



# NIA DIGEST

THE OFFICIAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION 2012

volume XXXII

*Irrigators Association: NIA's partner in feeding and building the Nation...*





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# The Working Administrator

*"Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan press on has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."*

— Calvin Coolidge, 30th President of the United States

The unseen marching order, "Press on! Be Pro-active!", of Administrator Antonio S. Nangel (ASN) revealed as he tirelessly led NIA officials visiting the different field offices during the first semester of 2012. Amidst busy schedule, ASN had been to the field offices where significant events were taking place in support for the attainment of rice self sufficiency (RSS) by 2013.



## ASN in CAR

### In Abra

Good news from Abra farmers made ASN's trip worthy. Administrator Nangel lauded the Abrenian irrigators in cultivating their farmlands three croppings a year. However, the Abrenian farmers attributed the three-cropping practice to good irrigation systems.

Danilo Anchos, member of Bagatoy IA in La Paz, claimed that the lined irrigation canals of their system allowed the continuous flow of irrigation water to their farmlands.

"Ito po ay magandang halimbawa para sa ibang magsasaka," Nangel said as he plans to bring farmers from parts of Visayas and Mindanao to Abra to learn from their success.

Administrator Nangel directed Manager Socalo to coordinate with Land Bank, NFA, PhilRice and other DA-attached agencies to devise strategies on how to best serve the farmers. He emphasized the 'right timing' in the delivery of agricultural support services to farmers.

Abra is 197% rice self-sufficient producing 61,253 metric tons (mt) of palay in a year with about 30,000 mt supplied to other parts of the region.

### In Mt. Province

During the Farmers' Day Festival in April, Administrator Nangel was officially declared as farmer's son of the municipality of Paracelis, Mountain Province through Sangguniang Bayan Resolution No. 2012-034 recognizing his exceptional leadership qualities and appreciating his concern for the Paracelis farmers.

The resolution further conferred him the adoption name "Maduggay", a name symbolic of the kind of community

farmer-leader among the indigenous people of Paracelis with care and concern for the welfare of the farming community. "Maduggay" was the town's first successful farmer and the first to introduce irrigated farming in the municipality.

"Kayo pong mga magsasaka ang inspirasyon naming inyong mga anak upang magsikap," Nangel told the Paracelis farmers. He proudly shared that he is a son of both farmers in his native town in Nueva Ecija. He committed an additional P20 M aside from its 2012 allocation for his new town for the construction of a farmers' training center and several irrigation systems.

According to NIA Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) manager John L. Socalo, Upper Butigue SRIP will be implemented in Paracelis. As such, the completion of the biggest project in Mt. Province will boost irrigation development in Paracelis and benefit more than 700 farmers with 1,700 has potential irrigable area.

## ASN in Iloilo

Administrator Nangel announced to the IA of Jalaur Suague River Irrigation System (JSRIS) that the proposed Jalaur River Multi-Purpose Project Phase II (JRMP II) will be implemented very soon. Once completed, irrigation services in the province of Iloilo will improve and increase farmers' production.

JRMP II aims to build a reservoir dam in Calinog, Iloilo, the largest outside Luzon to provide year-round irrigation to 31,840 has, including rainfed areas. The project will benefit 24 towns, including Mina and Pototan. It has a firm-up service area of 11,595 has with 5,137 farmer-beneficiaries.





### ASN in Palawan

Administrator Nangel joined Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcalá (SPJA), local government unit (LGU) officials and other National Irrigation Administration (NIA) officials in the groundbreaking ceremony of Ibato-Iraan Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (SRIP) in Aborlan, considered the biggest irrigation project (IP) to rise in Palawan. Once implemented, the project will irrigate about 860 hectares (has) and benefit 425 farm households. The project is also envisioned to cater to fish culture and other eco-tourism purposes.

The inauguration of the Iwahig Penal-Balsahan IP located within the penal colony at Puerto Princesa was held the following day with the working Administrator. The project was constructed and completed in five (5) months, where the inmates provided the labor force. Administrator Nangel agreed with Secretary Alcalá and Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) Director General Gaudencio Pangilinan to introduce programs that will make the inmates productive once they are released. BuCor Director Pangilinan believed the harvests from the irrigated areas are enough to support about 3,000 employees and inmates.

Administrator Nangel together with Deputy Administrator Robert C. Suguitan, Region 1 Regional Irrigation Manager Manuel Collado and Region IV-B Acting Regional Manager Conrado V. Cardenas, Jr. inspected the San Nicolas Communal Irrigation Systems (CIS) and Pinamaratan in Coron, Palawan. Upon inspection, ASN ordered to fastrack the preparation of program of works (POW) for the CISs' repair, rehabilitation and restoration.

ASN stressed that Coron visit was to verify and follow up the commitment of SPJA for the economic benefits of the farmers as well as a contribution to the government's rice self-sufficiency program.

### ASN in Occidental Mindoro

Secretary Proceso J. Alcalá together with Administrator Nangel attended Farmers' Forum in Occidental Mindoro held at Sablayan Prison and Penal Farm. Secretary Alcalá discussed the roadmap to attain the Food Staples Sufficiency Program. He acknowledged Occidental Mindoro as one of the biggest contributors in rice production.

In the same occasion, qualified IA and farmers' cooperative were awarded with farm machineries and equipment like tractors, flatbed dryers and knap sack sprayers with a total amount of P37M.

Other officers present during the forum were Occidental Mindoro Governor Josephine R. Sato, Congresswoman Girlie Villarosa, San Jose Mayor Joe Villarosa, DA officials led by RFU Executive Director Cipriano Santiago and NIA officials led by Acting Regional Manager Conrado V. Cardenas, Jr.

### ASN in Region 5

Administrator Nangel joined the Stakeholders Forum in Albay and Sorsogon. He had been going around NIA project areas across the country to consult with farmers and irrigators into how the rice production sector of the agriculture industry could become more productive towards the attainment of the country's RSS.

Regional Manager William Ragodon said "we are expecting Bicol to achieve 102.58 percent rice self-sufficiency in 2013, as the region would be able to produce about 843,335 metric tons (mt) of the staple grain by that year to generate a surplus of about 21,200 mt over 822,115 regional requirements."

### ASN in Antique

"More funds for the construction of SWIP", says Agriculture Secretary Alcalá in a Farmers' Forum in Barbaza, Antique. Small Water Impounding Projects (SWIP) would augment irrigation needs of farmers in the province. Secretary Alcalá went on saying that farmers' role in identifying new areas to be irrigated is paramount because they are more familiar with the area. He encouraged them to report to the nearest NIA Office so it can be included in the programs. "Kailangan ko po ang mga Irrigators Associations to report to NIA kung saan madadagdagan ng kahit ilang ektarya ang mapapatubigan para maisali sa budget for 2013", added the Secretary.

Consequently, Administrator Nangel affirmed the pronouncement of the Secretary saying, "we are looking for new areas so that we can have more areas to be irrigated to attain our target of rice self-sufficiency by 2013."

Antique Irrigation Management Office, under the management of NIA Region 6 Regional Manager Gerardo P. Corsiga is implementing P350M worth of irrigation projects in the province. These projects aim to generate 304 has, restore 2,532 has and rehabilitate 2,174 has of farmlands.

During the AgriPinoy Farmers' Forum, Administrator Nangel together with Secretary Alcalá, LGU Executives, NIA officials and IA witnessed the turn over of the two small irrigation projects (SIP) to IA for operation and maintenance. These were Mablad and Bugnay SIP with combined irrigated area of 6,165 has to benefit 7,368 farmers once the rehabilitation, restoration and construction of the projects are completed.





## ASN in Region 8

### In Northern Leyte

Administrator Nangel led the turn over of the Picas San Vicente CIS (Tanauan Site) to the Integrated Barangays of Tanauan, Leyte IA Incorporated represented by its president, Mr. Valentino U. Nomio. In his message, Administrator Nangel said the government has poured huge investment in Region 8 for the rehabilitation and restoration of projects to complement the rice self-sufficiency program of the government. He further hoped that they (farmers) will harvest 120 cavans per hectare from the present average yield of 80 cavans per hectare.

Mayor Agapito Pagayanan of Tanauan expressed appreciation for the rehabilitation of the Picas San Vicente CIS and expected improvement in the quality of life of his constituents.

Also, Administrator Nangel together with Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcala conducted an ocular inspection of ongoing NIA irrigation projects in Biliran, Northern Leyte and Northern Samar in May. In their tour of the province, they met with farmers and fisherfolks to discuss the programs at the same time, provided opportunity for them to present their concerns to the Administrator and Secretary.

### In Biliran

Biliran IMO Manager Pedro Rubio updated the visiting officials on the status of the Calumpang CIS and the farmers' cooperation in the implementation of the project. Secretary Alcala said that "dapat palakihin ang ating samahan para madali ang tulong ng gobyerno; hindi kayo iniwan ng gobyerno dahil mahal kayo ni Pangulong Aquino."

Thus, Administrator Nangel added, "Ang puso ni Secretary Alcala ay nasa mga magsasaka at mangingisda. Patuloy niya kaming inaatasan na gumawa ng extension services program para sa inyo. Nandito lang po kaming taga NIA na handang tumulong sa inyo."

Later in the day, Secretary Alcala and Administrator Nangel met with the local government officials in Biliran where an open forum ensued. Heading the LGU were Governor Gerardo J. Espina, Jr and Congressman Rogelio J. Espina. This was followed with a press conference towards the night.

On the following day, SPJA, Administrator Nangel and Region 8 Regional Manager Romeo G. Quiza conducted an aerial inspection of the projects in Northern and Western Samar. On landing, they were met by Congressman Bean Evardone of the lone district of Eastern Samar and Governor Conrado B. Nicart, Jr.

## ASN in Region 9

The leadership of Administrator Antonio S. Nangel and Region 9 Acting Regional Manager Alejandro L. Alberca was very well commended in the fora and stakeholders' meeting conducted among farmers and fisherfolks during Secretary Proceso J. Alcala's visit in Zamboanga Sibugay.

Keeping track with the Food Staple Self-Sufficiency Program (FSSP) of the government Secretary Proceso J. Alcala together with his entourage from different DA-attached agencies visited the rice granary of the Zamboanga Peninsula, the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, last May 25-26, 2012.

"We have to extend our gratitude to NIA for recognizing our Sibugay irrigation and lower Sibugay irrigation which is an on-going project," Municipal Mayor Palma of Diplahan, President of Mayors' League in Zamboanga Sibugay, remarked in the Stakeholders' Meeting at the newly launched DA ZAMPEARC (Zamboanga Peninsula Integrated Agricultural Research Center) hall, Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay.

Municipal Mayor Julius Acosta, Sr. during his speech at the Siay Municipal grounds said, "In behalf of the farmers, naga-pasalamat kami, Sir, for approving the 32.8 M worth of NIA projects for the municipality of Siay, plus another 30 M incoming project of NIA. Salamat kaayo, Sir! Salamat NIA!"

During the dam site visit at Kabasalan, the President of Kabasalan Irrigators' Association (KOPIA), Mr. Alvin Gaspar also extended his praises to NIA, "Naga-pasalamat kami na ang NIA naghatag ug dakong pagtagad ug suporta aron mahimo kaming tabang sa programa sa rice self-sufficiency." (We are thankful that NIA has generously paid attention to us and supported us so that we become helpers to the program on rice self-sufficiency.)

NIA as an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture (DA) received the lion's share in its budget for C.Y. 2012. Recognizing NIA as a significant contributor to the FSSP road-map, DA allocated 62% of its budget to the irrigation, NIA's largest budget allocation in its history. Needless to say, the increased irrigation budget was felt and appreciated by the farmers/irrigators' associations of the Zamboanga Sibugay Province equipping them to become key players in the rice self-sufficiency target of the agency.







## SEMINAR ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT OF DAMAGED IRRIGATION AND WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES FOR AGRICULTURE IN JAPAN

By: Deputy Administrator Robert C. Suguitan

Asian countries representatives in the seminar by government executives from Indonesia, East Timor Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Laos and Philippines representative Robert C. Suguitan chosen as interim leader.

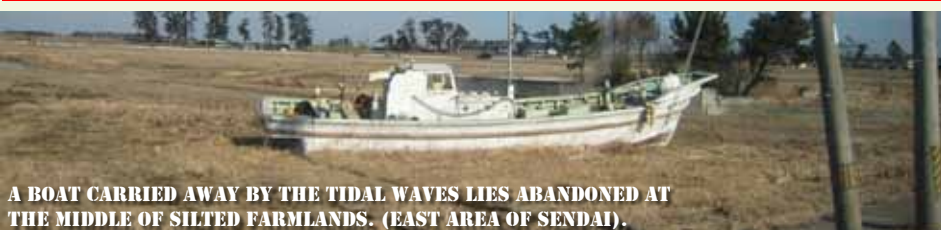
The seminar focused on the Local Government units, Non-Government Organizations and local citizens' coping mechanisms with the adverse effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake that triggered the Tsunami hitting several areas in East Japan in March 2011.



*Tetrapod concrete blocks weighing about 2 tons are laid as strong slope protection of dikes. (East Area of Sendai).*

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Buildings    | about JPY 10.4 Trillion                           |
| Lifelines    | about JPY 1.3 Trillion                            |
| Social Infra | about JPY 2.2 Trillion                            |
| Agri-Fishery | about JPY 1.9 Trillion                            |
| Others       | about JPY 1.1 Trillion                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>about JPY 16.9 Trillion (\$231.51 Million)</b> |

***It likewise listed that the devastation resulted to loss of lives (deaths) of 15, 726 Japanese citizens with 4, 599 more listed as missing.***



**A BOAT CARRIED AWAY BY THE TIDAL WAVES LIES ABANDONED AT THE MIDDLE OF SILTED FARMLANDS. (EAST AREA OF SENDAI).**

Japanese resiliency as manifested by their immediate concerted action right after the disaster with initial efforts of recovery focused at the removal of water from the district through the installation of emergency pumps, removal of rubbles from drainage stations, temporary repair of drainage pump stations and removal of sludge from farmlands.

A great amount of attention was equally devoted to desalinization or removal of salt from the farmlands. Use of transport facilities, such as elevated roads and railroad tracks embankments as secondary levees. Levee slopes fortified with the installation of tetrapod concrete blocks and the laying of ton-bags filled with select borrow materials as well as coastal forest similarly was also established as first line defense against tidal waves. Another relevant lesson is the prevalence of bottom-up planning. Local residents' involvement in the planning of recovery and rehabilitation measures alongside government people with prefectural and national assistance, when legislation and funding is required.

Foremost, Japan is sharing its unfortunate experience to the world and recognizing she is part of the world community, where everybody should share experience to learn from and arrived at better measures to erase the impact of disasters, impresses of a humble spirit. This teaches us that life does not end with one debacle, but the will to rise and lead a normal life is what matters.



*While the reinforced concrete tidal drain gate structure (operating platform and bridge) withstood the tidal onslaught, the electro-mechanical equipment and its enclosure did not (East Area of Sendai).*



***Deputy Administrator  
Robert C. Suguitan***



## In Region 2:

### 5 in 2 cropping scheme gains positive results

By: Mack P. Toribio, PRO - A

**Barring unforeseen circumstances, success looms for the two-pronged 5 in 2 Cropping Scheme as it gains positive results in its initial implementation in the Cagayan Valley Region.**

Initiated by Regional Irrigation Manager Vicente E. Galvez, the 5 in 2 in Region 2 Cropping Scheme is designed to, first; veer away from frequent crop destructions wrought by super typhoons and heavy deluges that usually whip eastern Luzon during the wet season crops and, second; to further boost rice production in Region 2 for the achievement of President Noynoy Aquino's Rice Self-Sufficiency Program in the year 2013.

"The concept did not come easy, it took me a lot of researches, validation and numerical tinkering until I finally arrive at a perfect 5 in 2 cropping scheme for Region 2," RIM Vicente Galvez said in a statement.

However, after several presentations in seminars held in Palawan and in Sta. Ana, Cagayan and a go-signal given by NIA Administrator Antonio S. Nangel, the scheme which was originally intended for Region 2 alone caught the attention of Secretary Proceso J. Alcala of the Department of Agriculture who immediately ordered a nationwide implementation with corresponding government support in terms of funding, technical assistance and seed supply.

As of presstime, the Engineering and Operations Division of NIA Region 2 headed by Division Manager Angel T. Bacoling Jr. reported a 41,000 hectares irrigated area on the 44,000 hectares targeted for the

Dry Crop 2012 in the 16 national irrigation systems under NIA Region 2 with an equivalent accomplishment percentage of 97% and an estimated production output of 3.28 million cavans of palay.

#### The 5 in 2 Cropping Scheme

Under the new scheme, the farmers are assured of five cropping in two years scheduled as follows: 1st Cropping – Nov. 1, 2011 to May 25, 2012; 2nd Cropping – April 10, 2012 to Oct. 25, 2012; 3rd Cropping – Sept. 14, 2012 to March 12, 2013; 4th Cropping – Dec. 1, 2012 to Aug. 7, 2013 and 5th Cropping – April 13, 2013 to Dec. 13, 2013.

#### Seed Supply

The DA in cooperation with Philrice committed to develop appropriate varieties for each of the farmers' concern which will be given to the seed producers and selected Irrigators Associations for advance propagation and subsequent distribution to their farmer-members prior to each cropping season.

To ensure seed accessibility which is the prevalent problem of the farmers during seed bedding time, RIM Galvez suggested that the NIA irrigation systems offices will be used as drop-off points for seed distribution. "The systems offices are the nearest and most accessible points from which the farmers could easily get their seed requirements," he said. The system's chief will provide the seed producers with a masterlist of their farmers and their corresponding seed requirements and varietal preference for proper seed positioning before the start of the cropping seasons.

#### Crop Insurance

RIM Galvez facilitated the training of Irrigators Development Officers (IDO), Senior IDOs, Water Resources Facilities Techni-

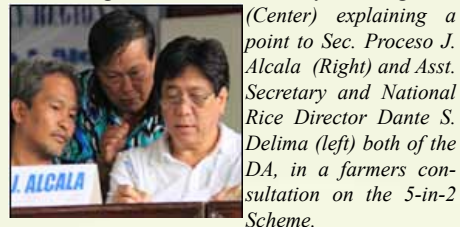
cians (WRFT) and Senior WRFTs of the NIA as insurance underwriters by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC). "Their accessibility and close relationship with the farmers within their areas of responsibility makes them the most ideal persons to act as underwriters," RIM Galvez said. A training conducted by the PCIC ensued and the above named NIA personnel were commissioned as insurance underwriters.

#### Second Cropping

Under the updated 5 in 2 Cropping Scheme, the second planting season actually started last April 10 and ends on October 28 this year with a target area of 38,781 hectares. The end of the cropping season falls under the typhoon prone month of October thus; late planters are likely to be affected. The farmers were advised to plant before mid-May to be able to harvest before the end of August. Based on studies, typhoons and downpours usually start on the month of September.

"5 in 2 is gaining positive results but the farmers should do their share by religiously following the schedule of activities in order to succeed," RIM Vicente E. Galvez said in a statement.

THE TOP THREE OF 5-IN-2 – Regional Irrigation Manager Vicente E. Galvez of NIA Region 2 (Center) explaining a



### MARIIS gears up for "5 in 2"

By: Melissa C. Agbisit, PRO MARIIS

In support of the government's Rice Self-Sufficiency Program (RSSP), NIA Administrator Antonio S. Nangel during the meeting with the Regional Irrigation Managers and Operations Managers last February has given instructions for all systems to develop their respective calendars for Five Croppings in Two years.

