs/IPs in the current situation. The signing of the final MOA is expected before the year ends.

In the draft MOA, the parties specified their common responsibilities, to include; 1) Identify groups of Filipino ICCs/IPs who need assistance in the organization October 13, 2017, CDA Central Office – The Office of the Cabinet Secretary (OCS), the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) have conducted a series of meetings to create a covenant to jointly promote the growth and development of cooperativism among the Filipino Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) throughout the country. This will be done through a drafting of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that would spell out the guidelines and responsibilities of each office.

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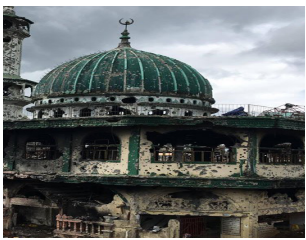
*Putting IPs at the Forefront of Development. The members of the Indigenous People of Bukidnon sign a manifesto for a 1-million Lutya project. They are some of the the IPs in then country that would benefit the MOA signed by OCS, CDA and NCIP.*

see OCS/p. 8

## News

# CDA Prepares Biz and Livelihood Programs as Part of Task Force Bangon Marawi

The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) is now preparing its plans and programs for Marawi rehabilitation being a member of the Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM) Sub-Committee on Business and Livelihood.



*From Ashes and Rubbles Rise Hope and Love. The Cooperative Development Authority is optimistic to the positive development of Marawi City after the devastating 5-months conflict. CDA is now part of the Task Force Bangon Marawi Sub-Committee on Business and Livelihood.*

Through Administrative Order No. 9 which was signed by Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea on 27th October this year, Creating an Inter-Agency Task Force for the Recovery, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of the City of Marawi and Other Affected Localities, the CDA can actively take part in the program and continue the effort in rebuilding Marawi from the ashes and rubbles.

Sec. Eduardo Del Rosario of Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) is the Chairman of the Task Force and the CDA is now under the Sub-Committee of the Department of Trade and Industry, in-charge on the aspect of providing business and livelihood opportunities for Marawi evacuees.

During the all-agency meeting held last November 20, 2017 in Daza Park, Camp Aguinaldo, TFBM identified the result of the Post Conflict Needs Assessment (PCNA) and the Focus of Early Intervention (FEI). Among the identified FEIs are: food, water, electricity, housing, livelihood, health services/hospital, road network, place of worship, education and wet and dry market.

Meanwhile, the CDA has submitted its project proposal to the TFBM. The project when approved will benefit the 293 registered cooperatives in Marawi with some 9,500 members.

## CDA Continuously Provides Capacity Building to Personnel and the Coop Sector

by: PRISCILA A. ACOPIO Sr.  
CDS/Regional Information Officer-designate

Tacloban City-- Thirty-one Cooperative Development Authority-Tacloban Extension Office (CDA-TEO) personnel underwent a capability building program to equip themselves with necessary knowledge to deliver better service. CDA-TEO were oriented on Financial Inclusion and Savings Mobilization and Capital Build-up Program and other technical knowledge relevant to skills enhancement. The office also gave capability enhancement services to the sector, specially to micro cooperatives.

Cooperative Development Specialist (CDS)

Irish Joy Ibatan, and CPDAS staff facilitated the orientation. In addition, Regional Director Armonio P. Paa, discussed thoroughly the role of the CDA with regards to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between CDA-DTI, CDA-DAR and CDA-DA.



On the other hand, Assistant Regional Director Venus M. Jornales emphasized that there will be additional program indicators incorporated in the 2017 work plan that concerns these partnerships.

CDA Financial Service

# Cooperatives are helping Filipinos help themselves-Sen. Zubiri

Shangri-La Hotel Makati, October 27, 2017—Sen. Juan Miguel “Migz” Zubiri, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Cooperatives with some 14 million strong sector, gave his assurance to cooperative leaders his full support to the cooperative movement. Sen. Zubiri was one of the guest of honors during the national awarding ceremony of the Cooperative Development Authority’s Gawad Parangal 2017.

Speaking in front of hundreds of coop leaders and awardees nationwide, Sen. Zubiri said, “we are committed to support the cooperative movement by opposing any moves to tax coops”.

The legislator’s assurance came amidst the continues effort by some legislators in both chambers of congress, to include cooperatives on tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Bill by lifting coops’ tax privileges.

“Cooperatives are helping Filipinos help themselves”, according to Zubiri. “This is one of the reasons why should not be taxed”, he continued.

“If only the government can really seriously consider cooperatives as center for inclusive growth all over the

country, we are going to leap out of poverty faster than anyone can see in the world”, he added.



## Mandatory Trainings for Micro Coops

Three batches of Capability Building Program for Micro Cooperatives were conducted in the month of July 2017. On Mandatory Trainings, CDA personnel have provided training on the Fundamentals of Cooperatives and Coop Management and Governance. These were held on July 5-6 at Baybay, Leyte, July 19-20 at Catarman, Northern Samar and July 26-27 at Can-avid, Eastern Samar. A total of 96 coops and 469 participants attended these mandatory trainings.

### Cooperative’s Human Capital Development as a Strategy for Coop Strengthening - Capability Building Program for Micro-Coops



### On CDA-BSP Orientation on “KNOW YOUR MONEY” (KYM)

The Currency Issue and Integrity Office (CIIO) of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Tacloban, in coordination with the Cooperative Development Authority-Tacloban Extension Office conducted the Public Information Campaign on the security features and proper handling of Philippine banknotes and coins. This is in pursuit of the BSP’s mandate to preserve and maintain the integrity of Philippine currency. These were held at Maasin, Southern Leyte and Borongan, Eastern Samar on July 12 and July 5, respectively. A total of 55 coops and 75 coop-participants attended the “Know Your Money” Seminar



@phcoops

# China’s Ministry of Agriculture Partners with CDA to Strengthen Agricultural Cooperatives

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of the People’s Republic of China is going to forge a partnership with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

MOA and CDA have initially agreed in principle the contents of the MOU which was facilitated through the Chinese Embassy in Manila. The signing of the MOU was supposed to be done during the ASEAN Summit but was not materialized due to time constraints. Nevertheless, both parties will push through the partnership and MOU signing before the year ends.

The cooperation between the two countries will focus on the following areas: 1.) Capacity building. The MOA will provide training in China for 60 manager and technicians of agricultural cooperatives for the Philippines between 2018 and 2020; 2.) Personnel exchange. The Parties will send manager and technicians of agricultural cooperatives to the other Country for study tours and exchange of views; 3.) Demonstration and dissemination of agricultural technologies. The Parties have agreed to make use of the Phil-Sino Center for Agricultural Technology (PhilSCAT) and relevant agricultural cooperatives of the Philippines as platforms to demonstrate and disseminate agricultural technologies. The MOA is willing to send experts and technicians to the Philippines to provide technical advice service; 4.) Agricultural trade. The Parties shall encourage agricultural cooperatives or companies of their Country to attend promotion activities for agricultural trade and investment held in the other Country and provide any necessary support; and 5.) Other areas of interest to both Parties.



CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera is grateful to the Ministry of Agriculture of China and the Chinese embassy for the confidence and support. This partnership will greatly affect and strengthen the agricultural cooperatives in the Philippines.

### On CDA-DAR PARTNERSHIP II

Orientation on the CDA-DAR Partnership II: Sustainable Business Operations Program for Registered Agrarian Reform Cooperatives was held on July 25, 2017 at the La Rica Hotel, Tacloban City. This was attended by regional and field staff of both DAR and CDA.

ARD Venus Jornales oriented the participants on the role of the CDA with regards to the partnership while CARPO for Support Services Division (SSD) Ms. Melecia Ong, discussed the role of the DAR and the targets.

The participants worked on the targets which were still subject for finalization after validation on field at the provincial level.

## CDA Extension Office Extends Quality Services to Remotest Municipality in the Country

July 3, 2017, Baliguian, ZDN, Region 9 – The Extension Offices of the Cooperative Development

see CDA EX p.3

PH Cooperatives

CDA Ex., from p.2

ment Authority (CDA), are the front-liners of its services to ordinary people. Even with its insufficient travel allowances for personnel (most of the times they spend their own money), front line personnel braved their way even to the remotest areas in the country just to bring the agency's mandate to ordinary Filipinos. This is what the CDA Region 9 Extension Office did in their area of coverage.



The Pre-Registration Seminar (PRS) team braved their way thru the mountainous terrain leading to the municipality of Baliguian, Zamboanga del Norte in order to bring one of the Extension Office (EOs) best – Pre-Registration Seminar.

After Eight hours of travel, CDA team of two, composed of Ms. Erma Militante and Mr. Raul Alcoran, Jr., reached the beautiful, tranquil municipality of Baliguian. There they were met with the hospitality of the Baliguianons at its best. No less than the municipal mayor, Hon. Gani A. Esmali welcomed them.

Majority of the participants are Indigenous People (IP) with some farmers and employees of the local government unit (LGU). The participants in the Pre-Membership Seminar totaled to 21 who were satisfied with what they learned from CDA. With their desire to engage in marketing of pebble products, these IPs are now on their way to become part of the cooperative movement and provide themselves empowerment, social justice and economic upliftment.

## CDA TEO Awarded as Outstanding Regional Partner of BSP

by: PRISCILA A. ACOPIO Sr.  
CDS/Regional Information Officer-designate

The CDA Tacloban Extension Office (CDA-TEO) is this year's Awardee as Outstanding Regional Partner under the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSP) Demon-



CDA-TEO - receiving the awards as Outstanding regional partner on Demonitization program, from left Ms. Ludivina M. Realina - Deputy Director Ms. Leonides B. Sumbi - Director BSP Cebu Regional Office, Mr. Armonio P. Paa - Regional Cda Tacloban with ARD, Venus M. Jomales and CDS II Irish L. Ibatan, Mr. Peter Favila - Monetary Board Member and Mr. Francisco G. Dakila Jr. - Managing Director Monetary Policy Sub-Sector

etization Program. The Awarding Ceremony took place on August 22, 2017 at the BSP's Multi-Purpose Hall, Tacloban City. Monetary Board Member Peter B. Favila led the awarding ceremony and appreciation lunch for stakeholders of the BSP. The Award, a milestone for the CDA TEO, was received by Regional Director Armonio P. Paa.

