

# *Padayon Edukasyon* **CARAGA**

The official publication of DepEd Caraga, Vol. 3, No. 1

## **Rolling & Coasting Through Tough Times:**



**Dr. Maria Gemma M. Ledesma, CESO IV**

Regional Director  
Oct 2021-May 2023

**Dr. Francis Cesar B. Bringas, CESO IV**

Assistant Secretary for  
Field Operations,  
Regional Director  
Sept. 2018 -Feb. 2021

**Dr. Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV**

Regional Director  
May 2023-present

## **Exciting Transitions in DepEd Caraga Leadership**

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**Atty. Fiel Y. Almendra, CESO IV**  
Assistant Regional Director  
July 2021-March 2023

**Dr. Pedro T. Escobarte Jr., CESO V**  
Assistant Regional Director  
April 2023-present

*not for sale*

## AD ASTRA PER ASPERA: *From troubled seas to Blessings*

The Latin phrase “Ad Astra Per Aspera” means “to the stars through difficulties” - an idiom that inspires perseverance amid the proverbial troubled seas, a reminder for everyone to keep pursuing goals, running the race, and keeping the faith.

Every organization experiences difficulties and obstacles that test its fortitude and determination, like a ship battered by turbulent waves from all sides. Thankfully, tales of personal and organizational survival amid the struggles are well-documented.

Given this, DepEd Caraga has its own story to tell. It has grown resilient amid the threats of the pandemic, with its strength sharpened by the dedication and tenacity of members from all levels of the corporate ladder. They have persevered and never stopped seeking solutions to old and new problems in the educational landscape. They have kept their faith in the system.

Within three years of navigating through the waves of the health crisis, the Caraga educational ship remains afloat. Teachers and education leaders have gained valuable learning experiences, giving them a broadened perspective and a better grasp of the situation. They have empowered themselves to create a healthy working environment for achieving desired results.

Indeed, difficulties are springboards for self-improvement, forcing individuals to recognize their shortcomings and inadequacies and make things better, compelling them to become strategic and creative thinkers. Self-confidence, resilience, self-discovery, and personal growth develop from this process as one acquires new skills, knowledge, and deeper understanding. Also, a sense of thankfulness and greater appreciation for life can emanate from such an experience, thereby increasing happiness and well-being.

In a sense, “Ad Astra Per Aspera” compels us to rethink our priorities without hindering our capacity to win battles, great or small. The key is to embrace these difficulties, wade through troubled seas, and turn them into opportunities. Those who have persevered can attest to the transformative nature of this experience, for it opens up the floodgates of blessings toward self-fulfillment and improved organizational success. In other words, the journey to the stars through difficulties is only for those who have run the race, fought the good fight, and kept the faith (2 Tim 4:7).

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## Technological and Vocational Livelihood (TVL) teachers enhance teaching methodology

To provide TVL teachers with additional credentials to improve their competence in their fields of specialization, DepEd Caraga conducted a Hybrid Training of SHS-TVL on Trainer's Methodology (TM) Training Level I from August 1 to September 6, 2022, at the Balanghais Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City.

The 33-day training strengthened the foundation of their teaching methodology and their effectiveness as education professionals. They also received Trainer's Methodology (TM) Certificate that added to their credentials to teach their subject matter.

During the training, the participants dwelt on a wide range of skills and knowledge, including instructional delivery, competency assessment, and maintenance of training resources and facilities to prepare them to effectively support student learning in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector.

Former Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma, CESO V, graced the occasion with the Curriculum and Learning Management Division Chief Dr. Isidro M. Biol Jr., Program Owner Dr. Elizabeth A. Bautista, and then-Assistant Regional Director Atty. Fiel Y. Almendra, CESO IV, giving their full support. Also participating in the event were stakeholders and partners, the Management Team, TESDA representatives, and other professionals in the TVE sector.

The first three days were plenary sessions, done via Google Meet facilitated by TESDA TM Focal Person Gemma Fe A. Balanay. The sessions were a combination of lectures and hands-on learning experiences, including written examinations and assignments as part of the assessment process.

Mr. Julian T. Salao facilitated a four-day series of group activities on competency assessments, followed by ten-day face-to-face sessions with Ms. Marites G. Lumasag on Planning Training Sessions and Workshops. Online sessions resumed in the next 13 days.

On August 28, the face-to-face sessions with the trainers resumed for more workshops, critiquing outputs, and checking portfolios. The training program included an institutional assessment to evaluate training progress and provide additional support to participants if needed. It is a common approach in training programs to ensure that participants have understood and applied the material learned.