MARIIS Acting Operations Manager Helsy S. Bermudez, together with his irrigation management team developed the system's calendar for "5 in 2" and presented it to the irrigators associations during an event.

Under the "5 in 2",



the calendar is adjusted to allow five croppings from November 2011 until December 2013, instead of the traditional four croppings. This translates to an

additional rice production of 80,400 metric tons for the two-year period.

A meeting with all the municipal agriculturists was conducted in February 21, 2012 where MARIIS presented the list of areas programmed for 5 in 2.

Programmed for the initial implementation of the "5 in 2" is 20,648 hectares distributed across the cities of Santiago and Cauayan and the municipalities of Alicia, Cabatuan, Cordon, Quirino, Ramon, Roxas, San Isidro and San Mateo.

However, actual area to date is 40,115 has. This area will be the same area that will plant under the early planting program in 2013.







## IRRIGATED RICE PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (IRPEP)

By: Engr. Leslie L. Dizon, MBA, Asst Project Coordinator, M&E Officer

**T**he International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and European Union (EU) funded Irrigated Rice Production Enhancement Project (IRPEP) is now on its second year of implementation and it covers already three (3) regions, namely Regions 6, 8 and 10. The expansion area in Region 6 will restore 2,282 hectares and will rehabilitate 7,368 hectares covering 60 communal irrigation systems in the Province of Antique.

Under the cost sharing scheme of the Project, the NIA will shoulder the 70%, 20% for the local government units and the remaining 10% by the IAs. In the case of Region 6, the 20% and 10% cost sharing by the LGU and IAs were shouldered by the Provincial Government of Antique thru the initiative of Governor Exequiel Javier and his son Congressman Paulo Javier and some Municipal Local Government Units.

As of 30 September 2012, Antique IMO headed by Engr. Randy Alipis had already completed seven (7) CIS with a physical accomplishment of 40.27%.



Abiera CIS (Sebaste), Region 6

For the IA Strengthening Component, series of Strategic Planning and Policy Formulation and Systems Management Trainings were conducted to all the IAs involved and a Technological Enhancement and Educational Tour was conducted in Davao City in Region 11 which was participated in by selected IA presidents, IDOs and IRPEP personnel.

For Region 8, the performance of the fourteen (14) Projects are as follows:

### RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENT CY 2011

| PROVINCE       | AREAS (HECTARES) |       | ACCOMP.% |
|----------------|------------------|-------|----------|
|                | RESTORED         | REHAB |          |
| NORTHERN LEYTE | 498              | 140   | 100.00   |
| NORTHERN SAMAR | 25               | 0     | 100.00   |
| WESTERN SAMAR  | 132              | 235   | 100.00   |
| TOTAL          | 655              | 375   | 100.00   |

Under CY 2012, Region 8 has twenty (20) CIS for rehabilitation and restoration. Five (5) were already completed and the rest are for completion by December 31, 2012. Physical accomplishment as of 31 August is 30.54%.



Rosario CIS, Rosario, Region 8

In the Province of Bukidnon in Region 10, the accomplishment of CY 2011 is only 89% due to some uncontrollable circumstances. Currently, project implementation is at full blast to offset the delays. For CY 2012, the accomplishment is already 73%.



Dagumbaan CIS, Maramag, Region 10

In the Province of Lanao del Norte, four (4) CIS that were programmed for rehabilitation and restoration for CY 2012 have an accomplishment of 60%. The IMO Chief of Lanao del Norte is very optimistic that all remaining and current year activities will be completed by December, 2012.

From September 25 to October 3, 2012, the Philippines Country Officer of IFAD with Fiduciary and Rural Infrastructure Consultants and representatives from NEDA, DA and the NIA conducted the 3rd Supervisory and Implementation Support (SIS) Mission for the Project. Result of the review indicates that the overall grade obtained by the Project is satisfactory.

With the kind of support being extended by the top management, the Project Coordinator is optimistic that the Project will be completed as scheduled and its objectives will be realized by farmers of Regions 6, 8 and 10.

from page 21

### HINGATUNGAN IA: A DREAM REALIZED

technical and institutional support extended to the association under the leadership of Engr. Pedro C. Rubio, Jr., Division Manager A, Biliran-Leyte del Norte-Leyte del Sur Irrigation Management Office (IMO). The Hingatungan IA was also a Regional Nominee to the National Search for Outstanding IA for CARP-IC, CY 2011 however, they only made it to the 10th place nationwide..

At present, Hingatungan CIS is undergoing system improvements with extension area. The association for the extension area is San Isidro Hingatungan Communal Irrigators' Association, Inc. It has a serviceable area of 63.0 hectares. Once completed, total serviceable area for the system will increase to a total of 152.0 hectares. This is a DAR-ARISP III-assisted project of the NIA-Biliran-Leyte del Norte-

Leyte del Sur Irrigation Management Office (IMO) with a total project cost of Php 24.0 M.

Hopefully, with the completion of this ARISP III project this CY 2012, Hingatungan CIS could contribute to the goal for rice sufficiency of the Province of Southern Leyte and the country as a whole.



# Loving the longest living organism

**L**et us meet the oldest citizen in the planet, a tree. This large perennial plant was created three days older than man because its role is to sustain him. They are generous, any day, anytime, come rain or shine, in sickness and in health, trees are there to provide. It is nature's way of showing love to mankind. For how long? For as long as man can reciprocate. Love begets love.

NIA's primary existence depends on the supply that nature provides... water. Quality of service likewise depends on the condition of water source. Certainly, forests play a major role in erosion control, protection and conservation of water supplies and preventing floods. Because of these contributions that trees make to our environment, they are essential to our agency and all human creations as a whole.

Guarding our precious resources, Administrator Antonio S. Nangel initiated reforestation activity on June 8, 2012. This activity is considered one of NIA's unusually excellent "first time" since its creation in 1963. Though such activity is regularly conducted in some areas as the agency is mandated to protect watershed in big national systems... this extraordinarily "first time" happened simultaneously Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao in one occasion.

| Region       | No. of Trees Planted | Area Covered (Hectares)          |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| CAR          | 14,687               | 18.94                            |
| 1            | 4,340                | 3                                |
| 2            | 5,768                | 8 + 5 km service rd              |
| 3            | 6,400                | 3                                |
| 4a           | 3,040                | 5                                |
| 4b           | 3,000                | 8.5                              |
| 5            | 3,300                | 20                               |
| 6            | 20,000               | 40                               |
| 7            | 5,500                | 18                               |
| 8            | 9,094                | 17                               |
| 9            | 2,503                | 5.9                              |
| 10           | 9,104                | 17                               |
| 11           | 20,300               | 23.9                             |
| 12           | 10,428               | 5                                |
| 13           | 7,100                | 14.2                             |
| MARIIS       | 10,000               | 10                               |
| UPRIIS       | 7,915                | 2                                |
| BBMP         | 1,043                | 1.75                             |
| CMIPP        | 500                  | 1                                |
| ARIIP        | 2,500                | .5                               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>146,522</b>       | <b>222.69ha +5 km service rd</b> |

A total of 146, 522 various seedlings like Mahogany, Aca-  
cia and Narra in forest areas and fruit bearing trees in the low  
lying areas, canal embankments and service road were plant-  
ed for about two hours in the morning of June 8. Participants  
to the significant undertakings were around 6,000 NIA em-  
ployees, members of the Irrigators, Associations, Local Gov-  
ernment Officials, Media and other guests. DA Secretary Pro-  
ceso J. Alcala graced the occasion as he joined the NIA Central  
Office group in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija.

NIA recognizes the importance of tree planting as  
both practical means to preserve critical watershed areas  
for efficient irrigation water services, and in support to  
our country's call to implement programs that will help  
mitigate the effects of climate change. With this, Administra-  
tor Nangel has engaged the agency in a yearly tree planting  
for the entire Philippines, including the coordination to DA's  
national greening program, Bureau of Plants and DENR for  
the establishments of nursery in regional offices.

The country and the whole world must give their share  
to protect and preserve natural resources. For by this noble  
endeavour, people can make up for the loss and destruction  
they have caused the mother earth over the  
centuries. Thus, it's a show of love for our old-  
est citizens and living treasures...trees!







# The National Irrigation Admin

BY NIÑA L. DE GUZMAN, PAIS-CO

Come rain, come shine, the National Irrigation Administration jubilantly celebrated its 49th founding anniversary on June 18-22, 2012 with this year's theme, "Maayos na Patubigan, Masaganang Anihan".

The June 18 opening program was remarkably attended by regional delegates, central office personnel from various regional and project offices in a colorful parade led by their regional/operations managers and their lovely muses.

NIA Administrator Antonio S. Nangel was the first to compliment the festive occasion. In his opening message, he conveyed his gratitude to all Regional, Project and Central Office Managers and staff for their full support in serving the farmers as well as in the camaraderie shown in the celebration of NIA's 49th Founding Anniversary. For through it, all employees were able to have the feeling of belongingness as one big happy family.

He cited the tree planting program as a great legacy of the NIA. Trees are essential in the mitigation of floods.

Helping improve the lives of farmers is truly close to his heart coming from a farmer's family background as well. He further commended the genuine contributions of the Irrigator's Associations and the whole NIA community in irrigation development.

In closing, he encouraged all to continuously work for bigger and better things for NIA. He further emphasized NIA's significant role in greater agricultural productivity and expressed his appreciation and thankfulness for the active participation and cooperation demonstrated by all.





# Administration: In Full Gear at 49!

The annual Sports Competition commenced thereafter the opening program and the recitation of the Oath of Sportsmanship by Othello L. Razon. Sports games such as volleyball, table tennis, badminton, dart, chess and practical shooting were dealt and fought fair and square in the playing field. Region 3 emerged as the overall champion in the sporting events.



## 49th NIA ANNIVERSARY SPORTSFEST WINNERS

| Major Events     | Champion  | 1st Runner-Up | 2nd Runner-Up  | 3rd Runner-Up  |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Volleyball Men's | Region 6  | Region 3      | Region 13      | Region 1       |
| Women's          | Region 11 | Region 3      | Region 6       | Central Office |
| Badminton        | Region 3  | Region 5      | Central Office | Region 13      |
| Table Tennis     | Region 13 | Region 1      | Region 3       | Region 5       |
| Team Event       | Region 13 | Region 1      | Region 5       | Region 3       |
| Men's Singles    | Region 13 | Region 1      | Region 5       | Region 3       |
| Women's Singles  | Region 3  | Region 9      | UPRIIS         | Region 5       |
| Dart             | Region 10 | Region 11     | Region 6       | CAR            |
| Chess            | UPRIIS    | Region 8      | Region 11      | Region 6       |
| Fun Games        |           |               |                |                |
| Obstacle Race    | Region 6  | Region 5      | Region 3       | Region 2       |
| Family "APIR"    | Region 3  | Region 9      | Region 11      | Region 7       |
| Water Relay      | Region 10 | Region 2      | UPRIIS         | Region 6       |

## OVERALL

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| CHAMPION        | Region 3  |
| 1st Runner - Up | Region 6  |
| 2nd Runner - Up | Region 11 |
| 3rd Runner - Up | Region 10 |







## A Little Night of Music

The NIA annual choir competition held on the second day of the 49th NIA Founding Anniversary Week was truly a music lover's delight. At the end of another workday, NIAns relaxed to music and engaged in socials with friends and colleagues from different regional and field offices. Performers continuously impressed the judges and audiences with their musical harmony and artistry. This activity aims to rekindle interest in cultural songs and music and to create a spirit of friendly competition and sportsmanship.

This year's lists of knowledgeable judges are namely: Prof. Emerson M. Hernandez, a faculty of the CEU Conservatory of Music; Prof. Angelito Ayran, Jr., head of the Centro Escolar University Conservatory of Music and Mr. Thomas Julian M. Hollon, Recording Artist, National Band of CFC-FFL Youth Ministry.

Participants were encouraged to perform in two performance categories: A choice piece and a contest song. The choice piece, maybe in any language or dialect; The contest song is a medley of Tagalog songs: Walang Hanggan, Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin, Dadalhin, Kahit Isang Saglit, Hanggang..., Kung Tayo's Magkakalayo, Yakapin Mo Ako, Kahit Konting Pagtingin, Kung Maputi na ang Buhok Ko. The Contesting Choir shall have the option of performing with taped music, singing a capella or playing their own instruments and will be given a total of ten (10) minutes to perform. Costumes and choreography were highly encouraged.

Five performing regions joined the competition. They were from UPRIIS, Region 1, Region 2, Region 3, Region 9, and Region 13. Participants fought fair and square on the stage. Special numbers were also performed by the Catholic Community, Region 10 and Region 8. Vying for the judge's attention, contesting choirs continuously made an impression with their vocal techniques, musical piece interpretation and fitting choreography. At the end of the event, Region 3 emerged as the victor for 1st Place; UPRIIS and Region 13 occupied the 2nd and 3rd Place spots respectively. Competition prizes were P50,000 for 1st Prize, P30,000 for 2nd Prize and P20,000 for 3rd Prize. A consolation prize of P5,000 was also given to each non-winning group.

This yearly musical activity enables all to truly experience and indulge in traditional Filipino music. It was also a colorful opener for the weeklong activity that was ahead. Indeed, it was a beautiful night filled with delightful music.



## NIA Cultural Dance Showcase

NIA's much awaited cultural dance competition held on NIA Grounds during the 49th anniversary celebration is an impressive display of creative choreography and vibrant costumes and use of folk and ethnic instruments like the rondalla, gangsa, gongs and kulintang ensemble.

Employees from Project, Regional and Central Offices were encouraged to present folk dances in two performance categories: The Common Philippine Folk/Ethnic Dance and a chosen Philippine Festival Street Dance. Common dance for this year shall explore Mindanao through the Malong Dance.

The group's other dance choice shall be a Philippine Festival Street Dance that originates from that respective region or another such as the Ati-Atihan, Dinagyang, Masskara, and those showcased in the annual Aliwan Fiesta which mainly use

percussion instruments such as the snare drums.

Group performances exhibited were from CAR, Region 12, Region 5, Region 8, MRIIS, Region 4-A, Region 10, Region 11, Region 7, Central Office and Region 6.

The participants were assessed by three highly-qualified judges: Ms. Angel Baguilat of the U.P. Dance Company; Ms. Genevieve Agtay-Caja from the U.P. PEP Squad and Theater Arts and Mr. Lester Mentos of the U.P. Los Baños Filipiniana Dance Troupe.

After thorough deliberation by the judges, the tedious and spectacular execution of Region 11 made them win the grand prize. Regions 12 and 10 both emerged as the 1st and 2nd Runners-up respectively.

The group experiences hope to acquire the value of working together toward common goals extending to daily undertakings even beyond the competition.



## American Idol (AI) NIA Style

On the fourth day of the weeklong 49th NIA Founding Week Anniversary, the entertaining American Idol-NIA Style singing contest was held on Night 3 socials sponsored by the Central Office. It was open to all male or female singer in C.O. and Regional Offices. The esteemed panel of judges were Administrator Antonio S. Nangel who gamely portrayed the role of music legend Steven Tyler; Deputy Lorna Grace B. Rosario as the beautiful Jennifer Lopez and Deputy Robert C. Suguitan as the music-savvy Randy Jackson. The event was hosted by Sr. Deputy Administrator Antonio A. Galvez playing the role of the quick-witted Ryan Seacrest.

The competition has 11 performers coming from Region 2-Marcheleene Faye Balut, Region 6-Mary Anne Gadong, Region 7-Marben Flores, Region 8-Claudine Matias, Region 9-Julie Ann Lagas, Region 10-Arman Lozarita, Region 11-Estellita Butad, Region 12-Mary Jundette Balagot, UPRIIS-Ruby Pastrana, MARIIS-Edna Liban and from the Central Office, Lailyn Villaflor. There was an entertaining intermission number performed by Ma. Rinette Basa from the CARP-IC.

Each contestant rendered two songs: Song 1- a common song for females entitled "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston. Common song for the males is "Broken Vow" by Josh Groban; Song 2- choice of any OPM song by the contestant. Contest mechanics were: each song shall not be more than three (3) minutes; Set 1 will be the "Common Song"; Set 2 will be the "Chosen Song".

Attired in colorful exquisite apparel, each contestant belted their hearts out and competed to earn a standing ovation from the three judges. Ms. Lailyn Villaflor emerged as having the best voice from among the competitors when all the judges rose up to applaud her choice song performance. It was a truly a night of musical talent and gregarious fun.



## The Hardworking Men and Women Credited for the Success of NIA



The finale of the weeklong founding anniversary program on June 22 started with a Thanks-giving Mass officiated by Rev. Fr. Jerry M. Orbos at 8 o'clock in the morning. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the main program commenced to recognize and give appreciation to NIA top management officials and employees from central, regional and field offices and irrigator's associations for their great leadership and above par performance. Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcala was the Guest of Honor and Speaker. Secretary Alcala together with Administrator Antonio S. Nangel, Senior Deputy Administrator Antonio A. Galvez and Deputy Administrators Robert C. Suguitan and Lorna Grace B. Rosario handed plaque of appreciation to all awardees.





