



Transformative Cooperatives: For People, Planet, Prosperity & Peace

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Cooperatives, MSMEs to Benefit More with CDA under DTI

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FINALLY, HOME. The first meeting between DTI and CDA after EO 67 was signed by Malacañang in October 31, 2018. DTI Sec. Ramon M. Lopez (center) pose for photo with CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera (on his right) and Administrator Myrila Paradillo (on his left).

Cooperativism Fulfills PRRD's Promise to Wounded Soldiers



NOW PART OF THE FAMILY. Member of Wounded Soldiers Agriculture Cooperative pose for photo op with the CDA Officials headed by Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera after receiving their Certificate of Registration in AFPHSC, V. Luna, Quezon City.

"There is still life for soldiers even after losing eyesight. I will see to it that you will remain productive citizen of this country". This was the promise of His Excellency Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte to First Lieutenant Jerome Jacuba and to other soldiers who were confined at V. Luna Hospital in Quezon City after being wounded for fighting against terrorism and insurgency in Marawi, Maguindanao and other parts of the

country.

The soldiers who were confined at V. Luna have incurred different injuries in defending the country against violent extremism. Some were amputated, while others—like 1Lt. Jacuba, were blinded. Jacuba lost his eyesight due to the explosion of an improvised explosive device (IED) in an encounter in Maguindanao against Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters

(BIFF). As their Commander-In-Chief, PRRD was moved by the courage and patriotism of these soldiers. Hence, the president is making sure that government's support will be given to them accordingly, just like a good father of the family.

Few months later, with the help of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and other government agencies, the soldiers are back on their feet again, ready for another battle. This time, their fight will be against poverty and economic sustainability.

In October 16, 2018, CDA conducted a Pre-Registration Sem-

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WE ARE ONE! DTI Sec. Ramon M. Lopez gestures during the DTI-CDA Meeting at his office in Makati. Sec. Lopez promised to provide to CDA needed assistance for the cooperative sector and to make sure collaborate programs of the two agencies.

PH-China Ink Partnership for Strengthening Agri Coops



ONE IN PRINCIPLE. CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi exchange signed Memorandum of Understanding in Malacañang during the State Visit of Chinese Pres. Xi Jinping.

After a year of coordination and a series of planning and meetings, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) of the Republic of the Philippines and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of the People's Republic of China has been finally signed. The signing was made during the visit to the Philippines of His Excellency Chinese Pres. Xi Jinping last November 20-21, 2018, after the CDA-MARA MOU was identified as one of the deliverables during his state visit.

In a ceremony held in Malacañang in November 20, Hon. Orlando R. Ravanera, CDA Chairman and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, exchanged

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Cooperatives Say BRAVO! To the Coop Champion in Congress



HON. ANTHONY M. BRAVO, Ph.D.
Deputy Minority Leader
Representative, COOP-NATCCO Partylist

A legislator's accomplishment is not determined by how many speeches he delivered, or how many media appearances he attended to, or how many gatherings he made. Rather, it is determined by the impact he made to

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BACK TO BASIC. (L-R) Hingyon Ifugao Mayor Gerardo L. Luglug, CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera, and Tam-an BMPC Founder/CEO Mr. Jose D. Tomas, Sr. participated in the harvest ritual of Heirloom rice "Tunawon" in Anao, Hingyon, Ifugao.

2nawon Harvest Festival: Regaining Back Cultural and Ecological Integrity, Attaining Food Security

November 24, 2018, Anao, Hingyon Ifugao—A 3-day festival, the "1st 2nawon Harvest Festival" was successfully organized by Tam-an Banaue Multipurpose Cooperative (Tam-an BMPC) led by its Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Jose "Tam-an" D. Tomas, Sr., with a theme: "Expanding our Horizons, Embracing New Technology, Attaining Unity and Prosperity"

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Cooperatives, MSMEs to Benefit More with CDA under DTI

December 7, 2018, OSEC, DTI Makati—The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) led by Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera and the Department of Trade and Industry, led by Sec. Ramon M. Lopez have meet for the first time after the Executive Order No. 67 was signed by Malacañang, putting the CDA under DTI. But the atmosphere was more like a family reunion rather than a business meeting. Sec. Lopez and Chairman Ravanera, and the rest of the attendees have expressed optimism and excitement on the possible impact of the Order.

Chairman Ravanera expressed his excitement to Sec. Lopez for the transfer of CDA under the supervision of DTI because the move capacitates the Authority to realize its Value Chain Program for cooperatives. He also reported to the Honorable Secretary the ongoing initiatives and projects of CDA, particularly on the Memorandum of Understanding between CDA and Minis-

try of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China, the Bangon Marawi Rehabilitation Program through Cooperativism, CDA-NCIP Partnership for the Indigenous Peoples, the CDA-NCMF Partnership for the Muslim Filipinos, among others.

On his part, Sec. Lopez have also expressed excitement on the future collaboration of DTI and CDA for their programs for the grassroots which are now in the pipeline. Sec. Lopez even promised to include the CDA and the micro and small cooperatives on their capacity trainings and programs. Undersecretary Zeny Maglaya who were also present have concurred to the Secretary.

Before concluding the meeting, the Honorable Secretary gave a marching order to the attendees to establish focal person that would focus on the collaborative activities between DTI and CDA.

Also present during the meeting was CDA Administrator Myrlla Paradillo. RDA



Cooperativism Fulfills PRRD's Promise to Wounded Soldiers



inar (PRS) to the soldiers thru the help of Cooperative Development Specialist Abet Sabarias. And in December 6, 2018, the soldiers were finally awarded with their Certificate of Registration by no less than the CDA Chairman Orlando R.

Ravanera, to give legal personality to the Wounded Soldiers Agriculture Cooperative (WSAC). Present during the awarding ceremony are Mr. Ray R. Elevazo, CDA Executive Director, CDA 4A Regional Director Salvador Valeroso, CDA MIMARO-

PA Supervising Cooperative Development Specialist Abet Sabarias, AFP Heath Service Commander, BGen Augustus H De Villa, PAF-CPIC Chairman BGen Francisco M Paredes and ACDI MPC BOD, BGen Alfredo Ramirez.

On the other hand, the Department of National Defense is providing its 5-hectare land facility in Batangas to the cooperative to be transformed into an Agri-Tourism farm while the Department of Agriculture provides a Php1.5 million funding for livestock supply.

"Lubos po kaming nagpapasalamat sa ating mahal na Pangulong Duterte dahil hindi nya kami pinabayaan, sa CDA dahil tinulongan kaming makapagtayo ng kooperatiba at matulongan makapagpapatuloy sa buhay ang mga wounded soldiers.", Jacoba said in his acceptance speech.

Currently, the cooperative has 50 regular and associate mem-

bers, including their dependents and immediate family members who will help them run the cooperative. They have now a development plan for the 5-hectare land in Nasugbo Batangas to be transformed into and integrated agro-tourism farm. The two top cooperatives in the country, the ACDI Multipurpose Cooperative of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Army Finance Center Producers Integrated Cooperative of Philippine Army will serve as big brothers of WSAC until they become sustainable.

With the outpouring of support, the soldiers have definitely had their life back again. And most importantly, they will not live waiting for help from the government or other people, but to live normally with their pride and honor intact. And that was made possible thru Cooperativism. RDA

NCR Coops: Recipients of COOP-SEED

COOP SEED is a capacity building program for members of micro and small cooperatives from identified provinces in all regions considered as poorest of the poor. Its main objective is to implement a holistic entrepreneurial and poverty alleviation approach utilizing cooperative entrepreneurialism. It is a partnership program of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and the Department of Trade Industry (DTI) for cooperatives which aims to strengthen beneficiaries who are into produc-

tion, processing and marketing of goods or products; providing savings and credit services to member-entrepreneurs; and organize, register, and develop cooperatives of entrepreneurs.

The CDA-Manila Extension Office has two (2) beneficiaries to the program, namely: Sambayanan ng Muling Pagkabuhay MPC, Inc. and Sikap MPC. These cooperatives were already involved in various activities relative to the program that were implemented by CDA-MEO. Among the activ-

ities already undertaken by the program were the following: Coop-Seed Orientation on March 20, 2018; Seminar Workshop on Cooperative Enterprise Development Plan and Value Chain, conducted on April 23-27, 2018; Bookkeeping – May 15-18, 2018; Financial Literacy – June 15-16, 2018; Entrepreneurial Skills Development Seminar on June 22, 2018; Seminar on Product Development and Packaging, June 30, 2018.

Market matching with Caritas Manila was also undertaken

last August 30, 2018 as well as the Road show on Cooperative Business Matching Information System (CBMIS) on September 6, 2018, at the Hotel Stotsenberg, Clark Freeport, Pampanga, to promote products and services of the coops that will facilitate business matching and marketing activities. National trade fair exhibits and other relevant promotional activities are planned to be conducted this October where the beneficiary cooperatives would be tapped to actively participate.

EDITORIAL

LET OUR PEOPLE BLEED NO MORE!

BY: USEC ORR

Muslims and Indigenous People’s United Front

They have come together with a firm collective intent to declare, first, what they have witnessed and, second, what they intend to do to combat poverty and social injustices and to advance peace in Mindanao.

For the Muslims and the Indigenous People of Mindanao, they are one in their statement that they have witnessed hunger and poverty in an island that is oozing with ecological wealth as the land is blest with rich natural resources. Indeed, the hills and plains of Mindanao are fertile and verdant which continuously yield diverse agricultural products. Yes, its hinterlands are still carpeted with the remaining forest, very rich in diversity.

But the God-given bounties do not end at the shorelines. Beneath are minerals and ore deposits, described as the richest in the world. Its bays, lakes and seas are teeming with fish of every shape and hue.

Oh, so rich, yet so poor. Amidst the plenty lies so much poverty. The six regions of Mindanao are suffering from high poverty gap ratio than the rest of the country. In fact, the poor in Mindanao are the poorest throughout the land. Poverty is spawned by social injustices that lead to conflict in this land of the brave and the free.

The natives of Mindanao know very well that the cause of economic deprivation is rooted in the powerlessness of the people to have access and control over their resources and over their utilities which are fast slipping through their fingers. The Muslims and the Indigenous People are increasing-

ly marginalized.

As a countervailing measure, they are now organizing themselves into cooperatives to combat poverty and social injustices.

During their 1st Muslims and Indigenous People’s Cooperative Summit, they unanimously declared to advance peace through cooperativism.

Having experienced the pains and bitterness of continuing conflict, they cannot just remain as bystanders knowing that the essence of cooperativism may yet be the long awaited answer for peace and stability in Mindanao. Indeed, cooperativism’s *raison d’être* is to address the roots of conflict which is social injustices, inequities and poverty.

Social scientists and development experts have come up with studies disclosing that poverty is rooted, not in the lack of resources (because we have so much), but in the powerlessness of the people; that to combat poverty, measure must be taken to empower them.

That being the case, cooperativism may as well be the answer because cooperatives are the coalitions of the poor to collectively have access and control over their resources which are fast slipping through their fingers. Such can aptly be done through cooperatives which are increasingly becoming a vehicle of empowerment to democratize wealth and power and therefore lessen economic and social disparities.

In that national convergence, they have laid down the nine paths to peace, namely, 1.) Peace through Sustainable Agriculture; 2.) Peace through Protection, Rehabilitation, Conservation and Preferential Use Rights of Natural Resources; 3.) Peace through Rights-Based Management of Utilities; 4.) Peace through Good Governance and People Empowerment; 5.) Peace through

Human Resource Development; 6.) Peace through Conflict Transformation, Management and Resolution; 7.) Peace through Promotion of Halal Food; 8.) Peace through International Cooperation and Integration of Foreign Peace making Initiatives; and 9.) Peace through Recognition and Acceptance of Cultural Diversity and Integrity

What could be more painful for our indigenous people than to see vast tracts of land that once their forefathers owned now converted into massive plantations as 70% of the land area of Mindanao (the choicest) are controlled by trans-national corporations! Where are the dipterocarp forest where their ancestors had lived sustainably for thousands of years? The finest timber in the world from the Philippine forests had gone to the powerful and influential loggers as our country had supplied the timber needs of the world in the last one hundred years.

