



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT - REGION 1  
**PAGANNINAWAN**  
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## DILG R1 engages 334 youth leaders for WEmboree

The Department of the Interior and Local Government Region 1 (DILG R1) gathered 334 youth leaders in the Region for the conduct of WEmboree, a disaster - resiliency camp, in the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, and Pangasinan last May 21-22, 2015 and in the province of La Union last May 22-23, 2015.

These youth leaders come from the following: 75 from 18 local government units (LGUs) and three (3) Local Resource Institutes (LRIs) of Ilocos Norte, 81 from 31 LGUs of Ilocos Sur, 94 from 15 LGUs of La Union and 84 from 32 LGUs of Pangasinan. The WEmboree of the four (4) provinces were simultaneously conducted at Marcos Stadium, Laoag City, Ilocos Norte; Philippine Science High School, San Ildefonso, Ilocos Sur; Camp Diego Silang, Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union; and Narciso Ramos Sports and Civic Center, Lingayen, Pangasinan. *(continued at page 6)*



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## RPOC 1: Bring government closer to affected areas, solve insurgency



The Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) 1 has recently agreed that the most practical approach to resolve insurgency problems in the Region is to bring the government and its services closer to the affected armed-conflict areas.

This has been contained in RPOC Resolution No. 02, s. 2015 which was drafted during the Council's meeting last May 26, 2015.

The Council affirms the need for collective efforts from the national government agencies, local government executives and officials, and all stakeholders to resolve insurgency problems. As a result of consultative meetings with regional government heads, local chief executives and representatives, a Convergence of Services for Peace Action Plan was formulated as an intervention in solving insurgency particularly in the province of Ilocos Sur.

The said plan contains the different programs or set of interventions by concerned government agencies to solve identified armed-conflict issues. Bringing the government closer to people is seen as the most practical tool in engaging the problem to immediately address the needs of the people, ultimately freeing them from poverty which is usually the reason why they take arms against the government.

The RPOC 1 is committed to ensure the preservation and maintenance of the peace and order in the region as the foundation for progress and development, stability and internal security. (LGOO V Sheila Marie G. Andales with reports from LGOO V Benedicta Bernachea)

## Province of Ilocos Sur receives 2014 PCF



The Performance Challenge Fund CY 2014 of the Province of Ilocos Sur was awarded to Provincial Governor Hon. Ryan Singson on June 24, 2015 by OIC - Regional Director Julie J. Daquioag, PhD., CESO IV during the conduct of the 2nd Quarter Provincial Peace and Order Council Meeting at the Governor's Office Conference Hall.

This award is in recognition of the Province's sound performance along areas of transparency and accountability, and planning and fiscal management. The Province is a consistent Good Financial Housekeeping (GFH) passer for two consecutive years: passing the criteria of the 2012 Seal of Good Housekeeping (SGH) and 2014 Seal of Good Local Governance-Good Financial Housekeeping (SGLG-GFH).

The Province of Ilocos Sur intends to utilize the PCF award amounting to Seven Million Pesos (Php7, 000,000.00) for the concreting of Farm-to-Market road along barangays of Cabaroan, Langaoan, Ampuagan and Lesseb in the municipality of Sta. Maria. This project upon completion will provide a better and safer access road for approximately 2,792 population of the said barangays. It will also benefit residents in the nearby town of Burgos. (LGOO V Eloisa R. Rigucera)

## DILG R1 preps up 32 LGUs for 2015 BuB-Provision of Water Supply

In preparation for the Provision of Water Supply under the 2015 Bottom-Up Budgeting (BuB), the Department of the Interior and Local Government Region 1 (DILG R1), in coordination with the Office of Project Development Services (OPDS), conducted a Program Orientation and Feasibility / Project Proposal Preparation Workshop participated in by 32 local government units (LGUs) in the Region last June 9-10, 2015 at Leisure Coast Resort, Dagupan City.

The workshop aimed to equip participants with knowledge on the salient features of the Bottom-Up Budgeting (BuB) Program, skills in drafting Technical Proposals and workable plans for the completion of projects.