During the closing program on September 6, Dr. Bautista thanked the participants, stressing that their efforts “whether big or small, have contributed to the laudable outstanding performance rating.” She wished the participants the best outcome on their post-training assessment.

The 23 participants underwent an assessment process on September 12, 14, 15, & 16 at the Northern Mindanao School of Fisheries (NMSF) Assessment Center with assessors from other provinces in Caraga.

By: **Elizabeth A. Bautista, PhD**



## From ISO to NQMS: Upping the ante

**T**he DepEd Caraga regional office obtained an ISO 9001:2015 certification in 2019 following a third-party certifying body review and audit of the declared process concerning the 9001:2015 auditable clauses.



Former Regional Director Ma. Gemma M. Ledesma during the harmonization of existing systems and processes with NQMS, September, 2022

Additionally, the office received two recertifications for maintaining the standards and performing above expectations, as shown, among other things, by the consistently high results in customer satisfaction surveys.

But in 2020, all preparations for ISO recertification were put on hold by DepEd Memorandum No. 35, s. 2020 to give way to the transition process preparations for the newly established National Quality Management System (NQMS).



Auditors from Development Academy of the Philippines with then-RD Ledesma and then-ARD Almendra after rating DepEd Caraga regional office as Certainly Certifiable for the NQMS.

Subsequently, DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2021 mandated the implementation of the NQMS in all offices and schools in place of an ISO certification beginning the first quarter of 2022. Following ISO principles, the NQMS aimed at integrating DepEd internal processes on all levels to ensure consistent delivery of high-quality fundamental services to satisfy clients.

To ensure that all focal persons/points and process owners fully comply with the NQMS requirements, then-Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma, then-Assistant Regional Director Atty. Fiel Y. Almendra and former QMR Representative Carolina M. Niepes (Rtd.) oversaw several activities, including orientation and workshops on the NQMS for all employees of regional offices, the reconstitution of the QMS Team and Secretariat, the lining up and harmonizing of previous ISO systems and processes with the NQMS's Procedure and Work Instruction Manual (PAWIM), and the updating of current forms and templates. On March 3, 2023, the regional office was adjudged "Certainly Certifiable" by the DAP and DepEd Central Office auditors during the NQMS Readiness Assessment. The next phase will be the Inter-Region Audit on June 26-27, 2023.

With the new leadership of RD Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV, and ARD Pedro T. Escobarte, CESO V, the regional office will continue demonstrating its unwavering commitment to obtaining NQMS certification for the entire region. Once certified, DepEd Caraga will have upped the ante of providing the highest quality educational services for teachers, learners, stakeholders, and the larger community in the Caraga region.

By: **Alejandro P. Macadatar, PhD**



## DepEd Caraga holds E-PMIS CapB

**T**he Department of Education Caraga Region, through the Policy, Planning and Research Division (PPRD), conducted a Training on Enhanced Program Management Information System (E-PMIS) on December 6-7 & 9, 2022, at Balanghais Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City.

The activity aimed to familiarize the participants with the new features of the E-PMIS and to instruct them on the procedures, deadlines, and accountability associated with using the PMIS in the Department.

There were 205 participants (156 SDO and 49 regional office participants) composed of the Chiefs Curriculum Instruction Division and Schools Governance and Operations Division, Division Planning Officers, Budget Officers, Administrative Assistants, Supply Officers, Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat, Senior Education Program Specialists-HRD, IPed Focals, and Division Engineers.

As part of their outputs, the regional office and the 12 SDOs uploaded their 2023 Work and Financial Plans (WFPs) to the PMIS, subject to the review of the PPRD and verification and approval of the Planning Service Division – DepEd Central Office.

The resource speakers from the Planning Service Division-Central Office were Marlon Custodio, Alvin Salcedo, Kaedean John Taton, and Marc Adrian Gianan. Other speakers were Ronald T. Arnego, Rowena Egay, and Teresa Mercedes M. dela Rosa, DPOs of Tandag, Butuan, and Bislig Divisions, respectively.

By: **Violeta C. Nunez, PhD**



## Stakeholders pledge full support to REDP 2023-2028

**I**n the presence of more than 500 stakeholders and partners, DepEd Caraga launched the Regional Basic Education Development Plan (REDP) 2023-2028 during the School-Based Management (SBM) Stakeholders' Convocation on December 15, 2022, at the Balanghais Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City.

