



LU PASKO SA KAPITOLYO SPREADS MESSAGE OF LOVE

Geraldine B. Salazar-Lucero, PIO

The Provincial Government of La Union continuously bring joyous and hopeful Christmas vibe to every kaprobinsiaan through Pasko sa Kapitolyo 2021 (PSK 2021). On its fourth year, the lined-up activities for the month-long celebration were centered to its theme “Umaapaw ang Love para sa bawat Puso sa La Union.”

PSK 2021 kicked-off on December 3, 2021 featuring the annual lighting of Christmas tree and capitol hill and grand fireworks display. PSK 2021 opening was streamed online for more kaprobinsiaan to witness the activity and for them to be engaged and join in different online games and raffles. Local La Union talents SLC Chorale and Amplified GenX also performed.

In his message, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III thanked all kaprobinsiaan for being strong and resilient amidst all the impacts and challenges brought by the CoViD-19 pandemic. He also added that this inspires him and other PGLU employees to be better public servants.

Vice Gov. Mario Eduardo Ortega and Rafy Ortega-David together with the Provincial Board Members led the lighting ceremony.

Part of the PSK 2021 is the Kurditan Kabataan: Iloko Letter Writing

contest participated in by talented Iloko youth writers from the province. The said activity conducted on December 10, 2021 was in partnership with the La Union Sangguniang Kabataan Federation. Kurditan Kabataan has two categories, Public School Category and Alternative Learning System or Out of School Youth Category. Top 5 winners of each category were given recognition and awards.

Simultaneous with Kurditan Kabataan is the Christmas CarolOKE (Singing Contest) and Characters of Christmas (Costume Contest) - online activities for PSK 2021.

Talented singers from La Union showcased their own rendition of Christmas carols and kids dressed up in their favorite cartoon characters. Entries for both contests were submitted online and winners received recognition and prizes.

Another highlight of PSK 2021 is the Pasko sa Batis ng Bakawan. In partnership with Association of Tourism Industries and Networks in La Union (ATIN LU) and Department of Tourism Region 1, the event aims to honor and remember those who lost their lives in these ongoing crises. Took place in Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union, Pasko sa Batis ng Bakawan featured the lighting of 473 floating lanterns,

displaying 473 parols along the river and planting 473 bakawans or mangroves. The hanged parols and kite lanterns stood as a symbol of remembrance for all departed loved ones.

Plantitas and plantitos were surely delighted with the La Union Bonsai Show publicly viewed at the La Union Capitol Grounds. In partnership with the Bonsai Club of La Union, variety of bonsai plants and some of the enthusiasts’ collections were exhibited on December 13-19, 2021.

On December 17, 2021, five chosen home cook-mothers from La Union joined the Flavors of Christmas: Noche Buena Dinner Recipe Showdown. Participants showcased their best Noche Buena recipes as they incorporate local ingredients from La Union. Online quiz bee and raffle draw also took place in the said event that was streamed online.

PGLU also gave special program for public servants in La Union through the #BidaKawani: Stronger Ties with Government Employees on December 21, 2021 via Video Conference. The program was aimed at strengthening solidarity among government organizations in La Union through connecting, commending and celebrating our very own public servants who continue to carry out their mission to bring positive impact on the

lives of every Kaprobinsiaan.

Christmas is indeed a time to celebrate and give thanks. This is the reason behind the thanksgiving worship concert that was streamed in the PGLU’s page on the Christmas eve of 2021. The concert was an avenue for everyone to celebrate together the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ and to thank Him for all the blessings bestowed to our province and to every kaprobinsiaan.

Capping the PSK 2021 is the Year-End Benefit Concert dubbed as “Baro a Namnama.” The concert on December 31, 2021 featured performances from kaprobinsiaan artists and performing groups including the special performances of Tawag ng Tanghalan Grand Finalist Lorraine Galvez and OPM icon Mr. Noel Cabangon.

The concert was made possible with the partnership of ATIN LU. All donations and proceeds collected during the event were given to Typhoon Odette affected communities.

PSK 2021 might be slightly different with the previous PSK celebrations, but this year is a manifestation that #WeAreLaUnion, and we shall continue to move forward in building a #StrongerLaUnion, a province worth living in.



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LU TALENTS SHINE IN THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL THEATER SCENE



PAGE 12
5 SAFETY SEALS CONFERRED TO ALL PGLU CAPITOL COMPLEX BUILDINGS

PGLU UNVEILS MUSEO TI LA UNION PRESPECTIVE PLAN

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

A cultural and heritage landmark will soon rise in the heart of the provincial capital, as the Provincial Government of La Union through the La Union Provincial Tourism Office – Culture and Arts Section unveiled the perspective plan of MUSEO TI LA UNION: Center for the Arts, Culture and Heritage on November 4, 2021 in front of Senator Alejo R. Mabanag Building, City of San Fernando, La Union.