For so long, the issues that they have been advocating are just voices in the wilderness. Today, with one collective voice through their cooperatives, they are advancing the following paths to liberate themselves from the vicious cycle of poverty and injustices and thereby achieve peace in this wonderful but broken island of Mindanao.

Yes, there can be no peace until people have enough to eat. Long term development in Mindanao can be won or lost through agriculture. Poverty is very glaring in the rural communities which is highly attributed to a kind of farming system anchored on conventional agriculture. Because of this, farming has benefitted everyone (the local compradors, the chemical fertilizer dealers, the usurers) except those who are doing the back breaking job of farming, the poor farmers. Conventional agriculture has robbed the rural communities of farming which belong

to them. The inhabitants are further marginalized, thus, contributing to negative peace, if not, to conflict.

As countervailing measures, the cooperatives are shifting to natural, organic, ecological and even bio-dynamics farming. A few are into manufacturing of organic fertilizers and pesticides.

If the Lumads are becoming “squatters” in their own land that are now very vulnerable to ecological disasters, then the answer is to advance peace through protection, rehabilitation, conservation, and the preferential use rights of the natural resources. The muslims and the IPs must be given the preferential use rights in developing their respective resources and that, their cooperatives be accorded with the utmost priority in the use and management of such resources, giving them the license, franchise and whatever privilege to handle key economic activities, i.e., planting industrial crops, sustainable mining, fishing, etc., based on the universal principle that the use of the God-given resources should accrue to the benefit of the bulk of the people and not just for the wealth aggrandizement of a few.

Let us take heed of the wisdom of our IPs that the ecological systems are ours only to protect for the coming generations! But at the rate that we have exploited our resources, we have robbed the future of their inheritance.

We are now facing ecological crisis that unless soon averted will lead to an impending environmentally-based social, political, economic collapse

We have lost our ecological security because we did not take heed of the warnings of our indigenous people. Their quest for peace is one that is holistic, that covers peace between homo sapiens and nature.

The truth has dawned upon us now that the muslims and the Indigenous People’s quest for peace must be listened to by everyone. This is not only in reclaiming back the control of the natural resources but more so, in the ownership and control of the utilities. So, when they are saying that the path to peace is rights-based management of utilities such as water and electricity, we must take heed of that.

In fact, along that line, the cooperatives have long been advocating to cooperativize so called water and electric cooperatives. It is their firm belief that when these basic utilities are owned and managed by the member-consumers, they will exercise that God-given right of decision-making to free themselves from the stronghold of cartels.

In truth, our muslims and IPs are correct. Unless power and wealth are truly democratized in this highly skewed economic and social order where a few elite is in control, there can be no peace in Mindanao!



SUSTAINABLE PEACE: CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera delivers his inspirational message during the 3rd National Muslim Cooperatives Peace summit, held at MSU Marawi Gym in Marawi City. His message: To those in the margins; Indigenous Peoples, Muslims, PWDs, should be drawn into the mainstream of development processes to build a lasting peace in Mindanao

EDITORIAL

LET OUR PEOPLE BLEED NO MORE!

BY: USEC ORR

The Road to Peace
in
Mindanao

With the advent of the new dispensation, we rejoice in the thought that Mindanao is again taking center stage with regards to concern for peace. It seems there is an increasing consensus at the top level that peace cannot be achieved through the firepower of guns but by addressing the roots of the conflict. Unless the causes of dissent are addressed, all peace initiatives will be, at best, palliatives, or at the least, mere empty rhetoric.

It is of due notice that there can be no peace if people are hungry. In Mindanao, aptly called the “food basket” of the nation, no one should be hungry, yet, it is in Mindanao where there is high incidence of hunger. It is a pity seeing malnourished children against the backdrop of vast agricultural lands producing high value crops and all kinds of fruits. But these are not meant to be eaten by the people. These are for exports, to feed over-nourished people in highly developed countries.

There can be no peace if many Mindanawons are wallowing in poverty. In an island oozing with ecological resources where two-thirds of the nation’s exports are coming from, there should be no reason for poverty, yet, the poor in Mindanao are the poorest throughout the country. All of its six regions are suffering from high poverty gap ratios compared to other regions in Luzon and in the Visayas. The Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao has the highest incidence of poverty at 70% followed by CARAGA Region at 69%, based on a Study by the United Nation’s Development Program.

Yes, amidst the bounty lies so much poverty. Food comes from their farms, yet, the farmers’ dining tables fall short of it. The workers are the producers of the wealth of the nation, yet, they live in extreme poverty.

Unless these contradictions are rectified, peace will re-

main an illusion. Unless those in the margins are drawn into the mainstream of development processes, all the outpourings of development programs will just be palliatives and cannot be the real solution. Unless social injustices and inequities are erased in a social structure where the few elite continue to have much too much and the many who are poor have much too little, we will ways have negative peace, ready to erupt anytime given a flimsy stirring as in the case of the “Maguindanao Massacre.”

Who will rectify these social wrongs? Who will really bring peace to Mindanao?

We in the Cooperative Movement firmly believe that peace in Mindanao can only be had with the full participation of the primary stakeholders themselves – the Mindanawons. Unless the people themselves participate in the quest for peace, all talks for peace will just be rhetoric, for in truth, it is only the people who can “walk the talk,” so to speak.

During the First Mindanao Cooperative Peace Forum on October 29, 2009 at Xavier University Gym, Cagayan de Oro City, the more than three thousand participants representing various cooperatives of former MNLF combatants, the Lumads, small farmers, workers, women and the youth together with civil society and civic organizations, have advanced in clear categorical term the road to peace in Mindanao.

The Cooperatives’ Peace Agenda cover the Seven Paths to Peace that include the debunking of conventional agriculture that has only been successful in further impoverishing the peasantry and in jeopardizing food security and ecological integrity. It is imperative for the farming communities to regain back the control of agriculture, the mode of production and the marketing of their products so that food sovereignty and ecological integrity can be had. This means the shift to sustainable agriculture – a condition sine qua non to peace in Mindanao.

All told the road to peace carries an agenda that puts the Mindanawons in control of their resources which have been slipping

fast through their fingers. The people’s agenda call for people empowerment so that they can re-structure a highly skewed societal order and effect social transformation based on social justice.

The Second Mindanao Cooperative Peace Forum is now in the offing wherein the Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei Darussalam; the Asian Director of the International Cooperative Alliance; and the Program Officer of the IC Net Limited and JICA are interested to take part.

The lethal combination of apathy and greed has caused so much disarrays and poverty in an island oozing with natural resources. Poverty, according to several studies, is rooted in the social exclusion and powerlessness of the people especially the native inhabitants who have lost access and control over these resources. As a countervailing measure, the people must be empowered and be drawn into the mainstream of development processes

Empowering the marginalized sectors is easier said than done. It means putting power where it rightfully belongs – to the people. But such will never be given in a silver platter. The people themselves must work for it. They must bind themselves together, harness their collective potentials and energies and to countervail against the cultures of poverty, powerlessness, corruption and violence. It is only then can they craft their own destiny and bring development and peace in this troubled island of Mindanao.

It is in this light that cooperativism has a very important role to play as it is the vehicle of empowering the people to effect social transformation based on the principles of social justice, equity, peace and sustainable development.

How far have we gone in the pursuance of the State’s policy to foster the growth of cooperativism to combat the number one enemy of the people which is dehumanizing poverty?

Mindanao has some five thousand cooperatives of farmers, fisherfolk, workers, entrepreneurs, women, Lumads, Muslims, the youth, senior citizens, government

employees, PNPs, Military, former MNLF combatants and even of the handicapped. Membership in co-operativism cuts across gender, beliefs, class, sectors, age and even ideologies. It is the unifying as well as the liberating force to advance a collectivist counterculture while harnessing their inherent power to firmly advance their God-given right of decision-making as responsible citizens of Mindanao.

These Mindanao cooperatives with some five million members are now standing-up to the clarion call for peace in Mindanao by working together to rectify social wrongs to erase the ingredients of “negative peace.” They have laid down the cooperative strategic blue-print for peace by empowering the people to participate in the peace-building processes.

The strategic plan covers seven paths, namely: conflict transformation, management and resolution, sustainable agriculture where rural communities are the ones to benefit from farming and not a few agri-business corporations, the marginalized sectors to have access and control over their resources, rights-based management of utilities, the promotion of Halal Food and the establishment of Human Resource Peace Centers in every region.

Through their cooperatives, the people of Mindanao are giving notice to one and all that they have awakened and that, they will not allow anymore a few to dictate the terms of peace in panel negotiations, sometimes done in foreign countries and in utmost secrecy, without the participation of the primary stakeholders.

After last year’s 1st Mindanao Cooperative Peace Forum with some 3,000 cooperative leaders in attendance, the cooperatives have decided to follow that up with another cooperative convergence by October this year called the 2nd Mindanao Cooperative Peace Forum. This time, the gathering of the kindred will be much bigger with participation from foreign dignitaries and international peace icons who have signified their intention to support the cooperative peace process.



LASTING PEACE: CDA believes that to achieve a lasting peace in Mindanao, the root causes of conflict, which is powerlessness of the people, discrimination and negligence should be addressed. That's why CDA provides not just livelihood assistance, but trainings as well to make it sustainable, through BANGON MARAWI Rehabilitation through Cooperativism program

EDITORIAL

LET OUR PEOPLE BLEED NO MORE!

BY: USEC ORR

Cooperativism:
The Great
Equalizer

No one will deny that death and taxes are two things in life that we cannot all escape from: death, the inevitable fate of us mortals, aptly described as our “marriage to eternity, eternity being the home of the souls,” and taxes as the “life-blood of the nation” without which the essence of the State will just be illusory.

That being the case, the State rarely relaxes its inherent power of taxation which is most pervasive and p e r -

iting from farming except the farmers. Food comes from their farms yet their dining table fall short of food.

As countervailing measure, the farmers must harness their collective powers through cooperativism. Indeed, cooperativism has become the liberating force to extricate the peasantry from the quagmire of poverty.

In a country controlled by a few oligarchs who are following a develop-

essential in the life of the nation? For one, it is my contention that cooperativism in this country is in itself an exercise of the most important power of the State which is the Police Power. Its very existence is to rectify social ills and economic flaws, foremost of which is social injustice.

This is the reason why it is so stated in the Constitution as a declared State policy to “advance cooperativism as an instrument o f

and function, a cooperative is for service, to unfetter the poor from the vicious cycle of poverty through value formation and by enhancing their capacities and skills. It does the work what are in fact in the realm of governmental functions in advancing the welfare of the people through multifarious services to their members, i.e. providing much needed capital to make them productive, participation in good governance, in resource management and in running basic utilities, be water or electricity.

In Cagayan de Oro, let us cooperativize the water district. Let us serve notice to one and all that water, just like air, is a means to life and must not be the subject of com-



COOPERATIVISM IS THE WAY: It transcends religion, belief, ideology and even beyond humanity. The Cooperative Development Authority’s advocacy is for People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace

sistent than its other two fundamental powers, that of eminent domain and police power. And when the State gives tax exemption, it does so only for very important reasons that have great bearing on its reason for being as a nation.

Yes, while the State’s power to tax is so strong, taxes being the lifeblood of a nation, yet, it must bow down to the principle of social justice, the *raison d’être* of cooperativism. No one can dispute that social injustice looms in so many ways. It is seen in the life of the farmers tilling not their own land, they do not control the mode of production and marketing. This is the reason why everyone is prof-

ment paradigm which is only successful in sacrificing mother Earth and the people to the altar of greed and profit, the only alternative course of action is to empower the people to craft their own destiny. Inclusive growth can only be had through people empowerment through cooperativism.

Why are cooperatives so

s o - cial justice, equity and economic development.” The framers of the 1987 Constitution must have fully realized the importance of cooperativism as a vehicle to democratize wealth and power in a highly skewed societal order with only a few elite in control at the expense of the many who are powerless and wallowing in poverty.