## CY 2011 NATIONAL LEVEL OUTSTANDING IRRIGATORS ASSOCIATIONS

## NATIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM (NIS)

| RANK/ AWARD   | NAME OF IA/ IA PRESIDENT/ADDRESS   |
|---|--|
| <b>HALL OF FAME</b><br>P50,000.00 (NIA)   | <b>BALISONG SAN VICENTE IA</b><br><b>EDGAR COCOY</b><br><i>Sto. Tomas, Davao del Norte</i><br><i>Division VII, Libuganon RIS</i><br><i>Region XI</i>   |
| <b>Most Outstanding IA</b><br>P200,000.00 (cash awarded by:<br>CALENERGY INT'L. LTD.) | <b>MTG PLIVIRISCAF IA</b><br><b>MARCELO L. DE VERA</b><br><i>Pandalla, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija</i><br><i>Division V, UPRIIS</i>                             |
| <b>1st Runner-Up</b><br>P100,000.00<br>(cash awarded by<br>SN ABOITIZ POWER, Inc.)    | <b>NAPAL-CONEL ROAD IA</b><br><b>DANILO M. EA</b><br><i>Lagao, General Santos City</i><br><i>Siluy-Buayan RIS, Region XII</i>                          |
| <b>2nd Runner-Up</b><br>P75,000.00<br>(NIA)   | <b>UPPER SINAYAWAN FARMER IA</b><br><b>GLADYS P. DRACULAN</b><br><i>Sinayawan, Hagonoy,</i><br><i>Davao del Sur, Padada RIS, Region XI</i>             |
| <b>3rd Runner-Up</b><br>P50,000.00<br>(NIA)   | <b>WEBAMSI IA</b><br><b>NEMESIO NIOG, JR.</b><br><i>Purok 6, Maygatasan,</i><br><i>Bayugan, Agusan del Sur</i><br><i>Andanan-Wawa RIS, Region XIII</i> |
| <b>4th Runner-Up</b><br>P40,000.00<br>(NIA)   | <b>PATAG-CORO A IA</b><br><b>ABRAHAM SENDIONG, JR.</b><br><i>Maramag, Bukidnon</i><br><i>Roxas-Kuya RIS, Region X</i>                                  |



## COMMUNAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Most Outstanding IA</b><br>P200,000.00 (P100,000.00<br>awarded by NIA and another<br>P100,000.00 awarded by<br>CALENERGY INT'L. LTD.) | <b>BASAK-PANGUTOSAN CARP IA</b><br><b>LEMUEL ALVIOR</b><br><i>Basak, Pangutosan, Compostela Valley</i><br><i>Province, Cabidanan CIS, Region XI</i>                                    |
| <b>Most Outstanding IA</b><br>P200,000.00<br>(NIA)   | <b>BOAN BIDA IA</b><br><b>HELARIO AMAS</b><br><i>Rosario, Agusan del Sur</i><br><i>Boan CIS, Region XIII</i>   |
| <b>1st Runner-Up</b><br>P100,000.00 (cash awarded by<br>FIRST GEN HYDRO<br>POWER, INC.)  | <b>ALUBUID-LOGUILO IRRIGATORS</b><br><b>SERVICE ASSOCIATION</b><br><b>WILFRED A. ADVIENTO</b><br><i>Basacan, Loguilo, Alubijid,</i><br><i>Misamis Oriental, Alubijid CIS, Region X</i> |
| <b>2nd Runner-Up</b><br>P75,000.00<br>(NIA)  | <b>BULACANON IA</b><br><b>RUFINO FLORESCA, SR.</b><br><i>Bulacan, Makilala, Cotabato Bu-</i><br><i>lacanon CIS, Region XII</i>   |
| <b>3rd Runner-Up</b><br>P50,000.00<br>(NIA)  | <b>TIMBABOY-POBLACION B IA</b><br><b>JOSE MOMONGAN</b><br><i>Timbaboy, Midsalip,</i><br><i>Zamboanga del Sur</i><br><i>Timbaboy CIS, Region IX</i>                                     |
| <b>4th Runner-Up</b><br>P40,000.00<br>(NIA)  | <b>TUMBAGA 1 BUCAL IA</b><br><b>EDWIN BALADAD</b><br><i>Tumbaga 1, Sariaya, Quezon Tumbaga</i><br><i>CIS, Region IV</i>  |





### COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROJECT-IRRIGATION COMPONENT (CARP IC) AWARDEES

**Basak Pangutasan CARP IA, Inc.**  
**Hall of Fame**  
**LEMUEL ALVOR**

**FELIX M. RAZO**  
*Region XI Irrigation Manager*

**Tumbaga 1 Bucal IA, Inc.**  
**CARP Most Outstanding IA CY 2011**  
**EDWIN G. BALADAD**

**EFREN S. ROQUEZA**  
*Region IV Irrigation Manager*  
**BIENVENIDO S. TESNADO**  
*Quezon IMO*

**San Juan Impasug-Ong La Fortuna IA, Inc.**  
**CARP Outstanding IA CY 2011**  
**1st Runner-Up**  
**ERIB ERTO D. BANGIS**

**JULIUS S. MAQUILING**  
*Region X Irrigation Manager*  
**JIMMY L. APOSTOL**  
*Bukidnon IMO*

**Awao Communal IA, Inc.**  
**CARP Outstanding IA CY 2011**  
**2nd Runner-Up**  
**EDGARDO M. ALUMBRES**

**FELIX M. RAZO**  
*Region XI Irrigation Manager*  
**CARLITO A. CARRASCO**  
*Compostela Valley*  
*Irrigation Management Office (IMO)*

### NIA AWARDEES

**MOST DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**  
**(50,000.00 each)**  
**Project Manager (CO-Based)**

**REYNALDO C. ADAO**  
*CARP-IC*

**Project Manager (Field Office-Based)**

**REYNALDO C. MENCIAS**  
*AGNO RIVER INTEGRATED IRRIGATION PROJECT (ARIIP)*

**REGIONAL/OPERATIONS MANAGER OF THE YEAR CY 2011 (30,000.00)**

**REYNALDO D. PUNO**  
*UPPER PAMPANGA RIVER INTEGRATED IRRIGATION SYSTEM (UPRIIS)*

**PROJECT MANAGER OF THE YEAR**  
**(30,000.00 each)**  
**Project Manager (CO-Based)**

**ELEUTERIO C. LUZ**  
*SMALL RESERVOIR IRRIGATION PROJECT (SRIP)*

**Project Manager (Field Office-Based)**

**ALEXANDER G. COLOMA**  
*CASECNAN MULTI-PURPOSE IRRIGATION PROJECT (CMIPP)*

**DIVISION/IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE (IMO) MANAGER OF THE YEAR CY 2011 (30,000.00)**

**JOSEPHINE B. SALAZAR**  
*UPPER PAMPANGA RIVER INTEGRATED IRRIGATION SYSTEM (UPRIIS) DIVISION 3*

**OUTSTANDING DIVISION/IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE (IMO) MANAGER IN CY 2011 (20,000.00 each)**

**JIMMY L. APOSTOL**  
*BUKIDNON IMO*  
**JOSELITO A. MANGUNAY**  
*UPRIIS DIV 2*  
**CARLITO M. GAPASIN**  
*UPRIIS DIV 4*  
**EUGENIO O. CONDE, JR.**  
*UPRIIS DIV 5*

**MOST IMPROVED OFFICE (20,000.00)**

**REGION 6**

**IMPROVED OFFICE**

**Magat River Integrated Irrigation System**  
**REGION 7**







## CATLUBONG IA: *Turning Dreams into Reality*

By: Mylene Malecda, PRO CAR  
Naty Valles

Uncle Andrew and his wife were not planning to settle down in Brgy. Catlubong, Buguias. Clean water was scarce. People had to fetch water from the nearest spring, and farmers plant only once a year at the onset of the rainy season. Now, Uncle Andrew, his wife and children resides comfortably in their home in Brgy. Catlubong and is able to cultivate his vegetables gardens three times a year.

What turned things up was the construction of the Catlubong Communal Irrigation System (CIS), one of the first irrigation project in the area. The Catlubong CIS, implemented by the NIA with a total of P26 million fund from the Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resources Management Project of the DA, was completed in two phases. Phase I was completed in 2001 with an initial service area of 96 hectares and 100 ha was generated upon the completion of Phase II in 2004.

Through the concerted efforts of the IA, the required 30 per cent equity in the 30%-70% Participatory Approach to project construction was successfully met by the farmer-beneficiaries through their local materials and labor so that the organization is exempted to pay the annual amortization.

Few months after the completion of the project, the irrigation system was turned over to the Catlubong Irrigators' Association, a group formed voluntarily by the farmers themselves in 1993, strengthened and prepared for the operation of the irrigation system they had long dreamed for.

The IA said that the long wait for the funding and the hard labor during the implementation of the project was all worth it as the irrigation system paved the way for upward changes and development in the community. In an interaction a year after the completion of the project, members of the IA revealed that irrigated areas expanded and production tremendously increased to as high as 300%. In fact, about 25 truckloads of vegetables are delivered from Catlubong to La Trinidad Trading Post every day during harvest.

Uncle Fausto Wacilin related that he used

to cultivate only about 0.8 hectares only of his 1.5-hectare garden once a year. With the irrigation system, he was able to cultivate at least 1.3 ha three times (or even four times depending on the crop maturity, e.g. Chinese cabbage) annually. After some time, Uncle Fausto, like the other Catlubong farmers, was able to acquire his own cargo hauler to bring his produce to La Trinidad Trading Post on time.

Mr. Mario Colinio, the first IA president, also shared that farmers learned that yield is tripled during the dry season. He said that plant growth, for carrots and potatoes, during the wet season is concentrated on the leaves while during the dry, growth is concentrated and gives more weight to the tubers. Apparently, Catlubong has long been recognized as one of the best-quality producers of carrots.

"Ginmaget ti tattao," (People became more hard-working) most members of the Catlubong Irrigators' Association would say. The Kankanaeys of Benguet are known to be industrious people working all-day in their farms. Even school children participate in farm activities especially in the manual hauling of harvest to earn additional school allowances.

Not long after, the number of cargo trucks doubled, housing facilities in the community increased and small temporary shanties became permanent dwellings. Others were able to construct their houses near Baguio City. Uncle Andrew who was the IA president from 2001 to 2003 said "I decided to construct my house near my garden since water is already available for all purposes. Besides, I can concentrate on my farm works."

Parallel to the establishment of the irrigation system, water for domestic necessities once the main problem in the area was brought near their homes.

"It lessened the burden of daily household chores unlike before that we had to fetch water for drinking, cooking, washing and general cleaning from creeks down," the women IA members said.



*The sprinkler method became the most common irrigation mode for highland vegetables as it is more convenient for the rolling lands in Brgy. Catlubong.*



*The Catlubong IA during the Basic Leadership Course*

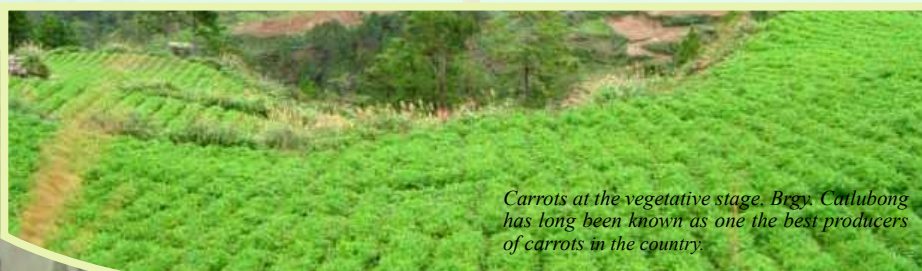


Uncle Eldy said that their water is very pure and clean. Catlubong folks would refer to their water source as "Junior Pulag" located at the vicinity of Mt. Pulag, the second highest mountain peak in the country. To help maintain the abundance of pristine water, Uncle Eldy said IA members help the barangay officials in safeguarding their "Junior Pulag" from outsiders who try to cut trees or encroach into their watersheds.

"Our need for water keep us together, and together we must protect our water," Uncle Eldy revealed.

Even with the day-long garden activities taking most of the time of the farmers, the IA members especially the IA leaders always make sure that the IA is working well and always at its feet. Meetings are regularly conducted where high attendance is always maintained with about 90% of the total members are present, and members are always punctual because penalties are imposed on tardiness. Annual fees and dues are almost always 100 percent paid. Contributions for minor repairs and operating expenses are easily collected from the members. The IA always sees to it that yearly updates and requirements needed by the BIR and SEC are complied with and submitted.

Uncle Eldy who is the IA president at present, is proud and beaming as he shared that their 19-year-old organization since its birth was never revoked by the SEC. "It is actually getting stronger as the year passes by, and we plan it to be that way," Uncle Eldy said.



*Carrots at the vegetative stage, Brgy. Catlubong has long been known as one the best producers of carrots in the country.*



## WESTERN IA REMAINS #1 IN ILOCOS REGION

By: Mr. Rowelyn N. Calma, IDO-A, Region 1



The Western Irrigators Association Inc. of Bonga Pump #3 Irrigation System in Laoag City province of Ilocos Norte was awarded as the regional outstanding IA in the National Irrigation System (NIS) category in 2011. Once again, it dominated other IAs in the region in the functionality surveys conducted and administered by NIA this year. The Western IA, Inc. was awarded by NIA Region 1 the 2012 Regional Outstanding IA and remains #1 in NIS category in the Ilocos region.

Motivated by its noble vision to become a model IA for the entire Philippines, the Western IA, Inc. who was awarded as the National Most Outstanding IA in 1998 and a runner-up in 1996 once more proved and displayed the real Filipino and Ilocano values of hard work, integrity and perseverance in attaining excellent and unparalleled performance in the management, operation and maintenance of Irrigation System.

The Western IA, Inc. was organized and started its operations in 1954 with more or less 100 members from Barangays Tangid and Bengcag, Laoag City. The IA officers during that time were then called "Teniente del Barrio". The membership fee collected by the IA officers was only fifty centavos (Php 0.50) and no honorarium or incentives were given to the IA officers.

The Bonga Pump No. 3 Irrigation System (BP No. 3 IS) started its operation with only one (1) unit of 110 Horse Power (HP) Diesel Pump provided by the Presidential Arm on Community Development (PACD) in 1954. The irrigation project

was turned-over to the Western IA, Inc. in 1956 and during that time BP No. 3 IS irrigated around 120 hectares of farm lands. The farmer-beneficiaries shared among themselves the cost of fuel in the operation and maintenance of the pump.



In 1984, the NIA replaced the old pump operated by the IA with two (2) units of 75 HP electric operated pumps. The project was turned-

over and accepted by the IA in 1986 and from then on, they started to collect Irrigation Service Fees (ISF) among water users.

Improvement of existing canals led to an increase in the irrigated area. However, due to typhoons in the past, some canals



were destroyed by flash floods and reduced its irrigable area. In addition, several lots located near the national highway at Barangays Cabungaan and Cavit were converted to residential and commercial purposes.

The Western IA, Inc. was registered to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on December 13, 1983 with SEC Registration No. 118041. It has one hundred eighty three (183) members, ten (10) of them are female while the total number of farmers in the defined area is around 200. To date, Bonga Pump #3 Irrigation System has a firm-up service area (FUSA) of One Hundred Thirty Five (135) hectares with six (6) Turn-out Service Area under Stage III Contract which took effect on May 15, 1986.



## ENABLING THE IA THROUGH SOURCING

By: Dorothy Belle C. De Leon, Region 2

Promoting efficient organization and advocating sound water management may seem very distant to reach. Especially if an organization is confronted with those responsibilities lack support and financial source.

But such is not the case for Ubbog ti Gattaran Irrigators Association headed by its active, dynamic and resourceful president, Engr. Florencio B. Soliven. Does his name ring a bell? It should because he was the former Division Manager of the Engineering and Operations Division of NIA Regional Office.

With 153 strong and equally active and dynamic farmer members, it was named Ubbog ti Gattaran, which means spring of Gattaran in the Ilocano dialect, due to its proximity to the water source. Located in Baracac, Gattaran, Cagayan, it was reorganized on February 3, 2011 and obtained SEC Registration on March 24 of the same year. The IA signed up its Model 2 contract on February 28, 2012.

"Our target next year is to go up for Model 3. After the dam rehabilitation, how I wish the system will be turned over to the IA so the vision of the World Bank will be realized," he said when asked for his short term plans.

The rehabilitation he was referring to was the raising of the canal embankment, concrete lining of canals, fabrication of steel gates and the rehabilitation of the diversion dam.

When asked for the strength of the IA and the Federation he leads, Engr. Soliven nonchalantly spoke that they are very good at sourcing.

"I guess that is where we have an edge over the others because I can approach even the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) for programs which will benefit the IA," he replied with a wink.

As a matter of fact, DRISFIA was given a combine harvester worth 1.7 million pesos through a DA program where the IA will shoulder just 15% of the amount payable in three croppings. The rest of the amount will be taken care of by DA.

*Continue reading to next page*



**from page 15 ENABLING THE IA THROUGH SOURCING**

LGU Gattaran, DA and Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (Philmech) granted the Federation a 20-million peso worth of post harvest facilities complete with mechanical and solar dryers, hand tractor with trailer, shredder, warehouse, and rice mill erected on a 500-meter lot. This huge grant given to the federation was most helpful especially during the rainy season. Damages brought about by inclement weather would be minimized through such facilities.

The Federation was also a recipient of five flat bed dryers (1 for each IA). It employed two full time workers temporarily detailed at DRIS Office doing bookkeeping and collection while waiting for the completion of their office building.

Currently, the IA and Engr. Soliven are working things out in the hope of being

**MORE EFFICIENT POST HARVEST FACILITY.**

World Bank Representative Ms. Dorothy Lucks (2nd from left) and women members of DRISFIA beam with happiness as they stand beside their newly acquired combine harvester, a grant from the Department of Agriculture. This equipment will surely be able to augment the lack of manpower during harvest time.

granted a farm tractor worth 700,000 pesos from DA.

Regional Vicente E. Galvez saw the potential of the IA and challenged them to join the Highest Yield Contest with 100,000.00

peso for the big winner. The IA without a doubt will rise above the challenge.

Aside from selling D.I. Grow Foliar Fertilizer, as their income generating project, the association eyes other means to help augment the income and improve the life of its IA members. It is keen on going full blast into organic agriculture, after undergoing training, thanks to the efforts and cooperative spirit of its farmers who have sown not only palay seeds but the seed of hope and optimism for a rice self-sufficient Philippines and a more progressive future.



**SO HELP ME GOD.** Regional Irrigation Manager Vicente E. Galvez (1st from right) installs the newly elected set of officers of the five IAs of DRISFIA which includes Ubbog ti Gattaran IA headed by Engr. Florencio B. Soliven (2nd from left).

**Botolan-based irrigators federation is CL's best despite tragedies**

By: Carlo Lorenzo J. Datu, PIA Region 3

**A** volcanic eruption in 1991 and strong flashfloods in 2009 failed to dampen the spirit of a federation of irrigators associations (IAs) in Botolan, Zambales who despite the odds, managed to recover from the debacles and even finished on top.

Marie Montehermoso of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Zambales Office narrated "Six IAs were established in Botolan town on the onset of the construction of the Bucao River Irrigation System (RIS) which became partly operational in 1984 and completed in 1986. It irrigated a total service area of 1,231 hectares benefiting some 1,500 farmers. The IAs became our partners in the operation and maintenance of the system. They also actively participated in trainings and conferences with NIA officials and local government units."

The presence of irrigation stimulated the local economy of the area for five years until the eruption of Mount Pinatubo on July, 1991 which had caused significant damages not only to Bucao RIS but to other national and communal irrigation systems within the province of Zambales as well. The delivery of irrigation services was disrupted due

to thick ash falls and lahar deposits that covered the intake, canals and other structures rendering the system inoperable for quite some time.

"It took 15 years before the Bucao RIS was able to resume its normal operation. During the long hiatus, the six IAs within the system became inactive due to the displacement and death of its members. The dormancy led to the cancellation of their respective registrations with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)" said Montehermoso.

The revitalization of the groups happened in 2008 when the Bucao RIS was chosen as one of the eight recipients of the IA Strengthening Support Program Technical Cooperation Program 2 (TCP 2) of NIA and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Six renamed and reorganized IAs were born namely San Isidro MambogBancal Irrigators Association (SMBIA), TimogBotolan Irrigators Association (TIBIA), Santiago DanacbungaTaugtog Irrigators Association (SANDATA), HilagangBotolan Irrigators Association

(HIBIA), BotolanZambales Irrigators Association (BOTZIA) and Maligha Irrigators Association (MALIGHA) which were all registered with SEC the same year. These IAs were placed under the Federation of Irrigators Associations of Bucao RIS (FIABRIS), which was likewise registered, with SEC in 2009.

*Continue reading to next page*

**IA Business**

**Organic Fertilizer - Biochar**

**Organic Fertilizer - Vermiculture**



from page 16 **Botolan-based irrigators federation is CL's best despite tragedies**

NIA-JICA TCP 2 program for Bucao RIS focused on IA capability development involving membership orientation, NIA-IA Partnership on operation and maintenance of irrigation system, Turnout Service Area Group (TSAG) and IA consultation conferences, strategic planning and operation & maintenance policy formulation workshop, and conduct of various trainings for IA leaders.

"NIA and JICA didn't simply re-establish our IAs. They imparted to us the duties and responsibilities of officers and members and reminded us of our obligations to pay the Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) which led to a surge in ISF collections to P954,212.46 in Dry season of 2009 from P407,594.34 in dry season of 2008 or prior to TCP 2" FIA-BRIS President Daniel Villanueva said in Filipino.

The renewed prosperity in the area was cut short by the strong flashfloods on August 2009 that made the system non-functional for two cropping seasons or Wet 2009 and Dry 2010. The system renewed its normal operation on Wet Season of 2010.