On behalf of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III, the event was graced by Vice Gov. Mario Eduardo C. Ortega together with Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members Hon. Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay as Committee Chairperson for Education and Culture, Hon. Geraldine R. Ortega, Hon. Christian I. Rivera, Hon. Gary N.

Pinzon, Hon. Alyssa Kristine B. Sibuma, Hon. Gerard G. Ostrea, Hon. Maria Rosario Eufrosina “Chary” P. Nisce, Hon. Jennifer Mosuela-Fernandez, and Hon. Jonathan Justo A. Orros.

“The Museo” that will be housed in the building’s second floor shall feature collections, artifacts, sculptures, objects, historical information and art pieces relevant to the history and heritage of La Union. An art gallery will also be developed that will soon host exhibitions and art productions by local and national artists.

The Takder Phase (Phase 1) construction is scheduled to start towards the end of 2021 and is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.



GOV'S CABINET, PCTAC DISCUSS IMPROVING COVID-19 STATUS IN LU; TO LAUNCH MORE RECOVERY PROGRAMS

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

La Union remains Low Risk or under Modified General Community Quarantine as reported during the joint meeting of the Provincial Core Team Against CoViD-19 (PCTAC) and the Governor’s Cabinet on November 8, 2021 conducted virtually. Following the status, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), led by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III, plans to reintegrate more Recovery Programs.

With the current 864 active cases in the province as of November 6,

2021, this shows a downtrend that can be attributed with the increased inoculated kaprobinsiaan with 50.23% vaccinated with first dose and 33.78% fully vaccinated. This trend gives a positive assurance that by the end of November, 70% of the eligible population will receive their first dose and by the end of the year, 70% will be fully vaccinated.

The PGLU continues to build and improve CoViD-19 isolation facilities in Naguilian, Rosario, and Balaoan District Hospitals to

better cater to CoViD-19 patients of the province.

The recently-conducted Safety Seal Validation of the Department of the Interior and Local Government for four PGLU Buildings was also tackled including the recommendations and the schedule of assessment of other PGLU Buildings and Facilities. The CoViD-19 Supply Inventory, Status of Personal Protective Equipment Distribution, Welfare Goods, Relief Operations for Typhoon Maring and Status of Purchases were also reported.

Updates on the aids provided for those affected by Severe Tropical Storm Maring was also reported in the meeting wherein a total of P42,470,922.00 cost of assistance were provided to affected kaprobinsiaan. Proposed Rehabilitation plans were also presented including Emergency Shelter Assistance, Cash for Work and Food for Work.

The Tourism Statistics shows that with a total of 223 total accredited tourism entities as of September 20, 2021, there are 25,446 total number of tourist arrival. This is

supported by the consistently increasing number of vaccinated tourism frontliners which is at 57.50% as of September 29. Initial proposals of Recovery Programs such as the IBTURISMO and Pasko sa Kapitolyo 2021 were also discussed.

In terms of Financial Stability, reported were Fund Balances, Budgetary Requirements and Expenditures along with COVID-19 Status of Purchase Request and Obligation Request.

To ensure non-violence of any COMELEC Issuances by the PGLU or any employee, reminders on Election Ban for some activities was also tackled in the joint meeting.

Finally, for the Provincial Strategy Update, an overview of the Breakthrough Matrix, Remaining Activities for 2021, Revalida Workplan and Plans Moving Forward were presented.

Through regular joint meetings of the PCTAC and the Cabinet, Gov. Pacoy ensures that we are on top of the situation to ensure the safety of all kaprobinsiaan.

PROVINCIAL DATA		
	As of Nov 7, 2021	
Number of Vaccines	October 27, 2021	November 7, 2021
First Dose	257,874	293,737
Second Dose	174,174	197,506
Number of Utilized	398,729	457,926
70% Herd Immunity Status	44.10% with 1 st Dose 29.79% fully vaccinated	50.23% with 1 st Dose 33.78% fully vaccinated
Number of AEFI reported	None	None
Number of serious AEFI reported	None	None

PGLU TURNS OVER EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO BALAOAN BARANGAYS

Geraldine Salazar-Lucero, PIO

With the Provincial Government of La Union’s continuous effort to capacitate each component Local Government Unit of the province in providing quick and efficient services in their jurisdictions, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel “Pacoy” R. Ortega III led the turning over of a total of 36 units of Multi-Purpose Vehicles (MPV) to each barangay of Balaoan on December 6, 2021.

With the recent onslaught of Severe Tropical Storm Maring in Ilocos Region in October 2021 where the entire La Union was placed under the State of Calamity, Balaoan was among the identified hardly-hit towns in the province. With the significant number of recorded damages of the town, the PGLU saw the need of emergency vehicles for quick response and unhampered provision of services to the Balaoanians especially during this time of pandemic.

Gov. Pacoy Ortega, together with

Ms. Rafy Ortega-David, turned over the MPVs to the Barangay Chairpersons who gratefully received all pertinent documents needed for the donation and use of said vehicles.

