



COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Region II Extension Office

PIGGO

A journey of Hands, Heart, and Heritage



CFIDP

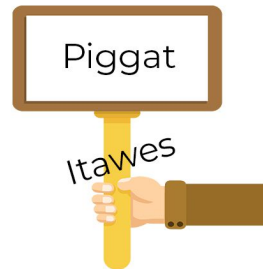
Coconut Farmers and
Industry Development Plan



ABOUT THE COVER

The term "**Piggo**" refers to the creamy coconut milk extracted from grated coconut meat, an essential ingredient in Filipino cuisine and beyond. It symbolizes the richness and versatility of the coconut, often called the "Tree of Life" due to its myriad uses. Gata is not just a cooking staple—it represents nourishment, creativity, and resourcefulness in utilizing natural resources. Beyond food, its by-products highlight the coconut's integral role in everyday life. Coconut oil extracted from gata is prized for its health benefits, serving as a natural remedy and a beauty essential for skin and hair. Even the residual pulp and shells find purpose as animal feed, fuel, or raw material for eco-friendly products, showcasing a commitment to sustainability. Gata encapsulates the ingenuity and deep connection between people and nature, proving that every drop of this creamy extract is a gift from the coconut that enriches lives in more ways than one.

The **Piggo-Themed Coffee Table** is a stunning fusion of artistry and functionality, inspired by the richness and versatility of coconut by-products. The intricate designs, crafted from eco-friendly coconut shell inlays, resemble the swirling patterns of coconut milk (gata) inlays. At the right side of the cover page, a tall coconut tree with lush fronds arches gracefully, symbolizing life and abundance while showcasing the natural grain and durability of coconut wood. Surrounding the gata, other by-products of the coconut highlight its utility in daily life, from its nourishing milk to its sustainable contributions. In essence, gata embodies a culture of ingenuity, where every drop is a testament to how nature's bounty can be transformed into something remarkable, enriching lives in multiple ways. A theme centered on gata can capture the spirit of sustainability, heritage, and the deep connection between people and their environment. This centerpiece celebrates the coconut's cultural heritage and practical value, blending tradition with modern aesthetics.





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APPALAPPA

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



 **COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
827 Aurora Blvd., Brgy. Immaculate Conception, Quezon City
Tel. No. 725-3764
www.cda.gov.ph



My warmest cooperative greetings to our esteemed Region II Extension Office, under the visionary leadership of Director Atty. Jovilyn Gaffud-Marquez, as you publish the Coffee Table Book under the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) Program.

The Coconut Farmer Cooperatives (CFCs) serve as a beacon of hope and resilience, demonstrating the power of collective action in transforming communities and uplifting the lives of our farmers. This Coffee Table Book is a beautiful tribute to the achievements of CFCs and a reminder of the enduring value of cooperativism in shaping a brighter future for our farmers and their families.

The theme "Cooperatives: Stronger Together Today for a Brighter Tomorrow" reflects the heart of our movement. Through unity and shared purpose, we can harness the potential of our coconut farmers, empowering them to achieve economic stability and social progress.

In this special celebration of Cooperative Month, I commend the remarkable achievements of the Region 2 Extension Office, whose wisdom and foresight have brought us to where we are today. The Cooperative Development Authority stands in full support of your endeavors, and we are confident that through your continued efforts, our coconut farmers will rise to greater heights, securing a prosperous and sustainable future for all.

Congratulations to everyone involved, and may this book serve as a lasting inspiration for future generations! Mabuhay ang kooperatibang Pilipino!


USEC. JOSEPH B. ENCABO
CDA Chairperson

APPALAPPA

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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www.cda.gov.ph





While the Cooperative Development Authority remains committed to supporting you—through resources, education, and the promotion of best practices—true progress is made in the fields and through the hands of farmers like you. You are the true innovators, the ones who have the power to transform our industry with your expertise and adaptability. More than anything else, we will value your commitment.

Imagine a future where coconut farming is more than just a way of life—it is a thriving sector full of opportunities, where hard work yields greater rewards and where every farmer has access to the tools and knowledge needed to succeed. That future is within reach, and together, we can make it a reality. It will take collaboration, shared vision, and a commitment to growth. But as you have shown time and again, there is no challenge too great when met with dedication and unity.

Your contributions are invaluable, and your perseverance inspires us all. The journey forward will undoubtedly have its share of hurdles, but with the courage to embrace new paths and the strength to carry on, the coconut industry will flourish like never before. Thank you for your incredible work and for being the driving force behind a brighter, more abundant future. Again, we invite you to use our “puso, hindi nguso”. **Let us all work for God, our people, and country.**

ASEC. VIRGILIO R. LAZAGA, M.D.

CDA Board of Director/Head of the Agriculture,
Agrarian, Aquaculture, Farmers, Dairy, and
Fisherfolk Cooperatives Cluster

APPALAPPA MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



 **COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
827 Aurora Blvd., Brgy. Immaculate Conception, Quezon City
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Warm Cooperative Greetings to our development partners from the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), other partner institutions, and to the officers and members of the different Coconut Farmers' Cooperatives (CFCs) in Region II.

The Coconut Farmers Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) is a vital instrument in revitalizing the coconut industry and empowering CFCs across the country. By providing a comprehensive framework for sustainable development, the CFIDP program underscores the government's commitment to uplifting the lives of coconut farmers and strengthening their cooperatives as engines of growth in rural areas. This initiative not only ensures the equitable use of resources but also fosters resilience and self-reliance among coconut farming communities.

This coffee table book serves as a testament to the power of collaboration between Coconut Farmers' Cooperatives, the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), the Philippine Coconut Authority, and other stakeholders. By working together, we can unlock the potential of the coconut sector and achieve the shared vision of economic empowerment and social transformation for our farmers. The stories featured in this book are a celebration of the partnerships that continue to drive the CFIDP program forward and bring tangible benefits to our farmers.