Resource Speakers during the training were: Engr. Jayson Manadong, Engr. Ezequiel Serrano and Engr. Richard Burce from the OPDS. Topics include Overview of FY BuB, Mode of Implementation of Projects, Fund Administration, BuB Other Projects, Technical Proposal Template, Review on Pipe Hydraulics and Hydraulic Analysis.

Participants also prepared their action plans using the given template for their respective targets particularly in the preparation and submission of documentary requirements.

The National Government continues to implement the Bottom-Up Budgeting (BUB) approach to ensure the inclusion of the funding requirements for the development needs of local government units (cities and municipalities) in the budget proposals of participating national government agencies. This initiative is designed to make the planning and budgeting processes of both local and national governments more participatory through involvement of CSOs and communities.

In FY 2015, two priority poverty reduction projects identified by the participating cities and municipalities under the BuB are the Provision of Potable Water Supply and Other Projects (Local Roads, Bridges, Economic Facilities, Evacuation Center, Flood Control, Institutional Facilities, DRRM Equipment, Rescue Equipment, Capacity Building, Livelihood and Land Acquisition). Fifty-two (52) LGUs in the region had identified Water Supply and Other projects as their priority projects with a total infrastructure investments of P147,889,785.89. The remaining 20 LGUs which were unable to participate in the program orientation will be trained by DILG BuB Provincial Focal Persons. (LGOO V Sheila Marie G. Andales with reports from LGOO II Veronica B. Nisperos)



## San Gabriel, LU wins the 2014 Cleanest and Greenest Municipality in Region I



The commitment of the Municipal Officials and employees together with the strong support of the townspeople paved the way in making San Gabriel the Cleanest and Greenest Municipality not only in the province of La Union but in the entire Region for three consecutive years. San Gabriel is known to be a mountainous municipality. Preserving their forest and sustaining a clean, green and safe community is one of their priorities.

The municipality has several Best Practices that corresponds to the services being delivered to the people like the Let's Go B.A.S.I.C. (Beautification and Sanitation in the Community) Towards Progress Program. The program covers solid waste management, cleanliness and environmental enhancement, prevention of environment-related diseases, greening program, eco-tourism programs, comprehensive peace and order program. It also includes a yearly Search for the Lets Go Basic Best Barangay Implementer which is an effective way of getting the involvement of the community towards sustaining environmental protection and management and maintenance of peace and order in the municipality.

Members of the Municipal Officials, Employees, NGOs and the members of the Go BASIC Committee worked hand in hand to achieve the award. The Committee was led by the Municipal Mayor and Vice Mayor who served as the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee respectively, the Municipal Planning and Development Officer (MPDO), Municipal Human Resource Officer (HRMO), Municipal Agricultural Officer, Municipal Health Officer (MHO), Municipal Tourism and Information Officer (MITO), Chief of Police (COP) and DILG Officer as members. (LGOO V Ma. Gracia D. dela Cruz)

## 6 pilot LGUs support citizens' based monitoring of BuB projects



Six (6) pilot Local Government Units (LGUs) of Region I supported the citizens' based monitoring of Bottom-Up Budgeting projects by partnering with the Department of the Interior and Local Government Region 1 (DILG R1) in the organization and orientation of local monitoring teams, known as Barangay Action Teams (BATs).

These LGUs are Alaminos City, Dagupan City and Urdaneta City in Pangasinan; Badoc, Ilocos Norte; Tagudin, Ilocos Sur; and Aringay, La Union. Organized BATs were oriented on the status of 2013 and 2014 BuB project implementation and informed of the monitoring processes and templates. The orientation was conducted last June 16, 2015 for Alaminos City and Badoc; June 17, 2015 for Dagupan City; and June 19, 2015 for Tagudin, Aringay and Urdaneta City. Also present during the orientation were members of the Ugnayan ng Barangay at Simbahan (UBAS) Technical Working Groups of the six (6) LGUs.

Since the organization of BATs is a component of the UBAS implementation, the UBAS Project Overview, Background, Goals, Objectives, Areas of Partnership, and Structure were presented to the participants.