Balaoan Mayor Aleli Concepcion and Vice Mayor Carlo Concepcion expressed their gratitude to PGLU for the provision of vehicles that would cater the emergency needs of their constituents and to further capacitate first responders especially in the barangay level.

The donation of MPVs to barangays in Balaoan is in adherence to the Local Government Code of 199 which states that the conditional donation of multicab vehicles aims to enhance the maintenance of peace and order and the provision of immediate medical attention and/or rescue in times of emergencies to the constituents of the barangays.



PASKO SA BATIS SA BAKAWAN MANIFESTS HOPE; BRINGS SOLACE, HONOR TO THOSE WE'VE LOVED AND LOST

Shairalene B. Guerrero, PIO



To honor and remember those who lost their lives in these ongoing crises, the Association of Tourism Industries and Networks in La Union (ATIN LU) in partnership with the Provincial Government of La Union, City Government of San Fernando, and Department of Tourism Region 1, kicks off its Pasko sa Batis sa Bakawan on December 11, 2021, in Barangay Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union as a part of the Pasko Sa Kapitolyo 2021 Celebration.

The kick off featured the lighting of 473 floating lanterns, displaying 473 parols along the river and planting 473 bakawans or mangroves.

The hanged parols and kite lanterns stand as a symbol of remembrance for all departed loved ones. The event also highlights the resiliency of every kaprobinsiaan and the spirit of Bayanihan amidst the CoViD-19 pandemic.

The CoViD-19 pandemic has caused a lot of pain, especially to those families who have lost their loved ones, but this Christmas is something that we look forward to, and it reminds us of the birth of Jesus Christ - which gives a renewed hope.

The celebration manifests that #WeAreLaUnion, and we shall continue to move forward in building a #StrongerLaUnion, a province worth living in.

'BALIK PROBINSYA BAGONG PAG-ASA' SENDS 4 FAMILIES HOME IN LA UNION

Zenaida D. Sellem, GPC-PSWDO

A total of 18 Kaprobinsiaan beneficiaries of the Balik Probinsiya, Bagong Pag-Asa Program (BP2) were warmly welcomed in front of the La Union Agri-Tourism Center, City of San Fernando, La Union, on December 7, 2021.

The four families hail from Naguilian, Sudipen, Aringay, and City of San Fernando. Each family were provided with half cavan of rice and two buckets of groceries from the Provincial Government of La Union packs of seeds from the Department of Agriculture; and two families were awarded with a 40-square meter housing unit in Aringay, La Union by the National Housing Authority (NHA). More so, each family will receive a transitory family support package, livelihood settlement grants and transitory shelter assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Present to welcome the arriving Kaprobinsiyaan were DSWD Field Office I Regional Director Marie Angela S. Gopalan and Engr. Maria Belinda V. Sevilla of the NHA.

Balik Probinsiya, Bagong Pag-Asa Program aims to provide hope for a better future to Filipinos throughout the country that will boost countryside development; encouraging people, especially informal settlers to return to their home provinces and assist them in this transition with support and incentives on transportation, family livelihood, housing, subsistence and education, among others.

Before the actual day of Dispatch Operation, preparations were made to ensure that all beneficiaries got the needed services and accommodation. The four families were the first batch of beneficiaries of the BP2 Program in the province.



LA UNION KICKSTARTS INOCULATION OF 12-17 AGE GROUP VS COVID-19

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO and Renerose A. Beninsig, PHO



The Province of La Union continues to increase protected kaprobinsiaan from severe effects of CoViD-19 as the pediatric vaccination among 12 to 17 years old started at the La Union Medical Center (LUMC), Agoo, La Union on November 2, 2021.

Given the sufficient vaccine supply, the Department of Health (DOH) now allows vaccination of the abovementioned age group provided that if they have comorbidities, they have to receive their vaccine in a hospital vaccination site while the rest of the pediatric population may receive their vaccination in their rural health units (RHUs).

As of the first day on November 2, a total of 247 individuals received their first dose from LUMC. As to date, the RHU of the Municipality of Bacnotan also started vaccination of the age group. Pediatric population from this age group may get in touch with their RHUs for the schedule of inoculation in their area while those with comorbidities may get in touch with the LUMC or Ilocos

Training and Regional Medical Center (ITRMC).

The ITRMC have started administering CoViD-19 vaccines to 12 to 17 years old on November 1, 2021 and continues to inoculate kaprobinsiaan from different local government units.

While the pediatric vaccination accepts walk-ins, parents are required to sign a consent form and accompany the vaccinees. In the absence of a parent, a guardian may accompany the vaccinee and will be strictly interviewed on behalf of the parent.

Pfizer and Moderna are the only vaccine brands with emergency use authorization for 12 to 17 years old issued by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration.

Together with all partner agencies and private entities, the Provincial Government of La Union continues to ramp up its vaccination efforts in the province with high hopes of a herd immunity by December 2021.

