



2021

***Regional Nutrition
Awarding Ceremony***

MIMAROPA REGION

*The Oracle Hotel and Residences
23 November 2021*



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
MIMAROPA REGION



Message

In response to the nutritional problems in the MIMAROPA region, the Regional Nutrition Committee recognizes the need for a comprehensive and multi-stakeholder plan to address all forms of malnutrition, hence, the formulation of the Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition to guide our local government units in the delivery of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in the community.

The Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) is conducted annually to monitor the implementation of nutrition programs in the local level and monitor the performance of our local nutrition workers. This activity also serves as a platform to facilitate a fruitful exchange of new and innovative ideas and information about public health nutrition.

As Chair of the Regional Nutrition Committee, I would like to congratulate the National Nutrition Council MIMAROPA for the successful conduct of this years' MELLPI, and express my gratitude towards all our nutrition stakeholders and partners, especially our local nutrition workers who showed exemplary contributions in the implementation of nutrition programs in our communities. This Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony will encourage our partners to continuously work hand in hand in terms of providing quality health and nutrition services in the region.

Our commitment and collective effort to address all forms of malnutrition will have a great impact not just on the betterment of our region, but mainly for better health and nutrition of every MIMAROPAns.

Thank you and Congratulations!

DR. MARIO S. BAQUILOD, MPH, CESO IV
Regional Director and
Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee
Department of Health
MIMAROPA



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
National Nutrition Council



Message

My warmest greetings to all nutrition champions of MIMAROPA Region who will be recognized during the 2021 Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony. We celebrate all local government units and nutrition workers who have shown exemplary performance in nutrition program management in the region. Despite various public health crises that we are experiencing, I laud the resilience of the people and the untiring response from local government units.

This is the first time that we are recognizing outstanding local nutrition focal points – our nutrition action officers, district and city nutrition program coordinators for their hard work and commitment in managing nutrition programs in their respective areas of assignment.

Do all of you know that the region has produced five (5) Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) Awardees; and three (3) National Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars 3 since the MELLPI was revived in 1997? And for this year, with 2019 as the year being evaluated, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro and Roxas, Oriental Mindoro have contenders for the NOBNS and C/MNAO of the year, respectively. They are also vying for 1st year CROWN Maintenance Award and Nutrition Honor Award (NHA), respectively.

I am then challenging the region to continue producing more of these LGUs and local nutrition focal points who are crucial in nutrition program implementation, especially during these trying times. We want more high-performing LGUs and nutrition focal points that can respond to the needs of its people and reduce their malnutrition rate.

This coming 2022, with the implementation of Executive Order 138, in light of the Mandanas-Garcia Supreme Court Ruling, I believe that more can still be done at the local level. The share from the national tax allocation of the LGUs will be increased for the full devolution of services, including health and nutrition. The LGUs will now have increased responsibilities in the implementation of programs in their respective areas, and we hope that you invest in nutrition and keeping it as one of your priorities.

Each one of us has a part – a role in improving the nutrition situation of our constituents. NNC commits, and I hope you also do, to continue and scale up efforts in providing the needed assistance and resources to mobilize our people in working for nutrition improvement. Let's all work together toward our common goal of ending all forms of malnutrition.

Again, congratulations to our awardees! Congratulations to MIMAROPA Region! Mabuhay ang mga Nutrition Champions! Daghang Salamat sa inyong tanan!

AZUCENA M. DAYANGHIRANG, MD, MCH, CESO III
Assistant Secretary and Executive Director
National Nutrition Council



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
National Nutrition Council
MIMAROPA REGION



Message

It is with great pride and honor that I congratulate all the awardees in this year's Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony.

The National Nutrition Council MIMAROPA and the whole regional nutrition community once again celebrate with our new champions – our Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Outstanding Nutrition Action Officer (NAO) and Outstanding Nutrition Program Coordinator (NPC). Likewise, we will also be recognizing today local government unit who were able to sustain a decrease in the stunting and wasting prevalence over the past three years.

Our Nutrition Champions who will be recognized today for their exemplary performance are living testimonies that everything is possible if there is strong political will, sustained collaborative actions and strong desire to make a difference in the lives of our children. Indeed, we can fight malnutrition in our region.

It is my ardent hope that there will be more nutrition champions in MIMAROPA who will inspire others to scale up nutrition actions and “push” the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) forward.

I would also want to express my sincerest thanks and appreciation to all local chief executives and their local nutrition committees, nutrition action officers, nutrition program coordinators, barangay nutrition scholars and other health and nutrition workers as well as nutrition partners in the region for their cooperation and unending support to the many endeavors of the region.

Let's continue to work together for nutrition improvement. *Sa PPAN, panalo ang Bayan!*

To our Nutrition Champions, *Mabuhay po kayong lahat!*

MA. EILEEN B. BLANCO
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator,
Officer-in-Charge
National Nutrition Council
MIMAROPA



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
MIMAROPA REGION



Message

This year, the Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team has conducted the Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) to the 5 provinces and 2 cities of MIMAROPA for the 2019 implementation of nutrition programs and assess the performances of our local nutrition workers for this year's search for the Outstanding Local Nutrition Workers in the Region.

As chair of the Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team, I would like to commend all our Local Nutrition Workers for their unwavering commitment in upholding the right of our children to good health and proper nutrition and for the effective implementation of their respective local nutrition action plans. I would also like to express my gratitude towards all the members of the RNET; even though this is our first ever virtual MELLPI, we were able to help identify issues and concerns, recommend necessary actions, interventions and strategies, and provide additional knowledge and skills to our partners in the local government for the ultimate improvement of our nutrition programs and services for our fellow MIMAROPAns.

I hope that our beloved children in MIMAROPA will continue to serve as our inspiration to pursue higher standards in the delivery of health and nutrition programs and services to our communities.