The inspiring narratives and best practices showcased in this coffee table book reflect the resilience, creativity, and determination of our coconut farmers and cooperatives. Each feature embodies the program's objectives by highlighting innovations and success stories that can serve as benchmarks for others. These stories of triumph remind us that sustainable development begins with the people who till the land and nurture the coconut industry.

As we turn the pages of this book, let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting the Coconut Farmers' Cooperatives. The CDA remains steadfast in its mission to help CFCs become stronger, more innovative, and sustainable organizations that can thrive in a competitive global market. Together, let us continue to nurture the coconut industry and empower the farmers who are its heart and soul.

Mabuhay ang mga Coconut Farmers' Cooperatives at Mabuhay ang Bagong Pilipinas!

ASEC. SANTIAGO S. LIM
CDA Administrator

APPALAPPA

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR





Long before the national and global economies took shape, the coconut has been a cornerstone of our nation's prosperity, nurtured by the tireless dedication of men and women who cultivate these trees, transforming a humble crop into a source of livelihood and pride. This inaugural coffee table book stands as a tribute to resilience, unity, and aspiration. It captures not only the allure of the coconut but also the profound narratives of those whose lives are intertwined with this vital industry.

Through the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Program (CFIDP), we have witnessed the remarkable impact of cooperatives. Together, you have demonstrated that true success emerges not from solitary endeavors but from collective efforts and a shared vision. Your cooperatives transcend mere organizations; they are beacons of hope, engines of growth, and the very foundations of your communities.

To our dedicated coconut farmers and cooperatives we stand united with you as we forge a legacy that transcends the coconut industry, paving the way for future generations who will benefit from the advancements you are cultivating today.

Mabuhay kayo, Mabuhay ang ating mga Kooperatiba!

ATTY. JOVILYN M. GAFFUD-MARQUEZ

Regional Director
CDA Region II Extension Office

APPALAPPA

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL MANAGER





As we turn the pages of this book, we're stepping into the heart of the coconut farming communities—homes built on resilience, dreams rooted in the land, and hands weathered by countless seasons of planting, harvesting, and nurturing. The Coconut Farmers Industry Development Program (CFIDP) is more than a mission; it is a promise to honor and uplift the people whose lives intertwine with every coconut palm and every harvest.

At the heart of this journey are our cooperatives. They are the lifelines that connect farmers to each other, to markets, and to hope. With every gathering, shared resource, and training session, they weave a fabric of community strength, where no farmer stands alone. They bring not only economic support but also a profound sense of belonging and shared purpose. In the eyes of our farmers, these cooperatives are more than institutions; they are family.

Each story within these pages reminds us of the courage of those who till the land and the unity that fuels their spirit. From hardship to celebration, our farmers and cooperatives journey together, bound by a commitment that transcends generations. May this book inspire all who read it to understand the powerful legacy of our coconut farming communities and the vital role of the Cooperative Development Authority in building a brighter future. Let it be a reminder of what we can achieve when we nurture both the land and the hands that care for it, guided by an enduring spirit of hope, connection and strength.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "MARK ROY Q. MACANLALAY".

MARK ROY Q. MACANLALAY

Regional Manager III
Philippine Coconut Authority
Regions I, II, & CAR



CREDITS: PAUL CUERVA

BATANES LIGHTHOUSE, BATANES



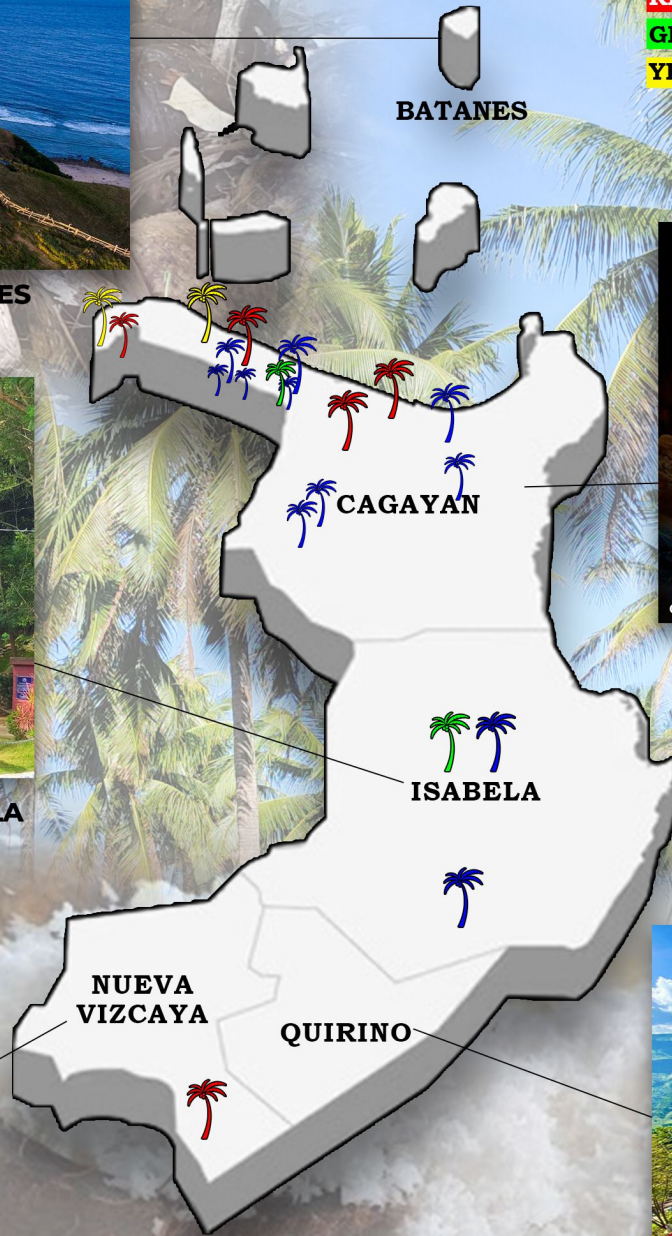
CREDITS: Sky Walker Vlog

ILAGAN JAPANESE TUNNEL, ILAGAN, ISABELA



CREDITS: LOWER MAGAT ECO-TOURISM PARK OFFICIAL

LOWER MAGAT ECO-TOURISM PARK, DIADI, NUEVA VIZCAYA



LEGEND:

The coconut trees seen in the map represent the location of the cooperative involved in coconut farming in the region.