During the Dry Season of 2011, NIA entered an Irrigation Management Transfer Contract Model 3 with the six IAs wherein a 60-40 sharing scheme in collection revenues was implemented. Under the set-up, NIA gets 60 percent and the FIA-BRIS the remaining 40 percent after deducting the operation and maintenance cost of the system.

The agreement fueled FIA-BRIS to accomplish a 100 percent collection rate in Dry Season 2011- the best record in the region to date. NIA Region 3 recognized this feat by conferring a Plaque of Commendation to Villanueva and awarding the federation's collection share of P506,577.24.

"I was ecstatic when I received the commendation and our reward. Our sacrifices paid-off" Villanueva shared. The group would eventually maintain the 100 percent collection rate up to present.

Effective collection translated into revenue for the federation that they utilized in purchasing a 100 square meter lot for the site

of their proposed warehouse, one unit of flatbed dryer, six units of grass-cutters, three units of water pumps and equipment for their office.

The group also used their income in engaging in several agri-business ventures such as Biochar Production, Vermiculture and Effective Micro-organism (EM) production, rice combined harvester service provider, hybrid rice production and Plant now pay after harvest program.

Villanueva explained "the Philippine Biochar Association (PBiA) selected us as the first Biochar network here. Our function is to produce the biochar, select the farms on which it will be used and transport it in measured amounts, i.e. 25 kilo sacks, to the farms and supervise the integration into the farmland."

Biochar farm integrations are validated and certified by a three-member network who issues serialized master certificates for every 1.1 tons of biochar used indicating the farm and farmer involved and the integration date. PBiA audits these integration records.

PBiA issues carbon offset credits represented by carbon negative stickers on these master certificates which are sold to raise funds for the local biochar networks to finance their biochar production and soil integration.

On the other hand, FIA-BRIS has invested

some amount in the purchase of inoculants and good species for the production of red worms and had paid the 15 percent equity of P300,000 for the acquisition of rice combined harvester from the farm mechanization program of the Department of Agriculture (DA).

Moreover, the group was able to earn their funds from the payment of hybrid seeds provided by the local government unit as their initial capital which they are now using as the rolling capital as well as introduced their seed program wherein farmers are each provided with 40 kilograms of certified seeds before planting that are to be repaid with 60 kilograms of good seeds after harvest.

As for the future, Villanueva bared plans to "implement communal farming and seed banking programs; acquire more equipment and implements via the farm mechanization program of DA; provide more benefits to the IA members like hospitalization and burial; and build a farmer's training center which is to serve as a venue for seminars and conference initially in Zambales and eventually in the entire Central Luzon region."

"We want to serve not only as a model to our fellow IAs in Central Luzon. We want to inspire them. We want to tell that anything is possible with hard work and teamwork" Villanueva ended. (CLJD-PIA 3)



**FLAT BED DRYER**



**SOUND SYSTEM**

**IA ASSETS**





## TUMBAGA 1-BUKAL IA: Journey to Success

By: Marieta Dela Cruz, PRO Region 4-A

The farmers of Brgy. Tumbaga in Sariaya, Quezon had already proven exceptionality from the very beginning. These farmers demonstrated that discipline, common goal and conviction of the leaders make a lot of difference from any other regular yet hard-working farmers in the quest for a better life.

They started as part of a proposed area for a communal irrigation project together with the adjacent Barangay Pili. However, the project was brought to a halt even before it started due to the right-of-way problem in Brgy. Pili. With determination and willingness to handle accountability and responsibility, Tumbaga farmers decided to continue with the project. Thus, born the Tumbaga Irrigators Association (IA), formally organized in 1978 under the tie-up program of NIA and Farm System Development Corporation (FSDC) for technical and institutional assistance, respectively. Their request for a regular source of irrigation was granted, thus the opportunity to improve their lives.

The first NIA irrigation project was completed and turned over to the IA in 1987. Early on, the IA had already shown how remarkable and unique they are in their diligence, hardwork, courage and determination to succeed through their ability to manage their system. They refused to incur debts, hence their first amortization payment was six (6) months ahead of its due date. They were among the very first IA to avail the incentive under NIA MC 27 s. 1991 which allows IA to pay 30% of the remaining balance of the cost of the project while 70% is considered free. They paid out of their own pockets. The Certificate of Full Ownership of Tumbaga CIS was awarded in 1992. The IA is 10 years advance on its amortization period.

Truly, heaven is kind to them even when typhoon damaged their irrigation system – the calamity was turn into a blessing. In 1998, as an Agrarian Reform Community it was prioritized for funding under ARISP I. Tumbaga CIS was rehabilitated and provided with Post Harvest Facilities (PHF) such as warehouse with a capacity of 7,500 cavans, IA office and a solar dryer located in a 900 sq.m. lot. The land was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Buenaventura Oñate, committed members of Tumbaga IA. The IA was able to pay in full the 30% equity for PHF and paid in advance their current CIS amortization of the second project cost.

A better life opened up for Tumbaga IA as well as to the whole community with interventions, such as: regular source of irrigation water supply, improved farm technologies, and the awareness of owning the land

they till, the yield increased from 40 cavans/hectare to 120 cavans/hectare. The IA also implemented and adopted the Downstream First Policy water delivery, Ratooning and Crop Diversification.

Good performance persuaded NIA to approve rehabilitation projects for irrigation system improvement. The project included construction of Teruvian Intake wherein they have again availed incentive under MC 27, s. 91 with the support of the Local Government of Sariaya. Dam rehabilitation at Masay Creek and construction of Ogee Dam at Bioy Creek were implemented increasing their irrigable area by 30 hectares. The wet season 2011 recorded a benefited area of 185.13 hectares with 196 farmer-beneficiaries. The Tumbaga IA was renamed Tumbaga I Bucal Irrigators Association to include additional areas.

The IA availed programs from other government agencies such as Rice Production Program of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the National Food Authority's Cooperative Development Incentive Fund (CDIF) that assured good price plus incentive for their palay.

As a result, irrigation services improved and agri-business opportunities followed suit like palay and rice trading. Tumbaga IA acquired a Flatbed Dryer through the collaborative efforts of DA, BPRE and NIA and rent it out as another source of income. Other sources of IA's income included production and selling of organic fertilizers (vermiculture), rental of chairs, and carabao/hog/chicken dispersal. Natural farming technology like raising white and black rice, as well as organic vegetables added attractions to their endeavor. The IA practiced waste segregation believing in the value of a clean and well-managed environment.

However, as in any other organization, they have also encountered conflicts, difficulties, setbacks, and crises but endured them all and learned along the way. The capacity and readiness of Tumbaga I Bucal IA to seek, believe and appreciate various development programs of the government and other institutions as well as firm and resolute implementation of O&M policies are the key to their success.

As a result, Tumbaga I Bucal Irrigators Association has been the recipient of more than 30 awards from various institutions including Most Outstanding Irrigators Association from NIA Region IV from 2001 – 2012; Pinakatatanging Samahan ng mga Magsasaka, Gawad Pitak 2009 by LBP; Most Outstanding Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) Irrigators Association for CY 2007, among others. With deeper commitment to improve their performance, they believe obtaining the Number 1 place at AgriPinoy, NIA Search and CARP-IC National level awards is possible.

Of course, commendable efforts of all past and present officers of Tumbaga IA particularly their first IA President – Mr. Francisco Rosaria who have clearly led them into what they are now; the nurturing support and guidance of NIA Regional Office IV-A and Quezon IMO especially the former Quezon IMO Manager Engr. Bienvenido S. Tesnado); the assistance and encouragement of the Local Government of Sariaya, Quezon; support of the Department of Agriculture, Dept. Of Agrarian Reform/CARP-IC/ARISP, LBP; and other government and private institutions – and most importantly their faith to the Almighty God, contributed much to the success of Tumbaga I Bucal Irrigators Association.



Fertilizer Production



Solar Dryer



Flatbed Dryer



Warehouse



## Sumviltad IA: *Noon at Ngayon (A Story of Success)*

By: Aileen Vernice G. Bahia, PRO Region 4-B



*The Sumviltad IA Officers with their IA President Patricio Labarez Jr. (first from Left)*

**S**a pamumuno ni G. Patricio Labarez Jr., ang Sumviltad Irrigators Association ng Tangon CIS ay patuloy na gumaganda ang operasyon. Simula ng mabuo ang proyekto taong 1981, maraming pagbabago na ang naranasan ng mga kasapi ng asosasyon pagdating sa kanilang kabuhayan, edukasyon at pamumuhay.

Ayon sa kanila, noon, masyadong mahal ang upa sa pump kaya naman napipilitan ang ibang magsasaka na umasa na lang sa sahod ng tubig-ulan. Mahina ang

ani na umaabot lang sa 30 cavans/hectare kaya mahina rin ang kita. Hindi rin makapagpaaral ang iba sa kanila dahil sa kakulangan ng pantustos sa gastusin.

Pero simula ng magkaroon ng maayos na sistema ng irigasyon sa kanilang munisipalidad sa Bansud, malaki na ang pinagkaiba ng kanilang buhay. Mas

malaki ang kinikita ng mga magsasaka dahil sa gumanda ang suplay ng tubig. Umaabot na sa 80-100 cavans/hectare ang inaani ng mga magsasaka ngayon. Nakakapagpaaral at nakakapagpatapos na rin sila ng kanilang mga anak sa kolehiyo at ang ilan dito ay mga propesyonal na. "Hindi nade-delay ang pag-ani," ayon sa IA President. "Talagang malaking tulong ang irigasyon ng NIA sa amin," wika ng isang IA member.

"Noon, yari pa sa kogon ang bu-bong ng mga bahay, ngayon yari na sa

yero." Wika ni G. Labarez, Jr. ang IA President. "Ilan lang ang sasakyan dati, ngayon marami na ang nagmamay-ari ng dyip at van. At kung dati, isang beses lang ang ani, ngayon dalawa na."

Kaya naman bilang katuwang ng NIA, ang mga miyembro ng kanilang asosasyon ay aktibo at maayos na nakikiisa sa mga gawain. Sa tulong ng Sumviltad IA, maayos na napapangalagaan ang irigasyon.

Sa pamamagitan ng maayos na pamamalakad at sa partisipasyon ng mga miyembro, ang Sumviltad IA ay may rate na Very Satisfactory kaya ito ay kandidato para sa isang parangal. Ngayon, patuloy pa rin sila sa pag-iisip ng mga stratehiya para mas gumanda pa ang kanilang koleksyon at para na rin mas mapaunlad pa ang kanilang IA.



*IA Office and the IA dryer*

## The Rebirth of Cabugao FIA

By: Ed G. Yu, PRO NIA Region 5

**U**nity, determination, hard work and the will to make a difference in the lives of its members pushed the officers of Cabugao Farmers Irrigators Association to adopt in 2003 NIA Region 5's pilot testing of the Joint System Management (JSM) Program conceptualized and initiated by the then officer-in-charge and now full-fledged NIA Bicol Regional Manager William P. Ragodon. Little did they know at that time that the JSM they entered into will serve as the key to open the door to their success in the years to come.

In brief, JSM as the name suggests, is a close partnership between NIA and IA in the operation of communal irrigation system (CIS), whereby IA officers and personnel are given by NIA hands-on training in system operation, water distribution, billing, collection, and financial control.

With JSM in place in Cabugao CIS located in Milaor, Camarines Sur, some 10 kilometers away from Naga, its service area of 220 hectares became the focus of attention in terms of improvement in O & M policies and activities, proper water distribution, system maintenance, conflict management, ISF collection, and organizational strengthening.

For 2011, it has a cropping intensity of 256 percent inclusive of 100 hectares of Quick Turn Around and 25 hectares of rationing areas and a collection efficiency of 98 percent.

As of the end of 2010, the FIA has already an advance amortization payment of P368,033.24, a sharp contrast to pre-JSM years when its amortization payments were way below the P69,000 annual amortization.

Records show that in 2003 when it started implementing JSM, Cabugao FIA only paid NIA P29,000.00 in amortization. In 2004, a year after JSM, the amortization payment soared to P180,000.00; P187,500.00 in 2005; P 139,713.24 in 2006 and 2007, the years when super typhoons Milenyo and Reming battered CamSur; P164,500.00 in 2008; and P 153,120.00 in 2009.

But more than Cabugao FIA's phenomenal repayment records to NIA, which made it a recipient of Most Outstanding IA Award (Regional level, CIS Category) for 2004 and 2005, the genuine benefits of its transformation lie in the substantial improvements in the lives of its 155 members. Most if not all the members are now able to send their children to college and indulge in life's little luxuries.

Since 2005, the IA provides funeral assistance to its members, assists in fund-raising projects of the barangay, and participates in socio-religious activities in the community.

Today, a concrete proof of Cabugao FIA's rebirth is a modest IA office singlehandedly built through its own resources.



**OUTSTANDING IA** (Left to right) Cabugao FIA Vice President Pepito Bengco, IA Secretary Nelia Sergio, Director Bernardo Avila pose with NIA Research Assistant Pids Orbina and CamSur IMO IDS chief Engr. Danilo Renolayan during the NIA personnel's recent visit. In the background is the IA office with a floor area of 6 x 6 meters, which was built by the IA through its own resources.





## Breaking the Vicious Cycle Region 6

By: Flor L. Magbanua, Region 6

Nanay Linda smiles brightly as she helps Tatay Bonjing load the last sack of palay to the hauling truck. For the first time in many years, they are going to sell their produce on cash basis. Much more, on a negotiated fair selling price.

Nanay Linda is a Board of Trustee of Salbar Irrigators Association (IA) in Negros Occidental. She and many small farmers are trapped on the vicious cycle of borrowing cash and paying in kind. The loan sharks spent for their farm and other household expenses, then payments were made through their produce upon harvest.

This vicious cycle left the farmers powerless and Salbar IA vowed to empower its members by breaking the cycle. "There is no other way but for the members to act collectively in order to liberate them from the bondage of unjust loan system" says lady president, Juana Jison. "We started our crusade by negotiating Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contract with NIA"

The contract authorized the IA to manage part of the irrigation system including Irrigation Service Fee collection. "It is a tough job, our au-

thority was initially challenged, one big landowner once deliberately violated our policy of "No Payment, No water" and "No clearing, No Water". In the end the landowner paid P500.00 as penalty and deposited P1,000.00 as bond of assurance to his full obedience to the IA."

With the Contract, complaints on irrigation service were gradually minimized as IA personnel were available all the time. The IA strongly advocated "equal right of all farmers over irrigation service regardless of farm location (upstream, midstream, downstream) or distance from irrigation canal". This advocacy led to a Cropping calendar that ensures at least five regular and one ratoon harvests every two years that resulted to annual cropping intensity of over 200 % with collection efficiency of up to 99%. "We are only covering 223 hectares and our first ISF incentive was over P100,000.00. With that rate, it would take about 10 cropping seasons before we can generate enough fund to initially finance our members' production cost" says Marianito Acuna, IA treasurer.

"Still we persevered until we received One Million Pesos from the Department of Agriculture who honored the country's top rice achievers during the first Agri-Pinoy Rice achievers' Award or "Parangal sa mga Bossing ng Palayan" held at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City last February 10, 2012", he added.



Salbar IA Production Loan Management Team during the actual distribution of Production Loan Assistance to members

The Salbar IA was among the Top 5 Irrigators' Associations under the national irrigation system category that was adjudged as top achievers. It was the only IA in the Visayas Region that qualified to the final round of evaluation. Division Manager Joel A. Basiao and Mayor Juliet Ferrer jointly nominated Salbar IA with Regional Manager Gerardo P. Corsiga's endorsement. All qualified nominees were then evaluated based on their assets, Income Generating Projects, advocacy on NIA irrigation operations, LGU support, accredited seed growers, attendance to IA congress, retraining of members, farm equipment, cropping intensity, production, ISF collection efficiency, linkages and IA policy.

The one million-peso cash incentive now serves as rolling capital of the IA that will eventually free all farmers from loan sharks. Never again will Nanay Linda experience the feeling of helplessness seeing her precious sacks of palay hauled away from her.



The Salbar IA Board of Trustees

## SAN D MIL IA, A SUCCESS STORY

By: Camilla Descallar, Region 7

The Bohol Integrated Irrigation System (BIIS) is composed of four national irrigation systems, the Malinao IS, Bayongan IS, Capayas IS and Talibon SRIS. There are 63 Irrigators Associations (IA) organized in the area of BIIS. So far, SAN D MIL tops them all.

The name SAN D MIL came from the combination of a place and a person. SAN stands for San Miguel, the barangay where the IA was born, D for Dagohoy, the town place, and MIL the nickname of the IDO who organized the association. It was a name formed by its first IA President, Mr. Marcelino Ecat and was readily adopted by the Board of Trustees. The association was organized on July 18, 2004, twenty years later from its mother organization, the ESTACA IA. The SAN D MIL IA belonged to Malinao IS.

The SAN D MIL IA manifests positive outlook and character even it was organized eight years from the start of operation of Malinao IS. These qualities could be attributed to the kind of leaders manning the association and carrying out the responsibilities set forth in their By-laws. They are



honest, hardworking, innovative, member-oriented and focused on achieving the vision for the association. In fact, one could be amazed at how all of them know all the IA members including the location of the paddies of each member. One officer could name the TSAG members of another Board of Trustee and could even trace the location of the rice field tilled by each farmer even if he is not their TSAG Chairman. No won-

der the cropping calendar and planting pattern (CCPP) as well as water delivery and distribution (WDD) schedules are very well-implemented and followed because everybody knows the situation of each paddy in particular and the whole service area in general. DISCIPLINE is the principle they constantly follow. The association has maintained well the portion of the lateral under its responsibility. Vegetation



maintained at 1cm and below in height and canal bottom has no accumulated debris and silt. High ISF collection is attributed to the immediate actions done by the officers. A special General Assembly meeting is called weeks before due of ISF payment so that members will be reminded always of their obligations to NIA. Errant members will be called in the barangay's Lupong Tagapayapa.

Within eight years of its existence, the association has already its own office equipped with office equipment such as computer and typewriter among others. It has a flat-bed dryer and a small multi-purpose hall where the members hold their meetings and other organizational activities. Construction of multi-purpose drying pavement is scheduled within 2012.

The IA was also chosen as one of the IAs who could avail of the Farm Mechanization Program of the Department of Agriculture which culminated in 2011. The IA was required to produce 30% of the amount of the equipment and the 70% will be shouldered by the government. The Provincial Government through the leadership of the

Honorable Governor Edgar M. Chatto in 2011 shouldered the 30 % equity for Farm Mechanization. SAN D MIL was one of the recipients of a one unit mechanical thresher and hand tractor which are scheduled for delivery this year.

The association is actively participating in the DA's Community Seed Banking Program in which Registered Seeds in kilos will be distributed to some IA members for production. After harvest, the produce which is already certified seeds will be bartered by co-members. With this program, the farmers are always assured of ready and available seeds every cropping.

A sack of fertilizer was given for free to members who adopted ratooning. This summer is the second time the IA availed

The association received the following recognition and achievements:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Certificate of Recognition | 1st Runner-up in ISF Collection, Wet Season 2006. |
| Plaque of Recognition      | Most Outstanding IA in 2009 for Region 7 (NIS).   |
| Certificate of Recognition | Most Improved IA in Networking and Linkaging      |
| Certificate of Recognition | Most Outstanding IA in 2010 for Region 7 (NIS).   |
| Plaque of Recognition      | Most Outstanding IA in 2011 for Region 7 (NIS).   |
| Plaque of Recognition      | Most Discipline IA for the Year 2011              |
| Certificate of Recognition | Best in Organizational Discipline in 2011         |
| Certificate of Achievement | SAN D MIL IA for Dry 2011.                        |

of the Ratooning Program of Congressman Erico B. Aumentado, Representative of the Second District of Bohol. For further support, the association offered Agricultural Financial Loan Assistance to its members.

