



GOVERNMENT WORKS

The Official Publication of Davao de Oro

January - April 2023



GOV'T SERVICES TO REMOTE AREAS. Sitio Estabillo, a former conflict-vulnerable area of Brgy. Andili, Mawab has access to several provisions on health, education, agriculture, and others as the provincial government brings essential services closer during the Bulawanong Hatud Serbisyo. (See full story inside)

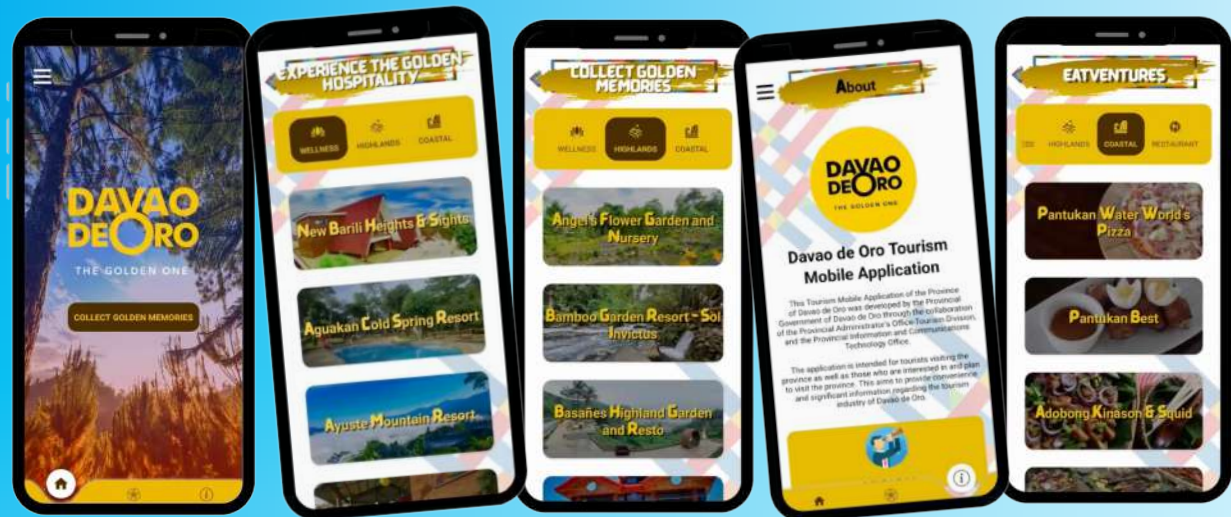


UPLIFTING FARMERS LIVES THRU MECHANIZATION. 26 farmer cooperatives and associations benefit from the P24-M agri-mechanics to advance their farming ventures, improve work efficiency, and reduce the cost of production, thereby boosting income in return. (Story on page 12)

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PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS (2022-2025) DAVAO DE ORO PROVINCE

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SP MEMBER:

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ASSOCIATION OF BARANGAY CAPTAINS

HON. RAUL C. TIMOGTIMOG

SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FEDERATION PRESIDENT

HON. CHARLEMAGNE B. BAUTISTA

DAVAO DE ORO TOURISM MOBILE APPLICATION

THE Davao de Oro Tourism Mobile Application is the best way for tourists to learn about Davao de Oro province. This app was made by the Provincial Administrator's Office-Tourism Division and the Provincial Information and Communications Technology Office to help people and give them essential information about the tourism industry in the province.

With the "Collect Golden Memories" feature of the app, tourists can easily access the Wellness Loop, Highlands to Valley Circuit, and Coastal Circuit to get a fuller picture of the destinations. The app also has different categories, such as "Experience the Golden Hospitality" for hotels and accommodations, "Join the Golden Celebrations" for festivals and celebrations, and "Eatventures" for food lovers.

Also, the "Info" button on the app gives essential information about the tourism industry, such as who is in charge, how organizations are set up, and how to contact the tourism office with questions. The "Pop-up Screen" feature also gives detailed information about tourism and how to get in touch with each of the 11 municipalities in the province.

With the Davao de Oro Tourism Mobile Application, tourists can easily plan their itinerary, find the best places to stay, and explore the province's rich cultural heritage and natural beauty. Best of all, the app is completely free and offline.



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

300 LEARNING TABLETS TO REINFORCE EDUCATION FOR DDO'S OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS



ATOTAL of 300 learning tablets were handed over by the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) sa Mindanao to the Unlad Kabataan Program (UKP) beneficiaries or the DepEd's Alternative Learning System-Education and Skills Training (ALS-EST) learners during the ceremonial joint signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Abot Alam Intensified Program (AAIP) between PLGU-Davao de Oro and DAP sa Mindanao held at the Activity Hall, Provincial Capitol.

Parts of the AAIP program are the ALS-EST project and the provision of digital learning tablets, thereby reinforcing quality education for the vulnerable and marginalized Out-of-School Youths (OSYs) in the province.

Youth Development Office OIC-Division Head Alexis Micutuan said that the UKP program, together with the AAIP Program, aimed for the development of disadvantaged youth in terms of spiritual, psychological, and social development.

"Our goal in UKP is to establish 3 exit points for the OSYs, first; to enroll in college or technical skills education, second; to engage in entrepreneurial activity and become an entrepreneur, third; to increase employability. We wanted to provide competent and skilled na mga young people dito sa probinsya," Micutuan said.

He added that for the school year 2022-2023, there are already 1000 learner-beneficiaries under

the program and they will be enjoying the digital tablets coming from DAP as well.

In his speech by DAP Senior Vice President Bernardo Dizon, he expressed gratitude to the local government, TESDA, DepEd, and DSWD among others for the support given in the realization of the program.

"Salamat for your cooperation, these efforts enabled DAP to provide some assistance to your local government. The ALS-EST project is indeed one of the approaches that look into how the lives of our chosen beneficiaries can be improved," Dizon said.

Meanwhile, Jemmar Mangapas, one of the learner-beneficiaries, extended his appreciation to the governing bodies for the provisions given such as the skills training interventions and most especially, the chance to continue their education.

Governor Dorothy Gonzaga, represented by Acting Provincial Administrator Fatima Montejo congratulated the beneficiaries for taking the risk of allowing themselves to improve their lives. *"Since this is a given opportunity, you should utilize it well and hopefully maayyu inyung kahimtang after all of these activities. The government will support as always in whatever we can provide as long as needed sa mga tao ang serbisyo,"* PA Montejo said.

On September 1, 2022, DAP sa Mindanao already turned over 300 learning tablets also intended for the UKP learner-beneficiaries. (Jaynus Fernandez)



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*This publication is a tri-annual issue for CY 2023 produced by the PAO-Information and Public Relations Division. Articles and photos may be sent to the Editor: PAO-IPRD, 4th Flr., Provincial Capitol, Brgy. Cabidanan, Nabunturan subject to Editorial Policy, or by email at information@davaodeoro.gov.ph
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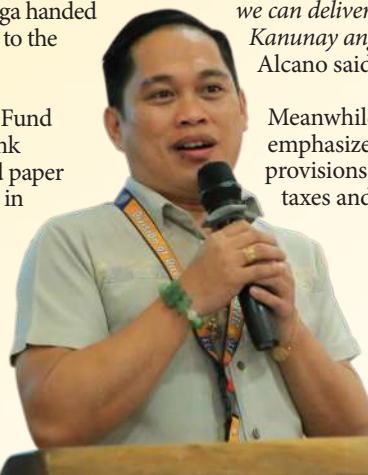


PLGU grants additional teachers' supplies for DdO's public schools

WITH its relentless efforts and mission to support the education sector, the Provincial Government through its Provincial Local School Board (LSB) chaired by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga handed over provisions of teachers' supplies to the public schools in Davao de Oro.