The Awarding Ceremony and Appreciation Lunch for BSP Stakeholders in Region VIII is part of the BSP's celebration of its 24th anniversary and aims to further strengthen the alliance between the BSP and its stakeholders in achieving a more efficient and effective means of gathering information and the conduct of advocacy campaigns to carry out its ultimate goal of safeguarding price stability and promoting a healthy financial system as well as ensuring an efficient payments and settlement system in the country.

Since July 2016 up to present, the CDA Tacloban EO and BSP Tacloban Branch forged a partnership in conducting series of "Know Your Money" Briefing which are attended by cash handlers and other staff involved in cash from registered cooperatives in the Region, as part of the Public Information Campaign (PIC) on the security features and proper handling of Philippine banknotes and coins. This is in pursuit of BSP's mandate to preserve and maintain the integrity of Philippine currency.

## National Anti-Poverty Commission Pledges Support for CDA Strengthening

September 27, 2017, Makati City – The National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)-Coop Sectoral Council pledged its commitment of support for the strengthening of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA). The commitment was made during the 3rd Cooperative Sectoral Council Meeting conducted last September 27, 2017 at the AurumOne Hotel Makati which was presided by NAPC-Coop Sectoral Council Chairman Gadwin Handumon.



Sitting (L-R): NAPC Dir. Coi Hombrebueno, Doris Canares, Sylvia Paraguya, Gadwin Handumon, Orlando Ravanera, Danny Ang and Ray Fajardo during the 3rd quarter sectoral council meeting. NAPC-Coop Sectoral Council supports the Strengthening of CDA for it to enable to accomplish its mandate.

The body recognizes the huge role the CDA is playing for the poverty eradication effort of the government. However insufficient its fund and manpower, it has fulfilled its mandate.

Before the Council's manifestation, CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera reported to the members of the Council the CDA's programs and roadmap as well as its stumbling blocks in doing so. Chairman Ravanera appraised the Council about the budget request of CDA for 2018 amounting to P1.3 Billion just to keep the agency in shape and to fulfill its regulatory and developmental functions. The Department of Budget and Management, however, approved the agency's National Expenditure Programs of only P504 million.

The Council understands CDA's predicament, seeing a looming problem in delivering its mandate to 26 thousand registered cooperatives with some 14 million members with a limited budget. On their part, the members of NAPC-Coop Sectoral Council gave its commitment of support through a resolution.

## Agriculture Sector Converges for a National Agriculture Cooperative Forum

Two hundred sixty participants from all over the country and abroad have converged in Grand Caprice in Cagayan de Oro City for the 2-day National Agriculture Cooperative Forum, with a theme: "Advancing Agri-cooperatives towards ASEAN integration". The event is a preparation for the 7th ASEAN Cooperative Business Forum (ACBF) which will be held in Manila in 2018.

The forum which was conducted last November 23-24, tackled relevant issues and concerns that affects the agriculture sector of the country, particularly the cooperatives engaged in the production of cacao, coffee, banana, rice, dairy and rubber.

There were four objectives the forum wanted to achieve: (1) To highlight agriculture cooperatives' contribution to job generation, poverty alleviation, food security, and sustainable development goals; (2) To enhance engagement within agriculture cooperatives as part of

the ASEAN integration thru consolidation, value chain development, and coop-2-coop trading and other platforms; (3) To identify challenges and issues faced by agriculture cooperatives and come up with proposed solutions and innovations; and (4) To formulate policy recommendations and craft proposed



Strengthening the Agri Sector. The participants of the National Agriculture Cooperative Forum in plan of Grand Caprice in Cagayan de Oro last November 23-24, 2017. This event is a pre-ACBF activity which will be held this coming January 2018.

ASEAN Roadmap on Agriculture Cooperatives.

During the 2-day forum, concerns from the six agricultural sectors were raised and a workshop was made, participants were grouped according to sector, they discussed the problem with experts from National Government Agencies, to find solution to their problems. Participants were satisfied with the outcome of the forum.

The National Agriculture Cooperative Forum was organized by the Cooperative Development Authority in partnership with the Philippine Cooperative Center and Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), in collaboration with the cooperative sector, particularly the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO), CLIMBS Life and General Insurance Cooperative, Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperatives (FPS-DC), Northern Mindanao Federation of Dairy Cooperatives (NMFDC), Mindanao Alliance of Self-Help Societies-Southern Philippines Educational Cooperative Center (MASS-SPECC), PhilFAFFCoopFed, Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines (CISP), First Community Cooperative (FICCO) and Oro Integrated Cooperative (OIC).

It was also made possible through the support of agricultural partners, namely; AsiaDHRRA, WeEFFECT, CSA and MTCP2 Philippines.

**CDA is for strenght., from p.2**

inferred that departmentalizing is the ultimate strengthening of the agency which needs more attention and lobbying.

According to Administrator Abad Santos, "how can the CDA be departmentalized when it is not even given the needed budget to do its developmental and regulatory mandate, to provide social justice and equity to the poor and the vulnerable?"

Chairman Orlando Ravanera also added, "how can they give us the stars when they cannot even give us the moon?", referring to the budget request of CDA that was not allocated.

At present, the CDA is limited to doing only what is allowed by law without the necessary budget and personnel. It can only do so much. Currently, it has only 736 approved plantilla positions and out of this, only 645 are filled-up. By amending the CDA Charter, the challenges that CDA is facing right now can be addressed as it can easily be approved compared to pushing for the departmentalization.

The BOA had an in depth discussion regarding this matter and decided to advocate on what is achievable and attainable at the moment, the strengthening of the CDA, not the Department of Cooperatives. In order to reinforce CDAs position, it has requested for: 1) additional budget; 2) to be granted quasi-judicial powers; and, 3) additional personnel complement. RDA

## Opinion

# State of The Cooperatives

The Philippine society is characterized as highly skewed and pyramidal. The only hope is to dismantle the structures that perpetuate the root cause of endemic poverty and social injustice lies on the empowerment of the vulnerable sector to take control of the resources and chart their destiny through social enterprises called cooperatives. The cooperative sector is slowly gaining momentum of becoming a transformative and liberating social enterprises.

They come from all walks of life – farmers, fisher folks, women, workers, lumads, small vendors, the handicapped, homeless, drivers, the poor and vulnerable and even former combatants of the Moro National Liberation Front – all of them believe that cooperativism is the answer against onslaught of hunger and poverty, that is why they have organized themselves into cooperatives.

They have to pool together whatever meagre resources they have and harness their collective potentials and experiences, ardently believing that the “people united can never be defeated” even by poverty.

Everyone should know, most especially the 25,600 registered cooperatives with 14 million individual members across the country, contributing a withholding tax amounting to more than P1.255 billion, that cooperatives are a means to empower people for them to have access and control over their resources.

The spirit of cooperativism shines through amidst the darkness of poverty and social inequities. Where poor are poor because they are powerless to craft their destiny, where hunger looms because of social injustice as the mode of production and basic utilities are controlled by a few, where people are in dire economic difficulties because of lack of opportunities, skills and capabilities, it is during these times when cooperatives thrive best.

In truth, by nature, nurture and by law, cooperatives exist for social transformation based on the principles of social justice, equity and sustainable development. In pursuance of such mandate, the cooperatives are now gearing-up for the four P's which stand for People, Planet, Peace and Prosperity.

People, the number one resource of the country, are the subject and object of development, thus, their potentials must be fully developed in accordance with the core principle of sustainable development. Harnessing the people's collective potentials and capacities has become imperative and must now take precedence over all other priorities. Countries which have not developed their human capital are now being penalized by slow growth. Cooperativism has become the countervailing force that develops the collective potentials of the people towards food security, job generation, ecological integrity, inclusive growth, and sustainability.

### LINABO AGRARIAN MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE (LAMPCO): A STORY OF EMPOWERMENT

The 184 agrarian reform farmer-beneficiaries in the upland barangay of Balingasag who have come together to harness their collective potentials through their cooperative called Lampco have manifested the truism that indeed, cooperativism and agrarian reform are two sides of the same coin: both are social justice measures.

Today, Lampco stands tall in trail-blazing an empowerment path that is gaining headways in producing a high quality product called Coco-Sugar following sustainable agriculture practices. Lampco coco-sugar is a USDA Certified Organic Product.

Once landless, the farmer-members now own the land. Lampco is now a national celebrity as the cooperative is a national nominee of the 2011 OTOP (One Town, One Product) National Fair for the most innovative product and a national nominee for the best processed product at the Agrikultura Trade Fair of DAR.

### CO-OP VILLE

Initiated by the Federation of People's Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC), “Co-op Ville,” short for Cooperative Village, now looms in a 5-hectare area in Mam-

buaya, an upland barangay of Cagayan de Oro City which is just 30 kms. from the city.

What is really envisioned by FPSDC is not just to construct a village for the some 300 families rendered homeless by Sendong, but to build a sustainable community that will exemplify a paradigm shift, from an unsustainable pattern of life that is perpetuated by a global system that is devoid of the nurturing spirit to a more humane society that has people and the environment as the priorities rather than business and profit.

### THE EMPOWERED WOMEN OF MARANDING

Maranding in Lanao del Norte who in 1996 organized the Maranding Women Investors Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MWIMPC) is now scaling the heights as it is into diversified and multifarious activities. It is thankful to TESDA for its Bee-Keeping Project and as extension provider of its Computer Literacy Program; it is grateful to MIVA Netherlands for the provision of vehicle, a brand new Toyota Revo; to John Snow Research and Development Institute with funds from USAID for the establishment of the Well Family Midwife Clinic; and to the European Union through the Support to Agrarian Reform Communities in Central Mindanao (STARCM) for augmenting funds for its beekeeping project.

The cooperative has undertaken holistic programs and services. To debunk conventional agriculture which is only successful in polluting the environment with toxic chemicals and further impoverishing the peasantry, it is conducting trainings on Sustainable Agriculture in coordination with the Agricultural Training Institute. To give a helping hand to battered women and children, it operates the Lanao del Norte Women and Children Development Center with the support from the British Embassy.

### DOALNARA SHOWS THE WAY

Unknown to many, nestled afoot the slopes of the majesty of Mr. Balatukan, Mt. Sumagaya and Mt. Lumot at Sitio San Roque, Aposakahoy, Claveria, Misamis Oriental is a community of more than 200 families, doing absolutely organic farming and living the cooperative way of life.

With the vision of becoming a model community “where the people are happily living together as one family, no fighting, healthy and progressing, the Doalnara Cooperative began in early 1994, settling in an abandoned land called the “killing fields” during the 80's at the height of ideological conflict in the hinterlands.

