

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION

# CURRENTS



ENGR. CLARO V. MARANAN  
ADMINISTRATOR

THE NEW MAN  
AT THE HELM

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# ENGR. CLARO V. MARANAN: *The New Man at the Helm*

by Lioneil G. Dela Cruz - PAIS-CO



**T**he first day of July became the dawn of a new era in the history of the National Irrigation Administration as a new name was placed upon the Administrator's chair. Engr. Claro V. Maranan, the former OIC of the NIA's Office of the Senior Deputy Administrator, took the lead as he was appointed as the new Administrator of the 50-year-old agency. With this very important transition in the agency's 50-year existence, the future of irrigation development has now been placed in the hands of an experienced public servant, achiever, a warrior of knowledge and improvement, and a true leader.

## *A History of Service*

Before entering the National Irrigation Administration, Engr. Maranan has been a true-blue man of service. He started his vows as a public servant in his hometown in Sariaya, Quezon in 1976 as a member of the Municipal Council. After four years as a Municipal Councilor, he then served as a Board Member of the Quezon Provincial Council until 1985. Shortly after venturing into politics, he spent almost a year as the President of the East Orient Development Corporation in 1986. He also had a short stint as Materials Engineer in the Office of the Quezon Provincial Engineer in 1987 and Project Manager/Engineer at the Montalbo & Sons, Incorporated in 1988. Through these experiences, Engr. Maranan developed a more solid foundation as a leader-servant which he then used upon entering government service.

His exposure in government service started in 1989 when he became a Project Engineer of the 4th IBRD Ports Project – Port of Sta. Cruz under the Philippine Ports Authority and from there rose from the ranks taking up positions such as Principal Engineer D, Supervising Engineer B, Senior Internal Control Officer, Chief Internal Control Officer and Acting Technical Assistant, and Acting Manager of the Engineering Services Division until he became the Assistant General Manager of PPA's Engineering Office in 2005 until 2010. His experience in government service furthered when he was hired as a consultant for the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority in 2011 and later became the agency's Assistant General Manager. Three months prior to his appointment as new NIA Chief, due to his pristine track record in the other GOCCs, Engr. Maranan was appointed as the OIC for NIA's Office of the Senior Deputy Administrator.

Taking into account all these positions, no doubt that Engr. Maranan had been prepared to face the gargantuan task of leading the NIA towards increased irrigation and agricultural development. His more than four decades of professional history equipped him sufficiently with the qualities needed by a true public servant – transparency, honesty, and accountability.

## *Noteworthy Accomplishments and Achievements*

In his long history of service in both public and private sectors, Engr. Maranan proved that he could impart change and improvement. Among his accomplishments and achievements in the agencies he served were the following:

1. As PPA's Assistant General Manager for Engineering, he was able to implement a total of 263 capital projects for 10 major Philippine ports;
2. ensured good operating port operations by performing regular repair and maintenance projects;
3. initiated the development of now published engineering standards (now published in 7 volumes of Engineering Standards Manual) for port and harbour structures to give way to the standardization of engineering processes in PPA;
4. responsible for the promotion of environmental concerns in all PPA ports through the conduct of a search for the Most Environmental-Friendly Port;
5. pushed the PFDA Board to conduct a first-ever comprehensive audit of the Navotas Fish Port Complex that resulted to collection of P63.6M back accounts;
6. championed for transparency, accountability, equity, efficiency, and economy in the procurement process as BAC Chairman in both PPA and PFDA;
7. cited by the CBCP and BBCHD for his organized, systematic, well-managed, and transparent BAC;
8. implemented some health, safety, and security measures in port lease contracts providing a wholesome atmosphere in the ports; and
9. never been involved in anomalies and controversies making him one of the most outstanding public servants in government service.

With all these, the whole NIA anticipates for new heights to reach through Engr. Maranan's innovation and leadership.

## *Immortal Clamor for Knowledge*

Engr. Maranan had been truly a warrior of knowledge and improvement as he continuously grab learning opportunities to back-up his professional experiences and formal education. He graduated with a BS Civil Engineering degree from the Luzonian University Foundation, Inc. in Lucena City and finished a Master in Public Administration degree from the Lyceum of the Philippines in Manila.

Aside from his formal education, he gained more knowledge to improve his skills by attending a vast list of trainings, conferences, and seminars here and abroad including topics such as Gender Audit, Analysis and Mainstreaming, Maritime Safety Conference, Technical Exchange Meetings, Port Engineering Design Standard, Business Correspondence Course, PES Accreditation, BAC Conference, Ports Reform, Information Audit System, Audit Disbursement, Performance Appraisal System, and Internal Audit and Internal Control to name a few.

To date, Engr. Maranan continues to hone his knowledge and skills to respond to the needs of being the chief of NIA.

## *'Excellence in the Making'*

Reviewing all his experiences and achievements, Engr. Maranan proves to be tailor-fit for the leadership. He is undeniably armored with qualities needed by an efficient leader – honesty, humility, a taste for improvement, and a great sense of service. It has been more than two months since he started behind the captain's wheel and it is evident that he's steering into the right direction. Since his appointment, he has been marching forward towards the improvement of the agency anchored on the welfare of irrigation and agricultural development. He does not settle for mediocrity as he straightforwardly addresses issues that affects the agency's performance. Truly, his administration is excellence in the making.





Engr. Claro V. Maranan took his oath before DA Secretary Proceso J. Alcala



Former Administrator Antonio S. Nangel passes the NIA leadership to newly-appointed Administrator Engr. Claro V. Maranan.

# MARANAN ACCEPTS ROLE AS NEW NIA CHIEF

(NIA Quezon City/July 9, 2013) - In a simple ceremony held on July 9, 2013 at the IEC Convention Hall, Former NIA OIC to the Senior Deputy Administrator Claro V. Maranan formally steps in as the new man behind NIA's helm. The turnover immediately succeeded a Board Meeting wherein Maranan was formally named the Vice Chairman of the NIA Board of Directors.

Former Administrator Antonio S. Nangel whose term ended on June 30 passed his post to the newly appointed Chief. Nangel, in his turn-over speech, asked Maranan to maintain the excellent performance of the agency.

Maranan, in turn, humbly accepted the flag passed on by Nangel. He said everything has an end while something starts anew.

In his acceptance speech, he made it evident that he means business. He pointed out the things that, according to him, he should do in his first day as Administrator. He mentioned that during the Board Meeting, they had already discussed about fast-tracking project implementation by giving greater responsibility to the regional offices. He also emphasized on dam assessments, strategic planning for the Agency, increasing NIA's collection efficiency, prioritization of employee housing, and austerity measures. His term started on July 1 and will end on June 30, 2014.

The ceremony was attended by the NIA Board of Directors, headed by DA Usec, Deputy Administrators, Regional, Operations, and Project Managers, Department and Division Managers, employees of the agency, and other guests.

## New NIA Chief presents 7-Point Program

by Rocielle Harlette E. Navarro - PAIS-CO

**July 15, 2013** – Newly appointed Administrator Claro V. Maranan presented his 7-point program during his first Monday as NIA head. With thorough analysis of the current predicament, he conceptualized a master plan consisting of the following strategies: (1) **Rapid delivery of irrigation projects**, (2) **Accurate reporting and monitoring system**, (3) **Organizational reforms and process innovation**, (4) **Corporate Financial stability**, (5) **Empowerment and continuous learning for employees**, (6) **Comprehensive plan for climate change adaptation** and (7) **Build stronger commitment to farmers and other stakeholders**.

In his first point, Administrator Maranan voiced out his plans to improve the delivery of irrigation projects that had been delayed. He pointed out solutions on how to accelerate the implementation and completion of pending projects to better serve the farmers and meet the agency's targets.

He had stressed out the importance of having an updated, timely, accurate, and relevant data as NIA's work relies heavily on it – from feasibility studies, program design, implementation, completion, and especially in determining the agency's financial status.

His third point addressed the prioritization of the implementation of Strategic Performance Management Systems in 2014. He had called for a strategic planning session to meet and address the agency's current and upcoming issues.

The administrator also announced his intention in making the agency a financially stable corporation by laying down his plans to make the agency self-sufficient not just for the present but also in the coming years.

