



VOLUME NO. 39, 2016

NIA DIGEST

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION

**OPERATIONAL
EXCELLENCE**

**TECHNICAL
EXCELLENCE**

**SEEING THROUGH
THE LENS
OF THE BEST IA**
(NIS & CIS Category)

FEATURE NIA IS
(PRAISE Awardees)

TRAINING CENTERS
(Achieving Excellence
through Learning)

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operational excellence

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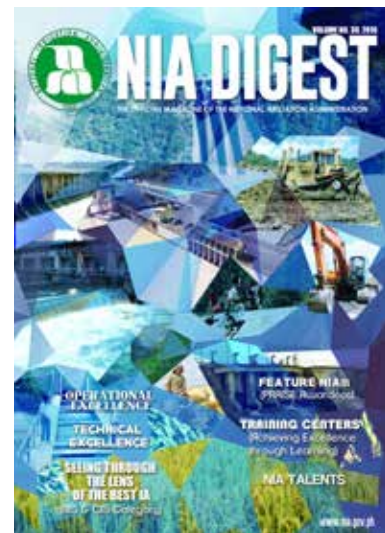
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ABOUT THE COVER

Geometric Design trend is made up of shapes, lines and polygons that architects and engineers use to create a plan to construct a dam. Vibrant blue represents the main purpose; water. Each polygon showcases the **Excellence** of **NIA** related to its Mission and Vision.

“ Whatever your discipline, become a student of excellence in all things. Take every opportunity to observe people who manifest the qualities of mastery. These models of excellence will inspire you and guide you toward the fulfillment of your highest potential. ”

--Michael Gelb and Tony Buzan

EXCELLENCE: AN INTERMINABLE CHASE


We grew up in a milieu where performance is the measure of our rewards system. In the institutions where we were first socialized we were admonished to *excel in whatever undertakings we pursue*.

NIA had pursued (chalked up) a history of excellence having been recognized as the “*finest Irrigation Agency in the whole of Asia and in any developing country in the world*”. That was in 1974 when Pantabangan Dam (built by NIA for multi-purpose) was completed 17 months ahead of schedule with all the characteristic high technical standards. The Agency once became a beacon when it comes to our developmental approach to irrigation development thru the Participatory Approach Program (PAP). As early as 1977, the Agency had embarked in a “Search for Model Irrigation Users at the different levels – system, regional and national with attractive rewards at stake. Like a good tradition the practice of rewarding a good

performance was carried on by the Agency in all its’ 53 years of Operation. Every Anniversary, we embark on a Search for Outstanding NIA Managers, (IMO/ RIM/OM/PM) as well as Outstanding Irrigators Associations (NIS and CIS Categories). In fact in our penchant for outstanding performances, there are overlapping searches conducted by different organizations. One would wonder however what happened to “excellence” in our collective performance as an Agency? Has it reached denouement or are we just performing in mediocrity? Should we not look back into the IPCRs, DPCRs and OPCR which we have submitted to the GCG because up to today we have not done good enough to receive our Performance Based Bonus (PBB)?

More than the reward, should we not be discharging our duties with *excellence* as NIA employees because we have as core values “commitment”, “integrity” and

“professionalism” and we have a history of doing so? More than that, “*excellence*” is reflected in every act of a true NIAan. As Filipino Civil Servants we love our sovereignty as a country, as a people.

“*EXCELLENCE*” IN GREEK is ‘*arete*’ defined as a “*virtuous course of thought, feelings and action, virtue, moral goodness*”. The Epistle to the Philippians was a letter of St. Paul to the Church in Philippi when he was imprisoned in Rome and it contains admonishment to live in unity and to let our minds dwell on things with “*excellence*”: Philippians 4:8 states “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any *excellence*, and if anything worthy of praise let your mind dwell on these things”... because what we think manifests in our actions. 

Water Conservation and Ratooning Increase Cropping Intensity in MARIIS

Melissa C. Agbisit, PRO, MARIIS

Despite challenges brought about by the weather, the Magat River Integrated Irrigation System (MARIIS) successfully irrigated 96% of its Firmed Up Service Area (FUSA) during the dry and wet seasons of 2015. Cropping intensity for 2015 was at 209%. This, as MARIIS irrigated 96% of its 85,731 hectares firmed up service area in both dry and wet cropping seasons.



Information Dissemination on Water Conservation

With the challenge posted by minimal rainfall, MARIIS employees at the field level conducted extensive campaigns at the Irrigators Associations (IA) level to inform farmer-beneficiaries of ways to cope with the situation. During the irrigation cut-off period, farmers were advised to prepare for the upcoming cropping season and to follow the cropping calendar.

MARIIS Department Manager Wilfredo C. Gloria also reminded the field personnel to make sure

that canals and farm ditches were cleared of debris for irrigation water to reach the intended rice lands.

Area personnel conducted close monitoring to ensure equitable distribution of irrigation water at the farm level.

With these and other measures, the MARIIS personnel, hand-in-hand with the irrigators associations managed to hurdle the difficult challenge.

Con't. p 26



Survey Results Reveal NIA-UPRIIS Outstanding in Irrigation Services Delivery

Maria Isobel F. Padolina, PRO, UPRIIS

For more than 40 years of providing irrigation service to the farmers, NIA-UPRIIS has excelled in the first Farmers' Satisfaction Survey (FSS) conducted this year by the Central Luzon State University (CLSU) and out-ranked all the regional offices of NIA across the country.

The independent survey showed an overall satisfaction average of 4.851 which corresponds to an outstanding rating based on the Performance Based-Bonus (PBB) reference chart grading 4.5 to 5.0 as outstanding performance.

UPRIIS Department Manager Engr. Florentino R. David said: "These results are an excellent reflection of

NIA-UPRIIS' commitment in providing our farmers the highest possible standard of irrigation service".

"We take feedback seriously and work hard to ensure that we make constant improvements to satisfy the needs and expectations of our farmer-beneficiaries. A significant part of our funds is apportioned to capacity building programs catered only to our Irrigators' Associations (IAs) and it is very encouraging to see these efforts recognized in this year's survey results."

The FSS which was usually handled by NIA-UPRIIS itself was carried out by a third party this time as part of the Performance Agreement Negotiation (PAN) commitment with

the Governance Commission for Government-Owned and Controlled Corporation (GCG) in 2015 with the main aim of soliciting feedback from client-farmers regarding the nine specific services and assistance program provided by the agency.

The aid of an independent party running the survey was to achieve a more scientifically accurate and objective results as much as possible and to eliminate any form of biases. Before the CLSU enumerators were dispatched, a Briefing and Orientation was given to familiarize them on the common terms of reference relevant to the questionnaires so that they could thoroughly interpret and explain to the respondents if needed.





The response rate has been excellent from the 2,160 farmer respondents comprising 57% of the 419 duly organized IAs of NIA-UPRIIS with nine member respondent each completing the survey.

Across the nine specific services of the agency, NIA-UPRIIS achieved an outstanding satisfaction rate to wit:


Compliance in the implementation of agreed cropping calendar; Timeliness of delivery and distribution of irrigation water; Equitability of delivery and distribution of irrigation water; Prompt action on requests for rehabilitation/construction of project; quality of construction/rehabilitation of irrigation facilities and structures; prompt action on

request for technical advisory/support services; Quality of technical advisory/support service provided; prompt action on request for trainings and other capacity building programs; and finally the quality of training and other capacity building programs provided, which enhance the skills and leadership of the farmers who are the most capable partners of NIA in irrigation development.

The quality of training and capacity building program of NIA-UPRIIS was rated highly-achieving 4.893 satisfaction score. Farmer trainings in NIA-UPRIIS are spearheaded by the Institutional Development Section under the Engineering & Operations Division headed by Ms. Maridenise



S. Cudia. Ms. Cudia served as the focal person in the successful fulfillment of this commitment through the supervision of EOD Manager Engr. Rosalinda B. Bote in coordination with FSS Project Coordinator Prof. Thelma B. Estera of CLSU.