Then-Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma, in her message during the launching, stressed the significant role of the stakeholders in implementing the long-term basic education plan of the region.

In a simple ceremonial solidarity act, the internal and external stakeholders affixed their signatures to the Wall of Commitment as an expression of their full support to the REDP 2023-2028.

By: **Violeta C. Nunez, PhD**



## Regional Consultative Workshop on School Mental Health Program a success

**T**he Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) conducted a consultative workshop on the School Mental Health Program under the umbrella program Oplan Kalusugan Sa DepEd (OK sa DepEd) for the Mental Health Coordinators of DepEd Caraga's regional and division offices, held from 30 January to 3 February 2023, at the Amontay Beach Resort, Agusan del Norte.

The facilitators from the DepEd Central were composed of BLSS-SHD Chief Dr. Ma. Corazon C. Dumlao, Education Program Supervisor on School Mental Health (SMH) Gian Erik Adao, Youth Formation Division (YFD) OIC Chief Rovin James C. Canja, and the representative from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Operations Division (OASOD) Dan Paul Santos.

Former DepEd Caraga Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma and Education Support Services Division (ESSD) Chief Bernabe L. Linog fully supported the activity with their presence. In her message, Ledesma stressed, "Mental health problems can affect a student's ability to learn ... and a healthy mind can also affect the student's ability to learn positively."

During the discussions, the resource speakers motivated the participants to tackle possible content relevant to their respective Division Offices and craft practical steps based on their experiences related to mental health program implementation, including setting up internal and external referral systems for the youth.



As part of the referral system, each school must establish a directory of resources or personnel that students can turn to if they need help with their mental health. This resource may be a teacher, an organization, a psychiatrist, or a DepEd employee. Agay National High School in Agusan del Norte Division is one of the schools implementing the referral system with the help of the local government.

On the third day, the participants engaged in relaxation activities facilitated by yoga instructors Ms. Joanna Vergara and Maristela Gales from Father Saturnino Urios University, also President of the Registered Guidance Counsellors Caraga (RGC). Another partner from the RGC, Ms. Enya Leop, facilitated the activities related to self-care and mental health.

Ultimately, the School Mental Health Program seeks to improve student mental health and well-being by cultivating supportive connections within the school community, creating a good learning environment, and providing resources and assistance to those who need it.

By: *Ellen Grace M. Evangelio, RN*



## BEMEF: A shared responsibility



**T**o guide the operating units on the monitoring and evaluation (M & E) across governance levels, the Department of Education issued DepEd Order No. 029, s. 2022 titled, "Adoption of the Basic Education Monitoring and Evaluation Framework" or the so-called BEMEF. The rules and standards prescribed by this policy support the global and national commitments of the Department in delivering basic education in the country as aligned with the basic education development plan (BEDP) of the DepEd.

The regional M & E system ensures the effective, efficient, and inclusive implementation of all education policies and programs and the achievement of desired outcomes. Thus, the Quality Assurance Division (QAD), in cooperation with the Planning Service - Policy Research and Development Division (PS-PRD), conducted the regional orientation on BEMEF last January 25-27, 2023, at Amontay Beach Resort, Nasipit, Agusan del Norte.

Resource speakers were Mr. John Lawrence Carandang and Ms. Danna Dela Cruz from the PS-PRD of DepEd CO. The activity was participated in by the program owners of the regional office (RO) and 12 schools division offices (SDOs), i.e., functional division (FD) chiefs, EPSs, other personnel from the RO; chiefs CID and SGOD, SEPSs, EPSs II, and Planning Officers from the SDOs.

The orientation aimed to equip the participants with the understanding of the concepts and principles of M & E, implement the BEMEF guidelines, and capacitate them in analyzing policy-related problems and issues and in developing the implementation plan (IP) and M & E plans consistent with the DepEd policies.

oversight responsibility of M & E functions and processes at all governance levels. On the other hand, then-Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma explained that BEMEF provides decision-makers with evidenced-based information on the applicability and feasibility of formulation and implementation of policies, programs, projects, and other activities in the regional and division offices, including the information on which processes or systems worked well and those that needed improvement. Naturally, the information gathered may identify areas for further research and development, assess problems, implement solutions, and empower program owners to achieve better learning outcomes for students, teaching, and non-teaching personnel of DepEd Caraga.