To strengthen employee relations, he wanted to create a good and healthy working environment for everyone. He asked NIA employees to sustain their level of established quality of service and to increase their productivity.

With the onset of global warming, NIA must keep up with environmental changes. He turned his attention to a comprehensive climate change program for irrigation to tackle the growing concern on the harmful effects of the rapidly changing and unpredictable weather conditions. He had already assigned a team in charge of this project, who would look at the different programs to enhance irrigation facilities and new design to combat this emerging problem.

Last but not the least, he stressed out the agency's ultimate goal—to have an everlasting cooperation and understanding with the farmers, as they are the agency's partner for life.

Amidst all the challenges the agency had been facing, the administrator had chosen to see hope and opportunities for growth and improvement. These strategies will not only get NIA back on its feet; it would also make the agency more productive, more progressive, and more dynamic.

**"Nagkakaisa po tayo sa ating gagawin. Sama-sama po tayo,"** he concluded.

He only asks for the support of each employee to make all these happen.

# Engr. Felix M. Razo

## NIA's newly appointed Senior Deputy Administrator

**D**escribed as low profile yet very decisive and firm man, our Senior Deputy Administrator is an Agricultural Engineer by profession and a multi-awarded public servant. He rose from the ranks, starting as a daily Civil Engineer Aide in 1979 in NIA Region 11 Operations Division. Although a casual employee, he was designated Acting Irrigation Superintendent of Lupon Irrigation System in 1980, to the consternation of many regular engineers. Because of the belief of Regional Manager Cordoba of his capability, a regular position of Assistant Irrigation Engineer was open to fit him in before complaints could be lodged. Four years later, he was promoted to Irrigation Superintendent in the same office.

He was designated OIC Division Manager of the Engineering Division and later transferred to the Operations Division of Region 11 from August 2003 to October 15, 2004. It was him who fought for the equal rights of Agricultural and Civil Engineers to be qualified for the position of Division Manager for Engineering Division.

In 2004, then Administrator Jesus Emmanuel M. Paras, designated him OIC-Regional Manager of NIA Region 6 and subsequently appointed as full-pledged Regional Manager on August 15, 2005 by then Administrator Proceso T. Domingo. On April 8, 2008, he was back to NIA Region XI until his reassignment to NIA Region X on November 1, 2011.

On August 20, 2013, thru a NIA Board Resolution, he was designated Senior Deputy Administrator.

He was a consistent awardee: Outstanding Irrigation Superintendent, Irrigation Superintendent of the Year in 2003; awardee of a Plaque of Commendation and Outstanding Regional Manager for 2009. Outside of NIA, he is a recipient of Outstanding Alumni Award in Administration during the 53rd founding Anniversary of his Alma Mater in October 2007.

### Our Senior Deputy Administrator is an Achiever/ Performer

- As OIC-Regional Manager of NIA Region 6, the region attained financial viability for the first time. He also succeeded in uniting the several factions of employees thereat.
- When he was transferred to NIA Region 11, three (3) national grand slam awards for the Most Outstanding IAs in NIS, CIS and CARP-IC categories were received. Two IAs made it to the DA search for Agri-Pinoy Most Outstanding IA-besting other bets nationwide.
- Because of strong NIA-IA partnership, Region 11 attained a record of high average ISF collection efficiency at 95%.
- When he was transferred to NIA Region 10 in November 2011, the region realized a whooping Php 50.1 M net income in CY 2012, from a mere Php 18 M income in 2011, a first for the region. Region 10 is the Most Improved Region under his watch.

- The number of IAs that entered into IMT Contracts jumped from 0 to 71.

- He became President of the prestigious Irrigation Superintendent Association of the Philippines (ISAPHIL) from 2003 to 2005.

His service to the public didn't end there. He also served as Board of Director of Davao Oriental Electric Cooperative (DORECO), which he helped transformed from small to a large and multi-awarded cooperative. He was also instrumental in organizing the Cooperative Bank of Davao Oriental in 1977.

He is considered the "Father of MINCIA", a feat no other Regional Manager achieved. He said he is very happy to be considered as one, it comes as a bonus for his efforts and aspiration for Mindanao IAs. He believes in the strength of our farmers especially when organized. He further said, "I will treasure this as an achievement in my career as a NIA employee because it comes from our beloved clientele - the IAs. Many can get recognition for their outstanding work performance but only one individual can get this distinct title as the Father of MINCIA. I am very fortunate to have contributed to the institutional development program of NIA, in pursuit of my advocacy for the empowerment of Irrigators Association."

He is happily married to Yolanda O. Olarte, also employed with the NIA Region XI holding the position of Principal Engineer A as Head of the Operations Section. They are blessed with four children who are all professionals. The eldest is a Doctor of Medicine, the second a Computer Engineer and a registered Nurse, the third is also a registered Nurse and a businessman and the youngest a registered Radiologic Technologist.

He hails from Digos, Davao del Sur, and finished his BS in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Southern Mindanao in 1979. He passed the Board exams in the same year. He holds a Master in Business Administration and is a Career Executive Officer.







## Get to know the New DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS **ENGR. MODESTO G. MEMBREVE**

by Pops Marie S. Dadea, PAIS-C.O.

Modesto Guisado Membreve, MGM to his colleagues or "Dodo" as he is fondly called was born on February 12, 1954 in Buenavista, Bohol. He took up Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) in the University of Bohol. He finished his course and passed the Board Examination in 1977, and in 1996 got his diploma in Master in Management Major in Management Engineering (MMME) at Liceo de Cagayan University. He is married to Evelyn D. Vegafria and was blessed with five children.

He started his career at the National Irrigation Administration on June 7, 1977. He actually went through every position there is, from being a Laborer, Construction Foreman, Engineer Trainee, Assistant Irrigation Engineer, Engineer A, Engineer B, Sr. Engineer B, Sr. Engineer A, Supervising Engineer A, Division Manager A and an OIC- Project Manager until

he became the first Regional Irrigation Manager (RIM) of NIA Regional Office No. 7 when it was created in April 2009. He also became RIM of NIA-CARAGA and NIA-Region 11.

Through DA Special Order No. 627, series of 2013 dated September 16, 2013, MGM was named Acting Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Operations (E & O) effective September 25, 2013.

To guide him in his new and challenging role as the new Acting Deputy Administrator for E & O, MGM highlighted his Five (5) Strategies during his first-ever speech at the Central Office flag raising ceremony on October 7, 2013. To wit, (A) expedite the procurement process by applying a true "Jury Duty" system. The true head of the procuring entity shall ensure that the members of the Bids and Award Committee (BAC) and Technical Working Group (TWG) shall give utmost priority to BAC assignments over all other duties and responsibilities.

Completion must be at the earliest possible time, (B) re-visit the system and review the plans in the Design and Specification Division to minimize delays in seeking approval, (C) establish a parallel design work activities to minimize backlogs (RIO/PMO, CO and outsource due to Rationalization Plan (RATPLAN), (D) monthly data updating by our Regional Monitors regarding Operations and Engineering. Data must always coincide with the Data in the Regions and CORPLAN specifically on irrigated service areas. It must be made available anytime as needed, and (E) establish an innovative system of review of all Program of Works (POW) to fast track the approval. Consider the standard unit cost estimates of the major items of works such as concreting excavations and embankments, MGM emphasized.

With more than 36 years as a NIAN, vast experience as a leader and dedication to work, truly the shoe fits Engr. Modesto G. Membreve as NIA's Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Operations. #

## Meet the New Managers on the Block

REGION I

### ENGR. RENATO P. MILLAN

by Mc Kevin L. Francisco - PRO-Region I

Kind, considerate, and a man of action, that is how NIA officials and employees of Region I and Pangasinan IMO describe Engr. Renato Parayno Millan (a.k.a. RPM), OIC-RIM of the Ilocos Region and concurrent Pangasinan IMO Manager.

Engineer Millan was born on January 21, 1950 in Calasiao, Pangasinan. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Pangasinan in 1973 and passed the Engineering Board Examination in 1976. In September 2009, he finished his Masters at the International Academy of Management and Economics.

From 1973 to 1976, RPM worked at the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). He entered NIA on January 16, 1976, specifically in Ambayaoan-Dipalo RIS (ADRIS of Pangasinan IMO) as an Engineer Trainee.