Information and data collected covered the year 2015 only. 



COMPOSTELA VALLEY: THE GROWING IMO

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI

Compostela Valley Irrigation Management Office (IMO) is conferred the Best IMO of the Year award CY 2015 presented during the 53rd NIA anniversary celebration at Quezon City, Philippines on June 22, 2016.

The youngest responsibility center of NIA Region XI under the administrative supervision of its Regional Manager Felix M. Razo, Compostela Valley IMO's area covers the whole of Compostela Valley (ComVal) province in the Davao region that sits on a mining ground in southeastern Mindanao. ComVal IMO was created as an interim office in 2009 in accordance with the implementing guidelines of the NIA Rationalization Program in 2008 enabling the IMO to manage both its national and communal irrigation systems within the province with its office at Poblacion, Compostela, ComVal. Northbound from Davao City, ComVal is 95 kilometers away via Tagum City, Davao del Norte national concrete road passing through zigzag highways. Without the traffic

jams, travel from the regional office in Davao City to ComVal IMO takes about 2-3 hours by land.

The province of Compostela Valley is once a part of Davao del Norte until its separation in the year 1998 when it became an independent province. Its scenery is generally mountainous, with forest and mineral resources, rich in gold ore deposit and renowned for its gold mines. At the vales however, are plains settling vast agricultural tracts of lands planted to rice and bananas. The perimeters of ComVal have Agusan del Sur as the north border, Davao del Norte in the west, and Davao Oriental in the east. The province has an area of approximately 4,479.77 sq. km. which comprises 14.73% of Davao region land area composed of 11 municipalities and 235 barangays. Out of the province's total land area of 447,977 hectares, more than 7% or 31,831 hectares are classified to be potential for irrigation.

ComVal IMO has 54 personnel complement composed of authorized positions, casual employees, and the job orders headed by its IMO Manager Engr. Carlito A. Carrasco in abiding its organizational structure prescribed therein the lines of authority in the performance of their delineated functions.

As of December 2015, ComVal IMO developed a total of 13,488 hectares or 42% and there are still 18,343 hectares or 58% remaining area potential for irrigation. With rice as its main crop and a little area planted with banana, ComVal IMO's Firmed Up Service Area (FUSA) is 10,909 hectares. Irrigated area is 10,889 hectares and 10,909 hectares in the wet and dry seasons respectively garnering a cropping intensity of 199.82%.

In barely three(3) years as an interim IMO, Typhoon Pablo hit ComVal in December 2012 ravaging infrastructure, crops, properties and claimed lives of people leaving massive destruction and losses aftermath inclusive of ComVal IMO's damages of dams and irrigation structures and irrigated submerged ricefields akin to a "pacific ocean". The team ComVal IMO has collaborated to counter the adversity brought about by the typhoon. Eventually, after all the concerted efforts led by the ComVal IMO, NIA XI Regional Office, the LGUs of ComVal, the Irrigators Associations and its Federation of Irrigators Associations of ComVal, Inc., the IMO was





operational excellence



able to pool resources and got up to the near pre-disaster situation.

ComVal IMO, despite its early years as IMO, has proven their strength and commitment towards irrigation development. For NIA XI, this office is one of the most outstanding IMOs.

Batutu River Irrigation System is the sole National Irrigation System (NIS) of the IMO with 4,007 (738 new Area) hectares and smaller in area than the total area of twenty-nine (29) Communal Irrigation Systems (CIS) with a total area of 7,640 hectares. Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) collection for CY 2015 of Batutu RIS reached P 9,027,769.97 yielding a collection efficiency (CE) of 77.61%.

In the implementation of irrigation projects, the IMO completed all nine(9) projects with 100% Physical Accomplishment and submitted the corresponding Project Completion Report for the year 2015.


NIA XI's stakeholders and farmer-irrigators in ComVal have been taken care of under the IMO's Institutional Development Program (IDP). There are 48 Irrigators Associations both NIS and CIS IAs federated into the Federation of Irrigators Association of ComVal representing the 3,067 farmer-beneficiaries. Their capabilities have been developed and increased by the trainings, seminars,

reviews, and educational events conducted; and the responsibilities and tasks in the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) that they have to comply.

ComVal IMO practices the general standards of NIA Quality Workplace Program (NIA-QWP) pursuant to NIA's thrusts to be a certified International Organization for Standardization (ISO); submitted itself to the inspection guidelines and satisfactorily passed workplace inspection as to the location and condition of the building, material storage, lighting, air quality, sanitation, emergency equipment, and other components referring to the items found in the office facilities.

The IMO has established linkages with the Local Government Units of the ComVal Province and other agencies. Hence, in its activities, the IMO participates and extends assistance to where the need arises.

In recognition of IMO's involvement, the Office of the Governor of ComVal awards Certificate of Participation in the celebration of its 18th Founding anniversary and 9th Bulawan Festival of ComVal Province on March 8, 2016; Certification of Appreciation for IMO's support to Hybrid Rice Derby and 1st Rice Congress of ComVal on October 23, 2015; Certificate of Appreciation for the IMO's assistance and support for the holistic, recovery and rehab during the typhoon pablo on December 4, 2013. The NIA Regional Office XI afforded the IMO with the Certificate of Appreciation for responding to the appeal for assistance of NIA employees and IA members at Tacloban, Region 8 who were adversely affected by Typhoon Yolanda, given on December 12, 2013.

Comval gets bigger serving the indigenous peoples in the hinterland and the farmers in the lowlands. 





The future is more secure

Dorothy Belle C. De Leon, PRO-A, NIA Region II

A year ago, while standing on the levee of his farm, Ruben Sinacay, 51 years old, looked at his farm- or what was left of it- and heaved a sigh of despair.

From his vantage point, the future looks very bleak. Mang Ruben is a member of Kamantilis Communal Irrigation System of Kayapa, Nueva Vizcaya. The CIS is on the flood plain on the other side of Sta. Cruz River. For 17 years, Mang Ruben and his family resided near his farm. His gains from his farm and vegetable garden had helped him send his children to school. He is a proud father of a registered nurse and a high school student.

Sta. Cruz River, however, turned out to be a boon and a bane at the same time. While it is true that it is the source of irrigation water of Kamantilis CIS, it slowly chips away their

land, too! During wet season, when typhoons frequent the area, farmers suffer heavy losses. The loss of their harvest coupled by the loss of their lots is a double-edged sword piercing straight to the farmers' hearts.

"Our system used to have more than 30 hectares of rice land. Then, it shrunk to 24; now, it's just 17. I had more than three hectares of rice land before, now I was left with only two," he sadly recounted.

LGU Kayapa had seen their plight and graciously provided several spur dikes, to prevent the erosion of stream banks. But the system clearly needs additional riverbank protection solution.

Then, there came a light at the end of the tunnel. They were informed that their system will become a recipient of a project of Comprehen-

sive Agrarian Reform Program-Irrigation Component (CARP-IC). The 2.5-million peso project is programmed for diversion and canalization works.

Galvanized into action by the enormity of their losses and what is at risk, Mang Ruben, who was elected as the IA president, together with his fellow officers, submitted a resolution on March 3, 2016 earnestly requesting NIA to revise the Program of Works, to add slope protection to the items of work.

Engr. Francisco A. Domingsil, Division Manager of Nueva Vizcaya Irrigation Management Office (NVIMO) quickly elevated the matter to Engr. Antonio C. Lara, the Regional Irrigation Manager, who hearkened to their plea and had the POW revised immediately to cater to the pressing need.

On April 1, 2016, construction commenced. A 187-meter long rubble masonry was put up, parallel to the river, to serve as buffer of the rice paddies. Also, a gabion spurdiike was constructed near the intake to serve as training structure to deflect river flow and protect erodible banks as well as the main canal.

