DILG R1 Inks Agreement with SLC on the Management Course of Local Officials and Functionaries of Region I

“SLC is privileged to sign the MOA with DILG Region 1 to provide and extend services to colleagues in LGU. This is a blessing from God. And a blessing for all of people in Region 1.”

Rev. Fr. Ramon R. Caluza, CICM, SLC College President

“This is one great milestone, our first engagement with an MSAC academe partner. We hope that this endeavor will engage not only local officials and functionaries, but also our public servants from other agencies in Region 1 and other Regions as well.”

Regional Director Julie J. Daquioag, Ph.D., CESO III DILG R1

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT on the MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS AND FUNCTIONARIES OF REGION I

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) entered into by and between:

The SAINT LOUIS COLLEGE through its College President, REV. FR. RAMON R. CALUZA, CICM with present address at Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union herein after referred to as “SLC”

and

The DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGIONAL OFFICE 1, through its Regional Director, JULIE J. DAQUIOAG, Ph. D., CESO III with present address at Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union herein after referred to as “DILG”.

The parties hereby agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this Memorandum of Agreement as follows:

1. The course shall be conducted by SLC in partnership with DILG R1.

2. The course shall be offered at least once a year.

3. The course shall be open to local officials and functionaries of Region I.

4. The course shall be provided free of charge to the participants.

5. The course shall be conducted by qualified facilitators.

6. The course shall be completed by the participants within a specified time frame.

7. The course shall be evaluated by the participants.

8. The course shall be accredited by the appropriate authorities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Agreement this day of , 2021.

[Signatures of the authorized representatives of SLC and DILG R1]
3 DILG R1 Inks Agreement with SLC on the Management Course for Local Officials and Functionaries of Region 1

4 PDMU – Ilocos Norte Conducts Local Road Asset Management (LRAM)

5 DILG Ilocos Sur: Improving Business Environment Amidst The Pandemic

6 City of Alaminos as a finalist of the Digital Governance Awards 2021

7 Ilocos Sur Conducts its 2021 Joint PPOC-PADAC-PDRRMC-PDC 3rd Quarter Meeting

8 AM 2020: Creating a Pathway for Better Opportunities

9 Paving road to a better life

10 VIGAN CITY: Implementation of Programs and Services in a NEW NORMAL Approach

11 First Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWC) Functionality Assessment Conducted

12 DILG - Ilocos Sur’s Simple Acts Turned into Best Practices

13 Strengthening of Internal Governance

14 DILG Ilocos Norte launched SDEC Orientation to 23 LGUs
DILG R1 Inks Agreement with SLC on the Management Course for Local Officials and Functionaries of Region 1

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region 1 and Saint Louis College (SLC) sealed their partnership with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed last July 28, 2021 during the Joint Local Governance Regional Resource Center (LGRRC) 1 and Provincial Local Governance Resource Centers (PLGRCs) cum MOA Signing held virtually at DILG Regional Office 1, Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union.

DILG R1 Regional Director Julie J. Daquioag, Ph.D., CESO III and SLC College President Rev. Fr. Ramon R. Caluza, CICM signed the MOA solidifying their partnership in offering an Extension Program entitled “Management Course for Local Officials and Functionaries of Region 1” which aims to provide local government officials and employees, and DILG personnel of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, and La Union the time to upgrade and repackage their knowledge and skills to stay relevant and connected to the innovations in the field of local governance. The management course is aligned with the mandates of Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 18, series of 2018 for the Local Government Units (LGUs) in their continuing professional development.

Also present during the virtual MOA signing are DILG Region 1 Assistant Regional Director/LGRRC Program Manager Agnes A. De Leon, CESO V, LGOO VIII/LGRRC Assistant Manager/Presiding Officer Reggie R. Colisao, CESO V, other LGRRC members, provincial LGRC members, and SLC Management. The Extension Program which is to be held through hybrid modality (Zoom Video Conference and face-to-face set-up) contains academic courses designed for three (3) terms. A course will be offered every Saturday for eighteen (18) weeks for regular term and every Saturday and Sunday for six (6) weeks for short term. It is suggested that three (3) courses for each level of the program or the equivalent of nine (9) units be enrolled simultaneously. There are three (3) main courses for Level I and Level II of the management program except in Level III wherein four (4) main courses are offered.