The participants learned how to develop the implementation plan (IP) and M & E plan for the programs, activities, and projects (PAPs) they managed. The school management monitoring and evaluation (SMME) of the 12 SDOs were encouraged to craft an IP and M & E Plan adopting the BEMEF and focusing on the conduct of orientation, monitoring, and provision of technical assistance.

The QAD shall conduct a Virtual Kumustahan Session with the 12 SDOs SMME to check the conduct of orientation and other BMEF-related activities come August 2023.

By: *Edmund D. Mendoza, PhD*



In the opening program, the Chief Education Supervisor of QAD, Marilyn F. Antiquina, stressed the importance of adopting the BEMEF principles, structures, and mechanisms. All operating units, she stressed, have

# Rolling & coasting through tough times:

## Exciting transitions in DepEd Caraga leadership

In a pivotal event that ushered in a change in leadership, DepEd Caraga bid farewell to former Assistant Regional Director (ARD) Atty. Fiel Y. Almendra, CESO IV, on March 29, 2023, while former Regional Director (RD) Maria Gemma Mercado Ledesma, CESO III, did the same on May 26, 2023. Their successors, namely: ARD Director Pedro T. Escobarte, CESO V, and RD Dr. Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV, respectively, came to a rousing welcome.

During his tenure, Almendra pushed for, among others, the enhancement and digitization of the feedback mechanism at the regional office. In his farewell address, Almendra shared his confidence in the incoming leadership of ARD Escobarte in ensuring a seamless transition and continued success.

On April 3, 2023, ARD Escobarte assumed office as RD Ledesma formally installed him via an online platform. In his message, he assured Ledesma and the regional employees that he would build upon the foundation laid by his predecessor, foster stronger partnerships with stakeholders, and address the educational challenges in Caraga. Before his assignment in Caraga, Escobarte was the ARD of Region VI (Western Visayas).

May 26, 2023, marked an equally significant leadership transition as Dr. Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV, assumed the top post as new regional director of DepEd Caraga, with no less than the Assistant Secretary for Field Operations Dr. Francis Cesar B. Bringas administering her oath of office at the Grand Palace Hotel, Butuan City. On the same occasion, former RD Ledesma symbolically turned over all responsibilities to Asuncion shortly after Asec. Bringas installed her (Ledesma) as Director IV at the Office for Private Education of the Central Office.

DepEd officials from Region XII (SOCKSARGEN) and Region XI (Davao) graced the event, led by Regional Directors Dr. Allan Farnazo and Dr. Carlito Rocafort, respectively. Before her assignment in Caraga, Asuncion was the ARD of Region XII.

Dr. Asuncion adds expertise and fresh viewpoints to her inspirational leadership and advocacy for inclusive education, employee welfare, and student-centered learning. She expressed her appreciation for the trust placed in her and promised to collaborate with the educational community to guarantee quality education for all students in Caraga.

On the other hand, Ledesma's exemplary service left a lasting impact on education leaders who crafted and implemented the long-term education development plans of the region. She thanked her DepEd Caraga family and encouraged everyone to extend the same support and cooperation to Dr. Asuncion's mandate of elevating further the quality of education in Caraga.

This transition in leadership is a significant mark in DepEd Caraga's educational scene. As the torch passes from one set of capable hands to another, the region catapults into an exhilarating new phase of its journey, brimming with rarefied anticipation in these most exciting times in 2023.

By: Public Affairs Unit



# NQMS INTER-REGION AUDIT

## Certainly Certifiable



Regional process owners and other employees flocking the auditors from DepEd Region II after the closing meeting, June 27, 2023