In addition, part of the main canal was lined with concrete hollow blocks (CHB) and a spillway was diverted at Station 0+065. Engr. Domingsil and Engr. Wilbert L. Galamay, the Regional Coordinator of CARP-IC, firmly reminded Engr. Arman Andres, Project in Charge, to exhaust all means possible for the project to be done before the onset of rainy season.

The directive came with a tall order that the **quality control** must be exercised for safety, reliability, and



durability of all structures. True enough, the slope protection was completed on May 30, 2016 and the diversion works and canalization a few days later.

"We are very thankful to NIA and CARP for this project. Now, we can sleep better at night knowing that our lands will still be intact in the days to come," Mang Ruben said in his acceptance speech as the project was turned-over to them on August 8, 2016.

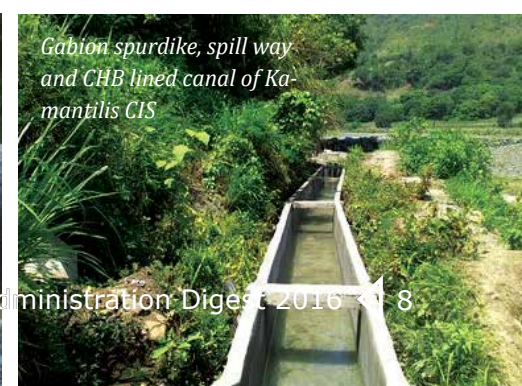
Now, as Mang Ruben stands on the rubble masonry and sees the month-old palay swaying to the morning breeze, he sighs contentedly. He finally sees a better and more secure future. 🏡



Before, during, and the completed slope protection.



Ruben Sinacay, IA President of Kamantilis CIS (seated), signs the turnover documents of the completed project on August 9, 2016 as NIA NVIMO employees, Barangay Captain Cerelo Ngalay, and his fellow farmers look on.



Gabion spurdiike, spill way and CHB lined canal of Kamantilis CIS

LINGSAT CIS: NIA's PRIDE IN ILOCANDIA

Oscar Navata, PRO, NIA Region I



MEN AT WORK. The Lingsat CIS during the excavation phase of the project.

The Lingsat Communal Irrigation System (CIS) was constructed in Barangay Lingsat, Municipality of Bantay, Province of Ilocos Sur. Accessible by land on well paved road, Brgy. Lingsat is one hour drive from the NIA Ilocos Sur Irrigation Management Office.


However, going to the irrigation project site can be a grueling experience to unsuspecting visitors because the trail is virtually impassable by motor vehicles. One has to pass through a rocky hill before reaching the area.

Developed in 1997, the irrigation system's source of water supply is the Bantaoay River. The project which has a service area of 72

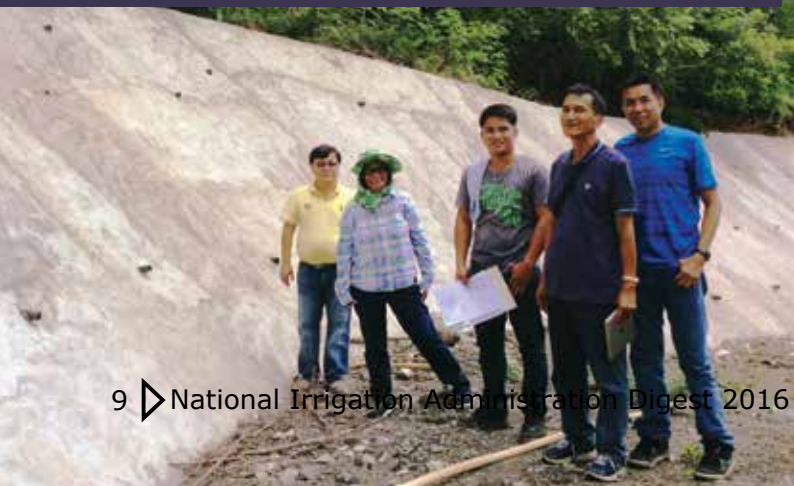
hectares with 147 farmer-beneficiaries primarily aims to protect the existing diversion dam, boost agricultural production in the area and in the process improve the income of farmer-beneficiaries. Thus, the Lingsat CIS project supports the national government's priority program of providing food security particularly the 1,405 locals and their beneficiaries in Barangay Lingsat. Originally, diversion works were the main priority of the project.

This year, the main features of the project are the construction of protection works located at right side Upstream and Downstream portion of Diversion Dam and also the repair of the Main Canal. Completed on June 8, 2016, records will

show that the Lingsat CIS project was completed three months ahead of schedule. In related interview, CARP IDO-A Gerald Inovejas narrated that commitment of the contractor to finish the job in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract, coupled with dedication of NIA officials characterized by their stiff supervision over the project and involvement of the farmers yielded a notable performance in irrigation management.

The implementation of irrigation component of this CARP-funded project worth 5M P was undertaken by the NIA Ilocos Sur Irrigation Management Office (ISIMO) which vouched for the track record of Bonicab Builders, Inc. 

FINAL OUTPUT. ISIMO Manager Adriano F. Amano and EOD Manager Frida L. Nidoy with inspection team from NIA Central Office inspected the project which will alleviate the socio-economic plight of 1,405 residents of Lingsat, Ilocos Sur through efficient irrigation services.



ISIMO Manager Adriano F. Amano and EOD Manager Frida L. Nidoy proudly stand atop the newly installed steel gate, considered an indispensable component of the P5M Lingsat CIS Project,

Tagboa-Cocormon CIS

Davao Oriental, Region 11

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI

Tagboa-Cocornon is a communal irrigation system located at Lupon, Davao Oriental serving the area of Barangays Tagboa and Cocornon, Lupon, Davao Oriental. Since 2011, the system has diverted irrigation water by intake tapping Sumlog River structure making the farmers hope for a more stable diversion structure. Hence, the rehabilitation of Tagboa-Cocornon CIS is tailoring pieces of their dream for a dam.

CARP-IC leads the implementation of rehab project with a fund allocation of P5 Million which entails the construction of the diversion structure and the tower. A release of P2 Million followed to complete the dam flooring.

Restoration/Rehabilitation of Existing CIS (RRECIS) by CY 2016 was also allocated the amount of P7 Million to cover the building of the diversion structure, canalization, canal lining at main canal, and access road surfacing.

Construction of the dam started on April 1, 2016 and was completed on May 15, 2016 involved the establishment of the dam, which is something that they hoped for so many years. The original and existing intake structure have been diverting water for irrigation from Sumlog River for the TAGMACO IA. The rehabilitation of Tagboa-Cocornon CIS had restored an area of 30 hectares in 2 Barangays Tagboa and Cocornon, Lupon, Davao Oriental. 🏠

Completed Diversion Dam



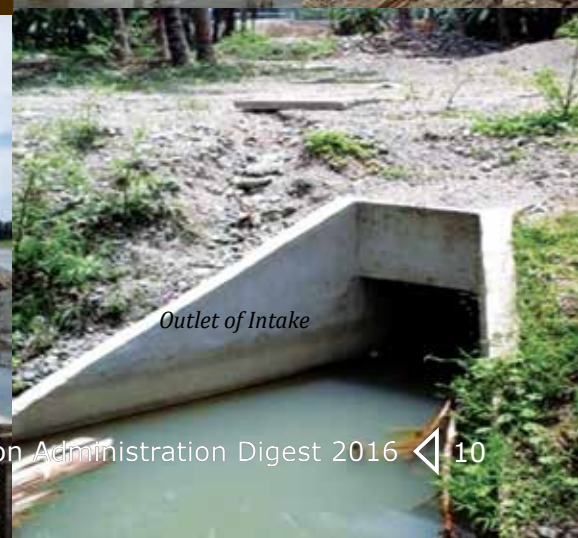
On going construction



Cofferdamming



On going 3000 psi reinforced concrete at pier section & siding



Outlet of Intake

THE 2015 BEST PROJECT MANA

Casecnan Multipurpose Irrigation and Power Project Irrigation Component (CMIPP-IC) Phase II:



The Casecnan Multipurpose Irrigation and Power Project – Irrigation Component Phase II was able to grab the Best Project Management Office for CY 2015, awarded during the NIA Anniversary on 22 June 2016.

