



National Convergence Initiative for  
Sustainable Rural Development (NCI-SRD)



# DIGEST

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## INSIDE ISSUE:

Road Rehabilitation In San Jose, Tarlac  
Paves Road Down Memory Lane | p2

Bateria River Watershed Commences Drafting of its  
Convergence Area Development Plan | p3

TANAW De Rizal Convergence Development Area and its Fruition | p4  
Siocon-Lituban Convergence Area Launching | p5

RCI TWG Bicol Region Hosts Two Major NCI-SRD Events | p6

Expansion of Water Lines Distribution – San Jose, Tarlac | p8

RCI-Bicol Convenes to Assess CADP Areas in Castilla, Sorsogon | p9

RCI TWG MIMAROPA Finalizes the Mag-asawang Tubig  
Convergence Area Development Plan as its First Convergence Area | p10

DENR Bicol Conducts Salt 2 Training at the Pili Watershed  
Convergence Area | p11

NCI-SRD Welcomes its New Leaders | p11

Harvesting oysters  
in Pili Watershed Convergence Area  
Castilla, Sorsogon

Photo Credit: Justine Devela, National Secretariat

## ROAD REHABILITATION IN SAN JOSE, TARLAC PAVES ROAD DOWN MEMORY LANE

By: Engr. Abegail P. Orcino, RCI TWG Central Luzon



The now concrete road as opposed to its muddy road condition beforehand

There is no place like home, as most people would say. To see your home's improved road management is something to be proud of. As a resident of Villa Aglipay, San Jose, Tarlac myself, I can attest to how beneficial the convergence strategy is to the local residents. Way back years before, I witnessed the residents endure traversing across muddy roads. In rainy seasons, these roads can only be passable with carabao carts. Inconvenient roads are a major cause of delayed transportation of goods and supplies making local economic growth much more difficult. Residents and tourists alike have had a hard time driving or commuting across the roads.

It has been three years since the road rehabilitation project started. The Construction of Local Access Road – Local Road Rehabilitation Project located at Sitio Catigaacan, Brgy. Villa Aglipay, San Jose, Tarlac was completed last October 26, 2020, with a budget of Php10,039,000.00. The project was funded by the Department of the Interior and Local Government under the LGSF-AM- 2019 Program implemented by the Local Government Unit of San Jose, Tarlac.

Angie Subang, a resident of Brgy. Villa Aglipay, shared "*Dati hirap na hirap kaming nagbibyahe, nasisiraan pa ng motor. Kapag naman umuulan ay maputik at malubak kaya napakalaking tulong nito sa amin kasi napagaan ng daan na ito yung buhay naming mga taga rito. Naging mabilis ang byahe at di na mahirap daanan.*"

Another resident of Brgy. Villa Aglipay, Junior "Jay-R" Lababit, said, "*Dati hindi nakakadaan ang tractor o pog-pog dito; kalabaw lang talaga [ang puwedeng dumaan]. Tapos, noong nag-aaral ako nagpapaa na lang kami kasi nasisira yung sapatos namin dahil baku-bako yung daan at maraming bato. Kaya sobrang saya namin nung sa wakas ay naayos rin itong daanan namin.*"



DA Central Visayas SAAD program distributes farm inputs to farmers in Carood

Being able to witness firsthand the struggles of our community when it comes to road transportation and seeing it now as a progressive neighborhood felt like a sense of fulfillment. The beneficiaries of this project send their regards and ensure that this project is taken good care of. ###

## BATERIA RIVER WATERSHED COMMENCES DRAFTING OF ITS CONVERGENCE AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN

By: Anna Delza Barimbao, RCI Central Visayas Head Secretariat

**D**UMAGUETE CITY, November 2022 - Following the proposal of the Central Visayas region to establish its second convergence area, the Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) Central Visayas, in collaboration with the NCI-SRD National Secretariat, facilitated the conduct of a Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) Workshop in Dumaguete City last November 15 to 18, 2022. With the local city officials in attendance, the workshop engaged the participants in acquiring knowledge on the NCI-SRD framework, principles, operations, and implementing mechanisms. The said workshop intends to provide an overview of the development of a first draft write-up of the seven (7) components of a CADP.