PGLU, DOT OPEN 'I'M IN LUV' AND 'FIND THE ONE IN REGION 1' TRAVEL FAIR

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

To intensify tourism activity in the province and the entire region, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and the Department of Tourism – Region 1 (DOT-RI) collaborated for the Opening of the 'I'm IN LUV' and 'Find The One in Region 1' Travel Fair on November 18, 2021 at

the Pentecostal Compound, Urbiztondo, San Juan, La Union.

The travel fair featured limited offers of tour packages and products of the provinces of La Union, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur and Pangasinan, which are made especially affordable for the event.

DOT-RI Director Joseph Francisco "Jeff" R. Ortega led the opening of the travel fair. In his speech, Dir. Jeff said that it is imperative to rebuild the tourism sector in a way that is safe, equitable and climate-friendly.

In his recorded video message, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III lauded the DOT-RI for making the event a possibility as well as the tourism officers of the four provinces in Region 1 for championing the revitalization of the tourism industry. He also mentioned that the PGLU is open for further collaborations that will strengthen and build capacity for the people of La Union and the industry.

Similarly, Ilocos Norte Gov. Matthew Manotoc in his speech extended his gratitude to PGLU and DOT-RI for launching the La Union leg of the 'I'm IN LUV' initiative. He further said that the travel fair is the start of the revival

of the tourism industry to its former stance that shall lead to a more resilient industry.

San Juan, La Union Vice Mayor Manuel Victor "Mannix" R. Ortega on behalf of Mayor Arturo P. Valdriz, for his part, expressed his warm welcome to all the delegates and also pledged his support in promoting tourism not only in the Province of La Union but also in Region 1.

One of the highlights of the event is the Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding amongst PGLU, DOT-RI, Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc. and San Miguel Corporation – Infrastructure for the MARIS TI AGLAWLaU Pride of Place Mural Painting Competition as well as the Signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Use of Tara Na! VISITA (Visitor Information and Tourist Assistance) application as a tourist registration system in the whole region.



SP INSPECTS SOUTHERN LU BORDER CONTROL POINTS

Jiroh Joy D. Marbella, SP-GPC

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) Committee on Tourism, in aid of legislation, conducted a surprise inspection of the province's southern borders, particularly in the towns of Rosario and Pugo, on November 5, 2021, to verify if border control policies are being enforced by assigned border control points personnel.

The ocular inspection team visited border Control Points in Barangay Udiao, Barangay Rabon, and TPLEX La Union Exit in the Municipality of Rosario and Barangay Cares in Pugo. The team also traversed an alternate route without visible checkpoints. Representatives from the La Union Provincial Tourism Office gave information about an alternate route of vehicles coming from the south to enter La Union.

After the ocular inspection, a focus group discussion was held wherein team members shared their thoughts, observations, and recommendations. It was also the avenue of the SPMs to gather relevant information in guiding them in crafting future policies and legislation related to public safety through border controls. Most observations include the lack of briefing of PNP and BFP personnel on border control protocols and requirements, an absence of coordination and communication equipment from one border control point to another, and the workforce shortage to cater to the high

volume of vehicles needed to be checked or verified every day.

The border control points infrastructure was also pointed out as being not too convenient and comfortable for both border personnel and visitors. The sites are only make-shift canopies or tents that are not conducive, especially during heavy rains.

The team shall submit an ocular inspection report attached to the position paper from LUPTO with policy recommendations to be

submitted for the deliberation and consideration of the committees concerned.

The ocular inspection team was composed of representatives from the La Union Provincial Tourism Office, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, and the SP. Board members who joined the inspection are SPM Christian Rivera, Chairperson of the SP Committee on Tourism, SPM Gary Pinzon, SPM Jay-Jay Orros, SPM Nancy Bacurnay, and SPM Alyssa Kristine Sibuma.



PGLU COMMEMORATES BONIFACIO DAY

Lorenna C. Luna, GPC-LUPTO

To commemorate the birth of the Father of the Philippine Revolution, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) officials and concerned offices led the offering of the wreath in the monument of Andres Bonifacio on November 30, 2021, at the Heroes Park, City of San Fernando, La Union. Facilitated by the La Union Provincial Tourism Office – Culture and Arts Section, the ceremony was attended by Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members Hon. Nancy Corazon N. Bacurnay, Hon. Jonathan Justo A. Orros, Hon. Maria Rosario Eufrosina P. Nisce, Hon. Geraldine R. Ortega and Hon. Alyzza Kristine B. Sibuma.

A native of Tondo, Manila, Bonifacio joined several



movements such as the Masonry and La Liga Filipina. As the Supremo, he established the Kataas-taasang, Kagalang-galang na Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan or the Katipunan to unite and lead the Filipinos to freedom from the colonizers through a revolution. He kicked off the revolt by leading thousands of his followers to tear up their cedulas and personally led an attack on San Juan Del Monte to capture its powder magazines and water stations.