BLUE - Micro

RED - Small

GREEN - Medium

YELLOW - Large



CREDITS: KATYBEE

CALLAO CAVES, PEÑABLANCA, CAGAYAN



CREDITS: LCU NAGTIPUNAN, QUIRINO

LANDINGAN VIEWPOINT, NAGTIPUNAN, QUIRINO



BUKO-GRAPHY

Historical Fusion of Coconut and Culture

Atty. Nita Doreen L. Maestre-Tabbu

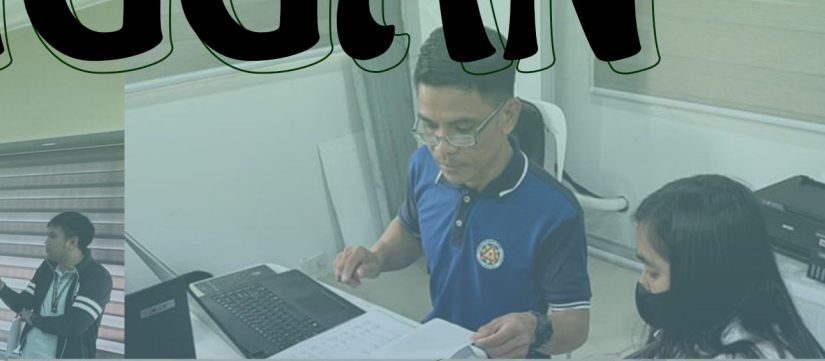
Region II—Cagayan Valley is one of the country's food hubs. Agriculture is its main economic activity where thirty-seven percent (37%) of its land area is devoted to agricultural production. The tropical climes of Region II—Cagayan Valley is ideal for coconut farming. In fact, the Philippine Coconut Authority identified an area of 15,381 hectares of coconut farms. In 2024, the Cooperative Development Authority registered nineteen (19) cooperatives engaged in coconut farming.

Coconuts are the region's main staple food. Its fruit and coconut milk are the major ingredients of dainties (deko/diket) which are largely served during fiestas and other major celebrations. Value-added products of coconuts like cookies and pies are produced and sold in the markets. Buko juice, buko salad, and ice buko made from coconut meat, are popular dessert choices during the summer. Coconut oil from the coconut milk (piggo), thence the book's name, is an indispensable part of the inhabitants' beauty regime. In fact, it was believed that frequent use of coconut oil can prevent premature hair aging or even hair loss. Coconut trunk was used in building nipa huts popularly seen in the vibrant beaches and parks of the region. The coconut leaves and ribs are used for hall decorations or making hard brooms known as walis ting-ting. Coconut husks are used as fuel for cooking while its roots can be used as decorations.

Coconuts proved to be a tree of life because of the indispensable use of their roots up to their leaves. Every part plays a role in life sustenance, hence these trees must be sustained for economic sustainability.



PAGUVOVUGGAN





*A Story of Hands, Heart,
and Heritage*

Turning PALMblems into PALMsibilities: A Story of Resilience and Perseverance

 JURELA C. CALLANGAN

The Sta. Cruz Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SCMPC) nestled in the coastal town of Pamplona, Cagayan, has experienced a remarkable transformation. Once on the brink of closure due to mismanagement, the cooperative now stands as a testament to the impact of resilience, perseverance, and collaboration.

In the words of Chairperson Quirino V. Muñoz, the journey of the cooperative can be likened to that of a delicate cobweb. “In the face of storms, our cooperative would have been easily swept away, leaving little trace behind. But, like a cobweb, it would always reappear, unnoticed but resilient”. This metaphor summarizes the heart of SCMPC’s story. A story of deliberate success, and of enduring spirit and a relentless will to rebuild.

The turning point that marked SCMPC’s recovery came from a decision to focus on coconut farming. The cooperative recognized the potential in the coconut industry and set its sights on the opportunities available around this crop. With support from government agencies such as the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA),





SCMPC members were provided with essential training and education programs to enhance their skills in coconut production. Financial assistance, coconut seedlings, and fertilizer subsidies from the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) through the CFIDP program boosted their growth. These efforts enabled the cooperative to thrive in coconut farming, opening new market opportunities and improving the livelihoods of its members.

The Sta. Cruz Multi-Purpose Cooperative's story demonstrates that with an unwavering commitment to success, even the most fragile cobweb can weave a sturdy foundation for success. SCMPC's journey inspires all of us to believe in the transformative power of perseverance, and hold unto hope that no matter how daunting the storm, we can always rise again, stronger, wiser, and ready to face the challenges ahead.

B.U.K.O is LIFE

 IVONNE A. PAREDES



Building Unity, Kinship and Optimism is the key to sustain cooperatives and its member's LIFE.

A "tree of life" is how coconut tree is being described because all the parts of the entire tree—from top to bottom—are used to sustain human life. Like a coconut tree, cooperatives provide effective services which the members need and can make use of, therefore it must be stable to sustain life.

In a coastal municipality in the province of Cagayan, a cooperative from Ballesteros was conceived which aims to deliver its purpose to the members and its community. According to Mr. Alfredo O. Sosa, former chairman, the cooperative inception was a paradigm, hence its name. It was because it emanated from a set of brilliant ideas with a collaborative effort to put the cooperative into life. Despite the smooth flowing operation of this cooperative a disturbance surfaced and became apparent that leads the cooperative to less functional until it became dormant. Despite of the hardship and struggle encountered, members enkindled with them the spirit of unity, social kinship and optimism and tried to see the silver lining from it.