In terms of providing a sustainable program to a watershed area, the Bateria river watershed can very well fit in. Consider the preservation of the protected seascape of Negros Oriental- the Tañon Strait. The mouth of the Bateria river goes directly to the said protected seascape. In the 3,108 km<sup>2</sup>, Tañon Strait is 188.3 km<sup>2</sup> of coral reefs which are technically called fringing reefs growing directly from the shoreline and contain massive food and water resources.

The Tañon Strait is home to almost fifty percent of whales and dolphins in the Philippines and the area has one of the highest concentrations of marine mammals in the country. Whale-watching is a popular tourist attraction in the Tañon Strait which makes the Bateria watershed play a significant role in the preservation and conservation of the rich marine resources in the area.



RCI TWG Central Visayas RTD Cirilo Namoc emphasized the role of monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of the projects in the Bateria watershed

During the said CADP workshop, Guihulngan City Agriculturist Joel Cadiz said that 67% of the land use in the 16 barangays comprising the Bateria Watershed is for agriculture and 62% slope posing even greater risks if farmers practice excessive use of chemicals as it would directly affect the

protected seascape of Tañon Strait which is embodied in Republic Act 11038.

Though the city agriculture office currently describes the Bateria watershed area as having fertile rich soil and is one of the strengths of the area, the Regional Convergence Initiative should not be complacent to compromise the future of the community and the marine resources.

An important piece of information revealed during the CADP workshop is the presence of more than 1,000 indigenous people in the watershed area.

The Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) workshop participants in a hotel in Dumaguete City on November 15-18, 2022, participated by the RCI-TWG Central Visayas, local city officials of Guihulngan, Negros Oriental and the National Secretariat.



Such a large population of IPs lives along with farmers and forest dwellers in this rich resource watershed area. Its unique setting calls for the special attention of the regional convergence agencies considering that the majority of the population in the Bateria watershed are marginal farmers, fishers, and forest dwellers.

The role of monitoring and evaluation was highlighted in the message delivered by the Regional Focal Person Central Visayas DA Regional Technical Director Cirilo Namoc during the activity. In his speech, he said the monitoring and evaluation of is vital in watershed operations to determine the future success and impact of the program. ###

## TANAW DE RIZAL CONVERGENCE DEVELOPMENT AREA AND ITS FRUITION

By: Jayvee Amir P. Ergino, RCI TWG CALABARZON



***“the project has allotted a total of 55 hectares of land for vegetable production targeted to uplift the livelihood of 119 farmers”***

The planet earth is considered the only place we can all live in. Around the world, environmentalists, organizations, and concerned citizens are trying to sustain and protect every single part of it. There is a saying that it takes a village to raise a child, how much more in sustaining a planet?

As for Rizal, Laguna Vice Mayor Antonino Aurelio, every single person must take a role in the continuous protection and preservation of the earth. The essence of this task has inspired him to join the vision of the Philippine National Convergence Initiative for Sustainable Rural Development (NCI-SRD) and heighten their efforts in securing their natural resources while opening development opportunities.

The program is the Philippine government’s way of saying that people like Vice Mayor Antonino and its constituents are not alone in this endeavor.

With this objective, Vice Mayor Aurelio believes that the NCI-SRD program will help the municipality realize their agroforestry potential and economic progress.

In 2021, with the approved five-year Convergence Area Development Plan, Rizal, Laguna with the CALABARZON CI-SRD (RCI-SRD), launched the Tanaw de Rizal Convergence Development Area.

In the words of Vice Mayor Aurelio, The Tanaw de Rizal Convergence Development Area is a 24-hectare agri-eco tourism site in the heart of a mountain where

tourists will find nature at its best. For Rizal, Laguna, the Tanaw de Rizal Convergence Development Area is a symbol of their pride and dedication to rehabilitating their valued area while making every single resident benefit from it.

According to Rizal, Laguna Municipal Agriculturist (MA) Mr. Aldwin Subijano, their agricultural sector is one of the highlights of the Tanaw de Rizal. He shared that the project has allotted a total of 55 hectares of land for vegetable production targeted to uplift the livelihood of 119 farmers of Sto. Niño Agro-Forestry Farmers’ Association (FA) Inc. and San Miguel Arkanghel FA.

Since its launching, the CALABARZON RCI-SRD never failed the municipality of Rizal in its dream of furthering the vision of the Tanaw de Rizal. The DA Regional Field Office IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) supported its farmer-beneficiaries and contributed various agricultural interventions including the cattle fattening feedlot project, various high-value crop seeds, and farm inputs and machineries.