Through PLSB's Special Education Fund (SEF), a total of 324 printers with ink cartridges and 6,500 reams of bond paper were distributed to the 324 schools in 18 school districts in the province.

DepEd DdO representative Dennis Alcano expressed his heartfelt gratitude and delight to the provincial government for the provisions given to them, which will greatly aid in the effective and efficient delivery of services to their clientele.



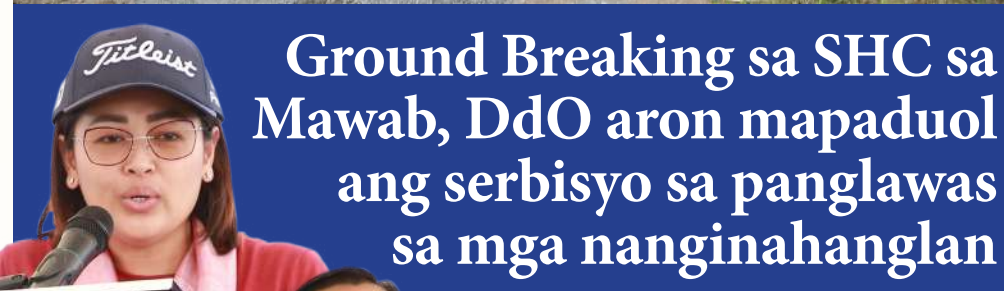
"On behalf of the learners, teachers, and personnel of DepEd DdO, daghan kaayung salamat sa mga gipanghatag. Indeed you are true to your mission to work hand in hand with its partners so that we can deliver good services to our citizens. Kanunay ang DepEd mapasalamaton," Alcano said.

Meanwhile, Governor Gonzaga emphasized in her message that these provisions were funded by the people's taxes and should only be used for

the DepEd's priority programs, projects, and activities.

Moreover, Governor Gonzaga added that around 4000 monoblock chairs will be distributed this year also intended for public school beneficiaries. She promised that all public schools would receive the various provisions they deserved as education is one of her priority development agendas in the province.

Further, LSB is a statutory body established by Republic Act No. 7160 known as the Local Government Code of 1991. It's responsible for distributing funds from the SEF to the local public school system to meet the auxiliary needs. The SEF is a 1% levy collected in addition to real property taxes paid to the local government. *(Jaynus Fernandez)*



Ground Breaking sa SHC sa Mawab, DdO aron mapadual ang serbisyo sa panglawas sa mga nanginahanglan

SA pagpanguna ni Senator Christopher Lawrence 'Bong' Go, gipahigayon kaniadtong Marso 17, 2023 ang ground-breaking ceremony sa Super Health Center (SHC) nga pagatukuron mismo sa Municipal Hall Grounds sa lungsod sa Mawab.

Ang SHC usa ka medium type nga bersyon sa polyclinic ug improved version usab kini sa rural health unit. Matud sa Senador nga ang maong balay tambalanan maghatud sa nagkalin-laing serbisyong panglawas o medikal sama sa laboratory, birthing, diagnostic, dental services ug uban pa ilabina sa mga hilit nga lugar.

Lakip nga mihatag sa suporta sa maong kalihokan sila Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga, Congressman Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Mayor Ruperto Gonzaga III



kauban ang municipal ug barangay officials.

Gipahigayon usab ang pagdistribute sa pinansyal nga assistance sa 500 indigents sa maong lungsod, kini ubos sa Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program sa Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Mahinumduman nga kaniadtong Enero 5, gipahigayon usab ang groundbreaking sa usa ka SHC mismo sa Brgy. San Jose, Montevista ug sa Brgy. Maparat, Compostela niadtong Pebrero 4, ning tuiga ug iapilan usab mismo ni Sen. Go.

Sa 2022 aduna nay 307 ka mga SHCs ang opisyal nga gisugdan og pagpatukod sa nasud ilalom sa inisyatibo sa senador ug malampuson usab niyang gipasiugda ang pagpondo para sa dugang mga SHC ubos sa 2023 health budget. *(Jaynus Fernandez)*





19 families from Brgy. Andap in New Bataan get housing units

DESPITE the heavy rains on January 24, a total of 19 families from Brgy. Andap in New Bataan received PHP 381k worth of housing units each during the ceremonial turnover led by the National Housing Authority (NHA) in partnership with the PAO-Housing and Homesite Division (HHD) of the provincial government and other stakeholders.

Anna Jane S. Pedro, 25, a beneficiary, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the national and local government units for the provision they received.

“Karun nga napadulong (na) gyud mi sa offsite (pabahay), nga totally naa amoa nagyud ni siya. Wala ko nagtuo nga ingon ana siya kanindot, daghan na-amaze dili lang kami nga benipisyaryo. Number one ko nga blessed jud kaayu ug dakog pasalamat sa tanan nga nahimong kabahin ani,” Pedro said. Meanwhile, Maricel L. Lindaan, 40, also a

beneficiary, extended her appreciation to the government and looked forward to more programs and projects for them. *“Manghinaot ko nga naa pay muaabot nga kining amoang kapanginabuhian gawas sa among pabahay nga na-avail para maka-sustain pud sa among panginahanglan,”* Lindaan said.

Aside from the turnover of symbolic keys, the beneficiaries acquired their Certificate of Award, which denotes the ownership of their new house. These beneficiaries are among those individuals who were once affected by the wrath brought by typhoon Pablo in 2012 and were initially included under the New Bataan Resettlement Project 2.

Acting Provincial Administrator Fatima Montejo congratulated the beneficiaries and stated that the delay of the turnover was due to occurrences that must be settled first, such as processing of the legal documents so that they

will not encounter any problems in the future and be protected by their rights of owning the residence.

In addition, it can be recalled that the Relocation Site located in Purok 5A, where the said beneficiaries formerly lived, has been declared a danger zone as the land constantly moves during heavy rains, making it susceptible to landslides. The new sites where the houses are constructed are declared by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) as a safe and secure areas.

Further, this PHP 7.2M Balai Maal-lag or Mahayag nga Balay Housing Project (offsite) consists of 19 one-story houses with 30 sq. meters in floor area having two bedrooms, one bathroom, and a sink each. These houses were built into the beneficiaries' individual properties or the properties of third parties who offered the use of their lands in favor of the beneficiaries herein, subject to the limitation that the property is located in Brgy. Andap.

NHA XI District Manager Engr. Sonia Bulseco, in her speech, encouraged the beneficiaries to take good care of what the government has given them. *(Jaynus Fernandez)*



TO support Local Government Units and Disaster Response Agencies in cascading information during a disaster, the PLDT and its wireless arm Smart Communications turned over Ligtas Kit to the PLGU through Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga and PDRRMO Head Joseph Randy Loy on March 20, 2023.

The PLDT-SMART Ligtas Kit is a portable, all-weather, and all-in-one technology solutions package that enables immediate emergency response to affected communities during natural crises.

A complete set of the Ligtas Kit contains the following: power set (Portable Power Station and Solar Panel), rechargeable megaphone, crank radio, smart satellite phone, smartphone, smart bro pocket wifi, pelican case, librang tawag and librang charging tarpaulin, rechargeable flashlights, and whistles.

In addition, to ensure the safety and forewarn people to observe extra precautions, the

PLDT, Smart strengthen DdO disaster preparedness thru Ligtas Kit

PDRRMO continues its efforts in installing early warning signages in areas susceptible to flooding, landslide, and accident-prone areas.