Because of his hard work, dedication, and strong faith in God, he became the Officer-In-Charge of Pangasinan IMO in 2009. Speculated as the next RIM of Region I, Millan remains humble. In September 2013, a memorandum came from NIA Central Office stating Millan's appointment as OIC-RIM of Region I.

Now that Millan takes the reign as Region I's OIC-RIM, he promised to take his duties and responsibilities to the best he can, and continue Engineer Manuel Collado's accomplishments in NIA-Region I.



REGION 4A-CALABARZON

### ENGR. ROMEO MERLE LOPEZ

by Rocielle Harlette E. Navarro - PAIS, C.O.

Unity. Honesty. Cooperation. Possessing and harnessing these qualities of a musketeer must perhaps be Engineer Romeo Merle Lopez's secret in rising to the top. Part of the famous D' Tres IMOs of NIA Region 4A together with Engr. Nicaso Pagdanganan, Jr. and Engr. Hilarion Cedeño, he steps up to the position former RIM Romeo Anonuevo left behind.

Engineer Lopez finished his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering in 1979 at the Luzonian University Foundation. He has a Master's degree in Public Administration which he started in Trinity College in Quezon City and finished in Union College of Sta. Cruz, Laguna. He is a certified CESO or Career Service Executive.

He started his career in the agency in February 1980 as a Civil Engineering Aide. His commitment and dedication helped him to rise from the ranks. In 2009, during the agency's implementation of the Rationalization Plan, he was promoted to Division Manager A to head the Laguna-Rizal Irrigation Management Office. In January 2012, he was transferred back to Quezon to lead the Quezon Irrigation Management Office. Prior to his designation on August 16 as the acting Irrigation Manager of NIA-Calabarzon, Engineer Lopez held the position of Division Manager A at the Cavite-Batangas IMO.

In his 33 years of service, he had supervised more than a handful of offices. He is known to be positively demanding—work has to be done properly and finished well ahead of the pressing deadlines. Despite this, his staff and previous co-workers were unanimous in saying that he is generous and kind to everyone. His team and friends describe him as an excellent supervisor and a genuine friend.





It was the first Monday of September, during a turnover ceremony, that Region 4A's former Laguna-Rizal IMO Manager Hilarion C. Cedeño assumed his new post as the new Regional Irrigation Manager of NIA Region 10. As an outstanding employee and a constant awardee during NIA's anniversaries, there is no doubt that Engineer Cedeño can fill the position that Engineer Felix M. Razo vacated.

Engineer Cedeño, also known as "Larry" to his friends and colleagues, started in NIA-Kay Aklé Irrigation Project in 1975 as an Engineer Trainee. In 1978 he rose to become the Assistant Construction Engineer and was transferred to Disalit Creek IS a year later. It was in 1984 when he moved to Region IV office as Engineer A. The management, impressed with his performance, saw his potential. He was promoted to Supervising Engineer B at Agos, Infanta, Quezon where he later became manager. He was transferred to Pula Bansud RIS in Oriental Mindoro in 1998 and stayed there until the Agency's Rationalization Program took place in 2008. He was then assigned to Cavite-Batangas IMO as its Acting IMO Manager before becoming its Division Manager.

HCC is a native of Candelaria, Quezon. He is happily married to Lilia Capili, a former NIA employee. They have two children: Ma. Lauriña and Joseph Emmanuelle who gave them four grandchildren - their source of joy and happiness. He pursued his dreams to become a civil engineer and broaden his knowledge when he finished a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

As a manager, he is known as kind, considerate and approachable but is strict when it comes to work.



NIA Caraga has a new Regional Manager in the person of Engr. Encarnacion S. Soriano from Region XI. She holds the position of Division Manager A for Engineering and Operations (EOD) for 8 years until her appointment as the Acting Regional Manager last September 2, 2013.

A consistent implementer of NIA projects in the Davao region, she was able to reach this position mainly because of her exemplary achievements that contributed to the viability of that region.

She obtained her elementary education at Sumalang Elementary School in Davao City and graduated valedictorian. She acquired her secondary basic education at Holy Cross College, Davao City and graduated with second highest honors and for her tertiary education at the University of Mindanao in Davao City with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) in 1971. She acquired her graduate studies at the same institution with Master in Business Administration (MBA) and units in Master of Science in Environmental Management.

Her deceased husband, Engr. Reynaldo V. Soriano, was the former Project Manager of Bohol Irrigation Project. They were endowed with 3 children namely; Ryan Erwin, Rey Eric and Rhenee Emelie who were all professionals and with independent families.

Ma'am Bing, as fondly called by her peers, has only one objective—to duplicate her achievement in the Davao Region by increasing the irrigation development for the benefit of the Caragans.

## The Big Man Retires

by Marietta M. Dela Cruz, PRO-Region 4A

Engr. Romeo R. Añonuevo, fondly called R1 in the region to differentiate from R2 (referring to Engr. Romeo M. Lopez, presently the Acting Regional Manager of Region 4A) – is truly larger than life. A man of surpassing integrity, he had been a strong, dependable pillar in Region 4A. He had led the region to a level where once had been just a dream.

He is a no non-sense boss, as such did not tolerate frivolousness. He has an astute assessment that once he made up his mind, he will not be able to reverse.

But once in a while, one could glimpse gentleness, a great sense of humor, and a truly caring heart – just like a father.

Just before he retires, he shed the façade of a boss and shown the gentleness and kindness that had been his true self.

Truly Boss R1 will be missed..

### SINO SI KUYA MEO?

Sa kanyang bayang pinagpanganakan sa Lumban, Laguna kilala siya bilang si Kuya Meo. Isang mabait, matulungin at maalalahaning kuya, tiyo, tatay at tunay na kaibigan ng bayan. Ipinanganak noong Setyembre 6 kaya isang Virgo, may tatlong anak at mapalad na espaso ng kanyang butihing maybahay na si Gng. Celia Añonuevo. Bilang pagkilala sa kanyang serbisyo publiko - siya ay ginawaran ng Gawad Natatanging Lumbeño, 5th Burdang Festival,

2006; Recognition for Outstanding participation in launching of Barkadahan Kontra Droga Handog sa Laguna, 2004; Katibayan Pagpapahalaga by Federation of Laguna Farmers Marketing Coop., Inc., 1997; Plaque of Merit for Dynamic Leadership & Exemplary Devotion for Public Service, 1995.

Siya si Engr. ROMEO REYES AÑONUEVO ang kasalukuyang ama ng NIA Region IV-A. Isang matalinong pinuno na may matibay na desisyon at matatag na paninindigan. Nagtapos ng kursong Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering sa Feati University, Maynila at may Master sa Public Administration sa Union College of Laguna.

Nagsimula ang kanyang serbisyo bilang isang Civil Engineering Aide II sa Civil Aeronautics Administration noong Setyembre 1, 1967 kung saan nakatanggap siya ng Commendation for Invaluable Service to the Civil Aeronautic Administration. Sa paglago ng panahon, nagtuloy-tuloy ang kanyang pagseserbisyo mula sa pagiging Civil Engineering Aide II sa Commission on Audit – Setyembre 22, 1972 hanggang sa nakuha niya ang posisyong Civil Engineer sa Commission on Audit pa rin noong Enero 10, 1975. Siya ay nagsimulang magtrabaho sa NIA noong Abril 18, 1978 bilang Assistant Hydrologist sa Regional Office No.4 at napalipat sa Laguna Provincial Irrigation Office (PIO) kung saan ay nagtuloy-tuloy ang kanyang paglago – simula sa pagiging Engineer A noong Mayo 1, 1979, naging Supervising Engineer A noong Hulyo 1, 1984.