Charcoal Briquette

One of the new business activity of the cooperative is the production charcoal briquette locally known as uging. The coop collects coconut shell from the producer/vendor of buko juice as the raw material of the said product. With the help of charcoal briquette machine coconut shell charcoal was made available to market. Coconut shell charcoal is totally natural, environmentally friendly biofuel, it can be used as a fuel substitute against fuelwood, kerosene, and other fossil fuels.



Charcoal Briquette Machine



*Joselito O. Obejas
Chairman, New Paradigm
Cooperative*

"Taos pusong pasasalamat sa programa ng Cooperative Development Authority, Coconut Farmers Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) program ng Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) at ng ibang ahensya ng gobyerno sa paggabay at pagtulong sa gaya naming mga farmers. Sa pamamagitan ng mga assistance na pinapaabot unti unti naming natutupad ang layunin ng aming kooperatiba."



Pigad

A floor mat made of coconut coir . Pigad is preferably used as an outdoor floormat because its rough surface which is condusive for removing soil residues from the soles of shoes and slippers.

Using a simple machine, a coconut coir is being intertwined to come up a long rope-like coir and weave to create pigad.

With eagerness and untiring cooperation of the new sets of officers and members, thus united and partook activities to get back in the track. They may not be related by blood but their camaraderie developed kinship among the members to realize its purpose and fulfill its mission and vision. In the process of restoration, positive vibes radiated to its members. The optimism of members inspired them to transform the New Paradigm Farmers Marketing Cooperative into New Paradigm Multipurpose Cooperative with the hope to become viable and sustainable.

From its name Paradigm it connotes "change into good" which is evident to the cooperative today despite the hardship encountered along its way. Drawn out from the cooperative pledge, "Alone I am weak, but with other I am strong", New Paradigm MPC, a newly restored coop. With the help of the different programs of the government, it is able to stand again and carry out its hopes, in order to be viable and sustainable cooperative as the "Tree of Life" of its members and the community it serves.

Among other government assistance extended to the cooperatives is the Coconut Farmers and Integrated Development Program (CFIDP) of the Philippine Coconut Authority. Through its Financial Assistance, the cooperative started its business which benefitted directly its members.

Buko Pie: A Taste of Alfonso Castañeda's Coconut Industry

 ARNOLD D. ABALOS

In Alfonso Castañeda, Nueva Vizcaya, the Alfonso Castañeda Multipurpose Cooperative (ACMPC) is making waves with its signature product—Buko Pie. As part of the town's One-Town-One-Product (OTOP) initiative, coconut has become the heart of their offerings, and the cooperative's Buko Pie stands out as a local favorite, earning recognition from both locals and tourists alike.

The Buko Pie is a true reflection of the town's rich agricultural heritage, with fresh, high-quality young coconut as the star ingredient. Unlike mass-produced pies, ACMPC's Buko Pie features a delicate, flaky crust filled with tender, freshly harvested coconut, creating a perfect balance of texture and flavor. The cooperative's commitment to using traditional cooking methods, combined with modern techniques for efficiency, ensures that each pie is made with care and consistency.



Under the leadership of Board Chairperson Lorenzo C. Basilio and Manager Rosario B. Castro, the cooperative has built a strong market for its coconut-based products, with the Buko Pie at the forefront. The pie is made from locally harvested buko (young coconut), which is carefully prepared to highlight its natural sweetness and texture. This dedication to quality has made the pie a must-try for tourists passing through the area on their way to nearby destinations, like Dinadiawan and Baler, Aurora.

The success of the Buko Pie has helped elevate the cooperative's presence in local markets and beyond. ACMPC's products, including Buko Rolls, Ube Rolls, Macaroons, Tart, Bokayo, Empanada and Fresh Buko Juice are sold in nearby towns, cities, and tourist hubs, with the cooperative's store at the Public Market and Pasalubong Center in Alfonso Castañeda becoming a popular stop for travelers looking to bring home a taste of the town's coconut industry. The cooperative's impact goes beyond the pie itself. By providing a reliable market for local coconut farmers, ACMPC plays a crucial role in sustaining the local agricultural economy. Every part of the coconut tree is utilized, from the meat and milk in the pie to the husk, which is turned into eco-friendly products like coco peat. Through its dedication to quality and community, the ACMPC has transformed the humble coconut into a product that not only sustains the local economy but also delights the taste buds of people from all over. The Buko Pie, in particular, stands as a testament to the cooperative's commitment to tradition, innovation, and sustainability. It's a delicious reminder of the importance of coconut in the lives of the people of Alfonso Castañeda, making it a true symbol of their agricultural pride and success.



Mata-Niyog na Pangarap: The Grandiose Dream of HTAFMPC

 JERYSON T. MANDING

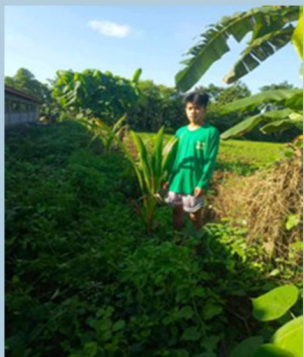
It all started with a vision of thirty (30) people: A vision of social responsibility, environmental preservation and economic growth thru government support lump in one organization which ensures members independence, equality, and equity. The Holy Trinity Agro-Forestry Producers Cooperative is established precisely for the purpose of achieving these goals, one that espouses technological advancement vis-a-vis environmental preservation.



On January 16, 2014, the Holy Trinity Agro-Forestry Producer's Cooperative has been officially registered under the Cooperative Development Authority as a lead agency in fostering growth and development of Cooperatives with a Registration Number: 9520-02023977 which comprises of thirty (30) members headed by Chairperson Ruben T. Dela Cruz and their Manager Mr. Richard Agcaoili.