The management program is credited as academic units leading to Master’s Degree in Public Administration. Enrollees who have satisfactorily completed the three (3) levels will be qualified to take the Comprehensive Examination. Enrollees who wish to complete the (cont. on page 16)
PDMU – Ilocos Norte Conducts
Local Road Asset Management (LRAM)

The Project Development and Management Unit of the DILG- Ilocos Norte was the first province to conduct its Seminar-Workshop on Local Road Asset Management last September 28-30, 2021 at Paoay Lake JLP Hotel and Restaurant, Paoay, Ilocos Norte.

Despite the current situation brought by the pandemic, participants from the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte actively participated in the three-day workshop by the Local Road Management Team (LRMT) composing of representatives from the Provincial Planning and Development Office, Provincial Engineering Office, Office of the Provincial Treasurer, Accountant and Assessor. The objective of the activity is to prepare an asset management plan by outlining strategy to achieve the vision and resources to needed to implement the plan.

Dr. Rosalinda Alo-Lacsamana initiated the training through a lecture. After which, she facilitated the workshops on the creation of the Local Road Asset Management Plan.

Local Road Asset Management Plan, as part of the Conditional Matching Grant to Provinces is composed of fifteen (15) sectors along with the different processes, ensures that local government units achieve better road service delivery to the constituents. The activity aimed to assist the Provincial Government to achieve its goals of providing satisfactory levels of service to road users in a socially, environmentally and economically suitable manner through proper Local Road Asset Management.
DILG Ilocos Sur: Improving Business Environment Amidst The Pandemic

Republic Act 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 has been signed into law by President Rodrigo Duterte on May 28, 2018 to further improve the competitiveness and ease of doing business in the Philippines.

In compliance with the mandate of the President, and in partnership with the provincial government, various National Government Agencies (NGAs), multi-stakeholders, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and other business organization sectors, the DILG Ilocos Sur has led the Local Government Units (LGUs) within the province, in establishing regulatory systems and processes for efficient in and effective delivery of services to the public despite of the effects brought by COVID-19 Pandemic.

Taking up a mark in guiding Local Government Units to be more business-friendly and competitive, the Provincial Office, in partnership with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) conducted post audit via virtual teleconferencing on July 6, 2021 to verify the status of compliance of the LGUs in the automation of their Business Permitting and Licensing System (BPLS). The eBPLS software, which offers end-users with innovative features to make the business permit process more accurate and speedier, has become a useful tool that greatly contributes to the improved performance and competitiveness of the LGU’s business permit and licensing process. The unique features of the system, such as the assignment of a unique code to business permit for tracking purposes and the generation of customized reports make information management efficient and effective. Through the software, time and effort in business registration and renewal is expected to be trimmed down.

The DICT trained selected LGUs (Santa and Tagudin) to continuously push for the automation of the Business Permit Licensing System (BPLS) in the province using the eBPLS software developed by them. Virtual launching of the software was attended by the DICT, DTI, DILG Regional and Provincial Office and concerned personnel of the LGUs. To date, there are ten (10) LGUs currently using the software namely; Candon City, San Esteban, Tagudin, Santa, Bantay, Caoayan, San Vicente, Sta. Catalina, San Juan and Sinait.

To help the country’s economy cope with the ill-effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DILG Regional Office I, conducted Roll Out on the Repeal of Policies to Cities to ease business and non-business transactions which were participated by Candon City and Vigan City. As we shift to the new normal, LGUs should review their business and non-business-related local ordinances, and amending them as necessary for the revival of the economy. The activity apprised the LGUs with the concepts and theories of the regulatory reform. Through an Executive Order (EO), Regulatory Reform Team were created to lead in the re-engineering of the LGU systems in order to deliver the best service to the public in support of the implementation of the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018. Policies and procedures must be innovative and sensitive to attract more businesses to operate and do business in the localities.