With the theme "Bonifacio 2021: Pagbubuklod para sa Kaligtasan at Kalusugan ng Bayan", the PGLU joins the whole nation in remembering the example, life and valor of Bonifacio.

PGLU, DOT LAUNCH BIKE AND NATURE TRAIL TOURISM IN LA UNION

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

After series of workshops and mapping activities conducted to identify and develop potential sites for the bike and nature tourism circuits, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) in collaboration with the Department of Tourism – Region I (DOT-RI) officially launched the Bike and Nature Trail Tourism in the province on November 19, 2021 as part of the Immersion Tour during the Region I Tourism Convention.

The first leg of the launching was held in Eco Park of Agoo, La Union featuring a bike trail suitable for beginners. The second leg of the launching was held in the Municipality of San Juan and the City of San Fernando featuring trails suitable for amateur and professional bikers. The trail traverses the San Juan By-Pass Road going to ELYUnity Mountain Bike (MTB) Trails in Barangay Baraoas, San Fernando City.

During the ceremonial launching held at the Agoo Eco-Park, DOT Regional Director Joseph Francisco R. Ortega extended his heartfelt appreciation to the PGLU led by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III and all the concerned LGUs of La Union for

their commendable hard work and continued support to the initiatives of DOT-RI.

For his part, Gov. Pacoy likewise expressed his gratitude to all the participants of the event. "I truly appreciate this initiative as I see it as one of the ways that our region can capitalize on sustainable economic development opportunities while maintaining good lifestyle," he said.

Others present during the program were DOT Assistant Secretary for Tourism Development Woodrow C. Maquiling, Jr., Second District Representative Sandra Y. Eriguel, Agoo Vice-Mayor Henry B. Balbin, LUPTO Officer-in-Charge Arthur S. Cortez, Jr., and convention delegates from the provinces of Pangasinan, Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte.

Highlight of the event is a bike exhibition wherein delegates and other visitors had the opportunity to see unique bike designs and try out the bicycles. The immersion tour was held coinciding with the Bike Bros La Union's Long Jump Friendly Competition.

Other identified locations for the bike and nature trails in the province include the LGUs of Santo Tomas and Aringay in the South Tourism Circuit; Bacnotan and San Gabriel which also belong in the Central Tourism Circuit; Bauang, Naguilian and Bagulin of Central Eastern Tourism Circuit; Sudipen, Bangar and Santol of Northern Tourism Circuit; and Rosario and Tubao of

the South Eastern Tourism Circuit.

The Bike Tourism project is a collaborative effort of the PGLU and DOT-RI to develop new tourism products and encourage domestic tourism traffic not only in the province but also in the entire region towards positioning La Union as a secure, self-sufficient and sustainable Province for its people.



INCENTIVES AWARDED TO LU TOPNOTCHERS

Rhea Matilde A. Ballesteros, GPC – SP

The 22nd Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) awarded the five topnotchers of various national licensure examinations from the province of La Union during its 125th Regular Session on November 16, 2021.

The SP headed by Vice Gov. Mario C. Ortega commended and recognized the remarkable achievements of the following topnotchers who hail in the province of La Union, including Crisela Areola of Naguilian, who ranked 7 in the Nursing Licensure Exam, Dr. Lee-Anne V.

Sanglay of Bauang, Dr. Jaymee D. Quindara of the City of San Fernando, Dr. Brylle E. Turalba of Santol, ranked 8th, 9th, and 10th respectively of Physician Licensure Exam and Engr. Mario A. Ibay of Balaoan, Top 10 Mechanical Engineering Licensure Examination. Each of The LU topnotchers were awarded with individual SP Resolution and check that served as their cash incentives and the amount of which is based on their ranking as provided under SP Ordinance No. 103-2015.

Vice Gov. Mario C. Ortega said in his message that the cash incentive is a gesture of gratitude of the officialdom of the province for bringing honor and pride and through their remarkable achievements, La Union is made known to the world not only of its beautiful places but also its intelligent people.

Likewise, the SP has passed during their previous session commendatory and congratulatory resolution to Dr. Monica E. Gacayan of the City of San Fernando and Dr. Denver G. Frigillana of Aringay, who ranked 5th and 7th, respectively on the Veterinarian Licensure Examination.

It is to note that national licensure examinations for the various fields of study were purposely to determine the cognitive competencies of graduates in their respective degree courses while ensuring the standards of quality education especially in tertiary education. These feats by the LU topnotchers proved that even though they came from the provinces, and whose educational foundations are from schools of the province, their level of intelligence and competencies are at par with national caliber and standards and validation of quality education in these schools, thus worthy of commendation, recognition, inspiration and of incentives.



PGLU RECEIVE NEW AMBULANCE FROM PITMASTER FOUNDATION

Shairalene B. Guerrero, PIO

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), headed by Governor Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, together with Board Member Rimando Abraham, Assistant Provincial Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Officer Alvin Cruz, received a one-unit ambulance and 3,000 Food Packs for the affected families by Typhoon Maring relief packs from Pitmaster Cares Foundation on November 23, 2021, at the Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The said ambulance is fully equipped with medical supplies

and other medical accessories. The new ambulance would help deliver medical needs to every kaprobinsiaan and respond to emergency cases.