That the land is now very productive is decidedly a manifestation of the community's deep spirituality to uphold the global campaign for environmental restoration of the deteriorating ecology. The once abandoned land is now teeming with various crops such as tomatoes, lettuce, cacti in greenhouses and most importantly “YACON” that is gaining popularity as “an ingredient in diet, diabetes and colon-related health food products.”

What makes Doalnara farming different is its “complete rejection of the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicide as “only natural by-products are used to improve plant growth and fruition.”

### CDA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The implementation of strategy and programs by the CDA to achieve its mandate is not only daunting but arduous especially when resources, both financial and human capital are hardly enough. The Agency, thus, focused on delivering unconventional solutions, spend meager resources in areas that matter and accelerate forging of partnerships with other government agencies, the Local Government Units, the cooperatives and other development partners.

This highlight of 2016 accomplishments focuses on the Agency's twin Major Final Outputs of Developmental and Regulatory Services that are envisioned to contribute to the

achievement of its organizational outcome of improvement in the growth and viability of cooperative enterprises. The major accomplishments of the CDA are presented below:

1. Cooperatives' Human Capital Development Program – A Strategy for Strengthening Cooperatives. It is said that the country that does not invest in human capital is penalized by slow growth. This is the main development intervention program of the CDA that is designed to cater primarily to micro cooperatives. The main objective of the program is to capacitate cooperative officers to efficiently and effectively manage the operations of cooperatives and provide training to micro cooperatives, especially the small farmers, agrarian reform, fisher-folks, ARB Coops and the Indigenous People, to comply with the mandatory training requirements for officers of cooperatives. The trainings are provided free of charge by the CDA. CDA's objective is to capacitate all micro cooperatives given sufficient budget because by strengthening them as institutions, their ability to access other support services is increased. In 2015, there were 4,113 micro cooperatives that were trained under this program. While in 2016 up to the first quarter of 2017, a total of 8,403 cooperatives have been trained.

**To cite a concrete accomplishment is the initiative of the CDA Cordillera Administrative Region Extension Office in partnership with the Community Empowerment and Transformation Advocacy Cooperative and the CISP where 75 primary cooperatives were provided training.**

2. The other assistance delivered by CDA to cooperatives come in the form of technical advisory services (TAS) through mentoring, coaching or cliniquing. In 2015, the number of TAS rendered totaled to 55, 507. For the period 2016 to March 2017, CDA delivered 58, 707 technical advisory services to cooperatives.

**To mention some feat and as a result of continuous collaboration with our partners, 12 Mindanao cooperatives were given Finance Organizations achieving Certified Credit Union Standards (FOCCUS) by Model Cooperative Network.**

3. CDA's 2016 official data show that a significant number of cooperatives have improved in terms of asset size- 70 micro cooperatives have graduated to either small or medium, 29 small cooperatives have graduated to either medium or large, 12 medium cooperatives have graduated to large, and 58 large cooperatives have improved in asset size. The improvement, to a large extent is attributed to the capacity building programs of the Agency to train cooperative leaders especially those managing micro-cooperatives on how good governance and better internal control procedures could result to net surplus and increased member's economic participation in the cooperative.

**One example of this is when Tabuk MPC of Tabuk City, Kalinga became a billionaire cooperative when they reached P1.09 billion mark in assets.**

**Some agricultural cooperatives have bagged international recognition. Notable of which is when the Inhanding Tribal MPC from Malaybalay, Bukidnon earned the right to represent the country in the Specialty Coffee Association Expo in Seattle, Washington. Truly, the cooperatives nowadays are becoming global player worthy of accolade in the international trade.**

4. In compliance to the order of the President to reduce the processing time for government services, the CDA further streamlined its registration process by developing model Articles of Cooperation and By-Laws (ACBL) for all types of cooperatives so that applicant cooperatives may no longer face difficulties in crafting their ACBLs. This is in addition to the technical assistance rendered to them by CDA's field personnel. The Agency has commenced coordination with the Department of Information Technology (DICT) for the development of an on-line payment system for registration fees for the benefit of the transacting public. As an ISO 9001-certified Agency, CDA continuous to generate feedback from its clients as one source for its continual improvement measures.
5. As the regulatory Agency for cooperatives, it endeavors to ensure that cooperatives adhere to

see State/p. 8-9



Orlan R. Ravanera  
Kim's Dream

## Advancing UN SDGs

The United Nations envisions to effect the much needed paradigm shift globally where according to an Oxfam recent study only eight families have consolidated assets equivalent to the combined assets of three billion six hundred million human beings. This is reflective of our country's highly skewed economic pyramidal order where few oligarchs control the economy.

We must fully understand the essence of cooperativism whose DNA according to the UN is that of being members-owned, value-based and sustainable. Being members-owned, the problem of inequities will be solved as the members are the main stakeholders, managing their own enterprise. The members are the ones to control, to decide and to benefit – thus, democratizing wealth and power in a highly iniquitous society.

Being value-based, the cooperatives give high adherence to time-honored and universally-accepted cooperative principles, values and practices of participation, democracy, equality, service, industry, cooperation, honesty, transparency, accountability, and most importantly, concern for the environment and for the communities. In the world of cooperativism, there is no such thing as moderating one's greed as cooperatives' *raison d'être* is for the service and not for profit. Money will be used to enhance life and the well-being of the people and NOT to make more money.

The cooperatives are considered as the builders of sustainability and by 2020, they will be the acknowledged leaders in social, economic and ecological sustainability. This means food, security, inclusive growth and ecological integrity will be the priorities rather than business and profit.

Stop social injustice! Stop gross inequities! Stop poverty! The United Nations has those call in its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and such can only be done through the UN's theme, "Transformative Cooperatives for People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace." That transformative mission ahead is so tedious and uphill and the right policy environment must be put in place for the cooperatives' to create the long overdue peaceful transformation in a country run by Cartels. Taxing the cooperatives only perpetuates such stranglehold, the tax exemption privilege is the sole counter measure and the only countervailing force to equalize wealth and power of those who control, who benefit and who profit from the national economy. Please be one with us sa TUNAY NA PAGBABAGO! Yes, for those who have dreamt and struggled for it, social change has been so elusive all these years despite 14 years of Martial Law and two People Power revolutions! The structures and systems that are breeding poverty are still as formidable as ever. The only remaining countervailing force now is when those in the margins will be drawn into the mainstream of development processes by collectively harnessing their potentials thru the exercise of their collective power called cooperativism.

While we support the Tax Reform Bill, as it is one to reduce poverty and to increase social justice, equity and sustainable development, however, we are against the inclusion of cooperatives. ORR



## Of Cabbages and Kings

By: Engr. Albert M. Omega

## THE ENIGMA OF DANECO

It has been five years since Davao del Norte Electric Cooperative (DANECO) was registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) in May 21, 2012. If you have a child who was a first year high school student when DANECO became a stock cooperative by now he is already a college student. That is how long time passed and yet until now the case of DANECO is still unsettled due to the presence of DANECO, Inc. imposed by a recalcitrant government corporation named the National Electrification Administration (NEA) whose influence defies the laws not only those enacted by Congress but also the basic law of the land – the Philippine Constitution.

The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) was created by Republic Act 6939 based on the provision of Section 15, Article XII of the Philippine Constitution that says; "the Congress shall create an agency to promote the viability and growth of cooperatives as instrument for social justice and economic development." When CDA registered DANECO after the lopsided result of the referendum in compliance to the provision of Section 57 of Republic Act 9136 where electric cooperatives like DANECO, Inc. have the option to be converted to either a stock cooperative registered with CDA or a private corporation registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) depending on the result of the referendum, NEA refused to recognize or honor the act of CDA despite of the 49,056 votes by the member-consumers in favor of CDA registration against the 630 votes for SEC registration and the 1773 votes to remain with NEA. The cabals of NEA went to the extent of filing a case in the Ombudsman against the then Chairman of CDA, Hon. Emmanuel Santiaguero for registering DANECO but the Ombudsman dismissed the case finding no proof or evidence of irregularity or wrong doings.

DANECO as an institution was never a respondent to any court cases questioning the legality or validity of its registration with CDA. While it is true that NEA issued a Cease and Desist order against the former members of the Board of Directors, the said order cannot affect DANECO because DANECO has a juridical personality of its own that can sue and be sued upon. The case that was elevated to the Court of Appeals and to the Supreme Court was the administrative case against the former members of the Board of Directors who had tendered their voluntary resignation way back in July 28, 2012. A new set of Board of Directors was already elected by the General Assembly last October 23, 2012 as a result of the petition of over 12,000 member-consumer-owners to the CDA to hold a Special General Assembly for the purpose of electing a new set of Board of Directors.

By operation of law there is no more DANECO Inc. because it was already converted into a stock cooperative registered with CDA. DANECO and DANECO Inc. simply cannot exist side by side because there is only one DANECO. The registration of DANECO with CDA gives it a juridical personality to own properties and other assets and to sue and be sued upon. Meanwhile in the advent of DANECO's conversion as stock cooperative for DANECO Inc. to continue operating is already violating the law as an illegitimate establishment because it is not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission thus has no rights to own properties or any assets and cannot sue or be sued upon. NEA has no legal ground for continuing to cuddle the DANECO Inc.

What is happening to DANECO is a showcase of the messy and sad state of the governance in our country. A lot of our government employees and officials who upon their assumption to office pledge allegiance to our laws and constitution simply ignore the law if it suits their personal interest to the detriment of the common good. RA 9520 clearly provides that the effect of the registration of DANECO with CDA ceases the coverage of DANECO from PD 269 thus NEA has no more supervisory control over the said cooperative. Even the controversial RA 10531 that was passed after DANECO Inc. was already converted to DANECO, a stock cooperative, did not repeal the provision that a CDA registered electric cooperative is no longer covered by PD 269.

DANECO, Inc. has no juridical personality because it is not registered with SEC and NEA does not have a mandate to register electric cooperatives (although some laws like RA 6939 and RA 9520 implied that it has in PD 269 but what was implied is non-existent thus a false reference). However, until this time NEA is doing everything to subvert the will of the member-consumer-owners (MCO) of DANECO and in effect depriving the 150,000 MCO of the over ONE BILLION PESOS (P1B) paid up share capital that will entitle them of the patronage refund and dividend from the net surplus of DANECO. Moreover, the rate of electricity will reduce in DANECO franchise areas due to tax exemptions as a stock cooperative.