Thus, by its very nature

merce for profit.

Water comes from the invisible water dam called forest. Let not an oligarch corner the flow of the water then sell it at a high price. That corporation doesn’t own the water as it comes from nature. Let the people of Cagayan de Oro be the ones to collectively manage the water district underscoring the truism that water is a means to life and must not be subjected to commerce of men otherwise only those with money who can live which is contrary to God’s will.

Indeed, you can live for 40 days without food but you cannot live even for eight days without water for water is life—one of the essential elements of nature.

CDA 7 LAUNCHES KOOP-KAPATID IN FOUR PROVINCES

The Cooperative Development Authority Cebu Extension Office and the Department of Agrarian Reform in Region VII have engaged the agrarian and large cooperatives in the Big Brother and Small Brother Program or the” Koop-Kapatid” mentoring model.

The engagement was expressed in the Memorandum of Agreement duly signed by the cooperatives, the Department of Agrarian Reform and the Cooperative Development Authority.

In the recently concluded program assessment activity conducted by the Department of Agrarian Reform and the Cooperative Development Authority held in Golden Valley Hotel on November 9, 2018, the forging of the Memorandum of Agreement were accomplished except for Negros Oriental cooperatives that is under negotiation process.

The cooperatives covered in the “KOOP-KAPATID” Program are the following:

BIG BROTHER	SMALL BROTHER	PROVINCE
1.LIBERTAD MPC BOHOL	1.BATAMA MPC	BOHOL
	2. KALANGAJAN MPC	
	3. KALAMTUKAN MPC	
2. TIMGAS MPC	1. VILLAMILAGROSA MPC	BOHOL
	2. POPOO MPC	
3. PNBKGB MPC	1. BUENAVISTA MPC	BOHOL
	2. ABACHANAN MPC	
4.. LAMAC MPC	1. PANGUMA MPC	CEBU
	2. ALPACO ARFB	
	3. LANGTAD ARBMP	
5. DCCCO MPC	1. SYCIP PLANTATION AGRARIAN FARMERS COOPERATIVE	NEGROS ORIENTAL
	2. BAYAWAN COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE	
6. CATULAYAN MPC	1. CAPALASANAN MPC	SIQUIJOR

BLASTS OF HOPE GIVEN TO THE KOOP KAPATID BENEFICIARIES IN REGION IV

In every success, there is a past consisting of small beginnings, failures, and doubts. In thousands of cooperatives that stand proud and tall in the country, therein lies the rich history of valiant acceptance of blow after blow of challenges yet the courageous are moving forward for the Cooperative Movement. It is always not an easy beginning for the cooperatives, but at the end of the day when even a simple dream has been realized, there is the burning desire in sharing the achievement, thus, the Koop Kapatid Program.

Helping others does not always consist of financial aspects; it is also consist of focusing on the weaknesses and giving the rightful solution to fill in gaps. That is what the Koop Kapatid does. With the tasks at hand, the Big Koop Kapatid can have the focus to work on giving interventions to help the beneficiary cooperative, thus, delivering a more precise output.

Through the promotion of the field Cooperative Development Specialists in Region IV, the said Program was launched in the provinces which paved the way for the fruitful partnership of cooperatives. The promotional phase has created doubts to some, not just on the target result of the pro-



KOOP KAPATID PROGRAM-A Dream Project

One strategy to strengthen micro and small cooperatives is through the successful implementation of the KOOP KAPATID (Big Brother Small Brother) Program. The Koop Kapatid Program identifies potential large cooperatives who could act as the Big-Brothers who can extend various forms of assistance to help the small brothers graduate or level-up to the next category or level.

CDA-MEO has screened via the needs and character among the numerous micro and small cooperatives deserving to become recipients of the assistance from the big-brothers. One fortunate micro cooperative recipient is the Samahang Ikauunlad ng mga may Kapansanan Ating Palawakin Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SIKAP COOP) and the big brother is the Jollibee Foods Corporation Employees’ Multi-Purpose Cooperative (JFC EMPC).

Last June 18, 2018, major stakeholders of the program visited the beneficiary cooperative to discuss the KOOP KAPATID Pro-

gram where its members showed their gratitude. At the meeting, the big-brother, JFC EMPC, through its officers showed their overall support to help and assist CDA by forging a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will ensure the provision of technical assistance and capacity building activities to the small brother cooperative.

Already, Jollibee Foods Corporation Employees’ Multi-Purpose Cooperative has extended financial assistance amounting to One Hundred Three Thousand Pesos (P103, 000.00). More assistance and collaborative activities are forthcoming as agreed by all participants to the program.

Awarded with certificates of appreciation in recognition of making the Big Brother – Small Brother dream a reality were Chairperson of JFC EMPC, Juani-to B. Tan, Pasig CDO, and May Ann Mirabete, represented by Juvilyn Alejandro and Pasig City CDS II, Marilou M. Valencia.



“Tabang Tugang” : Cooperatives Championing Filipino Values

They may not be their “brothers’ keepers” but they certainly are involved in improving the operations and service delivery to members.

Bicol has 1,091 registered cooperatives at end of 2017. Of these, twelve cooperatives agreed to become the “Big Brother” to 36 “Small Brother” cooperatives in the six Bicol provinces. Big strides start from small steps.

Tapping the expertise and experiences of succeeding cooperatives to influence the turnaround of non-compliant cooperatives into good citizens is a good practice under the 6th Cooperative Principle, “Cooperation among cooperatives”.

The Big Brother, Camarines Norte Federation of Cooperatives (CANOFECO) is assisting 19 cooperatives. CANOFECO provides trainings in its main office located at Sitio Mat-i, Barangay Sto. Do-

mingo, Vinzons, Camarines Norte and at other locations like Nazareth Development Center, Daet, Camarines Norte, at the Municipal Function Hall, Basud, Camarines Norte, at GMPC Organic Farm, Guisican, Labo, Camarines Norte, at the offices of the other small brothers. In addition, it provided financial assistance totaling P300,000.00 to two cooperatives (Php50,000.00 for Caayunan MP Cooperative and P250,000.00 for Daet Elementary School Teachers MP Cooperative).

CANOFECO’s small brothers also include Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries MP Cooperative, Basud District MP Cooperative, Batobalani Agrarian Reform Cooperative, CN Grecon MP Cooperative, Countryside Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Gubatenian Credit Coop-

Continue to p. 4

Tabang Tugang...From P.3

erative, Kooperatiba ng Maliliit na Magniniyog ng Brgy. Kanapawan, Nagkakaisang Samahan Tungo sa Kaunlaran MP Cooperative, South Luzon Transport Service Cooperative, Mambulao MP Cooperative, Saint Helena The Empress Agricultural Cooperative, San Isidro Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative, Sta. Rosa MP Cooperative, Sta. Elena Agri-Fisheries MP Cooperative, Basud Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development Cooperative, Paracale National High School Teachers and Employees Cooperative, Paracale Municipal Employees & Community MP Cooperative.

Among the trainings provided are bookkeeping, Competency Based Economics thru the Formulation of Entrepreneur (CEFE), Credit Surety Fund, Social and Performance Audit, hands-on submission of Cooperative Annual Progress Report and Audited Financial Statements, hands-on BIR Income Tax Return online, coaching, TRAIN Law, Financial Management, organic rice farming, pineapple vinegar production, leadership trajectory-motivation and self-confidence, COACH Dating, basic leadership training, and complying with mandatory reports.

The “Koop-Kapatid Program” was implemented in response to the predicament of non-compliant cooperatives to comply not only with their administrative obligations but more im-

portantly to deliver continuously the services for their members. The urgency to reverse the decreasing number of complying cooperatives added impetus to the concerted efforts of all concerned. After the call for big brother cooperatives was sounded, twelve cooperatives signified their willingness and commitment to the “Koop-Kapatid Program”. Contrary to expectations that only the large cooperatives are able to be “Big Brother”, two small cooperatives have joined as “Big Brother”. The large category cooperatives are Pinoy Lingap Damayan MP Cooperative, Baao Parish MP Cooperative, Camsur MP Cooperative, and SORECO 2. The medium category cooperatives are Sagrada Farmers Development Cooperative, Medical Mission Group Hospital and Service Cooperative, Provincial Employees MP Cooperative, Jose Pangiban Primary Service Cooperative, MMG Albay Cooperative, and Entrepreneurs Alumni Development Cooperative. The small category cooperatives are Camarines Norte Federation of Cooperatives and Baleno Christian Masagana MP Cooperative.

It is not coincidental that CANOFEKO has the most number of small brothers at 19 cooperatives. Their motto “the ugnayan way” explains it all. “Tabang Tugang” means help siblings in English. Generosity and helpfulness are Filipino values that we continue to uphold.



CDA PAMPANGA LAUNCHES KOOP KAPATID PROGRAM

By: Karen C. Sandique

Last July 4, 2018, the launching and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Signing of Koop Kapatid Program was held at CDA-Pampanga Extension Office which was participated in by representatives from 5 cooperatives for Big Brother and 13 cooperatives for Small Brother.

CDA Regional Director Marieta P. Hwang presided the launching and cited the rationale of the Koop Kapatid Program. She also delivers the objective to cooperative wherein the said program's aim is to strengthen the operations of primary cooperatives. Also, for the big brother co-



2nawon...From P.1

The event was a success owing to the support from Senator Cynthia Villar who provided funding for a road project in the area, CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera, Partner Cooperatives, the Local Government Officials and most especially the people of Ifugao.

The 2nawon (read, “Tunawon”) Harvest Festival is not just a simple festivity but an activity which aimed at providing a deeper impact to the community. The organizers of the festival are optimistic in attaining the following: 1) unity of the people in Ifugao, by reliving their rich culture like the “Hudhud” or a narrative chants performed by Ifugao community while harvesting. Hudhud is the ritual practice where the biodiversity of species of the land are being balanced especially those exotic farm species which are becoming extinct thus, this activity is the main highlight of the event, 2) reviving their Tinawon rice and other native agricultural varieties which are fast becoming extinct, and 3) rehabilitating the ecological integrity in the area especially

the famous eighth wonders of the world, the rice terraces and protecting the beautiful forest ecosystem, to finally attain food security by way of organic practices while adopting a new technology.

Chairman Ravanera who is an environmental advocate and activist have applauded Mr. Tomas for his initiative, saying that the festival should not only be celebrated in Anao, but in other parts of the country.

“God brought us here because we have a special mission: To protect God’s vanishing creation, because protecting the environment is the highest form of worship”, he added.

Before the festival, with the leadership and initiative of Mr. Tomas and the Tam-an-BMPC, Brgy. Anao, Hingyon, Ifugao embraced the new and advanced technology in Organic Agriculture as the pilot area for the Biological Farming System which is one of the Flagship Extension Project of the cooperative. Using the Biological Farming System, the traditionally harvested Heirloom rice, Tinawon

of the Ifugao, which was harvested only once a year, become twice a year. It was made possible by Tam-an BMPC through the introduction of this new technology in organic farming. This system was introduced and practiced by Tam-an BMPC in partnership with Mr. Renato “Ballitok” dela Cruz, an organic practitioner from Mindanao.

Aside from the Hudhud Di Butok competition which was participated in by 12 Local Government Units, partner cooperatives and organizations, a traditional fishing competition called, “Hakob Di Dolog” and traditional cultural dance competition was also showcased during the festival.

And, to follow tradition, before concluding the festival, all guests—including Chairman Ravanera, had to dance to the Ifugao ethnic dance. RDA



operative is to serve as a mentor to the small brothers who are willing to learn the skills they needed in managing their cooperatives and particularly, to observe and to emulate the best practices of Big Brothers.

She also mentioned the difference between the Small Brother to Big Brother and the implementing Koop-Kapatid Program. Previously the identified coop does not have the monitoring of activities and assistance given. Now, for this new program, the assistance for cooperatives should be monitored, mentored and their accomplishment reports should be submitted. The target of this program is to help and prioritize the non-compliant coops by the large cooperatives, thus to let them graduate into the next category.