On the third year of its operation, the Cooperative ammended its name to HOLY TRINITY AGRO-FORESTRY MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE in order to expand its business operations. This include the construction of an office building, and purchase of a farm land, transport vehicles and other equipment to support its operation.

The Holy Trinity Agro forestry Multi-Purpose Cooperative (HTAFMPC) received the five thousand (5000) coconut seedlings from Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) in the year 2014. Some of the coconut trees were planted way back then and are now bearing fruits and currently being sold as fresh products or processed products.





BAYANIHAN SPIRIT

A successful implementation on NGP (National Greening Program) at Barangay Rang-Ayan, Ilagan City, Isabela through the assistance and support of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The cooperative was awarded by Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) a total land area of one hundred (100) hectares, planted with twenty-one (21) different species of fruit bearing trees.

Through the initiative of Father Angelito Mangabat in his program on “Bayanihan Spirit”, all members have to maintain and develop an area. Every Saturday, the members spend time to clean, plant trees, bananas and vegetables in their assigned area.



“Ang Bayanihan Spirit na programa ng aming leader na si Father Angelito Mangabat ay napaka gandang inisyatibo upang madevelop ang area mula sa dating grassland ngayon ay malinis at maaliwalas na. Ang pagbuo niya ng Association to Cooperative ay para magbigay ng oportinidad at trabaho dahil sa hirap ng buhay and in return naman sa inisyatibo niyang yon ay hinihikayat niya na ipakita yung sincerity ng mga miyembro sa Kooperatiba by rendering their services”

– Richard M. Agcaoili- MANAGER



Plaque of Appreciation was awarded to the HTAFMPC for their selfless contribution in helping victims of Typhoon Ulysses

Achiev-ME-nts

Due to its exemplary performance in the implementation of programs of the Cooperative, HTAF MPC was awarded as the Most Outstanding Cooperative from Provincial to City level and was recognized as a hall of fame awardee in the year 2019. This achievement manifested a milestone of dedicated and selfless service to its members, clientele and to the community in general.

“Ang mga karangalan na natanggap ng aming Kooperatiba ay walang ibang pinagalaan kung di ang mga miyembro natin. Dahil ito ay hindi maaachieve ng Koop kung wala ang pagtutulungan ng mga officers and members. Marami pa tayong mga awards na natanggap gaya ng Hall of fame award noong tayo ay nasa small category pa lamang.”

-Ruben T. Dela Cruz- CHAIRMAN



Dito sa area namin tuwing may bagyo, may mga tinanim kaming mga punong kahoy na nagsisilbing wind breaker sa paparating na bagyo at agarang pagbabawas ng mga sanga at dahoon para hindi naman sila masyadong maapektuhan.

-Relina N. Torres- BOD MEMBER

“Ang aming Koop ay walang ibang hangad kundi makatulong sa aming mga miyembro at mga magiging miyembro pa lamang. Nais din natin palawakin pa ng husto ang mga serbisyo na maari pang tangkilikin ng ating mga miyembro sa ating lugar.”

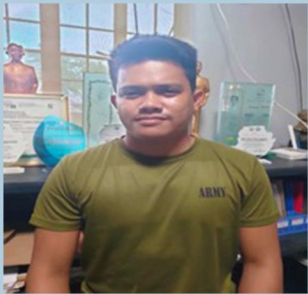
-Rannie A. Serquina- SECRETARY





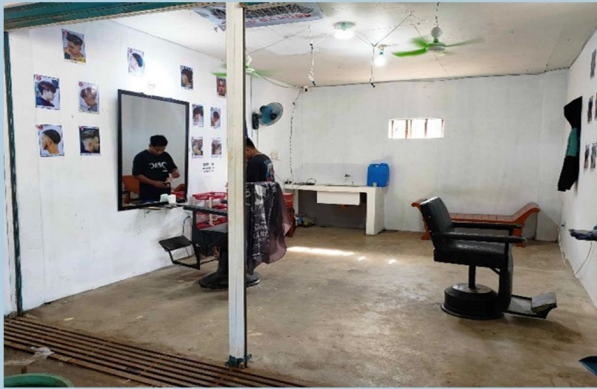
COOP-TECH

The HTAFMPC is a living testament that Cooperatives are not working alone. Together with the Cooperative Development Authority and other Government Agencies (GAs), the HTAFMPC is working hand in hand to offer the best to its members and the community as a whole. The Cooperative was granted by the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office No. 2 a Heated Air Mechanical Grain Dryers (six 6 tons' capacity) with biomass and Petroleum Based fuel heating system. The cost of the construction of the warehouse for the machine is the counterpart of the cooperative. A rotary composer was also granted to the cooperative for soil fertilizer making intended for their vegetables and fruits production. Tractors and Corn Harvester was also awarded to the cooperative for its member- farmers who are in need of its services during planting and cropping season.



*“So yung mga machineries na natanggap ng Koop mula sa ating gobyerno gaya ng traktor, mobile dryer, circulating dryer, ride on planter seeder at iba pa ay priority yung mga members talaga at kasama narin yung mga farmer na hindi miyembro. May mga discount din kapag and nagaavail ay mga miembro ng kooperatiba.
-Melvin F. Papa- BOD MEMBER*





The cooperative caters to the need of its members through the loans/lending services it offers. It gives a variety of option on the different types of loans such as production loan, emergency loan, livestock, farm inputs and others. These will provide the members capital and initial resources to start up their hardware, agri- business such as livestock, poultry and agri-farm production needs.

Several stalls for rent is also available for commercial purposes with a monthly rental of P2,000.00 per stall.

In 2017, the bakery located beside the office started its operation. Like a typical bakery, it offers different types of bread like mammon, pan de coco, white bread. Today, it intends to engage in variety of buko made cakes and pastries.