On September 28, 2021, DILG Regional Office I, in partnership with the Department of Finance-Bureau of Local Government Finance (DOF-BLGF) held an orientation on Rationalization of Fees and Charges (RFC) with key Local Government Units (LGUs) functionaries of the thirty-two (32) municipalities of Ilocos Sur. In the virtual orientation, the BLGF discussed the issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 01 Series of 2019 which provided guidelines for the review, adjustment, setting and adoption of reasonable regulatory fees and charges by LGUs.

Further, the said orientation encouraged LGUs to apply principles of proportionality and reasonableness when setting the local fees and charges that they impose on businesses and to strike a good balance between local revenue generation and the ease of doing business. This initiative is very timely given the challenging business environment and the need to boost the technical capacities of LGUs with the introduction of new techniques and tools such as the Local Fees and Charges (LFC) toolkit. Using the toolkit, the LGUs were able to determine if the charges and fees imposed were reasonable and just to compensate the cost of delivery of services to the public and making it easier for businesses to estimate the potential returns on their investment by minimizing uncertainty associated with the cost of doing business.

With the conduct of various activities in relation to RA 11032, the province is continuously improving the capacity of establishing businesses and investments through streamlined LGU systems and procedures for the recovery of economy with this Pandemic. 

(LGOO II Ann France Burgunio)
City of Alaminos as a finalist of the Digital Governance Awards 2021

The Digital Governance Awards (DGA) is a Joint Project of the DICT, NICP, and DILG. It is an annual search for best practices in LGUs in the utilization of Information and Communications Technology in the delivery of public services. The awards are aimed to recognize LGUs in five (5) categories, namely: Best in Customer Empowerment (G2C-Cities & Municipalities Only) Award, Best in Business Empowerment (G2B-Cities & Municipalities Only) Award, Best in, Best in Interoperability (G2G) Award, Best in Government Internal Operations (G2I) Award, and Best in COVID-19 Pandemic Response (G2P) Award.

The City of Alaminos is one of the LGUs who have submitted an entry in one of the Categories for the Awards. For the second year of their participation in the Awards, the City of Alaminos, under the leadership of Mayor Arth Bryan C. Celeste, has officially entered their Barangay Health Worker Information System (BHWIS) for the category Best in Government Internal Process (G2I) Award. The BHWIS, conceived by the city government in 2004 and implemented in 2015, is a computer application which captures data for health and nutrition as well as sex-disaggregated data, profile of the population, and spatial data using Geographic Information System (GIS). Since its inception and initial indicators developed by the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO) & City Health Office (CHO), new indicators are being added each with careful consideration and review of the system and needs of the city government.

The system has been useful to other offices in the city such as the City Veterinary Office (CVO) due to its versatility, allowing them to locate piggeries within the city during the outbreak of the African Swine Fever (ASF). The City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) has used the master list encoded in the system in monitoring the number of families to be provided with relief goods during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has also helped the IEC campaign of the city in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to the benefits gained by the Department of Education and the 39 barangay councils in the implementation of their programs by using the data from the BHWIS.

In addition to the BHWIS, the City of Alaminos has also officially entered their Integrated Business Permits and Licensing System (iBPLS). Entered under the G2G Award, the iBPLS allows LGUs and their constituents to automate the application and processing of business, building, and occupancy permits. It follows the mandate of R.A. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 to “…automate their business permitting and licensing systems”.

The two entries of the City are among the finalists of the DGA for the LGUs Best Practices. Apart from the City of Alaminos, the Provincial Government of Pangasinan’s Provincial Health Office, Dagupan City, Bayambang, and Mangaldan have also submitted their entries to the DGA 2021. (LGOO II Victor Julius P. Dawis)

Photos sourced from the Official Facebook Page of the City of Alaminos
https://www.facebook.com/cityofalaminos.pangasinan/posts/233899935428684
https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=234554085363269&set=pcb.234555798696431
Ilocos Sur conduct its 2021 Joint PPOC-PADAC-PDRRMC-PDC 3rd Quarter Meeting

Vigan City- The Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC), Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRRMC), Provincial Anti-Drug Abuse Council (PADAC) and Provincial Development Council (PDC) conducted the third quarter joint meeting virtually on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, presided by Council Chairman Governor Ryan Luis V. Singson.