SAN D MIL is a nominee for the Most Outstanding IA in 2011 (NIS Category) in the National Level with a rating of 100.10%. The score might not be enough for the association to receive an award during the 49th NIA Anniversary but they are determined to do the best they can to grab the highest honor of an Irrigators' Association in the near future.

## HINGATUNGAN IA: A DREAM REALIZED

IDS Unit- Biliran-Leyte del Norte-Leyte del Sur IMO

### KATONING DIVERSION WORKS



When one thinks about patience and discipline the Hingatungan Irrigators Association (IA) of Silago, Southern Leyte comes to mind. It is the very qualities of the IA members under the able leadership of Mr. Virgilio T. Tosloc as its IA President that propelled their association to where it is now. Before their only dream was to secure food on their tables, now they have made leaps and bounds as to perks they now enjoy.

The Hingatungan Irrigators' Association, Inc., of Brgy. Hingatungan, Silago, Southern Leyte was chosen as the most outstanding Irrigators' Association (IA) under CARP-IC in Region 8 for CY 2011. It is one of the beneficiary associations of Hingatungan Communal Irrigation System which covers a serviceable area of 89.0 has. The IA has 112 total farmer-beneficiaries with 100% membership.

The system was originally constructed by NIA in 1986 from its regular funds (CIDIP). Due to the steep slope traversed by the earth main canal before reaching their irrigable area, the fast current of the irrigation water cut through the canal making it difficult to tap for irrigation. The IA had to always render the tedious canal clearing, desilting and restoration activities. Known for being hardworking as any farmer could be, the IA Officers & members have been continuously requesting the NIA for concrete-lined main canals to alleviate their problem. Responsive to the needs of the farmers, NIA proposed the rehabilitation of Hingatungan CIS under the Visayas Communal Irrigation & Participatory Project (VCIPP) in 1998, with a total cost of P5.149M.

A recipient of several training & capability building, Hingatungan IA, Inc., rose to become one of the most disciplined, viable and active associations of Southern Leyte. The monthly Board of Trustees (BOT)/Officers and General Assembly Meeting have an average of 90% attendance. They have a policy that only those farmers actually engaged in the field farming activities should attend O&M meetings to insure adherence to agreed schedule of water delivery and pattern of planting and system maintenance activities. They have a 100% ISF collection efficiency and currently providing multipurpose credit loans to their members.

"Kani adto maka ani ra ako ug kasagaran 80 ka sako nga humay sa usa ka hektarya sa wala pa ang irigasyon. Apan karon nga na human na ang among irigasyon mo abot na ug 100 ka sako ang akong ani sa usa ka hektarya mao nga naka palit ako ug hand tractor ug thresher". (My increase in yield from an average of 80 cavans/ha. before rehabilitation, to 100 cavans/ha. after rehabilitation, enabled me to procure a hand tractor & thresher, says Mr. Antonio Tulang, former president of Hingatungan IA. Although the increase in yield was gradual, every cropping season, it motivated us to use high yielding or hybrid varieties giving us more income, Mr. Tulang added.

The good leadership of its BOT/officers and the solid cooperation of members enabled Hingatungan IA to receive their first award as an Outstanding IA for 2008, Regional Level CIS Category. Now, they were again adjudged as Outstanding IA Regional Level CIS Category CY 2011 through the

*Continue reading to page 6*

### CANAL LINING





# A Dream Realized

By: Ma. Teresa Empleo, Region 9

*Sweat streaked down the contour of the sunburned face of a farmer, and one by one it dropped to the land he was tilling, the day was long and the sun was scorching. It was the first of the many thousand days of glorious hard-labor with his faithful reliable carabao. A momentary bliss washed over him as he looked up to meet the gaze of the blazing sun. It was the epitome of a dream come true, the birth of several other dreams, and the casting of a brighter future. The year was 1979, the year the irrigation reached his very land.*

## Life before the Irrigation Project

The same feeling was replicated a hundred times in the land of Timbaboy and Poblacion B, the two adjacent barangays of the municipality of Midsalip in the province of Zamboanga del Sur, when the irrigation project of NIA came into reality. Long before the irrigation project was implemented, the residents who were mostly Cebuanos were generally living in small houses made of nipa and cogon. Poverty made higher education an impossible dream.

The vast and fertile plain areas of these two barangays were planted with corn, coconut, and root crops while only small areas were planted with rice and vegetables. Farmers were solely dependent on rainwater and small creeks for their crops. And since there was no potable water system in the barangays, the residents constructed their own shallow tubewell for drinking and domestic purposes.

The growing discontent over the meager earnings among the farmers of these two barangays came to an end, when one of the farmers' sons was employed in 1976 as survey aide in a nearby irrigation construction of Guma CIS undertaken by NIA-Provincial Office for Guma farmers. This connection opened opportunities for barangays Timbaboy and Poblacion B to organize itself and realize their dream of having an irrigation system in their farms. As part of the survey team, his son recommended Timbaboy and Poblacion B as areas for possible irrigation project. His father assisted him and facilitated in the actual survey of the area. The proposed irrigation project for Timbaboy was approved in 1978, and in the following year, the construction started and completed on the same year. The farmers were organized into an association named Timbaboy Irrigators' Service Association (Timbaboy ISA), Inc. by the institutional officer of Farm System Development Corporation (FSDC).

## Reaping the Fruit of Labor

A decade later, Timbaboy ISA, Inc. was reorga-

nized and changed its name to Timbaboy-Poblacion B Irrigators' Association (TIMPOBIA), Inc. since FSDC already ceased operation. Institutionalization continued and the farmers became more responsive and participative to all activities. Although lower class farmers with an average landholding of 1.0 hectare composed TIMPOBIA, the fervor to reach their goals was exceptional. The continuous conduct of monthly regular meetings – General Assembly, BOD and Kaisahan; group work activities and repair and improvements of their system from their own funds, have made them a consistent recipient of numerous awards. Their exemplary teamwork was recognized in the National level when they were hailed as Most Outstanding IA of the Year for two consecutive years 1997 and 1998.

As an association geared towards uplifting the socio-economic life of its farmer-members and the community as a whole, TIMPOBIA, Inc. gradually gained assets through the years. In 1992, TIMPOBIA, Inc. ventured into forming a cooperative named MIFAMCO. Cooperative members were also irrigators but later, membership was extended to non-irrigators and to nearby municipalities. This initiative was highly recognized and appreciated by their community. Recently, the association generated its own fund through investing in agri-business or Income Generating Programs (IGP) such as building a Consumers' Store, rental of their tractor and thresher equipment, buy and sell activities, and the plowing of their 1/8 of a hectare IA-owned farm.

Along with these developments is the improved quality of life of its farmer-members. Farmers are now able to send their children to better schools and even support through college. They now have access to commodities that seemed to be elusive decades ago.

"Tungod sa tubig nga niabot, ni uswag na ang mga tawo. Kung wala ang irigasyon malisud guihapon unta among kahimtang" (Because of the water that reached us, people's life have dramatically advanced. If not for irrigation, we would have been in the same difficult situation) as shared by Mr. Timplado, the former President of Timbaboy, now Timbaboy adviser.

Presently, TIMPOBIA, Inc. has 210 farmer beneficiaries with serviceable area of 269 hectares, and a possibility of additional irrigable area of 10 hectares to be proposed this year. Still on expansion, the TIMPOBIA Inc. Office and IA Hall are currently undergoing improvements using their own IA fund and the cash incentive

they received from the Central Office when they bagged the Most Outstanding IA for two consecutive years.

## The Secret Ingredients

Due to IA officers' and members' unity and cooperation supported by implementation of strong policies and systems, TIMPOBIA, Inc. obtained high irrigation fee collection efficiency. Systematically, all irrigation fee and dues were incorporated in the water service bill per Kaisahan, and then remitted to the Kaisahan Treasurer. The General Treasurer will then present the financial statement to the General Assembly every month. Thus, problems regarding ISF collection are identified earlier and immediately addressed to because of this constant follow-up via regular meetings.

Operation and Maintenance (O & M) policies and systems, that is, cropping calendar, water distribution, maintenance and amortization fee collection were formulated by the Board of Trustees and presented to the Sectoral level then to the General Assembly for adoption and approval. This bottom-up process proved to be efficient to date as all O & M policies were followed and implemented. A sense of ownership of its policies is established in this kind of process since remarks and concerns came from the ground level, and then headed up for adoption and approval.

Systematic implementation of policies coupled with the right attitude of farmers paved way to the eventual success of this association. Many strategies will be introduced and trainings will improve this association even more, but what made them succeed as a whole is the unselfish dedication of its members to the mission and vision of the organization leading them to form a cohesive team ready to contest through every crisis that come their way.

A once piece of a farmer's humble dream collectively carried out had changed the life of many, a reality to be passed on generation after generation continuing the legacy of hard work and genuine love for the native land. Indeed, author-poet Carl Sandburg was right when he said, "nothing happens, unless first a dream."





## GAINING SUPPORT THROUGH PERSISTENT HARDWORK

By: Maria Annabelle Ebdalin, Sr. IDO, Bukidnon IMO

Laligan Irrigators Association (IA) Inc. is one of the 42 IAs in Pulangui River Irrigation System, under the Bukidnon Irrigation Management Office, Valencia City, Bukidnon, Region 10. The IA has 211 farmer-members with Mr. Jose Babet C. Feranil as its president.

Since its existence in the year 1984, attaining a satisfactory rating based on the IA functionality results had been a challenge to the management. This lasted until year 2003. Laligan IA, Inc. performance in functionality started to improve in year 2004 up to the present and maintained its rating as outstanding for three years.

The improved rating was attributed to the strong leadership of Mr. Feranil, who strictly implemented the IA policies particularly on Irrigation Service Fee collection and the synchronized scheme of planting. At first, majority of the members did not appreciate the implementation and even adversely affected his candidacy for barangay councilman in 2006 election. But in spite of his defeat, the

crusade continued until his endeavour gained support from the members and from the neighbouring Irrigators Associations.

In effect, the Laligan IA, Inc. became consistent Outstanding IA since CY-2009. The IA collected more than 95 % of its current account collectibles. Obviously, everyone in the IA appreciated the management and implementation of the cropping calendar (CC) and pattern of planting (PP) in the area. The system of planting is commonly known as the synchronized planting and the IA members called it "Synchronous Planting"

Other IAs tried to emulate the remarkable performances and accomplishments of Laligan IA, such as: maintenance activities of the irrigation facilities and structures; implementation of CC and PP; and served as show window in water rotation.

The continued efforts resulted to increased benefitted area, improved production and minimal use of organic pesticides. The



members became interested in organic farming. Thus, the leaders planned to venture on organic fertilizer production using the resources within their farm vicinity. This livelihood project aimed to help farmer members augment their income as well as improved production.

The attainment of the IA's plans and programs may not be possible without the dedication and commitment of the officers in implementing the IA policies. Consequently, the IA president and vice president are in the public service as barangay councilmen.

## Explore BADAGROY IA

By: Bernadette G. Robin, Region 11



*... where success in irrigation is not all about strength ... it is Strategy.*

Down the south of NIA-XI is BADAGROY (from Barayong, Dalawinon and Calamagoy), a large communal irrigation system (CIS) nestling in an aggregate area of 2,350 hectares of irrigated rice farms. The Badagoy CIS covers 15 districts of eight (8) barangays and two (2) rural communities in the municipalities of Magsaysay and Matanao, Davao del Sur. A lush of vast rice land spreading all over the town conveys a landscape of productivity and evokes farmers' passion for rice farming. For a CIS, Badagoy is an irrigation system of strength and magnitude.

With its innate resources, Bulatukan River and the wide plain ready for the irrigation water supply, Badagoy has an Irrigators Association of equal strength- the Badagoy Irrigation Association (BIA), Inc. The BIA has 1,680 homegrown farmer-members who took by heart the legacy of land and farming skills they inherit from their forebears.

In retrospect, Badagoy IA had its founder, Faustino Foronda, who in 1950 migrated from Ilocos, Northern Luzon to Magsaysay, Davao del Sur, bringing with him the culture of diligence and hardwork. He led the diversion of water from Bulatukan River and built the historical first dam that signified the birth of irrigation and set off the growth of the association.

IA membership grew from the 18 founding members to more than 200 members and non-member users of the system. The varied personalities with different opinion eventually caused disorder to the IA. Such was a tough organizational challenge to hurdle. Finally, the problem was resolved before requesting the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) for irrigation assistance ... that began the NIA-BIA partnership. BIA among others, submitted to NIA's communal development implementation under the participatory approach program. With NIA behind them, BIA never ceased improving.

Managing Badagoy CIS requires some tough strategies - both management and viability strategies. The Management is headed by the BIA ExeCom as



they call it, composed of the five(5) Board of Directors (BODs), with uniform salary of P 300.00 per day. BIA's 10 office staff receive a minimum wage rate with allowances and other benefits.

For the management strategies, foremost, BIA emphasizes SERVICE using organizational discipline for the entire membership. This entails a lot of communication and compassion in relating BIA's by-laws and policies as implemented with strict compliance. For BIA Officials, they should be the role models. All elected IA officers and BODs should be members in good standing. Nomination requires that among other qualifications, candidates aspiring for official positions of Badagoy IA must be a good payer of water and other fees of the association. Stressing the No Political Intervention Policy, BIA does not support, promote, campaign and treat with favor any politician to protect the integrity of the association and sustain a "blemish-free IA".

*Viability Strategies keep up and increase BIA's capabilities.*

**Rice Production.** Participating in rice production closely, Badagoy achieved a cropping intensity of 200% during wet and dry seasons. Cropping Calendar Plan was strictly adhered for synchronized planting. Using the Synchronized Planting for an area of 2,350 hectares and planted twice a year, Badagoy produced 658,000 cavans or 32,900 metric tons of palay; harvesting an average yield of 140 cavans/hectare/cropping or seven (7) tons/hectare/cropping. The highest individual farmer production reached 7.8 metric tons/hectare/cropping as per harvest report of CY 2011. They made an ample contribution in meeting grains requirement and in support to the government's Food Staple Sufficiency Program (FSSP).

Badagoy IA is Rice Achievers Awardee of the AgriPinoy Program awarded on February 10, 2012 at the PICC, Manila, where it received a cash award of P 1,000,000.00 which is earmarked for Seed Production Project.

*Continue reading to next page*



**IA ASSETS**

Recognizing their outstanding performance and integrity in their craft, the Department of Agriculture initiated a Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement between Badagoy IA, National Irrigation Administration, Region XI and the Department of Agriculture making BIA a channel of rice information and data in pursuit of the government's FSSP.

**Seed Production and Seed Banking.** Badagoy itself is a seed producer for its members along with other individual growers in the system. Seed banking makes seed stocks readily available for its members. Foundation seeds from PhilRice, registered seeds in-bred rice varieties of Philrice, PSB RC 10, 82; NSIC 158, 212, 214, 160 and 222; and F1 Hybrid Seeds of the Department of Agriculture have been distributed to farmers. At present, BIA's Farm has expanded chiefly for seed production.

**Farmers' Contribution/Equity Scheme.** BIA sells farm inputs such as seeds and fertilizers. Farmers buy seed at a lower price at P 1,400.00/sack. The fertilizer is pegged at P 1,300/ bag. If withdrawn on account, inputs would bear a 10% interest or treated as Equity/cropping. The seeds that the BIA sells are produced from their own farms while the fertilizers, was given a capital outlay of P 8,000,000.00. As of CY 2011, BIA earned P 4,000,000.00 from the sales.

**Mortgage Investment/Small Scale.** For areas laden with back accounts, the IA takes in custody the land title and advances the mortgaged and agreed amount to the farmer after deducting his unpaid accounts with the IA. BIA manages the said mortgage land and assigns the farmer owner as "maintainer" compensated with 10% of the gross income. At present, BIA has eight (8) hectares of mortgaged land. As of CY 2011, BIA has accumulated and derived an income of P 100,000.00/hectare/cropping.

**from page 23 Explore BADAGOY IA**

**Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) Collection.** BIA has NO COLLECTOR for the ISF. Farmer users pay irrigation fees and other dues in the IA office in Cash or in Check. The IA aims to train members go to the IA office and settle their accounts responsibly; 10% discount is granted on prompt and advance payments on current water fee accounts. BIA has garnered a Collection Efficiency (CE) of 100% or equivalent to P 4.04 Million.

Farmers pay an ISF of P 900.00/hectare/cropping. Although BIA has been attaining 100% CE or currently P 4.04M, ISF alone could not support the BIA's operation and maintenance expenses in the amount of P 6.262M. As such, instead of increasing ISF, BIA invested in Farmers' Equity Scheme and Mortgaging in which case, have added to their income.

**Income from Expansion area.** Water Rental of 5% of the users' total Net Income. The Watermaster collects with an incentive of 16% of the total collection.

**Drying Fees & Storage.** Each Dryer can accommodate 1,000 bags at P 2.00/ bag of wet palay; corn and copra at P5.00/bag. Drying facilities are located at the different districts sponsored by the DA and the NIA: 11 units Districts Multi-Purpose Pavement, 1,038 sq. m Central Solar Drier and 3 units Flat Bed Drier. Hence, they earned income from the drying fees.

**Penalties and Fines.** With strict implementation of policies, BIA collected fines and penalties in the amount of P 261,244.12 for CY 2011.

These achievements challenge BIA more to work hard enhancing not only their financial positions but their values and sustainability as well. For the record, as of CY 2011, with a total Assets of P 114,733,683.00, BIA has a Gross Income of P 17,000,000.00 and a NET of P 13,000,000.00 making the association more viable.

Badagoy IA has earned various awards and commendations. It has been a consistent Most Outstanding IA for CIS Category nationwide for exemplary O&M performance making Badagoy IA the first NIA HALL OF FAME AWARDEE – NATIONWIDE, CIS Category CY 2003.

Many Technology Enhancement Programs (TEPs), educational tours and the like make their way to Badagoy for a CIS destination and haven of learning in irrigation development from the IA's point of view. And most succeeded in transferring the technology to their own turf.

*Of Strengths and Strategies ... Badagoy has both.*

**Napal-Conel Road IA, Inc. Great Performer: Multi-Awardee IA**

By: Evelyn A. Bragasin, PRO Region 12

Managing an association and keeping it afloat is not simple and easy. It should have leaders who have guts, determination, selflessness and dedication not to mention a lot of sacrifice.

Napal-Conel Road IA, Inc. or NACORIA of Siluay-Buayan RIS in General Santos City is an excellent example of an Irrigators Association which started as a fledgling group of farmers who envisioned to alleviate their standard of living through irrigated agriculture. With only 150 hectares of agricultural land and 42 members, the officers started working out their plans for the association.

Even in its early years as an association, NACORIA has performed well and got better as years passed until it came to a point when the association began garnering awards not only from the Local Government Units and other organizations but foremost from the NIA at the Regional level and eventually at the national level where, as the region's nominee, it placed 4th runner-up for its performance in CY 2009.

The greatest achievement of NACORIA is its having been chosen as one of the Top 5 Agri-Pinoy Rice Achievers Awardees of the Department of Agriculture for CY 2011. The officers of the association accompanied

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by Siluay-Buayan RIS Chief Engr. Gina L. Lozano received their Plaque of Commendation and the P1Million cash award at the Philippine International Convention Center, Metro Manila on February 12, 2012.