CMIPP – IC Phase II is tasked to develop the 20,321 ha (mostly rain fed) into irrigated area in the municipalities of Guimba, Talugtug, Cuyapo, Nampicuan Nueva Ecija and part of Anao and Ramos Tarlac serving 11,900 farmers. The Project scope involves the construction of 22 km Super Diversion Canal (SDC), 320 km laterals and sub-laterals, 370 km main drainage channels/ collector drain, farm-to-market roads and organization of fifteen (15) Farmers Irrigators Associations which are essential in the improvement of the farming communities within the service area and increase the income of the farmers – beneficiaries.

Likewise, the Project improves the old existing facilities and structures serving about 40,000 ha in the Upper Pampanga River Integrated Irrigation System (UPRIIS) with 25,000 farmers' beneficiaries. Rehabilitation works cover the upgrading of PENRIS Main Canal, Lateral C, Lateral CX, Lateral CX-3, major exist-

ing facilities for head gates, check gates and provision of spillway at some strategic structures. These works are primarily undertaken to improve the irrigation efficiency in UPRIIS service area. A Central Operation and Monitoring System (COMS) will also be installed for the automation of UPRIIS.



The Project is strategically important to the government program on rice self – sufficiency in view of the additional palay production from the new service area and plays significant role in the upliftment of the economic status of the farmers who had dreamed for the past six (6) decades a new irrigation system for their rain fed farms. Now it is starting to deliver the following:

- Maximized economic benefits of the water delivered by the Casecnan BOT Project primarily contributing to palay production in new service area.
- Optimized utilization of the constructed Casecnan Super Diversion Canal (SDC), the new area intake structures, the improved main canal and structures of PBRIS and the rehabilitated PENRIS Dam under the CMIPP-IC Phase I which design capacities already considered the requirements of the area covered by CMIPP-IC Phase II.
- Tangible contribution to the rice sufficiency program of the government with a palay production volume of 599,066 metric tons annually.
- Increased farm income of some 36,900 farmer families.
- Access to the farm area through the constructed service roads along irrigation canals for the easy transport of farm inputs and produce.
- Contribution to employment generation during the construction and O & M stages of the Project.
- Improved Pantabangan reservoir flood control function in view of the optimized use of the stored water to support the irrigation requirements of the additional new area under CMIPP Phase II thus minimizing the frequency of the Pantabangan dam spillage.
- Developed drainage systems to mitigate the flooding in the area caused by heavy rainfall and typhoons aggravated by Climate Change by rehabilitating the silted Project collector drains and drainage channels.
- Measures to control erosion along canal slopes using coconets and lining works.
- Legacy for the farmers having organized as FIAs with their leaders trained to be effective.
- Increased awareness of the farmers on the impact of Climate Change in the farming communities and how to mitigate its adverse effect and adapt to cushion-off its impact.



The Project personnel led by PM Alexander G. Coloma ensure that the Office is a conducive workplace. All heads of responsibility centers are required to ensure Project's implementation of the Quality Workplace Program and 5S (sort, set in order, shine, standardize and sustain) to maintain a more efficient and safer workplace, and better service. While the Project advocates environmental protection and conservation, it has to showcase proper solid waste management through its Material Recovery Facility (MRF), a segregation and storage place for solid wastes.

The unity and discipline that have been inculcated by the Project Manager to all personnel minister the achievement of the exemplary standards in house-keeping, waste management and energy conservation, storage, fire prevention, etc. for the 2015 Best Project Management Office.

Casecnan Multipurpose Irrigation and Power Project Phase II (CMIPP – IC Phase II) is a paradigm of Publilius Syrus' quote *"where there is unity there is always victory"*. But inspite of the honor and distinction, the Project Manager always challenges everyone that *"The best of the Casecnan Project has yet to come."* 🏆

CLIMATE CHANGE :

The Greatest Challenge to the Casecnan Multi-purpose Irrigation and Power Project - Irrigation Component

The Casecnan Multipurpose Irrigation and Power Project Irrigation Component (CMIPP-IC) Phase II develops 20,321 ha rain fed area into irrigated farms with 11, 900 farmers beneficiaries. This is realized with the completion of several physical structures, facilities and organization of the farmers, as follows:

- 22 Km Super Diversion Canal
- 320 Km laterals and sub laterals
- 370km drainage channels/collector drains
- 2,0022 canal structures including turnouts
- 314 km of improved/ rehabilitated collector drains/drainage channels.
- 179 drainage structures
- 15 Farmers Irrigators Associations organized, registered to SEC and trained.

During the implementation of the Project, the effects of Climate Change have been the greatest challenge.

- Heavy rainfall in a very short duration resulting to overflowing of the drainage channels and flooding farms and communities, and damaging the constructed irrigation facilities and structures.
- Strong typhoons that caused damaging flood, rendering all construction sites unworkable, extending the completion of contract works.
- Very high temperature during summer time.



The project has to mitigate the impact of flood in the service area and adapt with the recurring flood problem:

- Installation of coconet to protect the canal side slopes from erosion. – There were 3,000 rolls of coconet amounting to about P5 M installed in some strategic section of SDC, SDC1 Extra, SDC2 Extra, Laterals I,J,K1,K2,M,N,N1, U and V and Sub-lateral N1.
- Construction of concrete lining of earth canals that are prone to erosion because of heavy rains and flooding.- 29,744 meters concrete lining were completed in SDC, Lateral N, Sub – lateral N1, Sub – lateral N5, Sub –lateral N6 and Sub lateral N9.
- Construction of concrete slope protection measures on some canal side slopes which erosion problem could not be controlled by geonets. – 2,420 meters slope protection along SDC were accomplished.
- Increased number of drainage crossings to ensure that flood water recede fast.
- Excavation/improvement of collector drains and main drains could store water to be used by some farmers to irrigate their farms.
- Construction of drainage inlet structures into the major canals to enable the flow of the flood water from the adjoining farms.
- Construction relief structures in some canal sections to allow the excess volume of water during heavy rains flow to the collector drains and creeks.
- Training of the FIA Officers and member on Climate Change and Water Management.

The Project's program in addressing the effects of Climate Change not only protect the newly constructed irrigation facilities but also allays the fear of the community residents on the damaging effect of flood. The Project's advocacy to cushion-off the effects Climate Change continues. The farmers are now becoming aware and ready to adapt with this phenomenon. 🇵🇭



THE 2015 PROJECT MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Wendy G. Pangilinan, Administrative Services Chief, CMIPP

Engr. Alexander G. Coloma or “AGC” as he is fondly called by his peers and subordinates, joined the National Irrigation Administration in 1973 and was assigned in various positions and offices. AGC is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from Central Luzon State University (CLSU), took up post graduate course from UP Los Baños and a Career Executive Service Eligible.

The prime mover: the Project Manager of the Casecan Multipurpose Irrigation and Power Project – Irrigation Component Phase I (completion stage) and Phase II, AGC devoted his time and expertise in managing the construction of an irrigation system that will boost the farmers’ production to improve their socio economic life: the farmers’ dream for six (6) decades realized.

An achiever: Outstanding Muñozonian in 2000 for his exemplary leadership, dedication to service and helping the common farmers; Outstanding Agricultural Engineer in 2005 in the field of soil and water management; Most Distinguished Alumnus: CLSU Centennial Award in 2007 for public service and administration; Recognition for years of outstanding service and unparalleled dedication to the Science City of Muñoz in 2010 and Most Outstanding Employee awarded by the Science City of Muñoz in 2015; Outstanding Project Manager of the Year 2008, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Hall of Fame Awardee for consistent Outstanding Project Manager of NIA.