The team also distributed disaster information, education, and communication (IEC) materials and conducted several community discussions about the series of earthquakes that struck the province. *(Rheafe Hortizano)*





DdO People's Organizations receive P19-M sustainable assistance from DSWD-XI



TO improve the socio-economic status of formerly conflict-affected communities in Davao de Oro, the Regional Office of the Department of Social and Welfare Development (DSWD-XI) on February 8, 2023, turned over P19-million pesos worth of financial assistance to sixty-six people's organizations (POs) at the Capitol Lobby, Nabunturan.

Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) Provincial Coordinator Wilfredo R. Planas said that the assistance is under the PAYapa at MASaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA) of the national government, funded by the Office of the President.

He also added that each PO received PHP300,000 checks as start-up capital for their chosen project or business, such as general merchandise stores.

"We conducted constant monthly monitoring sa atong mga identified SLP associations sa probinsya pinaagi sa Project Development Officers ug concerned partner agencies aron masiguro nga adunay development nga mahitabo," Planas added.

Leonora D. Ambas, SLP Kapatagan-Association President in Laak, expressed gratitude to the government for the assistance provided to their association from various capacity development training, monitoring, and supervising.

"Tungod sa hiniusang kusog sa mga ahensya, sa pagpasabot ug pag-unong kanamo, natakam-taman na namo karon ang tinood nga kalinaw ug nahatagag higayon nga maplastar ang amoang asosasyon diin nakatabang sa matag-usa nga membro og sa kinatibok-ang kumunidad," Ambas added.

During the ceremony, Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga was represented by Acting Provincial Administrator Fatima P. Montejo, 1001st OIC Commanding Officer, COL Febie N Lamerz, 28th Battalion Commander, LTCOL Ronilo G Desingano, PSWDO Head Josephine Frasco, and personnel from DSWD-XI.

The DSWD-SLP is part of the holistic approach of the government that seeks to improve the program beneficiaries through a micro-enterprise development and employment facilitation program that shall ultimately provide a sustainable source of income. *(Rheafe Hortizano)*



Mandaya tribal woman leader at the forefront of fight vs. NPA

AMANDAYA tribal woman chieftain tried to inspire 75 youth leaders to fight against terrorism in their ancestral domains in Sitio Sangab, Caraga, Davao Oriental.

Bae Christine Banugan-Bondoc recounted her stories of how she led her tribe against the influence of the communist terrorist group (CTG) during the TIDTALKS held at 10ID Auditorium, Camp General Manuel T. Yan Senior in Mawab, Davao De Oro on March 29, 2023.



Around 75 young leaders, primarily Indigenous People from different parts of Davao De Oro, attended the event.

In her testimony, Bondoc elaborated that she assumed leadership of their tribal community after her father was gunned down by the Communist NPA Terrorists (CNTs) on December 30, 2016, for opposing the entry of NPA rebels into their land.

"We risk our lives to protect our tribes for the next 100 years. We have an inter-generational responsibility to protect our culture and ancestral domains," Bondoc said in vernacular.

Meanwhile, she encouraged other IP leaders to speak up and cooperate for the betterment of the IP communities, inviting them to unite and fight to protect and safeguard their lives and the tribe's ancestral domains against the CTG.

"IPs want peace in their ancestral domain and to be able to freely exercise their rights, preserve their cultural heritage, and protect biodiversity for future generations," Bondoc added.

Meloy Mandante, one of the attendees, said that the courage of Bae Christine inspired him. *"Bae Christine represents the IP youth leader of today, you inspired us with your story, and we believe that you are one of the good leaders here in Davao Region,"* Mandante added.

Meanwhile, 10ID Commander MGen Jose Eriel M Niembra lauded the courage displayed by Bae Christine in leading her tribe against the CTG.

He further encourages everyone to contribute to sustaining peace in this part of the country. *(credits: Rhoda Grace Saron of Mindanao Times)*



75 friends rescued in DdO take steps to rebuild lives with gov't ECLIP program



“SAUNA ang atong kalibotan didtoa ra gayud sa lasang, apan karon atong gipasalamatan nga nakakita tag kahayag kauban ang atong pamilya ug mga mahal sa kinabuhi, buot pasabot mao kini ang dakong kadaogan nga atong natagamtaman karon”.

This is the message of Alias Edith to her fellow friends rescued during the release of Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (ECLIP) financial assistance of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on April 4, 2023, at the Activity Hall 2nd Floor Capitol Building.

She is one of the 75 former members of the communist New People's Army (NPA) in Davao de Oro who have returned to the fold of the law and realized how the government's program helps them to rebuild their lives.

Out of the 75 given, 57 were former regular New People's Army (NPA), where each received PHP65K immediate and livelihood assistance, while 18 of them, members of

Militia ng Bayan, received PHP15K worth of immediate assistance.

ECLIP aims to help the rebel members of communist groups restore their allegiance to the government, reintegrate into mainstream society, “be with their families, and start over with their new, normal lives.”

Some of the selected livelihood projects that will be used for this assistance are the sari-sari store, livestock production, poultry, and hog raising, agriculture farm, and others.

Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga also expressed her gratitude for the positive developments in their lives [FRs] and for ensuring that the provincial government remains steadfast in its goal of sustaining an insurgency-free province.

DILG Provincial Director Noel C. Duarte, PSWDO Head Josephine M. Frasco, DSWD personnel, and the security sectors were also present during the ceremony. (Rheafe Hortizano)



OWWA to institute helpdesks for Davao de Oro OFWs



On April 3, 2023, Governor Dorothy P. Montejo-Gonzaga and OIC-Regional Director Carmelo T. Elaya of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) XI signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the establishment of “OFW Help Desk” in the province of Davao de Oro through its PESO Offices.

The ceremony was witnessed by OWWA OIC-Programs and Services Division head Gina Mae Quimora and Provincial PESO Manager/Executive Assistant Dennis Anduyan.

These help desks are set up province-wide at the local level to address concerns of the member-OFWs and their dependents, as well as to provide information and bring its responsive programs and services closer to its clientele.

Further, these action centers aim to assist distressed OFWs and provide them with sustainable livelihood projects.



26 Davao de Oro farmers' coops and assoccs benefit from P24-M farm machinery



On March 30, 2023, the Department of Agriculture (DA), through the Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech), handed over agricultural machinery worth PHP 24.18 million to the rice farmers in Davao de Oro.

A total of 45 units of farm machinery were distributed, comprising 8 hand tractors, 13 floating tillers, 2 precision seeders, 13 walk-behind transplanters, 1 riding-type transplanter, 6 combine harvester, 1 mobile rice mill, and 1 single pass (stationary).

These will help thousands of farmers from the 26 farmers' cooperatives and associations (FCAs) across the province's eight rice-producing municipalities.

In his message, PhilMech Interim Director for Operations Joel Dator said that the provisions are supported by the Mechanization component of the 2022 Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF), including some of the excess funds from 2021. The budgets for RCEF are provided through Rice Tariffication Law (RTL).

Dator added that *"yun pong mga pangangailangan nila na makina para mapabilis ang pagtatrabaho nila sa bukirin, ito na po yung mga kasagutan"* and before the distribution activity, these farmer-beneficiaries received hands-on training from the department for the maintenance of these agri-mechanics.

In an interview, DA XI Regional Director Abel James Monteagudo urged farmer-beneficiaries to take good care of the machines for long-term use. He also added that more farmers would receive the provisions through the 2023 funds coming from PhilMech.

"The concept of mechanization is to reduce the cost of production and increase efficiency for the farmers to do their job in producing rice and other commodities in agriculture for the objective of food sufficiency," Monteagudo said.

Meanwhile, the provincial government headed by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga and farmers-beneficiaries expressed gratitude to DA, PhilMech, and the office of Senator Cynthia A. Villar for the provisions given that would advance their farming ventures and increase income in return and boost their revenue.