Not only that, last June 7, 2022, the agency also further capacitated the farmers by enjoining a total of 70 farmers in the DA-4A High-Value Crops Development Program’s training on soil handling, crop pest disease management, and climate-weather information. DA-4A also distributed a total of P410,000 worth of HVC seeds, inputs, and garden tools.

With this support, Vice Mayor Aurelio and MA Subijano emphasized that the project does not only strengthen their advocacy but also expanded the agricultural knowledge and practices of their farmers.

Both Presidents Ms. Celso Comendador and Ms. Jonna Royo of Sto. Niño Agro-Forestry FA Inc.

and San Miguel Arkanghel FA, respectively, shared that DA-4A and the CALABARZON RCI-SRD have been true to their promise in providing the realization of the Tanaw de Rizal Convergence Area Development.

The Tanaw de Rizal Convergence Area Development implementation has proven that

the essence of solidarity between parties will surely gain positive effects.

This project is proof that convergence will also surely earn fruition. ###



## SIOCON-LITUBAN CONVERGENCE AREA LAUNCHING

by: RCI TWG Zamboanga Peninsula

To formalize the implementation of the Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP) that was approved on January 15, 2020, the National Convergence Initiative – Sustainable Rural Development (NCI-SRD) in coordination with the RCI-TWG of Zamboanga Peninsula launches the Siocon-Lituban Watershed Convergence Area and presents the (CADP) to the stakeholders on November 10, 2022, at Siocon

Cultural and Exhibition Centre, municipality of Siocon in Zamboanga del Norte.

The said project was a joint undertaking by DA-DAR-DENR-DILG and NCI-SRD and was postponed for over a year due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through a virtual message, Provincial Governor Rosalina Jalosjos expressed her utmost gratitude for such an initiative. "Rest assured that the Provincial Government of Zamboanga del Norte will always support in any means and help achieve the objectives of the project."



A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed by the heads of offices from DA-DAR-DENR-DILG as well as LGU Siocon for the implementation of the Siocon-Lituban Watershed CADP, as this will be considered a breakthrough and a government strategy that can contribute to inclusive growth and poverty reduction in the rural areas.

***“meet the needs of the present generation, without compromising the needs of the future”***

On behalf of USEC Leones, CENRO Rey Jalandoni voiced in his message that DENR is truly working into its mandate as the primary government agency responsible for the protection, conservation, management, development and use of the country’s environment and natural resources.

Moreover, DENR turned over 5000 Narra seedlings to the Local Government Unit of Siocon headed by Mayor Cesar Soriano, while DA turned over one unit Rice Recirculating Dryer and assorted Vegetable Seeds packs, as a gesture of support and commitment to Siocon.



Present during the launching are Siocon Municipal Mayor Ceasar Soriano, Municipal Vice-Mayor Julius Lobrigas, 3rd District Congressman Adrian Amatong represented by Atty. Rick Angelo Escorpizo, DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs, Atty. Jonas Leones, CESO I represented by Siocon CENR Officer Rey Jalandoni, DENR RSCIG Chief Roservirico Tan, DENR MGB Information Officer Emma Deverala, DA IX Regional Technical Director for Operations Reynaldo M. Campomanes, DA-NMIS Assistant Technical Director Dr. Roie-Lee Cataluña, NCI -SRD Project Dev't Officer Elaine Gener, DAR PARPO II Rizzel Villanueva, DILG Provincial Director Oliver Ombos, members of Sangguniang Bayan, uniformed personnel, barangay chairpersons, Farmers, Fisherfolks, IP Leaders, Subanen Community, NGOs, and other representatives from the national and local governments, and civil society. ###

## RCI-TWG BICOL REGION HOSTS TWO MAJOR NCI-SRD EVENTS

By: Jayson Gonzales, RCI TWG Bicol

The Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) Bicol Region hosted two important events of the National Convergence Initiative for Sustainable Rural Development (NCI-SRD) in the last quarter of 2022---The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Learning Activity for Pili Watershed Convergence Area on October 25-28, 2022 in Sorsogon and the NCI-SRD FY 2022 Year-End Assessment and FY 2024 Operational Planning on November 22-25, 2022 in Legazpi City.