In general, the Ilocos Sur Police Provincial Office (ISPPO) through DPDA Lt. Col. Jay de Guzman reported that Ilocos Sur remains generally peaceful and orderly. According to the comparative statistics of total crime incidents, it decreased to 26.40% from 591 incidents last year (May 1 to September 27, 2020) to 435 incidents in the same period this year. The PNP said that the province remains to be peaceful.

Provincial Officer Anabel Cabarles of PDEA-Ilocos Sur reported about the situation on anti-illegal drug operations. As to date, there are 221 barangays that remain drug affected. There are 18 municipalities that were declared by the Regional Oversight Committee on Barangay Drug Clearing or ROCBDC as drug cleared, this includes Municipalities of Alilem, Banayoyo, Burgos, Cervantes, Galimuyod, Gregorio del Pilar, Nagbukel, Lidlidda, Quirino, San Emilio, San Esteban, San Ildefonso, San Juan, San Vicente, Sigay, Sugpon, Suyo and Tagudin.

DILG through Provincial Director Randy S. Dela Rosa also presented the result of the 2019 ADAC Performance Audit for the cities and municipalities of Ilocos Sur. Based on the 2019 functionality audit, 26 municipalities and the 2 cities are included in the high functional list.
AM 2020: Creating a Pathway for Better Opportunities

IO | Angelica Ann G. Estipona

There are several people living in rural communities labeled as “farmers”. Farmers have great importance in our society. Such people mostly enduring slippery and muddy roads in where this road forms limit them to access social amenities while also increase poverty among them.

To this end, introduction of road transport system is a major solution for a sustained socio-economic development in such communities. As an evident, the Local Government Units (LGUs) continue to propose the improvement of road networks especially in rural areas.

In the small agricultural community of Capas, in the municipality of Binalonan, the rehabilitation and improvement of a farm to market road was funded and constructed under the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) – Assistance to Municipalities Program (AM 2020) with an allocation amounting to Php 3,000,000 and has a total length of 350 meters.

Joey Cruz, a resident of Barangay Capas, during an interview, shared the impact of the local access road in their lives. “It was really difficult, especially for us farmers, to go to the farm due to rough and muddy road”. “Now we can go to the farm with shortened period of time, from 1 hour and 30 minutes before, we can now arrive in a few minutes and we can pass by smoothly”, he said.

The completion of AM 2020 project not only increased access to market centers but it also provided the farmers an opportunity to quickly move perishable commodities to the market centers or places where they are needed. The local access road also provided continuity in moving the residents to their destination. It truly plays a vital role of promoting development in rural areas.
Paving Road to a Better Life

IO II Dann Ariel S. Genese, RO1

Roads are the arteries through which the economy pulses. Being that said, we can measure the progress of a nation with its road system. This is the reason why most Local Government Units (LGUs) continue to improve its road systems, especially local access roads and farm-to-market roads, to help in the economic development and accessibility.

As it is evident that building an effective road system is a vital part in a progressive economy, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has introduced the Assistance to Municipalities (AM) which seeks to assist all municipalities in the delivery of basic services by providing financial subsidy to municipalities for the implementation of their priority programs and projects, one of which is Local Access Road (LAR).

One of the LGUs which proposed to build a LAR is Bautista, Pangasinan, a 4th- class municipality with a population of 35,398. The DILG allocated Php 8,980,000 for the rehabilitation/improvement of an 898-meter barangay road in sitio Namualan, barangay Diaz. The road does not only benefit barangay Diaz, but also some adjacent barangays as well.

“We are very grateful of the DILG project in our barangay because it helps us especially in our economic activities”, Diaz punong barangay Juanito Dacanay said in an interview. As majority of the residents in barangay Diaz are into agriculture, they have now an easy access to transport their produce from their farms to the market.

