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NDRRMC MEETS TOP PH BUSINESS LEADERS

PRESIDENT AQUINO APPROVES OCD'S REORGANIZATION

The CIVIL DEFENSE GAZETTE

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MIKE ALDRIN SABADO
Contributors

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
Office of Civil Defense
Department of National Defense
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo
Quezon City
Email us at ocdpao@gmail.com
Call us at (02) 961 6314

Editor's Note

The world celebrated the first year of the *Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (SFDRR) on 18 March 2016 with the social media campaign #Switch2Sendai. This campaign aims to encourage national government to utilize the successor instrument to the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015*, to substantially reduce disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and assets.

While the Sendai Framework recognizes that the national government has the primary role of reducing disaster risks, it strongly urges that the responsibility be shared with the local government, private sector and other stakeholders.

In the Philippine context, this is referred to as the 'whole-of-society' approach to disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) building resilience, wherein all sectors are involved and given various roles to ensure wider participation in reducing people's vulnerabilities and minimize the threats of hazards to communities.

A testament to this endeavor is the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council dialogue with the private sector. During the said meeting, the business leaders agreed to support and further strengthen the country's DRRM development effort, which aims to build a safer, adaptive and disaster resilient nation.

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NDRRMC, OCD HOST DIALOGUE WITH TOP PH BUSINESS LEADERS

by Mark Cashean Timbal

In a rare forum, top business leaders agreed to work together and support government efforts that will further strengthen the country's disaster risk reduction and development efforts. Industry captains made this commitment at the first ever NDRRMC-Private Sector Partnership Dialogue held on 07 March 2016 at the Tower Club in Makati City.

The Dialogue was hosted by NDRRMC Chair and National Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin and assisted by NDRRMC Executive Director and Civil Defense Administrator Usec Alexander P. Pama and Ms. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga, Executive Director of the Manila Observatory.

The business leaders present committed to support efforts that will catalyze and promote convergence of government-private sector disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) advocacies and activities. Sec. Gazmin, in welcoming the vital private sector support, said "this coming together ushers in a new and mutually reinforcing partnership between and among government and private sector companies. By this, we can cover more bases and promote efficiencies in our efforts."

Over the last two years, the NDRRMC has focused on the goal of "saving lives." "We have fulfilled our mission, but much more needs to be done in the areas of building resiliency and preparedness in our communities. We need to build on our initial successes by addressing other equally important pillars of DRRM such as building resilient



National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) Chair and Secretary of National Defense Voltaire T. Gazmin presides the meeting with top business leaders during the NDRRMC-Private Sector Partnership Dialogue on 7 March 2016 at the Tower Club in Makati City. The business leaders agreed to support the government disaster risk reduction and management program which aims to build resilience and sustain development.

infrastructures and promoting business continuity, especially among micro, small and medium enterprises. With such huge tasks, it is important that we strengthen collaboration with the private sector," said Usec Pama. He added that "achieving convergence in the DRRM thrusts and activities of the private sector and the government effort will greatly increase the effectiveness of our national DRRM program."

The business leaders welcomed the opportunity to work with government in the areas of: (a) economic risk assessment; (b) business operations continuity; (c) sustainable livelihoods; (d) disaster risk financing (e) logistics and supply chain management; (f) communications and infrastructure; and safer shelter, among others.

They recognized the importance of designating focal points for coordination in the public and private sector to ensure the unimpeded delivery of interventions. In line with this, a scoping of current private sector efforts will be done. The NDRRMC members present even encouraged their counterparts in the private sector to find their niche to add further value to the national DRRM effort.

There is also concurrence among the attendees on the idea put forward by the private sector regarding the importance of strengthening current institutional frameworks and the establishment of a permanent DRR agency with leadership that can transcend administrations.

Story continues on next page . . .



Business leaders present during the NDRRMC-Private Sector Partnership Dialogue held on 7 March 2016 are (from left) Mr. Ramon S. Ang of San Miguel Corporation, Mr. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala of Ayala Corporation, Mr. Faraday R. Go of Robinson's Land, Ms. Doris Magsaysay Ho of A. Magsaysay, Inc. and the Philippine APEC Business Advisory Council, Mr. Federico Lopez of the First Philippines Holdings, Mr. Manuel V Pangilinan of PLDT/Smart Communications, Amb. Roberto R. Romulo of the Carlos P. Romulo Foundation, Mr. Hans T. Sy of SM Prime Holdings.

NDRRMC, OCD host meeting . . .

In the meeting, the scheduled Sunset Review of the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 or Republic Act 10121 was identified as a timely opportunity to review and address institutional and operational mechanisms, including the necessary platforms upon which government and private sector will interface.