Engr. Coloma is an epitome of a leader who becomes great, not because of his powers but because of his ability to empower others, and



an effective manager who leads his people to be best performers.

Every Monday, AGC meets the Project personnel to review the previous week performances and set specific instructions and directions for the succeeding week works, encouraging everyone to exert more efforts to attain the best accomplishments.

Team work is the primary factor that contributes to the Project performance, which AGC has maintained. He inspires everyone to work together as a big Casecan Family. He motivates all Project personnel to do their best and never to lose sight on the Vision and Mission of the Project, OPCR and individual or unit commitments.

AGC is a Project Manager with a heart for project excellence and a heart for his personnel, a formula of succes. 



ENGR. CARLITO A. CARRASCO: Irrigation Management Office (IMO) Manager *Of The Year*

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI



Engr. Carlito A. Carrasco was awarded as Irrigation Management Office (IMO) Manager of the Year for CY 2015 and as he accepted his award during the 53rd NIA Anniversary at NIA, Quezon City on June 22, 2016, the entire NIA Region XI shared with him this recognition he truly deserved.

He garnered the highest score of 95.864 following the criteria on Physical Performance component and Costumer Feedback for IMO Manager of the Year. Evaluated and rated by NIA XI's PRAISE Committee at the regional level, Engr. Carrasco was chosen as NIA XI Official Nominee for the IMO Manager of the year CY 2015 along with the regions nominations for the Regional Manager Award. Their documents were sent to the NIA-CO PRAISE for the final evaluation nationwide.

"Commitment is important", he said and added that with determination and prompt action, he can implement an irrigation project effectively.

Engr. Carrasco has been one of the best IMO Managers in NIA XI having undauntedly raised the Compostela Valley IMO from the ravages of Typhoon Pablo that hit the province in December 2012 and by his management skills and capabilities, elevated the IMO's irrigation performance.


A Civil Engineer by profession, Engr. Carrasco pursued his graduate studies at the University of San Agustin, Iloilo City and obtained a degree of Master in Public Administration.

He is presently the IMO Manager of Compostela Valley IMO in NIA Region XI, his 42nd year in NIA having made his first entry in the government service in 1974. He landed as Principal Engineer on June 24, 2010 when he was sent off to manage and head Compostela Valley IMO where ultimately he got the position of Division Manager designated as IMO Manager on February 12, 2013.

He rose from the ranks. Assigned at the Davao del Norte PIO, he started with the position of Laborer on October 1, 1974 and shortly, moved to Survey Aide. On April 1, 1976, he became a Utilityman and on to occupy Civil Engineering Aide. From then, on October 1, 1976, he occupied the item of a Hydro En-

gineering Aide and next, got the position of Irrigation Project Investigator. Later, he earned the item of Engineer A to Senior Engineer performing his first designation as IMO Manager on April 1, 2008 in Davao Oriental IMO. His stint with NIA Region XI showed his ability as an effective manager as once in his NIA life, he belonged to the rank and file and was an ordinary and aspiring NIA employees

Engr. Carrasco is a simple person but strong in his convictions. He carries a powerhouse of energy, contagious and capable of sending his counterparts and subordinates to move as quickly as he is making him active and energetic. He believes in the principle of discipline and the fundamentals of Golden Rule. Even in his private life, his favours for the lowly prevails and he associates with people with generosity and compassion.

After NIA, he plans to go and indulge in full time farming and agricultural business as he knew that a few years from now, he will leave the portals of NIA and end his government service. 

MARIIS

IS NIA'S BEST REGIONAL/ OPERATIONS OFFICE FOR CY 2015

ENGR. GLORIA IS BEST REGIONAL/OPERATIONS MANAGER

CAUAYAN CITY - Sustaining the excellent performance it posted in 2014, the Magat River Integrated Irrigation System was hailed as the National Irrigation Administration's best regional/operations office for CY 2015.

Melissa C. Agbisit, PRO, MARIIS

MARIIS Manager Engr. Wilfredo C. Gloria was honored as the Best Regional/Operations Manager for the same year.

MARIIS has been consistently posting high income and project accomplishment status for the past years. For 2015, it posted a viability index of 1.76% with a net income of P254.7 million.

For crop year 2015, MARIIS achieved a 209% cropping intensity and 96.79% collection efficiency.

For these accomplishments and more, MARIIS successfully hurdled the performance evaluation criteria set by the NIA Program on Awards

and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Committee.


In a simple gathering with the employees of MARIIS Head Office and Division IV, Engr. Gloria said the honor is not his alone. He commended everyone for the commitment they put into doing their job the best they can. He said this could not have been possible without everyone doing their share.

"Ito ay hindi karangalan ng iisa kung hindi ng lahat ng miyembro ng MARIIS," he said.

Engr. Gloria said the success of MARIIS is the success of every employee, from the utility worker

to the manager. *"I-congratulate natin ang ating mga sarili. Sa ating lahat ito,"* he added.

Engr. Gloria assumed the position as MARIIS head in 2015 after the retirement of Engr. Mariano G. Dancel. Upon taking over the reins of the office, he promised to continue working towards excellent performance.

With his simplicity and no-nonsense attitude and the cooperation and hard work of all the division managers, MARIIS managed to bag the top honors for 2015. 

Ratooning

Ratooning also posted a significant contribution to MARIIS' high cropping intensity. For Post-Dry Crop, rice crops in 22,530 hectares of farmlands were ratooned. For post-Wet Crop, 18,438 hectares had ratoon crops.

Having ratoon crops in 20% or more of the 85,731 hectares firmed-up service area after the dry and wet crops significantly contributed to the high cropping intensity.

Ratooning (from Spanish retoño, "sprout") is a method of harvesting a crop which leaves the roots and the lower parts of the plant uncut to give way thru ratoon or the stubble to grow. The main benefit of ratooning is that the crop matures earlier

in the season. Ratooning can also decrease the cost of preparing the field and planting.

In MARIIS, rice ratooning is another strategy to increase cropping intensity and production per unit area with little expenses by farmers. In 2009, the Department of Agriculture initiated a ratooning program in the MARIIS service area. Since then some farmers have been ratooning on their own.


The ratoon areas in MARIIS are those which have good control of irrigation water, contiguous/compact, and belonging to low lying areas.

Some farmhands practice ratooning to provide them their rice supply for



personal consumption. Ratoon crops require less water and fertilizer input and mature earlier than the main crop.

Ratooning provides additional production and allows an opportunity to increase cropping intensity in cultivated areas.

Aside from encouraging ratooning, Engr. Gloria said MARIIS aims to close the gap between the irrigated area and the firmed up service area. If such, cropping intensity in the MARIIS region would further improve. 

National Irrigation Administration

VISION

By 2020, NIA is a professional and efficient irrigation agency contributing to the inclusive growth of the country and in the improvement of the farmers' quality of life.

MISSION

To construct, operate and maintain irrigation systems consistent with integrated water resource management principles to improve agricultural productivity and increase farmers' income.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop and maintain irrigation systems in support of the agricultural program of the government;
- To provide adequate level of irrigation service on a sustainable basis in partnership with the farmers and local government units;
- To provide technical assistance to institutions in the development of water resources for irrigation;
- To improve and sustain the operation of NIA as a viable corporation and service-oriented agency.