The completion of Assistance to Municipalities project in their barangay not only paved a better and safer means of transportation for the community but also helped improve their livelihood and contributed in the growth of their economy.
The City Government of Vigan has continued to serve quality services to its constituents despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The local government unit has established the Covid Task force which include representatives from various offices of the executive branch, the Sanggunian, Liga ng mga Barangay and attached agencies such as DILG and PNP. The task force enacted policies implemented guidelines and protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the city. They have also ensured the availability of frontline offices during Saturdays and Sundays to address Covid concerns. The city government has installed protective measures- establishment of hand washing facilities, alcohol dispensers, and thermal scanners in public buildings. The city General Services is conducting regular disinfection and sanitation in all public establishments and offices. A help desk and hotlines for APOR, LSI, travel and other concerns is also established.

Information dissemination of Covid updates in the city and campaigns is done by the Public Relations and Information Office (PRIO) which are posted in the city’s official Facebook Page Vigan City PH and it is also broadcast in their local TV channel TVigan. The City Health Office has also its Official Facebook page- they posted interventions and self –care tips for mental health care.

Vigan City government has also converted its income-generating facility such as the Playa de Oro Resort in Barangay Mindoro and the Vigan Convention Center, the regional Evacuation Center as quarantine facilities. Due to the surge of COVID-19 cases, the LGU bought Hotel Collado, a private hotel, to use as an additional isolation facility. During Enhance Community Quarantine (ECQ), the city government vehicles are utilized as free shuttle services for those who need to go for essentials errands due to the unavailability of public transportation.

Vigan has established a City Transition Team and Recovery plan for economic recovery and rehabilitation. They have conducted orientation of minimum health standards for business and tourism-related establishments before opening again. The city has waived stall rentals on facilities owned by the city government during enhance community quarantine (ECQ) and Modified Enhance Community Quarantine (MECQ). They also (cont. on page 16)
First Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWC) Functionality Assessment Conducted

Pursuant to the issuance of a Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2010-01 by DILG, DOJ and DSWD, Local Committees on Anti-Trafficking and Violence against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWCs) were created to collaboratively address the problems of trafficking and VAWC at the local level.

The LCAT-VAWC is a mechanism established to monitor the implementation of Republic Act No. 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003) and Republic Act No. 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004). For the performance of these committees to be assessed, DILG MC 2020-006 re Guidelines in Monitoring the Functionality of Local Committees on Anti-Trafficking and Violence against Women and their Children was issued on January 20, 2020 to provide LGUs a tool to gauge the functionality of and strengthen the LCAT-VAWC as the primary mechanism to address TIP and VAWC.

Years after the issuance of JMC 2010-01 and regular monitoring of the compliance of LGUs on the creation of LCAT-VAWC, the very first assessment was conducted from May 15, 2021 to August 30, 2021, where provinces, cities and municipalities (PCMs) were audited as to the functionality level of their respective LCAT-VAWCs based on their performance from FY 2019 to FY 2020.

DILG Pangasinan, being the chair of the Provincial Inter-Agency Monitoring Team (PIMT), together with the following members: Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO), Provincial Prosecutor’s Office, Provincial Health Office, Philippine National Police (PNP) Provincial Office and LGU-accredited CSO on women, children or Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) conducted series of activities related to the assessment such as orientation on MC 2020-006, table assessment, presentation of the assessment result, among others.

On June 18, 2021, DILG Field Officers and MSWDOs were oriented on DILG MC 2020-006 via online platform. Resource speaker, Ms. Rhealiza Delos Santos of DILG Regional Office I, discussed the content of the issuance and the technical notes for the assessment. Schedule or timeline of the assessment was also presented during the said activity. (see photos below)
The COVID-19 Pandemic is critical, it made 360 degrees turn in the lives of many people in the country. Work arrangements in offices also had a great shift from the simple 8 hours-Monday to Friday Office set-up, it spins into lesser hours in the office and even work from home set up to comply with the guidelines and protocols to prevent the spread of the virus.

The new normal operation is not a hindrance for the Department of Interior and Local Government - Ilocos Sur to supervise and monitor different programs that are under the agency under the leadership of PD Randy S. Dela Rosa. C/MLGOOs give a regular update about the situation in their respective local government units. PPA Dashboards are always updated to track the progress of every program, ISO Corner and LGRC racks are likewise updated. Monthly SPMS calibration is done by the management and focal persons also.