Also in attendance at the dialogue were NDRRMC Vice-Chair for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Science and Technology Secretary Mario Montejo, Vice Chair for Disaster Response Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman,

Chief Executive Officers and Presidents of the major Philippine companies and private sector organizations, including Mr. Ramon S. Ang of San Miguel Corporation, Mr. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala of Ayala Corporation, Mr. Faraday R. Go of Robinson's Land, Ms. Doris Magsaysay Ho of A. Magsaysay, Inc. and the Philippine APEC Business Advisory Council, Mr. Federico Lopez of the First Philippines Holdings, Mr. Manuel V Pangilinan of PLDT/Smart Communications, Amb. Roberto R. Romulo of the Carlos P. Romulo Foundation, Mr. Hans T. Sy of SM Prime Holdings, His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle of the Archdiocese of Manila, and Ms. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga

of the Manila Observatory. Also in attendance is Climate Change Secretary Emmanuel De Guzman and other representatives of the NDRRMC member-agencies.

"DRR makes good business sense" was a point well highlighted by the private sector group. Ms. Loyzaga said that strategic coherence and continuity in science, policy and practice are critical to both business and development continuity.

In closing, His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle expressed his support on behalf of the church on the joint collaboration of the government and the private sector on DRR and CCA.



(Seated from left) NDRRMC Vice Chair for Response Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman, NDRRMC Chair and National Defense Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin, His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle of the Archdiocese of Manila and Manila Observatory's Executive Director Ms. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga pose for a souvenir with other NDRRMC officials and business leaders during the close of the NDRRMC-Private Sector Partnership Dialogue held on 7 March 2016 at the Tower Club in Makati City.

PRESIDENT APPROVES ORGANIZATIONAL UPGRADES IN OCD

by Karla Aldea Minorka

President Benigno S Aquino III has approved the new Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern (OSSP) of the Office of Civil Defense through a memorandum issued by Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr on 22 March 2016.

This approval constitutes the elevation of four divisions to service level units, the creation of the Rehabilitation and Recovery Management Service; the elevation of the OCD field units to Regional Offices, the creation of five Director III positions to lead OCD services, the creation of 17 Director II positions to head the regional offices and serve as chairpersons of the Regional DRRM Councils as well as the creation of two Director IV positions as Deputy Administrators. The approval allows OCD to have strong leadership not just at the national level but at the regional level as well, to be able to carry out effective DRRM plans and programs.

The request for additional OCD positions was made in congruence to the modified role and elevated responsibility of the OCD as specified in the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 or RA 10121.

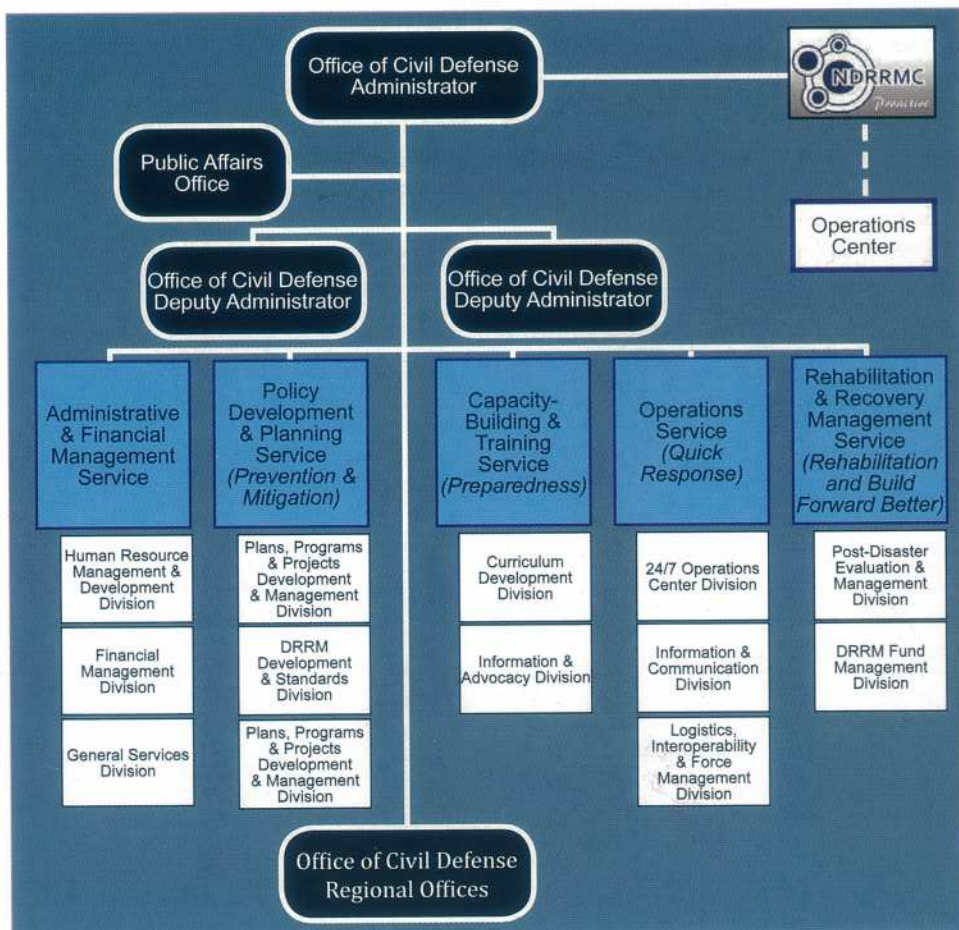
The previous organizational structure was provided by Presidential Decree No. 1566. Due to the expanded mandate brought about by RA 10121 giving OCD the role of executive arm of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and the administration of the Philippines' national civil defense and disaster risk reduction and

management (DRRM) programs, an increase in the workforce was requested and consequently approved.