Also part of the agenda which was tackled by Mr. Nelson Evangelista, is the presentation of the Koop Kapatid Program project description, the components, the activities to be undertaken, and the incentives and awards of the participating cooperatives. It was followed with an informative open forum.

The MOA signing was thoroughly done by the officers of the big brothers and small brothers, together with RD Hwang, Atty. Katherine Ellorin and Sr. CDS Raul Encarnacion.



ALAMADA MPC, CREATING BREAKTHROUGHS AS ‘BIG BROTHER’ KOOP-KAPATID

Alamada Multi-Purpose Cooperative (AMPC) is a duly registered cooperative in Alamada, North Cotabato under Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) XII. The cooperative has initiated a lot of projects and programs and has serve as a conduit to other government agencies’ programs. Because of these, the cooperative has grown exponentially and has created a positive impact to the community where it operates. Aside from that, AMPC also helps other small cooperatives grow through its Koop-Kapatid program facilitated by the CDA XII.

In August 2017, 2018, AMPC was also chosen as one of the Lending Conduits of the Department of Agriculture’s ACPC PLEA Program. The Municipality of Alamada has an appropriation of 30 Million and 10 Million for the Municipality of Banisilan, a total 40 Million Pesos have been downloaded in two tranches. So far, there are about 1,200 recipients availing the said program. AMPC has three (3) commodities, being enrolled at PCIC, namely; rice, corn and swine dispersal. The scheme provides the members of the AMPC particularly the officers and employees with four (4) piglets feeds payable in twice at 6% interest per annum.

The AMPC has also been identified by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) XII as a qualified cooperator to manage a Shared Service Facilities (SSF) to be established in North Cotabato for Coffee Industry Sector. Primarily, the objective is to start the very first pure ground coffee production in Alamada, North Cotabato in accordance with SSF. It specifically aims to develop priority and market-driven industries. The Alamada Multi-Purpose Cooperative has successfully launched its Pure Ground Coffee Product in its improved packaging with a brand name “ACCAPE” during the 21st Founding Anniversary of the Co-

operative. With the new packaging and formulation, the coop received numerous positive feedbacks. As of now, AMPC is striving to continually improve its overall capability in coffee production through various trainings and benchmarking, bringing out the best in every cup. The AMPC Rubber Processing is a DAR-MINSAAD Foreign Assisted Project in which the AMPC has its counterpart of the area where the project is being established. The basic components of the project are ongoing like electrification, water system, nursery, building and equipment installation. Rubber seedlings are now on germination.

In September 27, 2018, a signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was conducted making AMPC as a Big Brother to Small Brothers namely: Dimaampao Native Inhabitants Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative and Polayagan Farmers Credit Cooperative. An orientation on Parliamentary Procedures and Bookkeeping were also conducted as one of the needs of the two cooperatives.

The following are DA assisted program: BIO-N Organic Fertilizers (2008 to present), Soil Testing Analysis (2017 to present).

Most of the recipients of these programs are from the DA ACPC PLEA Program. These particular facilities have been a great contributor in inspiring members of the Cooperative into a new trend of farm technology.

AMPC has initiated various programs that impacted significantly to the community. These include: Plant a Tree Program, Adopt a Tree Program, Municipal-wide Distribution of Garbage Bins, Brigada Eskwela, AMPC Feeding AND Alay Tsinelas/ School Supplies Program, Scholarship Program, Loan Assitance Program and 4Ps Cash Out and ATM Facilitation Program.



PH-China Ink Partnership for Strengthening Agri Coops

the signed MOU in the presence of His Excellency Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte and the Chinese president. This partnership was received positively by the cooperative sector who expressed their optimism thru social media. Following the momentous occasion, the cooperative movement, especially the agricultural cooperatives in the Philippines have rejoiced and expressed optimism towards this undertaking.

In retrospect, the CDA-MARA partnership was the offshoot of the meeting between CDA, led by Chairman Ravanera, and Chinese officials sometime early in 2017 when Chinese delegates visited the CDA. To signify its sincerity to the propose partnership, even though the MOU was not yet formally formed, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs have organized and invited two batches of Philippine delegates already for a week-long Seminar Workshop on Agricultural Cooperatives Development for the Philippines in Beijing, China.

The first batch was in May 21-28, 2018 composed of nine delegates coming from the CDA and the agricultural cooperative sector. The second batch was in October 14-20, 2018, composed of 13 delegates from CDA and the Agriculture cooperative sector.

The seminar workshop was very informative. The participants were able to immerse through the history of Chinese agricultural revolution, agricultural mechanization and Cooperativism. Aside from that, the participants were also given a chance to savor the rich history of the great Chinese nation by going to historical places, like: The Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Tiananmen Square.

The cooperation between CDA and MARA will focus on

the following areas: 1.) Capacity building. The MARA will provide training in China for 60 managers and technicians of agricultural cooperatives for the Philippines between 2019 and 2021; 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 will 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 MARA is willing to send experts and technicians to the Philippines to provide technical advice service; 4.) Agricultural trade. The Parties will 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.

The signed MOU is now ready for the ratification of the President. Now that the MOU has been signed, CDA and MARA are expected to discuss detailed projects arrangement and carry out cooperation in the aforementioned areas according to the provisions of the said MOU. And to ensure the implementation of the partnership, as stipulated in Article IV of the MOU, CDA and MARA will set up a liaison mechanism. The CDA and the Department of International Cooperation of the MARA shall be the focal points for the Chinese and Philippine sides respectively in charge of day-to-day liaison. RDA



Coop Sector in Region 1 Celebrates Coop Day thru Environmental Outreach Activities

By: VAN IAN F. ENRIQUEZ

By virtue of Proclamation No. 493, Series of 2003, the month of October has been declared as the COOPERATIVE MONTH in our country to encourage wider participation of all sectors of society in nation-building through cooperativism. Also, October 20, 2018 has been declared as Cooperative Day throughout the country by virtue of a Memorandum Circular issued by the Cooperative Development Authority, to make a synchronized country-wide cooperatives activity.

In Region 1, majority of the district-level Coop Month Celebration activities were all about

CDA REGION KOOP-KAPATID FOUR PROVINCES

The Koop Kapatid Program is one of the Cooperative Development Authority's (CDA's) thrust program which aims to provide assistance and guidance to non-compliant cooperatives and/or the existing micro and small cooperatives. The CDA recognizes the fact that these cooperatives need help from the successful cooperatives so that they may be able to enhance/improve their operation and thereby increase income and productivity and also be able to comply with the required reports to the Authority. This program is anchored on the 6th Cooperative Principle which is the "Cooperation among Cooperatives".

To implement this project, the CDA partnered with successful and compliant cooperatives through the establishment/forging of a Memorandum of Agreement

environmental and community outreach activities. This is also an opportune time for the cooperative sector to showcase to the general public that cooperatives care for the environment. In fact, CDA's thrust is Cooperativism for people, planet, prosperity and peace.

The simultaneous activity of the cooperative sector in this part of the country has been very successful, owing to the thousands of cooperative members who have participated in the event.

1 LAUNCHES PROGRAM IN

By: JACQUELINE L. DE LEON

(MOA) for a formal and effective linkage for the provision of technical assistance to the beneficiaries of the project and the ultimate objectives are the following: improve management, governance and regulatory compliance of cooperatives.

In region I, the target for this project is one per province or a total of four (4). However, CDA Dagupan Extension Office have accomplished five (5) partnerships detailed as follows:

The common assistance needed by these micro cooperatives is the mentoring/coaching on bookkeeping and the capacity-building on the mandatory trainings needed by the officers such as Fundamentals of Cooperatives and the Cooperative Management & Governance.



PROVINCE	NAME OF BIG BROTHER	NAME OF SMALL BROTHER
Pangasinan	Calasiao Plant & Related Companies Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative	Alyansa Bayanihan at Kapatiran Central Pangasinan Agriculture Cooperative (ABK-CPAC)
La Union	Saint Louis Credit Cooperative	Sitio Malanas Credit Cooperative
Ilocos Sur	Fatima (Vigan) MPC	Pantay Onion Producers Cooperative
	Sto. Domingo Development Cooperative	Sto. Domingo Municipal Employees Savings & Credit Cooperative
Ilocos Norte	San Joaquin Multi-Purpose Cooperative	San Leandro Multi-Purpose Cooperative

ICCDC, Reliving the Universal Principles of Cooperation

By: Mercy Jamoyot Gabasa

The best way to express our love and concern with neighborhood, especially to the less of our brethren is through the enlivening spirit of Cooperativism.

Iloilo City Cooperative Development Council (ICCDC), is one of the organizations that gives life to the seven universally accepted Principles of Cooperation as defined in Article 4 of RA 9520

Through the sponsorship of the WVSU College of Medicine and in partnership with the West Visayas State University Employees Medical Center MPC and WVSU Medical Center, the medical consultation was successfully conducted to 33 men and women, the recipients of the program in the barangay.



otherwise known as the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.

Principles of Education, Training and Information, Cooperation among Cooperatives and Concern for Community, are among the 7 Coop Principles that serve as guiding/inspiring principles of the council in successfully commemorating the Cooperative Month every year.

On October 20 this year, medical and legal consultation, updates and feeding program was conducted and attended by more than 300 residents at Brgy. Calubihan, Jaro, Iloilo City. It was among the council's institutionalized activities in the cooperative month celebration spearheaded by host, Lapaz Cooperatives, namely: West Visayas State University MPC (WVSU MPC), PHILHEALTH Kapamilya MPC, Global Panay MPC, ISAT-U Community MPC and Iloilo National High School Faculty and Employees MPC (INHS-FEMPC) in partnership with various providers/sponsors translated the cited cooperative principles into action.

Back to back activity with the Medical Mission, is the PHILHEALTH Updates on their Membership Registration Procedures, Benefit Packages and Availment Procedures conducted by Mr. Dex Jesson T. Belleza, PIO/Manager, PhilHealth Kapamilya MPC as facilitated by PHILHEALTH Kapamilya MPC.

FEEDING PROGRAM with the tagline of "Sa COOP, Bida ang Saya" is another institutionalized activity of the council, was conducted with the assistance of the 12 cooperatives and Association of Cooperatives Management Students (ACMS) of WVSU in tandem with Jollibee Food Corporation, as sponsor.

Through these fruitful endeavors, ICCDC in collaboration with partners, is really a vehicle, a mechanism than can mobilize participation towards the realization of the ideology of Cooperativism, particularly cooperative principles into action.



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COOPS IN REGION IX CELEBRATE COOPERATIVE MONTH THROUGH VARIOUS OUTREACH PROGRAMS

CHILDREN’S DELIGHT

October 18, 2018, in Seriac Elementary School barangay Seriac municipality of Siayan province of Zamboanga del Norte, 225 school children who seemed



oblivious of the sun, sat excitedly in the middle of the school yard awaiting the distribution of what appeared to be a rare treat.

The school teachers joyfully assisted the team consisting

of the Siayan Officials & Employees MPC officials, the Coop Development Officer of Siayan, Mr. Marvin Calapiz, the Seriac Consumers Cooperative officials and the Director Ruben L. Cunanan of CDA-IX in distributing the feast to these eager children.

Standing in line, each child receive their fare share of the delicately prepared nutritious meal and was fully satiated.

After the meal, the children were once again encouraged to form straight lines per grade for the gift (slippers) distribution.

Under the fond gaze of the tired yet happy team, each child eagerly sauntered toward their respective class rooms while wearing their new pair of slippers.

SPOTLESS PLUNGE

The seashore bordering the famed Cawa-cawa boulevard is among the favorite destination of locals in Zamboanga City to discard summer heat. Onlookers would often see locals taking a plunge into the cool blue sea wa-



ters.

Through the years, it has provided locals with enough refreshment and opportunity for

family and friends to bond during holidays and weekends.

Recently, less and less visitors are seen frequenting this area which can be attributed to the fact that visiting locals oftentimes leave a handful of garbage in their wake.

Seing this as an opportunity, the officials of the Zamboanga Social Welfare and Development Cooperative (ZAM-SOWEDCO), in collaboration with the Local Government of Zamboanga City and the CDA, spearheaded the clean-up drive with no less than 35 members in tow and successfully

discarded the unwarranted waste loitering along cawa cawa boulevard.