Siya ay naging ganap na Hepe ng Laguna PIO bilang Provincial Irrigation Officer I noong July 1, 1991 hanggang Agosto 31, 2006 kung saan sa mga panahong ito siya ay nakatanggap ng mga award, tulad ng: Katibayan ng Pagpapahalaga Tanggapan na May Kakayahan Tumayo sa Sariling Kinita, 1984; Outstanding Provincial Irrigation Engineer, 1990; Katangi-tanging Panlalawigang Inhenyero ng Patubig, 1989; Gawad ng Pagpapahalaga sa Pagsasalang ng mga Programa ng Komisyon, 1991; Certificate of Commendation for Attaining Financial Viability of SCRIS-MABACAN RIS and Laguna PIO, 1991; Outstanding Irrigation Superintendent for Operation, 1993; Katibayan ng Pagkilala at Pagpapahalaga-Malayang Pagsasaka, 1991. Makalipas ang mahigit na 25 na taon, siya ay nagbalik sa Regional Office No. 4 bilang Concurrent OIC ng Engineering & Operations hanggang siya ay naging ganap na Division Manager noong Hunyo 15, 2009. At sa kasalukuyan siya ang Acting Regional Manager ng Rehiyon IV-A.#



# ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS INSPECT NIA-CAR PROJECTS

by Mylene I. Malecdan, PRO-CAR

Newly assigned NIA Assistant Administrators experienced Cordillera's long and winding road travels and dominantly mountainous views in their inspection of irrigation projects in the region.

Engr. Romeo Anonuevo, NIA Assistant Administrator, and Engr. Dexter Patrocinio, Assistant Administrator for Luzon, together with Engr. Wilfredo Abulencia, technical staff of the Administrator, visited the NIA-CAR lined projects on September 25-27, 2013. This is to gather first-hand concerns and issues on projects for report to the NIA Administrator and facilitate immediate feed back and recommended actions. They are joined by Engr. Benito Espique Jr., Division Manager for Engineering and Operations and Engr. Bradley Grospe, chief of the NIA-CAR Engineering Section.



Engr. Dexter Patrocinio illustrates on the board a sample design of the irrigation pump that can be used for Alfonso Lista Pump Irrigation Project in Ifugao.

In their first field inspection as assistant administrators, they had a walk-through/site inspection of the on-going excavation works of the Alfonso Lista Pump Irrigation Project in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao, the service road and canalization works at the Upper Chico River Irrigation System (UCRIS) Extension Project near the border of Kalinga and Isabela, and the Marimay Small Reservoir Irrigation Project in Flora, Apayao. These are multi-year projects aimed at generating new areas for irrigation.

Briefings and dialogues were also held with NIA-CAR personnel involved in the institutional and technical activities of the projects, during which the Central Office visitors conferred and shared their advice, expertise and experiences with them.

According to Engr. Patrocinio, similar activities will also be done in other regions in a bid to fast track project implementation. #



The Assistant Administrators at the construction site of canalization works of Alfonso Lista PIP.



The Assistant Administrators together with NIA-CAR and IMO staff study the general lay out of the Marimay SRIP in Apayao as they stand on an elevation which will be submerged by the soon-to-be-built earth fill dam.

## WHAT'S NEW?

### PAIS produces AVPs on NIS and CIS

by Lioneil G. Dela Cruz, NIA PAIS-CO

October 2013 - The Public Affairs and Information Staff headed by Department Manager Pilipina P. Bermudez, in cooperation with the Institutional Development Division headed by Manager Bayani P. Ofrecio, facilitated the production of two audio-visual presentations that highlight the successful implementation of NIA's programs through the success stories of two irrigators associations ifrom UPRIS and Region 4A.

The said AVPs focus on the two major types of irrigation systems that the NIA manages and operates namely the NIS and CIS. It also highlights the agency's mandate to transfer the operation and maintenance of these systems to its partners, the irrigators associations.

The AVP for the NIS focused on the successful operation of the MTG PLIVIRISCAF IA of UPRIS-Division 5 under the Irrigation Management Transfer Model 2 Contract, while the other AVP focuses on the story of Tumbaga I Bucal IA of Region 4A in line with NIA's CIS implementation.

The production of the said AVPs is also in support of PAIS's campaign to strengthen the dissemination of information regarding the agency's programs by maximizing different media forms. The project sought the creative and skillful help of Marcus Phoenix Multimedia Productions, Inc. As of writing, the AVPs are currently undergoing revisions prior to replication and distribution to field offices.

### WATER FACTS AND TIPS

Sources: Business Mirror' Health & Fitness



1. Water helps detoxify the body from the effects of long term smoking which helps to eliminate the insidious tar and acidic nicotine from the lungs.

2. Water helps maintain proper muscle tone and prevents sagging skin.

3. It takes a loss of only 1-2 percent of your body's ideal water content to cause dehydration. Only water truly hydrates the body and alleviates the diseases caused by dehydration.



# NIA LEADERS ATTEND STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

by Maria Luisa A. Frias, NIA C.O-PAIS



Administrator Claro V. Maranan led a four-day Strategic Planning (StratPlan) Workshop held at Mansion Garden Hotel, Subic, Zambales on September 30 to October 3, 2013.

The workshop aims to create a shared vision and collective commitment from NIA leaders for the upliftment and transformation of NIA into a high-performing agency. The workshop is considered the first step in crafting the Agency's Strategic Plan in the next five months.

The welcome message of Administrator Maranan set the context of the workshop. Department Managers, Regional/Operations Managers and selected key staff at the Regional office attended the four-day activity.

NIA leaders revisit NIA's vision and mission that resulted to the four (4) proposed new Vision-Mission, these are:

1. A dynamic and viable world-class government corporation rendering

irrigation related services contributing to the socio-economic growth of the country.

2. NIA a dynamic and viable government corporation rendering a world-class sustainable irrigation in partnership with stakeholders to provide food security.

3. A dynamic and viable government corporation rendering efficient and sustainable irrigation and allied services to provide sufficient food for the nations in collaboration with the stakeholders.

4. The finest irrigation system in Asia.

The proposed Vision will be presented to the Board for approval. Indeed, our leaders are one in taking step to revitalize NIA and prepare for the changing times. Meanwhile, the Mission statements will be reviewed and finalized by the SPG and NIA Team Champions for presentation to NIA ExeCom for their approval.

## AWARDS FOR THE 50th NIA ANNIVERSARY SHOOTFEST

by Rocielle Harlette E. Navarro - PAIS, C.O

To uphold the spirit of camaraderie within the NIA community and promote responsible gun ownership, Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Operations Robert C. Suguitan organized the 50th Anniversary Shoot Fest along with gun enthusiasts Major Rafael F. Sahagun Jr, 1Lt. Aristotle Juan C Salas and Guillermo C. Mercado. The executive category was topped by none other than the Deputy Administrator himself, with Mr. Virgilio J Ilao of Region 3 for the Jr Executive Category, and Ms. Angelyn C. Tango of Region 2 emerged as the champion for the Lady Shooters category. The Agno River Integrated Irrigation Project bagged the gold in the team competition. The rest of the winners are as follows:



CATEGORY/ AWARD	NAME
<b>EXECUTIVE CATEGORY</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	GERARDO P. CORSIGA (Region 6)
1st Runner-Up	ALEXANDER G. COLOMA (Casecnan)
Champion	ROBERT C. SUGUITAN (Central Office)
<b>JR. EXECUTIVE CATEGORY</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	RIZALO F. CONCEPCION (Region 6)
1st Runner-Up	RAYMUNDO B. APIL (CAR)
Champion	VIRGILIO J. ILAO (Region 3)
<b>LADY SHOOTERS CATEGORY</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	ALICE P. JAMES (CAR)
1st Runner-Up	MARCELA F. CHOGWAWI (CAR)
Champion	ANGELYN C. TANGO (Region 2)
<b>INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY</b>	
<b>STANDARD DIVISION</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	SAMMY CASTRONUEVO (ARIIP)
1st Runner-Up	ROMEL LEOREN (ARIIP)
Champion	ERICO Y. QUIZON (Region 3)
<b>CLASSIC DIVISION</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	LORETO G. DEL ROSARIO (Region 3)
1st Runner-Up	EDWIN B. TUBOG (Region 2)
Champion	GERARDO R. HOMERES (CAR)
<b>PRODUCTION DIVISION</b>	
2nd Runner-Up	JONATHAN A. CHICA (Region 5)
1st Runner-Up	ARMAN P. CARIÑO (Region 2)
Champion	DOMINADOR L. MAQUILAO (CAR)