When Usec Pama assumed his post as Civil Defense Administrator in 2014, an intensive re-examination of OCD's OSSP was conducted. An improved OSSP, submitted to the Department of National Defense, was then approved by NDRRMC Chairperson and National Defense Secretary Voltaire T Gazmin and consequently endorsed to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in January 2015. This eventually led to DBM's issuance of a Notice of Organization,

Staffing and Compensation Action (NOSCA) approving 156 positions in August 2015 and another NOSCA approving the regularization of 165 contractual posts. This gives OCD a total of 622 authorized positions compared to the former 301 positions.

"We welcome this approval issued by the President as another strong boost to our nation's DRRM program. With the expansion of the Civil Defense workforce, we would be able to address the growing demands of DRRM in the Philippines", said Usec Alexander Pama.



The new organizational structure of the Office of Civil Defense as approved by President Benigno S. Aquino III on 22 March 2016.

NDRRMC WRAPS UP SUNSET REVIEW OF PRIMARY DRRM LAW

by Jose Chito Pampanga

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) formulates and put together highlights of the Sunset Review mandated to be conducted by a Congressional Oversight Committee (COC) within five years after the implementation of Republic Act 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010.

NDRRMC, with funding support from United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and through the Office of Civil Defense' Disaster Risk Reduction and Management/ Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM/CCA) Policies and Standardization Project, led a nationwide initiative in 2015, to identify DRRM best practices, determine structural and institutional gaps, issues, and challenges in the implementation of the PDRRM Act, and formulate

inputs and recommendations to improve national policies on DRRM/CCA.

The proposed amendatory bill, entitled "An Act Further Strengthening the Philippine Disaster Risk Management System, Institutionalizing the Framework and Plan, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes," was the output of this year-long national initiative.

Formulated and put together by various DRRM/CCA stakeholders (national government agencies, local government units, private sector and civil society organizations, and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, including development partners), through a series of national, local, and sectoral workshops, writeshops, and consultations in Luzon, Visayas,

and Mindanao, the amendatory bill highlights the creation of an independent DRRM agency, headed by a fixed-term Director-General, to strengthen the country's implementation, coordination, and monitoring of policies and plans, as well as actions on DRRM.

Consistent with the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), the proposed bill enhances the PDRRM Act of 2010 by improving and expanding the policies on risk assessment, governance, information, education, and communication (IEC), disaster risk financing and insurance, and clarifying the roles of DRRM stakeholders. Each one of these critical DRRM areas of concern has dedicated provisions in the proposed amendatory bill.

Provisions to streamline and simplify the facilities for eligible assisting international actors during response have also been included in the amendatory bill. The institutionalization of the mechanism for DRRM capacity building, establishment of grievance desks in all regions, and professionalization of DRRM practitioners are among the other highlights of the bill.

After being vetted, approved, and endorsed by the Technical Management Group (TMG) of the National Council on 21 December 2015, the proposed amendatory bill is now for submission to the COC and the Office of the President (OP), pending approval and endorsement of the NDRRMC through its Chairperson Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin.



Civil Defense Deputy Administrator Director Romeo F. Fajardo addresses the participants during the Republic Act 10121 Sunset Review Sectoral Consultation in Tagaytay City on 23 April 2015.

NDRRMC INKS AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS

by Mina Marasigan

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) through the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) is renewing its partnership with the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on Monday, 10 March 2016 at the NDRRMC Conference Room.

NDRRMC Chairperson and National Defense Secretary Voltaire T Gazmin signs the MOA with Yasmin Busran Lao, Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the NCMF. Joining the two signatories are Usec Alexander P Pama, NDRRMC Executive Director and Civil Defense Administrator, key DND and OCD officials, as well as representatives from NCMF.

This renewal of partnership pushes to improve the NDRRMC's delivery of services catering to the needs of the Filipino Muslim communities in DRRM operations before, during and after emergencies. The partnership agreement aims to capacitate the Muslim Filipino communities in



National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council Chair and National Defense Secretary Voltaire T Gazmin and National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) Secretary and Chief Executive Officer Yasmin Busran Lao led the ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between NDRRMC and NCMF on 10 March 2016 at the NDRRMC Conference Room, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

the areas of DRRM education, the training of local disaster managers and the emergency response groups.

"The goal of this renewal of partnership is to further strengthen the level of disaster preparedness

of all Muslim Filipino communities through capacity-building and empowerment", Sec. Lao explained.

The NCMF is the government agency specifically mandated to preserve and develop the culture, traditions, institutions and well-being of the Muslim Filipinos, in conformity to the Philippines' laws to promote national unity and development.

"We welcome this renewal of ties with the NCMF. It is a testament of the NDRRMC's commitment to the whole-of-nation approach on disaster risk reduction and management", Sec Gazmin said.

The NCMF, previously named as Office on Muslim Affairs (OMA), had entered into a partnership agreement with then National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) in 2009.



Officials of Department of National Defense, Office of Civil Defense and National Commission on Muslim Filipinos pose for a souvenir photo after signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on 10 March 2016.