Congratulations to all our Nutrition Champions in MIMAROPA!

MARK ANGELO R. LORENZO
Nutritionist-Dietitian IV and
Chair, Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team
Department of Health
MIMAROPA



Republic of the Philippines
Provincial Government of Marinduque
Office of the Governor
Boac, Marinduque



Message

My warmest greetings to everyone involved in this year's Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony. I wish to congratulate all the MIMAROPA nutrition movers, champions, and supporters.

It gives us great pride that the National Nutrition Council recognizes the hard work of our local nutrition workers in strengthening health and nutrition systems in the LGUs. We always welcome your assistance in resolving issues involving access to health facilities, information and medicines, and the efficiency of programs and service delivery.

We all have a crucial role to play to reverse the negative effects of malnutrition on our future generations. We cannot stress enough the gravity of the situation in our country when we talk about the well-being of our infants and our youth.

We at the LGU try our best to always promote participation and improved health and nutrition-seeking behavior in our communities. Our commitment to provide our nutrition workers with the necessary support will not falter.

I hope that all of us will do our part and continue to inspire our people to live healthy lifestyles. Being health-conscious starts at home. Our children are the best imitators, and what they see the adults doing, they will emulate. Let us continue to provide better guidance to new mothers so their infants will grow healthy and lead better lives. Let us work hand-in-hand to end malnutrition.

Thank you very much. More power!

PRESBITERO J. VELASCO JR.
Governor and
Chair, Provincial Nutrition Committee
Province of Marinduque



Republic of the Philippines
Provincial Government of Romblon
Office of the Governor
Romblon



Message

To get our healthiest in all aspects makes life even more worth living, especially in these times of uncertainties – pandemic. Congratulations to Nutrition Champions and top performers. Your exemplary and useful contributions to nutrition program implementations deserve to be recognized.

One world is not just a call of times but a REALITY which we should realize everyday. Such is only achievable when we all collaborate.

Praying and really hoping that as we face the NEW NORMAL World, prioritizing our health would be part of our reflex. Be healthy – in mind, body and soul.

The good force be with us all!

JOSE R. RIANO
Governor and
Chair, Provincial Nutrition Committee
Province of Romblon



Republic of the Philippines
Provincial Government of Palawan
Office of the Governor
Capitol Complex, Puerto Princesa City



Message

My warmest congratulations to all the outstanding local government units and nutrition workers who are recipients of the Virtual Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony (RNAC) for the year 2019.

The Provincial Government of Palawan is one with the National Nutrition Council (NNC) in cascading its mandate of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of nutrition programs at the local level in consonance with the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN 2017-2022)—the country's blueprint for nutrition.

The annual conduct of the Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) to LGUs aims to ascertain the progress of implementation of PPAN priorities and identify action lines for the improvement of such programs.

The Provincial Government of Palawan recognizes the recurring problem on malnutrition across the country, especially among young children and women. With the COVID-19 pandemic still in place, it is expected that the malnutrition situation will worsen in the country if there are no interventions from the concerned LGUs and other stakeholders.

Based on the 2019 Monitoring and Evaluation of NNC MIMAROPA, select LGUs and nutrition workers emerged for their outstanding performance in supporting the nutrition programs of the region and cascading it to their respective localities.

On behalf of the Provincial Government of Palawan, I commend all the recipients of this year's awarding ceremony for being champions of advancing nutrition programs. Your contributions are manifestation of our collective efforts to combat malnutrition in the country and bring pragmatic developments in the field of nutrition.

Moreover, may this activity serve as inspiration to all our participants and stakeholders to put premium on addressing nutrition and recognize it as an integral part of the health of our communities.

JOSE C. ALVAREZ

Governor and
Chair, Provincial Nutrition Committee
Province of Palawan



Republic of the Philippines
City Government of Calapan
Office of the Mayor
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro



Message

The promotion of nutrition is one of the vital human development programs that the government at all levels and its partners must pursue with vigor and firm commitment. The improvement of the nutritional status of infants and children from 0 to 7 years will ensure their physical, mental, and emotional well-being that will enable them to become productive citizens in the future. Investing in the nutrition of our infants and young children is investing not only in their individual lives but in the future of the nation as well.

Malnutrition has pernicious effects in the lives of infants and children. Studies have proven conclusively that malnutrition leaves permanent damage to the physical and mental development of the young. Those who are deprived of proper nutrition at the critical formative years become underweight or physically stunted. Their mental faculties are also impaired making them incapable of learning when they reach school age. As a result, they will drop out school upon reaching Grades 2 and 3. Lack of education makes them poor and unproductive. When they produce children, their extreme poverty makes them unable to provide for the proper sustenance for their own children. Thus, malnutrition and poverty are perpetuated in the next generations.

This inter-generational poverty caused by malnutrition can be ended by a sustained and focused nutrition program targeting the vulnerable segment of our young population. The promotion of proper nutrition among infants and young children will assure their physical and mental development and make them productive and competitive citizens in the future. In this case, the strength and vitality of the Filipino Nation is secured. We can break the vicious cycle of malnutrition and poverty. This is what the nutrition action plan of the City of Calapan aims to accomplish as its contribution in nation building through proper nutrition.

In the implementation of our nutrition action plan, I recognize the indispensable role of our Barangay Nutrition Scholars. They are in the forefront of our war against malnutrition. They are frontliners and our heroes in the battle to fight malnutrition and end poverty. To our BNSs, my salutations!

Isulong natin and tamang nutrisyon ng mga bata para sa pagtatayo ng isang bansang malakas at matatag!