Oriental Mindoro Showcases Cooperativism as Vehicle and Workforce for Change and Spreading Goodwill

By: LILIA S. BUELA

The cooperative month celebration in the Province of Occidental Mindoro aimed to raise the consciousness of people to join the cooperative movement and promote the spirit of Cooperativism. For this year, various activities were conducted in Calapan City and different municipalities within the province, anchored and inspired by this year’s theme, “COOPERATIVES: Partners for Building Resilient and Empowered Communities Towards a Better and Stronger Philippines.”

The Provincial government, spearheaded by the Provincial Cooperative Development Council (PCDC), in partnership with the Provincial Government conducted a Community/ Coastal Clean-up and Gift Giving Activity for the elders, Indigent Patients, less fortunate people and persons deprived of liberty from October 13 to 24, 2018. The said activities were actively participated by members, officers and employees of 55 cooperatives from the City,

Municipalities of Calapan, Naujan, Pola, Socorro, Pinamalayan, Bansud, Bongabong, and Roxas.

The month-long celebration in the province culminated on October 25, 2018 with an Open Forum on Federalism and the Launching of the Koop Kapatid Program, which were discussed by CDA Administrator Abad Santos and PCDS Lilia S. Buella, respectively. The Provincial Koop Quiz joined in by three (3) participating City/ Municipalities was conducted to provide the schools particularly the Grade 10 students an avenue for learning in the field of cooperatives. Additional highlights of the activity were the awarding of Outstanding Cooperatives in the province for 2018.

Forty- five (45) cooperatives and 585 cooperative advocates attended the event with Atty. Reynaldo V. Umali, Representative District 2 of Oriental Mindoro, who graced the event and delivered an inspiring solidarity message.

CDA XI CONDUCTS SERBISYO CARAVAN NG MGA KOOPERATIBA SA DAVAO ORIENTAL and LAUNCHING OF THE KOOP KAPATID PROGRAM



The Cooperative Development Authority – Davao Extension Office in partnership with the Provincial Cooperative Development Office (PCDO) and Province of Davao Oriental conducted a Serbisyo Caravan and Launching of the Koop Kapatid Program on Sept. 7, 2018 at the Provincial Capitol Gym, Mati City, Davao Oriental.

The event was attended by 121 cooperative officers and members from neighboring municipalities of Banaybanay, Lupon, San Isidro, Gov. Generoso, Manay, Caraga, Cateel, Baganga and Mati City. The support of the

PCDO and the Province of Davao Oriental was evident. Present in the occasion were Mr. Rotchie M. Ravelo, PCDO; Mr. Ednar G. Dayanghirang, Executive Assistant V; Hon. Gracia M. Tiago, City Councilor.

The basic services of CDA were literally brought to the cooperatives in Davao Oriental. This was ably supported by RD Elma R. Oguis, Supervising CDS Antonio C. Escobar, the Unit Heads of Registration, Supervision and Examination, and CRITS.

Towards mid-morning after



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SUNSET PARTNERSHIP: A CONCERTED EFFORT TO SAVE THE MANILA BAY



Manila bay is Metro Manila’s most famous seafront facing the controversial West Philippines Sea because critiques, various advocates and nations are drawn into what political analysts termed as, “transnational neo-political dispute.” The controversy has attracted international attention and, on the far end of the disagreement, lurks the problem of pollution and mountains of garbage.

The once beautiful Manila Bay is now slowly turning into an aquatic dump. All kinds of trash coming from places for all we know, are defacing the world’s renowned sunset of Manila Bay. The garbage problem makes the place unsuitable for park goers and environmentalists. During bad weather, the dirt from the bay overflows to the boulevard causing heavy traffic and unconscionable litter. And, what exacerbates more is the presence of ambulant

settlers that has become sore to the eyes of people.

The current situation and the pervading condition of the Manila Bay have struck an interest in the minds and hearts of some concerned individuals and groups to coalesce and bond together, eager to show to the world that something has to be done to save the renowned sunset of Manila Bay. That working together, there is still hopes when people just help one another and; thus, make a difference. Sharing the same vision and advocacy, LGUs, NGOs, NGAs, Cooperatives, and citizens from all walks of life have joined together hoping for a mystery to happen. Mystery of unity as against the scourge of “walang pakialam” and “bahala na” attitude. The spirit of unity rolled into shaping the SUNSET Partnership.

The Land bank of the Philippines initiated the collab-

oration and together with its partners, spearheaded the formation of the Manila Bay SUNSET (Socially Responsible and United in Nurturing and Sustaining the Environment) Partnership Programme, Inc (MBSPPPI). Launched in 2009 with five (5) initial members, the partnership has now 21 public and private institutions actively taking part to meet the objectives of the program. Amongst them are: 1.) protection and improvement of the manila bay area and the immediate vicinity; 2.) education to increase awareness and commitment of LGU’s and the general public and, 3.) promoting volunteerism among employees of member institutions.

The Cooperative Development Authority- Manila Extension Office is a proud partner of this coalition who draws its strength in numbers from fellow co-operators of different cooperatives in the metropolis. CDA-MEO and the sector spearhead in the project every 4th quarter of the year specifically during the cooperative month of October. Since then, it has made the Manila Bay Clean-up drive a major activity during the cooperative month. Needless to say, the cooperative sector has lived the principle of, “Concern for the Environment,”

Hopefully, the partnership can overshadow the issues on unilateral claims, international neo-political skirmishes, economic sanctions and brewing fear of

conflicts. And, that individuals, groups, local, national and international governments should work hand in hand to save Manila Bay, Asia, Europe, Africa and the rest of the worlds so leaders and decision makers also get inspired to stand for what is an inherent right, the right to live healthy, peacefully and harmoniously. And, therefore, the SUNSET-PARTNERSHIP is right, “let us save Manila Bay and restore it back to its glory days.”

CDA XI...From P10

the personalities have given their respective messages, the MOA signing for Koop Kapatid Program followed. The identified Big Brothers were: 1) Davao Oriental Market Multipurpose Cooperative (DOMMUPCO); 2) Davao Oriental Health Personnel Multipurpose Cooperative (DOHPMPC); 3) Yagakaayon na Kooperatiba ng San Agustin. The identified Small Brothers were: 1) Mati City Lagoon Multipurpose Cooperative (MALACO); 2) Mayo Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Multipurpose Cooperative (MAGREBEMCO); 3) Don Ignacio Mandaya Consumers Cooperative.

Among the responsibilities of the Big Brother are: 1) To assist CDA in the provision of technical, trainings and capacity building activities to the cooperative beneficiary; 2) To allocate funds and provide financial assistance to the Micro Cooperative/s chargeable against their Community Development Fund (CDF). Among the responsibilities of the Small Brother are: 1) To religiously attend and actively participate in trainings and capacity building activities of the CDA; 2) To update CDA on the growth and development of cooperative being subsidized by Big Brother cooperative annually.

A Pre-Registration Seminar (PRS) was conducted in the afternoon attended by 26 hopeful members of the proposed cooperative.

It was indeed a fulfilling day with the clients extending their appreciation and thanks to CDA for finding time to bring the services to them.



The Gawad Parangal 2018 Winners

Micro Scale Category 1st Placer Diocese of Maasin-BEC



The history of Diocese of Maasin – BEC Credit Cooperative is itself a story of God’s love and spontaneous guidance for His faithful in this Diocese of Maasin, Southern Leyte.

It started sometime in 2012 during a Basic Ecclesial Community (BEC) meeting of BEC facilitators held in Malitbog, Southern Leyte. Diocesan BEC Director Fr. Harlem Gozo took part in the activity where he happened to sit in the group from the Vicariate of the municipality of Sogod.

During Step 6 of ASIPA Gospel sharing, Sis. Luz Camay raised the issue as what to do with the funds of the BEC Core Group. There were several suggestions, one which was to lend the money to BEC facilitators in need. Until somebody from the group floated the idea of organizing a BEC Coop. Much to the delight of the majority. Mrs. Anecita Gan, Diocesan BEC facilitator, confided that it has been a long- time dream of the Bishop himself to have a Cooperative to help church workers. Fr. Gozo then assured that the suggestion (for a BEC Coop) will be given consideration and discernment.

And so, on April 9, 2013, the organizational meeting was held at Marianne Family Center, San Jose, Sogod, Southern Leyte. Thus, the Diocese of Maasin – BEC Credit Cooperative was born.

The Cooperative was registered in 2013 but its full swing of operations started in 2014 with just 15 members and a starting capital of P21,000.00. Partnerships/linkages with other cooperatives and organizations include the following: Mamamayan Ayaw sa Anomaliya, Mamamayan ayaw sa Ilegal na Droga in partnership with Municipality of Sogod, Southern Leyte, Diocesan Social Action Center of Maasin, Inc. (DSAC), Diocese of Maasin, No one in Need Movement. Their products and services include: Lending Services and Savings.

Small Scale Category 1st Placer San Jose Sico Landfill MPC

“TRASH INTO TREASURE”



The residents of San Jose Sico in general and the San Jose Sico Landfill Multi-Purpose Cooperative, in particular, not only somehow provides solutions to the problem but likewise gained financial windfall, invariably turning garbage into gold, as the cliché goes. Not only that, the former informal settlers turned scavengers, and employees of the cooperative. It’s like hitting two birds in one stone. Garbage provides economic upliftment, it awakens and harnesses their hidden intellectual intelligence, entrepreneurial skills and expertly applied the gained knowledge by managing their cooperative to the most productive level. These traits best exemplified thru people empowerment.

After 15 years from its inception, the cooperative easily grew leaps and bounds. They started with a mere capital of P84,600.00 and currently P7, 809, 318.36 in assets. They were able to achieve such fate thru self-reliance, believing that they can make do without securing any loans for capital augmentation. The properties acquired, equipment solicited and various partnerships with different entities speaks much about how efficiently managed the cooperative is. The trust and confidence bestowed by the general membership and private partners to the cooperative shows the outstanding capabilities of its leaders and officers. Their tenacity and resiliency to obtain more knowledge and information about cooperative management by participating on several seminars and symposium definitely bear fruit. The Cooperative ensures full compliance of the private garbage haulers to the Environment Code (E – Code) of the City. Every assistance rendered to various community project within and the adjacent barangays of the cooperative were properly managed. Every citations and recognition from the local government and NGO’s about cooperative’s best practices are very well deserved.

When the city government implemented the waste segre-

gation program, SJSLMPC partnered with different institutions, subdivisions and establishment for hauling of its recyclables and residual wastages. The cooperative was able to secure grants from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for hollow blocks making machine and plastic pulverizer for bricks making. The said undertaking provides more job opportunities and another source of income for the cooperative.

With the blessings outpouring to the cooperative, they have been very generous also in sharing not only in the community but for the other adjacent barangays. They gave materials for constructing comfort rooms, hand washing facility and a Chapel. Some schools also benefitted of the feeding program and provision of school supplies.

Aside from the different business that they conduct, they have been recognized by some award giving bodies in the city. The cooperative won first place in “Gawad Kabuhayan” one of the recipient of “Dangal ng Lung-sod Awards in 2011” and several citations. Also, the cooperative was nominated in “Galing Pook Award in 2012”. They won Third Place in “Natatanging Kooperatiba in the Province of Batangas last 2015 for micro/small category wherein they received an amount of P50,000.00.

Recently, they were recognized as a recipient of the following awards: “First Place Outstanding Cooperative in Small Category (Provincial Level)”, “First Place, CDA Gawad Parangal in Small Category (Regional Level)”, “First Place, CDA Gawad Parangal in Small Category (National Level)”, and “CDA Special Citation for Exemplary Environmental Protection and Conservation Program last December 18, 2017. They also won “Outstanding Cooperative” in National Level given by Honorable Hermilando Mandanas.

Partnerships/linkages with other cooperatives and organizations: Coop Union of Batangas (member), SIDC (rice trading/ Marketing), Malalim MPC/ Bito-go MPC (Marketing), SWAPP; ENRO and Partner of LGU-Batangas City and Industry Sector for Waste Management Program.