OCD, US FOREST SERVICE HOST ICS CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

by Joe-Mar Perez



The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) through the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) Education and Training Division (ETD), in collaboration with the United States Forest Service (USFS), successfully conducted the Incident Command System (ICS) Lessons Learned Conference and Workshop on 29 February to 4 March 2016 at the Best Western Plus Antel Hotel, Makati City. The event was attended by the members of the ICS Cadre and the Incident Management Teams (IMTs) all over the Philippines, together with the guest ICS expert from the USFS, Mr. Stephen Heil.

The main purpose of the event is to comprehensively discuss the best practices, lessons learned and challenges in using the ICS since the enactment of Republic Act 10121 on 2010, thereby, setting the future direction for its further

institutionalization in the country. As emphasized by Undersecretary Alexander P. Pama, Administrator of the OCD and Executive Director of the NDRRMC, in his opening message, the Philippines has already made significant achievements on ICS but there is still much to be learned.

The event was composed of series of discussions and workshops that were organized by the ETD headed by its Chief, Ms. Susana Juangco. The facilitators for the event were Director Vicente Tomazar of OCD CALABARZON, Director Liza Mazo of OCD Region XI, Director Minda Morante of OCD Region XII, Ms. Susana Quiambao of the Operations Division, Mr. Joe-Mar Perez of the ETD, Dr. Joseph Bacarezza of the Philippine Public Safety College, and Brigadier General Leoncio Cirunay Jr. of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Reserve Command. After five days of brainstorming and sharing of actual experiences, the

participants were able to produce sets of actionable recommendations for the enhancement of ICS.

The said recommendations are useful to better understand the ICS theories during formal training and translate these theories into actual practice during disaster response operations and management of planned events.

Considering the many significant and substantive discussions on ICS, it was unilaterally agreed that the ICS Lessons Learned Conference and Workshop shall be the first of the series of conferences to be hosted regularly in the country. As such, Usec Pama has directed the need to organize a permanent ICS Technical Management Group in the NDRRMC for the sustainability of ICS. Likewise, Mr. Heil also expressed that the USFS shall continue to provide technical assistance to the Philippines to further strengthen the operationalization of ICS.

BAGUIO CONDUCTS CITY-WIDE EARTHQUAKE DRILL

by Franzes Ivy Carasi

Dubbed as Baguio City Shake Drill, the city government of Baguio and City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), in partnership with OCD-CAR, holds the first city-wide earthquake drill on 31 March 2016.

At exactly 10:30 in the morning, sirens and bells simultaneously rang which signifies the start of the drill. For one minute, everyone performed the Duck, Cover and Hold technique before proceeding to their respective evacuation areas. Julius Santos, Operations Officer of CDRRMO, said that almost everyone in the City took part in the drill as he was trying to estimate the number of participants. "More than half of Baguio's population participated in the drill", he added.

Approximately 200 thousand individuals participated, these comprise of students and teachers from 66 public schools (elementary and high school), six colleges and universities, seven government and private hospitals, city and regional government offices, business establishments, 128 barangays including detainees at the Baguio Jail Management and Penology.

On the other hand, netizens show participation through social media. The official hashtag #BaguioCityShakeDrill generated 85,420 posts on Facebook while there were almost a thousand tweets on Twitter. There were also posts detected via Agos eBayanihan of Rappler.

OCD-CAR made a statement regarding the posting of pictures on social media which seeks to show



Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan (left) and OCD CAR Regional Director Andrew Alex Uy leads the ceremonial switching of siren signaling the start of the Baguio City Shake Drill on 31 March 2016. An estimated 200,000 individuals participated in the drill which aims to raise awareness among the city dwellers on the hazards posed by earthquakes and the protective actions that need to be taken.

how Baguio City is preparing for the possible effects of a powerful earthquake and netizens must still ensure seriousness and proper participation in the drill.

The conduct of the shake drill also promoted volunteerism for there were 200 umpires who volunteered and were strategically deployed at different areas (schools, business establishments, government offices), particularly at institutions and establishments which showcased search and rescue skills to evaluate and assess the drill. The volunteers were from various non-government entities, government instrumentalities, and communication groups. There were also 100 photographers from Baguio Photographers Club and Mukha ng Baguio who volunteered to document the event.

As the Chairperson of the Baguio City DRRM Council, Mayor Mauricio

Domogan joined OCD Cordillera Director Andrew Alex Uy in the ceremonial switching of siren located at the command post set up in front of Baguio City Hall. "Calamities strike without prior notice. That's why there's no substitute to being prepared. What we did now is important to remind residents that disasters can happen any time. We are going to institutionalize this drill", says Mayor Domogan.

Director Uy reiterated the importance of earthquake preparedness especially in Baguio City which was enormously devastated during the Luzon 1990 Killer Earthquake. "This drill is not only to help educate and prepare folks for an earthquake, but we're also aiming to expose any weaknesses in the current emergency preparedness systems of the different agencies and the city government of Baguio. This could be an avenue to fill the gaps, suffice any shortcomings", he added.