CORE VALUES

Commitment
Integrity
Professionalism

QUALITY POLICY

We are committed to provide an efficient, effective, and sustainable irrigation services aimed towards the highest satisfaction of the Filipino farmers contributing to the country's inclusive economic growth;

We shall strive for the attainment of our strategic themes of technical and operational excellence, and good governance through partnership with the farmers and other stakeholders;

We shall remain dedicated to the core values of Commitment, Integrity and Professionalism, to continually improve the NIA's Quality Management System.



seeing through the
lens of the best IA

SAN ISIDRO FARMERS IRRIGATORS ASSOCIATION (SIFIA), INC.: An Outstanding IA via a Strong Leadership and ultimately an Entrepreneur

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI



SIFIA's strong leadership has intensified the IA's viability. Outstanding for its performance, SIFIA has been recognized at the local, regional level and the international communities. Ultimately, in the recent competition in celebration of the NIA's 53rd anniversary, SIFIA won and awarded the Most Outstanding IA nationwide, NIS category during the NIA day accolade on June 22, 2016 in Quezon City.

SIFIA is an NIS IA downstream of Libuganon River Irrigation System, Davao del Norte, 60 kilometers away from the Libuganon Dam. It is a part of Diversion VIII A to covers a service area of 243.02 hectares at Purok 2, Bry. San Isidro, Municipality of Carmen, Davao del Norte benefiting 163 farmer-members. It is 52 kilometers north of Davao City and 16 kilometers north of NIA Davao del Norte Irrigation Management Office at Sto. Niño, Carmen, Davao del Norte.

The member-users of SIFIA competently apply their viability strategies by seriously following their cropping calendar to prevent crops from pest infestation and diseases and adopted the water savings technology and rationing after regular cropping season. Hence, they achieved a cropping intensity of 400% and produced an average of 160 cavans per hectare after planting high yielding rice varieties. They are the seed producers. Capable of increasing rice production, the members have been able to pay Irrigation Service Fees (ISF) to NIA Davao del Norte IMO promptly that the IA pulls off 100% ISF collection efficiency (CE) which enables SIFIA to generate revenue for the IA in terms of the Irrigation Management Transfer Model II share incentive.

The IA is such a good performer in irrigation development that from here they acquired more properties

and assets. Further, because of their outstanding performance, they were awarded in various categories such as in the local government, earned national awards and international recognitions. Their international awards include, a Certificate of Recognition CY 2014 by the Ministry of Agriculture Republic of the Union of Myanmar; Certificate of Recognition CY 2013 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United States; Certificate of Recognition CY 2012 by the Australian embassy of the Philippines and Certificate of Recognition CY 2011 by the Australian embassy of the Philippines. 





SARBIDA, *A premium IA*

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI

Known for its being meek in containing their feat, San Agustin Ruparan Barangay Irrigation Development Association, Inc. or SARBIDA manifests the values of an achiever and has been NIA XI's icon for a premium Irrigators Association (IA). For its ability to increase its viability and performance while strengthening its membership, SARBIDA garnered the Most Outstanding IA award nationwide in the communal irrigation systems category during the 53rd NIA Anniversary celebration on June 22, 2016 held at NIA Central Office, Quezon City.


SARBIDA is a communal irrigators association managing San Agustin Communal Irrigation System (CIS) located at Barangay Ruparan, Digos City, Davao del Sur in Region XI, San Agustin CIS serves and irrigates an area of 478.24 hectares out of the service area of 500 hectares tapping Napan River. Its cropping intensity is

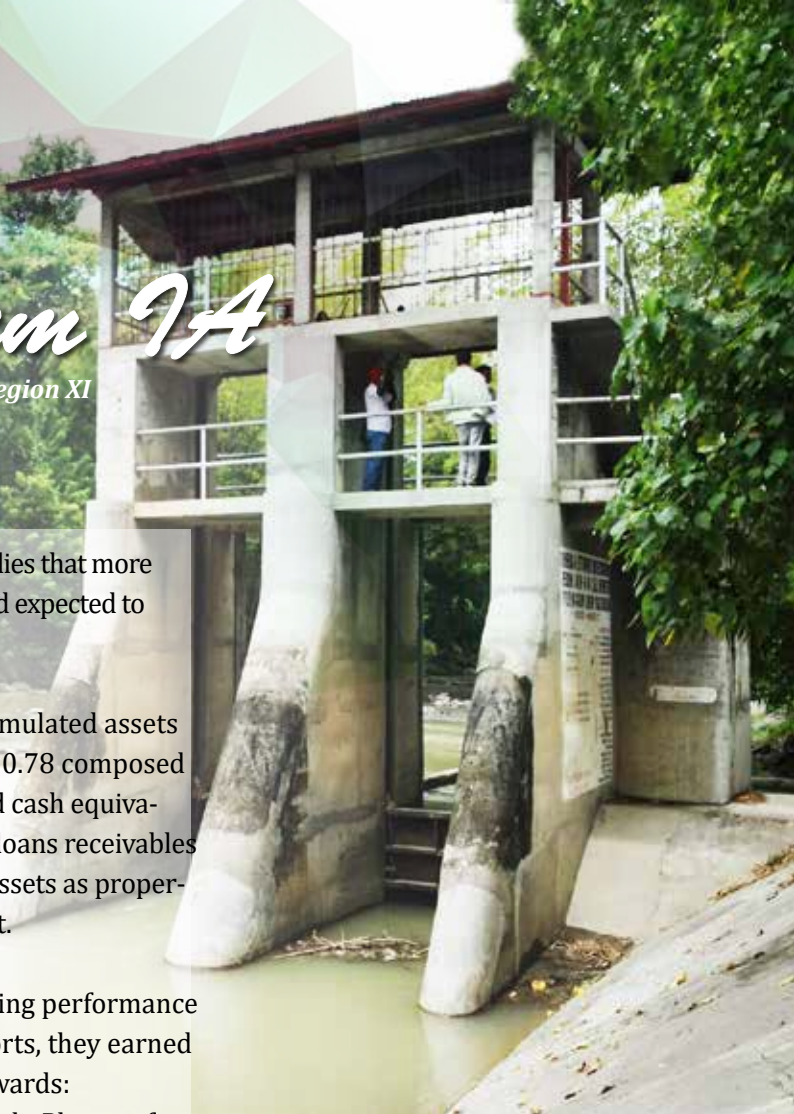
191.3 % which implies that more area are planted and expected to produce more rice.

SARBIDA has accumulated assets worth P 36,427,210.78 composed of current cash and cash equivalents, Agricultural loans receivables and Non-Current assets as properties and equipment.

For their outstanding performance and concerted efforts, they earned recognition and awards:

International award - Plaque of Recognition given by Cal Energy as First Runner up CIS Category 2005; Several National Awards, among others, Most Outstanding IA for CY 2014 CIS Category and various Regional, Provincial, Municipal, City and Community awards.

The IA is viable by an index of 2.3 and as they earn harder and spend frugally, success of SARBIDA continues to soar high. 



SARBIDA members during the IA validation in May 2016



seeing through the
lens of the best IA

UPSFIA WINS HALL OF FAME AWARD: WOMEN IRRIGATORS AT THE HELM

Bernadette G. Robin, PRO, NIA Region XI



Upper Sinayawan Farmers Irrigators Association (UPS-FIA) has earned recognitions and awards for its performance in the field of irrigation development. During the 53rd NIA Anniversary on June 22, 2016 at the NIA Central, Quezon City, UPSFIA was bestowed with the Hall of Fame Award for its 3rd-time Most Outstanding IA.

Women's active leadership in attaining the viability of UPSFIA is significantly notable. Predominantly, since its organization in 1980, women have managed the affairs of the association. At present, the association has 37.6%

women in its total membership and 50.0% in the Board of Trustees (BOT) composition.

UPSFIA has been an achiever in the performance of their duties in the irrigation system complementing the functions of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). Under the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) Model 2 contract, the association implements properly the operation and maintenance plans of the system. The IA distributes water supply to farmland equitably at their level and obliges the farmers to attend the regular conduct of system

maintenance keeping the functionality of the system's canals and structures.

For the gender and development of UPSFIA, the IA involved the women in several livelihood program such as the Greening program through backyard vegetable gardening; Mongo Beans Processing; Cosmetology, Hair Culture and Dressmaking; and Native Delicacies.