CATEGORY/ AWARD	NAME
<b>STAGE CHAMPION</b>	
STAGE 1	ROMEL LEOREN (ARIIP)
STAGE 2	MANNY VILLANUEVA (ARIIP)
STAGE 3	MANNY SALAZAR (ARIIP)
STAGE 4	GERARDO R. HOMERES (Region 6)
STAGE 5	ROMEL LEOREN (ARIIP)
<b>TYROS / BEGINNERS</b>	
<b>STANDARD DIVISION</b>	
1st Runner-Up	DEXTER VARDE (Region 5)
Champion	MARIO GUERRERO (CARAGA)
<b>CLASSIC DIVISION</b>	
1st Runner-Up	SOLOMON ALFECHE (CARAGA)
Champion	ARISTOTLE JUAN C. SALAS (Central Office)
<b>PRODUCTION DIVISION</b>	
1st Runner-Up	SOLAIMAN BARAGUIR (Region 12)
Champion	CESCO BARRIENTOS (Region 12)
<b>RETIRES</b>	
Champion	WINSTON A. FLORES (Region 3)
<b>TEAM COMPETITION</b>	
3rd Runner-Up	CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
2nd Runner-Up	REGION 6
1st Runner-Up	REGION 3
Champion	AGNO RIVER INTERGRATED IRRIGATION PROJECT

### EVENT ORGANIZER

1. ROBERT C. SUGUITAN  
2. MAJOR RAFAEL F SAHAGUN JR PA

3. 1LT. ARISTOTLE JUAN C SALAS PA  
4. GUILLERMO C. MERCADO

# Hydropower Project Updates

by Pops Marie S. Dadea, PAIS,-C.O.

One of the priority projects of National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Administrator Claro V. Maranan is the establishment and subsequently the operation of hydroelectric power in the NIA-administered irrigation systems.

The general objective of the project is to maximize the use of irrigation facilities that will sufficiently augment revenue, efficiently sustain Operation and Maintenance activities, effectively empower people, and explore/promote modernization.

Development of a hydropower system has three stages. Stage 1: The Technical Working Group (TWG) shall initially evaluate the proposals of prospective private partners, if found eligible, shall forward the same to the Joint Venture-Selection Committee (JV-SC), Stage 2: Pre-selection and selection process by JV-SC. Conduct of Negotiation between NIA and Private Sector, Conferment of Original Proponent Status and Final Evaluation by the Office of the Administrator and Stage 3: Competitive Challenge and Final Discussions/Negotiations of the most Responsive Offer prior to Recommendation and Award of the JV-SC.

Also the TWG, headed by its Chairman, Engr. Efren S. Roqueza, Operations Department Manager and Vice-Chairman Engr. Milo M. Landicho, Project Planning Division Manager, amended the guidelines on hydropower development in NIA-administered irrigation systems based on the revised guidelines and procedures for entering into Joint Venture Agreements (JVA) between Government and Private Entities.

NIA encourage private participation through JVA without forming JV Company. The following principles shall be observed:

- (1) No adverse effect on the irrigation facilities and on water delivery, otherwise with corresponding compensation in case of disturbance or breakdown;
- (2) Producing particular product, activity, or service, shall be at no cost to NIA;
- (3) No privatization/transfer/divestment of NIA's properties;
- (4) No MOU/MOA with prospective private partners without the competitive selection process;
- (5) The JV contract/agreement may be terminated if private sector-partner fails to deliver any major obligation/s prescribed.

Plans for the last quarter of 2013 includes the lecture/orientation of Contractual Joint Venture Guidelines and Procedures, preparation of Terms of Reference for JV Competitive Challenge and project site visit/inspection.

*"The projection was that by the last quarter of next year (2014) the project will be on its progressive state",* said Mr. Christeto Dinopol, Consultant of the Office of the Administrator.

The need for a hydroelectric power is essential more so in areas where there are fluctuating powers supply and the hydropower system once established is a major contribution NIA can provide to the society. – with **Aubrey R. Sarmiento**

## To benefit 747 farmers, **1B-peso irrigation project** ***breaks ground***

by Dorothy Belle C. De Leon, PRO-Region 2

Groundbreaking of Pasa Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (SRIP), in Pasa, Ilagan funded by the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) took place on July 4, 2013.

The Government of South Korea through KOICA gave a whopping USD 21,760,000 grant, the largest grant from Korea so far, for the construction of a 36.7- meter high earthfill zone, impounding dam, appurtenant structures, main canal, laterals, and irrigation network facilities. Of the total project cost of P1,029,093,000, NIA contributed 93.4 million pesos for the construction of two bridges, Project Engineer's office, right of way negotiations and access road. The PLGU of Isabela and LGU of Ilagan shared 27 million pesos for the installation of electricity and access road, and P 935.6 million pesos came from KOICA.

"Pasa SRIP service area is about 980 hectares to benefit 747 farmers in the barangays of Fuyo, Minabang, Morado, Sta. Victoria, and Pasa, all in the City of Ilagan," Regional Irrigation Manager Galvez, who briefed everyone on the project, said.

He also informed attendees that the project's history dates back in 2008 when Korea initiated a five-year program on East Asia Climate Partnership to strengthen cooperation and development strategies to address climate change in partner countries to bolster Green Growth in Asia. In 2010, KOICA approved the provision of a tied grant for the construction of the Pasa SRIP. And on January 24 this year, President Benigno S. Aquino III approved the implementation of the project.

The Ceremonial Groundbreaking was initiated not with the laying of the capsule as originally planned but by fireworks blasting at the dam site. The firing device was set off by Korean Ambassador to the Philippines Lee Hyuk and newly elected Senator Mary Grace Poe-Llamanzares, witnessed by DA Undersecretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, Isabela Governor Faustino "Bojie" together with Vice Governor Antonio "Tonyet" Albano, Congressman Rodolfo "Rodito" Albano III of the First District of Isabela, the Local Government Unit of Ilagan led by City Mayor Josemar ie Diaz., and NIA Region 2 Regional Manager Vicente E. Galvez.

Gov. Bojie Dy III lauded the people of Korea and KOICA represented by Ambassador Hyuk for this project which could be of great help in adapting to climate change impacts.

Under Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, who represented DA Secretary Proceso Alcala shared the immense benefit the project may bring.

"The construction of the Pasa SRIP will ensure sustained irrigation to the existing 80 hectares and generate 900 hectares of newly irrigated areas. This will contribute to the national food security target in the Food Staples Sufficiency Plan by 9,441 metric tons annually. Palagi pong tinatamaan ng bagyo at baha ang Isabela at ito pong proyektong ito will decrease the incidence of flood thereby protecting 465 hectares of agriculture land and 434 houses and a forest cover of 500 hectares," Usec Romulo-Puyat said.

It can be recalled that in 2011, typhoons Juaning, Mina, Pedring, and Quiel wrecked havoc in agricultural crops in Isabela amounting to 3.17 billion pesos and damaged 2.4 billion pesos worth of irrigation facilities. So, Pasa SRIP is relied on to help mitigate flooding.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Hyuk paid tribute to the Filipino soldiers who fought side by side with Korean soldiers for their freedom in 1950s. Ambassador Lee Hyuk is in awe of their dedication and sacrifice. He added that the two countries had deepened their relationship since.

In parting, he said: "Agriculture has been the backbone of our country and economy. This project is an indication of Korea's strong commitment in helping the Philippines achieve its goal not just in terms of agricultural development but also in mitigating climate change."

Vital to the operation of the dam is its forest cover. As part of NIA's Watershed Management thrust, RIM Galvez committed Pasa as the primary impact area of the agency's tree planting activities. As of press time, 5,625 saplings had been planted on Pasa's watershed. #





# NIA Dams defy Earthquake in Bohol

by Luzviminda R. Peñaranda, NIA CO- PAIS

Four major dams in Bohol defied the October 15 earthquake.

"...the effect of the earthquake on the four major dams of Bohol is nothing to worry, tension cracks at crest of the dam is not alarming and are only superficial cracks." This was the essence of the observation and evaluation made by Dam Consultants, Mr. Gil Cardiel of SN Aboitiz and Mr. Kjell Heggelund of SN Power. The consultants conducted ocular inspection and assessment on October 21-22, 2013 after an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 hit Bohol province.