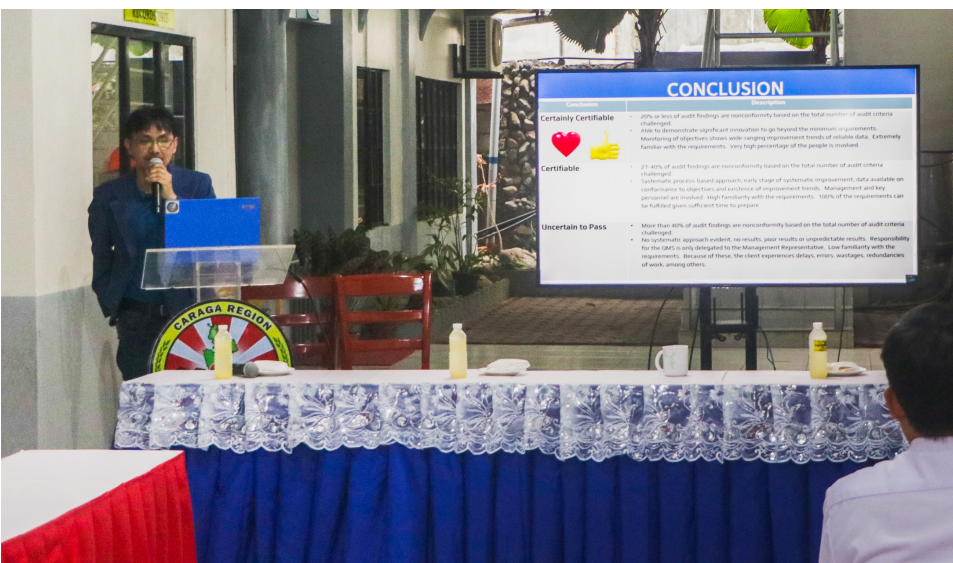
**D**epEd Caraga again demonstrated its readiness by being rated **Certainly Certifiable** by the Inter-Region Auditors of the National Quality Management System (NQMS) on June 27, 2023.

The team of auditors from DepEd Region II, led by Mr. Ronnie P. Guilooy, together with Mr. Ryan R. Pacquing, Mr. Nor Aldeen E. Qaddoumi, and Ms. Camille Grace I. Uy, thoroughly examined DepEd Caraga's adherence to the NQMS as reflected in the internal processes and systems of the Functional Divisions and Units.

During the closing, Mr. Guilooy presented their audit findings showing that the regional office has complied with NQMS standards and demonstrated significant innovation beyond the minimum requirements. One notable audit finding was the alignment of objectives vis-a-vis the office's documented information. The auditors also identified areas for improvement in the risk registry, quality control plan, and staffing pattern.

Furthermore, DepEd Caraga exhibited knowledge of the institution's requirements for NQMS, with its workforce displaying commendable ownership of the systems and processes of the regional office.

With this, the office is gearing up for the next level of the NQMS Certification process come October 2023. By: **Public Affairs Unit**



Lead Auditor Mr. Ronnie P. Guilooy of DepEd Region II presented the audit findings.



## SOMETHING MEANINGFUL

By: Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV  
Regional Director

**S**uccess always involves effort, commitment, and sacrifice. As we implement our six-year development plans, we must be mindful that challenges and difficulties will always meet us along the way. It is part of the process. The setbacks should not discourage us. Instead, we should use them as an opportunity to learn and grow. As your leader, I give you my full support in this endeavor.

Considering this, I'd like to offer a few insights to help us focus on our mission as we journey together.

We have already done the first step of planning and envisioning. We have assessed our current situation, understood our weaknesses and strengths, and looked forward to some possibilities in the context of a realistic action plan. That being said and done, it's time to look into ourselves. Are we willing to take risks and be open to new ideas, especially now that we are on board toward NQMS certification come October this year?

I understand it is tempting to stick to what is easy and convenient. But lest we get caught off-guard by unforeseen events in the future, we must be ready and willing to transcend our comfort zones to maximize our potential for success. It means trying new strategies and approaches, even if uncomfortable, and being open to negative feedback and constructive criticism.

The pandemic and its circumstances drove us to the edges, even as we felt our hands were tied. Never in the history of education did we feel so threatened in the worst way possible. Yet, we have overcome all these, and we are moving forward. We shall proceed according to the matrix within our control because it behooves us to execute our mandates and deliver the results despite the limitations.

Given this resolve, we can achieve greater things for education. Success does not happen overnight, though. It takes time. Nonetheless, implementing our six-year education plan also allows us the opportunity to create something good, true, beautiful, and meaningful for the people of Caraga.



"We must be ready and willing to transcend our comfort zones to maximize our potential for success."

## NEAP: DepEd's Heartbeat

**The National Education Academy of the Philippines (NEAP) celebrated two milestones: Its 30th Anniversary on May 27, 2022, and the Inauguration of the Modernized NEAP Facility in Baguio City on June 9 to 10, 2022.**



**A brief history.** On December 10, 1985, Presidential Letter of Instructions (LOI) No. 1487 mandated the then-Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports (MECS) and the Office of the Budget and Management to institutionalize the existing Learning Action Cell to ensure training of public elementary and secondary teachers by upgrading their competence in teaching and school administration and revitalize program of Teacher In-Service Training in the public schools. It established the National Education Learning Center (NELC).