Discussed during the orientation are the Bottom-up Budgeting Process, Engagement of the UBAS in BUB Projects Monitoring Activity, BuB Monitoring Form, Guide Posts in Promoting and Sustaining Barangay Good Governance and Barangay Full Disclosure Policy.

The Local Chief Executives of the six (6) LGUs also led the unveiling of the BuB Projects Tarpaulins which contain the status of CY 2014 and 2015 BuB Projects.

The BATs were asked to formulate their respective Action Plans which shall focus on the five (5) major steps in the conduct of UBAS monitoring of BuB projects, which are: social preparation, project visit, submission of consolidated monitoring reports, interface with the implementing unit or agencies and presentation of reports to the National / Regional Poverty Reduction Action Team and BuB Executive Committee. (LGOO V Sheila Marie G. Andales with reports from LGOO V Narvita R. Flores)

## DILG-Ilocos Norte conducts UBAS Provincial Launching and MOA Signing

In an effort to nurture the late DILG Secretary Jesse M. Robredo's legacy of grassroots good governance and inter-faith partnership, DILG-Ilocos Norte conducted the Provincial Launching and MOA Signing of the Ugnayan ng Barangay at Simbahan (UBAS) on May 18, 2015 at the Social Hall of the Holy Spirit Academy, Laoag City.

The event forges the tri-partite partnership between the government, the barangay, and the church towards a morally-guided community participation and an accountable and transparent governance. This was institutionalized thru the conduct of the MOA Signing wherein the signatories are the members of the Provincial Convenors Group composed of OIC-Provincial Director Roger P. Daquioag, for the DILG; Liga ng mga Barangay (LnB) Provincial President Charles I. Tadena, for the Barangays; and Bishop of the Diocese of Laoag Most Rev. Renato P. Mayugba, for the Church.

The Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte also showed its support to the noble objectives of the UBAS as emphasized in the message of Vice Governor Angelo M. Barba stating that "the UBAS is vital in empowering the people to take an active role in the development of the community".

LnB Provincial President Charles I. Tadena shared the same sentiment citing that "nurturing synergy with the Church, which the UBAS embodies, is essential in order for the barangays to continually be guided by the *daang matuwid* that the present administration is advocating."

In the same vein, Most Rev. Renato P. Mayugba, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Laoag, manifested his commitment to the advocacy of the UBAS expressing that "the Church shall remain true in its role of empowering and enlightening the people including the leaders of the community in order to shape the landscape of good governance and sustainable development."

After the MOA Signing, another important highlight of the event was done which is the Turn-Over of the List of Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) Projects of Ilocos Norte to Bishop Mayugba. This will be the basis for the monitoring of the proper implementation of BuB Projects which is one of the objectives of the UBAS.

The UBAS Provincial Launching and MOA Signing was participated in by the DILG field officers, LnB presidents, and heads and leaders of churches and faith-based organizations from the 23 LGUs of the Province. They were also oriented on the milestones, objectives, organizational structure, and entry points of



implementation of the UBAS by LGOO V Narvita R. Flores, UBAS Regional Focal Persons of DILG-Region 1. They also showed their commitment to the advocacy of the UBAS through a ceremonial signing of the UBAS Unity Statement.

OIC-Regional Director Julie J. Daquioag, Ph. D., CESO IV of DILG-Region 1 conveyed her appreciation and gratitude to the participants for supporting such important undertaking. She is also hopeful that the implementation of the UBAS in the Province of Ilocos Norte will be fruitful as signified by the successful conduct of its Provincial Launching and MOA Signing.

The next day, Bishop Mayugba, thru their Commission on Social Action invited the DILG-Ilocos Norte during their Presbyteral Assembly at the Bishop's Residence, Laoag City to introduce and brief the attendees of the Assembly composed of Parish Priests in Ilocos Norte and at the same time members of the Diocese of Laoag on the UBAS as a tripartite legacy of community participation and sustainable development.