Women in UPSFIA prove their strength in bringing about the best of the IA. In the succeeding years of earning the Most Outstanding IA awards, the IA finally wins the Hall of Fame award. 🏆



UPSFIA Women members packing mongo polvoron and mongo kropek



Drying of mongo



Goat Raising



With the aim of bringing the government closer to the farmers and continue the Agency's role in capacity building of our partners in irrigation development. Several Farmer's Training Centers have been constructed in every Regional Office of NIA







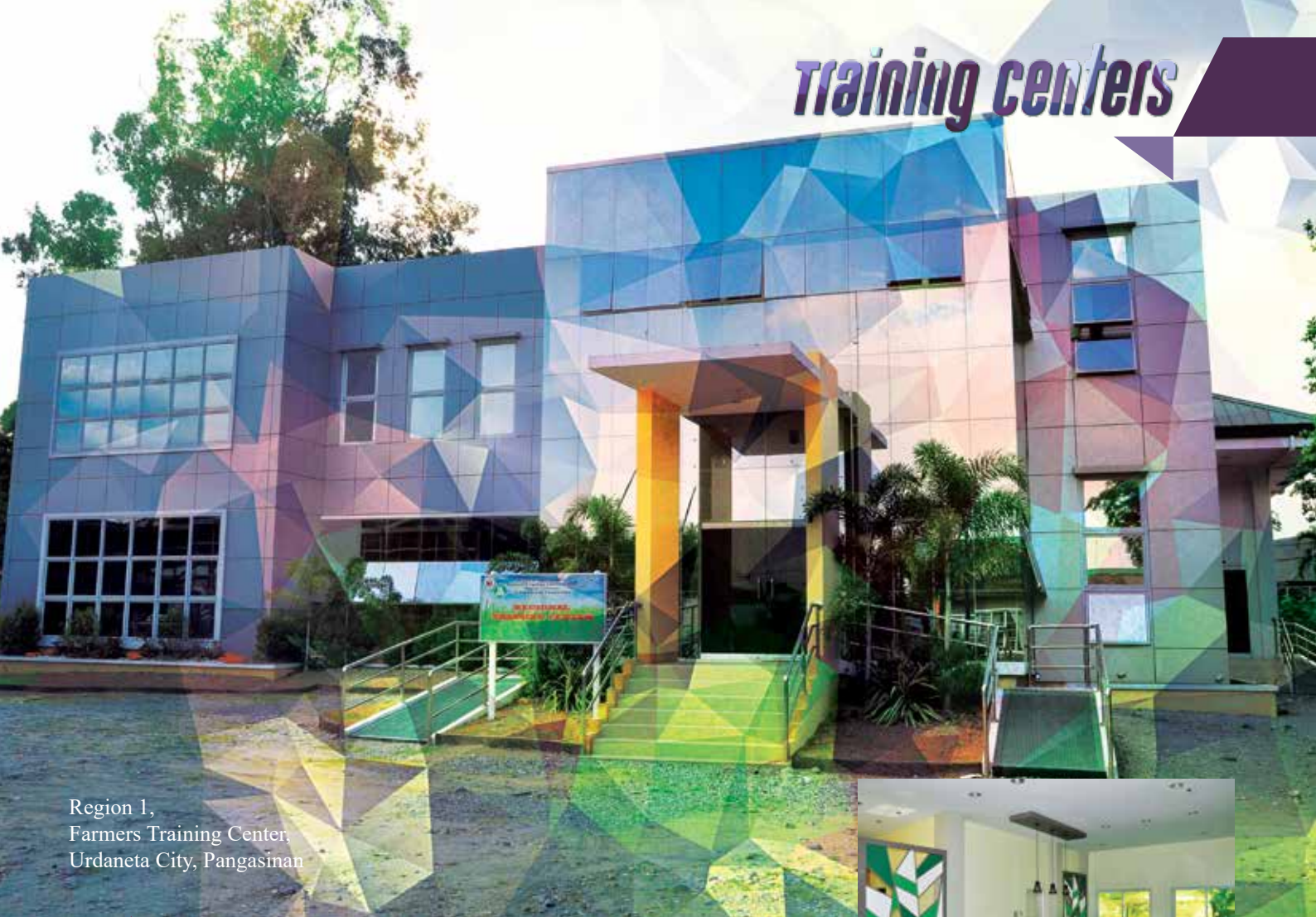
The newly-built NIA-CAR Farmers' Training Center in Wangal, La Trinidad, Benguet has been designed to have a total floor area of 1,142 square meters and features a function hall with a dining area, and 18 lodging rooms with a capacity of more than 70 individuals. Inaugurated in December 2014, it is now being utilized for the capability trainings of Cordillera farmers organized by the NIA and other government agencies.



Traditional ritual during the ground-breaking of the NIA-CAR Farmers' Training Center, invoking the blessing of "Kabunian" (God)



Ceremonial Groundbreaking



Region 1,
Farmers Training Center,
Urdaneta City, Pangasinan

A thanksgiving mass was just concluded when NIA Administrator Engr. Florencio F. Padernal, DPA arrived early morning on May 6, 2016 to spearhead the ribbon cutting and unveiling of the marker for the Regional Training Center (RTC) in simple inauguration rites held at the NIA Compound. Later in the morning, top performing irrigators associations in the region were duly acknowledged and awarded certificate of recognition by Dr. Padernal who was the guest of honor and speaker, and NIA officials for their exemplary performance in ISF collection efficiency, cropping intensity and organizational strength which was derived from the recent functionality survey conducted by the regional office. A photo exhibit featuring the accomplishments and status of various irrigation projects in the pipe line which includes the National Irrigation Sector Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (NISRIP) and the Agno River Irrigation System Extension Project (ARISEP) were displayed at the building lobby to highlight the event. The two-storey building which is now open to serve clients from other government agencies is fully equipped with two conference halls, cafeteria, receiving area and modest lodging rooms to accommodate live-in occupants.



A cozy cafeteria



The fully air-conditioned conference room with a seating capacity of 70 people



Dormitory-type lodging room



Conference Room



Cafeteria



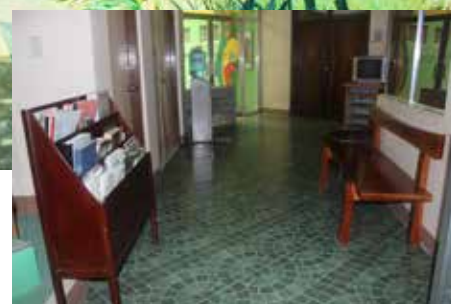
Dormitory-type lodging room 2

NIA-UPRIIS' TRAINING CENTER: HELPING FARMERS TO GROW AND BE BETTER. In 2011, with the initiative of former Administrator Engr. Antonio S. Nangel, a training center was built to serve as a House of Learning for our farmer partners specifically, the Irrigators' Associations (IAs). This was called Benigno S. Aquino Sr. Farmers' Training Center which is conveniently located at the compound of NIA-UPRIIS' Head Office in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija. For more than five years since it was constructed, it has become a constant venue of farmer trainings and employee workshops or conferences and even patronized by other government and private entities, which has truly brought an added profit to the agency. The center is now known for its affordability not to mention the classy and comfy rooms it offer to hold live-in trainings and seminars as well as its accessibility and quality service. Moreover, it provides a clean, functional, safe and secured surroundings for either short term or long-term stay.



Region 4A,
Farmers Training Center,
Pila, Laguna

The NIA Region IV-A Training Center located within the Regional Office compound in Pila, Laguna was built in the furtherance of learning and knowledge exchange not only for NIA employees but more importantly for partner-farmers specifically for the Irrigators Association. Built in 2008 from the ashes of the original building which was destroyed by a fire sometime in 1998. It was named Alexander A. Reuyan Training Center in honor of his able leadership done in the occasion of IA Performance Awarding Ceremony held on February 23, 2010. The building is a modest but secured and suitable venue for housing small to medium gatherings and special events. It can hold live-in trainings, seminars and conferences with its 50-80 person capacity fully air conditioned Conference Room and 7-bedroom also fully air-conditioned dormitory with a capacity of 4-6 persons per room. It is also open to other government and non-government organizations, wherein due to its accessibility, transient visitors may also find the center a stop-over place away from home.