Programs and Services: Hauling of Garbage, Scrap Buying & Selling, Rice Trading and Consumer Store, Credit & Loans, Hollow Blocks Making, Vermicast & Vermi-compost Production.

Medium Scale Category 1st Placer Lezo MPC

In 1989, the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)

directed all Samahang Nayons (SNs), a pre-cooperative, to convert into full-pledged cooperatives. Since 1978, these SNs were organized and developed by different government agencies but still they remained inactive. Most were hesitant to form a cooperative because of loss of trust and confidence due to the downfall of their federation.

Led by its energetic Municipal Agricultural Officer, Mrs.



Emelinda R. Dela Cruz, a series of seminars/trainings were conducted in 12 barangays. The plan to organize a new cooperative was pushed through with only 29 members (8 agricultural personnel and 21 farmer leaders) with initial paid-up of 9,588.54 in 1990. Interim officers were elected and core management staff was appointed on voluntary services.

In early 1991, the first consumer store, “Baraka at Banwa”, was established at the old store stall of member Cleofe Cortez at the back of the town plaza, with start-up capital of P18,900. Consumer goods were sold at an exact weight for sugar at prevailing market price to answer the short selling problem. Store was later transferred to the Lezo Public Market Stall leased from Lezo LGU.

Lezo MPC’s funds are from savings deposit and CBUs of members, Land Bank of the Philippines’ Rediscounting, Short-Term Loan Line- Step-up And Credit Surety Fund and UCPB-CI-IF Rediscounting Lie, grant of Php50,000.00 from LGU Lezo and Small Business Corporation. Another ongoing services are the Catering, Electronic Loading, Monoblock Table & Chair Rentals, Airline/Cargo Ticketing and recently the Organic Fertilizer Production.

In 1998, due to its growing business enterprise, Lezo MPC purchased a 1,220 square meters land at barangay Sta. Cruz,

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now used as the site of the different agri-facilities of the Coop. To have an office to transact its business, the Cooperative built a 2-storey building at the lot leased from Lezo LGU at the back of Lezo Public Market. Funds for this construction were provided by the National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC) and Department of Agriculture (DA-LGU Counterparting Program). Since the funds were not enough, the Coop



availed of additional funds from Provincial Government of Aklan from CDF of various Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members.

Products and Services: Savings Deposit/Time and Bulilit, Lending, Training Business, General Merchandise, Farm Service Provider, Ticketing, Agri Production/Processing, Telling, Allied Services (E-Loading, Catering Services and Equipment Rentals, Accepting the Responsibility and Liability as the Guarding Cooperative of the Lezo MPC Lab Coop

Large Scale Category 1st Placer – Millionaire Bagong Barrio MPC



The creation of Bagong Barrio Multipurpose Cooperative started only with the purpose of bringing the raw materials in the community with lower price rather than go-

ing to Manila during that time with so much difficulty when the mode of transportation is a primary concern.

From the primary purpose, they say that they can make a big difference in terms of Barong and Saya Industry of the community. More Entrepreneurs were born. Quality of lives improves. More jobs were generated. Business capital makes available for members. The cooperative is able to help the community.

Started only with a 1.05M capitalization, and transacting their business in a small rental area. After only 5 years they were able to move in to their own building (Main Building). BBMPC – Satellite store and BBMPS K-mart born in 2016 to serve more members.

From this new chapter in the history of BBMPC they wanted to create an impact not just to their members and the community but also to all the stakeholders of the cooperative. Having this vision, they continuously think of better ways to promote the Wedding Depot.

Success of the Wedding Depot will be beneficial to everyone in such ways as: 1) Members. As Tenants – Additional business as stall owners of the wedding Depot. As Supplier – Supply of finished products to stall owners for their orders. Share Holder – Being a member of the cooperative they will enjoy the additional income of the cooperative once the Return on Investment generates from its operation, 2) Community – 51 stalls are ready for occupancy, every stall owner must secure a business permit, and other government permits needed by a business. And from those requirements, means additional income for the barangay and Job Generation – additional jobs were created special sales personnel to man the stalls for everyday oper-

ates our gowns and barong truly alive. Social gatherings make more colorful and vibrant because of the gowns and barong being worn by the attendees.

Bagong Barrio MPC is very positive that they will achieve their goals. With the help of various government and non-government agencies such as Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Provincial Cooperative and Economic Development Office (PCEDO-Bulacan), Bulacan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. (BCCI), Local Government unit (LGU) – Municipality of Pandi and other agencies. They help the Cooperative in terms of promotions and uses of our products.

Partnerships/linkages with other cooperatives and organizations: DTI - Shared Service Facilities, MANATAL COOPERATIVE AND DIVINE MERCY SHRINE - partners in trade fair and sponsorship in souvenir program, LGU OF PANDI – member of local school board and committee on Planning, committee on Health

Products and Services: Loan and Savings, K-Mart Consumer Store, Bayad Center, Wedding Depot Stall Rental, Computer Embroidery, Textile Retail and Wholesale.

Large Scale Category 1st Placer – Billionaire Lamac MPC



Lamac is a secluded and isolated valley southwest of Cebu, 14km to the town of Pinamungajan and 42km via Lutopan to the City of Cebu. Lamac populace was mostly farmers whose problem was to acquire their basic needs and services. Hence, Brgy. Lamac before was without roads, only trails; without electricity, only kerosene lamps that dotted the darkness like fireflies; without tap and potable water, only deep-

well and spring; no transportation of any kind, except their two feet which had grown calluses as they trekked through thorny and dangerous trails to deliver basic needs and produce of the community.

It is so timely that the Department of Local Government and Community Development (DLGCD) had a program to organize farmers into an association called “Samahang Nayon”, which gave birth to the Lamac Samahang Nayon in the year 1973. Orientation training was conducted to at least 70 participants who were mostly tenants – tillers and small farm owners. They had contributed an initial capital of P50.00 per member. From the small beginning of P3,500.00, they started the operation of Consumer/Marketing Services by volunteer members.

In 1995, Lamac had a triple blessing. LMPC won 2nd prize in the Gawad Pitak Contest with a prize of P400,000.00. This inspired the pioneers to aim high and fulfill their dreams, Thus, in the same year another award was received, the RCBC Gawad Sikap with a prize of P100,00.00. The third blessing was the construction of Lamac as a parish.

On December 1997, the dream of LMPC to construct a three-story building at the heart of Lamac worth P2,000,000.00 was realized.

The Barangay Council and

LGU challenged LMPC to rehabilitate the old water reservoir. LMPC won the 1st prize of LBP Gawad Pitak Contest nationwide and won the prize of P500,00.00. The prize was initially spent for the installation of the new water system. On January 21, 2002, LMPC won the RAFI Triennial Award with a cash prize of P250,000.00, and the amount was spent for procurement of the lot for the housing project.

The Local Government

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Unit (LGU) gave LMPC preferential rights to finance the LGU admin-infrastructure projects. With this involvement, the CDA and the 3rd Congressional District Representative chose LMPC as the conduit of the Lingap para sa Mahirap Fund with P1,000,000.00 and the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) with an amount of P4.9 Million. All these are for the financial and technical assistance of the Peoples' Organization (PO's), Non-Government Organization (NGO's) and cooperatives within the 3rd District of Cebu.

Year 2003 was a big year for LMPC as they bagged the most coveted award from LandBank of the Philippines, the "Ginintuang Gawad" and received the prize of P1 million, and with financial assistance from a partner cooperative in Canada, the CCU. LMPC were able to construct a Cooperative Training Center that eventually became a resort, the Hidden Valley Training Center and Resort.

LMPC also won as 1st Runner-up in the Visayas Category for NLDC 3rd SIPAG Awards in 2009, and again in 2012 during the NLDC 7th SIPAG Award as Most-Outstanding Partner-Conduit in Visayas Area. LMPC became a winner of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Gawad Saka Award in 2010.

In 2014, LMPC won the Regional and National CDA Gawad Parangal, and a Special Citation on Community Involvement and Development. LMPC won again in 2017 as 1st Placer in the National Most Outstanding Cooperative, Large Scale Category and two (2) Special Citations as Best in Gender and Development Mainstreaming and Excellence in Membership Growth and Expansion. They also garnered an International Awards, the Jose Biden Awards and Best Film Production – Edward Filene Credit Union Award for Performance Excellence.

They also ventured into diversified business such as Cacao Production and inaugurated and blessed its own nursery in partnership with Kennemer Foods International. It also opened up its operation of the first ever Wave Pool in Visayas.

LMPC established its Dairy Buffalo Multiplier Farm in partnership with Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) and ventured into KANIB-Coco Hub Project in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and donated 2 hectares of lot for the ongoing establishment of the processing plant.

PROGRAMS and PROJECTS: Micro-Finance, Agri-Projects, Community Project, Gender

Advocacy, Housing, Members' Welfare, Youth Development, Environmental Management.

Training for Members: Livelihood Training on Coco Based and Carabao Milk Food Technology, Cacao Industry Development, Rural Farmers Training, Dressmaking, Gender Sensitivity Training.

Business Services and Programs: Regular Savings, Time Deposit, Kiddies Savings, flatoun Savings Program, Aflateen Savings Program, Home Savings Program, Center Fund, Group Fund. HELP (Hiniusang Ekonomikanghong Lantaw sa Panginabuh) ME (Micro Entrepreneurs) SMILE (Small & Medium Investment on Livelihood) RELAX (Reciprocal Loan Afforded to excellent members).

KOMBATI Loan Products: (Kooperatibanhong Mag-uuma Balik Tikad), a. Agri Business, b. Agri Finance, c. Agri Microfinance

Other Programs and Services: Lend with Care Program, Coop Mart, Bakery, Distributorship of Coca-cola Products, Soap Production, Recycled Paper Making, Candle Making, Hidden Valley Wavepool Mountain Resort, Water System and Refilling Facility, Our Lady of Lourdes Subdivision, Dairy Production, Cacao Production, Cassava Production, Coco Coir, Peat and Geonets Production Coco Hub, Coconut Production, Livestock Production, Vegetable Production, Cut Flower Production, Dormitory and Product Outlets, Gasoline Station, Solar Energy.

LGU-COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFICES

Provincial – 1st Placer Provincial Cooperative Enterprise Development Office of Bulacan



BULACAN has been dubbed as the Cooperative Capital of the Philippines not only because of its numerous registered cooperatives and immense

amount of the combined assets of the cooperatives which was based on the records of Cooperative Development Authority (CDA).

It has three major programs which fall under Livelihood in the Seven Point Agenda of PGB: The Cooperative Development Program for cooperatives, the Enterprise Development Program for MSEs and the Investment Promotion Program for local and foreign investors.

Under each of the 3 major programs are projects and activities that promote social or economic development in the community.

To name some of these projects are the following: Tulong ni Gob. Sa Negosyo ng Koop (NEGOSKOOP) Program – intensification and expansion of business/service, development of new business/service and conduct of other related development-oriented activities for the primary cooperatives; e2E+Program for MSMEs – development and production of quality products/goods with distinct character and designed of local craftsmanship and innovative use of local raw materials and creative tools conducted through capability building program, financial/loan assistance, product development and marketing and promotion; and Invest Bulacan Program – a program to promote Bulacan's investment opportunities and incentives to foreign and local investors and other complementary activities with the different government agencies supporting investment promotion conducted through investment promotion and facilitation and investors' servicing.