With the advent of the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte, we are hoping that finally the law will be implemented as it should be and DANECO will be given to its rightful owners: the people who are the member-consumers. As of to date a new group is now rightly advocating that there is only one DANECO thus there should be no more entity as DANECO-CDA or DANECO-NEA. It is just fair to forewarn the consumers specially the National Government Offices and LGUs that before paying their electric bills there is a need for them to see to it that the establishment they are dealing with is a legitimate one by asking the copy of its certificate of registration from SEC or CDA otherwise the payers may be charged in the Office of the Ombudsman for wrongdoings.



The following articles are published opinion pieces of Usec. Orlando R. Ravanera on SunStar Cagayan de Oro as a regular columnist. The contents reflect his advocacies as Chairman of the Cooperative Development Authority, love for the environmental, and for being a man for others.

# Biyaya Ng Pagbabago

For those who have dreamt, advocated, struggled and even died for it, social change has been so elusive all these years despite 14 years of Martial Law and two people-powered



revolutions. The structures and systems that are breeding poverty and oppression are still as formidable as ever.

Not anymore! When the new dispensation came into being last year, the re-structuring has begun. On the 4th day of office and by virtue of Executive Order No. 1, the Cooperative Development Authority, an office that is mandated by the highest law of the land to advance the viability and growth of cooperatives as instruments of social justice, equity and sustainable economic development has been returned to the Office of the President where it rightfully belongs. By that act alone, CDA can do its fundamental task of mobilizing and transforming cooperatives to change a highly skewed pyramidal societal order.

The CDA together with eleven offices have been put under the Office of the Cabinet Secretary headed by Sec. Leoncio Evasco, Jr. who have exemplified to the highest degree an amazing pro-people leadership with a strong nationalist mindset that gives high adherence to empowering the poor and the marginalized sectors so that they can be drawn into the mainstream of development processes.

Just recently, Sec. Evasco called upon the CDA and the NCIP (National Commission on Indigenous Peoples) together with the Office of the Cabinet Secretary to sign a Memorandum of Agreement to cooperativize the Lumads, the most oppressed in Philippine Society. Yes they were once the masters of the land that no one owned because private ownership was not in their language as such was founded on a strong belief that no one can own land which outlast him. For thousands of years, they had lived abundantly in a land oozing with ecological resources in the spirit of sharing and service to one another. Then came the colonizers bringing their version of flawed lifestyle that is founded on the material pursuit of instant wealth and power and everything was not the same again.

From being land-rich, they are now land poor. When I was editor of our school organ in college, I wrote a story of the Higaonons in Panalsalan, Maramag, Bukidnon whose barrio was turned into a ranch by a rich and powerful Congressman then from the Visayas. The barrio was enclosed by 6 feet tall barb wires and the people were living with cattle that were eating their crops and even entering the elementary schools and chapel. Out of desperation, a family committed suicide. That was how oppressed our tribal groups were then.

Their oppression came in many forms. The loggers have erased the forests which are their “pharmacy” and the source of their food. The root cause of poverty is their powerless-

ness to have access and control over their resources.

As a counter measure, the Lumads must be empowered by harnessing their collective potentials through cooperativism. Don't you know that our tribal groups in Dalwangan and Maramag, Bukidnon are producing coffee (Robusta and Arabica) which was recently adjudged in Seattle, USA as the best coffee in the world?

The 26,600 cooperatives with some 14 million members are very supportive of the new dispensation's Biyaya ng Pagbabago Program. Thousands of them will be going to the launching in Freedom Park, Davao City to meet no less than their beloved President to tell His Excellency how they have become “transformative” for people, planet, prosperity and peace. Yes, the 26 types of cooperatives have good stories to tell how they have been liberated from the quagmire of poverty be they farmers, fisherfolks, workers, women, persons with disabilities and even former combatants who have left armed struggle to now peacefully work for social justice and equity through cooperativism.

Indeed, a strong army can conquer a kingdom but that the strongest army in the world cannot stop an idea whose time has come. The most awaited social change has come through Biyaya ng Pagbabago. No force on earth can stop it now.

## Prosperity for all

WE WERE all captivated by the holding of the recent 31st Asean Summit which saw the attendance of national leaders coming from all over the world including the President of the United States, President Donald Trump. All trumpeted the theme of the Summit which is Prosperity for All. Wow! In a world where only eight families have a consolidated wealth equal to the combined assets of 3.6 billion people (according to an Oxfam study), the imperative need for equitable distribution of resources has become glaring.

Such call is foremost in the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, pronouncing in clear categorical term to stop poverty and hunger, stop social injustice, stop gross social inequities, among the 17 SDGs. Even His Holiness Pope Francis has underscored such call in his recent encyclical pronouncement in *Laudato Si'* on care for our common home. His Holiness critiques consumerism and irresponsible development, laments environmental degradation and global warming and calls all people of the world to take swift and united global action.

Indeed, in the absence of a major change the global system will collapse in less than one hundred years. The unimaginable is becoming imaginable: the end of life on earth. Why is this so? Glaring is unsustainability in ecology manifested by global warming, melting of the iceberg (one thousand hectares per day), rising of the oceans, extinction of the species, etc. It is a scientifically established fact that for every one Celsius degree increase in global temperature, there will be a corresponding ten percent reduction in food production. As global heat intensifies, the insects' bites will become fatal and can reach up to higher altitude. It is predicted that there will be at least one billion global refugees in the next 100 years, that people in Bhopal have to leave the country for reason of pestilence, migrating to Calcutta but during that time, Calcutta is predicted to be under water.

The second bitter reality is the unsustainability in the economy as only a few are in control of the resources. Who decides? Who profits? Who benefits? And these global oligarchs are giving high adherence to the growth-at-all-cost development strategy called Neo-Liberal Capitalism which is only successful in sacrificing mother earth and the people to the altar of greed and profit! These oligarchs are using “trickle-down approach to the masses as an alibi. No sir! No such thing. In so-called trickle-down approach, we just allow all those which have already passed the digestive system of cattle to be eaten by the poor

Today, there is need for a paradigm shift: from unsustainability to sustainability! Money should not be used to make more money but to improve the quality of life of the people. Enough is enough of economic development that benefits only a few. No less that a national leader from Myanmar by the name of Aung San Suu Kye, the State Councilor of Myanmar, leader of the national league for democracy, has stressed this truism in her speech, saying that

human development must now be the focus and not consumerism and materialism. Yes, “hig-itsalahat, TAO”.

In this context, the essence of cooperativism has become the answer

because its DNA is that of being members-owned, value-based and sustainable. It is the only countervailing force to debunk the contemporaneous development paradigm. This is the reason why the United Nations has coined the term, Transformative Cooperatives for People, Planet, Prosperity and Purpose, to advance the UN's SDGs. Even His Holiness Pope Francis has given credence to cooperativism as the path to serve the least of our brethren, questioning why in a world with so much abundance and food, many are wallowing in hunger and poverty.

Indeed, one's talent must not be used for self-aggrandizement but to collectively advance the welfare of everyone, for God's greater Glory!



# Cooperatives Concern to the Environment: State of Environment in Cagayan de Oro

*It has been said that people are inseparable to nature or the environment. Human beings need the environment more than the environment needs human: it gives everything the people need for existence. Thus, it must be protected by all means. It is in this belief that the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) is advocating for 4-Ps (people, planet, prosperity and peace).*

*It is a cliché to say that humans are the most brilliant of all life form in this planet. How can we claim it to be so when humans are the once responsible for environmental destructions and climate change in this planet, that is here already for four billion years, for only one century?*

*Now, what have we got? Super typhoon, earthquake, flash floods like what happened in Visayas in 2013, and in Northern Mindanao in 2011. It is now high time to stop the bleeding of Mother Earth and start the healing.*

*To understand better how our environment suffered from the hands of few greedy individuals let's focus on the situation in Cagayan de Oro, Misamis Oriental, Lanao and Bukidnon where CDA Chairman had a first-hand experience as an environmental advocate and Chairman of the environmental group Sulog as he narrates in his article.*

**Beware! The Next Sendong May Be More Horrible**

(By Usec. Orlando R. Ravanera)

It has been said that in this country, no one is above the law; all must bow down to the majesty of the law because we follow the rule of law and not of men.

Well, four decades of painful struggle to protect the integrity of the environment that saw us in Task Force Macajalar staging human barricades to stop the illegal flow of logs, to stop illegal fishing and illegal mining activities have clearly and categorically proven that there is no such thing as rule of law with regards to the environment. It has long been the rule of money, the rule of those in power, the rule of the guns and the diabolic rule of the all-powerful loggers and miners who have made tremendous money raking by the hundreds of billions of pesos. Don't you know that one shipment of logs alone would earn a logger three hundred sixty million pesos which they would use to buy votes when they run for mayor, governor, congressman or even senator. If you want to know more, please read the book of Marites Vitug, "Power from the Forest."

How about the rule of the guns? Well, may I tell you this. In 1991, after successfully launching human barricades against logging, we held three logging trucks owned by the late 2nd Lieutenant Modesto Eleazar. Because of that, he was hunting us together with his goons and boasting to my brother, Atty. Manuel Ravanera that we would not be able to escape because his guns called "starlight" can see the target even in the dark, getting the light from the stars.

By God's grace, we were shielded from those powerful guns as we firmly believe that only God can tell us when to die. A grenade had been thrown to us but the "trigger" did not hit the "primer" after taking out the safety pin because a toothpick-like bamboo got in between that save us. So

we concluded, "if you have faith even as small as a mustard seed, you tell the grenade not to explode, it will not explode." Yes, it was indeed a miracle affirming the biblical line that if God is with you, who can be against you.

Indeed, protecting God's vanishing creation is the highest form of worship. So we all knelt

ensconced in their mansions, wallowing in power and wealth. They have not even done re-planting which is a fundamental requirement in the issuance of the Timber License Agreement (TLA) issued to six logging companies, namely; Dacudao, Roa and Sons, Vicmar, Remedios Fortich, Timber Industries of the Philippines Inc., and Valderama and Sons.

I believe that they must be made accountable because the crime against the environment does not prescribe. Kalatungan Range has become a monument of shame, manifesting the diabolic nature of man whose kind of development is only successful in sacrificing mother earth and the people to the altar of greed and profit.