The NLEC aimed to monitor developments in the educational field and, in coordination with the Ministry staff bureaus, develop the necessary curricular, pedagogical, and training components of the school system and offer summer training programs in the specialized field of educational innovation and management. The Regional Education Learning Centers (RELCS) established in each region or sub-region provided actual training activities for participants from various Schools Division Offices (SDOs) within its territorial jurisdiction.

In 1992, Administrative Order No. 282 by President Fidel V. Ramos renamed the NELC the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP), expanding its functions to include the development of school managers and leaders.

**30th Anniversary.** On May 27, 2022, NEAP celebrated its 30th year with the theme, "Gàling NEAP, Galing NEAP!" The event was live-streamed via official Facebook pages and attended by DepEd Caraga HRDD, NEAP-Caraga personnel, and select school leaders and teachers, three of whom won gadgets and cellphones during the raffle draws. Thirteen other teachers won similar prizes during the NEAP Transformation Launch on June 9 and 10, 2022, held at Baguio Teachers Camp, Baguio City.

**NEAP Transformation Launch.** Joining the launch was the DepEd Caraga Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma, together with the SDS of Surigao del Norte Ma. Teresa M. Real, and the HRDD/NEAP-Caraga personnel composed of Chief EPS Dr. Flordeliza Dalin, EPS Marlyne M. Villareal, NEAP-Caraga Focal Person Junnah B. Tiu, SEPS Roy S. Rele, and EPS II Elmer Augustus F. Conde.

**RD Ledesma's message.** In her inspirational message during the launch, RD Ledesma thanked the NEAP "for helping transform education by capacitating our teachers and school leaders to become the best professionals they have been over the years."

The NEAP **"is the heartbeat of DepEd,"** she stressed. "As we all know, when the heart beats, it delivers all the nutrients the body needs. Without this heartbeat, the body cannot stay healthy and alive. In the same way, NEAP provides the necessary tools for professional development that every educator must possess to deliver the quality education our clientele need," she articulated.

next page..

"Without these tools and NEAP," she continued, "the Department of Education will suffer loss as many of our teachers and school leaders will miss the opportunities to improve their professional lives."

For Ledesma, the NEAP has maintained the quality of training standards, making possible the career progression and professional development of teachers and school leaders. She cited various NEAP programs such as the Superintendents Leadership Program (SLP), Instructional Leadership Program for Division and District Supervisors (ILP-DDS), School Heads Development Program (SHDP), and the various scholarship programs offered to teachers. Other relevant professional development programs include the Learning Delivery Modality (LDM) Courses 1 and 2 to equip school leaders and teachers in implementing learning delivery modalities amid the COVID-19 restrictions.

Ledesma asserted that NEAP programs impacted the successful careers of teachers and school leaders. By gaining a deeper understanding of their mission, they made a difference in their respective fields, especially in the lives of their learners.

Ledesma proudly cited the six Professional Development Programs (PDPs) that the NEAP Central Office recognized.

**Caraga's Award.** Moreover, NEAP-Caraga has recognized 95 professional development programs with CPD accreditation from the PRC.



Left to right: Mr. Roy S. Rele, Ma. Teresa M. Real, Dr. Flordeliza R. Dalin, NEAP Director John Arnold Siena, Regional Director Ma. Gemma Mercado Ledesma, Ms. Junnah B. Tiu, Ms. Marlyne M. Villareal, Mr. Elmer Augustus Conde

DepEd Caraga also facilitated NEAP scholarship programs. To date, 98 teacher-scholars are taking courses at the Philippine Normal University, 20 at UP Geo, one at the University of the Philippines, 840 at SEATI, 98 at NTC, and 1,357 other teachers and school leaders are taking courses with the SEAME INNOTECH. Because of this, NEAP awarded DepEd Caraga as the region with the most significant number of NEAP-Recognized Professional Development Programs.

"In the Department of Education, if we want to walk fast, we walk alone. But if we want to walk far, we walk with NEAP," Ledesma said in closing her message.

Indeed, **"Gàling NEAP, Galing NEAP!"**

By: **Marlyne M. Villareal**



## ASD sharpens digital skills and services

**C**ivil Service Commission conducted a Three-day Online Course on Digital Services last September 13, 15 & 20, 2022, through Zoom. The course aimed to use technologies related to online office transactions, virtual meetings/online sessions, and online communication using free course services and applications.