Aside from the three major programs, PCEDO has unique services and projects for cooperatives and MSMEs which are uncommon in other provinces such as the following: 1) Bulacan

and foreign tourists get to enjoy its historical sites and numerous superb resorts and also get to bring home products that are Bulacan made. In 2017, products of 79 cooperatives and MSEs were showcase and sold with a total sale of more than P4.4 million, 2) Bulacan Packaging Services and Tool Packing Center (BPSTPC) – the very first government-run Packaging Center in the Philippines and the only packaging center in Northern Luzon which has become a benchmark for all government established and to be established packaging centers in the country, 3) Tatak Singkaban ng Central Luzon – a regional trade fair for cooperatives and MSMEs showcasing indigenous products of the seven provinces in region, 4) Cooperative Month Celebration – since 1986, Bulacan has been actively celebrating Cooperative Month Through Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 449 – Resolution Declaring the Month of October Every Year as Provincial Cooperative Month dated August 9, 1989 to recognize the contributions of cooperatives in social and economic development, 5) Gawad Galing Kooperatiba – for almost three decades already, which started in October 1989, the PGB thru PCEDO has institutionalized the awarding of the Most Outstanding Cooperatives, 6) Cooperative Training Provider. PCEDO has been accredited by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) from 2011 to present.

Special Projects for Cooperative Development: Project 393, 4 Is of Intervention, Cooperative Cliniquing, Profiling of Trainings Attended by Cooperative Officers, Oplan: Apply CPR, Cooperative Organizational Health Diagnosis (COHD), Applied Geo-Tagging for Cooperatives, Cooperative Database Management System.

Apart from membership other councils, PCEDO is a member of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRPMC) represented by Ms. Cynthia P. Abiol, Department Head.

Independent/HUCs – 1st Placer Tacloban City Cooperatives Development And Livelihood Assistance Office

The City Cooperatives Development and Livelihood Assistance Office (CCDLAO) or City Coop Office was created by virtue of Ordinance No. 99-08 in the year 1998. Its creation, a legacy of former Tacloban City Mayor Alfredo T. Romualdez, was aimed at promoting the development and growth of cooperatives in the City.

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Initially, it was implemented as one cloban Credit Surety Fund (CSF)



of the Divisions of the City Mayor's Office. At present, the office has already been implemented as a full department with its own appropriated budget for Personal Services, Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) and Capital Outlay.

Since its implementation in the year 2000, the City Coop Office has channeled its effort to contribute to the Vision of the city: A Globally competitive green, resilient it propelled by God loving, gender responsive leaders and empowered city; and the CCD-LAO Mission: A technical Department in the city Government of Tacloban providing coop and livelihood skills trainings, mentoring, monitoring, consultative services and marketing support working with partner government agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders. The Goal Statement of the office is: To accelerate the promotion and development of viable cooperatives through the collaborative efforts of the city government and the community as instruments of equity, social justice and economic development.

As Livelihood Office, its functions are focused on the Institutional Development of Cooperatives and Enterprise Development.

Since the creation of the City Coop Office, the growth and development of cooperatives has increased since the year 2000. Based on 2016 calendar year records, the city has 48 operating cooperatives, total membership of 69,010.

Coop trainings conducted from 2014 to 2017 numbered to 28 benefitting 1,076 officers, members and staff. This has provided not only compliance to the CDA training requirements but on the required education especially to new officers.

Moreover, the Tacloban City Cooperative Union (TCCU) which the office organized has already been registered with the CDA. On the other hand, the Ta-

Cooperative which is the 47th CSF Cooperative organized in the country is established. The City Government of Tacloban is now in the process of allocating a budget of P3.8 Million as its contribution to the fund.

Tacloban City has experienced several calamities in the past years. The cooperatives in the city have been a partner of the city in its rehabilitation efforts especially through its livelihood and other activities for its members. In the light of this big role that the cooperatives take, the City Coop Office in turn is inspired and challenged to continue directing its efforts towards supporting and strengthening the cooperatives.

Component City – 1st Placer City Cooperative and Livelihood Development Office, Tanauan City, Batangas

The City Cooperative and Livelihood Development Office (CCLDO) created in 2012 is an offshoot of Kabuhayan Centers initiated in 2006 and 2007 by then Mayor Sonia Torres Aquino. Ms. May Teresita Fidelino was appointed to head these: Center for Livelihood and Cooperatives, Tanuan Packaging and Service center and the Education, Training and Employment Center.

In consultation with Mayor Aquino, the programs/projects that will embody the three centers were drafted and when approved and budgeted, were being implemented.

While the CCLDO was created in 2010, it was made operational in July 2011 when Ms. Fidelino was appointed as full-fledged department head.

The assumption of Mayor Antonio C. Halili into office in 2013 marked a continued and emboldened delivery of services by the CCLDO to Tanauan's Cooperative sector.

Their service of Coopera-

tive Formation involves the assistance to groups of people in building a formal organization. These people are first oriented on organization building which includes the differentiation of cooperatives, associations and corporations. While there are those who choose to embark immediately on cooperative building, some elect to venture first an association to gain experience and later, graduate into a cooperative.

Aside from the aid in preparing registration documents and actual registration, members are taught how they collaborate effectively through Team Building (2-days seminar) and Basic Leadership Training for elected officers.

Municipal – 1st Placer Municipality of La Trinidad Cooperative Development Service Office

The Office was created with the Ordinance No. 33-2016 Establishing the Cooperative Development Service Office on November 29, 2016 in the Municipality of La Trinidad Benguet, providing funds thereof. Head of the CDO is Orlando B. Pacya. It is the only Municipality in Benguet with an appointment of Cooperative Development Specialist 1 at the same time designated as the Municipal Coop Dev't Officer (MCDO). The services offered by the office ranges from livelihood development, project monitoring & evaluation services, organization & registration services, linking & consultancy services, research, information & development services and training & skills development services.

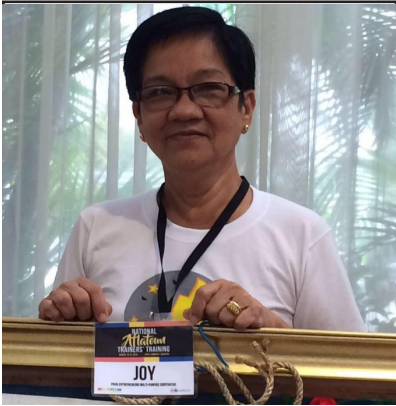
The Office is a Strong Driving force in the sustainability of the La Trinidad Developmental Council (LTCDC), facilitating the strong presence and support of LGU officials to cooperatives and with the cooperative movement. They also helped reorganized the Coop Development Council through the inclusion of key stakeholders in the membership.

The CDO is a strong linkage that connects the LGU with the cooperative movement, hence a continuous assurance for the support of the LGU to the growth of the cooperatives through a friendly cooperative environment in La Trinidad (accreditation of cooperatives), as well as priority of cooperatives in the acquisition of stalls in the public market and trading post operated by the LGU.

COOPERATIVE LEADERS

JOY DORONILA-PALMADA
Exemplary Promotion of Good

Governance and Advocacies on Gender and Development



•Joy Palmada is one of the original cooperators of Pavia Entrepreneurs Multi-Purpose Cooperative (PEMPC), a God-given instrument in Pavia, Iloilo that touched the lives of the members of PEMPC and the community through cooperativism

- She has been a member of PEMPC for 18 years and an officer for 16 years
- She also served as officer of Western Visayas Alliance of Cooperatives for more than 5 years
- Through her initiative, PEMPC became affiliated with NATCCO Network and COOP NATCCO Partylist and with Western Visayas Alliance of Cooperatives

Performance and Contributions to Cooperative Development

- Effective LGU-Private Partnership in Pavia on Market Managements, her lobbying efforts paved way for PEMPC to manage the public market. The ONLY cooperative in Western Visayas entrusted with the management of a Public Market
- Her ardent leadership made her cooperative an awardee for the Best Public – Private Partnership by the Senate of the Philippines in 2006
- She Introduced the Eco Savers Bank Program to support the LGUs advocacy on environment specifically on Solid Waste Management
- As a strong advocate of Gender and Development, she organized the Women In Services and Enterprises (WISE) for women micro-entrepreneurs to help them have sustainable income opportunities
- The members of WISE shared how Ms. Palmada helped them become EMPOWERED WOMEN
- She Organized the Pavia Entrepreneurs MPC Laboratory Cooperative and introduced savings program for children thru AFLA-TOUN
- She Organized the Pavia Organic Producers and Entrepreneurs (POPE) to provide a ready supply of farm commodities to market vendors
- Actively implemented various government programs and

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projects as a result of establishing strong linkages with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DENR, etc.

- Awards received:
- 2016 CDA Gawad Parangal Award for Outstanding Cooperative Leader Regional Awardee for Region 6 and National Finalist
 - Ang Ilongga Awards Most Outstanding Women Community Leader In the Province of Iloilo for Exemplary Promotion of Gender and Development, Governance and Community Development, March 20, 2016
 - Lunhaw Dahon Award by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Environmental Management Bureau for her great efforts for the protection and conservation of the environment and whose values made a legacy and influenced others in the community, June 29, 2015



Atty. GLORIA G. FUTALAN
Outstanding Cooperative Leader for her tireless efforts to benefit the cooperative movement by sharing her expertise in law, finance and management

- An educator by profession, Atty. Gloria Futralan began her coop career in 1980 with the Silliman University Credit Cooperative
- Having been in the cooperative movement for 38 years, she is described as an influential driving force because of her important roles in the governance of the following cooperatives:
Silliman University Community Cooperative
Silliman University Consumers Cooperative
Cooperative Bank of Negros Oriental
Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives – National
Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives – Visayas
Negros Oriental Union of Cooperatives
- She was elected as Secretary General of the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) last September 2015 until at present and was one of the mentors in the Asian Development Education in Thailand

- She was responsible for the establishment of 165 housing units for the members of the cooperative, employees and alumni of Silliman University, known as the Silliman Heights Subdivision- a project of the Silliman University Credit Cooperative under her leadership from its inception until its completion.
- Introduced the KAYA Payment Platform in the PFCCO Network- a payment and fund transfer service facility (through savings account) which is exclusively made for coops and its members. With KAYA Platform, coop members can now do inter-coop transactions as well as mobile banking to do fund transfer and bills payment. KAYA brings real innovation to coops thru the use of technology leading to faster and cost efficient means of delivering services to its valued members.
- Developed a Coopbase Accounting System availed of by cooperatives- empowers the user for decades with complete member information, subsidiary ledger management; integrated accounting system such as loan processing voucher system, financial reporting system and many more. Coop base composes the following apps and services: Coopbase front office desktop apps and Coopbase web accounts.
- Organized tax forums to increase the sector’s awareness of the tax issues affecting cooperatives
- Conducted information drive pertaining to the Credit Information Systems Act (CISA) after attending various consultative meetings on the CISA law
- Special Program for Agriculture (as Chairman of Coop Bank of Negros Oriental) – caters to the needs of marginal farmers and Negros Oriental fisherfolks;
- Enhanced Know-You-Client (KYC) procedures in the Cooperative Bank of Negros Oriental by maintaining a client information system in compliance with Anti-Money laundering regulations;
- Formulated the Cooperative Bank of Negros Oriental Corporate Governance Charter

Awards Received:

- Plaque of Appreciation in vital recognition of her outstanding contribution to the success of the 1st Central Visayas Cooperative Congress, Oct. 20-22, 2011, Cebu City, CDA Cebu EO
- Certificate of Appreciation for her active support and involvement during the Cooperative Research paper Presentation and Consultative Conference, July 28, 2007, CDA Cebu EO



NICASIO FABON FIEDACAN, JR.
Outstanding Cooperative Leader for being a passionate champion of the values of organic farming through cooperation. As such, he strongly advocates for sustainable farming practices that have a positive environmental and social impact

- one of the members of Kabalikat Para sa Diyos at Bayan Multi-Purpose Cooperative (KADBAYAN MPC), a God-given leader who greatly contributed to the continuous success of KADBAYAN MPC and the cooperative movement in Romblon
- He has been a member of KADBAYAN MPC for 25 years and an officer for 12 years
- He also served as officer of Ugnayan ng mga Kooperatiba sa Romblon (UKR) for more than 4 years
- Through his initiative, KADBAYAN MPC became affiliated with Ugnayan ng mga Kooperatiba sa Romblon

Performance and Contributions to Cooperative Development

- Freely and voluntarily prepared project proposals for free for small and medium cooperative to avail loans and grants from financial institutions which led to successful business development
- Lobbied for the sourcing out of fund from the AGAP and DIWA Party list for the establishment of Provincial Cooperative Center in Odiongan, Romblon and even supervised in its construction until completion
- Facilitated the passing of Resolution by all cooperatives in the Province of Romblon to counter the move to repeal tax exemption privileges of cooperatives
- Spearheaded the conduct of social concern activities of the cooperatives – Linis Bungoy River, Coastal Clean-up, Adopting a Road Project making KADBAYAN MPC an awardee of the Best in Environmental Protection and Management Award by the LBP in 2010
- Active organizer of RAGI-PUNANs as Provincial Cooperative

- tive Congress
- Assisted the drafting of Municipal Cooperative Development Council (MCDC) and Romblon Provincial Cooperative Development Council (RPCDC) Manual of Operation which were approved by the CDA
 - Led the organization of the Ugnayan ng mga Kooperatiba sa Romblon (UKR)

Awards received:

- Best Performing Chairman (Romblon Sagip-Hirap MPC), CDA Calamba Extension Office, 2003
- Outstanding Alumni for Cooperatives, Romblon State College, August 26, 2006



COOPERATIVE SAY BRAVO... FROM P1

his constituents.