But there is a law of nature that says there is no free meal in nature. What we do to nature will come back to us. Yes the ingredients of disasters are very glaring. According to scientific analysis, one inch of rainfall in the 200,000 denuded uplands will be converted to one meter when these rains reach the 200- hectare water basin in Cagayan de Oro City. So if the rains in the uplands will reach 10 inches, so 10 meters pag-abot sa Cagayan de Oro. Bisan kuno ang Gaisano di na makita. All the twelve tributaries are flowing towards Cagayan de Oro river to overflow in the city.

Yes, even with a strong army, a country that has no ecological security is not secured at all. What happened in that fateful night of December 17, 2011 when Sendong hit Cagayan de Oro because of man-made disaster is a strong warning. Let that serve notice to one and all that the people are now fully

awake and must do everything to make pre-emptive move!

The maltreatment of nature by greedy individuals does not stop in raping our forest. The plundering of our natural resources have continued deep below it, extracting 72 kinds of minerals. Yes, that's how rich our land is of natural resources. That's the reason why some greedy individuals are indiscriminately mining it, in cohorts with some local government officials and foreigners.

Before the Sendong tragedy happened, dozens of mining barges were operating upstream of Iponan River. These mining barges—in the guise of sand and gravel extraction operation, belongs to Korean and Chinese nationals. They were responsible for the destructions of mountains in upland barangays, using what they call "hydraulic mining". High pressured water from the river were splashed onto the mountain to destroy the dirt and let it flow down to their excavated canals to extract gold while much of the dirt became river silts.

Currently, local residents in the upland barangays continued its guerilla type mining operation despite the continued operation by Task Force Kinaiyahan sans the needed funding.



down in thanksgiving and declared, to God be the glory.

Yes, all logging activities then in the uplands of Cagayan de Oro, Bukidnon and Lanao were all illegal as these were all done in prohibited areas. The 200,000 hectares of dipterocarp forests in Kalatungan Range should have not been logged as these were situated more than 1,000 meters above sea level. Slope with more than 50% gradient should not be logged but the same provision of the law had been wantonly violated as pictures we have taken from the helicopter showed how the loggers plundered all of the trees in these prohibited zones.

Indeed, where have all our forest gone including our megadiversity? Gone to loggers everyone. Our endemic flora and fauna, only found in the Philippines and which have been there for billions of years, have been massacred by the ruthless loggers and all their cabal of vested interest!

Yes, five decades of plunder had reduced our forest ecosystem to nothing, rendering the lives of the people of Cagayan de Oro and nearby municipalities at high risk, that man-made disaster had killed 3,000 people in one night of flooding called Sendong and had rendered 11,000 homeless.

Now, where are the loggers? They are well

*Coop Concern.,  
from p.7*

## Writ of Kalikasan & Task Force Kinaiyahan

The Writ of Kalikasan and the Writ of Continuing Mandamus are contained in the Supreme Court’s en banc resolution on administrative matter 09-6-9SC, promulgated on April 13, 2010. A writ of kalikasan, as provided under the Rules of Court is a remedy available to “a natural or juridical person, entity authorized by law, people’s organization, or any public interest group accredited by or registered with any government agency, on behalf of persons whose constitutional right to a balanced and healthful ecology is violated, or threatened with violation by an unlawful act or omission of a public official or employee, or private individual or entity, involving environmental damage of such magnitude as to prejudice the life, health or property of inhabitants in two or more cities or provinces.

The Writ of Kalikasan was petitioned by Sulog, an environmental group of Cagayan de Oro and is the third in the entire country issued by the Court of Appeals. Through this, 10 agencies of government signed a Memorandum of Agreement and have pledged to execute the mandate from the Court of Appeals in protecting the environment. It includes; The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Mines and Geosciences Bureau, National Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Immigration, Philippine Army, Philippine National Police, Local Government Units of Cagayan de Oro, Misamis Oriental and Iligan City, and the Department of Interior and Local Government. Environment group Sulog chaired the Task Force.

## Task Force Kinaiyahan Chronicles

- Illegal logging done by Dacudao, Roa and Sons, Vicmar, Remedios Fortich, Timber Industries of the Philippines Inc., and Valderama and Sons in 50 years has rendered 200,000 hectares denuded which cause the horrendous death of people during Typhoon Sendong
- In sorties around, backhoes and barges were seen present in the illegal mining areas, turning Iponan River into “Chocolate River” With regards to illegal logging, they make it appear that the logging was done in Bukidnon but in fact was done in Cagayan de Oro 63 Environment Compliance Certificates (ECCs) were issued and used as “fronts”
- In September 2014, one Sunday afternoon in Brgy. Tuburan, a hinterland barangay in Cagayan de Oro, Fausto Orasan aka Datu Sandigan, a Tribal Chieftain who is a staunch advocate for the cause of the environment, was killed and his death remains a mystery. It is believed that his perpetrators were illegal miners who were threatened by his firm stand against illegal mining
- In one of the sorties of the Task Force in the hinterland area of Cagayan de Oro, a hideout was discovered and seen were AK 47 and blasting caps. In another area in Opol, Misamis Oriental, 24 packs of ammonium nitrate (a component in making bombs) and 2,000 meters of detonating cord was discovered.
- Three Chinese nationals who were holding tourist visas were apprehended in the camp site. They were prosecuted in court and was found guilty, but was later released and deported after having paid the penalty. In 2014, a checkpoint was established in Bgry. Pagalungan. Without budgetary allocation, the checkpoint was maintained from the personal funds of Mr. Edwin Dael, Engr. Rex Monsanto, Mr. Aldrich Resma, and with the support of Mayor Oscar Moreno of Cagayan de Oro. Somehow the

illegal logging and mining activities have been stopped but as a consequence, it rendered the inhabitants of the area jobless, and with raw intelligence report of the penetration of the NPAs. ●September 24, 2016, an aerial survey by the Task Force, together with then Usec. Halmen Valdez from the Office of the Cabinet Secretary was conducted. Traces of guerilla type mining activities were spotted. February 23, 2017, another aerial survey was done by the Task Force, this time with DENR Usec. Ipat Luna. Several backhoes were spotted mining along the river.

## Healing the Blighted Land Back to Life

The Task Force Kinaiyahan believes that “a hungry man is an angry man”, thus the following recommendations: One, thorough investigation of the death of Datu Sandigan; 2.) Check on the apparent involvement of several barangay officials to illegal mining; 3.) The Bureau of Immigration should have acted accordingly when Chinese nationals were arrested; 4.) Create a Task Force that would provide livelihood for the affected residents; 5.) Active participation of the MOA Signatories is needed per Order of the 8th Division of the Court of Appeals; and 6.) Provision of funds and financial support from the signatories and other entities. RDA

*OCS CDA.,  
from p.1*

In the draft MOA, the parties specified their common responsibilities, to include; 1) Identify groups of Filipino ICCs/IPs who need assistance in the organization of cooperatives; 2) Assist existing cooperatives of ICCs/IPs to become viable business organizations; 3) Assist primary IP cooperatives in establishing cooperative federation at the municipal, city, provincial, regional, and national levels and encourage them to join existing cooperative unions at their respective areas; 4) Assist the IP coops in the identification of appropriate projects based on their needs, problems, available and potential indigenous resources and technologies, and existing support services in the area; 5) Closely monitor and evaluate assisted entrepreneurial projects towards the attainment of sustainability and self-reliance; 6) Conduct consultative conferences nationwide to explore possibility of improving the development and management of ICC/IP cooperatives vis-à-vis their distinct cultural norms and values and/or expanding cooperatives/entrepreneurial components/potentials of Indigenous People’s Organizations; 7) Designate personnel as coordinators in these undertakings; and 8) Organize a Technical Working Group.

The tripartite covenant between OCS, CDA and NCIP is expected to create a huge impact to the Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous People. With IPs around the Philippines belonging to 110 tribes with some 17 million members who will cooperativize, it will create a tremendous societal effect in the entire country.

**State .,from p.1**  
cooperative laws, rules and regulations and comply with reportorial requirements. Thus, CDA conducts inspection, or examination and investigation. While it gives legal personality by issuing a Certificate of Registration (COR), the same can be withdrawn voluntarily or for cause thru the process of dissolution, liquidation, cancellation and delisting. Below are accomplishments on certain regulatory indicators:

Indicator	2015		2016	
	Target	Accomplishment	Target	Accomplishment
No. of cooperatives inspected	15,674	14,580	14,645	14,118
Compliance to reportorial requirements	11,662	11,330	11,063	11,448
Cooperatives delisted		179		373 <sup>1</sup>

RICE IMPORTATION  
As early as 2012, the CDA has been vigilant on its initiative to address the concerns on the involvement in rice importation of cooperatives. On November 12, 2012, the CDA issued Memorandum to all Extension Office Directors for the conduct of Special Inspection on Identified Cooperatives Involved in Alleged Rice Smuggling. Accordingly, all Extension Office Directors complied with the said directives and sent their respective technical personnel to conduct Special Inspections. Thereafter submitted their Special Inspection Reports.

On February 20, 2013, the CDA requested from the Commissioner of Bureau of Customs for the Complete List of Cooperatives which violated Customs laws, rules and regulations. Subsequently, CDA was able to set a meeting with the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service of the Bureau of Customs. CDA received from the Bureau of Customs a letter reply dated July 9, 2013 on the request of the list of cooperatives charged before the Department of Justice. Eventually, as per letter from the Bureau of Customs, in reply to our request for the list of cooperatives with pending criminal charges against their officers with the Department of Justice only the following names of cooperatives came out:

1. Takusa Multi-Purpose Cooperative;
2. Malampang Concerned Citizen Multi-Purpose Cooperative;
3. SamahangMagsasakaKapampangan at Katagalogan Multi-Purpose Cooperative.

On a letter dated 30 August 2013, the Department of Finance expressed its appreciation on the actions taken by the Authority and further requested the Authority to for the updates on actions taken against other cooperatives that may be involved in smuggling activities as identified by the Authority in its conduct of investigation.