This year, NACORIA is again at the forefront of awardees. During the 34th Anniversary celebration of NIA Region 12, the IA received two awards, namely: Golden Star for achieving the Highest Functionality Survey Rating among the National Irrigation Systems IAs and the Most Outstanding IA of Region 12 under the NIS category.

NACORIA was chosen as First Runner-up in the Nationwide Search for Most Outstanding IA for CY 2011 under the National Irrigation System category. The awarding was done at NIA Central Office during the agency's 49th Anniversary celebration with the IA receiving a Plaque of Commendation and P100TH cash award.

Indeed, NACORIA has gone a long way since its organization. This writer was shown around their office compound and could attest to the various achievements of the association based on the various equipment, materials and agri-business ventures she saw. The NACORIA office is very impressive with an airconditioning unit, computer set, steel cabinets and other office furniture and fixtures.

Ask what their secret of success is, NACORIA President Danilo Ea said that foremost is the cooperation shown by all the officers and members in the undertakings of the association. Moreover, the officers see to it that policies formulated by the association are strictly enforced. In this way, discipline is instilled in the members. Erring members are properly sanctioned or reprimanded depending on the gravity of their lapses or non-compliance to existing policies.

Presently, the officers of NACORIA continue to look for other ventures in addition to the milling, renting of farm machineries and drying facilities to members and non-members and farm financing. They envision to make their association a potent conduit of development not only to their association but to the entire agricultural community in General Santos City because they believe that farming is no longer a work being looked down but is already a very lucrative undertaking.

Indeed, NACORIA has come of age. With the rate things are going in the association, there is no way but up for them.



## SUCCESS STORY OF BOAN CIS

By: Silvestre C. Albores, PRO Region 13



### A. PROFILE

The Boan Communal Irrigation System (CIS) is located at Brgy. Waian, Rosario, Agusan del Sur (Caraga Region) with an original area of 100 hectares now expanding to about 305 hectares. The CIS was constructed on December 16, 1977 while Boan Barangay Irrigation Development Association Incorporation (BBIDAI), was registered with SEC on September 17, 1977. Its Water Permit was approved on September 15, 1987.

### B. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Like an ordinary IA, BBIDAI began with a simple management on its system. Problems were encountered but solved mainly through strict implementation of their policies attributed to the cooperation of IA officers and members.

The support of Barangay and Municipal LGUs contributed to the success of the CIS. Having farms within the system, some barangay officials of Wasian and Former Mayor Emiliano E. Rodriguez were members of BBIDAI and became role models in paying amortization on time. They were also instrumental in implementing IA policies.

The association fully paid and obtained the ownership of the system during the leadership of Mr. Hilario R. Amas. The BBIDAI established linkages with other agricultural support agencies and availed programs beneficial to the association.

They also believed that the association's success can be attained by fair administration of policies and guidelines. One example of their policy was a fine of P2,000.00 illegal diversion of water to his farmland (P2,000 is already a huge amount in 1998). Regulations were faithfully abided by the officers and members and no one was spared of penalty once a violation was committed. Due to strict implementation, members slowly understood the "sense of ownership" of the system and participated in preservation and care of irrigation facilities.

### C. FARM FINANCING STRATEGIES

Thru irrigation members' rice production significantly increased which qualified them to avail loan from lending institutions. For every P1,000.00, an initial 50-kilo interest was imposed until it was reduced to 15-20 kilos due to stiff competition among lenders. Every transaction passed through the IA for recommendation and assurance of the IA member's repayment. The IA in return would get commission for every perfected transaction and treated as income for their association.

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**SUCCESS STORY OF BOAN CIS**

The IA with its financial ability solely finances the farming activities of the members and determines the amount to be loaned based on the members' capacity to pay and the average production. The IA ensures that every centavo borrowed should be directly utilized to their members' farms without unnecessary diversion to other goods.

For the members who cannot pay the ISF and/or their loans, the IA takes over the management of the borrowers' farm with an option to till his land under the prevailing lease/rent condition until he fully pays. The scheme has contributed to the income of the association and helped the farmer members settle IA obligation.

**D. BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

Observing that rice trading agents and small rice traders without a single rice farm were found to be richer in their community encouraged BBIDAI to engage in business. The Association started rice trading through sharing commission from the highest bidder who got the whole system's produced, and eventually, ventured directly in business. Members' produced milled in Tagum City were then distributed to big rice marketing outlets with higher negotiated price. BBIDAI also gainfully engaged in rice sack trading every cropping season.

The IA received commission from the fertilizer and pesticide dealers for every item sold to the members and at the end of the year, a bonus item is given as gift. An example was a Light Ace Van from a legitimate supplier of pesticides. The IA officers and members utilized the van as service vehicle making transactions with other entities.

These business ventures are the main sources of their fund for equity in case a need for repair of damaged irrigation facilities arises.

Individual members prefer to sell their produce directly to BBIDAI because of higher prices compared to outside rice buyers. They also gain other benefits plus the commission extended by the association. Incentives are offered to other non members especially those free producers (without finances from other creditors) who choose to sell their produce to BBIDAI.

Aside from acquiring a fully furnished IA and Bodega, BBIDAI has two hauler trucks for rent to other rice traders during lean months, one Light Ace Van as service vehicle and farm lots. These were acquired during the incumbency of Mr. Amas as their president from 1992 up to present.

The National Irrigation Administration played an important role in developing BBIDAI from its inception. Mr. Peter E. Pablo, then Irrigation Development Officer A helped a lot in its progress. The Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) as the financing arm of this association offered loan programs to its members while the Local Government Unit (LGU) and the Department of Agriculture (DA) supported the strict implementation of the IA policies and introduced new technology to increase rice production, respectively.

**E. OFFICERS DIRECTION**

Series of trainings undergone by BBIDAI Officers were effectively applied in the management of association. The officers were in constant search for the opportunities and programs extended by the government and private institutions the association can avail. Officers' transparency in performing their duties and responsibilities kept them elected.

Officers receive honoraria every month with SSS benefits. Each official serves as officer of the day in the IA office to entertain visitors. During harvest season, a 24/7 business operation takes place making all the officers busy.

**F. MEMBERS' MOTIVATION**

Even the farmers who could not avail of irrigation water from the system aspired to become member only to avail the services and privileges the farmer-members enjoy.

Medical and Death assistance are given to all bona fide members. Even their immediate relatives avail the benefit as long as they are in good standing with the association.

The IA extended loans and mortgages to qualified members subject to IA Officials' screening and approval.

Livelihood programs are extended to member's wives.

Assembly meetings are attended religiously with enthusiasm. Their patience and determination paid off with give-aways before the meeting is adjourned.

Irrigators Associations from other regions frequently visit to observe, learn and replicate the efficient management of BBIDAI in the operation and maintenance of the system.

Boan CIS served as a living symbol of farmers' sacrifice contrary to a primitive principle that farming is an occupation of survival. Irrigation paved the way for farmers to enjoy increased production; it opened the gates of entrepreneurial perspective through the association empowering farmers from rice traders' exploitation. In spite of numerous awards BBIDAI reaped, its officers and members remained humble but dynamic in pursuing developmental plans for the association. Apparently, the IA had already reached its goal of success owing to officers' determination and sacrifices, cooperation of members, support from other stakeholders and most of all "God's grace" to carry on.

**IA ASSETS**



## MTG PLIVIRISCAF: A TALE OF SYNERGY AND SUCCESS

By: Ma. Isobel F. Padolina, PRO UPRIIS

**M**TG PLIVIRISCAF Irrigators' Association (IA) of the Upper Pampanga River Integrated Irrigation Systems (UPRIIS) is a happy and fulfilled organization. They are starting to enjoy the returns brought about by an excellent teamwork and supervision of irrigation facilities under the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) Program of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). There were 56 turnout service groups (TSAG) organized that formed the MTG PLIVIRISCAF in Calisitan, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija. The name is an acronym of the towns it covered namely Muñoz, Talugtog, Guimba and the barangays of Pandalla, Linglingay, Labney, Villa Isla, Rang-ayan, Villa Santos, Severona, Santa Ana, Cavite and Faigal covering a total of 1,336 hectares of riceland.

It was in December of 2008 when the management of Casecnan Project Phase 1 was officially transferred to UPRIIS. It became the new division of UPRIIS and was named Division V managed by Engr. Eugenio O. Conde Jr. who has been their best adviser in dealing and solving irrigation-related problems with the assistance of UPRIIS Operations Manager, **Engr. Josephine B. Salazar**.

Since then, MTG PLIVIRISCAF proved that they are an organization that can stand on their own as a strong partner of UPRIIS in delivering irrigation service to 1,313 farmers. Their will and determination from the time the irrigation canals were constructed convinced the UPRIIS management to grant them an Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) Contract beginning Wet Crop of 2008.

At the start of their operation under the IMT Contract, they were already given an incentive because of their outstanding collections. They initially received a total of P365,167.92 which continued to increase each year. Members didn't realize that it could bring pride and honor to the association as they became the nation's Second Most Outstanding Irrigators Association in 2009. This sudden fame even earned them international recognition from the people of Bangladesh and India, and the Asian Development Bank.

Through the IMT Program, MTG PLIVIRISCAF shares in the management of the irrigation system in their respective area. A 15,000 square meter lot was provided to accommodate the construction of its office located in Brgy. Pandalla, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija. It became their official headquarters where the officials and members of the IA including UPRIIS' Senior Water Resources Facilities Technician (SWRFT) and Senior Irrigators Development Officer (SIDO) provide services. They also have a Multi-Purpose Hall where meetings are conducted and a Flatbed Dryer granted by the Department of Agriculture through the Bureau of Postharvest and Extension.

Year after year, MTG PLIVIRISCAF became recipient of various recognitions and awards

including NIA's Most Outstanding Irrigators Association for the Year 2010 and the Most Outstanding Irrigators Association under the DA-Agri Pinoy Rice Achievers Award for the Year 2011 like they were ranked as number one among the top five IAs who were also given the same award. Aside from the Plaque of Recognition, they also received a cash reward of P1,000,000.00.

Because of their relentless and remarkable achievements, they became a tourist destination of other IAs in the country. Some of them travel all the way from Visayas and Mindanao just to see the fruits of their labors. They are in fact the testimony of the IMT Program's success.

The shares they received from UPRIIS continues to escalate from thousands to millions. Now, the association has a total networth of P3,810,000.00. They have purchased their own office equipment, furnitures and various appliances. Their flatbed dryer has been an added source of income. Furthermore, they are also into agro-chemical and fertilizer distributorship as well as rice seed production and marketing.

From the very beginning, MTG PLIVIRISCAF's management is headed by its President, Mr. Marcelo M. De Vera who is very active, supportive and sensitive to the needs of the farmers in their service area. On the other hand, the Board of Trustees who started its creation were Mr. Pio Floresca as the Chairman, Mr. Nestor Bernardino as Vice Chairman and Mr. Reynaldo Urbano as the Secretary. Together, they worked hard to bring the association to where it is right now.

The achievements of MTG PLIVIRISCAF greatly helped improved the quality of living of the farmers as they also gave superb distinction to their own association. Thus, it paved the way for other Irrigators Associations to strive for more and to replicate the things that they have done. The stronger the bond UPRIIS has with them will bring the agency to greater heights as well. And while they keep on performing excellently, it's no wonder that they will constantly be at the top.



IA ASSETS







## THE FRUITS OF BARANGAYAN SIETE'S EFFORT

By: Ma. Isobel F. Padolina, PRO UPRIIS



Patience, hardwork and unity are the main ingredients for Barangayan Siete Irrigators' Association's (IA) success. For more than 10 years of its existence, waiting never became a burden on their will to progress. Today, they are reaping the fruits of their perseverance.

Barangayan Siete IA, Inc. is an awardee as the "Third Most Outstanding IA" under the DA-Agri Pinoy Rice Achievers Award for year 2011 where they received a plaque and a cash reward of P1,000,000.00.

Before that, Barangayan Siete was a consistent awardee for the Best IA in Systems Operations in Division V.

Barangayan Siete is within Division V of UPRIIS under Division Manager, Engr. Eugenio O. Conde Jr. Division V is covered by UPRIIS with Operations Manager Josephine B. Salazar.

Barangayan Siete was organized on November 21, 2001 with 912 hectares service area, 38 Turn-out Service Groups, benefitting 707 farmers from the five barangays of the Science City of Muñoz,

Nueva Ecija where it originated. Its source of water is the Pantabangan Dam. They are one of the twelve IAs of Division V under the Irrigation Management Transfer Program (IMT).

In December 2008, through the support of the Casecnan Multi-purpose Irrigation and Power Project (CMIPP), the IA was granted a 339 square meter lot for the construction of its office located in Barangay Rizal, Muñoz City. This was facilitated by its officers namely Mr. Gaudencio L. Gadong as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees (BOT), Mr. Fidelito G. Pascua Sr., Vice-Chairman, Mr. Nicanor L. Quiros, Secretary and Mr. Marcelino O. Antonio, president.

The association's continued linkage with the Department of Agriculture became a medium to attain farm and post harvest machineries and equipment such as 8 units reapers, 2 units rice/corn threshers, 1 digital moisture meter, 1 unit mini cono/rice mill, 1 unit weighing scale, 1 unit flatbed



dryer and a warehouse. Their members turned out to be the pioneers of Hybrid Rice Seed Production which gave more yield for the farmers in partnership with the Philippine Rice Research Institute (Philrice). Also, they were part of the National Food Authority's (NFA) Program called Institutionalized Farmer-As-Distributors (IFAD) of Rice.

Operations-wise, the IA started earning thousands of IA incentives from 2008 until now. The highest gained was in 2010 where they attained 110.94% in Collection Efficiency that earned them almost half a million (P474,809.26) income from Irrigation Service Fee Collections. This brought the association an astounding P5,547,103.78 network at present.

Currently, the association's officers are Mr. Gadong, President, Bernardo L. Cabanilla, Vice-president, Orlando Huliganga, Secretary and Ernesto B. Mogro, Treasurer. On the other hand, all the incumbent chairmen of the five barangays act as Technical Advisers together with Division V's Senior Water Resources Facilities Technician, Mr. Miguel L. Mina and Senior Irrigators Development Officer, Mr. Jimmy A. Rigos.

Working in tandem with UPRIIS, Barangayan Siete keeps on aspiring to beat every record year after year, competing healthily against other IAs within the division. Since the emergence of sustainable irrigation system provided by UPRIIS, the farmers' lives tremendously improved. Likewise, the operation and maintenance of irrigation canals is easier due to the IMT Contract.

Overall, while the farmers are enjoying the benefits of sufficient supply of water for their crops, Barangayan Siete IA serves as their vehicle to realize all their dreams of having a better life, at the same time contributing to the goals of UPRIIS and NIA as a whole.



Barangayan Siete Irrigators Association Inc. office



Thresher 1



Post harvest



Thresher 2



Flat bed dryer



# UPRIIS 2011 Annual System Performance Award Winners

By: MIF Padolina

The most-awaited UPRIIS Annual Awarding Ceremonies was held at UPRIIS Gymnasium in Cabanatuan City during the UPRIIS Christmas Party celebration with the presence of NIA Administrator, Hon. Antonio S. Nangel, former UPRIIS Operations Manager who is truly adored by the whole UPRIIS family.

It was a special night for Division III reaping five (5) major awards including the Best Division Award received by our UPRIIS Operations Manager, Engr. Josephine B. Salazar who was then the Division III Manager.

Picking up his first ever recognition as Irrigation Management Office Manager is Engr. Carlito M. Gapasin of Division IV who gave his division a big leap being awarded as the Most Improved Division of UPRIIS in 2011.

Meanwhile, Division V remained very effective with its collection efforts as evidenced by its Highest Current Account (CA) Efficiency Award under the dynamic leadership of its Manager, Engr. Eugenio O. Conde Jr.

On the other hand, as regards Institutional Development Implementation, Division II headed by its Manager, Engr. Joselito A. Mangunay bagged the Best in IDP Award.

Top Irrigators' Associations (IA) for 2011 were also recognized in which MTG Pliviriscap of Division V obtained most of the awards particularly the Most Outstanding IA under the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) Program of NIA.

With the millions of money poured at UPRIIS, due credit was given to Outstanding Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) Collectors who, because of their undying commitment to NIA have individually collected some amount ranging from 3 Million to 6 Million Pesos in ISF for the year 2011. They were honored as the Multi-Millionaire's Club of UPRIIS, a distinction that every ISF Collectors aspires to belong.

Among the 42 ISF Collectors from Divisions II, III, IV, and V, Mr. Melquiades M. Saragpon, Senior Water Resource Facilities Technician (SWRFT) of Division III emerged as the topnotcher having the highest accumulated collection of more than 7 Million Pesos for CY 2011. Aside from the Plaque of Recognition, a Cash Incentive Award was also given to all the lucky winners. The affair is held annually to honor the exemplary and commendable performance of the officials, employees and IAs of UPRIIS as they not only contribute to UPRIIS' overflowing progress but more importantly in helping NIA in attaining corporate viability.



## MOST OUTSTANDING IA UNDER IMT PER DIVISION:

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Division I  | CRISTAMAKITA IA     |
| Division II | SAMAHANG DAMAYAN IA |
| Division IV | MAGAAN IA           |
| Division V  | MTG PLIVIRISCAF     |

## DIVISION LEVEL MAJOR AWARDS:

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| DIVISION III                         |
| BEST DIVISION                        |
| BEST MAINTAINED DIVISION             |
| MTG PLIVIRISCAF IA                   |
| TOP IA OF UPRIIS FOR CY 2011         |
| UPRIIS MOST OUTSTANDING IA UNDER IMT |

## DIVISION LEVEL SPECIAL AWARDS:

| Division II | Division III          | Division IV                | Division V                     |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| BEST IN IDP | HIGHEST BA COLLECTION | HIGHEST CROPPING INTENSITY | HIGHEST CA EFFICIENCY          |
|             | TOP GROSSER           | MOST IMPROVED DIVISION     | BEST IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION |
|             | MOST VIABLE IMO       |                            |                                |

## TOP IA per Division

| Division I  | Division II  | Division III           | Division IV           | Division V          |
|-------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| CASANOVA IA | DIMRIC IA    | SAN MARIANO IA         | KUBKUBAN KAPATIRAN IA | MTG PLIVIRISCAF IA  |
| BULAKLAK IA | DEL PILAR IA | BAYANIHAN IA           | MASANDRO IA           | BARANGAYAN SIETE IA |
| TAGABASA IA | CHRISTIAN IA | MAGSALISI SAN PABLO IA | BALUAR GAPAN IA       | UGBOG TI BIAG IA    |

# NIA Region 3 Celebrates Success in its Anniversary

Coinciding with the weeklong 49th NIA founding anniversary celebration, NIA Region 3 Anniversary was held on July 20, 2012. Highlight of the festivities was the awarding of the outstanding Irrigators Associations (IA) and NIA personnel.