Receiving Area

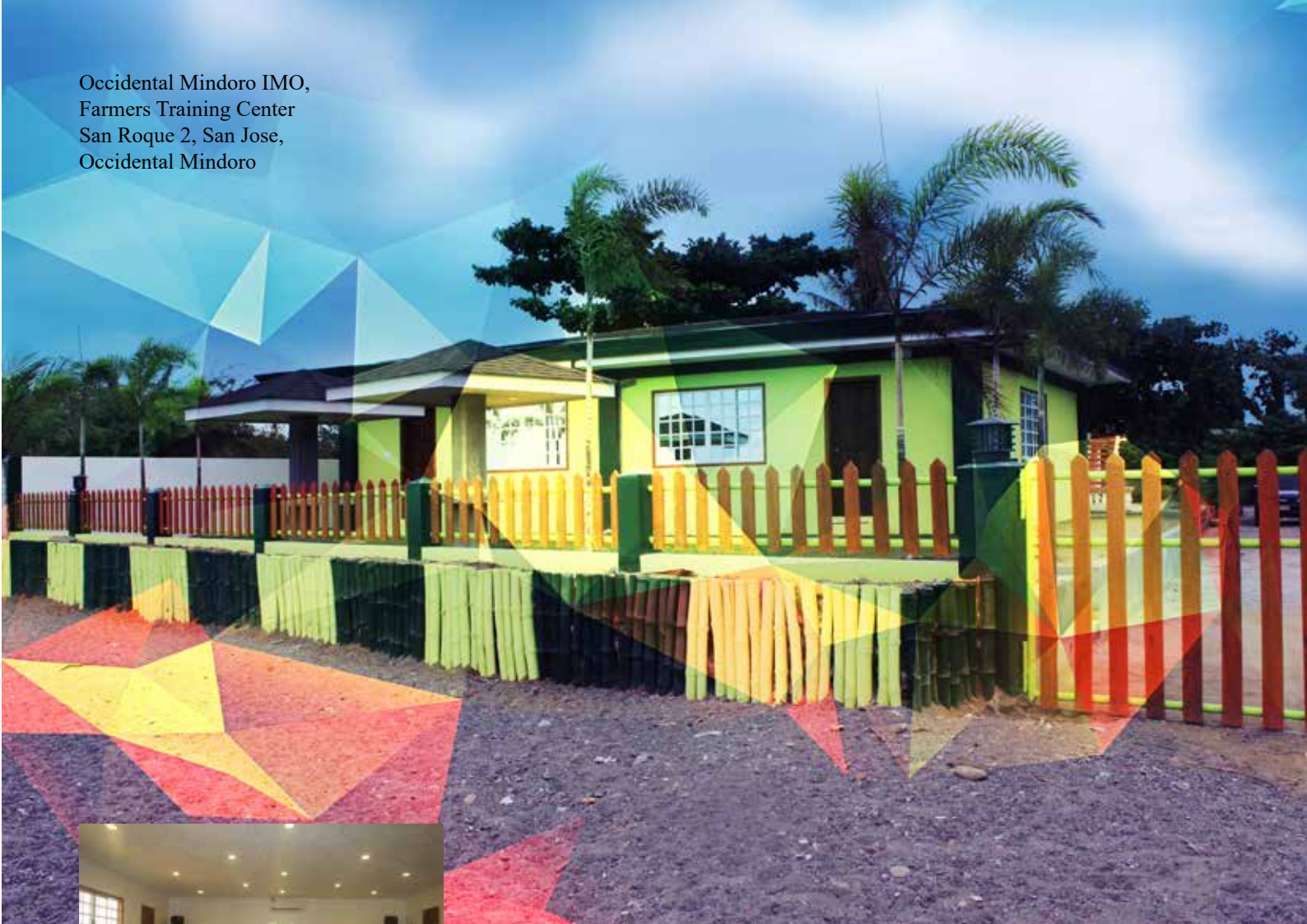


Training Center view 2



Conference Room

Occidental Mindoro IMO,
Farmers Training Center
San Roque 2, San Jose,
Occidental Mindoro



Conference Room 1



Conference Room 2



Projector

The newly-constructed single-story training center of Occidental Mindoro IMO houses a function hall good for 50 persons. It was constructed on October 1, 2014 up to January 31, 2015. It is fully-air-conditioned with sound systems and white board. Said project is not yet inaugurated but is currently used for various training/seminar not only of the IMO and IA but also other agencies thereby generating additional income for the agency. Relative to this, the regional management is currently requesting for the construction of a lodging facility to accommodate participants/ guests. Furthermore, a proposal for a training center at Palawan IMO is currently being processed.



Region 4B
Farmers Training Center
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Through the efforts of former Acting Regional Manager Conrado V. Cardenas, Jr., renovation of NIA IA Training Center at Bayanan II, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro began on January 2016 until February of the same year.

It has a total floor area of 391.81 square meters and features a function hall (good up to 50 persons), kitchen with dining area, fitness area, dormitory and guest rooms.

It was inaugurated last April 2013 as part of the celebration of NIA IV-B's first NIA IA Day. Today, it serves as venue for various activities of the agency and IA like seminars, training, workshops and meetings.



Function Hall



Function Hall



Guest Room



Dormitory



Dormitory-type lodging room 1

In pursuit to empower the lives of the Filipino farmers through education and trainings, NIA-Bicol has constructed the “NIA Centre for Farmers Empowerment” in 2014. This serves as a venue, that is conducive and convenient for trainings, seminars, and workshops being facilitated by the NIA and other government agencies. This two-storey building measures 1,180 square meters, which features one conference hall, four mini-workshop rooms, and 15 lodging rooms which can accommodate a total of 60 individuals. With this newly-built training center, NIA5 continues to improve its services and strengthens its partnership with the farmers regionwide.



Region 7,
Farmers Training Center,
Tagbilaran City, Bohol

The Central Visayas Training Center is a vital establishment in the region basically to serve as a venue for activities of the National Irrigation Administration and its stakeholders. Build within the NIA Region 7 compound in Tagbilaran City, its location has a convenient distance from shopping center, public market, terminal and churches. Completed on April 2015, the building is equipped with the basics of a training facility; function Room, dining hall and 4 lodging rooms enough to accommodate up to 80 individuals. For the time being, the facility has been one of the preferred venues in Bohol for trainings and workshops facilitated by both government and private institutions.



Front view



Function Room



Front view



2nd Floor



Hallway



Function Hall

In the pursuit of NIA's vision to be a professional and efficient irrigation agency, NIA Region IX Farmers' Training Center was built and inaugurated last October 7, 2014 in the presence of NIA Administrator Florencio F. Padernal. Located along the national highway of Tawagan Norte, Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur, the said training center has a floor area of 1,425 square meters which also houses the Regional Irrigation Office. It features a lobby area, a conference room with a capacity 25-30 persons, a function hall with a maximum capacity of up to 150, a staff house with a 12-person capacity, and a fully furnished Manager's Quarter with kitchen, dining, and living areas along with its three (3) lodging rooms that can accommodate five (5) persons each. In addition to the amenities of the training center is the recently completed covered court, offering a different venue for our farmer stakeholders' capability-building activities, IA Congresses, (mass) turnovers, and the likes.



Choir Competition



Region 8 (Champion)



Central Office (First Place)



Region I (Second Place)



Region 11 (Third Place)

Cultural Dance Competition



CAR (3rd Place)



CMIPP (1st Place)



Region 10 (2nd Place)





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