List and status of cooperatives reported to have engaged in illegal rice importation: CDA Calamba Extension Office (With CEASE AND DESIST ORDER from engaging in rice importation and non-issuance of CGS):

- 1.Barrio Site Purnaga Marketing Cooperative
- 2.Pagpapaunlad Kita MPC Kilusang Bayan sa Gawain
- 3.Rizal Senior and Retired Teachers MPC
- 4.Magsaysay MPC
- 5.Magsaysay First Christian School MPC
- 6.Kamburay Agro-Livelihood Kilusang Bayan MPC
- 7.Upper and Lower Magbay MPC
- 8.Mindoro Occidental Peoples MPC ( MOPEMCO)
- 9.Ligaya MPC Service Cooperative
- 10.Calintaan Guardian PMC
- 11.MagbayBagongBuklod MPC
- 12.Clalintaan Young Blood Farmers and Fishermen MPC
- 13.GutadPessin MPC
- 14.CanturoySamahangMagsasaka MPC (CASA-MUCO)
- 15.Genaro MPC
- 16.Alacaak Development Cooperative(ALDECO)
- 17.BubogFarmers Cooperative (BUFACO)
- 18.San Agustin Fishermen Irrigators Livelihood MPC
- 19.Northern Mindoro Farmers marketing Cooperative
- 20.Family 10 MPC
- 21.SamahangAntiquenosngMondoro Occidental marketing Cooperative
- 22.KaagapayKilusang baying Tagapagpaunlad (KAAKIBAT)
- 23.Mindoro occidental Women’s Rotary Community Corps MPC
- 24.Murtha Development MPC
- 25.KapasinanparasaPagkakaisaTiyaga at Sipag (KAPATAS) MPC
- 26.Rizal-San Jose Farmers Cooperative
- 27.SamahangBagongAnyo development Cooperative
- 28.Mind West farmers Cooperative
- CDA Pampanga Extension office (With CEASE AND DESIST ORDER from engaging in rice importation and non-issuance of CGS)
- 1.Kapatirangtakusa MPC
- 2.Pinambaran Farmers Producers Cooperatives
- 3.Jefmin Farmer’s MPC
- 4.SamahannngMagsasakangKapampangan and Katagalugan MPC
- 5.Malimpang Concern Citizens MPC

*See State ., p. 9*

<b>PUBLISHER</b> Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)	<b>EDITORIAL BOARD</b> USEC. Orlando R. Ravanera Administrator Abad Santos	<b>EDITORIAL STAFF</b> Ronde D. Alicaya Cherryl Marders Gloria G. Barrido
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**State ..from p.8**

With pending criminal charges:

- 1.KapatirangTakusa MPC
- 2.Malampang Concerned Citizen MPC
- 3.SamahangMagsasakaKapampangan at Katagalogan MPC

In 2013 the Authority has addressed the instructions of DOF regarding cooperatives engaged into rice importation. CDA's action on said cooperatives was only limited to the issuance of cease and desist order from engaging in rice importation and non-issuance of CGS. Under the new policy of the National Food Authority (NFA), however, the issuance of Certificate of Good Standing (CGS) by the CDA as a prerequisite in the application of a cooperative in the importation of rice is no longer required.

In 2016, CDA's role in the rice importation of cooperatives was limited to the issuance of confirmation as to registration as well as status as to pendency of any cases filed against said cooperatives. This issuance of confirmation is upon the request of NFA. The confirmation as issued contains a notation that the CDA do not vouch for the capacity of the cooperatives to import. As a safety net however, the Authority attaches a copy of the cooperative's Audited Financial Statement for additional reference to said confirmation document.

Also in 2016, a list of cooperatives on rice importation was referred to the CDA by the Office of the Cabinet Secretary (OCS) for purposes of determining their status of registration. The CDA is appreciative of said endeavor of the OCS, considering that the CDA was at least given the opportunity to validate said cooperatives, despite CDA's removal in its involvement in the prequalification process of applying cooperatives as rice importers.

In a letter dated April 24, 2017, CDA made an appeal to the Secretary of the Cabinet, Leoncio "Jun" Evasco, Jr. for his intervention for CDA to issue an INDORSEMENT as part of the documentary requirements to be complied with by a cooperative in its application for the NFA MAV Rice Importation Program. This is for the reason that the CDA is the regulatory agency for cooperatives and hence, the repository of reports and records, as well as with assigned personnel that could ascertain and validate cooperatives to engage into rice importation as per capitalization, facility, equipment and human resources.

## GARLIC IMPORTATION

On September 8, 2014, CDA requested the Department of Justice to furnish the Authority the complete list of cooperatives and its corresponding case file, if there is any, involved in questionable grant or importation related transaction amounting to smuggling in violation of customs law, rules and regulations.

Thru a letter dated September 9, 2014, and received by the authority on October 3, 2014, DOJ furnished the Authority of the list of cooperatives which are engaged in illegal activities in the importation of garlic.

On October 10, 2014, the Office of the Executive Director ordered the submission of the Inspection Reports from CDA Extension Offices of the cooperatives concerned. Examination proceedings were conducted on the following cooperatives as per list furnished by the Department of Justice:

- 1.Bagong Sigla Credit Cooperative- Brgy. Kaingin, Bongabon, Nueva ecija
  - 2.Ilocosd Multi-Purpose Cooperative- Brgy Nansuagao,Caoayan Ilocos Norte
  - 3.Kooperatiba ng Bayan Sagana- Brgy kapitan Pepe, Cabanatuan City
  - 4.Magsasaka ng barngay Vega Producers Cooperative- Brgy Vega Bongabon Nueva Ecija
  - 5.Magtutumana ng Sta Rosa MPC- brgy La Fuerte, Sta Rosa Nueva Ecija
  - 6.Mindoro( formerly Magsaysay) Alliun Growers MPC-Poblacion Mgsaysay Occidental Mindoro
  - 7.Onion Garlic farmers of Ilocos Norte MPC- Brgay Darat Pinili Ilocos Norte
- On July 15, 2015 an Order of Dissolution was issued against Bagong Sigla Credit Cooperative.
- LABOR SERVICE COOPERATIVES**

It has always been and will continue to be the mandate of the Cooperative Development Authority to adhere to the declared policy of the State to foster the creation and growth of the cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice.

The Authority is in unanimity with the government's efforts to end illegitimate contractualization which are being raised by various employers' associations, the cooperative sector and other stakeholders.

Under Section 3, Rule VIII of the Revised IRR of RA 9520, it is provided therein that a worker-member shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges as provided for in the Labor Code as amended and RA 9520. Furthermore, under Section 14, it states that termination of membership shall not mean automatic termination of employment. However, termination of membership shall be a ground for the termination of employment if the termination

of membership constitutes violation of the policies, rules and regulations of the cooperative. As illustrated in the Rules, refusal of the member to be deployed by the cooperative without justifiable reason may be a ground to terminate membership in accordance with the by-laws, policies, rules, and regulations of the cooperative, provided, that those who have reached the mandatory retirement age shall not be denied continued membership. Clearly, the law on cooperatives recognizes the regularization of employment, since there is no automatic termination of employment.

Be it noted that the registration of a labor service cooperative is anchored to the fact that a cooperative is recognized by labor laws, i.e. DO 18-A, to engage into labor contracting. Thus, as labor service cooperative upon registration as such with the CDA, it shall apply for accreditation as contractor/subcontractor with the DOLE for purposes of operating as such labor service contractor/subcontractor. Consistent with the rules of the DOLE, all labor service cooperatives and multi-purpose cooperatives engaged in labor service contracting shall register and seek accreditation with the Regional Office of the DOLE where they principally operate. Definitely, once accredited, the said labor service cooperative may now enter into an arrangement whereby a principal agrees to put out or farm out with the labor service cooperative for the performance or completion of a specific job, work or service within a definite or predetermined period, whether such job, work or service is to be performed or completed within or outside the premises of the principal. Consequently, a member-employee shall now refers to an individual member of the cooperative who has been deployed by the cooperative to perform or complete a job, work, or service pursuant to Service Agreement. It also refers to a regular member-employees of the cooperative whose functions are not dependent on the performance or completion of a specific job, work or service within a definite period of time, such as, administrative staff. Under DO 18-A and the Revised IRR of RA 9520, a service agreement refers to the contract between the principal and contractor containing the terms and conditions governing the performance or completion of a specific job, work or service being farmed out for a definite or predetermined period.

Labor-only contracting is prohibited and this is being given emphasize under the Rule VIII of the Revised IRR of RA 9520 or otherwise known as the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008. The said Rule of the Revised IRR gives warning to all cooperatives specially the labor service cooperatives. No less than the Revised IRR of RA 9520 prohibits labor only contracting. The Rules is emphatic when it adopted and included the definition of a cabo as a prohibited activity, which refers to a person or a group of persons or to a labor group which, in the guise of a cooperative, supplies individual members or workers to an employer, with or without any monetary or other consideration, whether in the capacity of an agent of the employer or as an ostensible independent contractor. It's a fact that upon entering into a contracting/subcontracting agreement, a service agreement shall thereby be executed between the principal and contractor cooperative which shall include the agreed amount of the services to be rendered, the administrative fee of not less than 10% of the total contract cost. The phrase "in the guise of a cooperative", do not come into place in so far as CDA is concerned, considering the validation and screening process being undertaken by the CDA before a proposed labor service cooperative is registered.

A labor service cooperative has members called as members-employees. They are owners at the same time employees of the cooperative. As members-employees they are considered as part of the General Assembly. The general assembly shall be the highest policy-making body of the cooperative and shall exercise such powers as stated in RA 9520 in the Articles of Cooperation and in the By-laws. It has exclusive powers which cannot be delegated such as the power to approve the developmental plans of the cooperative. Hence the member-employees are being made to aware of the cooperative's vision, mission and goals, understand the cooperative's long term plan and program and the importance of policies of the cooperative. It is thru this that they are made to be aware not only of their duties and responsibilities as owner, member-employee and as policy maker of the cooperative but also made to be mindful of the terms and conditions of their being members-employees. Since they themselves are the policy makers, it is directly within their power to approve policies regarding their membership and employment.

The CDA made efforts regarding labor contracting. Labor contracting, which is basically one of the business activity of Labor Service Cooperatives, is embodied under labor service, under service cooperative, to wit, "Service Cooperative" is one which engages in medical and dental care, hospitalization, transportation, insurance, housing, labor, electric light and power, communication, professional and other services."