According to PhilMech's data from 2019-2023, the province received some PHP 184 million in farm machinery consisting of 224 units and benefited 97 FCAs. (Jaynus Fernandez)



Small-Scale Mining Summit 2023

To support the mining industry development, around twenty-one (21) small-scale mining cooperatives, of which 18 are from Davao de Oro, and 3 are from Davao Oriental, attend the Small-Scale Mining Summit 2023, bearing the theme "Towards a Golden Future" at the Activity Hall, Provincial Capitol, today, April 12, 2023.

Some of the PLGU-Davao de Oro offices, together with national government agencies such as the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Department of Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR), National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), and Department of Science and Technology (DOST), are present in the event, featuring each office's salient points in terms of the small-scale mining industry.

Moreover, the summit allows cooperatives to understand and comply with the statutory laws, rules, and regulations on small-scale mining, which will significantly improve their operations. This event also enables them to discuss their concerns and issues with each agency through an open forum.



Bulawanong Dibuhista: Features talent of DdO's artists

One hundred fifty locally-made products were displayed in the Provincial Capitol Lobby during the official opening ceremony of the Bulawanong Dibuhista Arts Exhibit on February 20, 2023.

Senior Tourism Officer Christine T. Dompur said that the activity is part of the DdO Piyesta ng Sining with the theme: "Ani ng Sining, Bunga ng Galing," which started on February 14-March 8, 2023.

Dompur also expressed gratitude for the support from the local, provincial, and national government agencies that include the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the Department of Education (DepEd).

Tie-Dye Making, Cultural Mapping Orientation, DdO Arts Camp, and the NabuntuRock songwriting competitions are the activities lined up for the month-long celebration.

Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga, Chairperson of the Provincial Council For the Promotion of Culture and the Arts, underscored the event's importance in showcasing the artistic talent of the golden people of Davao de Oro while also providing avenues for artists to channel their creativity.

She also called on everyone to take this opportunity to appreciate art, reflect on its significance, and pay tribute to our artists.

In addition, 50 visual artists from the province 10 Special Program of the Arts (SPA) Schools participated in the Community Mural Project, which allowed them to paint the 200-meter-perimeter fence of the Nabunturan Central Elementary School.

The endeavor gave the artists a sense of accomplishment while showcasing the "Masayang Kabataan" tribal concept created by renowned Maragusan sculptor and painter Raffy L. Quimba. *(Rheafje Hortizano)*



Growth in the global trade of Davao de Oro goods in Free Trade Areas expected to increase

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) held its 2nd Exporter's Forum last March 14, 2023 at Café Noventa, Poblacion, Nabunturan. With its focus on doing business in Free Trade Areas (FTA), it gathered exporters from across the province as well as resource speakers coming from the Bureau of Customs (BOC), Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR), Export Marketing Bureau (EMB), and Philippine Ports Authority (PPA).

Provincial Director Lucky Siegfred M. Balleque welcomed everyone and opened the plenary session by emphasizing that "It has always been the desire of the province to encourage MSMEs to explore the export market by improving their product quality and increasing their productivity. On DTI's part, we assure you that we are always here to assist and guide all MSMEs in traversing this new or unfamiliar path," Balleque said.

The topics discussed during the plenary session were especially tailored-fit for DDO MSMEs with the hopes of helping them explore the export market and do business in FTAs. Among the topics discussed was the "Exporters and Exports Status of Davao de Oro and Davao Region," presented by Atty. Dante Maranan, Chief of Operation of the Bureau of Customs - Davao City. Key points he discussed highlighted Banana as the top commodity for exports in terms of volume; Mineral, Gold, and Ores as the top exports in terms of value; Hongkong, Malaysia, Spain, and Saudi Arabia as top export destinations; and Japan, China, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, and New Zealand as top Banana export destinations.

The Philippines' Free Trade Agreements in various Free Trade Areas (FTAs), specifically in Japan, Korea, China, Europe, and other

countries in the ASEAN region, were presented by Senior Trade & Industry Development Specialist (TIDS) Victoria C. Quitquit and TIDS Irish Cassandra B. Tongohan of the Bureau of International Trade Relations. They explained the various multilateral and bilateral agreements of the Philippines, including the World Trade Organization, and countries in the ASEAN region, such as Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India. Among the highlights of their discussion was the 8 active FTAs Philippines has, including Regional Trade Agreements. They also presented various valuable links as a guide for exporters to check their country of interest on whether it has zero tariffs.

Potentials and Market Opportunities of Davao de Oro's (Philippines) Products in the Areas with existing Free Trade Agreements, such as Japan, China, Korea, Europe, and other ASEAN countries also discussed by the EMB Assistant Director, Bianca Pearl Sykimte. She accentuated the services offered by EMB, including Exporter Assistance, Business Matching, Export Trade Complaints Handling, Coffee Exporter Accreditation & Export Documentation, Export Accreditation, Market and Product Consultancy, Outbound Business Missions, and Knowledge Processing.

Finally, updates on the Maco Port Development Plan were presented by PPA Davao Port Services Division Manager Jiji Beloy. She showcased the plan and development of said port, including the proposed RoRo ramp, proposed RD Deck, proposed widening of the causeway, provision of the fence, provision of a guardhouse, and provision of welcome arc. Development Management Officer III Gerald Alindajao, expressed the PLGU's hope of improving the province's economy through the export market. He underscored

the government's willingness to assist existing and would-be exporters in this new endeavor and hopes that after this forum, there will be an increase not just in the goods being exported but in the number of exporters as well.

Overall, the forum had overwhelming support from the attending 48 exporters across the province, 12 of which are existing while 36 are potential exporters. From these exporters, 18 products were assessed and evaluated for potential export; and 25 consultancy services were rendered through the EMB and BITR team with 32 inquiries addressed.

"DTI will do its part in assisting and monitoring these existing and would-be exporters so that they could proceed to export the 18 potential products. We are even glad that a lot of them availed of the consultancy services of the EMB and BITR. It shows their willingness to explore the export market and further upscale their businesses," Balleque said.

An added result of the forum was the meeting facilitated between LGU Maco and PPA on updates regarding the Maco Port Development resulting in 2 proposed SB and SP resolutions to be endorsed to the Central Office; the 5 strengthened industry organizations, namely: PCOFADDO, Provincial Cacao Council, PEADDO, NLAC, and Provincial Chamber of Commerce and Industries of DDO; and the trade exhibit conducted with at least Php. 20,000 sales monitored.

Moving forward, DTI plans to create an exporter's network in Davao de Oro to strengthen linkages between and amongst existing and would-be exporters which are expected to help in the growth of global trade of Davao de Oro goods in FTAs. *(Erica Anne Dulay of DTI)*

Where should we invest?.... in planting more trees!

With the ongoing efforts of the provincial government to raise awareness about environmental protection and conservation, the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) spearheaded a native tree-planting activity in celebration of the Month of Planet Earth with the theme "Invest in Our Planet."

On April 20, 2023, a total of four hundred (400) seedlings, 50 hills each, of Bitag, Yakal, Tindalo, Ipil, Bakan, Kupang, Kalumpit, and Lauan were planted at the riverside of Purok 2, 3, 16, 5, 6, and 9 in Brgy. Mainit, Nabunturan town.

More than 200 individuals from the National, Provincial, and Municipal governments expressed a strong desire to invest in planting more trees in order to combat climate change and global warming, thereby strengthening communities and restoring biodiversity.

Moreover, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signed Presidential Proclamation 1481 on April 22, 2008, recognizing April 22 as Earth Day in the Philippines. On the same day, Presidential Proclamation 1482 was signed, declaring the entire month of April each year as the Month of the Planet Earth.