ARNAN C. PANALIGAN

Mayor and

Chair, Municipal Nutrition Committee

City of Calapan

Introduction

Annually, the NNC together with its partner agencies, conducts the Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) to local government units and its local nutrition workers. For this year, NNC MIMAROPA has conducted the monitoring and evaluation to its 5 provinces and 1 highly urbanized city for the 2019 nutrition program implementation and to the local nutrition workers which includes the Provincial Nutrition Action Officers, Provincial Outstanding Municipal Nutrition Action Officers, Provincial Outstanding Local Nutrition Program Coordinators and Provincial/ City Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic causing suspension of monitoring and evaluation activities, NNC MIMAROPA and its Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team adopted the online mode of MELLPI Pro to still perform its duty in measuring the contribution of the LGUs to the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022 targets and outcomes.

Despite the challenges and limitations brought by the pandemic, the adoption of virtual platform facilitated the evaluation process where necessary recommendations are given to guide policy and decision-makers in enhancing their nutrition products, services and delivery systems towards improved effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

To culminate the evaluation activity, a Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony (RNAC) for Year 2019 will be held to honor and recognize the outstanding local government units and nutrition workers in the field of nutrition. This activity is also an opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to nutrition champions and supporters in the region who in one way or the other have contributed to the implementation of the nutrition program in the region.

Program of Activities

	ACTIVITY	PERSON/S INVOLVED
12:45	Registration	
1:00	Preliminaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invocation • National Anthem • MIMAROPA Hymn 	
1:15	Recognition of Awardees, Guests and Participants	Ms. Maria Camille Louise C. Chen <i>Nutrition Officer III</i> NNC MIMAROPA
1:30	Welcome and Opening Message	Dr. Mario S. Baquilod, MPH, CESO IV <i>Regional Director</i> <i>Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee</i> Center for Health and Development - MIMAROPA
	Inspirational Message	Dr. Azucena M. Dayanghirang, MCH, CESO III <i>Assistant Secretary and Executive Director</i> National Nutrition Council
	Special Message	Hon. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco <i>House Speaker of the 18th Congress</i> House of Representatives
	Keynote Message	Usec. Roger P. Tong-An, DMPA, MAN, RN <i>Undersecretary of Health</i> Field Implementation and Coordination Team (Central and South Luzon) and Malasakit Program Office Department of Health
2:15	Intermission	Ms. Rita Santa L. Turla & Ms. Crizalyn Caulan <i>Nutrition Month First 1000 Days Tiktok Challenge</i> Gloria, Oriental Mindoro
2:30	Awarding Ceremony Provincial Nutrition Action Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top-performing PNAO • Runner-Up 	Ms. Rubi C. Apiag PNAO, Marinduque Ms. Rachel T. Paladan PNAO, Palawan

Program of Activities

ACTIVITY

PERSON/S INVOLVED

2:30

City/Municipal Action Officer

- Regional Outstanding Municipal/City Nutrition Action Officer of the Year
- 1st Runner-Up
- 2nd Runner-Up
- Finalists

Dr. Leonor N. Daite
Roxas, Oriental Mindoro

Ms. Giselle Pearl A. Olympia
Boac, Marinduque

Mr. Nigel G. David
Odiongan, Romblon

Ms. Rowena G. Nerona
Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro
Mr. Rodrigo A. Cipriano, Jr.
San Vicente, Palawan

District/City Nutrition Program Coordinator

- Regional Outstanding District/City Nutrition Program Coordinator of the Year
- 1st Runner-Up
- 2nd Runner-Up
- Finalists

Ms. Ma. Imee A. Celestino
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Ms. Maureen F. Leyco
Marinduque

Ms. Merly F. Bayang
Romblon Province

Ms. Mila T. Veneranda
Palawan
Mr. Rafaelito Delos Santos
Puerto Princesa City

Barangay Nutrition Scholars

- Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar
- 1st Runner-Up
- 2nd Runner-Up
- 3rd Runner-Up
- Finalists

Ms. Maricel B. Mañibo
Sta. Isabel, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Ms. Rejina C. Caunca
Tabugon, Sta. Fe, Romblon

Ms. Mary Jane B. Valledor
Alimanguan, San Vicente, Palawan

Ms. Rebecca M. Ruga
Paclasan, Roxas, Oriental Mindoro

Ms. Ofelia C. Collado
San Francisco, Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro

Ms. Maricel L. Dela Cruz
Quatro, Buenavista, Marinduque

Ms. Gina A. Taghap
Babuyan, Puerto Princesa City

Program of Activities

	ACTIVITY	PERSON/S INVOLVED
	Special Awards	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGUs with Sustained Reduction of Stunting and Wasting from 2017-2019 	Marinduque Province Romblon Province Palawan Province
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post humorous Recognition 	Ms. Corazon P. Rius <i>District Nutrition Program Coordinator</i> (1987-2021) Marinduque
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition to Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team 	
3:15	Intermission	Ms. Ma. Johnna Ver S. Valencia, RND <i>Nutritionist-Dietitian II</i> Department of Health - Oriental Mindoro
3:20	Responses	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top-Performing Provincial Nutrition Action Officer of the Year 	Ms. Rubi C. Apiag PNAO, Marinduque
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Outstanding City/Municipal Nutrition Action Officer of the Year 	Dr. Leonor N. Daite Roxas, Oriental Mindoro
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Outstanding District/City Nutrition Program Coordinator of the Year 	Ms. Ma. Imee A. Celestino Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar of the Year 	Ms. Maricel B. Mañibo Sta. Isabel, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
4:00	Closing Message	Ms. Ma. Eileen B. Blanco, RND, MPA <i>Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator</i> OIC, NNC MIMAROPA

Ms. Maria Camille Louise C. Chen
MASTER OF CEREMONIES

List of Awardees

PROVINCIAL NUTRITION ACTION OFFICER



Ms. Rubi C. Apiag
Marinduque
*Top-performing Provincial Nutrition
Action Officer*



