



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CARAGA REGION

APRIL 24, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 0380, s. 2026

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW CUM CO-DESIGN WORKSHOP
FOR “THE LEARNING BRIDGE: TRANSFORMING
EDUCATION IN MINDANAO”

1. **Activity.** In line with the Department of Education’s commitment to strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy and ensuring effective learning recovery, this office announces the conduct of the Program Implementation Review (PIR) and Co-Design Workshop for the UNICEF supported project “The Learning Bridge: Transforming Education in Mindanao” on April 27-30, 2026.

2. **Objectives.** This activity aims to utilize validated EoSY implementation data, lesson learned, and best practices from ELLN and ARAL implementation in SY 2025–2026 to inform the co-design of remediation models, external tutoring mechanisms, and innovative delivery strategies, including the Floating School model, for SY 2026–2027. Specifically, the activity shall:

- a. anchor the design of ARAL remediation frameworks on validated EOSY ELLN and ARAL data;
- b. harmonize regional and division experiences in implementing ELLN and ARAL during SY 2025–2026;
- c. co-design unified, evidence-based ARAL models, including the management of external tutors;
- d. develop implementation plans and timelines for the Floating School and other context responsive interventions; and
- e. produce division and regional action plans for SY 2026–2027 aligned with learning recovery priorities.

3. Attached is the indicative matrix of this activity.

4. **Funding and Other Provisions**

- a. Expenses for venue, accommodation, and meals during the Co-Design Workshop shall be covered by UNICEF Philippines.
- b. Transportation and other allowable expenses of DepEd participants shall be charged to the downloaded Program Support Funds of OSEC-13-25-02149, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
- c. All participants are enjoined to actively participate and ensure submission of required reports and action plans.



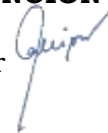
2026-04-06527



5. For more information, please contact caraga_clmd@deped.gov.ph.
6. For immediate dissemination.

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION

Director IV
Regional Director



CLMD/mcj
04/22/2026



Enclosure to RM No. 0380 s. 2026

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW CUM CO-DESIGN WORKSHOP
FOR “THE LEARNING BRIDGE: TRANSFORMING
EDUCATION IN MINDANAO”**

**INDICATIVE MATRIX
April 27-30, 2026**

Date and Venue	Time	Activity	Participants
April 27, 2026 To be announced with UNICEF and 12 SDOs	8:00a.m. - 12:00nn	Travel to Venue	
	12:01p.m. - 1:00p.m.	Lunch	
	1:01p.m. – 1:30p.m.	Registration	Regional Office: *RD/ARD *Chief, CLMD *ARAL Focal
	1:31p.m. – 2:00p.m.	Preliminaries	
	2:01p.m. – 4:00p.m.	Presentation of ARAL Program results SY 2025-2026 per SDO	
	4:01p.m. – 5:00p.m.	Discussion and validation of data from CO Presentation of approved UNICEF project	Division Offices: *SDS/ASDS *Chief, CID *ARAL Focal
	5:30p.m. 6:30p.m.	Dinner	
April 28, 2026 To be announced With UNICEF and select SDOs *Bayugan City *Bislig City *Butuan City *Cabadbaran City *Dinagat Islands *Surigao del Sur	6:30a.m. – 7:30a.m.	Breakfast	Regional Office: *RD/ARD *Chief, CLMD *ARAL Focal
	8:00a.m. – 12:00nn	Co-design workshop 1: ARAL models in Caraga	
	12:01p.m. – 1:00p.m.		
	1:01p.m. – 5:00p.m.	Co-design workshop 2: Management of External Tutors	Division Offices: *SDS/ASDS *Chief, CID *ARAL Focal
April 28, 2026 R-NEAP Silver With 12 SDOs	6:30a.m. – 7:30a.m.	Breakfast	Regional Office: *9 PMT
	7:30a.m. – 8:30a.m.	Registration	
	8:30a.m. – 9:00a.m.	Preliminaries	
	9:00a.m. – 12:00nn	ARAL Updates *Summer Programs *Hiring of Tutors *LIS Tagging	Division Offices: *3 per SDO (Chief/Representative/ ELLN/ARAL Reading/ Math Focal)
	12:01p.m. – 1:00p.m.	Lunch	
	1:01p.m. – 5:00p.m.	SDO Accomplishment Report and Analysis *Fund Utilization of ELLN Program *Challenges and Opportunities *ARAL Success Stories/narratives	
	5:30p.m. – 6:30p.m	Dinner	