Let's remember that it's not only in Earth Month that we should push for climate literacy, grow trees, support sustainable fashion, help end plastic pollution, and clean up, but every day as we #InvestInOurPlanet! (Jaynus Fernandez)



INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

"Some of the province's infrastructure projects turned over during the 1st quarter of 2023. Some of these development projects are in partnership with other national agencies (EG. BDP-NTF ELCAC, among others)"



BOX CULVERT



COVERED COURT



EDUCATION BUILDING

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



EVACUATION CENTER



FMR



GYM



INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



WATER SYSTEM



ROAD CONCRETING



SOLAR STREET LIGHTS



"Davao de Oro Goes Silver: 25 Ka Tuig Nga Mapasalamatong Pagpangalagad"



MOTORCADE AND FLOAT PARADE (MARCH 6, 2023)



Gold PARTNERS
RONALD INSO & ATTY. MAS UY



Gold
PARTNER



HON. MARIA CARMEN S. ZAMORA, MNSA
Representative – District I

Bulawan Festival



OPENING PROGRAM (MARCH 6, 2023)



BULAWANONG KABATAN-ONAN (MARCH 6, 2023)



LGU NIGHT'S
DDO POP SEARCH &
DRAG QUEEN RACE
(MARCH 6, 2023)



Bulawan Festival

Gold
PARTNER



HON. RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA
Representative – District II

Festival 2023

BUJAWA

SILVER PARTNERS

- Comval Capitol Multi-purpose Cooperative (CCMPC)
- Diatech Laboratory Supplies Co.
- Department of Tourism Reg XI
- SMART/ PLDT

BRONZE PARTNERS

- Edgardo Tautho
- Tagum Builders/ Jm Phoenix Station
- Arthur Ansale
- Octa-M Aggregates
- Nabunturan Integrated Cooperative (NICO)
- Mabuhay Warehouse
- Tsr Furniture Shop & Marketing/Juniel's Farm & Agrivet Supplies
- Power Up Tires, Battery And Auto Supply Corp.
- Civic Merchandising
- Ian Manila/Jesus Manila
- Davao International Mega Gas Corp
- Diat Small Scale Miners Cooperative
 - Inday Daniel Pomilda
 - Tagum Builders Contractors, Corp.
 - Agong Builders and Construction Supply, Inc.
 - Salvacion Orias

MINOR PARTNERS

- Toyozu Mountain Resort
- Gilbert Mayes
- Davao TCM Hardware
- Tunga-Tunga Tunnel Association
- The Grape Valley
- Trevor Sand And Gravel
- Angelito Cabalquinto
- Romy Salarda
- Janice Salarda
- Ma. Regina Bitoy
- Laak Women Volunteer Rural Improvement Coop.
- David Sand And Gravel
- Beach View Resort
- MAPABROA
- Jemapis Commercial Sand And Gravel
- Rosalina Calvo
- Pyramid Consolidated Builders And General
- Nabunturan Shell Filling Station, Inc.
- Xevier Cerbo
- Upper And Lower Gumayan Small Scale Miners
- Panganason SSM Cooperative
- Erick Lajo
- Rhea Kareen Dagsangan
- Avelino Lambatin
- Marchie Estorba
- Rolando Timog-Timog
- Rolanda Abulag
- Daneco, Inc.
- Michael Salarda
- Davao Santhony Builders Corp.
- Daniel Baer
- Haidee Ebdao
- Glorso Medica
- Dante S. Plaza
- Lgu New Bataan
- Mencidor Gold Processing Plant
- Nabunturan Integrated Miners Development Coop
- Starlight Ventures, Inc.,
- A.S. Primer Auto Shop Co,
- Delthan's Motor & Auto Parts
- Andreas Taojo
- Big 8 Corporate Hotel
- Philippine Information Agency Xi
- Mindanao Development Authority (MINDA)
- 91.9 Magnificent FM
- 90.3 Fm, Dxac Compostela
- 104.7 FM, Radyo Natin Nabunturan
- 102.5 FM, Lanog Sa Maragusan

Daghang Salamat!



Bulawan Festival



**FREE LEGAL SERVICES DAY
(MARCH 07, 2023)**



JOB FAIR & ONE-STOP-SHOP SERVICES (MARCH 07, 2023)



Gold PARTNER



**HEXAT
MINING CORPORATION**



Bulawan Festival



**ALLAW NG KALUMUNAN
(MARCH 07, 2023)**



Gold PARTNER



**LYR
MARKETING CORPORATION**

Bulawan Festival



FARMERS DAY/ FARMERS CONGRESS (MARCH 07, 2023)



Gold
PARTNER



PONTIFICAL MASS (MARCH 08, 2023)



Bulawan Festival



Gold
PARTNER



Bulawan Festival



**FOUNDATION DAY PROGRAM
(MARCH 8, 2023)**



GINANG NG DAVAO DE ORO (APRIL 02, 2023 AT LAAK MEGA TENT)



Gold
PARTNER
**ROLDAN
LOPEZ
of
ER 4 REALTY
CORP.**

GARBO DE ORO SINGING COMPETITION (APRIL 02, 2023 AT LAAK MEGA TENT)



BULAWANONG HATUD SERBISYO (MARCH 04, 2023 AT BRGY. ANDILI, MAWAB)



Gold
PARTNER
TATA CORTEZ

INSTITUTIONAL DEV'T SECTOR

DdO E-Gov Technical Team bags 2022 CSC National PAG-ASA Award

Another winning streak of the province stands out at the national level after the e-Gov Technical Team of the Provincial Information and

Communication Technology Office (PICTO) bagged the 2022 Honor Awards Program's Search for Outstanding Government Workers under the CSC PagAsa

Award (Group Category).

On January 9, 2023, Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga personally handed the certificate

of commendation to the team after the regular flag-raising ceremony at the Capitol Grounds.

Gov. Gonzaga congratulated the team headed by PICTO PG Head Joyzel R. Odi and expressed her gratitude and felicity for the feats of the province.

Since 2015, the team has created a number of information and communication technology (ICT) computer systems that aid in the delivery of public service at various levels: Government to Government (G2G), Government to Citizens (G2C), Government to Business (G2B), Government to Internal Processes (G2I), and Government to Pandemic Response (G2P).

Among the ICT solutions established and duly recognized nationally were the following: DDO iPortal, Document Management System, Blood Distribution Management System, Funds Utilization Management System, CallDdoc, 1DdO Helpline, and Household Profiling and Needs Assessment System.

It is worth noting that the eGov Technical Team laid a vital cornerstone for digital literacy and governance in the province for employees and the Davaoños.

HAP is the highest annual recognition rite conducted by the CSC that recognizes government offices, officials, and employees who have excelled and shown great dedication and commitment to public service. *(Rheafe Hortizano)*



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



Towards innovative governance!

The province once again demonstrates its high competence in terms of digital innovations after the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro, thru the Provincial Information and Communications Technology Office (PICTO), bagged three (3) awards in the recently concluded National Digital Governance Awards 2023 to wit:

- 1st place: Blood Distribution Mgt System
- G2G: Government Internal Operations category
- 2nd place: ICT Service Ticketing System
- G2I: Inter-operability category
- 3rd place: Enterprise Feedback Mgt System
- G2C: Customer Empowerment category

These awards were received by PICTO head Joyzel Odi and Provincial Human Resource Management and Development Office head Lara Zaphire Kristy Bermejo during the awarding rights held at the National Museum of Natural History, Ermita, Manila on March 30, 2023. This is our win, Dabawenyos!