The M&E learning activity aimed to test the Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME) Tool created by the Knowledge Management Component Working Group.

DA Bicol Regional Technical Director for Research and Regulations and RCI TWG Bicol Focal Person Dr. Edgar R. Madrid, the CADP for Castilla, Sorsogon will end this year 2022 but urged the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Agrarian Reform (DAR) to continue what was started.

Castilla Municipal Administrator Atty. Marlyn Valino expressed the gratitude of the municipal government to the convergence agencies for the continuous support and interventions being given to the CADP areas which created a positive impact on the lives and livelihood of the residents.

Participants in the four-day event include section heads and staff of LGU-Castilla, NCI, and representatives of DA, DAR and DENR.

*“created a positive impact on the lives and livelihood of the residents”*





The four-day National 2022 Year-End Assessment and 2024 Operational Planning (YEAOP) discussed the accomplishments of NCI and RCI for the year and reviewed the commitments for 2023 and its future in 2024.

Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Infrastructure and NCI-SRD Permanent Alternate Chairperson Zamzamin Ampatuan represented by Mr. Luis Bibal recognized the commitment of convergence agencies from the national level down to the regional level which contributed to laudable accomplishments and positive impacts in the lives of the beneficiaries.

The strategy is an essential step in enhancing and improving the delivery of government services to the CADP areas.

DENR Bicol Legal Division Chief Atty. Joshua Armenta conveyed the support of their agency to NCI-SRD.

Madrid stressed the need to strategize and craft an approach to result in timely and appropriate interventions for the beneficiaries.

The workshop was participated in by representatives of DA, DENR, DILG, and DAR from the national and regional levels. ###



Participants in the YEAOP

## EXPANSION OF WATER LINES DISTRIBUTION – SAN JOSE, TARLAC

By: Jeric Marchito, RCI TWG Central Luzon

San Jose, Tarlac is a municipality in the province of Tarlac, considering the population projected by the 2020 census was 2.74%. The estimated water availability is decreasing due to increasing population and industrialization. However, the government has addressed this dilemma through the project entitled, “Expansion of Water Lines Distribution – San Jose, Tarlac” with an allotment of Eleven Million Two Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand and Seventy-Seven Pesos (Php 11, 294,077.00).

The said project was given 150 calendar days, commenced on December 27, 2019, and has completed last July 2, 2021

Water is pumped from the reservoir through vast underground pipes, commonly referred to as primary feeders, underneath the streets in urban and suburban regions. The arrangement of tributaries in a river system can be compared to the water mains. The water mains keep branching into progressively smaller pipes until they enter a house or other building and pass through a water meter. The mains and the pipelines must be buried beneath the surface to prevent freezing.

Most water is consumed in residences or educational facilities. It enters a sewer system after draining through drainpipes. Bacteria progressively consume the solids in the sewage, which results in the development of sludge. Specialized vehicles pump out the sludge tank's bottom.

Groundwater leaks are widespread as an outcome of the wastewater entering underground pipes after it leaves the tank.

In contrast to municipal water systems, municipal sewer systems collect used water and transmit it through a labyrinth of underground sewer pipes to a central treatment plant. The level of treatment provided by sewage treatment facilities varies. Some only filter the solid materials, nothing more. Others use multiple phases of filtration to create water that is safe to drink from sewage. The cleaned sewage is typically dumped back into the river, lake, or ocean or spread out on the ground to soak up. Some locations still allow the direct discharge of "raw sewage," also known as untreated sewage, into rivers, lakes, and the ocean.

***“9,665 households in the municipality now have access to clean water”***



Engr. Jeremy Diola checking the premises of the area



Engr. Abegail Orcino on the site visitation of the SALINTUBIG 2020 Project

Water used in households and schools evaporatively loses some of its volumes. When water flows to a big area, such as while washing floors or paving or when watering a lawn or garden, a preponderance of the evaporation takes place.

The 9,665 households in the aforementioned municipality now have access to clean water as an outcome of the project's completion. Given the time saved by not having to trek far to get water or wait in queue at the source, finding a supply of water is no longer an issue. The citizens of San Jose, Tarlac, are no longer faced with this problem, which was a major thorn. ###

## RCI-BICOL CONVENES TO ASSESS CADP AREAS IN CASTILLA, SORSOGON

By: Jayson Gonzales, RCI TWG Bicol



**L**EGAZPI CITY---“Despite the limitation of the pandemic for two years, we have not failed to bring in our services to the CADP areas of Castilla, Sorsogon.”