Gov. Pacoy Ortega expressed his gratitude to the Pitmaster Foundation for its support for the Province's fight against CoViD-19.

The PGLU continues to utilize its resources to boost further the Province's medical emergency response and CoViD-19 response efforts, all for a #StrongerLaUnion, a province worth living in.



LA UNION HOSTS NATIONWIDE ANTI-RED TAPE CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

Intensifying the streamlined procedures in government transactions and further promoting ease of doing business, the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) led by Director General Secretary Jeremiah B. Belgica launched the "Isang Bansa Sa Tren ng Pagbabago: A Nationwide Anti-Red Tape Caravan" at the Thunderbird Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union on November 29, 2021.

Along with other members of the Committee on Anti-Red Tape (CART), Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III took oath to be agent in putting an end to red tape in the government. This was followed by the signing of Manifesto of Support. CART Members from Regions 1, 2 and the Cordillera Administrative Region were part of the first leg of caravan.

The CARTARAVAN aims to bring awareness of the various ARTA programs and initiatives by going to the different regions in the country improving customer experience in availing government services.

Gov. Pacoy Ortega expressed his gratitude to the ARTA and CART for choosing the Province of La

Union as the host of the momentous event as he emphasized, "Streamlining procedures and reiterating the Anti-Red Tape Act is very timely and relevant as we continue to move forward to the new normal."

Gov. Pacoy relayed the Transformative Governance journey of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) that suits the objectives of the ARTA including the adoption of the Performance Governance System in which the PGLU has

entered the Institutionalization Stage. He also discussed the different eGovernance and mGovernance Systems developed and adopted by the PGLU while also maintaining its Citizen's Charter and ISO certification.

Meanwhile, Sec. Belgica presented the accomplishments of the ARTA and its plans moving forward along with the CARTARAVAN. He also emphasized, "Ang tren ng reporma laban sa red tape ay tumatakbo na po at pabilis ng pabilis, at umiikot sa ating bansa."

Dala po nito ang pag-asa na sinimulan ng ating Pangulo para padaliin at pahasayin ang mga serbisyo."

Also present in the event were Undersecretary Carlos Quita, Chief of Staff and Deputy Director General for Administration, Finance and Special Programs; Undersecretary Ernesto Perez, Deputy Director General for Operations; Undersecretary Eduardo Bringas, Deputy Director General for Legal; Presidential Adviser for Northern Luzon Sec. Raul L. Lambino; and former Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman Greco Belgica.

"Nawa ay ipagpatuloy natin ang pagkakaisa upang magkaroon pa ng mas maraming adbokasiya na magsusulong ng karangalan, kagalingan at integridad sa ating paghahandog ng serbisyo publiko. Ang ikagaganda at ikabubuti nawa ng ating mga mamamayan ang lagi nating isaalang-alang at unahin," said Gov. Pacoy.

The ARTA was established in accordance to Republic Act 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018.



PGLU HOLDS INVESTMENT POLICY BRIEFING; ROAD TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY PUSHED THROUGH

Mia Jayn Ochoco, GPC-LEEIPU

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), through the Local Economic Enterprise and Investment Promotions Unit (LEEIPU), conducted the Investments Policy Briefing and Counseling Webinar on November 29, 2021, via Online Platform in partnership with the Board of Investments (BOI) – Investments Assistance Service and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) La Union.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III thanked the DTI and the BOI, PGLU's steadfast partners, for their consistent assistance in creating a better business climate in the province. This activity is a testament to the eagerness of the province to push for economic recovery and build resiliency. He also added, "Through this webinar, we can enhance our policy crafting and marketing strategies with the end goal to better attract potential investors. I can't emphasize more that your role is significant as investments are truly the lifeblood of our economic recovery."

Ms. Danela C. Bautista, the Investment Specialist of BOI-IAS, discussed The Philippine Investment Priority Plan on the updates on government policies for investments. While Mr. Lubin R. De Vera Jr., Supervising Investments Specialist of BOI-IAS, explained the CREATE Law and Local Investment and Incentives Code. Mr. Edilberto C. Nunag, Chief Investments Specialist of BOI-IAS, discussed the integration of topics.

The Thrive in La Union Investment Plan and Presentation of Investment Hub was presented by Ms. Julianne Gayle V. Caringal-Guianan of LEEIPU to component LGUs through the actionable plans, projects, and activities that will cater to the conduct of necessary technical assistance and to further encourage investments and economic activities within the province of La Union.

The PGLU is committed to further intensifying economic prosperity by providing more business opportunities for every Kaprobinsiaan.