Davao de Oro Government communicators to establish a strong communication plan

With the goal of facilitating social development and promoting good governance through effective development communication, the provincial government under Gov. Dorothy Gonzaga, through the Provincial Information Office in partnership with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) XI, led the first “Provincial Information Officers Meeting” at the Mabini Mountain Ridge and Bikers Camp, Brgy. Cabuyoan in Mabini town on February 17, 2023. This year’s 1st meeting was hosted by LGU-Mabini under Mayor Emerson “Em-em” Luego through their Municipal Information Office headed by Elnie Villaver.

Provincial Information Office led by Fe Maestre, together with PIA XI Info Center Manager Michael Uy, discussed the communication action plan set for the year while the Information officers (IOs) from the different MLGUs and NGAs shared their updates on the priorities, services, and programs of their respective agencies.

“We truly appreciate the convergence of our government information officers in the province... it is in the interest of the government to communicate effectively on the work that

they do on behalf of their constituents. Hence, it is important that we have this kind of sharing of information and strengthen our ranks as communicators,” Maestre said.

Meanwhile, Executive Assistant for Communication and Public Information Edward B. Macapili urged all government offices to collaborate as one government as they play a vital role in delivering adequate, relevant, and timely information to the public, providing them with a better understanding of the critical issues confronting the province and the nation as a whole.

He also thanked the active participation of the IOs and Mayor Luego for his strong support in providing an informed and empowered citizenry.

Further, in the learning session assigned to a particular agency, Info Officer Ruvilyn L. Jumalon of LHIO Nabunturan conducted a lecture on the Universal Health Care (UHC) Law and Konsulta Package of Philhealth. She encouraged government communicators to help promote and educate constituents on the benefits of UHC and Konsulta, thereby achieving universal health care in Davao de Oro. (Jaynus Fernandez)



PLGU capacitates employees and partners thru CapDev

To capacitate capitol employees and other government partners and communicators in the province, the Provincial Government, thru Provincial Human Resource and Management Office (PHRMO), successfully conducted workshops, seminars, and training in

collaboration with other agencies from January to April this year.

This set of learning interventions allowed them to aspire professional growth and development and later contribute better output in their respective field of work.





DSWD Secretary REX Gatchalian, along with Governor Dorothy Gonzaga, among other officials, led the distribution of financial and food aid distribution to earthquake-affected families in several barangays in Davao de Oro on March 9, 2023.

Barangays Andap in New Bataan, Manat in Nabunturan, Panoraon and New Leyte in Maco, and Paloc in Maragusan were among the areas which received the aid. These included food items, cash assistance, and other essential supplies, ensuring that each family received the necessary assistance.

The assistance was provided through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program of the DSWD, which aims to provide immediate support to families affected by disasters.

Congressman Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Board Member Herv Apsay, New Bataan Mayor Gerald Balbin, Nabunturan Mayor Myrocel Balili, Maragusan Mayor Angelito Cabalquinto, Maco Vice Mayor Alvera Veronica Rimando, and DSWD XI Regional Director Atty. Vanessa Goc-ong were among those who accompanied Sec. Gatchalian during his visit.

On February 20, 2023, Sec. Gatchalian also conducted a courtesy visit and distribution of financial assistance to the earthquake-affected families in some municipalities. He handed over Php 3,000 in financial aid to the 490 families in Monkayo and 620 families in Compostela, through the AICS program.

The visit of the Secretary demonstrates the government's commitment to helping its citizens, especially during times of crisis. The DSWD will continue to work with local government units and other agencies to ensure that those needing assistance receive the help they rightfully deserve.

As of the latest report of PDRRMO on April 10, the series of earthquakes directly affected 38,691 families in the province and left 10,938 totally and partially damaged houses. Sec. Gatchalian also promised financial assistance to Dabawenyos whose homes had been damaged. *(Jaynus Fernandez)*

DSWD Sec Gatchalian leads aid distribution to the earthquake-stricken families in DdO



DdO holds psychosocial activities for earthquake-affected kids

As part of the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro's social protection program, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office, working in collaboration MSWDO, has successfully provided psychosocial services to 480 children from the Barangay Manat of Nabunturan and Barangay Cabinuangan of New Bataan. The program helps in reducing the stress and trauma experienced by the children during the series of calamities in the province.

Preciosa B. Toledo, head of the PSWDO Protective Services Division, stated that traumatized children's developmental levels may be affected, especially if they lack proper protection and assistance.

She also emphasized the importance of the program in taking care of one's mental and emotional well-being in times of calamities.

The recreational activities given to the children are appropriate for their age, such as games, arts, crafts, structure, singing, and drama.

In addition, the DepEd Division of Davao de Oro, in partnership with youth formation, nurses, and disaster risk reduction coordinators, also conducted Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) to the students of Katipunan, Mainit, and Manat Elementary School, and Andap, Pagsilaan National High School. *(Rheafe Hortizano)*



Provincial Response Cluster nagapadayon sa paghatod ug serbisyo sa mga apektadong pamilya sa nahitabong kalamindad sa probinsya

Nagapadayon ang paghatod ug serbisyo sa lokal nga pangamhanan sa Davao de Oro pinaagi sa Provincial Response Cluster nga gipangunahan ni Governor Dorothy Montejo Gonzaga ngadto sa mga pamilyang labing naapektohan sa nahitabong kalamidad sama sa sunod-sunod nga paglinog, landslide, ug baha.

Apil sa mga food and non-food items nga gi apod-apod mao ang mga relief goods, hot meals, sleeping og hygiene kits, tubig, og collapsible containers. Abtik usab nga gipahigayon ang installation sa mga family og modular tents nga nagsilbing temporaryong puluy-anan sa pamilya ug ang mga child friendly space para sa mga kabataan.

Mipadangat usab ug dakong pasalamat ni Governor Gonzaga diin nahimong posible ang tanan tungod sa hiniusang tabang sa DSWD, DOH, PDRRMC member agencies (Philippine Red Cross, BFP, PNP, DPWH) Apex Mining Corporation, local government units, ug uban pang private sectors nga minghatag ug dugang assistance sa probinsya.

Mahinomdoman nga gitay-og sa kusog nga paglinog ang probinsya sugod atong February 1 human gisigundahan pagka March 7, 2023 atol sa selebrasyon sa Bulawan Festival, nga ming resulta sa pagdeklarang

“state of calamity” ang tibook probinsya.

Base sa datos sa Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO), as of April 12, 2023, mokabat sa kapin 229, 647 ka mga pamilya ang naapektohan, P287-million pesos ang danyos sa mga balay nga partially og totally damaged, ug P618,680,566 million pesos usab sa tanang danyos sa impraktraktura nga gilangkuban sa provincial hospitals, government structures/ centers ug uban pa.

Sa pagkaron padayon gihapon ang monitoring sa mga apektadong pamilya og hugot ang koordinasyon matag munisipalidad aron masiguro ang seguridad sa mga katawhan. (Rheafe Hortizano)



PHIVOLCS installs seismograph device on Mt. Kniaseff, Maco

To improve the monitoring and detection of seismic activity of Lake Leonard Kniaseff, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, Department of Science and Technology (PHIVOLCS-DOST) together with the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) personnel successfully installed a seismograph device in Tambo Cafeteria, Barangay New Leyte, Maco, Davao de Oro.

of the device will greatly contribute to the province's disaster awareness and preparation following a series of earthquakes struck in the province.

The team also gathered sample water in the sulphuric areas of Amakan Crater, Lake Leonard, and Bilawa Hot Spring Resort as needed in data gathering to determine if there is any volcanic activity occurring in the aforementioned areas.

PHIVOLCS Science Research Specialist Dr. Raymond Patrick Maximo said that the installation

Data on temporal changes in the chemistry of water obtained in hot crater lakes is a method to



determine if there is a potential eruption to occur. “The result helps to give an early warning to the people and for everyone’s safety”, Dr. Maximo added.