Ms. Rachel T. Paladan
Palawan
Runner-Up

CITY/MUNICIPAL ACTION OFFICER



Dr. Leonor N. Daite
Roxas, Oriental Mindoro
Regional Outstanding Municipal Nutrition Action Officer of the Year



Ms. Giselle Pearl A. Olympia
Boac, Marinduque
1st Runner-Up



Mr. Nigel G. David
Odiongan, Romblon
2nd Runner-Up



Ms. Rowena G. Nerona
Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro
Finalist



Mr. Rodrigo A. Cipriano, Jr.
San Vicente, Palawan
Finalist

List of Awardees

DISTRICT/CITY NUTRITION PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Ms. Ma. Imee A. Celestino
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
Regional Outstanding District/City Nutrition Action Officer of the Year



Ms. Maureen F. Leyco
Marinduque
1st Runner-Up



Ms. Merly F. Bayang
Romblon Province
2nd Runner-Up



Ms. Mila T. Veneranda
Palawan
Finalist



Mr. Rafaelito Delos Santos
Puerto Princesa City
Finalist

List of Awardees

BARANGAY NUTRITION SCHOLARS



Ms. Maricel B. Mañibo
Brgy. Sta. Isabel, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
Regional Outstanding Barangay Scholar of the Year



Ms. Rejina C. Caunca
Brgy. Tabugon, Sta. Fe, Romblon
1st Runner-Up



Ms. Mary Jane B. Valledor
Brgy. Alimanguan, San Vicente, Palawan
2nd Runner-Up



Ms. Rebecca M. Ruga
Brgy. Paclasan, Roxas, Oriental Mindoro
3rd Runner-Up



Ms. Ofelia C. Collado
Brgy. San Francisco, Sablayan,
Occidental Mindoro
Finalist



Ms. Maricel L. Dela Cruz
Brgy. Quatro, Buenavista,
Marinduque
Finalist



Ms. Gina A. Taghap
Brgy. Babuyan,
Puerto Princesa City
Finalist

List of Awardees

SPECIAL AWARDS

LGUs with Sustained Reduction of Stunting and Wasting from 2017-2019



Marinduque



Romblon



Palawan

POST HUMOUS RECOGNITION



Ms. Corazon P. Rius †
District Nutrition Program Coordinator
Marinduque Province
34 Years in Service



Local Nutrition Worker Awardees

Top Performing Provincial Nutrition Action Officer

RUBI C. APIAG

Department Head, Provincial Nutrition Office
Province of Marinduque

Ms. Rubi C. Apiag has been in the nutrition service for a total of 39 years since 1982. At present, she is the Provincial Nutrition Action Officer (PNAO) and Department Head of the Provincial Nutrition Office of the Province of Marinduque.

As a licensed Nutritionist-Dietitian, PNAO Apiag's heart has dwelled in becoming a nutrition worker, especially in serving the underprivileged and malnourished children. This started when she was a BS Nutrition college student in Cebu City. According to her, this has become her turning point in developing her passion to serve.

With those things in mind, she continued her journey in the field of nutrition and applied to a position at the Department of Social Welfare and Development Region IV and got assigned in Marinduque, and later became the District Nutrition Program Coordinator of the Province. As a coordinator, she gained experience working with different nutrition action officers (NAO), barangay nutrition scholars (BNS) and even national government agencies (NGAs) and non-governmental offices (NGOs) as well. She was able to have hands-on experience on conducting weighing and monitoring visits, provision of supplementary feeding, conduct of lectures to mothers and to all individual in the barangays.

With her experience, she can say activities such as meeting and coordinating with different personalities including the governor/mayors, treasurers, barangay captains, and other key personalities were instrumental especially in helping to secure budget and adopt local policy thru ordinance and adoption of nutrition laws & policies.

As a long-time nutrition advocate, she helped in improving the nutrition situation of the province through putting up of the Food Processing Hub, where complementary foods for 6-23 months old children are locally-produced and given free of charge to help improve nutritionally at-risk 6-23 months old children. The distribution of complementary foods such as nutrimarinaya is coupled with the promotion of proper infant and young child feeding breastfeeding by MNIYCF peer counselors in the barangays as advisers. Other LGUs were also procuring complementary foods produced by the Food Processing Hub, so it can be considered as an

enterprise as well, where proceeds are remitted to the Provincial Treasurers Office for additional general fund of the province.

During her 39 years of government service as a Nutrition Worker, the biggest challenge that she had encountered was the high prevalence of malnutrition in 2010 specifically the underweight & severely underweight preschool children at 11.56%. Thankfully, through multiple efforts, this rate has declined to 4.95% this 2021. Some measured that she spearheaded were reviewing of the PNAP, MNAPs, & BNAPs to see what items need to be prioritized. With the promotion of the RA 11738, breastfeeding promotion & MNIYCF organized peer counselors, the prevalence rate has greatly improved.

Partnering with other organizations was also instrumental, according to PNAO Apiag. The PNO established coordination with the Diocese of Boac, a non-governmental organization who gave commitments which are visible and are so much appreciated together with all stakeholders from the provincial down to the barangay levels.

PNAO Apiag wishes to express her heartfelt gratitude to the Provincial Nutrition Office family for being so supportive in all the plans and programs, especially to the ever supportive Governor Presbitero J. Velasco Jr. and Chairman, Provincial Nutrition Committee, Sangguniang Panlalawigan, MNCs, BNCs, NNC MIMAROPA for giving us more budgets for our programs/plans, down to the Mayors, SB Members, Barangay Captains & Officials, for the unending support for nutrition.





Local Nutrition Worker Awardees

Regional Outstanding Municipal Nutrition Action Officer

DR. LEONOR N. DAITE

Municipal Nutrition Action Officer

Municipality of Roxas

Oriental Mindoro

Dr. Leonor M. Nuñez-Daite, MPH, CFP, is the Municipal Health Officer (MHO) and also designated as Municipal Nutrition Action Officer (MNAO) of the Municipality of Roxas, Oriental Mindoro. She started her journey as MNAO since June 1, 1995.