PGLU SUPPORTS NATIONAL BICYCLE DAY

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO

In celebration of National Bicycle Day and Philippine Clean Air Month, the Provincial Government of La Union - Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO) headed by the Officer-in-Charge EnP. Annalyn Rosario-Valdez spearheaded a Bike Fun Ride on November 28, 2021.

The bike fun ride started at Bacnotan Municipal Hall and finished at the Municipality of Luna to improve air quality by promoting non-motorized transportation to the environment.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte



issued Proclamation 1052, s. 2020 declaring the fourth Sunday of November of every year as "National Bicycle Day."

Furthermore, National Clean Air Month is celebrated every November in the country.

With the intensified #Kalikasan Naman campaign of the Provincial Government of La Union, we continue to involve ourselves in protecting our finite natural resources. May we always set a good example to our future generations in preserving the beauty of our beloved La Union, a province worth living in.

PGLU CELEBRATES NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS MONTH, NATIONAL CLEAN AIR MONTH, AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO

The Provincial Government of La Union, through the Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO), conducts a Virtual Environmental Summit for the celebration of National Environmental Awareness Month, National Clean Air Month, and Climate Change Consciousness Week with the theme "NURTURE NATURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE" on November 20, 2021, via video conferencing and Facebook live. The summit was attended by students and teachers from major colleges and Universities in the Province.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III graced the said activity. He welcomed the students and environmental advocates who attended the virtual summit. He also congratulated the PG-ENRO for all the environmental initiatives supporting the #KalikasanNaman campaign of the Provincial Government. He emphasized; his message that this is the time to unite for mother earth; our conservation efforts need to be at the landscape level, encompassing our entire ecosystems rather than a fragmented approach. He also added that we should dedicate our hearts to restoring and preserving what we have gifted

and lived a pristine natural legacy for our future generations.

Meanwhile, Mr. Aldjumar B. de Guzman, Environmental Management Specialist II from DENR-EMB I, discussed the "Climate Change: Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic" and "Taking Care of the Ozone Layer." He emphasizes during his presentation that environmental protection is and will play an essential part in responding to COVID-19 and preventing future pandemics. Furthermore, he presented the Montreal Protocol Overview, landmark multilateral

environmental agreement regulates the production and consumption of nearly 100 man-made chemicals called ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and the Kigali Amendments, an international agreement to reduce the consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons gradually.

Ms. Thelma A. Cinco, the Weather Services Chief of the Northern Luzon PAGASA Regional Services Division, discussed "Impacts of Climate Change in the Philippines." She reiterated that the Philippines is highly

vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters due to our country's geographic location. She also discussed the basic concepts of climate, the global manifestation of climate change, and global climate trends. She also presented the observed climate trends in the Philippines over the past 65 years of DOST-PAGASA. Data shows that the most recent cold years have been relatively warmer than decades ago. For the future climate projections in the Philippines, she discussed that the temperature would increase and create potential impacts such as increased energy demand, increased heat stress cases, a risk to food security, the threat to biodiversity/forestry, and risk to the water quality and availability.

For the closing remarks, EnP. Shereal M. Catbagan, Senior EMS of PG-ENRO, thanked all the resource speakers and participants. She closed the program by borrowing words from Richard Rogers: "The only way forward, if we are going to improve the quality of the environment, is to get everybody involved" and reminded everyone to be a more environmentally responsible citizen.



SP FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE LEADS REVIEW OF PGLU CY 2022 BUDGET

Rhea Matilde A. Ballesteros, GPC- SP

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) Committee on Finance, Budget, and Appropriations chaired by SPM Francisco Paolo P. Ortega V led a two-day budget hearing on November 25-26, 2021, at Vista La Vita, San Vicente, City of San Fernando, La Union.

The SP was joined by Provincial Administrator, Ms. Agnes Grace A. Cargamento; the Local Finance Committee composed of the Provincial Budget Officer, Ms. Catherine E. Franco; Provincial Accountant, Atty. Albert F. Padilla; Provincial Treasurer, Ms. Janet D. Molina and Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator, Ms. Michaela Lousie T. Delfinado who aided the members in reviewing for a more objective,

balanced and responsive budget in the achievement of the set goals and objectives of the province for the year ahead.

During the hearing, Provincial Budget Officer Franco presented the appropriation, allotment, and obligation of the CY 2021 budget as of October 31, 2021. Likewise, she gave a general overview of the proposed CY 2022 annual budget, its detailed budget allocations and percentage to the total budget per sector, total appropriations for COVID-19 response and recovery programs, as well as the percentage of the budget allotted for the devolution transition plan vis-à-vis the desired major final outputs for CY 2022. A comparative analysis which includes a presentation of the 2021 burn rate

and for the 2022 Local Expenditure Program (LEP) and Local Economic Enterprise (LEE) of the PGLU including the internal and external sources of income of the province as well as rate of collection of provincial taxes were also presented.