He also added that they visited

the evacuees of Barangay New Leyte in Maco and Barangay Manat in Nabunturan for the conduct of the earthquake and volcanic Information and Education Communication (IEC) campaign. (Rheafe Hortizano)



1st Gov Dot inter-municipality fire Olympics



Nagmalampuson ang gipahitabong pinakaunang Fire Olympics sa probinsya kaniadtong Marso 30, 2023, diin gipartisiparan sa tanang local rescue responders ug volunteers isip parte sa selebrasyon sa Fire Prevention Month.

Nakigtigi ang mga partisipante sa managlahing kompetisyon sama sa hose throwing, hose relay, fire extinguishment, rope rescue, bucket relay, ug hit the target.

Gipasiugda ni Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga ang kamahinungdanon sa maong aktibidad



tungod kay mas mahasa ug maipakita niini ang abilidad sa disaster response lakip na nga natala sa weather forecast ang pag taas sa panahon sa tag-init diin posibleng hinungdan sa mga sunog.

Dako usab ang pagpasalamat ni BFP Acting Provincial Fire Marshal, CINSP Donald R Concepcion sa hugot nga pagsuporta ni Governor Gonzaga, sa mga partisipante ug mga personahe sa BFP-DdO sa ilang kakugi ug dedikasyon gikan sa preparasyon hantod sa nahuman ang maong aktibidad.



Sa ulahing bahin gi deklara nga overall champion ang LGU Maco, 1st place ang Mawab, 2nd place ang Maragusan, ug 3rd place ang Compostela. Aduna usab nadawat nga award ang LGU Mabini isip best in uniform ug most discipline municipality usab ang New Bataan.

Ming tambong usab sa maong aktibidad si BFP Regional Director, SSUPT Richard V Arbutante nga girepresentahan ni SUPT Conrado M Blamores Jr, BFP Regional Chief of Staff, BFP XI Acting Chief Operations Division, SINSP Esequil M Tabon, ug mga Municipal Fire Marshal. (Rheafe Hortizano)



Davao de Oro gov touts gains of insurgency-free status



Governor Dorothy Gonzaga highlighted the positive gains of being an insurgency-free province during the opening of the Bulwan Festival on March 6, 2023.

Gonzaga underscored the importance of the declaration of the province, as well as the entire Davao Region, as free from the active presence of communist rebels, in attaining peace and promoting development, especially in the far-flung areas.

“We thank the police and military forces for making Davao de Oro safe and free from the presence of the rebel group. We commit to providing you with our all-out support or whatever ways we can help you in return,” the governor said.

Davao de Oro was declared insurgency-free in June last year.

Four months later, the Davao Region was also declared insurgency-free following the peace and order initiatives that dismantled the remnants of the communist New People’s Army (NPA) in the area.

In a separate interview, Col. Felix Ronnie Babac, the newly-installed commander of the Army’s 1001st Infantry Brigade, said that sustaining the peace in the province has been very challenging.

“There’s a saying that it is more difficult to sustain peace than fight a war. We have to ensure that they should always have the basic services given by the government for them so as not to be deceived by the NPA anymore,” Babac said.

As part of the Bulwan Festival, the provincial government is also set to bring the “Serbisyo Caravan” to the geographically-isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDA) that were once havens of the NPA rebels. (Che Palicte of Philippine News Agency)



19 PDLs in DdO complete basic education and skills training

“Malipayon kaayu mi kay despite sa nahitabo sa amoa, wala mi nila gikwaan ug higayon apan gihatagan hinuon mi’g oportunidad sa gobyerno nga mapadayon ang among pagskwela bisan tuod anaa mi diria sulod sa selda,” said “Alias Mae,” one of the persons deprived of liberty (PDL) graduates.

On February 17, 2023, nineteen PDLs currently incarcerated at the Montevista District Jail officially completed their studies and skills training under the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program of the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Technical Education and Development Authority (TESDA).

Mae added that the program helps them to improve their lives which will be beneficial once they return to mainstream society.

Each graduate earned a junior high school diploma as well as a certificate for completing the 3-day Basic Hair Cutting with starter kits

as a program’s training component.

BJMP Jail Warden, JCINSP Jul Akbar L Jamiri, expressed gratitude for the unending support of the partner agencies in providing skills and learning opportunities, thereby giving importance to the PDLs’ education.

In her message, Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga, represented by Miles Atugan, congratulated the graduates and motivated them to become better persons.

He ensures that the government is true to its mission and that no one shall be left behind as the “government works” in delivering public service to the people of Davao de Oro.

Present during the graduation ceremony were Senior Vice President of the Philippines Development of Academy of the Philippines (DAP), Bernardino A. Dizon, OIC-Assistant Schools Division Superintendent Arlyn Lim, and other key officials from TESDA, ALS, DepEd, and PLGU. (Rheafje Hortizano)



In the Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) Regional Awards on March 30, the Province of Davao de Oro was hailed as the **THIRD MOST COMPETITIVE PROVINCE IN DAVAO REGION** as well as LGU Pantukan as Overall Most Competitive Municipality in Davao Region.

Davao de Oro Earns Coveted Spot as Davao Region’s Most Competitive Province

Meanwhile, the following municipalities also bagged respective awards:

LGU Pantukan:
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Infrastructure (1st-2nd class municipalities)
1st Place for Most Competitive in Innovation (1st-2nd class municipalities)

LGU Nabunturan:
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Economic Dynamism (1st-2nd class municipalities)
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Innovation (1st-2nd class municipalities)

LGU Maco:
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Government Efficiency (1st-2nd class municipalities)

LGU Montevista:
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Economic Dynamism (3rd-4th class municipalities)
2nd Place for Most Competitive in Infrastructure (3rd-4th class municipalities)

LGU Mawab:
3rd Place for Most Competitive in Innovation (3rd-4th class municipalities)



Congratulations everyone!



UNIQLO in DdO

The Provincial Administrator's Office-Tourism Division of Davao de Oro participated in Uniqlo's Summer Vibe event, showcasing the mantra "a unique style for the golden province." Ms. Christine T. Dompdor, Supervising Tourism Operations Officer, alongside other PAO Tourism staff, attended the event.

Among the participants were the media and Uniqlo's Marketing and Sustainability Team at Dusit Thani Lubi Plantation Resort on March 30, 2023.

The province invited two Mandaya bead makers, with the help of Ms. Elfa Digaynon, and three bag makers from the Maco Council of Women, with the assistance of Ms. Jiesyl Mae N. Tan, Municipal Tourism Officer of Maco, who demonstrated how to make Mandaya accessories as well as bags out of recycled plastics from banana plantation crates and boxes.

Also, a pitch was made for the province's pride, Che Aranjuez, to work with Uniqlo on a particular product line to help the Mandaya weavers in the province.

The said activity is a networking and project collaboration that will help the people of Davao de Oro improve their ways of making a living and develop new ideas.



DTI launches first IPO helpdesk in Davao region

The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP) launched on April 13, 2023 its first Intellectual Property (IP) Help Desk in Davao de Oro situated at the Provincial Office of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

DTI Provincial Director, Atty. Lucky Seigfred M. Balleque welcomed the visitors and led the ceremonial awarding of newly approved trademarks and actual online applications by micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

"We are here to bring the programs and services of the IPOP closer to the stakeholders, particularly in assisting the province's MSMEs in their trademark, patent, and copyright application", representative of IPOP Director General, Atty. Rowel S. Barba said via video message.