Module 1 of the course discussed the essence of proper communication towards effective and efficient frontline services through digital sources, emphasizing the basics of Zoom, among other platforms, which allows collaborations between the organization, especially when working remotely, improving work relationships and increasing productivity while ensuring safety.

The participants learned the basic features and functions of Zoom. They discovered its benefits, established familiarity with its interface, and applied these in office communications/transactions. They explored this through the "Zoomustahan" activity, where they shared their insights from their experience in their Google classroom.

Module 2 elaborated on the features and functions of electronic mail management via Google Mail. They were equipped with the

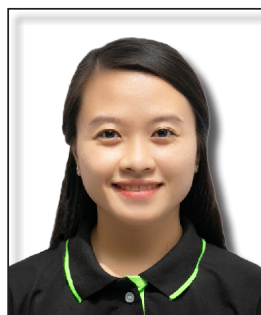


fundamentals of e-mail communication and explained the benefits of e-mail services. The participants presented enhanced learning on the applications of Google Classroom, Google Docs, Google Slide, and Google Form through their

second take-home activity by creating/attaching a document using Google Docs and submitting the same to Google Classwork.

The course has enabled them to widen their knowledge, skills, and values on web applications and services as they work in the new normal with efficiency and productivity. Thirteen employees from the Administrative Services Division enrolled in the course.

By: **Irish Jean P. Abejar**

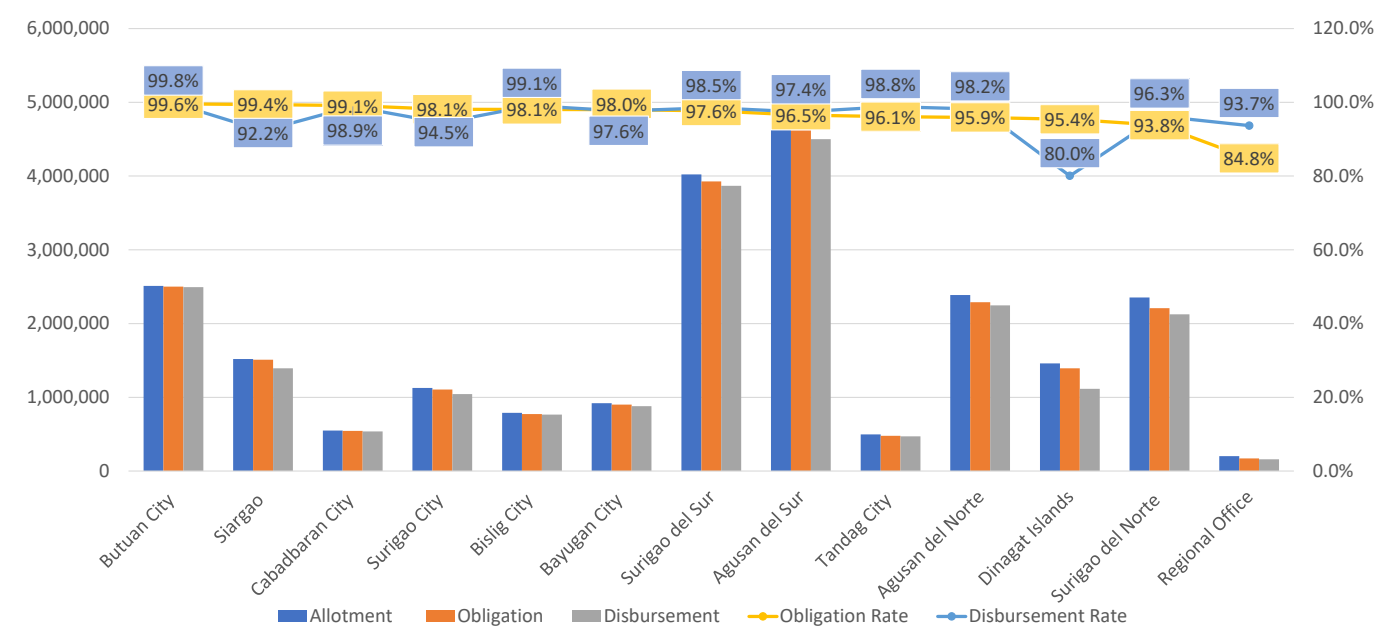
STATUS OF FUNDS  
As of December 31, 2022