The four (4) major dams such as: Talibon Dam in Talibon; Capayas Dam in Ubay; Bayongan Dam in San Miguel; and, Malinao Dam in Pilar, all in Bohol were able to survive the earthquake that crossed Visayan region.

The earthquake is considered the deadliest in

Bohol in 23 years and its released energy is equivalent to 32 Hiroshima bombs, Wikipedia stated. Its aftermath: public structures, private buildings, residential houses, and churches if not collapsed were heavily damaged; the famous Chocolate Hills were not spared, some of its hills were damaged in a landslide; its observation deck was destroyed; roads and bridges were destroyed and rendered impassable; and, communication lines were adversely affected.

In a nutshell, the result of Dam Consultants' report proved that the Agency has been very diligent in observing and adopting the highest standard in dam construction, as well as maintaining irrigation facilities for efficient irrigation service and irrigation structures that could endure future hazard. Further, the officials aware of the challenges faced by agriculture sector are now pro-active in reducing risks brought about by these events.#



Malinao Dam



Landslide in Chocolate Hills

Viewing Deck

Image Sources: <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/>

## "TRAINING FOR MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH CONSTRUCTION OF SMALL WATER IMPOUNDING FACILITIES"

by Engr. Laila L. Molina - (SRIP, C.O.)



PASA SRIP in Ilagan, Isabela is a grant aid project funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). The successful implementation of the project will strengthen the relationship and cooperation between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea.

In line with this, a Training Workshop entitled "Mitigating Climate Change through Construction of Small Water Impounding Facilities" was conducted on July 9-18, 2013 in Seoul, South Korea attended by two (2) representatives from the Department of Agriculture, seven (7) from the National Irrigation Administration, one (1) from the National Economic and Development Authority and one (1) from the Local Government of Isabela.

The training aimed to introduce Korean experience on irrigation and water resources management and discussed current issues on watershed and irrigation water management in the Philippines

A highlight of training activities includes a visit to KOICA Office and lectures at Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRCC).

## JALAU RIVER MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT:

### *The Next Big Thing in Iloilo*

by Danielle Parian-Pijuan, PRO-Region 6

If there is one huge project that the Province of Iloilo has to watch out for, it is the construction and completion of the Jalaur River Multipurpose Project (JRMP), which is now on its second stage. Not only will this project bring about positive impact on agricultural development, it will also address issues on flood mitigation, power generation, water supply, employment, and promote eco-tourism. As much as the province is aiming for national and global recognition as the Next Big Thing through its development and economic progress, the National Irrigation Administration Region VI is doing its best to enhance its irrigation services in order to substantially contribute in attaining rice self-sufficiency by building this Next Big Thing for NIA and Iloilo.

On January 27, 2013 during the heat of the Dinagyang Festival, the National Irrigation Administration Region VI welcomed His Excellency Korean Ambassador Lee Hyuk in a meeting joined by Senator Franklin Drilon and Governor Arthur Defensor. The meeting highlighted the importance to fast-track the consultancy services in order to speed up the progress of the project in time to meet its target completion on May 2016.

The project, seen as the "Game Changer," is considered a role model to spearhead the implementation of other huge projects within the Province.



NEW GENERATOR SET



RIM'S QUARTER



TILING, PARTITION REPAIR AND PAINTING OF MAIN BUILDING





DESILTING UPSTREAM RIVER OF SIBALOM



IMPROVEMENT OF CANAL @ JALAU-SUAGUE, DESILTING OF CANAL JALAU RIS

Korean Ambassador Lee Hyuk made a commitment to "...try my best in accelerating the process and address the Korean authorities and companies to help the project meet its schedule."

Also, the Korean Ambassador emphasized that, "We do not forget the contribution the Philippine Government and soldiers have made to protect the freedom and democracy of Korea." He also believes that, "it is the natural responsibility and duty of the Korean Government to make as many economic assistance as possible to the Philippine Government."

Last February 21, 2013 President Benigno S. Aquino III led the ceremonial Groundbreaking of JRMP II in the Iloilo Provincial Capitol. Assisted by Senator Franklin Drilon, Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala, and Governor Arthur Defensor, the President lowered the time capsule of JRMP II. NIA Region VI Regional Manager Gerardo P. Corsiga was also present during the event.

In his speech, the President reiterated the benefits of JRMP including the 6.6 megawatt hydroelectric power plant, supply of potable water for domestic and industrial use within the surrounding communities including Iloilo City, flood mitigation, eco-tourism, and most especially employment opportunities.

"Oras na matapos ang proyekto, apatnapu't tatlong porsyento ng lupang agraryo dito sa Iloilo ang magkakaroon ng irigasyon. Ibig sabihin, inaasahan natin na dodoble ang maanang bigas sa rehiyon at aangat ng tatlung porsyento ang produksyon," the President said regarding the rice self sufficiency target to accomplish even before the completion of the project.

"...uunlad ang pangingisda at pati na ang eco-tourism at maiiwasan ang pagbaha dito sa Iloilo. Ito po talaga ang bunga ng Jalaur River Project: pagkain sa mesa ng bawat kabahayan, mga batang hindi na mapipilitang umabsent sa klase nila, mas maraming Ilonggong may trabaho na makikiambag sa pagpapalago sa ating ekonomiya.", He added.

With the economic assistance lent by the South Korean Government, the support of the Philippine Government, the cooperation of various agricultural sectors, and the fervent services of NIA employees, this Next Big Thing is just within our reach.

## HRD Goes Techie

by Portia Sandoval Angulo,  
Industrial Relations Development Officer –A, HRD



Participants of one of the roll-out sessions of the new Human Resources Management Information System are curious of what said system can offer

The Human Resources Division (HRD) envisions its role to be in transition from transactional to transformational. They aim to deliver service to their stakeholders that is keeping up with the changing times. To realize their vision, the HRD teamed up with the Management Information Division (MID) of the Corporate Planning Services to create a computer program that will facilitate the flow of documents and generate various relevant data relative to personnel matters.

A computerized Human Resources Management Information System (HRMIS) was developed by the MID in response to the HR's need for them to be able to focus on more strategic functions. The HRMIS is composed of two modules namely Human Resource Information System and Leave Management Information System. Said modules can fast-track the accomplishment of the Personal Data Sheet and processing of leave applications of every employee. With these systems, the updating and filing of both activities can already be done online. Thus, plantilla of personnel, service records, leave records and daily time records can easily be accessed by the HR staff.

The program for users is currently being presented to all employees to solicit their comments and recommendations before its full implementation. The initial orientation-workshop was conducted on August 28, 2013. Ten batches of the same are set on September 18, 19, 25, 26 and 27, 2013. Two batches are scheduled each day. Meanwhile, the training for the system administrators is scheduled on September 27, 2013.



# A Brighter Future: An IA Success Story

by Maria Teresa Amaya Empleo, PRO Region 9

*"The future belongs to those who believe that it takes sweat, hardwork, and determination to reach your dream."*

- Colin Powell

Farmers of barangays Kauswagan, Aurora, Zamboanga del Sur and San Vicente, Tampilig, Zamboanga del Sur had long dreamt of irrigation to reach their lands – to allow them to increase their production and ultimately increase their household income. In November 2004, their dream came true when Institutional Development Officer (IDO) Ann M. Maligro organized them into an Irrigators Association (IA). Adopting the name of both barangays, the Kauswagan San Vicente Farmers Irrigators Association, Inc. (KASAVIFIA, Inc.) was formed, since then had become an asset to the region as well as to the rice production program of the Philippines. Funded under Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project (ARISP-II), the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Region 9 constructed a terruvian dam; it covered a total service area of 185 hectares. "Nagsugod na gayud ang kalamboan," (The development has finally begun) as what one of its members referred.

A felt need that was addressed and was met with eagerness from IDOs of NIA, KASAVIFIA as a newly formed association was able to withstand all adversities they faced each year – with problems making them stronger each time. Hence, it was not for long that they started receiving awards. For two consecutive years in 2007 and 2008, they received an Outstanding CARP CIS award at the Regional Level. Thereafter, recognitions from the national level started to pour in. In 2009, KASAVIFIA became one of the CARP Outstanding Irrigators Association awardees, and on the same year they were 4th Runner-Up in Outstanding IA award during NIA's 47th Anniversary.