OIC-PD Daquioag together with LGOO II John Anthony R. Bareng, UBAS Assistant Provincial Focal Person attended the Assembly. OIC-PD Daquioag imparted a message and conveyed his gratitude and profound appreciation to Bishop Mayugba's positive response to the advocacy of the UBAS.

Afterwards, LGOO II Bareng oriented the body on the history, objectives, and mechanisms of the UBAS. An Open Forum followed wherein the parish priests expressed their enthusiasm to the advocacy of the UBAS and at the same time certain questions arose particularly in its actual implementation.

UBAS is in line with the Department's mandate of good governance and community participation. (LGOO II John Anthony R. Bareng)



## DILG R1 engages... from page 1

The activity informed, prepared and engaged youth leaders across the Region to volunteer in local government initiatives that would strengthen the disaster-resiliency of communities. By gathering young people from different localities, academic institutions and organizations, it aimed to promote the essence of strong camaraderie and change the mindset from “me” to “we”.



The DILG R1 partnered with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Philippine Red Cross (PRC), and the Provincial Governments in the conduct of the activity.



Highlights of the WEmboree include discussion on Republic Act No. 10121 “the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act”, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework, Audio Visual presentation on Operation Listo, Break-out Sessions, Demonstration and Lecture on Basic Life Support, Boodle Fight, Team Building Activities, Showcase of Talents and Fellowship, Grand Campfire / Candle Lighting and Commitment Building, Zumba Dance, Battle of Yells, Poster Making Contest, Jingle Making Contest, Action Planning and Distribution of Collaterals. (LGOO V Sheila Marie G. Andales with reports from LGOO V Rhodalyn S. Licudine)



## Balaoan, LU launches Operation Listo



The Municipal Government of Balaoan, La Union has recently launched Operation Listo through its conduct of the Municipal Convergence last April 24, 2015 and Barangay coaching last May 4-6, 2015.

The launch was spearheaded by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (MDRRM) Officer-Designate Engr. Prudencio O. Octavo, Jr., LGOO V Flory Ann O. Estioco – MLGOO with the members of the Operation Listo Technical Working Group (TWG), the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The launch oriented local functionaries on the Disaster Preparedness Manuals – Checklist of Early Preparations for Mayors and Checklist of Minimum Critical Preparations. The MDRRM Officer, MLGOO, PNP, BFP and CSO representatives presented their respective convergence roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the Operation Listo.

The Municipal Convergence aims to finalize the Municipal Convergence Action Plan, which classifies the roles and responsibilities in the utilization of the manuals and the areas for collaboration among various stakeholders. The Barangay Coaching, on one hand, aims to enhance the knowledge and responsiveness of the barangay officials on disaster-related concerns.

A Pledge of Commitment during the Municipal Convergence signified the support of all the participants.

Operation Listo is a project of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, in partnership with local government units (LGUs), which seeks to strengthen the capacity of LGUs in responding to disasters. It assists LGUs in planning their responses to typhoons and improve their capacities before, during and after a typhoon arrives, thus allowing them to know if they are ready, and what they need to do to meet the minimum levels of readiness. (LGOO V Flory Ann O. Estioco)

## Candon City And County Of Honolulu, Hawaii Seal Sisterhood Agreement

The City of Candon and County of Honolulu, Hawaii have formally sealed their Sisterhood Relations thirteen (13) years after signing their Friendship Agreement in 2002 and still renewed in February of 2014 under the current administration. The City of Candon started the move to bolster their relationship when the incumbent City Mayor of Candon approved the Sister City proposal in July 2014 that followed the issuance of SP resolution establishing sisterhood relations between the City Government of Candon and the City of Honolulu, Hawaii. The long wait finally gave hope for the City when the Committee on Business, Economic Development and Tourism of the City Council of Honolulu chaired by a Council Member with Filipino blood origin endorsed the approval of Resolution No. 15-42, Establishing a Sister City relationship with the City of Candon. The live streaming of the Committee Meeting was witnessed by the City Officials and Heads of Offices of Candon on March 6, 2015 (Philippine Time) with the Filipinos of Hawaii with origins from Candon testified before the committee. The ceremonial signing of the pact between the two cities was held in Honolulu on May 7, 2015 attended by the key officials and heads of offices of the City. Travel Authority was issued by the Department prior to the ceremonial undertaking.

