



CDA RVI CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES HIGHLIGHTING THE 1ST EVER CONSOLIDATED FARMERS' COOPERATIVE

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Kabankalan City, July 6, 2024 - The Cooperative Development Authority Region VI Extension Office (CDA RVI EO), spearheaded by Acting Regional Director Antonio C. Escobar celebrated the International Day of Cooperatives (IDC) with the theme "Cooperatives Build a Better Future for All".

The worldwide commemoration aims to give cooperatives the opportunity to highlight their contributions creating a sustainable future for a better tomorrow.

This CY2024 local celebration was attended by 61 participants and conducted in partnership with the Local Government Unit of Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental, Kabankalan-Ilog Teachers and Employees Multi-purpose Cooperative (KITEMPCO), Partner-Cooperative, and the 1st ever City of Kabankalan Consolidated Farmers Consolidated Cooperative (CoKFCAC).

Back-to-back with the International Day of Cooperatives' celebration was the Awarding of Certificate of Registration and Certificate of Compliance to the City of Kabankalan Consolidated Farmers Agriculture Cooperative which marks history as the first cooperative to consolidate under MC 2023-18, Series of 2023 – Guidelines Governing the Implementation of a Special Program on Merger and Consolidation for Micro and Small Cooperatives and Granting Incentives thereof. not only in the region but all over the Philippines.



MOA Signing



From the right: Ms. Mercy J. Gabasa, Hon. Benjie M. Miranda, Acting Regional Dir. Antonio C. Escobar, Marvin Mabuyog, Mr. Henrylito M. Tingson, Mr. Francisco De Guzman, and Atty. Jickney B. Fuentes

Signing of two (2) Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs):

1. CDA Koop Kapatid Program between Kabankalan-Ilog Teachers and Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative (KITEMPCO), the partner cooperative (big coop), and Sitio Flora ARC, and City of Kabankalan Consolidated Farmers Agriculture Cooperative as beneficiary – cooperatives (small coops)
2. Partnership on Cooperative Development by CDA, City Government of Kabankalan, KITEMPCO and CoKFCAC were forged as major highlights of the activity.

Inspiring messages and words of support from KITEMPCO Chairperson Henrylito M. Tingson, Hon. City Mayor Benjie M. Miranda, and CDA Acting Regional Director Antonio C. Escobar gave color to the successful celebration and motivation to the newly registered stated consolidated cooperative.

Attorney III Jickney B. Fuentes, CDA Sr. CDS Mary Grace M. Sangcada, Sr. CDS Ma. Joyce S. Losaria, and City Cooperative Development Office (CCDO)- Designate Herman Divinagracia also shared messages/ insights specifically the significance of the IDC and consolidation towards productivity and food security.



Hon. Benjie M. Miranda, City Mayor, City of Kabankalan delivering his message of support



Mr. Antonio C. Escobar, Acting Regional Director, CDA Region VI delivering his inspirational message

In his message, Hon. City Mayor Benjie M. Miranda signifies his gratitude towards the success of the consolidation program of the agency and very much willing to help the agency achieve its vision and mission, thus emphasizes the importance of cooperatives to elevate the life of the people in the community. In addition, KITEMPCO Chairperson Henrylito M. Tingson, highlighted the significance of cooperativism in his message which he mentioned the importance of helping one another to achieve a common goal, hence, no one should be left behind. Moreover, Acting Regional Director of the Cooperative Development Authority, Mr. Antonio C. Escobar was very delighted in his message. He propounded the journey of consolidation in Kabankalan City in which he mentioned how it became possible, and marks history on the consolidation program of the government as the first ever consolidated cooperative being launched all over the Philippines.

Acting RD Escobar said that it was on May 2024 when he introduced the Merger and Consolidation to the council meeting at Kabankalan City and through the efforts of the agency and the local government, the Orientation on the Concept of Consolidation for Micro Cooperatives was conducted last June 13-14, 2024. Thereafter on the following week, PCDS Jona J. Gepilga closely follow-up cooperatives interested to join the consolidation. General Assemblies of the of the three (3) identified micro cooperatives also took place, namely, Boyonan MPC, Bantayan Organic Growers ARC, and City of Kabankalan Livestock and Poultry Marketing Cooperative.

On June 26-28, 2024 the three (3) mentioned consolidated cooperative conducted the organizational meeting, submitted on-line application for new cooperative through eCoopRIS and signed required documents for submission to CDA RVI, under the name agreed as City of Kabankalan Farmers Consolidated Agriculture Cooperative (CoKFCAC).

The CoKFCAC was duly registered as consolidated coop on July 1, 2024, and finally on July 6, 2024 marked a history as the 1st ever consolidated cooperative not only in the region but across the country under MC No. 2023-18 - Guidelines Governing the Implementation of a Special Program on Merger and Consolidation for Micro and Small Cooperatives and Granting Incentives Thereof, as the officers received the Certificate of Registration (COR) and Certificate of Compliance (COC) from CDA RVI EO.

In conclusion, Acting Supervising CDS Ms. Mercy J. Gabasa delivered her closing remarks reflecting and summarizing all insights by sharing the Cooperative Identity of "People Helping People", the genuine concept of cooperativism".

Finally, the Cooperative Development Authority together with the partner cooperatives and the local government agencies will continue to uphold the mission and vision of the government in accelerating efforts to implement a sustainable future for all the cooperatives through merger and consolidation by helping the cooperatives to have an efficient operation and getting access to new markets.



Ms. Mercy J. Gabasa, Acting Supervising CDS delivering her closing remarks