This was the message of the Department of Agriculture-5 Regional Technical Director for Research and Regulations and RCI TWG 5 Focal Person Dr. Edgar R. Madrid when he convened the Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) for Sustainable Rural

DENR Bicol Protected Area Superintendent of Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape Ma. Rosa Vida C. Onrubia urges the members of RCI Bicol to work together---The whole is greater than the summary of its parts

Development in Bicol last August 4, 2022, at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR- Bicol).

Madrid also urged the scholars with a degree in Master in Public Management, Major in Rural Development (MPMRD) to assist the RCI in developing tools to assess the needs of the beneficiaries in the CADP areas especially the Talisay River CADP is being crafted already.

“We should still do our best to be visible in all our projects and be deeply involved in the implementation of our projects to the beneficiaries,” Madrid said.



Mr. Florentino Ubalde, DA RCI TWG Bicol shares the challenges during the pandemic

During the meeting, the regional offices of DA, DENR, Departments of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and Agrarian Reform (DAR) presented updates on their projects and interventions to the CADP areas which included the provision of vegetable seeds and seedlings of fruit-bearing and forest trees like Narra, training on agro-entrepreneurship, Small Water Impounding projects in Dulangan watershed, SalinTubig project, and assistance during barangay assemblies.

Madrid underscored the need of sustaining these interventions despite the completion of the five-year CADP this year.

Upcoming activities before 2022 ends include training on SALT Phase 2 and Watershed Characterization (DENR), Agri-Enterprise (DAR), and Oyster Mushroom Production (DA).

“*Sama-sama tayo dapat sa mga initiatives dahil the whole is greater than the summary of its parts*”, concluded DENR-5 Protected Area Superintendent of Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape Ma. Rosa Vida C. Onrubia. ###

## RCI TWG MIMAROPA FINALIZES THE MAG-ASAWANG TUBIG CONVERGENCE AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN AS ITS FIRST CONVERGENCE AREA

By: RCI TWG MIMAROPA

**O**RIENTAL MINDORO, November 2022 – The Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI-TWG) which acts as the regional arm in carrying out the functions of the National Steering Committee (NSC), spearheaded the training workshop on the finalization of the Mag-asawang Tubig Watershed Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP).

The activity was conducted last November 23 to 25, 2022 at RAMADA Manila Central, Binondo, City of Manila. This was participated by 24 participants from the regional field office in MIMAROPA of the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), together with the attendees from the Mindoro State University (MinSU), Provincial Government of Oriental Mindoro, and Local Government Unit of Victoria, Oriental Mindoro.

The participants from the convergence agencies, LGU, and academe deliberated and discussed the draft CADP of the Mag-asawang Tubig Watershed located in Victoria, Oriental Mindoro during the said training workshop. The activity aimed to refine and finalize the draft CADP of the Mag-asawang Tubig Watershed as the first convergence area of the MIMAROPA Region. This initiative is pursuant to and in compliance with the NCI-SRD Joint Resolution No. 03 series of 2018 Adopting the “One Convergence Area per Region” Policy.

The participants enthusiastically shared their thoughts during the discussions and actively participated throughout the workshop. Their desire to launch the Mag-asawang Tubig Watershed Convergence Area by 2023 was strengthened and solidified. Each participant agreed to contribute their full effort and support to achieve their goal of launching the first CADP in the MIMAROPA Region.



Mag-asawang Tubig River Basin



RCI TWG MIMAROPA

This workshop marked the beginning of a remarkable cooperation between the members of the RCI TWG, MinSU, Provincial Government of Oriental Mindoro, and LGU Victoria, Oriental Mindoro. This workshop also paved the way for the finalization of the Convergence Area Development Plan for the Mag-asawang Tubig Watershed.

This activity was materialized through the financial support of the DENR Human Resource Development Service Central Office. ###

***“to contribute their full effort and support to achieve their goal of launching the first CADP in the MIMAROPA Region”***

## DENR BICOL CONDUCTS SALT 2 TRAINING AT THE PILI WATERSHED CONVERGENCE AREA

By: Jayson Gonzales, RCI TWG Bicol



Participants and Facilitators of the SALT 2 Training

Castro, and Norlee B. Pasague from the DENR Bicol Region served as lecturers during the training.