At first, she worked as a resident physician of Roxas District Hospital (RDH) for four years from August 1987 and eventually transferred to the Rural Health Unit as Municipal Health Officer for almost three decade now (1991 to date). Roxas then is one of the worst performers in Oriental Mindoro. She had instilled improvements and worked harder together with the other health and nutrition staff and other stakeholders. Through her leadership, they were able to uplift and boost the local health system. All these endeavors and undertakings were recognized by the Municipal Mayor that time and on June 1, 1995, she was chosen and designated as the Municipal Nutrition Action Officer (MNAO). Local Nutrition Program at that point in time has no concrete, tangible, and distinct existing nutrition program implementation. She started from scratch with no structure, and even the knowledge and skills of the know-how to go about it. All she had that time on hand is that piece of paper of appointment. With perseverance, she started bit by bit, slowly but surely devised strategies, upgraded learning thru interviews, adopting and enhancing good practices of other performers and attending to trainings related to nutrition. Since then, she learned to love health and nutrition programs and has become her LIFE!

As a nutrition advocate, Dr. Daite realized that the key to one's success is creating a friendly environment, with open communication, links, particularly with all partners, members and stakeholders. Win their support, commitments and concerted efforts towards the attainment of goals in unified one direction is crucial and a means in improving the nutritional situation in our locality. An example of a success story is the creation of expanded Municipal Nutrition Committee wherein during an MNC meeting, all Chairmen of 20 barangays are included. They were able to communicate one-step ahead, share ideas, correspond with one another and easily resolve significant issues and concerns re: nutrition program implementation.

Program implementation in all aspects is not easy, not as smooth sailing or in accord with what one wished and desired. There are many challenges that one will be encountering along the way. What is important is to acknowledge one's shortcomings, find ways and means to further improve oneself so as to avoid committing the same misstep.

As a final message to her local co-nutrition workers, Dr. Daite believed that being in the nutrition service is not by chance and there is a greater reason behind it. "Not everybody was given the same opportunity to serve, so make the most of it. Keep up the good doings for better quality of life for everyone. For all the Local Chief Executives and other nutrition champions, continue your untiring support and commitment to the program and of course "MALASAKIT PARA SA LAHAT" with no reservations".





Local Nutrition Worker Awardees

Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator

MA. IMEE A. CELESTINO

City Nutrition Program Coordinator
City Health and Sanitation Department
City Government of Calapan

Ma. Imee A. Celestino, who has worked as the City Nutrition Program Coordinator in Calapan City for the past eight years, has been elected treasurer of the D/CNPCs Association of the Philippines - MiMaRoPa. She earned a bachelor's degree in nutrition and dietetics from Centro Escolar University - Mendiola. She was assigned at the Nutrition Section of the City Health and Sanitation Department of the City Government of Calapan. City Mayor Arnan C. Panaligan appointed her as City Nutrition Program Coordinator in 2013. She worked as a local nutritionist for years because she was passionate about using public health nutrition to enhance the nutritional status of the group's most vulnerable members. She attended trainings on a regular basis as a City Nutrition Program Coordinator so that she can readily communicate what she has learned about nutrition programs with her coworkers and, most importantly, all of Calapan City's Barangay Nutrition Scholars. These trainings continue to educate Barangay Nutrition Scholars, expanding their knowledge, skills, and values in order to help them deliver, promote, and monitor good nutrition and other health-related services in the barangay, particularly for the most vulnerable. She promotes nutrition education by conducting Nutrition Counseling, Pabasa sa Nutrition, the Infant and Young Child Feeding Program, and the First 1000 Days in the community with the Barangay Nutrition Scholars.

Calapan City has won two Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars, three Green Banner Awards in a run, and a National Crown Award for its nutrition efforts, thanks to the combined efforts of nutrition workers. With the assistance and cooperation of the City Mayor, Atty. Arnan C. Panaligan, the City Nutrition Committee, the 62 functioning Barangay Nutrition Committees, and the 62 dedicated Barangay Nutrition Scholars all worked together to achieve our Nutrition Mission: to eliminate malnutrition in the City of Calapan. Panalo ang Calapan sa PPAN!





Local Nutrition Worker Awardees

Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar

MARICEL B. MAÑIBO

Brgy. Sta. Isabel,

Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Ms. Maricel B. Mañibo is the Barangay Nutrition Scholar of Sta. Isabel, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro. She is also the Vice President of the Barangay Nutrition Scholar Federation - Calapan City Chapter. From 2013 up to the present, she has served as the Barangay Nutrition Scholar, appointed by former Barangay Chairperson Hon. Demetrio C. Tatlonghari. She was awarded as the Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar in 2018. As a Barangay Nutrition Scholar, she fulfills the three primary tasks of a BNS in the barangay: social marketer, social mobilizer, and linkage builder.

She renders nutrition and health services in all vulnerable group in their community along with the Sangguniang Barangay and Barangay Nutrition Committee spearheaded by Brgy. Chairperson Susana B. Vergara, that makes her motivated and committed in pursuing her goals to achieve zero prevalence rate of underweight to pre-schoolers, pregnant and lactating mothers. She successfully conducts Pabasa sa Nutrisyon and Infant and Young Child Feeding Program yearly, which is a big impact in the barangay as a nutrition education advocacy, not only mothers were participants but also the fathers of the undernourished children.

She initiates and prioritizes the "Hygiene Kit, Iwas Sakit Project" where undernourished children, Senior Citizens, Pregnant, Lactating mothers and selected 4Ps members are the beneficiaries which help them with their personal care and also during emergencies. She also started the project *Malunggay Sagip Buhay Program* which requires every household to plant malunggay trees which has high nutritional value and with health benefits. As a two-time awardee for being the Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar, she ensures to create more systematic implementation of Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition. I am a Volunteer! I am a Scholar! I am proud to be a Barangay Nutrition Scholar!