OCD JOINS NATIONWIDE OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S MONTH

by Karla Aldea Minorka

National Women's Month is observed every March, pursuant to Proclamation No. 227 which was approved in 1998, which aims to recognize the contributions of Filipino women in the society. This year's National Women's Month theme "Kapakanan ni Juana, Isama sa Agenda!" echoes the call for gender-balance in leadership and decision making. It includes the government's development agenda to capacitate and prepare the women to reach for their ambitions.

The Office of Civil Defense (OCD) joins the nation in observance. OCD and its Regional Offices displayed in front of their buildings the official tarpaulin for National Women's Month with the Agency's logo. OCD Central Office have decorated its bulletin board with photos of its female employees with quotes from female personalities on women empowerment.

Several regional offices participated

in the kick-off ceremony in their respective area of responsibility. OCD I paraded with the members of Region I Advocates for Gender Equality (RAGE) in San Fernando City, La Union. Right after the parade a program was held at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University – Mid La Union Campus where RAGE members facilitated Zumba exercises, games and pampering services for the attendees. Also, OCD I staff managed the viewing of Project DINA videos in the campus in recognition of the support and participation of women in the region to DRRM programs and advocacies.

In Region 10, OCD spearheaded a youth training on mainstreaming GAD into DRRM at the Chali Beach Resort, Cagayan de Oro City. Participants were youth leaders recognized by the National Youth Commission. The training aims to introduce GAD to the youth and its significance in planning DRRM programs and activities in the

country towards the achievement of a gender sensitive society.

OCD also celebrates the contribution of women DRRM officers on the ground. In ARMM a police officer assigned in Datu Paglas Municipal Police Station advocates women's rights while serving the public as a former social worker and now working for the PNP. PO1 Jahara Abdulrahim Salendab joined OCD ARMM's Contingency Planning Formulation Workshop where she found it beneficial to train in DRRM and help her effectively deliver her function as an Assistant Police Community Relations Officer. Salendab said she is one of those countless living proofs that women are now treated equally and are given equal opportunities even in the high rank seats in the government.

OCD ARMM OIC Myrna J Angot was also one of awardees of the 6th Infantry (Kampilan) Division of the Philippine Army during



OCD I personnel join the parade organized by Region I Advocates for Gender Equality (RAGE) and to kick-off the observance of Women's Month on March 2016. OCD held screenings of the Project DINA videos after the event at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University - La Union Campus.



OCD X Regional Director Ana Cañeda, speaks with the youth leaders selected by the National Youth Commission to undergo a training on Mainstreaming Gender and Development into Disaster Risk Reduction and Management at the Chali Beach Resort, Cagayan de Oro City on 29 - 30 March 2016.



Office of Civil Defense

joins the nation in the



2016 National Women's Month Celebration



Kapakanan ni Juana, Isama sa Agenda!



#AgendaNiJuana

www.pcw.gov.ph

the culmination of its National Women's Month celebration on 31 March 2016 at Camp Siongco, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. The awarding recognized female officers, enlisted women and female stakeholders from the Local Government Units, Local Government Agencies, Civilian and Private Organizations who have contributed immensely to the accomplishment of the command's mission.

According to the International Women's Day website, the world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation.

As the Philippines adopts the Sendai Framework for DRR, one of its priorities for actions recognizes the role of women and persons with disabilities to take the lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible approaches during the response and reconstruction phases.

As the Philippines continues to work for a gender-balance in leadership and decision making, Juana's Agenda calls not only the women but also for the public's support and participation. As journalist and social political activist Gloria Steinem says, "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single

feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights."

In the country's celebration of International Women's Day, 08 March, a report on the State of Filipino Women was presented in Malacañan. The report highlights the achievements, gains and accomplishments of the present administration relating to promoting gender equality and alleviating the gaps.

One of the notable achievements is the establishment of the Women Friendly Space (WFS) project by the Department of Social Welfare and Development. WFS Project recognizes the fact that women in evacuation centers during disasters have specific needs demanding space and time.

In the aftermath of Tropical Storm Sendong in Cagayan de Oro, DSWD created women-friendly spaces for mothers, especially those who are breastfeeding. WFS also included a number of activities to promote livelihood and increase gender consciousness not only among the women but also men, including the police. DSWD grants capacity-building or staff training for almost 14, 000 participants with 60% being female. Most of these women eventually became gender and peace advocates.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, through OCD, ensures that women's issues are mainstreamed into its various programs, plans and actions. *(With reports from OCD Regional Offices.)*



OCD ARMM OIC Myrna J Angot receives recognition from the Philippine Army's 6th Infantry (Kampilan) Division during the culmination of its National Women's Month celebration on 31 March at Camp Siongco, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. Ms Angot was recognized for her contribution in the field of disaster risk reduction and management.

CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION



OCD I Hands Financial Assistance to TY Mario Victims

La Union Municipal DRRM Officer and OCD I Financial Assistance Focal person award Php10,000.00 worth of financial assistance to Ms Marissa D Acosta, whose son died from drowning in the onslaught of Typhoon Mario. The financial assistance was handed over on 22 February 2016 at the OCD Regional Center 1, San Fernando City, La Union. *(Empress B Jaramillo)*



OCD I Conducts Contingency Plan Facilitators' Training

OCD I Capacity-Building Section Chief, Imelda M. Acosta, facilitates the conduct of Contingency Plan Facilitators' Training for members of Philippine Red Cross - Northern Luzon Cluster at Overman Resort Hotel, Sta. Catalina, Ilocos Sur on 10-12 March 2016. Twenty-four participants joined the training sponsored by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development together with the Philippine Red Cross. *(Empress B Jaramillo)*



OCD II Holds Mountain Search and Rescue Training

Rescuers load a victim in a basket litter during the field training exercise of the 5-day Mountain Search and Rescue (MoSAR) Training for the Province of Nueva Vizcaya at Lower Magat, Eco-Tourism Park, Diadi, Nueva Vizcaya on 25-29 January 2016. Twenty-nine rescuers from its Provincial DRRM Office convened to conduct SAR operations for victims of a plane and paraglider crash scenario during the training. *(Chona Cherry C Cepeda)*



OCD II Facilitates Incident Management Training

Local DRRM Officers and Region II DRRM Members brainstorm during the All-Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT) Training Course at Highlander Hotel and Resort, Solano Nueva Vizcaya on 7-11 March 2016. The participants underwent series of activities during the training to prepare them to be part the Regional IMT. Incident Command System-AHIMT Training is the last in the ladderized courses of ICS to qualify as a member of the IMT. *(Chona Cherry C Cepeda)*

CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION

OCD III Distributes IECs in Hot Air Balloon Festival

Teenagers from Rizal go over the IEC materials on disaster preparedness distributed during the Philippine Hot Air Balloon Festival at Clarkfield, Pampanga on 11-14 February 2016. OCD III facilitated the distribution of IEC materials with the aim to increase disaster awareness and preparedness among the attendees of the event from all over the country. A total of 3600 IEC materials were distributed in the said annual event. *(Diane Henie M Del Rosario)*



OCD CALABARZON Facilitates Rehabilitation Workshop

The Regional DRRM Council of CALABARZON formulates a Regional Rehabilitation Plan for areas affected by TY Nona and Northeast Monsoon in Tagaytay City on 17-18 February 2016. During the workshop, the reports on damages and losses submitted by the affected agencies and LGUs were validated to ensure that the rehabilitation and recovery programs are aligned with the Build Back Better principle. *(Georgina R Garcia)*



OCD CALABARZON Holds RDRRMC Council Meeting

OCD CALABARZON Regional Director Vicente F Tomazar presides over the 1st Quarter Full Council Meeting of Regional DRRM Council CALABARZON at One Tagaytay Place Hotel Suites, Tagaytay City on 07 March 2016. One of the topics for discussion was the emergency preparedness measures to be undertaken by the Council for the upcoming May 2016 National Elections. *(Georgina R Garcia)*



OCD MIMAROPA Awards Regional Gawad Kalasag

Recipients of the Gawad Kalasag major awards pose with their plaques of recognition during the Regional Gawad Kalasag Awarding Ceremony at Great Eastern Hotel, Quezon City on 15 January 2016. The 23 winners hailed from the five provinces of the region and the RDRRMC Member Agencies who had shown exemplary contribution in promoting and implementing significant DRRM-Climate Change Adaptation programs and innovations that build community resilience. *(Jona Orpilla)*



CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION



OCD V Joins DepEd's Mainstreaming of CCA and DRR in K to 12 Program

OCD V Regional Director Bernardo R Alejandro IV poses with Congressman Fernando Gonzales, Climate Change Commission's Secretary Manny de Guzman and Legaspi City Mayor Noel Rosal during DepEd's Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in K to 12 Education and Disaster Risk and Vulnerability Reduction in Legazpi City on 19 February 2016. *(Rachelle Ann L Miranda)*



OCD V Takes Part in Project NOAH Orientation Training

OCD V Regional Director Bernardo Alejandro IV joins the Orientation Training on Project Nationwide Operational Assessment for Hazards (NOAH) for LGUs and Regional DRRM held at Hotel St. Ellis, Legazpi City on 3 March 2016. This is in line with the nationwide roadshow of DOST dubbed as "Science Nation: Agham na Ramdam" which aims to integrate the science of disaster in efforts towards progress and inclusive growth. *(Rachelle Ann L Miranda)*



OCD VI Facilitates RDRRMC 1st Quarter Meeting

OCD VI Regional Director Rosario T Cabrera presides the Regional DRRM Council 1st Quarter Meeting at Amigo Terrace Hotel, Iloilo City on 17 March 2016. Thirty-three council members convened to discuss the Paris Agreement and its implication on Climate Change and Mitigation, Climate outlook for CY 2016 and the effects of El Niño on Agriculture and Fishery Sectors. *(Cherry Mae D Nananjo)*



OCD VIII Spearheads CDANA in Northern Samar

Members of the Comprehensive Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (CDANA) Teams meet to facilitate the conduct of CDANA in the Province of Northern Samar at Capitol Building, Catarman, Northern Samar on 20 January 2016. This is in response to the President's directive to fast track rehabilitation and recovery efforts and initiatives after TY Nona hit the region. The assessment and validation period was completed on 5 February 2016. *(Rey Ezekiel P Barbasa)*

CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION

OCD IX Installs Tsunami Warning Signage

Engineer Javier C Jamalod together with City DRRM Officers of Dapitan City install Tsunami Warning Signage near the coastal road in Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte on 18 March 2016. OCD IX spearheaded the activity which seeks to increase public awareness on the risks posed by tsunamis and create a better understanding on what to do in the event of a tsunami. *(Girly S Gamier)*



OCD X Joins 5th Serbisyo Caravan

OCD X and Gingoog City DRRM Officers tend the Incident Command Post to help manage the 5th Serbisyo Caravan held in Gingoog City on 3-4 February 2016. Information materials were also distributed to help raise awareness in DRRM. The Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process organized the event which aims to bring government services closer to the people to promote lasting peace. *(Titus M Velez)*



OCD X Assists Devotees of Divine Mercy, Misamis Oriental

OCD X assists devotees of the Divine Mercy in El Salvador City, Misamis Oriental during the observance of Semana Santa 2016. The City DRRM Office headed by Mr. Teddy Bombeo improved its public assistance system in anticipation of larger volume of pilgrims and visitors in this annual pilgrimage. Devotees of the Divine Mercy as well as members of the faith from different provinces visited the Shrine. *(Titus Velez)*



OCD XI Holds Community Based DRRM Training

Participants from the Municipality of Asunsion with Mayor Joseph Parreñas discuss during the workshop on the 3-day Community-Based DRRM training at Mengrande Ocean Resort, Talomo District, Davao City on 17-19 February 2016. Thirty participants joined the training which aims to improve the capacity of communities to effectively prepare, prevent and mitigate, respond to, and recover from any form of incident that might occur in the locality. *(Mc Adrian Nouve B Cobero)*



CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION



OCD XII Meets with NSTP Coordinators in the Region

OCD XII Regional Director Minda C Morante delivers her welcome message to National Service Training Program (NSTP) coordinators from Higher Education Institutions (HEI) during the Consultative Workshop at Roadhaus Hotel, General Santos City on 27 January 2016. The activity aims to strengthen partnership with HEIs and increase DRRM awareness in preparation for the 14th National Congress of NSTP Educators and Implementers. *(Jorie Mae E Balmediano)*



OCD ARMM Spearheads PDRA Orientation

OCD ARMM OIC Myrna J Angot delivers her lecture during the Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment Orientation for the Municipal DRRM Officers of Lanao del Sur held at Golden Lace Resto, Cotabato City on 8 March 2016. Ms Angot emphasized the importance of the orientation for disaster managers at the local level that they would analyze and understand the risk factors in their areas which may be translated to proper response. *(Gilmhar A Lao)*



OCD ARMM Holds WASAR Training for BaSulTa

Facilitators from the Philippine Coast Guard demonstrate their lectures to participating Local DRRM Officers of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi during the 6-day Water Search and Rescue Training at Lantaka Hotel, Zamboanga City on 13-18 March 2016. OCD ARMM spearheaded the training as one of the priority programs under DRRM as stipulated in Republic Act 10121 which is geared to lessen the threats on rescuers when assisting victims during incidents. *(Gilmhar A Lao)*



OCD CARAGA Facilitates DRRM Plan Formulation Workshop

Participants in the Local DRRM Plan Formulation Workshop for Esperanza, Agusan del Sur work on the DRRM plan covering the four thematic areas at Veranda 1, Carmen, Agusan del Norte on 1-3 March 2016. Fifty-six participants joined the workshop to formulate a 6-year DRRM Plan containing strategic interventions that will improve DRRM at the municipal level. *(April Rose Ann Sanchez)*

CIVIL DEFENSE ACROSS THE NATION

OCD CAR Holds Emergency Telecoms Summit

OCD CAR Regional Director Andrew Alex Uy delivers an inspirational message to participants of the ICT Bayanihan conducted in partnership with Smart Communications Inc., Rappler and eBayanihan at Azelea Residences, Baguio City on 3-4 March 2016. In his message, he emphasized the importance of an effective communication plan. The summit aims to form Rapid Emergency Telecommunications Teams and institutionalize disaster communication plans and protocols. *(Gloria Diane Rivera)*



OCD NIR Joins Negros Island Workshops on Planning and Investment Programming

OCD NIR Director Blanche T Gobenciong discusses the DRRM priority projects for NIR during the conduct of Negros Island Workshop on Planning and Investment Programming at the Negros Oriental Convention Center, Dumaguete City on 17 February 2016. The workshop was held to help identify the priority programs and projects for the region to be proposed under the 2017 budget. *(Olive Marie G Baylon)*



OCD NIR Holds Earthquake Drill in Hinoba-an Negros Occidental

Residents of Hinoba-an, Negros Occidental perform the duck, cover and hold during earthquake drill conducted at Hinoba-an Gymnasium on 15 March 2016. Before the drill, OCD NIR Director Blanche T Gobenciong conducted an orientation and briefing to the participants. Municipal Mayor Ernesto Estrao gave the signal for the drill to start. *(Olive Marie G Baylon)*



OCD NCR Leads IMT in Black Nazarene Traslacion

OCD NCR facilitates the establishment of Emergency Preparedness Cluster's Incident Management Team (IMT) during the Black Nazarene Traslacion 2016 at the Pope Benedict XVI Building, Quiapo Church, Manila. The IMT was composed of members of the Metro Manila DRRM Council. OCD NCR was on Blue Alert during the activity to monitor the situation during the event. The traslacion of the Image of Black Nazarene took 20 hours and 6 minutes to reach Quiapo Church. *(Monalisa Fajardo)*



CENTRAL OFFICE EVENTS



A volunteer responder demonstrates firefighting skills during the Metro Manila Emergency Volunteer Corps Recognition Day and Parade on 16 January 2016.



