

# KooPinas: Rain of support for the Cooperative Month

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The month of October of every year was declared as the National Cooperative Month.

Early morning of Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> of October revealed dark clouds along the horizons of Fuente Osmena Circle, Cebu City posing to delay if not cancel the parade for the opening salvo of the cooperative month. A few minutes after the assembly time at six, heavy rains poured. Not long after, a rainbow appeared on the horizon, ushering a new beginning as we

kick-off the celebration. Hanging of banners, conduct of local trainings, summits, conventions and public consultation awaits cooperators as CDA EO Region VII and local cooperatives hand in hand continually strive to achieve respective social, economic and cultural needs and aspirations.

Led by Region VII Extension Office Director Doreen Ancheta together with Cebu City Cooperative Council Chairman and Councilor Jaypee Labella, who chairs the Committee on Cooperatives of Cebu City, walked proudly from Fuente Osmena Circle to Plaza Sugbo in front of Cebu City Hall. Joined by cooperatives from the city, participants gleefully moved as the festive beat of the band sounded across the boulevard proudly raising banners, flaglets, balloons and sounding sirens proclaiming our common bond towards the attainment of economic development and social justice.



In Plaza Sugbo, a Mass ensued beseeching for providence to all the activities organized by the local cooperatives. Subsequently, to ceremoniously open the cooperative month, a program was organized wherein local stakeholders acknowledged continued support and assistance to the cooperatives in the city. During the program, Director Ancheta echoed the message of solidarity as this year's Cooperative Month Celebration on KooPinas: Nagkakaisang lakas para sa Makabuluhan at Sama-samang Paganunlad.



Not long after, Director Ancheta together with Jaycel Mag-abo, CDS II advanced to the activities organized by Lapu-lapu City Cooperative And Livelihood Resource Center. In front of the different cooperators in Lapu-lapu, the Regional Director evoked the cooperators mind of the indispensable role in the countryside development to address poverty towards the achievement of sustainable goals. At the crack of dawn the next day, Director Ancheta and Anne Rose Rollo, CDII had a wonder feeling of relief after a fun run and a very enjoyable zumba as they joined the activities organize by Mandaue City Cooperative Council.



As the days of this month progresses, local cooperatives and CDA Region VII have programmed activities and programs that promote the principles and values of solidarity amongst cooperative.