IGV Special Awards

MARINDUQUE

The Vision “A Nutritionally Healthy Marinduque guides the Provincial Nutrition Committee in fighting malnutrition. The PNC is strongly convinced that a well – nourished people will direct the community to progress and sustained development.

The collective effort of PNC, MNC and BNC of Marinduque have resulted in a better quality of life for their constituents. This is evidenced by the continued reduction in the prevalence of Stunting from 17.8% in 2017 to 10.3% in 2019 and in the prevalence of Wasting from 5.3% in 2017 to 3.4% in 2019.

The reduction would not have been possible if not for the sustained and improved implementation of the following provincial initiatives through convergence and partnership:

1. In support to RA 10028 & R.A 11148- Child Health & Nutrition in the First 1000 Days of Life. A local resolution adopting the said policies was implemented that led to the adopting the said policies was implemented that led to the establishment of lactations stations in some government, offices, municipalities and barangay halls/ health stations. The presence of community breastfeeding support groups and peer counsellors ensured the promotions of breastfeeding to pregnant women and lactating mothers. Breastfeeding advocates and mother clusters with mother leaders were organized to strengthened monitoring and support to lactating mothers. As a result, exclusive breastfeeding has improved with the early initiation of exclusive breastfeeding following the essential intrapartum & new born care protocol (UNANG YAKAP) & rooming in after delivery within the context of COVID 19
2. With DOH Dept. Memorandum 2020-0237, Interim Guidelines for the delivery of Nutrition Services in the Context of COVID 19 Pandemic. The delivery of essential nutrition services management of acute malnutrition, promotion & monitoring of a child’s growth & development and promotion of healthy diet for the prevention or management of non-communicable diseases (NCD’s), including overweight & obesity and promotion of hygiene & food safety.
3. To supplement food intake of children the Provincial Government allocated 2M budget for Dietary Supplementation of UW & SUW preschool children and supplementary feeding for 6-23 months.
4. The Provincial Nutrition Office also invested in building capacities of local nutrition workers by providing training like MNIYCF, Basic Course for Barangay Nutrition scholars, MNIYCF refresher course and monitoring.
5. Distribution of Nutribuns to School Children
6. Production of nutrient – dense food such as nutribun, nutrimix, choco oats, tutong, arrozcaldo etc. intended for malnourished children.
7. Conduct of nutrition education promotion and advocacies as main strategy in battling malnutrition.

All these initiatives marked with improved nutrition situation of the province.



LGU Special Awards

ROMBLON

Romblon Province – It's Strategies and Key programs in addressing Malnutrition

The Provincial Government of Romblon thru the Provincial Nutrition Committee (PNC) have implemented various beneficial programs to address the malnutrition problems which are also helpful in addressing the stunting and wasting prevalence in our locality. The national program of Operation Timbang (OPT) among 0-59 months preschool children (PS) is annually conducted to monitor their weight and height measurement and identify the malnourished PS that requires medical attention. Also the conduct of massive campaign on Exclusive Breastfeeding (no formula, juice or water) for six (6) months which is strongly recommended by most medical experts has always been advised by the nutrition workers to their targeted clientele through house visitation in their respective area of assignment. Concerned mothers benefitted much from this campaign as breastmilk provides the ideal nutrition for infants.

The annual conduct of Supplementary Feeding using the locally produced Nutrigold (Rice, Monggo, Sesame seeds) for the targeted stunted and severely stunted preschoolers (PS) of the Top Five (5) Nutritionally Depressed Municipalities (NDMs) and underweight and severely underweight preschoolers provincewide with an appropriation of P500,000.00 has been advantageous enough to help augment the daily food intake of the beneficiaries to prevent the severity of malnutrition among 6-23 months PS.

Moreover, the provision of baby's kit (includes baby soap, socks, baby dress and diapers) and multi-vitamins for the indigent pregnant women purposely to maintain good personal hygiene among the babies and support good health to the mothers during pregnancy until child's birth to ensure the development of normal and healthy babies.

Policy on untrained Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNSs) not eligible to receive the provincial counterpart allowances helped produce competent and efficient BNSs to a more effective nutrition program implementation in the municipal and the province as well. Another policy on incomplete submission of requirements has no release of the quarterly claims of BNSs and MNAOs favorably improved the prompt submission of nutrition records and reports of the same to facilitate its consolidation and submission to the National Nutrition Council and giving of honorariums and increase in their allowances boost the morale of the nutrition workers/implementers.

Such strategies and various programs implemented in our area may possibly inspire other LGUs to further their nutrition program implementation in their particular areas.



LGU Special Awards

PALAWAN

PALAWAN'S ACTIVE RESPONSE TO MALNUTRITION

PALAWAN— Hailed as the World's Best and Friendliest Island for its idyllic landscape and captivating sceneries. With its crystal-clear waters, stunning limestone formations, and amiable hospitality of the people, it is no wonder that Palawan has become a major tourist hub in the country. As the largest province in the Philippines, Palawan consists of 23 municipalities and 367 barangays, most of which are situated on remote islands.

In the past years, Palawan has been critically associated with high incidence of malnutrition and other health-related maladies plaguing the far-flung communities. The extremely vast geographical condition of Palawan makes it difficult for the local officials and health warriors to provide basic services to the vulnerable communities, especially children and pregnant women. In MIMAROPA, Palawan has consistently recorded a high Malnutrition Prevalence Rate (MPR) or malnourished children in the barangays.

These pressing circumstances have compelled the National Nutrition Council (NNC), under the Department of Health (DOH), and other government and non-government agencies, to take pragmatic steps to address this perennial challenge to uplift the health and nutrition status of Palaweno families.

HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Anchored on the mandate of DOH and NNC, the Palawan Provincial Nutrition Council under the Provincial Government of Palawan, was established to cascade the implementation of various programs and projects on nutrition at the local level. One of these is the Food Always in the Home (FAITH) Project which gives attention to barangays with high incidence of MPR.

FAITH project promotes sustainable development on agricultural programs in response to food security in every household through backyard gardening. Part of the project is the series of lecture-demonstration and workshop to all the parents who have recorded with malnourished children. The nutrition council conducts closed monitoring and evaluation.

The province of Palawan is also implementing Malnutrition Reduction Program across the province to address the nutritional needs in the marginalized sector. Under nutrition specific programs are micronutrient supplementation, deworming activity, complementary feeding program, mother's class nutrition education campaign, and Integrated Community Food Production which includes distribution of vegetable seeds as well as the implementation of the "Garantisadong Pambata Program."

The Provincial Government of Palawan under the able leadership of Gov. Jose Ch. Alvarez and Vice-Governor V. Dennis M. Socrates set a development agenda that focuses on the five pillars of development to alleviate the poverty incidence in the province. These are Infrastructure, Health, Education, Livelihood and Protection of the Environment or IHELP. The Health sector is geared in improving the health and nutritional status of the people especially in the far-flung and depressed communities in the province.

Part of the IHELP program is implementation of nutrition-sensitive projects. The Provincial Government has completed (57) water supply systems that serve thousands of households in the different barangays in Palawan in response to the need of safe and potable drinking water.

To provide opportunity to the local farmers in the province, the Provincial Government continues to improve facilities for socio-economic development including construction of farm-to-market roads, bridges, school buildings, hospitals, barangay health centres, seaports and airstrips that prioritized the transportation of agricultural products in the rural areas.

Through the initiative of Palawan leaders, the province has been a recipient of various huge projects from the national government such as the construction of Buliluyan Port in Bataraza that connects Palawan to destinations including Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines- East Asean Growth Area or BIMP-EAGA region, as well as Borac Port in Coron, and San Fernando Port in El Nido which has a great potential in promoting the agricultural industry in neighbouring provinces and towns.

LGV Special Awards

Livelihood opportunities are also provided to the underprivileged sectors in the rural areas. They are encouraged to plant Hybrid Napier Grass as food substitute for raising livestock instead of the commercial feeds sold in stores. This is a viable livelihood alternative to augment their meagre income. Livelihood programs for cacao, seaweeds, coconut, and corn are being offered to farmers to aid them in their livelihood to increase their income to provide basic needs to their families. According to Provincial Nutrition Action Officer (PNAO) Rachel Paladan, these efforts have resulted in good impact in the health and nutrition status of Palawan for the past five years.

“Maganda ang resulta ng ating OPT (Operation Timbang Plus) for the past five years kasi nakita natin na kahit papano ang unti-unting pagbaba ng MPR ng Palawa. Isa itong indikasyon na kahit papaano ay effective ang ating mga programa at inisyatibo sa mga barangay dahil prayoridad natin ang kalusugan ng bawat mamamayang Palaweño kung kaya’t kailangan talaga natin ang ibayong pagtutulungan katuwang ang iba’t ibang sektor ng lipunan upang matugunan ang problema sa malnutrisyon na ating kinakaharap ngayon.”

PNAO also shared data released from its Monitoring Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) report, from 8.49% MPR under Wasted and Severely Wasted category in 2017, it registered a decrease to 5.03% in 2021. As for the MPR under Underweight and Severely Underweight category, from 8.8% in 2017, it decreased to 7.01% in 2021. The data shows the improvement of local level program implementation in the municipalities down to the barangays.

Meanwhile, Palawan Vice-Governor Victorino Dennis M. Socrates assured to strengthen the advancement of policies that will support the campaign against malnutrition in Palawan especially during this time of the pandemic.

“Malnutrition has been a recurring problem in the country especially among children and women, with the COVID 19 pandemic still in place. It is expected the malnutrition situation will worsen in the country including Palawan. Through the support of the National Nutrition Council, we can set policy direction to the province of Palawan towards a high-quality life among Palaweño families,” Vice-Governor Socrates said.

As the World’s Best Island, Palawan carries with it its continued commitment to be at par with other provinces in putting premium not only on the beauty of its island, but also on the health and nutrition of its constituents, as manifested in the collective efforts of its various stakeholders and partner agencies. (CYRUS KIM D. CLARIDAD/PGO-Public Relations Unit)



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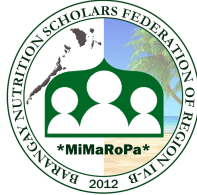
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National Nutrition Council

VISION STATEMENT

NNC is the authority in ensuring the nutritional well-being of all Filipinos, recognized locally and globally, and led by a team of competent and committed public servants.

MISSION STATEMENT

To orchestrate efforts of government, private sector, international organizations and other stakeholders at all levels, in addressing hunger and malnutrition of Filipinos through:

- Policy and program formulation and coordination;
- Capacity development;
- Promotion of good nutrition;
- Nutrition surveillance;
- Resource generation and mobilization
- Advocacy; and
- Partnership and alliance building

National Nutrition Council

CORE VALUES

Integrity

We conduct our work and relate with our various stakeholders and partners with deep sense of honesty and openness.

Zeal

We serve with enthusiasm and dedication characterized by versatility and dynamism, discipline and strict adherence to work ethics.

Excellence

We provide high quality and timely service characterized by a unified, innovative and competent performance.

Sensitivity

We respond to the needs of our employees and various publics with love and respect and recognize the valuable contribution of each member of the organization.

Transparency

We conduct our business with openness and truthfulness with strict adherence to existing laws, rules, regulations of government and the principles of good governance.