Municipal Administrator Atty. Marlyn Valino urged the participants to implement their learnings from the training because aside from restoring and preserving the environment, this will also strengthen the advocacy of Municipal Mayor Isagani B. Mendoza in making Castilla an agri-eco-tourism and industrial town of the province of Sorsogon. ###

### NCI-SRD WELCOMES ITS NEW LEADERS

By: Justine Devela, National Secretariat

Under the new administration, the National Steering Committee, the National Technical Working Group and the Head of the National Secretariat were designated. Thus, the NCI-SRD looks forward to the progress of the strategy with the support and directives of its leaders.

#### National Steering Committee (NSC)

The Department of Agriculture (DA) is represented by His Excellency Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. He is permanently represented by Senior Undersecretary Domingo F. Panganiban and alternately represented by Undersecretary Zamzamin L. Ampatuan, CESO I, the Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Infrastructure.

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) is represented by Secretary Conrado Estrella III and is alternately represented by Undersecretary Milagros Isabel Cristobal, the Undersecretary for Support Services Office.

**C**ASTILLA, Sorsogon – “Any activity in the upland will affect the coastal and downland areas.” This was the message of the Department of Agriculture Bicol Regional Technical Director for Research and Regulations and Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) Focal Person, Dr. Edgar R. Madrid, to more than 20 participants from the 13 barangays included in the Convergence Area Development Plan (CADP), and representatives from the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) Sorsogon during the conduct of the Training/Orientation: Introduction to SALT 2 – Its Concept and Importance last November 10 to 11, 2022.

The Sloping Area Land Technology 2 (Simple Agro-Livestock Technology) is a combination of agriculture, forestry and livestock production with 40% livestock, 40% food and cash crops, and 20% Agro-Forestry. According to PENRO Sorsogon Forester Tito R. Migo, the training

Barangay Poblacion Barangay Agriculture and Fishery Worker Juan Martin Hermida shared that in their area, farmers are still practicing traditional farming or monocropping. With this training, he will be able to encourage his fellow farmers that from hedgerows and grassy strips, they can produce firewood and animal feed; plant fruit trees, corn, peanut; and raise livestock animals such as goats.

Topics discussed during the two-day activity include The State of Agriculture in the Philippines, The SALT 2 Philosophy and Rationale, Basic Concepts and Principles for Adopting the SALT 2 System, Importance of SALT Incorporating with Nitrogen-Fixing Hedge Plants, SALT 2 in Settled Farm, Introduction to Small Agro-Livestock Land Technology (SALT) 2, Characteristic Features of SALT 2, and Steps in Establishing SALT 2. Foresters Jocel Ann N. Macale, Sunshine L. Ocfemia, Dannelyn D.



HIS EXCELLENCY FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.



SECRETARY CONRADO ESTRELLA III



SECRETARY MA. ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA



SECRETARY BENJAMIN ABALOS, JR.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is represented by Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga and is alternately represented by Undersecretary Jonas Leones, CESO I, the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government is represented by Secretary Benjamin Abalos, Jr. and is alternately represented by Undersecretary Marlo Iringan, CESO III, the Undersecretary for Local Government.

**National Technical Working Group (NTWG)**

The NTWG is headed by the National Focal Person, Assistant Secretary Arnel V. De Mesa, CESO III, the Assistant Secretary for

Operations of the DA. The Deputy National Focal Person is Director Gina Nilo, PhD of the DA Bureau of Soils and Water Management. The Policy and Advocacy Component Working Group (CWG) is chaired by OIC Director Melinda Capistrano of the DENR Policy and Planning Service. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Enterprise Cluster and Business Development CWG is chaired by OIC Director Junibert de Sagun of the DA Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service. The Capacity Development CWG is chaired by OIC Director Remelyn Recoter, CESO III of the DA Agricultural Training Institute.

Finally, Ms. Karen Kristine Roscom, PhD is designated as the Head of the National Secretariat. ###



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The NCI-SRD Digest is a semi-annual newsletter of the NCI-SRD. It is an avenue to present the success stories and accomplishments of the different Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) to the general public.



**CONVERGENCE WORKS!**