In the 16th and 17th Congresses, no other Congressman that has stood and exemplified as the champion for cooperative cause than Cong. Tony Bravo. Cong. Bravo is a very low profile congressman but his impact not only to the cooperative sector but to the entire agricultural sector are enormously tangible and significant.

For the cooperative sector, he successfully defended the retention of the tax exemption privileges up to the bi-cameral committee, guarding the crafting of the TRAIN Bill physically and in every step of the way. Needless to say, that the success in retaining the cooperatives tax exemption privilege is a cooperative movement-wide effort. Yes, but there are very invisible forces that want cooperatives in the country not to grow. And the legislative tag of war usually happens in the bi-cameral committee wherein only a handful of legislators can attend to, luckily, Cong. Bravo can.

For the agricultural sector, Cong. Bravo is instrumental in realization of the free irrigation. Unknown to many, when His Excellency Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte was still a mayor in Davao, Cong. Bravo was already lobbying for a free irrigation for our poor farmers. His colleagues would say that his dream for free irrigation is impossible to become a law, but the man is optimistic and a firm believer. He knew his way through it and now it is being enjoyed by farmers nationwide.

On his legislative credential during the 16th and 17th Congress, one can see that Cong. Bravo’s crafted laws are all significant. These include: RA 10969 Free Irrigation Services Act, RA 10668 Amendments to the Cabotage Provisions of RA 1937 Customs and Tariff Code of 1978, RA 10848 Extension of the implementation of ACEF, RA 11088 Conversion of Sorsogon State College into a university, RA11057 Personal Property Security Act, RA11039 Electric Cooperatives Emergency and Resiliency Fund, RA 10931 Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, RA 11148 Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Magnanay Act, and most importantly, the Retention

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New Breed-New Experience: The MEO of Auditors



Three new internal auditors from the CDA MEO were constituted last April 18, 2018 by virtue of SO# 2018-170. All Cooperative Development Specialists, the new IQAs are Marian A Concepcion, Robert Tiongco and May Pacleb. They all underwent an intensive

training on the “ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) Awareness and Managing and Conducting Internal Audit based on ISO 9001:2015 Requirements and ISO 19011:2011 Guidelines” last July 23-27, 2018, conducted by TUV Rheinland.

ISO 9001 is a standard that sets out the requirements for a quality management system. It helps businesses and organizations be more efficient and improve customer satisfaction. Likewise, it incorporates elements such as a stronger focus on stakeholders

and the wider context of an organization to fit the evolving needs of modern business. The standard is designed to be flexible enough for use by different types of organizations.

To prepare the new IQAs, a mock internal audit was executed at the CDA-MEO IQA. Subsequently, team got their first baptism of fire when they were tasked to conduct audit on CDA CAR. The opportunity honed their skills in IQA and it was an interesting experience considering the differences in culture, climate, geography and language between the auditors and recipients. Not long after,

a follow up audit was conducted to validate the previous findings wherein the results were commendable for the upcoming external audit.



Upholding the 7th Cooperative Principle

The cooperative value of caring for others and Concern for the Community as the 7th cooperative principle serves as a guidepost for cooperatives to work for the sustainable development of their communities. Three percent from their net surplus is being utilized for community projects.

Fulfilling the said principle, cooperative members in the province of Isabela, thru the Isabela Provincial Cooperatives Development Office, in coordination with Philippine Red Cross-Isabela Chapter, conducted a Bloodletting Activity last October 9, 2018 in PCDO Function Hall, Alibagu, City of Ilagan, Isabela as part of the celebration of the Cooperative Month. Cooperative members and several people from different walks of life participated in the activity to

donate blood and help save the lives of million Filipinos. Out of the hundreds interested donors who were screened, only 106 were able to successfully donate blood. Members’ participation in this community affair is an important part of the development of the society. It is indeed true that Cooperatives are Partners for Building Resilient and Empowered Communities Towards a Better and Stronger Philippines. Once again, the cooperative sector showed the spirit of Cooperativism through the success of this activity.



COOPERATIVE SAY BRAVO... FROM P16

of VAT exemption of cooperatives under TRAIN Law (RA 10963) and Delivered 14 privilege speeches on coop promotion, budget transparency and good governance.

Other accomplishments of the Honorable Congressman from Sorsogon, to include: Infrastructure development, Agricultural support, Medical Assistance, Educational assistance, Livelihood assistance, Disaster and natural calamities support, among other countless projects and programs.

His low profile and down to earth personality is a complete opposite of his personal and education achievements. He is holding a Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Human Development Management, Master of Arts in Education (MA.Ed) Major in Educational Management, Bachelor of Science in Ind. Education (BSIE) Major in Machine Shop Practice. Fellowship, scholarship

and travel grants: Advance Education Scholarship Grant, Sorsogon State College, 2003-2006; Associate Diploma in Engineering, Casey Institute of Technical and Further Education, Dandenong, Victoria, Australia June-December 1995; Struers Technical Training Course Radiometric Pacific Copenhagen “New Principles in Metallographic Melbourne, Australia Techniques” September 22, 1995; Mechanical Skills Training Dandenong College of Technical and Further Education, Victoria, Australia February 1993- December 1993; and Andragogy Studies Hawthorn Institute of Education Hawthorn Victoria, Aus., April 14-May 14, 1993.

HONORS AND AWARDS RECEIVED

1. Diamond Award, International Association of Multidisciplinary Research (IAMURE), “Delivery of Environmental Services of Sorsogon City LGU: Basis for an Extension Program”, Marco Polo Hotel,

Cebu City, August 22-24, 2012.
2. 1st Best Paper Award, under Agriculture Category for the Paper Entitled “Gender-Based Indigenous Knowledge System in the Urban and Rural Communities in the Province of Sorsogon” during the BU-FIDA-SSC Joint In-House Review, July 19-20, 2007
3. Best Paper Award, First Place, Institutional Category, Bicol Consortium Agriculture and Resources Research and Development (BCARRD) and Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), August 18, 2005
4. Best Paper Award, First Place, College Research Development and Extension Highlights Sorsogon State College, Sorsogon City, July 22, 2005
5. Gintong Sikap Award, Outstanding Educator, Philippine Experimental and Educational Research Society Inc., BAYVIEW Park Hotel, Ermita, Manila, 2002

6. Leadership Award for Meritorious Services Rendered as Outstanding, Leader and President of SSC Faculty Association, Sorsogon State College, July 22, 2002
7. Excellentissimus Award, For his scholastic achievement in Master of Arts in Education Major in Educational Management Annunciation College, Graduate School Sorsogon, 1997
8. Merit Award, Jose Bacay Foundation Scholar in recognition for his scholastic achievement for the school year 1984-1985.

According to Luke 14:11, For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” It reflects with the persona of Cong. Tony Bravo. With that, one can be certain that he can reach to even greater heights and achieve more. We say BRAVO! To that. RDA



Billionaire Coop: Blessed in Being a Blessing



A MAN FOR OTHERS AND A VISIONARY LEADER! TAM-AN BMPC FOUNDER AND CEO, MR. JOSE D. TOMAS, Sr.

Success is not measured on how much money you have, not even power or fame, rather, on how much you are willing to give to the people around you. It is about the difference you make in other people's lives.

Tam-an Banaue Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Tam-an BMPC) started its operation on May 9, 1991 with an initial paid-up capital of P25,000.00 contributed by 25 cooperators. Twenty-seven years later, coupled with sheer hard work and perseverance, the cooperative has now a total of 251,000 members from Cordillera, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Isabela and has become the first billionaire cooperative in Region 02.

Despite its undeniable and unstoppable growth, Tam-an BMPC never forgets its corporate social responsibility to the community. It does not focus only on business operations but also concern for the welfare of people in the community. Various community development projects such as gift giving, relief operations, scholarships are expression of their care not only to the members but to the whole society. Tam-an is also an advocate of environmental conservation through tree planting and introduction of biological and farming.

Tam-an Agritech and Tourism Training Center. In partnership with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Tam-an BMPC initiated

to put up a farm school to equip its employees, members and residents in the area in finding jobs not just locally but globally as well. Last March 27, 2018 Tam-an BMPC was able to produce 220 graduates for agri crops production, animal production, driving, automotive servicing, metal arc welding and electrical installation and maintenance. So far, these graduates were able to find employment after graduation. Some became employees of Tam-an while others were recommended to other institutions that are in need of such services. Some graduates even find employment abroad. Some of the graduates include inmates of Solano Jail who are now into organic fertilizer

production. The second batch of graduates are expected to finish this March 2018.

When asked what inspired Tam-an BMPC to venture into this kind of project, the General Manager Mr. Jose Tomas Sr. said, "I also graduated in a Technical School, had finished carpentry, so I can say that there is no reason for someone to be unemployed as long as they have skills."

Somehow similar to Tam-an Agritech and Tourism Training Center is the Mobile Aralan, bringing a school nearer to its students. This project was created to cater our Indigenous Peoples (IP) kababayans in the mountains who are unable to attend TESDA trainings due to their distant location, financial limitations and even lack of information on the existing programs of the government. It is always important to consider the people that are seldom seen and heard. Tam-an BMPC believes that it is through empowering these people that they can change their lives and give them a brighter perception of their future.

In times of emergencies, beside the anxiety of what may happen is the concern on where to get money to cover the expenses. To promote thrift and savings, Tam-an BMPC conducts Financial Literacy Seminars. The cooperative entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Social Welfare and Development to help the 4Ps beneficiaries and even IPs in educating them the importance of savings. Considering their unstable source of income, the participants are provided with enough knowledge in managing their financial resources. Through this seminar, Tam-an was able to lessen the number of people who depend on loan sharks for credit. Peace of mind can never be bought, that is why,

it always pays to be prepared physically, mentally, emotionally and financially whatever the situation maybe.

Tam-an BMPC also believes that someone need not to be a doctor to save lives. That is why, this cooperative holds a semi-annual blood-letting activity which they dubbed as "Blood Samaritan". Tam-an also recognizes the importance of giving back. As part of the cooperative's way of giving thanks to God for all their blessings, they are conducting gift giving to rebel returnees, inmates, IPs and 4Ps beneficiaries. They make sure that these beneficiaries felt loved and seen.

Tam-an BMPC also takes part in educating people as to how small actions when combined together can play a big role in protecting our planet. Their concern for the environment is expressed through an annual tree planting and the introduction of biological farming. Biological Farming is beneficial in nature since it relies predominantly on the use of aerobic compost and other organic additives, thus reducing the use of chemicals, at the same time increasing yields, quality, soil fertility and profitability. With this program, Tam-an wants to provide farmer-entrepreneur a sustainable livelihood farming, providing pesticide-free food at the same time living in a healthy community.

Tam-an BMPC has been experiencing continuous progress but never failed to share their blessings. With the dedication and love they show to the community, it is not surprising that they are being blessed abundantly by God. They are living on what they believe that what God gives to you, you give to others.



GOING ORGANIC: Tam-an BMPC initiated a pilot project for its Biological Organic Farming as part of its outreach program