₱ 23,128,529.00  
ALLOTMENT

97%  
OBLIGATION

96%  
DISBURSEMENT

|              | Allotment         | Obligation        | Disbursement      | BALANCE        | Unpaid Obligations | Obligation Rate | Disbursement Rate |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| PS           | 19,458,537        | 19,159,941        | 18,900,591        | 298,596        | 259,350            | 98%             | 99%               |
| MOOE         | 2,479,613         | 2,231,197         | 2,081,797         | 248,416        | 149,400            | 90%             | 93%               |
| CO           | 1,190,379         | 1,034,871         | 626,037           | 155,508        | 408,834            | 87%             | 60%               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>23,128,529</b> | <b>22,426,008</b> | <b>21,608,425</b> | <b>702,520</b> | <b>817,583</b>     | <b>97%</b>      | <b>96%</b>        |



# Filipino at Surigaonon: Kasangkapan sa pagtuklas at paglikha

Ni: **Felix N. Bagnol, PhD**

Education Program Supervisor (MTB – MLE)  
Surigao City Division

Diri mosuyod.

Diri molugwa.

Nakakatuwang pagmasdan ang mga nakapaskil na paalala nang muling binuksan ang mga paaralan sa limitadong f2f na klase.

Nararapat lamang na gamitin ang unang wika ng batang Surigaonon sa patuloy nating pakikibaka ng Corona virus. Tanda ito ng pagyakap ng kanyang pangangailangan na maiintindihan ang babala.

Sa ganitong paraan, pinagtibay natin ang kahalagahan ng wikang unang ginamit sa bawat pamilyang Surigaonon at ang kultura ng komunidad.

Nakaahon tayo sa pandemyang kinakaharap gamit ang Wikang Surigaonon. Ito ang naging sandigan natin para tayo ay masagip sa kamatayan. Pinagbuklod tayo sa paghahanap ng solusyon kasangkapan ang katutubong wika dahil sa ating kamalayan sa tunay na kalagayan ng bansa sa loob ng dalawang taong lockdown.

Isa lamang ang wikang Surigaonon sa mahigit kumulang isandaan at walumpu na wikang umiiral sa Pilipinas. Isa lamang ang wikang Surigaonon na ipinapatupad kasama ang labinwalong wika bilang wikang panturo sa mother tongue-based multi-lingual education. Isa lamang ang wikang Surigaonon na humulma ng batas RA 10533 para palaganapin ang wikang unang namulatan.

Nariyan ang pagkabuo ng ortograpiya at glosaryong Surigaonon. Nakatuklas tayo ng ibang pamamaraan sa pagtuturo ng pagbasa gamit ang mga

tunog na madalas nauulit sa wikang Surigaonon. Sa hangaring baguhin ang dulong ng pagtuturo, nakagawa tayo ng basahing pagsasanay para palaliman pa ang kasanayan ng mga batang Surigaonon. Nagkaroon tayo ng pagsasaling wika ng mga modyul tugon sa lokalisasyon. Sumabay din tayo sa hamon ng globalisasyon sa paglikha ng modyul sa paraang interaktibo gamit ang computer at software. Nilinang natin ang kagalingan at kakayahan ng mga mag-aaral sa pagtatanghal ng likhang balak, diskurso, kanta at kuwentong bayan na Surigaonon.

Kasama natin sa adhikain ang mga Manunuyat na Surigaonon at Sentro ng Wika at Kultura (SWK) – Surigao del Norte State University sa kanilang pananaliksik kogneyts at istado ng wikang Surigaonon at pagdaraos ng tertulyang pampanitikan.

Malayo na nga ang narating sa paglalayag ng katutubong wika simula nang ito'y gamitin sa larangan ng edukasyon sa kabila ng kolonisadong pag-iisip.

Katulad sa gawaing pinaalab ng Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino (KWF), ang Wikang Surigaonon ay nagsilbing bombilya para magsabog ng liwanag sa ating mahabang paglalakbay tungo sa malawak na intelektwalisadong Surigaonon.

Tama na ang bangayan. Ayaw na nating maulit ang kulelat na resulta ng PISA 2018 ng Pilipinas sa larangan ng Pagbasa, Agham at Matematika na gamit ang wikang Ingles.

Ikaw, ako, tayo - sama-samang maghalughog ng kultural na kamalayan para sa inklusibong kaunlaran ng batang Surigaonon.

Ibantayog ang wikang Surigaonon!

*Walang bansa ang umunlad  
nang hindi gumamit ng sariling wika.*

- Manuel Luis Molina Quezon



Felix N. Bagnol, PhD