To safeguard however the registration of labor service and workers cooperatives as well as those already registered with the Authority, the Authority issued Memorandum Circular No. 2012-12, Series of 2012. This MC was issued to harmonize

practices of cooperatives to conform to requirements of law, rules and regulations and, prescribing a clear distinction of different terminologies used in relation thereto which gives the impression of violating, labor relations, standards, and tax laws. Existing cooperatives engaged in labor service, manpower service, and workers service registered with the Authority previous to the issuance of MC No. 2012-12, Series of 2012 shall strictly comply with the requirements prescribed in the said Memorandum Circular. The necessary amendment to registered objectives and purposes including membership qualification should be modified accordingly following the process of amendment within two (2) years approval of the Memorandum Circular. (Which was approved pursuant to BOA Resolution No. 190, S-2012 dated July 13, 2012.)

CDA has to verify complaints through the conduct of inspection/examination and/or investigation whether existing cooperatives belonging to those enumerated are being used as tax shields or are fraudulently registered.

Subsequently, Memorandum Circular No. 2012-08, "Temporary Recall of the Delegated Function to register selected types of Primary Cooperatives" dated June 15, 2012 was issued. The guidelines cover selected primary cooperatives such as workers cooperatives, service or other types of cooperatives engage in labor, manpower, health, mining and other related service. Such recall merely transferred the application for registration of said types of cooperatives with CDA Central Office to ensure that cooperatives are not being used as "Tax-Shield" of some misguided groups and not for the Authority to refrain from registering said types of cooperatives.

The Supervision and Examination Unit of CDA as per Memorandum Circular No. 2012-02 on the Guidelines on Inspection and/or Examination of Cooperatives was instructed to conduct the regular inspection and examination of labor service cooperatives.

For the part of 2013, the CDA has denied the application for registration of 23 prospective labor service cooperative. The CDA became consistent on its denial of application for registration of prospective labor service cooperatives hence in 2014, 2015 and 2016, the CDA has denied 14, 20 and 9 prospective labor service cooperatives respectively.

A moratorium on the registration of labor service cooperatives has been adopted by the Authority in view of the DOLE Labor Advisory No. 10, Series of 2016 prohibiting labor-only contracting.

Undoubtedly, considering the foregoing premises, labor service cooperatives should be promoted and encouraged as one of the best form of upholding the strict prohibition of contractualization and at the same time upholding the rules on contracting/subcontracting under the Labor Code, having in mind the universal labor rights and standards for all workers.

## OTHER STATISTICAL MILESTONE

Based on official data of the CDA culled out from the Cooperative Audited Financial Statement Information System (CAFSIS), as of December 31, 2015, reporting cooperatives nationwide posted an aggregate time and savings deposit of PHP 75.1 billion coming from 7.5 million member-depositors. This represents PHP 10,000 average deposits per cooperative member. It manifests the propensity of the cooperative members to pool funds debunking the mistaken notion of the inability of the poor to save. Combining such deposits to the aggregate paid-up capital of PHP 79.7 billion covering the same period, the funds generated thru the cooperative system were used to propel business undertakings and created gross value added to the economy. This humble contribution by cooperative members who constitute the small and micro entrepreneurs in rural areas are often given less lime-light if not totally neglected.

The aggregate PHP 152.5 billion loans receivable to cooperative members depicts that the marginalized sector who are traditionally treated as unbankable by banks and big financing institutions and cannot put up collateral to gain access to credit can become important players in nation building if only they can be fully supported by the government. The number of cooperatives which engaged into financial inclusion related services reaches to 6,188 or 83% which can be considered as financial access points. It shows that 66% or at least one cooperative with financial related services is present in 1,247 out of 1,634 cities and municipalities in the Philippines.

The public confidence on cooperatives as part of formal financial institutions must be sustained over the long term by instituting pertinent performance standards and policy reforms. The regulatory policies of the Cooperative Development Authority must respond to making those cooperatives adhere to the best practices and good governance measures. They must be properly maintained and/or instituted to maintain that public confidence. The success of big cooperatives, good public image and goodwill earned by them will cascade down to the benefits of the entire co-operative sector.

## A Labor Service Cooperative Emerges as Benchmark for Cooperative Development

*A passionate cooperative cares not just for its members but the communities that host it...*

**DAVAO CITY** – Less than ten years ago, in 2008 to be exact, a simple and unassuming cooperative was registered with the Cooperative Development Authority – Davao Extension Office (CDA-DEO). It was the day that Manuel Guianga and Sirib Growers and Employees (MAGSIGE) Multipurpose Cooperative came into existence.

Back in 2008, the cooperative has only 56 members and paid-in capital of P33,600. Now its members rose to 12,399 and its assets leapfrogged to P203 million in 2016, ably performing its main purpose, that is, to provide services for the production of banana, cacao, rice and livestock and to market the same.

Guided by the development vision of its humble leader, Mr. Agripino L. Torres, MAGSIGE MPC, during its formative years, has already showed its ability to comply with the standards required by the government agencies over its operations. But more than being compliant, MAGSIGE MPC adopted sound operational mechanisms to make sure that its systems and procedures are at par, if not better.

### MAGSIGE MPC in CDA Gawad Parangal.

The good practices of MAGSIGE MPC are hard to remain unnoticed. In 2012, when MAGSIGE first joined the search, it was awarded first place in the Most Outstanding Cooperative – Micro category. When MAGSIGE joined the same search in the following year, it bypassed the small category and leapfrogged to medium level. Its fast growth in net worth made it possible. Its rapid expansion of membership was good for its operations. MAGSIGE MPC again bagged the second place in the medium category for 3 consecutive years, (2013, 2014, and 2015).

MAGSIGE MPC demonstrates what a labor service cooperative can do for its members and the communities. MAGSIGE MPC is truly living the seventh cooperative principle which is concern for the community. In less than a decade, it has become an epitome of a cooperative with unquestionable passion to help its members and the communities that host it.

	Participates in Adopt-a-School Program.
	Extends financial assistance to tribal school in far-flung community.
Water and sanitation	Donates water supply
	Assists water system project for the community
Food and Nutrition	Participates in feeding program for schoolchildren
Health	Conducts medical mission in far-flung communities

In sum, the cooperative set-up appears to be the most potent platform that raises the potentials of its members: as business owners-employees-entrepreneurs rolled into one.

What MAGSIGE just demonstrated is the fact that, in cooperative, members get the opportunity to become business owners of a P203 Million entity, not just being employees. (GLENN SABANAL GARCIA)

## Small Farmers Uplift Their Economic Condition Through Cooperativism

*(A Story of Aguipo Coconut Farmers Multi-purpose Cooperative in Brgy. Aguipo, Mabini, Bohol)*

### Their Story of Unity

It all began on October 7, 1988 in Barangay Aguipo, one of the 22 barangays of the Municipality of Mabini when twenty-five (25) coconut farmers from this barangay had organized themselves as the Aquipo Small Coconut Farmers Organization (ASCFO) through the guidance of the Philippine Coconut authority (PCA) Coordinator Mr. Oscar Cuyacot. With an initial capital contribution of Php 25.00 per member, the group engaged in a fertilizer-palay business.

They bought fertilizers and loaned them to rice farmers with agreed equivalent quantity of palay per bag of fertilizer as payment. Payments were collected after harvest. Collected palay were sold and the sales were rolled on the same business.

Considering the increasing membership, ASCFO was renamed Aguipo Coconut Farmers Organization (CFO) on September 8, 1989. The new name of the organization was accredited with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and was registered with the Department of labor and Employment (DOLE) on June 16, 1990.

During the years 1989-1992 more farmers were encouraged to become members, hence the organization was able to open a small sari-sari store to cater some of the basic needs of the members.

On January 2, 1992, the name Aguipo Coconut Farmers Organization was changed to Aquipo Coconut Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative (ACFMPC) and was registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).

As of December 31, 2014 there were 2,422 coop members, total member's equi-

ty of Php 13,404,821.12 and a total asset of Php 35,901,270.38.

Achievement from April 2015 to August 2017 are as follows: 1). Continuing construction of the 2nd floor of the MSO building which was completed on April 2016; b). construction of the coop archives; c). cementing of the DCM pathway and the construction of a drainage system; d). concrete fencing of the coop business buildings in Aguipo (water refilling station, palay bodega, rice mill and the consumer store 2; e). putting up of a steel gate at the entrance leading to the different coop business buildings in Aguipo; f). acquisition of additional furniture and fixtures (42 sets tables and benches, 3 laptops 1 big freezer, wooden and glass display shelves, 1 long-carriage typewriter; g). installation of a sound system and 3-wall fans at the coop function hall; h). installation of coop security system (alarm system and a high definition CCTV); i). the acquisition of one-unit hand tractor which was a grant from the Provincial Agriculture Office; j). opening of the Cash-out business in partnership with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP Cash @ POS), k). construction of the roof over the DCM and the hardware store area; l). purchase and installation of one (1) unit transformer for the coop establishments in Poblacion I; m). purchase of a 273.0 m2 and a 767.0 m2 near the coop pump house; n). purchase of one big generator; o). expansion of the water refilling business (additional drilling, additional water purifying machine, additional water tanks, construction of a new lavatory); p). construction of a roof over the lavatory and the meeting area; q). opening of the coop Consumer 3 (coop minimart); r). opening of the coop hardware store; s). opening of the New Agricultural Loan for Rice Farmers, Cash and bonus Loans. The cooperative was given the 2016 Gawad Pitak Group Winner Award, Agri-based Category from the Landbank of the Philippines.

### Benefits Enjoyed by Coop Members and Coop Employees:

The coop is giving hospitalization and death aid benefits to regular coop members. A refund to the hospital bill equivalent to twenty percent (20%) of the member's CBU will be given to a hospitalized member, while twenty thousand pesos (Php 20,000) will be given to the beneficiaries of a deceased member.

### Other Coop Activities:

The coop supports government programs such as environmental preservation and conservation activities such as tree planting, solid waste management and other related activities that help conserve and protect our environment.

The coop is also involved in some social services or community outreach activities like the facilitation of the conduct of a dental and medical mission that benefited 232 coop members and non-coop members, conduct of a symposium on the hazardous effects of illegal drugs to 100 Grade VII students, supplemental feedings to malnourished children, assistance to calamity-stricken areas in the province, support to religious and civic activities to 7 high school coop scholars.

ACFMPC also believed that the human resource is the most important factor for the success of any organization. Hence, coop officers and staff development is considered as among the priority programs of the cooperative. Empowerment of the human resource of the organization is seen as an important activity in order for the organization to function efficiently.