The Sisterhood Agreement will not only strengthen their friendship but to institute a working avenue of communication in facilitating exchange of information and technology, urban planning policies and development, socio-cultural activities, income generation strategy and fiscal management, health care facilitation and public education intensification, and other aspect in governance beneficial to both cities. It was remembered through history that the first “sakadas” to work in sugar cane plantations in Hawaii in 1906 were from Candon City. Fifteen (15) of the so-called and original “sakadas” migrated from the City to work in Hawaii.

For the City of Candon, this is the fourth (4th) sisterhood forged with other government units, after the City of Ito (Shizuoka, Japan), Baguio City, and Municipality of Cavinti (Laguna). (LGOO VI Andres A. Vendiola, Jr.)

## Pinili, IN conducts CBMS-APP Module II Training



As a poverty-reduction strategy, the Municipality of Pinili, Ilocos Norte in coordination with the DILG-Ilocos Norte conducted the CBMS-APP Module II (Data Processing, Poverty Mapping and Building of Database) on June 15-19, 2015, at the Municipal Library of Pinili, Ilocos Norte.

With the use of Statsim 6.0 and Quantum GIS, data generated in the module will serve as inputs in the preparation of various plans like the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), the Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (BDRRM) Plan, and the Barangay Development Plan (BDP), to name some.

Participants to the activity are composed of frontline service providers like the MSWDO, the MPDO, the MHO, the MDRMMO, the MNAO, the MAO and the Municipal Engineering Office, including one staff each. Staff of the Mayor and the SB Offices also participated in the activity.

Series of workshops and hands-on on Map Digitizing and Poverty Mapping formed part of the training, output of which shall be used during the Community Validation which will be conducted in the 25 barangays as part of the module. LGOO V Sonny Arnold A. Pascual, CBMS Provincial Focal Person, and LGOO II Arnel L. Antonio served as resource speakers and facilitators of the training-workshop.

The CBMS Database will provide a more realistic and rights-based planning for the LGU, putting into a better perspective the LGUs resources in terms of the delivery of basic services. (LGOO V Mildred Lea D. Estavillo)

## Bagulin, LU strengthens Barangay VAW Desks



*Bagulin, La Union* – The Barangay Violence Against Women Desk Officers (Brgy VAW Desk) of this Municipality have undergone a capability building activity last May 28 & 29, 2015 at the ORT Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union as part of Bagulin's Gender and Development Activities for 2015.

The training, dubbed as "Strengthening of the Barangay VAW Desk Officers", was sponsored by the Municipality and implemented by OIC-MLGOO Olivia Mae N. de Guzman with support from LGOO II Iszel O. Guray, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) – La Union Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Person and PO2 Lefreda M. Acosta of the Philippine National Police-Bagulin Women and Children's Desk. Discussed during the training were the salient features of the following laws: RA 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act); RA 9710 (The Magna Carta of Women); RA 7877 (Anti-Sexual Harassment Act); and, a rundown on DILG Memorandum Circulars that mandated the creation of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (MC 2002-121 & MC 2008-126).

Participants also visited the Municipality of Bacnotan, La Union, a regional champion and a national nominee for the Child-Friendly Local Governance Award. Mayor Francisco Angelito L. Fontanilla welcomed the participants while Vice Mayor Frank Almodovar showcased the different child-friendly activities which garnered for them the prestigious award.