Recitation of the Quality Policy is done every 4 o’clock in the afternoon, to remind every employee of the core values of the Department- Integrity, Commitment, Teamwork, and Responsiveness. Also, their commitment to providing a Quality Management System for client satisfaction.

In addition to office upkeep, disposal of obsolete facilities is done following the agency’s guidelines. Archiving past documents is also accomplished for future references.

DILG- Ilocos Sur is concerned with the development of each employee, encouraging them to attend webinars to enrich their knowledge and skills. (LGOO II Jaemee Erleen Espejo/ IO II Ria Lou Taay)
Strengthening of Internal Governance

The Department of the Interior and Local Government Pangasinan Provincial Office has recognized the need to strengthen its internal governance capacity to better perform its mandated functions. Considering the current situation of the pandemic, it is important that the personnel of DILG Pangasinan is capacitated and equipped with the necessary systems/processes and resources to be able to provide effective technical and administrative services.

Among the notable accomplishments include our efforts is the conduct of assessment and interview for the hiring of the vacant Administrative Aide VI and Administrative Aide IV positions in DILG Pangasinan and the provision of assistance to the Local Government Operations Officer II of Pangasinan currently undertaking the 53rd Batch LGOO II Training.

Filling up the vacancies in DILG Pangasinan is one of the ways to ensure that we are able to provide effective technical and administrative services to our clients. The vacant Administrative VI and Administrative Aide IV positions in DILG Pangasinan was published in the CSC Bulletin of Vacancies on July 12, 2021.

The Provincial Human Resource Merit Selection Board (PHRMSB) of DILG Pangasinan was established to assist the Regional Human Resource Selection Board in the assessment of applicants for vacant Local Government Operations Officer positions and Administrative positions.

Relative thereto, and as agreed upon with the RHRMSB, the PHRMSB of Pangasinan conducted written examination and interview of the applicant on August 26, 2021 at El Jardine Restaurant and Catering, Libsong West, Lingayen, Pangasinan. The applicants were given 1 hour to finish the written examination. As a strategy to ensure fairness, the applicants were assigned codes via draw lots method. This code would be then be recorded and sealed. On their answer sheets the applicants wrote their respective codes instead of their names.

After the examination, the interview followed and each applicant was assessed on their merit, knowledge, attitude and skills. After the all applicants was interviewed, the PHRMSB had a meeting and the Comparative Assessment Form were endorsed to the RHRMSB where the applicants would undergo further assessment.
On August 2-3, 2021, the table assessment was held at the Narciso Ramos Sports and Civic Center Administrative Building, Lingayen, Pangasinan where the MOVs or documents submitted by the 47 LGUs were evaluated by the PIMT. (see photos below)

On August 16, 2021, the consolidated result of the assessment was presented by the DILG Pangasinan to the PIMT. The final report was submitted to the Regional Office on August 27, 2021 after all the members have confirmed and affixed their signatures.

As part of the post-assessment, outcome of the audit as well as commendations and recommendations to address issues concerning the functionality of C/MCAT-VAWC were sent to all the 47 LGUs through writing.  

(LGOO II Julie Fe R. Vicente)

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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>47 LGUs</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**DILG Ilocos Norte launched SDEC Orientation to 23 LGUs**

_Ilocos Norte – DILG Ilocos Norte launched an Orientation on Public Policy on the Establishment and Operation of Special Drug Education Center (SDEC) for Out of School Youth (OSY) and Street Children in all 23 Local Government Units (LGUs) of the province last July 21 – 22, 2021._

The SDEC Orientation was conducted thru zoom app meeting and participated by 23 DILG Field Officers, 23 Local Social and Development Officers (LSWDOs), and 23 Sanggunian Kabataan Federated Chairpersons. The orientation aimed to address the growing demands of anti-illegal drugs interventions especially for OSYs and Street Children. It also provided a venue to update concerned participants with SDEC policies and guidelines. Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (PSWDO) Corazon Lilian Celia Rin, SDEC Provincial Team Head, discussed the key features of the SDEC Policy to include the importance of establishing SDEC Team in the city and municipal level. She highlighted that safeguarding the youth’s future should be one of the top priority of all local government units. PSWDO Rin ended the activity by stating Ibalik natin ang pag-asa ng Bayan sa mga Kabataan!"
The 53rd Batch LGOO II Training is designed to equip the LGOOs II and III personnel of the Department with necessary competencies. It is essential for the LGOOs II of DILG Pangasinan to gain the necessary knowledge, attitudes, skills, and values to become an effective catalyst for excellence in local governance.