In 2010 and 2012, they bagged the 2nd Runner-Up CARP Irrigators Association. With the recent conclusion of NIA's Golden Anniversary, KASAVIFIA received an award as Most Outstanding IA, 2nd Runner-Up under CARP Category.

Determined to continue this legacy of hardwork and discipline, Mr. Baudelio D. Perez, KASAVIFIA President, makes sure that he himself sets a good example in their community. He shared how he implements good governance by not authorizing IA officers to have back accounts: "All officers must be a good payer, I want to lead by example," he said. For those members who pay on time or earlier they get to have a 5% discount; another policy in collecting also include paying in kind. These are among the best practices they apply in their association.

Presently, KASAVIFIA has 120 farmer-beneficiaries and their assets have also grown allowing them to generate an income of its own, for instance, by having their farming equipment rented. Meetings and other IA activities are conducted regularly, policy implementation are being monitored at each organizational level. The farmers have seen the importance of their involvement to the collective success of the association and how they reap from them in multitudes.

Truly, no one can ever tell what lies ahead in the future. We can only predict and try to prepare for it. And prepare they did, KASAVIFIA farmers hold strong to their dream, made the right choices, acquired the necessary tools to reach it, and never stops improving themselves. Once a dream, a brighter future is now unfolding before them.





# JEWELS from Region 10

## PAITAN IA: SOARING GRANDEUR

by Jennefer R. Agripio - Region 10



The awardees with Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcala

Paitan IA is one of the 42 Irrigators Associations in Pulangui River Irrigation System from the Bukidnon Irrigation Management Office under the headship of Division Manager Jimmy L. Apostol. It is also one of the most recognized IAs in the country.

The IA was organized in 1983 as the newly completed irrigation facilities and structures started to draw water from Kulaman River. Farmers gleefully benefited from the improvement as they used to rely on rainfall and once-a-year harvest.

With the collaborative effort and determined commitment of its leaders, Paitan IA has been awarded one of the Most Outstanding IAs in the 1990s. It is a clear proof that even in its early existence, the association has long been active in helping its members uplift their socio-economic lives.

Recently, Paitan IA entered into IMT Model II Contract with NIA-BIMO wherein the association is empowered to operate and maintain their irrigation system and improve their financial viability. Members are more involved in irrigation activities and are more responsible and aware of their obligations. These qualities helped them reach 100% collection efficiency during the Wet and Dry Season of 2012. According to IA President Reynaldo Ilar, "proper management in terms of proper schedule of water delivery combined with effective strategy in the aspect of ISF collection results to outstanding performance."

PCIA members also manifest a positive outlook in which they are actively involved in the social activities of the community. They indulged into several income-generating projects such as flatbed drying, hog fattening/sow dispersal, solar drying, power tiller/mud-boat and acquired farm machineries.

Managing the IA's O & M and financial viability is no easy task; for there will be setbacks along the way. "It takes a lot of patience and strength to put policies in action," says Mr. Ilar, "and one can become the vanguard towards irrigation development." PCIA's vision to soar to grandeur started when they received the Agri-Pinoy Rice Achievers Award. They attributed this success to the active participation of members and assistance of the NIA Region 10 office. The reward PCIA received will provide livelihood activities for its members and aid in the strengthening of the IA. With all of PCIA's achievements, it just proves that the strength of the effort is the measure of the result.



## ALUBIJID-LOGUILO ISA: A MILLION PESO AWARDEE

by Beberly B. Gales - Region 10

The Alubijid-Loguilo Irrigators' Service Association Incorporated (ALISA, Inc.) in Alubijid, Misamis Oriental is one of the recipients of a P1-Million worth of agricultural machineries during the 2nd Agri-Pinoy Rice Achievers Award on March 15, 2013 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Pasay City.

The awards program was attended by Agriculture Secretary Proceso J. Alcala, DA Undersecretary for Operations Joel S. Rudinas, DA Assistant Secretary Dante Delima, NIA Administrator Antonio S. Nangel, and Bureau of Soils and Water Management Director Silvino Tejad. Also present to witness the prestigious event were the awardees, who were excited to receive their respective awards, under the different categories from 10 provinces and 48 cities across the country.

The Agri-Pinoy Program under the Department of Agriculture intends to support Rice Self-Sufficiency Program of the government through efficient and effective irrigation system and agricultural practices. It also aims to develop and encourage other farmers to emulate strategies and techniques of the IA achievers.

The top Irrigators Associations were chosen based on the following criteria: surpassing rice production targets; attaining higher average yield per hectare; allotting bigger budget for rice related projects and initiatives; encouraging more farmers to use quality seeds and employment of new technologies; number of farmers benefited; and degree of quality seed utilization.

ALISA President Wilfred A. Adviento said that being one of the achiever-awardees is not an easy road to



Hon. Proceso J. Alcala, DA Secretary (6th from left) and Hon. Antonio S. Nangel, NIA Administrator (4th from left) flank ALISA Pres. Wilfred A. Adviento (5th from left) during the 2012 Agri-Pinoy Rice Achievers' Awards Ceremony. Others in photo (L-R): LAMISCA Manager Joeocarmine L. Gubat, DA Undersecretary Joel S. Rudinas, RIM Felix M. Razo, LAMISCA IMO IDO Beverly B. Gales, NIA Supvg. IDO Cecelle Y. Celestiano, ALISA Treasurer Mamerto Yamayamin, and DA Asst. Secretary Dante S. Delima

## Health & Wellness Corner

### THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT "RICE"

Do you know that too many people often neglect that an important staple in their everyday meals can do wonders for both their body and their heart? Yes, it's that fiber-rich provision that is eaten during breakfast, lunch and dinner. Sometimes, even during midnight breaks or snacks.

#### Good for the heart

**WHITE rice** is completely good for the body especially when loads of vitamins are stored. It is low in fats and calories, high in carbohydrates and offers a good enough protein contents for the body. Rice and other types of whole grain food such as barley and whole wheat contain endosperm, which stores the healthy components. The vitamins, fiber and minerals contained here all work together for the increase performance of your heart. When you cook and process it, one cup contains about 4.2 grams of protein and 204 calories: 0.44 grams of fat and 44 carbohydrates. Sugars are also kept at a minimum with 0.08 grams and dietary fiber is at 0.6 grams.

White rice has been refined, though, removing the germ layers, the husk and the bran and only the white inner kernels remain; therefore it has less nutritional value that you average brown rice. Most food manufacturers engrain their stripped rice with vitamins and minerals, but they can't really bring back the dietary fiber.



Sources: Business Mirror' Health & Fitness  
Image Source: Google

Continuation on page 16

travel. It takes discipline, patience, and lots of hard work to maintain the status as one of the Most Outstanding Irrigators Associations and a Hall of Fame Awardee. He also acknowledged the support of LAMISCA IMO Management, saying: "It is also the strong leadership, generosity, and relentless support extended by IMO Manager Engr. Joecarmine L. Gubat and his staff which made what ALISA is today. We cannot achieve this great feat without their support and encouragement".



# NIACONSULT's Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping

by Maria Luisa A. Frias, NIA C.O.-PAIS

NIACONSULT, Inc. is the Philippines premier Consultancy firm in water resources development, particularly in the field of irrigation. It was established and organized as a subsidiary corporation of the NIA to provide consultancy services in the field of planning, design, project management and construction of irrigation and related water resources development projects, agricultural development, institutional and manpower development, operation and maintenance, water management and other specialty services.

NIA, as an agricultural institution concerned with irrigation development in the country faces a big challenge on how to reduce disruptive consequences to agriculture, particularly climate change. These climate disturbances do not only interrupt water resources but also the demand for water. A change in climate can disturb many related aspects of how the agricultural crops live particularly food production.

More recurrent intense rainfall that bring about torrents and runoffs that devastate watersheds, habitations and infrastructure are already being manifested. Likewise, recurrent droughts which diminish cultivated area, crop yield and agricultural production have become another serious concern.

These devastating phenomena suffice to justify the need to map out geo-specific vulnerability to the impact and consequences of climate change and extremes, as bases for designing appropriate adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures.