Joint Memorandum Circular 2013 - 01 between the DILG, Philippine Council for Women, National Economic and Development Authority, and the Department of Budget and Management prescribe policies and procedures in mainstreaming gender perspectives in local planning, programming and budgeting, local legislation, project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation pursuant to RA 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women (MCW). (LGOO II Olivia Mae N. De Guzman)



## San Emilio, IS finalizes 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan



The formulation of the 10-Year Solid Waste Management (SWM) Plan of San Emilio, Ilocos Sur is finally completed when the Municipal Solid Waste Management Board met on June 11, 2015 at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall for the final presentation of the said plan. Based on the results of the Waste Analysis and Characterization Study (WACS) conducted during the last quarter of 2014, the plan seeks to address the 26% residual wastes from establishments and households through the use of a Sanitary Landfill and barangay Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), and the institutionalization of mechanisms for the community to apply the 3R (reduce, reuse and recycle) technology of solid waste management.

In relation to the formulation of 10-year SWM Plan preparation, the MSWMB visited the Sanitary Landfill of Sudipen, La Union on June 19, 2015 to serve as a benchmark in the realization of the priorities proposed in the plan. (LGOO V Kay Legrand R. Digay)

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## DILG- BUB Project in Vigan to prevent shoreline erosion



A P 7.4 Million Sea Wall Project proposed by the City Government of Vigan under the Bottom-Up Budgeting is expected to prevent shoreline erosion and benefit 731 households of two (2) barangays in the city.

The proposed project is a response to the perennial flooding being experienced by most barangays in Vigan City particularly those which are located in the eastern portion and along the shorelines. The 80-meter seawall will prevent sea waves from eroding coastal properties and minimize the impact of storm surge and sea level rise, once completed. The project will directly benefit households along the shorelines of Brgy. San Pedro and Brgy. Mindoro, the two (2) most vulnerable barangays to flooding and coastal erosion.

To ensure conformity with the documentary requirements submitted to the Department of the Interior and Local Government Regional Office 1 (DILG RO 1), the Regional Special Project Development Monitoring Team (SPDMT), headed by Engr. Andres Quiaoit validated the proposed project site last May 6, 2015. The team was assisted by Engr. Von Joseph Tabrilla of the City Engineering Office. (LGOO V Randy S. de la Rosa)

## LEGAL OPINION

Atty. Joseph O. Apolonio  
DILG 1 Regional Legal Officer

***Whether or not the penalty imposed by the SB which is ninety (90) days suspension in accordance with the provisions of RA 7160, particularly Section 66?***

Based on the foregoing, the penalty of suspension should not exceed the unexpired term of the respondent or a period of six (6) months for every administrative offense. This means that the period of suspension for every administrative offense should not exceed six (6) months and RA 7160 is silent with respect to the minimum period of suspension for every administrative offense.

If the unexpired term of the respondent is only three (3) months and the penalty imposed is six (6) months, the period of suspension should be three (3) months because it is the only period the respondent is in office and it is his/her unexpired term. If the unexpired term of the respondent is ten (10) months and the penalty imposed is six (6) months, the period of suspension

is six (6) months because the maximum period of suspension for every administrative offense is six (6) months. If the period of suspension is more than six (6) months, then, the penalty imposed is invalid and illegal for being contrary to the provision of the law for it exceeds the period of suspension to be imposed.

With respect to the ninety (90) days suspension imposed by the Sanggunian Bayan the same is in accordance with the requirement of the law because it did not exceed the period of six (6) months. Hence, the penalty imposed is valid and legal.

***Whether or not there is a minimum period of the penalty of suspension for every administrative offense?***

The answer is in the negative. There is no minimum period for the penalty of suspension provided by the Local Government Code of 1991. What is clear is that the penalty of suspension should not exceed the unexpired term of the respondent or a period of six (6) months for every administrative offense. (Section 66 (b) of RA 7160)

## RPRAT 1 dialogues with LPRATs of 35 LGUs to fast track BuB project completion

To address the low completion rate of 2013 and 2014 Bottom - Up Budgeting (BuB) projects, the Regional Poverty Reduction Action Team (RPRAT) convened dialogues with two (2) local government units (LGUs) of La Union last May 8, 2015 at the DILG R1 Training Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union and for 33 LGUs of Pangasinan last May 18 - 19, 2015 at Regency Hotel, Calasiao, Pangasinan.

The 35 LGUs belong to two (2) provinces in the Region identified as having a high workload rate.