HTAF-MPC also offers variety of fresh agricultural products such as marang, rambutan, duhat, citrus, buko and mangoes from their own orchard. This initiative is to promote preservation of environment and natural resources as one of the goals of the cooperative in mitigating climate change.

The coop has also a piggery located away from the residential area where its members are the caretakers themselves to ensure healthy meat for a healthy life.



One of the perennial problem encountered by the cooperative is the threat from the natural calamities such as severe typhoons, massive flooding and even extreme drought, brought by the climate change that greatly affected the volume and quality of their agricultural products. Another challenge was the Covid-19 pandemic that caused cooperative products and services greater exposure to loss. Past due loans is very much evident especially during the peak of the health crisis. Limited movement/lockdown were also pervasive which caused loan borrowers to experience past dues on their account.



Also, price instability due to the inflation rate became even more challenging to the cooperative. It was an obstruction to set stable and reasonable prices amidst the many market competitors.

Despite all these challenges, the cooperative is determined to rise from those difficult times through strategic planning of the cooperative's projects, plans, programs and activities.



CocoKnot: Tying Success Through Collaboration and Teamwork

 JURELA C. CALLANGAN

In the rural area of Sta. Praxedes, Cagayan, a group of 15 coconut farmers began with a simple dream: to improve their livelihoods and uplift their community. What began as a modest dream would soon transform into a symbol of growth, demonstrating how unity and the right support can create opportunities for all. This is the story of the Cabaleng San Isidro Farmers Agriculture Cooperative (CASIFA Coop).

The roots of CASIFA Coop can be traced back to the success of Sta. Praxedes Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SPMPC), which inspired a small group of coconut farmers in the area to band together. Each member shared a common vision of improving their economic standing and the state of coconut farming in their community.



In 2023, the farmers' aspirations gained momentum when the Department of Agriculture (DA) encouraged the group to formalize their association into a cooperative. This move was seen as an opportunity to access government programs designed to uplift the lives of local farmers. Supported by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) under the Coconut Farmers Industry Development Program (CFIDP), their association was officially registered on September 11, 2023, under the name Cabaleng San Isidro Farmers Agriculture Cooperative (CASIFA Coop).

The transformation of CASIFA Coop from a fledgling group to a fully registered cooperative is nothing short of inspiring. In just over a year, the cooperative has seen remarkable growth. Membership has already doubled, increasing from 15 to 31 members, with each new member bringing unique skills, resources, and perspectives to the table.

But the growth doesn't stop in numbers. With the help of various government agencies, the cooperative has received technical and financial interventions that have contributed to its growth. These interventions include Php 526,700 in financial support, and valuable equipment, such as hand tractors, grass cutters, soil drillers, cacao seedlings, and fertilizers. These resources have allowed the cooperative to enhance its production capacity, making it more sustainable and self-reliant. The members now have the tools and knowledge to grow not just coconuts, but also cacao and other crops that diversify their income opportunities.

CASIFA Coop is more than just a cooperative, it's a testament to the power of collaboration and teamwork. It serves as an inspiring model for other communities to emulate. It shows that when people come together for a shared purpose, even the most modest dreams can become engines of change.



From Coconut to Life, Jobs End Economic Strife: A Story of Masisit Dacal Multi-Purpose Cooperative

 PAUL ARNOLD P. BATTUNG

"Scarcity of jobs is a reminder that employment is more than a necessity—it is dignity, stability, and opportunity. Investing in jobs is investing in people's future."

The Masisit-Dacal Livelihood Cooperative (MDLC), founded in 1986, has grown from a small credit cooperative into a multi-purpose organization supporting economic growth in northern Luzon. Through partnerships with institutions like Cagayan State University (CSU) Sanchez Mira, MDLC has diversified its livelihood projects, including coconut farming initiatives. The Cooperative has undeniably evolved into a significant driver of economic evolution in its era. Among its many livelihood initiatives, coconut farming has emerged as a key program, offering sustainable employment and income opportunities for the community. Through a strategic partnership with Cagayan State University (CSU) Sanchez Mira, MDLC provides technical training, workshops, and research-driven insights to cooperative members. These efforts include best practices in coconut cultivation, pest management, and harvesting, as well as the identification of high-yielding coconut varieties suited to the region's climate and soil conditions.





Many cooperative members have found meaningful employment through the various activities involved in the coconut farming industry. From carefully nurturing and propagating coconut trees to harvesting the mature fruits, every step has created valuable opportunities for livelihood. These members are not only responsible for tending to the trees with care but also for ensuring that high-quality coconuts are picked, prepared, and efficiently transported across the expansive regions of Northern Luzon. This systematic process of nursing and propagating coconut trees has become a cornerstone of the cooperative's mission to provide steady jobs while uplifting the economic well-being of its members and their families. By tapping into the region's rich agricultural resources, the initiative has turned coconuts into a symbol of growth, sustainability, and hope for a brighter future.



Coco Farming

✍️ IVONNE A. PAREDES

By integrating intercropping, agroforestry, and livestock farming, farmers can mitigate risks associated with a single crop and enjoy stable incomes throughout the year. This holistic approach to agriculture transforms farms into vibrant ecosystems of prosperity.