Date and Venue	Time	Activity	Participants
April 29, 2026 To be announced With UNICEF and select SDOs *Bayugan City *Bislig City *Butuan City *Cabadbaran City *Dinagat Islands *Surigao del Sur	6:30a.m. – 7:30a.m.	Breakfast	Regional Office: *RD/ARD *Chief, CLMD *ARAL Focal Division Offices: *SDS/ASDS *Chief, CID *ARAL Focal
	8:00a.m. – 12:00nn	Co-design workshop 3: Project Implementation Plan	
With UNICEF and select SDOs *Agusan del Sur -Dinagat ES, Bunawan, ADS	12:01p.m. – 1:00p.m.	Meeting on potential Floating School(s)	Regional Office: *RD/ARD *Chief, CLMD *Floating School Focal Division Offices: Agusan del Sur *SDS/ASDS *Chief, CID *Floating School Focal *Principal, Teacher, LGU construction Focal, Community Leader
	1:01p.m. – 5:00p.m.		
April 29, 2026 R-NEAP Silver With 12 SDOs	6:30a.m. – 7:30a.m.	Breakfast	Regional Office: *9 PMT Division Offices: *3 per SDO (Chief/Representative/ ELLN/ARAL Reading/ Math Focal)
	7:30a.m. – 8:30a.m.	Preliminaries	
	8:31a.m. – 9:00a.m.	Regional ARAL Action Plan, SY 2026-2027	
	9:01a.m. – 10:00a.m.	Division Action Planning, SY 2026- 2027 *ELLN Implementation *ARAL Implementation	
		Health Break	
	10:01a.m. – 12:00nn	Action Plan presentation	
	12:01p.m. – 1:00p.m.	Lunch	
	1:01p.m. – 2:00p.m.	Action Plan presentation	
	2:01p.m. – 3:00p.m.	Ways Forward and Closing Program	
	3:01p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Health Break End Program Evaluation	
	3:31p.m.	Departure	

Date and Venue	Time	Activity	Participants
April 30, 2026 With UNICEF and select SDOs *Agusan del Sur -Dinagat ES, Bunawan, ADS	6:30a.m. – 7:30a.m.	Breakfast	Regional Office: *RD/ARD *Chief, CLMD *Floating School Focal Division Offices: Agusan del Sur *SDS/ASDS *Chief, CID *Floating School Focal *Principal, Teacher, LGU construction Focal, Community Leader
	8:00a.m. – 12:00nn	Debriefing	
	12:01p.m. – 1:00p.m.	Lunch	
	1:01p.m. – onwards	Departure	



14 April 2026
Ref. MALO 2026 - 298

HON. MARIA INES C. ASUNCION, CESO IV
Regional Director
Department of Education – Caraga Region
J.P. Rosales Avenue, Butuan City

Dear RD Asuncion,

Greetings from UNICEF Philippines!

As a long-time partner of the Department of Education, UNICEF remains committed to strengthening the systems that support our teachers and learners, especially in achieving foundational literacy and numeracy. We recognize that the learning crisis requires strategic, evidence-based interventions that leave no one behind.

In line with the newly enacted **ARAL Law** and the Department's focus on learning recovery, UNICEF is set to support Grades 1 to 6 learners in the Caraga Region for SY 2026-2027. This collaboration—under the project **"The Learning Bridge: Transforming Education in Mindanao"**—focuses on two key innovations: a rationalized remediation program and the modeling of a **"floating classroom"** to ensure learning continuity in high-risk, water-based communities. This project will be co-designed with six (6) school divisions: **Bislig City, Butuan City, Bayugan City, Cabadbaran City, Dinagat Islands, and Surigao del Sur.**

To officially kick off this partnership, we would like to request the participation of key DepEd personnel (Annex 1) in a **Co-Design Workshop on 27–30 April 2026**. This will be a **live-in activity** where UNICEF shall cover the costs for the venue, lodging, and meals, while participants are requested to cover their respective transportation expenses. The workshop aims to:

- **Project Orientation and Data Validation:** Provide a comprehensive overview of "The Learning Bridge" project and validate regional assessment data to establish a solid baseline for implementation.
- **ARAL Program Co-Design:** Collaborate with regional and division focal persons to design a unified remediation framework taking into consideration the implementation experiences in SY25-26.
- **Technical Modeling and Planning:** Engage with the infrastructure and LGU teams to finalize the design of the floating school and the development of digitized learning resources.

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- **Stakeholder Engagement and Scheduling:** Establish clear timelines and coordination protocols with LGU representatives and school stakeholders to ensure localized support.

We are currently finalizing the procurement process for the event and will inform your office of the specific venue once the bidding is completed.

We look forward to your favorable response. Our Education Specialist, Mr. Nicholas Tenazas (09202675840), will continue to coordinate with your office regarding the logistics. For any immediate clarifications, please contact our Project Consultant, **Ciela Mendoza**, at 09176511177.

Thank you for your continued partnership #foreverychild.

Sincerely,

Akihiro Fushimi, Ed.D.
Chief of Education