The dialogues updated participants on the status of sub-project implementation. Reason for the delays in BuB implementation and means to accelerate project completion were identified while roles of LPRATs and the national government agencies (NGAs) in ensuring the implementation of BuB projects were clarified.

The BuB which was started in 2012 is a process that engages local communities, civil society organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders to work with LGUs and NGAs through its regional offices in planning, project implementation and monitoring. The numbers of BuB projects shoot up from 5,894 in 2013 to 15,533 in 2014 and 14,300 in 2015. Since 2013, a low rate of project completion was experienced in different provinces nationwide

due to inadequate technical expertise of LPRATs and difficulties encountered with some government policies. Organizing these dialogues is a means to address these gaps. (LGOO V Sheila Marie G. Andales with reports from LGOO II Karen C. Casulla)

## Congrats! 49<sup>th</sup> Batch LGOO IIs



**Congratulations to the 49<sup>th</sup> Batch LGOO II Induction Training Graduates of DILG Region 1, LGOO IIs Mayvelyn Supnet, Sheen Mark Pagaduan, and Arianne Badajos.**

## DILG Pangasinan goes On-air



**Lingayen, Pangasinan** – Recognizing the broadcast media as a potent tool in strengthening its relationship with its clientele through the dissemination of vital information particularly on advocacies and public service programs, DILG Pangasinan and DZRD 981 Radio Dagupan started airing their radio program segment entitled “Serbisyo Ko, Serbisyo Mo Ngayon!” on May 22, 2015.

The segment airs every 4th Monday of the month within the daily *Kapartner ng Bayan* program from 10:00AM to 11:00AM. It broadcasts public service information and advocacy programs to its listeners in the province of Pangasinan and nearby provinces within Region 1.

Acting Provincial Director Reggie R. Colisao and other Provincial Office technical staff have so far discussed and clarified information on the Department’s programs – such as the *Ugnayan ng Barangay at Simbahan (UBAS)* and *Wemboree* – and recent undertakings as they co-hosted the segment.

*Serbisyo Ko, Serbisyo Mo Ngayon!* is co-produced by DILG Pangasinan, the *Sonshine Media Network International (SMNI)* and other *Kapartner ng Bayan* Program partners namely, the Pangasinan Police Provincial Office, Department of Agriculture (DA) RO1, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Population Office RO1, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Dagupan City, Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) R01, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (PDRPMC) Pangasinan, Philippine National Red Cross Pangasinan, and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). (LG00 IV Antonia Darisay V. Mendoza)

## 13-year old girl from Cabugao, IS receives Gawad Kalasag Award

March 27, 2015, marked a significant day for Myrene B. Somejo, a young and courageous girl from Daclapan, Cabugao, Ilocos Sur as she was awarded with First Place “Gawad Kalasag”, Heroic Act / Deed Award, Individual (living) category during the 16th Gawad Kalasag, National Awards for Excellence in



Disaster Risk Reduction Management & Humanitarian Assistance at Camp General Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The event, which was spearheaded by the Office of the Civil Defense (OCD), recognized institutions and individuals who contributed to disaster risk reduction awareness and have shown extraordinary courage in times of emergencies.

The 13-year old Somejo received the award for saving her sister’s life during a drowning incident last March 20, 2013. What was supposed to be a happy picnic on that day along the seashore of Daclapan, almost turned into a heartbreaking moment when one of Somejo’s friends unnoticeably slid off the raft into the deeper portion of the shore and accidentally pulled Somejo’s sister, Neri Joy.

The group panicked but Somejo regained her composure and decided to dive into the water to rescue the two girls drowning. Her firm resolve and deep love exhibited in a heroic spirit saved the lives of her sister and her friend.

The younger Somejo considers her older sister a heroine, her “*Salva Vida*”.

“If only if, my sister was late for few seconds, and had no skills of swimming, she could not anymore save my life”, she said.

Aside from the *Plaque of Appreciation*, Somejo also received a Php 100,000.00 cash incentive and plaque from the OCD and imported goods from Dale Star Enterprises. (LG00 V Constanca L. Quinola)