Looking forward, the Aguipo Coconut Farmers Multi-purpose Cooperative is striving hard to achieve another year of growth and fruitful service of its members and the community.

YouTube PH Cooperatives

MAGSIGE MPC Chart of Excellence

BENEFITS	MAGSIGE MPC
Salary/Wage	Actually complies with the RTWPB orders.
Other labor standards	Actually complies with labor standards
Collective bargaining	Not allowed to collectively bargain with themselves pursuant to Supreme Court jurisprudence
Membership	Employees are member-owners
Monetary contributions	Share capital contributions being owners of coop.
Dividends	Members receive interest on share capital
Savings and Thrift	Members become savers
Employment opportunity	Members can be deployed for work assignment
Patronage Refund	Deployed members receive patronage refund
Members Benefits Expense	The cooperative provides for members benefits.
Livelihood opportunities for family members	The cooperative provides livelihood or income-generating activities for family members of the employees, such as piggery, garments, etc.. to become entrepreneurs.
Social contributions	The cooperative conducts social development activities.
Family Development	Conducts Kasalang Magsige
Environment	Participates in Adopt-a-Watershed Program for re-greening of watershed area, known as Lunhaw Dabaw . Participates in collection of plastics and wastes.
Education	Provides day care center to host community. Participates in Brigada Eskwela

## Features



Success is equated in terms of industry, perseverance, good relations, godliness, credibility and tempered with luck. Of course, government and private financial institutions which are concerned with Home Cottage Industry, also play a vital role in the success of the organization.

This is the best way to describe the business success of Paknaan Multi-purpose Cooperative (Pamulco) whose membership are known to be industrious and resourceful. Their God-given skills, talents and high quality craftsmanship give a perpetual honor to the good people of Paknaan, as evidenced by the existing broom cottages right in their own backyards that gave a lot of economic benefits in the community.

Pamulco was organized in June 2005. However, the full swing of its operation started only in the year 2010, which was managed and administered by the incumbent officials who have graciously poured their knowledge, skills, talents, time and even treasures to manage coop business with all honesty, credibility and transparency.

In 2010, the cooperative started with 31 new members and a new set of officers. It commenced its operation with a meager capital of Php 26,000.00 cash that was left by the previous administration and some account receivables from previous members of around Php 104,000.00 and a negative lose of Php 9,000.00. The new management conducted a series of education seminars to all officers and members of the cooperative to primarily inform them of the true essence of cooperativism, as a way of life.

The capital formation was geared towards members' CBU contributions, savings deposits, loan retention and external borrowings from the public and private financial institutions. After 1st year of operation, the management have realized a net surplus of Php 34,000.00. On the 2nd year of operation it had a net surplus of Php 70,000.00, on the 3rd year operation it was able to realize a net surplus of Php 270,000.00, and on the 4th year operation Php 666,000.00. On the 5th year of operation in 2015, the cooperative had a net

## Like Cooperativism's Strength in Unity, Pamulco Finds Its Strength in Broom Business

surplus of Php 1,000,000.00

Paknaan MPC had a significant leap in assets since the new management took office in 2010. From only Php 133,000.00 in assets to Php 9,654,848.19 assets at the end of 2015.

### BROOM PRODUCTS AS COOP MICRO - ENTERPRISE

Pamulco have ventured into a broom making business whose products are made of native materials like buri fibers. Pamulco's aim is to provide livelihood to poor but deserving members with primordial intent and purpose to give them a chance to take off by supplying broom fiber materials to produce high quality finished products. The coop will purchase the products of its members and handles the marketing and selling of the products. The family members are involved in the production, so in a way this becomes a family enterprise.

Pamulco's main goal is to alleviate poverty by boosting livelihood opportunities to the members by generating more jobs as micro-enterprise to start to grow. It hopes to increase their income and better lives. Pamulco can boost the value of the products because of high quality and affordable pricing. Its broom products can compete with other commercial products and are commercially viable.

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A typical broom processing which has adapted to recent technology requires skilled workers that cover the whole operation daily. It is estimated that a set of 100 personnel comprised the production lines to form the whole manning structures which includes raw frond (buri palwa) gatherings from mountain barangays to barangay Paknaan where these items are being processed.

To help finance the operation, it is necessary that substantial capitalization of P1,000,000.00 shall be sourced out from government agency or any private financial institutions for waterpit land sourced development, employees fringe benefits, maintenance cost and initial working capital.

With the financial supports from Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) under the DOLE Integrated Livelihood Emergency and Employment Program (DILEEP) and in conduit with Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. who poured out their financial and technical supports to the cooperatives, this noble project has truly benefited Pamulco members and

families as well as neighboring communities.

Record shows that membership growth has considerably increased for the last four years which at present accounted to 500 active members. Multiplying it by the average of four members per family, the cooperative is feeding 2,000 mouths per day, which if not with the substantial support from the DOLE and other financial institutions, this Christian act of feeding beneficiaries would not have been possible today.

And, just like the strength of cooperativism which is in unity, Pamulco's broom products have found its strength and will surely go a long way.

## Pagadian Coop Leaders Express Satisfaction for CDA Training Services

July 27, 2017, PAGADIAN CITY – Thirty-six smiling coop leaders expressed their joy and gratitude after successfully completing their Capability Building Training on July 27-28, 2017, at the CDA Conference Room, Pagadian City.

Four of Cooperative Development Authority's finest speakers showed their untiring commitment to ensure that each participant receives maximum dose of information, wisdom and proper guidance to better equip and empower them in discharging their respective duties in the cooperative.

Assistant Director Windelyn Avila explained, "a well-educated officer is better able to serve his or her cooperative. Capable officers can bring their cooperatives greater achievements. We want to build a stronger coop sector with fully invigorated officers who will pursue sustainable development for their members and we are excited to journey with you to the next level."

On their part, the coop leaders were grateful with the training provided by CDA. With enhanced capability and enough courage in their hearts, the participants were excited to apply what they have learned to their respective cooperatives.



# The Cooperative Development Authority Presents!

## CDA GAWAD PARANGAL 2017 NATIONAL AWARDEES!

### SPECIAL CITATIONS:

Exemplary Environmental Protection and Conservation Program  
SAN JOSE SICO LANDFILL MPC, Batangas City  
Outstanding Community Involvement and Development Program  
MANUEL GUIANGA AND SIRIB GROWERS EMPLOYEES MPC (MAGSIGE), Davao City  
Excellence in Membership Growth and Expansion Program  
LAMAC MPC, Cebu  
Remarkable Cooperative Solidarity and Partnership Program  
SIBBAP MPC, Batangas City  
Excellence in Providing Financial Products and Services to Members  
SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CREDIT COOPERATIVE, City of San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan  
Best in GAD Mainstreaming  
LAMAC MPC, Cebu  
Remarkable Cooperative Service to Members  
TILAMBO MPC, Taysan, Batangas  
Tabuk City Cooperatives Office  
Tabuk City, Kalinga  
LGU Cooperative Development Champion  
GOV. WILHELMINO SY-ALVARADO  
Bulacan  
FEDERATION OF PEOPLE'S SUSTAINABLE DEVT. COOPERATIVE  
Quezon City  
for promoting value added features to the products and services of the member cooperative promote value added features to the products and services of the member cooperative  
JOSE PANGANIBAN PRIMARY HOSPITAL SERVICE COOPERATIVE  
Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte  
for its resolute and determined effort to provide affordable and accessible health service to its members and its community  
CALAMBA CITY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
Calamba City  
for its collective and coordinative effort in advancing cooperatives as an economic enterprise  
BEST PERFORMING LGU COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFICES  
MUNICIPAL Level  
1st La Trinidad Cooperative Development Services Office  
La Trinidad, Benguet  
2nd Marilao Municipal Cooperative Development Office  
Marilao, Bulacan  
COMPONENT CITY Level  
1st City Cooperatives Office  
City of Cauayan, Isabela  
2nd City Cooperatives Office  
Catbalogan City, Samar  
3rd City Cooperatives Office  
City of Alaminos, Pangasinan  
INDEPENDENT COMPONENT/  
HIGHLY URBANIZED CITY Level  
1st Tacloban City Cooperatives Development and Livelihood Assistance Office  
Tacloban City, Leyte  
2nd Mandaue City Cooperative Department Centro, Mandaue City  
3rd Makati Cooperative Development Office  
Poblacion, Makati City  
PROVINCIAL Level  
1st Provincial Cooperative Development Office  
Province of Isabela  
City of Ilagan, Isabela  
2nd Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office of Bulacan  
City of Malolos, Bulacan  
3rd Provincial Cooperative Development Office  
Province of Dinagat Islands  
San Jose, Dinagat Islands  
MOST OUTSTANDING COOPERATIVE LEADERS  
• MR. ALEXANDER B. RAQUEPO  
Sta. Cruz, Ilocos Sur

• DR. ANGELITO B. BAGUI  
Batangas City

### MOST OUTSTANDING COOPERATIVES

#### LARGE CATEGORY

1st Lamac Multipurpose Cooperative  
Pinamungajan, Cebu  
2nd Barbaza Multi-purpose Cooperative  
Barbaza, Antique  
3rd San Jose Del Monte Savings and Credit Cooperative  
City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan

#### MEDIUM CATEGORY

1st Manuel Guinga and Sirib Growers Multipurpose Cooperative  
Calinan, Davao City  
2nd Sto. Niño De Parada Multipurpose Cooperative  
Santa Maria, Bulacan  
3rd Leyte National High School Multipurpose Cooperative  
Ninoy Avenue, Tacloban City

#### SMALL CATEGORY

1st San Jose Sico Landfill Multipurpose Cooperative  
San Jose Sico, Batangas City  
2nd Malalim Multipurpose Cooperative  
Malalim, Batangas City  
3rd Cortes Multipurpose Cooperative  
Basilisa, Dinagat Islands

#### MICRO CATEGORY

1st Diocese Of Maasin - BEC Credit Cooperative  
Sogod, Southern Leyte  
2nd TOGOY Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative  
Tublay, Benguet  
3rd Sagubo Multipurpose Cooperative  
Kapangan, Benguet

#### HALL OF FAME AWARDEES

• CALAMBA CITY COOPERATIVES AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT & ASSISTANCE OFFICE  
Calamba City  
LGU Cooperative Development Office Component  
City Level  
• NEGROS ORIENTAL UNION OF COOPERATIVES  
Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental  
Cooperative Union