Usec Alexander P. Pama speaks with the media personnel during the Basic DRRM for Media training on 29 January 2016 in Tagaytay City.



Civil Defense Executive Officer Director Liza Fidelis F. Cañada speaks during the workshop on the Sendai Framework on 3 February 2016.



Guests applaud during the turnover of the Community-based Flood Early Warning Systems completed under GMMA Ready Project on 16 February 2016.



Usec Alexander P. Pama receives recognition as one of the speakers during the International Symposium and National Platform Launch on 3 March 2016.



Usec Alexander P. Pama presides over the Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment Meeting (PDRA) for the observance of Holy Week on 21 March 2016.

Photos by Fred Abuda Jr
Captions by Noel Mapalo

Awareness and Preparedness on T S U N A M I

Tsunami is a series of sea waves commonly generated by under-the-sea earthquakes and whose heights could be greater than five meters. It is erroneously called tidal waves and sometimes mistakenly associated with storm surges. Tsunamis can occur when the earthquake is shallow-seated and strong enough to displace parts of the seabed and disturb the mass of water over it.

Tsunamis can also be caused by underwater landslides or volcanic eruptions. They may even be launched, as they frequently were in earth's ancient past, by the impact of a large meteorite plunging into an ocean.

BEFORE

To avoid the dangerous effects of tsunami, here are simple tips that



A 7.9 magnitude earthquake generated the 1976 Moro Gulf Tsunami which claimed 3,792 lives with many more declared missing.

local leaders and residents can implement:

- Plant mangroves and trees near the sea shore
- Put signs, warnings and reminder at the shoreline about the danger of tsunami
- Place "TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE" sign to the possible affected areas and directional signs to evacuation sites
- Make a tsunami evacuation plan and join the tsunami evacuation drills in your community

DURING:

There are three natural signs of an incoming tsunami:

- An earthquake that is strong enough to be felt.
- Sudden drop or rise of sea water level.
- Roaring sound of strong waves.

If the above signs are present:

- Follow the evacuation order issued by authorities and evacuate immediately. Bring your emergency kit with you.
- Move inland to higher ground immediately. Pick areas 30 meters above sea level or as far as 3 kilometers inland, away from the coastline.
- Help neighbors who may require special assistance: children, older people and persons-with-disabilities.
- Do not go back to the shore until proper authorities gave the "all clear" advice.

Although tsunamis cannot be prevented, the impact of a tsunami can be mitigated through community preparedness, timely warnings, and effective response.

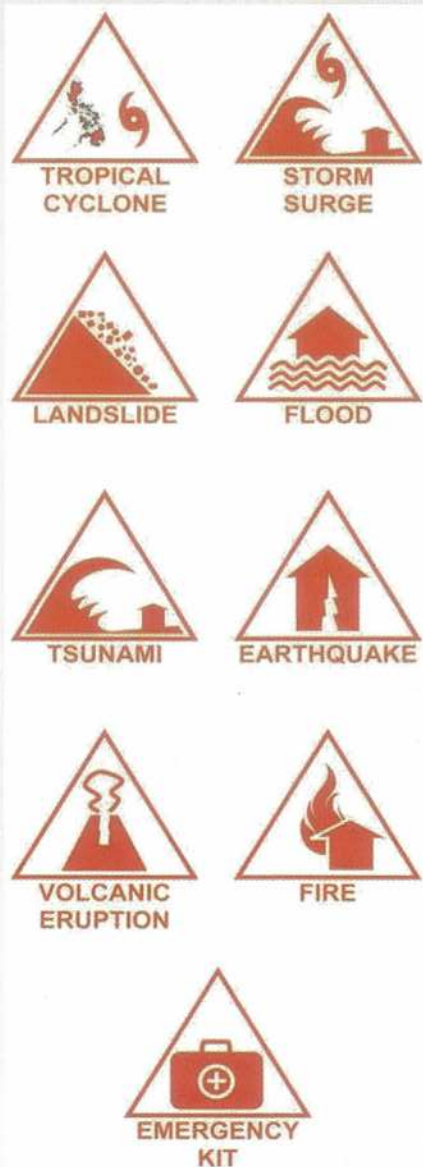
(Research: Bebeth Gador. Source: Project DINA Video)

For more information and tips on preparing for hazards and disasters, download and watch the Project DINA Videos



Disaster Information for Nationwide Awareness

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**Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo
Quezon City, Philippines
(+6302) 9115061 - 65**

www.oed.gov.ph