For this purpose, NIACONSULT utilizes the pooled expertise acquired by NIA in its 50 years of existence in water resources and irrigation development, making it thoroughly equipped to meet the technical needs

of our country whose economy depend greatly in agricultural productivity.

A Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping Project was introduced by NIA Consult to achieve ample readiness in identifying vulnerability and adaptation strategies to climate change impact consequences in agriculture ecosystems and crop suitability watershed boundaries and administrative boundaries. It specifically aims to achieve invaluable references in the form of agricultural vulnerability maps and crop suitability maps up to the watershed, to municipal and barangay levels in consolidated data and mapping methodology.

In this project, NIA Consult tasks are the deliveries of the Land Attributed Mapping that includes developing the thematic maps on land attributes such as administrative boundaries, contours, landforms, soils, climate, geo-hazard, river network, landuse and watershed cover; and the Agro Ecological Zone (AEZ) Mapping that will enhance the existing AEZ based on the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) methodology to include more zones identified that reflect reality on the ground based on crop production potentials as limited by the climatic, edaphic and other biophysical characteristics.

The overall mapping methodology will be based on the circularized framework developed by the DA Systems-Wide Climate Change Office (DASW-CCO) being the main proponent of the Project. On the other hand, NIA will recognize the availability of base maps and satellite imagery that will determine the extent and pace at which the target vulnerability maps can be prepared.

*In coordination with Engr. Diony D. Fausto - NIACONSULT, Inc. Philippines*

## NIA-SNAP conducts validation survey with MEP 2 affected households

by Melissa C. Agbisit, PRO, MARIIS

Personnel from the National Irrigation Administration and SN Aboitiz Power conducted a validation survey with some residents of Alfonso Lista, Ifugao and Ramon, Isabela in line with the MARIIS Reservoir Optimization Project.

The Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Committee composed of NIA and SNAP employees visited the barangays of Namillangan and Sto. Domingo in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao and Gen. Aguinaldo in Ramon, Isabela from September 2-13, 2013 to collect information from 105 respondents who will be affected by the project.

The data gathered from the survey will be used in the preparation of the livelihood restoration package to be offered to each household.

On July 18, 2013, NIA-SNAP conducted a forum with the stakeholders on the proposed project to provide an overview of the Livelihood Restoration Framework and Procedure. Mr. Rodolfo Azanza, Ms. Andrea Madrid, and Atty. Anne Mecias from SNAP and Ms. Pilipina P. Bermudez and Ms. Heartie Navarro from NIA-Central Office presented the updates.

During the forum which was attended by affected households, representatives from the barangay and municipal councils, everyone was assured that the implementation of the project shall be executed to ensure that social impacts on the affected persons are minimal or at the very least, they shall not be worse off because of the project.



## Literary Section

# Oda para kay Mang Juan

by Lioneil G. Dela Cruz - NIA PAIS-CO

Photo by: Ana Cristel K. Untivero - NIA PAIS-CO

Hindi pa man dumudukwang  
ang mga gintong silahis ng araw  
mula sa likuran ng ulap at hamog,  
nakadukwang na sa bintana  
ng maliit niyang kubo si Mang Juan  
tangan-tangan ang isang tasa ng kapeng  
gigising sa pupungas-pungas pang lakas.

Habang pinapanood  
ang mga natitirang alitaptap  
na naglalaro pa sa karimlan,  
binitbit ng hangin ang halimuyak  
ng anihang nakaabang -  
halimuyak na kay Mang Juan  
ay nagdulot ng ngiti at kasabikan.

Dahan-dahang tumatahan  
ang mga naghuhuramentadong kuliglig,  
unti-unti namang bumubukas ang langit  
upang ibuhos ang liwanag  
na nagpatingkad sa mga ginintuang pilapil -  
mga pinitak na nagaabang, naghihintay,  
nagsusumamo sa huling haplos  
mula sa mga kamay ni Mang Juan.

Habang nagsasayaw ang hangin mula sa Kanluran,  
marahang niyakap ng mga  
lipaking kamay ni Mang Juan  
ang mga tagdang inaruga ng apat na buwan -  
apat na buwan ng pagbabanat ng buto,  
apat na buwan ng pagkakalyo  
ng mga talamapaka't palad,  
apat na buwan ng paglusong sa lusak,  
apat na buwan ng pagkaluto sa tirik na araw.  
Apat na buwan ng pagpapagal  
na hindi inalintana ng mabagting  
na katawan ni Mang Juan.

Sa dami ng lumpas  
na pagpapalit ng mukha ng buwan,  
may kasabikang iwinasiwas ni Mang Juan  
ang karit sa magkakabigkis  
na puluhan ng palay.  
Dahan-dahan, unti-unti -  
kawangis ng marahang  
halik ng magulang  
sa anak na nagtagumpay.

At, sa bawat dampi ng lilik sa  
yamang nagaabang,  
naipon ang mga ginintuang butil  
tulad ng naimpok na pagmamalaki  
sa puso't isipan ni Mang Juan -  
pagmamalaki na  
sa bawat wasiwas ay may pinggang  
malalamnan;  
na ang bawat tabas ay pag-amba  
sa gutom niyang sikmura;  
bawat pagputol ay pagtaboy  
sa paghihihahos ng kaniyang pamilya;  
bawat gapas ay pagbusal  
sa hiyaw ng mga tiyang kumakalam.

Siya si Mang Juan, isang magsasaka:  
tagasalubong sa buwang-liwayway;  
tagasaboy ng halimuyak ng kasaganahan;  
tagagapas ng gutom at kahirapan;  
tagaani ng kaunlaran.

## Health & Wellness Corner

### THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT "RICE"

#### The brown of it all

Aside from eating white rice, you should also consider adding more brown rice to your diet. A 1 ½ cup serving only has 108 calories, 2 grams of fat and just 10mg of sodium. Also contained are 5 grams of protein, 14 percent of fiber and just 1 gram of sugar. And unlike the white rice, this one has its hull preserved which has all the necessary nutrients still stored.

Other whole grain foods such as **brown rice** can not only make you lose weight but they also reduce chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes. **Brown rice** can also help you if you are constipated. And if you are feeling tired and sluggish, it can make you more energetic than usual as this has more than 80 percent daily value of the element manganese which helps in the coordination of your muscles.

There are also oils in **brown rice** which can help lower your cholesterol. If you are trying to lose weight, brown rice is the best to go since according to a study by Harvard researchers, women who have added this to their diet are more likely not to gain weight by 50 percent, which can prevent you from having a heart attack in the process. Best of all, brown rice has selenium and fiber, which can prevent cancer. But even so many benefits, remember that any type of food – even rice – when taken too much can be fattening.



Sources: Business Mirror  
Health & Fitness  
Image Source: Google

## WORD HUNT

R	I	C	E	R	A	T	O	O	N	I	N	G	R	K
Z	L	O	U	Y	T	I	N	M	E	Q	X	F	D	A
P	H	I	L	R	I	C	E	D	R	S	S	P	I	B
I	E	F	G	M	H	N	R	J	B	K	L	M	R	A
W	B	A	O	A	S	M	A	B	D	T	I	P	U	N
C	R	O	P	R	U	I	L	U	I	A	R	C	G	B
S	T	D	E	A	W	G	I	O	N	R	I	B	A	K
A	Q	R	O	N	I	B	S	Q	A	K	G	E	L	C
S	L	E	M	A	P	Q	A	C	R	I	A	S	Y	F
L	Z	V	W	N	S	C	E	I	Y	R	S	U	O	A
U	I	W	K	I	E	D	U	N	P	L	Y	T	N	B
P	Y	A	I	C	F	N	I	A	Q	I	O	U	S	A
A	D	R	A	V	J	K	L	G	R	A	N	I	O	T
B	P	B	C	Y	M	N	O	R	B	P	D	C	T	A
U	E	K	T	A	R	Y	A	O	Q	T	A	X	Y	P

RICE RATOONING  
IRIGASYON  
ANI  
NIA

ORGANIC  
PHILRICE  
EKTARYA  
LUPA

MARANAN  
ALISA  
CROP  
RSSP

SUWI  
QTA  
PATABA  
KABAN