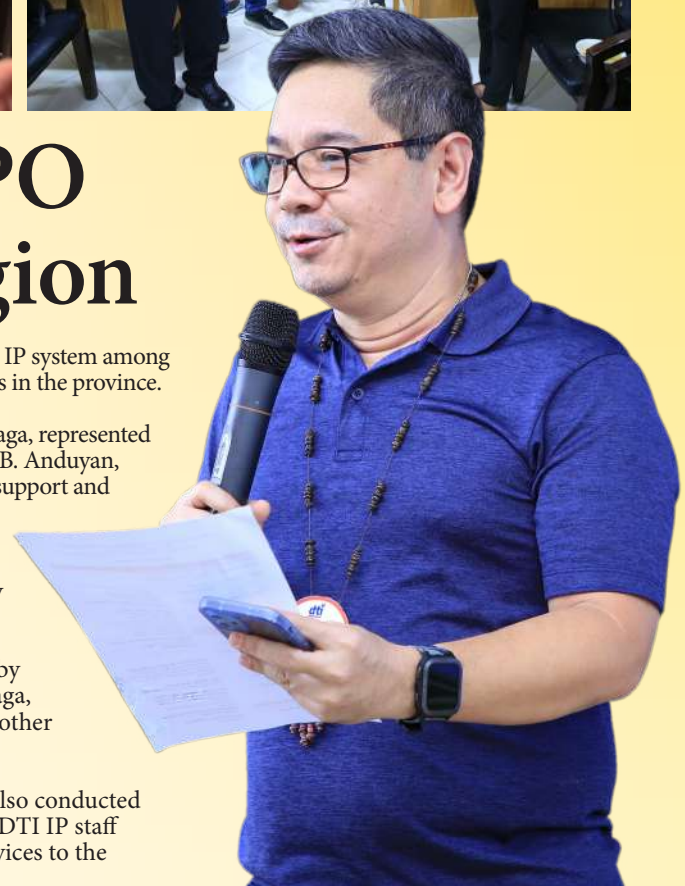
He added that one of its objectives is to strengthen

awareness of the importance of the IP system among innovators, creators, and businesses in the province.

Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga, represented by Executive Assistant III, Dennis B. Anduyan, DM,LPT,RGC, expressed her full support and gratitude for the establishment of the first IP Satellite Office in Davao Region, the second in Mindanao, and 14th in the country following Isabela in Cagayan.

The ceremony was also attended by IPSO from Cagayan de Oro, Caraga, and Davao Region, MSMEs, and other personnel of DTI.

Basic IP Orientation Seminar is also conducted to enhance the knowledge of the DTI IP staff and front-liners in delivering services to the





854 learners from 11 Davao de Oro towns complete ALS-EST program

Eight hundred fifty-four (854) out-of-school youths and adults successfully graduated and completed the Alternative Learning System – Education and Skills Training (ALS-EST) Project of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP).

On April 12-14, DepEd Davao de Oro in partnership with the PLGU-Davao de Oro thru Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office – Youth Development Division, Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) sa Mindanao, and TESDA Davao de Oro, spearheaded the series of ceremonies in four (4) clustered venues for the eighteen (18) district ALS Centers.

Aside from the basic education offered through ALS, these learners obtained free skills training of their choice, such as basic haircutting, flower grafting, food processing, facial make-up,

massage therapy, nail care, and napkin folding, among others.

During the ceremony, ALS learners received their Certificate of Completion as well as starter kits from DAP for their chosen skills training.

Moreover, PLGU-Davao de Oro was the only provincial government, among other beneficiaries, recipient of the Intensified Abot-Alam Program (IAAP): ALS-EST Project of DAP.

Further, Republic Act 11510, known as the Alternative Learning System Act, mandates the provision of alternative education to out-of-school children in special cases, out-of-school youths and adults, including indigents, those with learning disabilities, financially disadvantaged learners, teenage mothers, children in conflict with the law, persons deprived of liberty, rebel returnees, and other marginalized sectors. (Jaynus Fernandez)



SSS-Tagum intensifies R.A.C.E campaign in Davao de Oro

The Social Security System – Tagum Branch joins the first national simultaneous Run After Contribution Evaders (R.A.C.E) campaign on Friday in celebration of Labor Day on May 1.

The SSS team, led by Acting Branch Head II Imelda A. Guerra, served notices of violation on the twelve (12) delinquent employers in Nabunturan town, affecting 137 employees

for non-remittance of P4.6 million worth of SSS contributions inclusive of accrued penalties.

These establishments include agri-trading, an inland resort, a lumber dealer, an industrial/electrical supply store, a salon, a bakeshop, a car repair shop, a catering store, an engine and spare parts dealer, a gas station, and two food stores.



These employers were chosen by the top management based on the assessment or ocular inspection carried out by SSS Accounts Officers, proving that they are delinquent employers, Acting Branch Head II Imelda A. Guerra stated in a message.

“So pangayuan namo among Accounts Officers og list of delinquent employers sa kanya-kanyang areas of jurisdictions, so i-base sya nato sa kanang amount of delinquencies, depending of the number of employees involve and if naay complaints sa particular employer,” Guerra said.

Meanwhile, Corporate Executive Officer II Annabelle M. Flores of Employer Delinquency Monitoring Department-SSS Davao stated that those employers who were subjected to RACE will be given 15 calendar days to settle their obligations by visiting the SSS Tagum City Branch.

“SSS is constrained to file legal charges sa

employer, after 15 days gikan karun kung si employer wala sya nagpakabana, i-forward na sya sa branch pa-ingon didtu sa legal for issuance of demand letter. If dili gihapon sila mu-comply, that’s the time nga mufile tag complain before the prosecutor’s office,” Flores added.

Moreover, Asst. Branch Head Rita Fe S. Limbaga said that SSS offers an installment program to help employers settle their obligations and be paid within 24 to 48 months, depending on the amount of delinquencies.

“If they cannot pay within the period due to calamities or disasters such as a pandemic, they can apply the condonation program to aid them in paying their past-due loans,” Limbaga added.

According to SSS data, as of December 2022, there are 5541 business employers in Davao del Norte and Davao de Oro but only 39.16%, or an average of 2170 employers, are paying monthly contributions on behalf of their employees.

Further, SSS team already conducted a RACE campaign in Tagum City last year and will soon be conducting the same in other towns in the province this July, aiming to remind employers of their obligations in order not to deprive employees of their benefits as SSS members. (Jaynus Fernandez)





25th Founding Anniversary & BULAWAN FESTIVAL 2023

CO-PRESENTED BY

APEX MINING CO., INC.

MISSION / VISION STATEMENT

TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS BY EMBRACING SAFETY AS A WAY OF LIFE, ACHIEVING WORLD CLASS ENVIRONMENT STANDARDS, AND UPHOLDING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO WELLNESS.

THIS WE DO WITH CARE AND SINCERE COMMITMENT TO REALIZE A SUSTAINABLE, RESPONSIBLE, AND GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED MINING COMPANY.

COMPANY PROFILE

APEX MINING CO., INC. (THE COMPANY) WAS INCORPORATED AND REGISTERED WITH THE PHILIPPINE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ON FEBRUARY 26, 1970 PRIMARILY TO CARRY ON THE BUSINESS OF MINING, MILLING, CONCENTRATING, CONVERTING, SMELTING, TREATING, PREPARING FOR MARKET, MANUFACTURING, BUYING, SELLING, EXCHANGING AND OTHERWISE PRODUCING AND DEALING IN GOLD, SILVER, COPPER, LEAD, ZINC BRASS, IRON, STEEL AND ALL KINDS OF ORES, METALS AND MINERALS. THE COMPANY LISTED ITS SHARES IN THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE ON MARCH 7, 1974 AND ATTAINED THE STATUS OF BEING A PUBLIC COMPANY UNDER THE SYMBOL APX.

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