## IA Citation for 100% Collection Efficiency

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Macario Diego        | Cabago IA                     |
| Amado Movilla        | DOLPOLAB IA                   |
| Restituto Aga        | Panglara Farmers Associations |
| Magno Sagum          | Gonzales Canal                |
| Emiliano Punzalan    | South Lower Maasim            |
| Daniel A. Villanueva | BOTZIA                        |
| Arturo Dologmandin   | Maligha IA                    |
| Prisco Benvidez      | HIBIA                         |
| Daniel De Vera       | TIBIA                         |
| Henry Miranda        | Paitan Candating IA           |

## Regional Outstanding IA

Pasig Mandasig IA - Atty. Jesus Gatuz and Executive Officers

## National Nominee for CARP Outstanding IA

Cabago IA - Macario Diego and Executive Officers

Pampanga-Bataan IMO (PAMBAT)  
Tarlac-Zambales- IMO (TARZAM)  
Bulacan-Aurora-Nueva Ecija IMO (BANE)

## Best IMO Manager

Engr. Roberto E. Pascual- BANE

## •Awarding of Anniversary Sportsfest Athletes

Badminton (Champion)  
Obstacle Race (2nd Place) Best in Chess Board 1

## •Chorale Competition Champion

## •Shooting Competition Over-All Champion

## •Special Citation

Mr. Eliseo V. Bitangcol Mgr. Marcelino S. Santos  
Mr. Daniel A. Villanueva RM Reynaldo D. Puno

## 2nd Level

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| 9. Saturnino C. Sison     | BANE   |
| 10. Rogelio V. Dela Cruz  | BANE   |
| 11. Apolonio G. Pacheco   | BANE   |
| 12. Valentino R. Mallari  | BANE   |
| 13. Marlon S. Lacsina     | TARZAM |
| 14. Danilo Y. Tarlit      | TARZAM |
| 15. Herson R. Del Rosario | TARZAM |
| 16. Alfredo T. Aguilar    | TARZAM |

## OPLAN Breaking the Record (NIA Collectors)

### 1st Level

| Name                    | Office |
|-------------------------|--------|
| 1. Romeo H. Sanchez     | BANE   |
| 2. Danilo S. De Guzman  | BANE   |
| 3. Gregorio T. Mempin   | BANE   |
| 4. Nomeriano S. Vergara | BANE   |
| 5. Leopoldo G. Gatuz    | PAMBAT |
| 6. George M. Reves      | PAMBAT |
| 7. Lorna Y. Cayan       | PAMBAT |
| 8. Herminio B. Santos   | TARZAM |

### 3rd Level

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| 17. Saturnino C. Sison | BANE   |
| 18. Marlon S Lacsina   | TARZAM |

## Best Employee

Region-Thelma A. Lintag  
BANE-Francisco B. Leoncio  
PAMBAT-Eden N. Garcia  
TARZAM-Alfredo T. Aguilar







## CY 2011 Regional Performers and Achievers

### Region IV-A

By: Marietta M. Dela Cruz

A newly organized Region IV-A managed to beat its 2010 PHP62.220M performance by generating PHP68.787M in 2011 amidst apprehension of a lost ally. The three (3) Irrigation Management Offices proved capable of carrying the financial burden of both the IMO and the Regional Office. Cropping Intensity (CI) rose from 120% to 133%; Collection Efficiency (CE) from 72% to 74%; and, Viability Index (VI) from 1.04 to 1.06. In specific terms, net income showed PHP4.061M, comparatively small for corporation but significant to a new set of leadership.

Now, on its first year as separate region, 55 Irrigators Association along with IMO Managers and O & M personnel shared the limelight of being recognized as 2011 Performers and Achievers. Among those who received the award are the following:



#### Outstanding IA (CIS-Regional Level)

Tumbaga I Bucal IA, Sariaya, Quezon

#### Full Payment of 30% Equity Participation

Tubig Biyaya IA, Pagbilao, Quezon

Manggalang Tulo-tulo IA, Sariaya, Quezon

#### Special Award

Erwin C. Elbancol, WRFT, Laguna FLIS

Virgilio S. Baydo, SWRFT, Laguna FLIS

Lermo Sanvictores, SWRFT, Sta. Maria-Mayor RIS

Adorante De Lara, SWRFT, Cavite

Remedios R. Oreta, SWRFT, Quezon

Jaime Dela Cueva, Acting WRFT, Mabacan RIS

Isagani O. Violanta, SWRFT, SCRIS Div. II

Rosalinda Esquirres/Technical

Estelita Elsenique, Sr. IDO



The event was made more meaningful by the presence of Senior Deputy Administrator Engr. Antonio A. Galvez who delivered his message.

Also, the affair was covered live via remote telecast of the region's media partner Radio DZJV 1458 KhZ AM Band where the awardees were interviewed.

#### IAs with 100% Amortization/CE (Collection Efficiency)

Matala IA, Matala, Ibaan, Batangas

San Ignacio IA, San Ignacio, Rosario

Calaca Bida IA, Lian, Batangas

Canda IA, Sariaya, Quezon

Bukal-Anos-Potol IA, Tayabas, Quezon

Pantay Tina ISA, Antipolo, Rizal

Tina-Pantay Farmers & Irrigators Assn., Antipolo, Rizal

Morong Farmers Assn. of Uugong

| Name of IA                                       | Award for |
|--|-----------|
| CMSJTF IA, Maragondon, Cavite                    | 89% CE    |
| Samahang Magsasaka ng Lumban, Lumban, Laguna     | 90% CE    |
| Calacap MPC IC, Tanza, Cavite                    | 91% CE    |
| Anibin IA, Infanta, Quezon                       | 94% CE    |
| SMB IA, Siniloan, Laguna                         | 96% CE    |
| Banlic-Uwisan Farmers IA, Banlic, Calamba        | 97% CE    |
| Parian-Banadero Bukid-Looc IA, Banadero, Calamba | 99% CE    |
| Sto. Domingo-Maitim IA, Bay, Laguna              | 99% CE    |

## NIA Region 7 Celebrates 3 years of Excellence

By: Marc Pernia, PRO Region 7



NIA Regional office 7 celebrated its 3rd year founding anniversary last April 27, 2012; a momentous and meaningful affair that brings together personnel from Bohol, Negros Oriental, Siquijor and Cebu as one family. It was held at Peninsula Beach Resort, Candabong, Anda, Bohol. The celebration incorporated activities that would foster and bolster bonds among employees through fun games and a hefty boodle lunch. The place was secluded and quiet, a perfect place indeed for team building revelry and bonding to further enhance their drive for continued excellence while celebrating the fruits of labor of the office as a whole. It is an occasion worth commemorating, despite being a small region, it continued to excel both in terms of physical and financial performance. The region humbly attained a viability index of 2.62 in Calendar Year 2011, generated a total income of Php 48,558,370.34 and a net income of Php 30,027,912.94. It was indeed an unforgettable affair with fun and games, not just knowing each other by face but by forming bonds that would make us better employees committed to NIA and our farmer beneficiaries.



## Region 8 Celebrates the 49th NIA Anniversary

By: Lilia V. Dapuran

**R**egion 8 known for its in-house chorale celebrated its own 49th NIA Anniversary on June 25, 2012. It was a simple celebration which started with a mass presided by Fr. Aaron Quilaneta of the Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Parish of Marasbaras, Tacloban City. The NIA Regional Office belongs to said parish.

The Regional office invited personnel representatives from Northern-Western Samar IMO, Interim Eastern Samar IMO, Biliran-Leyte del Norte-Leyte del Sur IMO and satellite offices of BT, MP-BAO, BIG, DGM and BHHD RIS to grace the occasion.

One of the highlights of the NIA Anniversary celebration of Region 8 was the giving away of 5 brand new motorcycles to Top Senior Water Resources Facilities Technician (SWRFT) and Top O & M performers. The other top performers who did not get the motorcycle were each given a cash award. A Certificate of Recognition was also handed over by the management to employees from the Regional Office and its field offices for their delivery of exemplary performance during the past year. The certificate also came with a cash incentive.

Meanwhile, the Kasaganahan FISCO of Tibak RIS and Hingatungan IA of Southern Leyte were awarded the Most Outstanding Irrigators Association for CY 2011. The awards were accepted by Chairperson Ditas N. de la Peña of Kasaganahan FISCO and IA President Virgelio T. Tosloc from Regional Manager Romeo G. Quiza

RM Quiza quoting Fr. Orbos in his anniversary message said, "We should do the right thing possible and legitimate in all aspects of our life." He added that "our activities should focus towards the right direction." More eloquent than usual, he expressed his need to generate new areas, the need to restore non-functional areas and rehabilitate existing areas, geared towards the attainment of the Rice Sufficiency Program of the government.

The affair was also fun-filled as NIAEASP District President Alejandro Culiabar conducted the parlor games participated in by employees of the 2 IMOS, interim IMO and the satellite offices of the region. A singing contest was also held with cash prizes given away.

Truly, the anniversary celebration of Region 8 was a success.

Top Senior Water Resources Facilities Technician (SWRFT)

Abednigo M. Codilla, Bao

Dircky Militante, Tibak

Dominador D. Ebin, Marabong & Guinaraona

Top 2 O & M Performers

Manuel Veloso, BT RIS

Terafimo Millano, BT RIS

Most Outstanding IA – NIS Category

Kasaganahan FISCO, Tibak RIS

Chairperson : Ms. Ditas N. de la Peña

Most Outstanding IA – CIS Category

Hingatungan IA – Southern Leyte

President : Virgelio T. Tosloc



## Region X

By: Janeta G. Lorono

### Regional Performers Awarding Ceremony

**T**he National Irrigation Administration Region 10 in its aim to pursue adequate delivery of irrigation water to the stakeholders and improved systems performance of the Irrigators Associations has continually embark innovative measures to come up with sound physical and financial sustainability, as well as increased collection efficiency of the IAs which greatly contributed in the viability of the agency.

To acknowledge the efforts of performing Irrigators Associations as well as to encourage other IAs to strive harder. It is on this premise that NIA Region 10 gave due recognition to those deserving regional achievers. No other than our Administrator, Antonio S. Nangel came to our region to grace the said affair and handed the checks and cash awards together with Regional Manager Felix M. Razo. They were joined by the Division Managers of Region 10 on July 25, 2012 at N-Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City.

Administrator Antonio S. Nangel in his message emphasized that "Performance is governed by several factors, among them are our inert quality of dedication and hard work". He further lauded the unified efforts performed by NIA and IA partners.

The activity was indeed a great pride to the performers who exerted selfless efforts in the operation and management of respective systems and associations and it is hope that other IAs will emulate the remarkable endeavour.



CY 2011 IA AWARDEES honored at N-HOTEL, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City- (First Row from L-R) AVELINO T. ANDILAB, EOD Mngr., JIMMY L. APOSTOL, BUK-IMO Manager, REGIONAL MANAGER FELIX M. RAZO. ADMINISTRATOR ANTONIO S. NANGEL, JAMES LONGCOB, RIAP President, JOECARNINE L. GUBAT, LAMISCA IMO Manager. DIV. Mngr. EDITHA B. ABDON (Second row from L-R) WILFRED ADVIENTO, ALISA PRESIDENT, BENITEZ K. DEROGONGAN, OIC LANA O SUR I, ESTELITA S. SUMILE, MISCA IMO Mngr., ABRAHAM SENDIONG, PATAG-COROÑA IA PRES., SWRFTS, FELIX GARCIA, DELFIN TAGRA, RAMON CUEVA, JESUS GOMEZ, WINIFREDO JAYME, LOMACASIDMAN, IA PRES. & JOSE BABET C. FERANIL- LALIGAN IA PRES., HON. ERIBERTO D. BANGIS, SILFIA PRES., MS. ROSE T. PAGUYOD - KALILANGAN IMPC Chairman. (Third row from L-R) ENGR. MANUEL P. NOVAL, MUSDOL IA PRES., BENITO S. MAAPE, AMOROS-MOLUGAN FIA PRES., GERARDO OMILDA, MISAMIS ISA PRES., AND RICARDO C. PONIO, AGLAYAN-BANGCUD-CABANGLASAN, IA President.



**Region XI****Honoring Region XI Outstanding Performers***By: Mr. Vincent B. Buenaventura*

NIA Region XI culminated the 49th NIA Anniversary celebration with a victory program held at the NIA Covered Court with Administrator Antonio S. Nangel as special guest.

Blessed with the successful sports and cultural events during the founding anniversary week at the NIA Central Office, Region XI earned 2nd Place in the Overall competition. Those who exerted efforts were again duly recognized, honored and received additional awards to wit: 2nd Runner-Up in Chess, 1st Runner-Up in Dart and hailed as Champion in Volleyball game and Cultural Dance competition.

The victory program recognized all the Outstanding Performers of the four Irrigation Management Offices, namely: Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte, Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley. Likewise, due recognition with utmost respect was given to all Outstanding IAs from different provinces of the region who bested in the National Level search for most outstanding IA both for NIA and CARP and AgriPinoy Rice Achievers Awards.

The event was made special with the attendance of Hon. Congressman Anton Lagdameo, 2nd district of Davao del Norte; Hon. Congresswoman Carmen Apsay and Hon. Congressman Romel Amatong of Districts 1 and 2, respectively of Compostela Valley Province.

**OUTSTANDING IMO/DIVISION/  
REGIONAL MANAGERS**

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Davao del Sur            | Edgardo T. Draculan       |
| Davao del Norte          | Cornelio M. Bautista, Jr. |
| Compostela Valley        | Carlito A. Carrasco       |
| Davao Oriental           | Jimmy J. Cerros, Sr.      |
| Finance & Administrative | Caridad K. Sison          |
| Engineering & Operations | Encarnacion S. Soriano    |
| Regional Manager         | Julius S. Maquiling       |
|                          | Felix M. Razo             |

**Most Outstanding Irrigators Association**

| <b>IMO Level</b>         | <b>Name of IA</b>            | <b>Name of President</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Davao del Sur</b>     |                              |                          |
| NIS Category             | Western La Suerte Farmers IA | Diosisimo Abanto         |
| CIS Category             | San Agustin Ruparan BIDA     | Jaime Mantilla           |
| <b>Davao del Norte</b>   |                              |                          |
| NIS Category             | Dujali Poblacion FIA         | Materno Hilario          |
| CIS Category             | Katipunan Semong IA          | Jose Cabra               |
| <b>Davao Oriental</b>    |                              |                          |
| NIS Category             | Division A Pilot IA          | Rodulfo Estrera          |
| CIS Category             | Macangao BIDA                | Julio Delos Reyes, Jr.   |
| <b>Compostela Valley</b> |                              |                          |
| NIS Category             | Curbada Lagab FIA            | Salvador Almilla         |
| CIS Category             | Lower Naboc IA               | Ariel Begaso             |
| <b>Regional Level</b>    |                              |                          |
| NIS Category             | Upper Sinayawan FIA          | Gladys Draculan          |
| CIS Category             | Basak Pangutosan CARP IA     | Lemuel Alvior            |
| CARP Category            | Awao CIA                     | Edgardo Alumbres         |

**National Level**

|               |                            |                  |                  |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| NIS Category  | Upper Sinayawan Farmers IA | Gladys Draculan  | 2nd Runner Up    |
| CIS Category  | Basak Pangutosan CARP-IA   | Lemuel Alvior    | Most Outstanding |
| CARP Category | Awao CIA                   | Edgardo Alumbres | 2nd Runner Up    |
| CARP Category | Basak Pangutosan CARP-IA   | Lemuel Alvior    | Hall of Fame     |
| NIS Category  | Balisong San Vicente IA    | Edgar Cocoy      | Hall of Fame     |

**Agri-Pinoy Rice Achiever Awardees**

|              |                          |                  |                  |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CIS Category | Badagoy IA               | Arthur Ramon     | Most Outstanding |
| CIS Category | Basak Pangutosan CARP IA | Lemuel Alvior    | Most Outstanding |
| NIS Category | DITCIA 1 IA              | Eduardo Bernadas | Most Outstanding |

**Top Collector****Engr. Benjie B. Nierre****Special Awards**

**Davao del Sur**  
**Edgardo T. Draculan**  
**COA Office**

**IA Support Group**  
**Institutional Development Section**



**NIA-XI poses with ASN.** RIM Julius S. Maquiling (3rd from left); Administrator Antonion S. Nangel, Congressmen of Compostela Valley Maria Carmen Zamora-Apsay and Rommel Amatong; Division Manager Encarnacion S. Soriano and NIA-XI NIAEASP Pres. Rona Presto; Standing at the back among the athletes and staff of NIA-XI are Davao Oriental Jimmy Ceros, Davao del Sur OIC Engr. Manuel Rañeses, Compostela Valley IMO Manager Carlito Carrasco and Davao del Norte IMO Manager Cornelio M. Bautista, Jr.



## ENGR. SALAZAR IS THE 2012 CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION'S PAGASA AWARDEE

By: Maria Isobel F. Padolina



UPRIIS Department Manager, Engr. Josephine B. Salazar is the 2012 Civil Service Commission's (CSC) Pagasa Awardee.

The annual nationwide search is part of the CSC's Honor Awards Program (HAP) which is conferred on an individual or group of individuals for outstanding contribution/s resulting from an idea or performance that directly benefit more than one department of the government.

The Pagasa award is just one of the three award categories at stake in addition to the Presidential Lingkod Bayan Award and the Dangal ng Bayan Award.

of San Fernando, Pampanga; Ramon Corazon P. Blanco of Tumauni, Isabela; Claire D. Cabero of Roxas City; Sammy S. Cameros of Davao City; Mayor Cesar C. Colina Sr. of Compostela Valley Province; Marilou G. Dungog of Subic Bay Freeport Zone; and Catalino M. Leyva of Antipolo City.

Working continuously for 25 years now, she rose from the ranks starting as a mere Engineer. In fact, it has left a huge mark on NIA's history because she is the First and Only Female Operations Manager of the agency until this moment. But before that, she was the top-notch Division Manager of Division III, one of the Irrigation Management Offices of UPRIS,

The CSC aims to motivate or inspire the government employees to improve the quality of their performance and instill deeper involvement in public service.

Engr. Salazar is the only nominee from Nueva Ecija competing against eleven other outstanding public servants all over the country namely Mildred S. Abella and Arnel B. Garcia of Tuguegarao City; Mari-cel M. Bechayda of Kalibo, Aklan; Maribel M. Blanco and Dominador M. Sayre

who has consistently been at the fore front of both the technical and administrative aspects of irrigation system management. Her excellent leadership has made UPRIS as the Most Viable Irrigation Management Office in the country. This contributed greatly to the corporate viability in general which is very substantial to the overall operation of NIA in the maintenance of irrigation facilities catering mainly to the farmers.

The criteria for the CSC Pagasa Award includes Noteworthiness of Outstanding Performance/Contribution/s, Impact of Performance/Achievement, Reliability and Effectiveness, Consistency of Performance and Demonstrated Teamwork, Cooperation, Camaraderie and Cohesiveness.

The CSC Pagasa Awardees, individual and group will receive a gold-gilded medallion, a plaque containing the citation and signature of the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, and P100,000.00 cash reward provided under Section 6 (b) of the Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of Executive Order No. 292.

Meanwhile, UPRIS employees are very proud of their Lady Manager as she emerged winner of the prestigious award. Also, it is a testament of the quality of service a NIA employee provides to the public.

The awarding ceremonies will be conducted during the celebration of the Civil Service Anniversary in September. **Congratulations!**

### Other Civil Service Awardees

#### Dangal ng Bayan Award

Engr. Reynaldo C. Mencias, Project Manager of Agno River Integrated Irrigation System is an awardee of the prestigious Dangal ng Bayan Award (the second highest award, the Presidential Lingkod ng Bayan Award being the highest) in 2001. He received his award, a golden medallion, Plaque of Recognition and a cash award of P100,000.00 from no less than then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo at the Heroes Hall in Malacañang.



#### Pag-asa Award

In that same year of 2001, Engr. Helsy S. Bermudez, Acting Operations Manager of Magat River Integrated Irrigation System in Isabela was conferred with the Pag-asa Award. He received a golden medallion, a Plaque of Recognition and a cash award of P50,000.00 from Commissioner Karina David at the Ateneo University Hall. Engr. Bermudez was then the Provincial Irrigation Officer III of Pangasinan Provincial Office in Region 1.