“Nag papa-salamat po kaming mga Coco-farmers sa CDA dahil naunawaan namin na kapag kami ay naging isang Kooperatiba, mas maraming tulong ng gobyerno, katulad ng PCA na pwedeng tumulong sa amin upang umangat ang aming pamumuhay”
-BOD Leopoldo Bautista

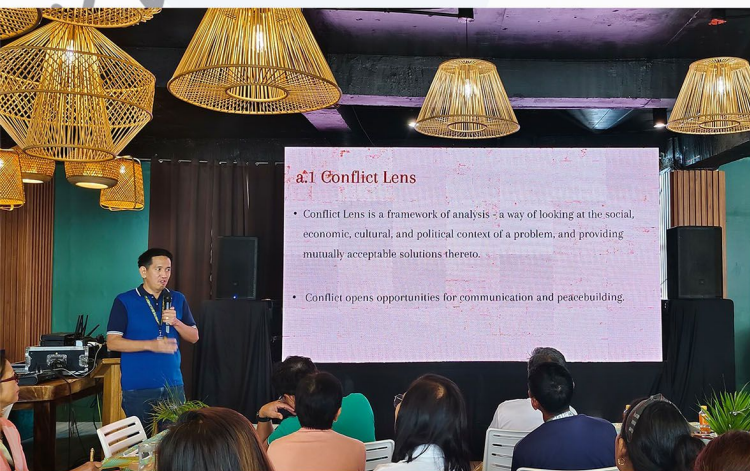


According to BOD Leopoldo Bautista in his interview conducted by Senior CDS Bert C. Unday, he said that such avenue that has gained substantial recognition for its remarkable potential is becoming a part of a cooperative. Indeed, entering into a cooperative offers a myriad of advantages that extend beyond individual gains. From economic empowerment and shared decision-making to collective risk mitigation and social impact, cooperatives exemplify the strength that comes from collaboration and mutual support. Whether it's a small-scale agricultural cooperative or a large worker-owned enterprise, the cooperative spirit has the potential to reshape industries, uplift communities, and drive progress in unparalleled ways.

The background of the image is a photograph of a stone tower, likely the Patalikuruk Tower in Pattaya, Thailand. The tower is a multi-tiered, octagonal structure made of grey stone blocks. It has a prominent circular balcony on the upper part. The tower is situated on a sandy beach next to the ocean. The water is a clear, vibrant blue. In the distance, a person can be seen walking on the beach. The sky is a pale, hazy blue with some light clouds. The overall scene is bright and scenic.

PATTALIKURUK

*A Picture of Hands, Heart, and
Heritage*



Parliamentary Procedures, Mediation, and Conciliation Training

The Parliamentary Procedures, Mediation, and Conciliation Training was conducted in order to educate the coconut farmers in the conduct of their meetings using the parliamentary procedures. The parliamentary procedures are the accepted rules, ethics, and customs governing meetings of the cooperative.

The mediation and conciliation training capacitates the cooperative to settle their disputes at their level, ensuring independence, and autonomy.

The training was conducted in two (2) batches which was participated by ninety-five (95) participants. The first batch was conducted in The Sophia Hotel, Cauayan City on October 2-4, 2024 with a total of fifty-four (54) participants while the second batch was conducted in Go Hotels Plus, Tuguegarao City on November 26-28, 2024 with a total of forty-one (41) participants.





Basic Cooperative Management Training for Coconut Farmers



Mandatory Training for Coconut Farmer Cooperatives



Pre-Registration Seminar for Coconut Farmer Cooperatives



CFIDP Information Caravan



Orientation and Technical Assistance on Mandatory Reportorial Requirements cum Consultation on the CFIDP Implementation



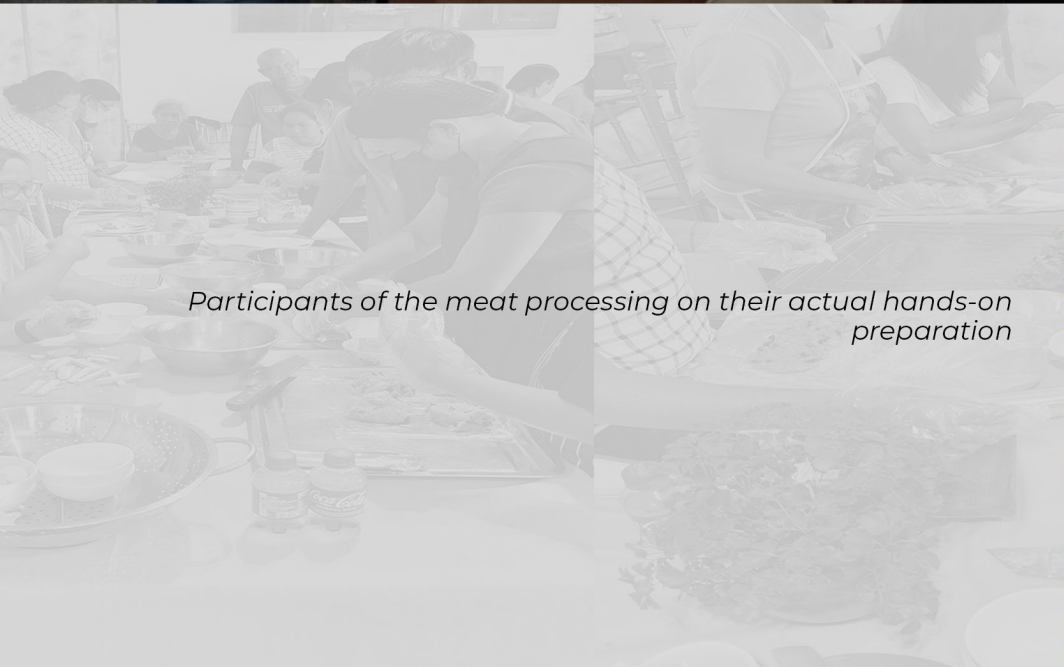
CFIDP Information Caravan



Livelihood Trainings



Ima Integrated Farm while demonstrating the process of extracting virgin coconut oil to participants



Participants of the meat processing on their actual hands-on preparation



Coconut Tree: Tall, Sturdy, and Fruity

The coconut tree is one of the **TALLEST** and most iconic trees in the Philippines. Its height symbolizes dominance, reaching for the sun while towering over other plants. In the same way, some cooperatives, especially the larger ones, are more dominant than smaller, newer ones. However, just as a coconut tree doesn't stand alone, successful coops can support the growth of smaller ones through initiatives like the "Koop Kapatid Program". In this program, bigger, well-established cooperatives ("big brothers") help nurture smaller, newer ones ("small brothers") through technical and financial support. This is much like how smaller crops, such as cacao, coffee, and other high value crops, grow under the shade of coconut trees, benefiting from its protection and shared resources.