QUALITY POLICY

The NNC, as the highest policy-making body on nutrition, is committed to ensure improved access to quality nutrition and related interventions through formulation and coordination of policies and programs with excellence, integrity and transparency.

We shall endeavor to continually improve the quality management system to satisfy the needs and expectations of our clients with strict adherence to existing laws, rules and regulations.

National Nutrition Council

MIMAROPA REGION

OVERVIEW OF MIMAROPA REGION

MIMAROPA is one of the busiest regions in terms of tourism, cornering more than its fair share of the total number of tourists that visit the country. The region is home to Palawan's serene tropical beauty as well as Puerto Galera's beautiful sunsets and vibrant party scene. Tourists who are looking for a rich dose of history and religion flock to Marinduque, the country's Lenten capital, where the famous Moriones festival is held every year. Divers from all over the world seek the marine wonders of Occidental Mindoro's Apo Reef. Mountain climbers will delight in exploring the challenging terrains of Romblon's Mt. Guiting- Guiting, as well as the province's unexplored and unspoiled beaches.

The region's economy relies mostly on agriculture, fishing and ecotourism, making it one of the strongest in the country. MIMAROPA is one of the Philippine's top producers of rice, banana, coconut, mango, cashew, papaya and cassava, which are included among the country's top export products.

The region is the second top fish producer in the country, and its output makes up almost 14% of the Philippine's total produce annually from 2002-2004. MIMAROPA also ranks as the second top producer of seaweeds, representing 21% of the country's total output.

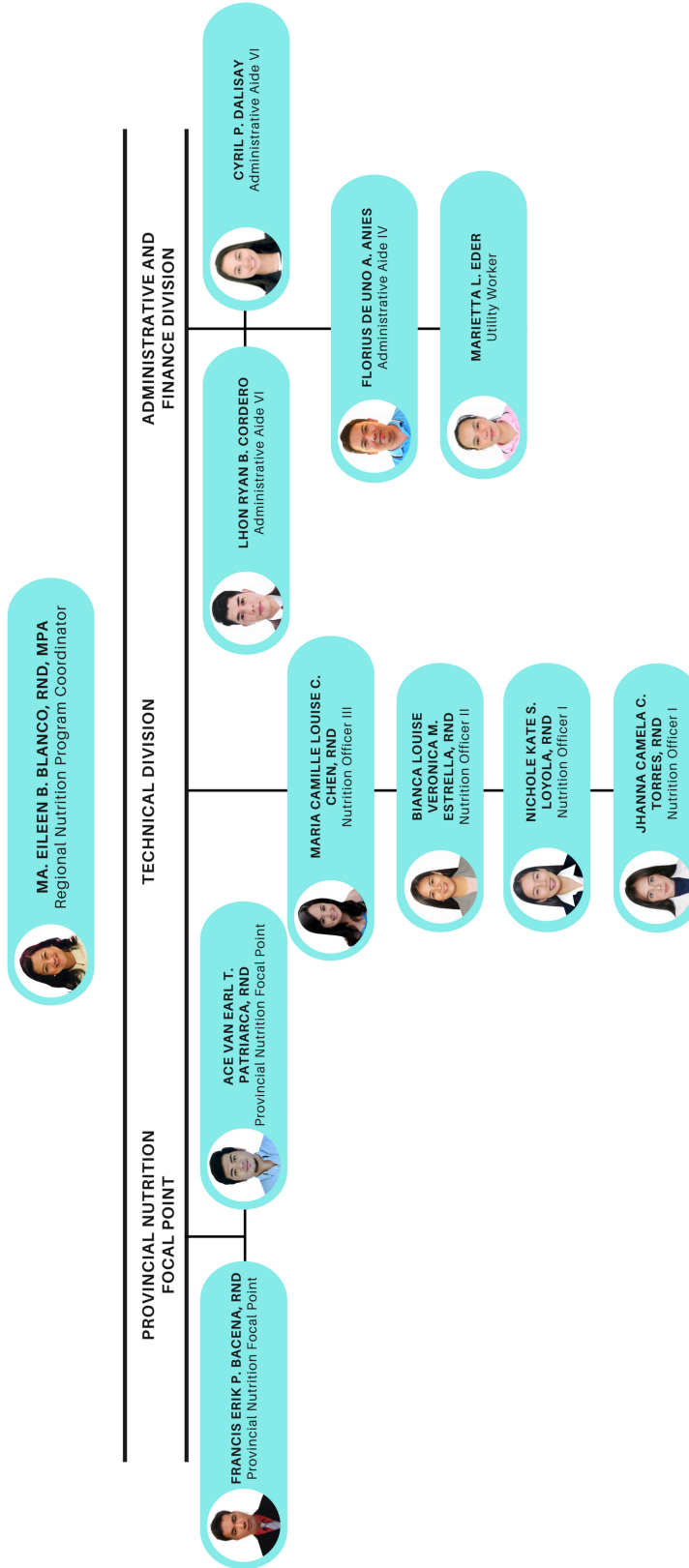
FUNCTIONS

1. Execute policies, directives and guidelines set by the Office of the Executive Director at the regional level;
2. Coordinate the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition at the local level;
3. Provide technical assistance to local program implementers to enhance their involvement;
4. Establish and maintain functional linkages with agencies involved in the nutrition program;
5. Promote nutrition advocacy and undertake resource mobilization activities at the regional level;
6. Generate nutrition and related data and serve as monitoring and data base center for the regional PPAN;
7. Facilitate the provision of material support from various sources for the intended recipients in the nutrition program;
8. Serve as the Secretariat to the Regional Nutrition Committee and other regional nutrition-related committee; and
9. Perform such other functions as may be assigned.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL MIMAROPA REGION







NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL MIMAROPA



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NNCMiMaRoPaRegion



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