For the conduct of the 53rd Batch LGOO II Training, the DILG Pangasinan Provincial Office provided coaching and mentoring to the trainees. They were also provided supplies such as printer and bond papers to ensure that they are able to accomplish their outputs throughout the training.

When necessary a space is also provided to the trainees in the DILG Pangasinan Provincial Office specifically during their Pre-Oral Presentation on September 21, 2021. To ensure they are able to focus and not be distracted, the whole second floor of the provincial office were provided to them and non-trainees were prohibited to enter the said premises. Relevant to this, the trainees were also provided a means of transportation via the provincial service vehicle.

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**Vigan City** formed a tax reduction local industries, displaced workers were given alternative livelihood. To support local MSMEs, their products were upload in various social media platforms of the city for promotion, adopting the hashtags, #supportlocal #buylocal.

The pandemic is not a hindrance for the city government to continue its usual programs and services for the residence. Health programs and services were served through house-to-house delivery, this includes distribution of nutrition supplements to children, pregnant women and senior citizen, immunization of children and senior citizen and visitation of the children under stimulation and therapeutic activity center. Assistance to the farmers, fisherfolks, needy, senior citizen and persons with disability were also priority.

To ensure that the residence will be protected from the COVID-19 virus, the city created a Vaccination roll out Committee and subcommittees. The city has procured 120,000 doses of Astra Zeneca for the 60,000 population. Vaccination roll-out started on March 5 for A1 (medical frontliners) using the vaccination allocation from the national government. As of this writing, there are 28,294 that are already vaccinated with the 1st dose of the vaccine, 18,316 are fully vaccinated including those vaccinated with Janssen. These vaccinated individuals are in the priority list- A1 (medical frontliners), A2 (senior citizen), A3 (persons with comorbidities) and A4 (frontline personnel in essential sectors). (IO II Ria Lou Taay)
DILG R1 Inks.. (from page 3) Writing with Proposal and Oral Defense. Enrollees who finish the program will be provided with diploma, transcript of records with Registry of Graduates (ROG) recognized by the Commission of Higher Education (CHED). Enrollees will also be awarded Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Certificates upon completion of each course in Level I, if applicable.

“SLC is privileged to sign the MOA with DILG Region 1 to provide and extend services to colleagues in LGU. SLC, since 60 years ago is always at the service of the local community, LGUs, and NGOs. The main objective of SLC since its inception is to provide quality education to all our stakeholders and at this juncture of our history, dear friends and colleagues, we are privileged to partner with you because more than ever, we need to upgrade and also to enhance our preparation as local leaders, so that local governance will also be upgraded and enhanced. This is a blessing from God. And a blessing for all of people in Region 1,” Rev. Fr. Caluza expressed.

RD Daquioag is in deep gratitude with SLC San Fernando for accepting the partnership with DILG Region 1. “This is one great milestone, our first engagement with an MSAC academe partner. We hope that this endeavor will engage not only local officials and functionaries, but also our public servants from other agencies in Region 1 and other regions as well. May this partnership also encourage other academes to adopt the best practices of SLC,” RD Daquioag said during her speech.

The management program will be facilitated both by the focal persons of DILG Region 1 and assigned faculty of the Graduate School of SLC.

The program will commence on August 2021 for School Year 2021-2022. Specifically, the timeframe for Level I to III shall be as follows: Level I – August 21, 2021 to December 18, 2021; Level II – January 22, 2022 to May 28, 2022; and Level III – June 25, 2022 to July 30, 2022.

Interested students are encouraged to enroll the soonest since the admission to the management program shall be on a first come, first serve basis due to the limited slots. (LGOO II Jeslen B. Tesoro)