Despite its slender trunk, the coconut tree is incredibly **STURDY**, able to withstand strong winds and typhoons. This resilience comes from its deep roots, which anchor the tree and provide the nutrients needed to stay strong in the face of challenges. Similarly, a cooperative's foundation that is built on solid values, strong principles, and faith, ensures that it can weather difficult times, whether from natural disasters or business challenges.

The coconut tree's **FRUIT** is a symbol of health and prosperity. Just as a coconut tree needs proper care to bear fruit, a cooperative must be nurtured with care, dedication, and strong values to thrive and become successful. A well rooted cooperative, like a well-cared-for coconut tree, is not only resilient but also abundant, providing valuable benefits to its members and communities.

In short, a **COOPERATIVE** built on strong values, support from others, and resilience in times of adversities is like a **TALL, STURDY, and FRUITY COCONUT TREE.**

LIST OF COCONUT FARMER COOPERATIVES IN REGION II

NAME OF COOP	ADDRESS	CDA-REGISTRATION NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	STATUS OF COMPLIANCE with CDA	PCA ACCREDIATION NUMBER	DATE ISSUED
CAGAYAN						
1. Masisit-Dacal Multi Purpose Cooperative	Brgy. Masisit, Sanchez Mira, Cagayan	9520-02006418	18-Jan-10	Issued with COC		
2. Sta. Cruz Multi-Purpose Cooperative	Brgy. Sta Cruz, Pamplona, Cagayan	9520-02016522	29-Sep-10	Issued with COC	PCA-I-IICAR-2022-12-007	Decemeber 22, 2022
3. New Paradigm Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative	Brgy. Sta. Cruz, Ballesteros, Cagayan	9520-02021283	28-Feb-12	Issued with COC		
4. Payagan Farmers Cooperative	Brgy. Payagan East, Ballesteros, Cagayan	9520-02002899	19-Nov-09	Issued with COC	PCA-I-IICAR-2023-01-002	January 4, 2023
5. Binalan Agriculture Cooperative	Zone1, Sitio Caroronan, Brgy. Binalan, Aparri, Cagayan	9520-102000000049624	25-Feb-22	Issued with COC	PCA-I-IICAR-2022-12-006	December 22, 2022
6. Tanap Greening Producers Multipurpose Cooperative	Brgy. Pacac, Allacapan, Cagayan	9520-02021574	04-Dec-12	Issued with COC	PCA-I-IICAR-2023-01-001	January 4, 2023
7. Sta. Praxedes Multi-Purpose Cooperative	Brgy. Centro 02, Sta. Praxedes, Cagayan	9520-02000426	12-Oct-09	Issued with COC		
8. Cabaleng San Isidro Farmers Agriculture Cooperative (CASIFA Coop)	Cabaleng, Sta. Praxedes, Cagayan	9520-100200034807	09-Dec-23	Issued with COC		
9. Buguey Diversified Farmers Agriculture Cooperative	Tabbac, Buguey, Cagayan	9520-100200033449	10-Oct-22	Issued with COC	PCA I-IICAR-2024-05-007	May 31, 2024
10. Central Pamplona Farmers Agriculture Cooperative (CEPAFACO)	Centro, Pamplona, Cagayan	9520-100200034793	09-Nov-23	Issued with COC		
11. Rangtay Mannalon iti Dakkel a Kayo Agriculture Cooperative	Abanquerruan, Pamplona, Cagayan	9520-100200034793	09-Dec-24	Issued with COC		
12. Balinag Coconut Planters Agriculture Cooperative	Nagattatan, Pamplona, Cagayan	9520-100200036433	09-Dec-24	Issued with COC		
13. Three Diamond Farmers Agriculture Cooperative	Zone 3, Sta Margarita, Baggao, Cagayan	9520-100200035940	28-May-24	Issued with COC	PCA I-IICAR-2024-06-24-02	June 24, 2024
14. Sicalao Lasam Agriculture Cooperative	Zone 5, Sicalao, Lasam, Cagayan	9520-102000000049874	03-Feb-20	Issued with COC	PCA I-IICAR-2024-02-004	February 28, 2024
15. Panagkaykaysa ti Mannalon ti Viga Agriculture Cooperative (PMVAC)	Zone 2, Viga, Lasam, Cagayan	9520-100200031994	14-Jun-21	Issued with COC	PCAI-IICAR-2024-04-005	April 26, 2024
16. Nararagan Valley Multi-Purpose Cooperative	Nararagan, Ballesteros, Cagayan	9520-02003041	23-Nov-09	Issued with COC	PCAI-II-CAR-2024-11-06-03	November 6, 2024
ISABELA						
17. Holy Trinity Agro Forestry Multipurpose Cooperative	Brgy. Rang ayan, Ilagan City, Isabela	9520-02023977	16-Jan-14	Issued with COC	PCA-I-IICAR-2024-10-08-01	October 8, 2024
18. Sta Maria Coconut Producers Cooperative	Cabesera 8, Sta. Maria, Ilagan City, Isabela	9520-100200032618	01-Apr-21	Issued with COC		
19. Nagasat Coconut Farmers Agriculture Cooperative	Mapalad, San Agustin, Isabela	9520-100200035941	28-May-24	Issued with COC		
NUEVA VIZCAYA						
20. Alfoso Castaneda MPC	Public Market, Brgy. Lublub, Alfonso	9520-10200035394-1	19-Jul-16	Issued with COC		March 6, 2023

CDA LISTENS

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Inquiries Complaints Suggestions

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BAGONG PILIPINAS

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Region II Extension Office