## SEMINARS during the First Semester of 2012.....

By:MLAFrias, C.O.

### COURSE ON SYSTEMATIC EVALUATION AND UTILIZATION RESULTS AT NIA

Aimed to improve the participant's knowledge and skills in evaluating training not merely confined to reaction evaluation but in the use of the so-called impact evaluation using systematic ways, the Development Centre for Asia Africa Pacific (DCAAP) was tapped to conduct the "Course on Systematic Evaluation and Utilization of Training Results". This experience was held on January 11-13, 2012 at NIA Central Office. Participants from Central and Regional Offices gained skills in conducting performance and impact evaluation and how the results can be employed to enhance/improve training designs.

### SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT COURSE (SDC) FOR SECTION CHIEFS

A four-day Supervisory Development Course (SDC) -Track 1 conducted in June, 2011 was participated by Section Chiefs from NIA-Central Office. This Program espoused by the Civil Service Commission, consists of three (3) tracks, is designed and developed to enhance the quality of first-line supervisors. A follow-through program, SDC-Tracks 2 & 3, which was administered to Track 1, was held on February 6-9, 2012 at Punta de Fabian Resort, Baras, Rizal.

### VALUES ENHANCEMENT LEVEL 2 SEMINAR WORKSHOP

In line with our commitment for government's moral recovery and well-being, the Department of Agriculture (DA), in coordination with Lay Formation Centre (LAY-FORCE), conducted Level II of Values Enhancement Seminar-Workshop on March 1, 2012 at the DA Main Office. Ms. Leonida G. Cunanan, IRMO A, HRD and Ms. Salve V. Tabije, IRMO A, HRD, who completed Level I course, were recommended to attend the said activity.



Ms. Danganan (standing 6th from the right) with participants of Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement in Upland Crop Farming Areas for Rural Development granted by JICA



NIA-C.O. Section Chiefs attend Supervisory Development Course given by CSC

### TECHNICALLY EFFICIENT WRITING COURSE

With the purpose of improving one's competence through right, timely and effective writing with simplicity, clear impact and action driven, Ms. Conchita G. Calsiña, HRMO IV, HRD and Ms. Zenaida D. Riño, Sr. Internal Control Officer A, IAS, were authorized to participate in "Course on Writing with Confidence (Technically Efficient Writing Course)", conducted on March 28-29, 2012 at the Department of Agriculture in Quezon City.

### SEMINAR ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT OF DAMAGED IRRIGATION CONDUCTED IN JAPAN

Acting Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Operations Robert C. Suguitan and Reynaldo D. Puno, of Region 3 participated in the "Seminar on Disaster Management of Damaged Irrigation and Water Management Facilities for Agriculture" conducted on January 11 to 21, 2012 under the Technical Cooperation Program of Japan through JICA's Training Program. The program aimed to obtain knowledge on the damaged situation and technology required for restoration and disaster prevention in order to reflect on measures and policies of their own countries.

### ENGR. DEXTER PATROCINIO AT THE APEC WORKSHOP ON FOOD SECURITY

Moreover, Engr. Dexter G. Patrocinio, Acting Manager, Operations Department, attended the "APEC Workshop on Food Security" on January 17 to 19, 2012 at Tokyo International Forum, Yuracucho, Japan. The workshop en-



deavoured to strengthen food security in the APEC region through sustainable development of agriculture sector and facilitation of investment, trade and markets.

### CMD's PRIDE

A Sr. Engineer A from CMD, Engineering Department, Ms. Aissa A. Danganan, was selected to attend the program entitled "Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement in Upland Crop Farming Areas for Rural Development" granted by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on May 14 to August 3, 2012.



### NIA OFFICIALS AT CECEP

Attended by Sr. Deputy Administrator Antonio A. Galvez, MARIIS Acting Operations Manager, Helys S. Bermudez, BBMP Project Manager, Vicente R. Vicmudo, CMIPP Project Manager Alexander G. Coloma and NIA Region 3 Acting Regional Manager, Reynaldo D. Puno, is a seminar on Photovoltaic (PV) Water Pump Irrigation System conducted by China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection (CECEP), held on May 31 to June 4, 2012. The aforesaid seminar aims to contribute to NIA's vision to irrigate more isolated agricultural lands through renewable energy of Solar PV Water Pump Irrigation System.

### FOR NIA's MINI HYDRO PROJECTS

Likewise, NIA Administrator Antonio S. Nangel, together with Acting Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Operations Robert C. Suguitan, Vicente E. Galvez, Regional Manager of Region 2, Felix M. Razo, Regional Manager of Region 10 and Manuel L. Collado, Regional Manager of Region I participated on a seminar on mini-hydro projects conducted by CAMCE in China on June 1 to 5, 2012. The program is a great help to NIA as some mini-hydro projects will soon be developed in the whole nation especially in the area of Mindanao to mitigate the shortage of power supply in our country.

*Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open to knowledge.*

*Proverbs 18:15*



# NIA IS LIFE

By: PMCUARESMA - KIMP - CAR



Reflecting on today's feature writing activity in this seminar-workshop I have attended, I had no other things in mind than to recall the 35 years of being an employee of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), the agency where I am working with until now.

Barely more than a month after graduating in college in April 2, 1977 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education from Cagayan State University, Lallo branch Cagayan. I started working with NIA-Chico River Irrigation Project (CRIP) now Upper Chico River Irrigation System (UCRIS) Bulanao, Tabuk City, Kalinga on May 23, 1977 and was assigned in the Agricultural Development Section (ADS) as Farm Management Technician (FMT). There were lots of opportunities extended to me by the office which helped me develop my skills and knowledge in performing my tasks such as interviewing farmers on agronomy and socio economic status, conducting and facilitating farmers' meeting.

Not long after, the office gave me another position, higher in salary grade – the Agricultural Cooperative Worker (ACW) as an organizer. The work I love so much – working with people, with our farmer clienteles who plays a vital role for efficient system's operation. The office had been so kind enough to see my humble way of performing my job that I do it with guts but of dedication, a higher position as an Agriculturist was given. But then, all the items in the plantilla are co-terminus with the project and with that, my position was terminated too soon in 1985.

However, NIA has been so generous. A new item in the system's plantilla was offered to me – the Billing Clerk position. Though much lower in rate, I grabbed the opportunity, because this time I already had a growing family, my children to raise. I needed a work and believed this is the beginning of a bigger challenge in my life as a

government employee. I know that money is not at all that matters in life since I consider my family on top of anything else. I know NIA is here to watch over me in my journey each day as I do my humble work. I learned to manage my time properly. This is how I love the agency where I get a living to support my family.

During the growing-up years of my children, I was assigned at the billing section where I worked from 8-5. When I get home, I spend quality time with my family.

In those years from 1986 to 2000 my four children are in school. All enrolled in prestigious school and universities. Now, I am so proud they were able to finish college. My eldest son Jerome M. Cuaresma, born June 9, 1979 a Marine Engineer in a sea faring job, second and only daughter Christine M. Cuaresma, a Medical Physician now in New Jersey, USA, the 3rd and 4th sons, Ephraim M. Cuaresma and Deo-rei M. Cuaresma, registered nurses both are working in London.

NIA is and will always be a part of the success of my children and my family in which I consider it as my fulfillment in life. With the support of my husband Mr. Elpidio C. Cuaresma of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, a retiree in year 2003, who had worked as private life insurance adviser in one of the big companies in the Philippines, makes my work and things easier for me to do. Proud to say NIA and me is one of his inspirations. Guided with Christian principle of living, our children were raised as God-fearing.

A working mother is never easy. The struggles are beyond compare. I have to cope up with the demands of the office, work pressures to meet deadlines coupled with the household chores and family needs that are awaiting to be done even when my physical body is already exhausted at the end of the day.

Recently my children asked me, "Mama can you file your retirement soon?" I just said, I am enjoying my work. Please... wait, that will come in God's

time." By the way my birthday is February 2, 1955, offspring of farmer parents from M. Antiporda, Buguey, Cagayan.

In year 2010, I was designated as Acting Senior Irrigator's Development Officer of the system, and without any question asked, I accepted the position wholeheartedly. Through time, the mission and vision of NIA is the bible I carry with me.

Now, one of the things I yearned for is to be able to strengthen farmers associations, capacitate them to become functional and self-reliant. This is one of NIA's advocacy and my personal advocacy. That I can be living reminders of GOD's truth by maintaining good relationships with everyone, practicing integrity in the workplace, striving to be generous even in my nothingness, thanking God in all life's situations, and choosing to be happy all the time.

NIA gives me the opportunities to improve my craft and my skills as a field worker. As I go out to work with people, with our farmers beneficiaries, I found each day a wonderful day with humbling, inspiring adventures and experiences. These are some of my greatest treasures that NIA has given me as gifts.

Such work in NIA is interesting and it is related with my work as a member of the Catholic community; to proclaim God's greatness thus spreading passion for God as to wherever I am and whatever I do. Again NIA blessed me as a "missionary" of sorts.

I said to myself... thank you NIA, thank you God for blessing me to have this opportunity to give service to your people through talks during farmers' seminar, meetings, conferences and build friendships. In short, lots of blessings are in store for me as an institutional worker of NIA.

Looking back how good NIA is, it's more than the reward I am now experiencing. I love and enjoy working in this agency despite my retireable age. The farmers I work with, see me as NIA not so much of Mrs. PMCuaresma.

Working in NIA is life to me. It refreshes the soul of the weary, it waters the plants and living things in the environment in order to grow. It is here where I am still learning and growing as a person with dignity. I have been receiving many good things from it and in my own little way, my expression of gratitude is to give back my services to the fullest as if each day is my last day because I know God is in control of everything. God's goodness in every aspect of my life, in my family, my work and relationships follows.





## LOOKING BACK AFTER NINE MONTHS...

## THE RIM WITH THREE G'S

By dcaveracruz, region 1



NO.... Not three GIRLFRIENDS!

He admits he has three Gs: GENUINE Ilocano, GALANTENG Ilocano and GUA-PONG Ilocano.

He is a native of Sta. Cruz, Ilocos Sur. Born of Ilocano parents. He speaks the native tongue. A real Genuine Ilocano. But mind you.... he is not that stereotyped "naimot," in Ilocano or "kuripot" in Tagalog because he says, he is "GALANTENG ILOCANO."

This GI guy wants his name be addressed as Manuel L. Collado, CESO V, Regional Irrigation Manager. This avoids addressing the RIM on different titles in the documents prepared by encoders.

The RIM arrived in Urdaneta City on November 4, 2011 to take his new seat with more than 40 staff accompanying him.

That's how they expressed their love to him as if they don't want to let him go. His driver unloaded all the boxes he needed to his new office. The regional staff oriented him in the workplace. He was ready to take his new post.

Though he doesn't have that towering height, this new director looks like he is a tough guy, strict and perfectionist, not to mention his 3rd G - Guapong Ilocano. One must have an appointment with him before entering his office, so as not to be caught unaware of any issues.

He finds his new set of staff "... competent and accommodating", and admires them as "magaganda and guapo..." but adds, "pero pumapangalawa lang sila sa akin..."

RIM Collado conducts weekly regular staff meeting. "Nakakanerbyos....." says one section chief every time they have meetings. He always looks for updated records.

He doesn't want "history". Now, his staff always get updated reports from their subordinates and prepares well for the meeting. Looks like they learned a lesson.

The RIM is particular on project accomplishments. He asks issues and problems and wants an immediate solution. Projects must be implemented based on the budget allocated for the region. The result.... Region 1 ranks No. 4 in Construction Performance out of 16 regions in the Philippines.

KUDOS for that... considering that he is only nine months old in the region. A rating the region has not yet achieved. Collection Efficiency and Viability Index of the region is improving as compared last year of the same month. Cropping Intensity has also increased. This is a result of the massive restoration and rehabilitation of structures and facilities in both the national and communal systems.

It works! His seemingly strict, straight forward attitude works on his staff. It is a disciplinary action to keep them on their feet. Like a good father of a family who disciplines his son, he advised everyone, "Make good in performing every areas of work!"

And who is more happy and thankful now than the Job Order (JO) employees whose wages were considerably increased. For years, the wages of these JOs who do the dirty works patiently receives their considerable wages without complaints. Since, "work is man's worth," these personnel diligently perform their tasks. Now, they are THANKFUL to RIM Collado for such consideration. Thank you, Sir!

## THE MAN BEHIND A WOMAN

By Luz Zambrano Region3



A family of five children was steward by a man who is God-fearing, disciplinarian, loving and kind. Unlike others He was not able to finish a degree in college due to lack of financial resources. He met a girl in his teenage years that he described as his first and last love. They were married at their early age and was blessed with a son in the year 1976 and their youngest sibling was born on 1990.

Being a God-fearing father, he always finds time to teach his children to be good Christians, sharing always the word of God.

Raising a family in an early age has been so hard for the head of the family but age doesn't matter if you have a dream in life and if you

eagerly want to pursue your goals, you can have it.

Both husband and wife worked at the National Irrigation Administration, the father as an Industrial Security Guard and the mother as an Institutional worker.

Diligently he worked for the education and daily needs of their children and God did not fail them. All five children already finished college.

Most people say that the woman is the light of the family, always dreaming and planning for the good and success of its members but behind this, is a strong pilot, God guided captain willing to drive the journey of life excellently.

But next to God, Mr. Herminio V. Zambrano wants to thank the National Irrigation Administration where he spent his working years earning a living to support the needs of his family.

With all my appreciation and love I want to tell my husband, "YOU'RE THE BEST" without you as my partner these things will never be possible.



# Under the Drafting Table



huge place full of busy people has been her playground.

When the girl was little, her father always brings her to a place where everyone is busy and serious. She quietly stays under an old, big, tall, inclined table. Hiding from the people who are using language she cannot understand.

Her father sits on a tall chair busy doing something. She can only see her father's knees and legs.

When she is hungry, her father will give her a bottle of milk, she then, sleeps under the same table.

The hands of the clock finally reach two different numbers. Her father rolls up the thin sheet of paper and places it in a blue tube tied at his back. Her father carries her, and the people greeted her. You got the looks of your father! they gracefully said, pinching her chubby cheeks, and wave goodbye it's time to go home.

At home, she can see her father working on the same sheet of paper. Why does the paper have so much of my father's time and attention? she asked herself.

Time passed, her father still brings her to the same place.

When she reached the height of the big table, she was given the chance to see what her father was doing.

He uses a pencil with metal handle, and long ruler that looks like the letter T. He is carefully drawing lines, curved and straight. He writes numbers and texts perfectly on it.

But she cannot appreciate what her father was drawing. It was blunt and boring. No colors, no faces, no flowers, nothing that would interest a child.

After more than a decade, she went back to the same place. This time, not to stay under the table, but to have her own desk. The young lady enters the National Irrigation Administration.

She once again meets the people who pinched her cheeks when she was little. Some of them look older; some look the same as yesterday. You used to sleep under your father's table, they happily greeted her.

This time, she appreciates what her father was drawing and how important it is. It was not boring at all. Those are the projects the NIA have for people. It was the backbone of the dam she used to bathe into when she was young. It was helpful for farmers like her grandfather.



Equipped with the knowledge acquired from college and the skills and talents that run in her blood,

She draws and designs, like how her father draws the project plans. She writes beautifully, like how her father writes texts on plates. She codes and programs, like how her father calculates the numbers.

She has been serving NIA for three years now, and she never regrets it. She enjoys her work. She is thankful for her co-employees and mentors. She loves how different people touched her heart. She applies her experiences through the designs and layouts she made and the articles she wrote. She is confident to be in front of people.

She is so blessed.

Meanwhile, her father, who introduced her to NIA, at a young age, was about to leave the place. His item; the old drafting table was no longer needed. It was sad, but life must go on.

She will continue her father's will.

For she was raised in NIA. She was fed by NIA. And she will continue to serve NIA.



# Thank you NIA you are God's venue...

*...where the hidden person of the heart governs.....*

*He made us whole...*

**1 Peter 3:3-4** "3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward — arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—  
4- rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God."

Serving the public is difficult if only one to perform is the hidden person of the heart, **spirit** the image and likeness of GOD...  
It's best to perform using **soul** the most: emotion, will, and all other creative things that run through the human mind...  
Then it was observed that the easiest and most comfortable are performances using the **body**: one from dust became flesh...

At work, combination of **soul and body** is a job well done! Through education, human intelligence gears quarta and quinta...  
As strength is likewise exhausted through fieldwork, training, and deskwork... tangible accomplishments meet appreciation...  
But when unfavourable situation is out of control, cruel people trespass, convicted without trial, one easily gets tired and lost...

The time **spirit** of God **enters** a man's nostrils - body comes to life and when **spirit departs**, the earth suit returns to dust...(death)  
With a **weak spirit** - "tired and lost" feeling cannot be appeased by soul and body; stress and pressure easily lead to giving up...  
With prayers and God's grace, "wholeness" is restored: goodness and mercy follows a gentle and quiet **spirit**, pacifying the **soul**  
and filling-up the seemingly empty container—**body**...

*When body governs...*

**Philippians 2:3-4** "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourself.  
Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

But then again, this **body has a voice**—"feelings", **soul has a voice**—"reason", **spirit has a voice**—"conscience" and its **fruit, wisdom...**  
And **feelings yell louder than reason and conscience...** these senses from top of the head to soles of the feet can dominate...  
**Reasoning** is used to "justify low performance", **fight conscience** to "justify impurities", **happiness is** based on **pleasures** of the flesh...

Senses seem to bring heaven here on earth—things to look good, smell good and feel good are expensive commodities to chase...  
This body which from dust became flesh, governs... this dust... this good looking dust... must sleep comfortably in a nice home...  
This good looking dust must see places, this good looking dust must invest to secure its future, this good looking dust is selfish...

"God said let this body be the temple of the Holy Spirit" - a verse to defend this phrase..."so this body should be taken care of" Bathe this dust,  
adorn this dust, and spend treasure for this dust, naturally, it has a tag "make me feel beautiful and important"  
So when valued, accepted, and loved... It's a bliss! While senses focus is materialism, complement is gratifying and addicting...

In the office, self righteous people perform at their own pace and comfort, no amount of urgency or importance can force them to work if  
they gain nothing... so they are lousy masters and stupid servants... wanting to make life better at the expense of everyone else...  
They may gain the whole world but they will lose their soul... can never experience the true happiness only the gentle spirit can give.

*When spirit governs...*

**James 3:17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits,  
impartial and sincere.

Language of NIA's mission is understood by the heart, as the gentle spirit takes the lead, soul and body is directed by wisdom...  
It's love above all... for the welfare of others and not for self interest. Wisdom humbly and peacefully work for righteousness...  
"If you're wiser and you know it then your life will surely show it." Wisdom **is displayed** and **not just merely claimed...**

In the office, many have been hurt by the lack of godly wisdom. One sector is selfish and aggressive the other is unwilling to give.  
When spirit governs, one flows with humility and compassion, doesn't easily jump to conclusions, assume the worst, or find fault  
Work is done with sincerity, no playing with people's emotions, no drawing of lines on who to serve best and in what capacity...

In the office, if one pretends to be Godly, but gossiper, jealous and arrogant, his life is a direct contradiction to his claims... Liar.  
When spirit governs.... NIA's vision beats in harmony with the hidden person of the heart... everyone knows his worth... Valued.  
Work is done with integrity, challenges develop his character so when promotion comes, he's the authority who can uphold dignity.

*In NIA, GOD'S people is placed TO FULFILL HIS PLANS...*

**2 Timothy 1:7** God does not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and of a sound mind."



The Editor-in-Chief  
NIA Digest