A total of 33 departments, offices, and hospitals presented and defended their respective proposed budgets covering the comparative presentation of their 2021 vs. 2022 budget, major final outputs/accomplishments for 2021, and burn rate for 2021, and departments' physical targets for 2022. Likewise, they presented the list of provincial ordinances being implemented by their respective office/hospital.

Various discussions, agreements and recommendations were made during the deliberations not only on the office's proposed budget but also on issues and concerns confronting the operation of each offices and hospitals. These agreements and recommendations will form part of the Committee Report and, after its adoption and approval, will be forwarded to the concerned offices and hospitals for appropriate action.

The SP Committee on Finance, Budget, and Appropriations, together with the concerned SP Committees, recommended the approval of the CY 2022 Local Expenditure Program amounting to Php2,094,486,596.00 and Economic Enterprise amounting to PHP 319,018,494.36 of the PGLU. The Local Finance Committee will finalize the proposed CY 2022 budget based on the agreements and amendments made during the budget hearing before it will be submitted to the SP for adoption and approval.



PGLU FINANCIAL REPORT
4TH QUARTER 2021

FDP Form 7 - 20% Component of the IRA Utilization

20% COMPONENT OF THE IRA UTILIZATION
FOR THE 4TH QUARTER OF CY 2021

Province of La Union

Programs/Projects/Activities	Location	Appropriation	Date Started	Target Completion Date	Project Status		No. of Extensions, if any	Remarks
					% of Completion	Total Cost Incurred to date		
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT								
COVID-19 Disinfecting Machine	La Union	7,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	99.71%	6,980,000.00		
Drugs and Medicines (COVID-19)	La Union	6,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	88.81%	5,328,614.36		
Medical Supplies, Devices and Disinfectants (COVID-19)	La Union	3,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	100.00%	3,000,000.00		
Personal Protective Equipment (COVID-19)	La Union	2,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	40.46%	809,182.50		
Purchase of COVID19 Vaccines	La Union	4,822,493.86	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
Purchase of six (6) units Pharmaceutical Refrigerators and three (3) units Ultra Low Freezers for storage of COVID 19 Vaccines	La Union	7,842,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	98.70%	7,740,000.00		
Transportation Services for PGLU Frontliners and Health Workers (Van)	La Union	1,460,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	100.00%	1,460,000.00		
Food for the PGLU Isolation Facilities (meals)	La Union	3,148,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	71.98%	2,265,994.20		
Food for Frontliners and Quality Control Points (food allowance)	La Union	3,045,600.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	100.00%	3,045,600.00		
Home of Hope Supplies	La Union	2,260,101.72	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	86.15%	1,946,983.07		
COVID-19 PPEs and Supplies requirement for the 20 LGUs	La Union	1,954,157.60	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	100.00%	1,954,157.60		
Provision and maintenance of resources such as PPEs and essential drugs and medicines, vaccines, lab and medical supplies and disinfectants; COVID-19 PPEs and Supplies requirement for the 20 LGUs	La Union	9,180,842.40	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	99.10%	9,098,142.40		
COVID-19 PPEs and Supplies requirement for the 576 Barangays	La Union	5,226,990.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	98.75%	5,161,824.00		
COVID-19 Medicines	La Union	15,443,010.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	78.58%	12,134,615.00		
Provision of Home Accommodation, Shuttle Services and Other Assistance to Frontliners (Rent Expense)	La Union	2,870,400.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	80.73%	2,317,200.00		
Provision of Food Allowance for Border Control and Isolation Facilities	La Union	6,401,790.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	64.62%	4,136,519.50		
Barangay Ambulance/Multi-Purpose Vehicle	La Union	24,400,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	78.85%	19,240,000.00		
COVID-19 Manpower Augmentation Program: Hiring of Project-Based Frontliners	La Union	23,511,056.82	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	67.62%	15,899,281.79		
Laundry Services for Isolation Facilities	La Union	777,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
Generator with trailer for the mobile clinic of PHO	La Union	1,300,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	99.92%	1,299,000.00		
Computerized Radiography for the mobile clinic	La Union	1,900,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	99.92%	1,898,500.00		
Upgrading and equipping of PGLU Hospitals and Isolation Facilities - Buildings	La Union	17,500,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
Upgrading and equipping of PGLU Hospitals and Isolation Facilities - Furniture and Fixtures	La Union	6,510,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT								
		-				-		
Maintenance of Roads and Bridges	La Union	30,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	95.75%	28,725,870.72		
Tourism Sites/Facility Infrastructure Development	La Union	3,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	97.22%	2,916,641.66		
Loan Repayments (Purchase of Lot 1590)	La Union	87,373,678.20	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	99.26%	86,725,173.46		
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT								
		-				-		
Assistance to LGUs in the Establishment of Sanitary Landfill	La Union	9,500,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	83.68%	7,949,213.80		
Conduct of the Search for the Cleanest, Safest and Greenest LGUs in the Province (Project)	La Union	4,527,400.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
Establishment of Materials Recovery Facility	La Union	3,000,000.00	1/1/2021	12/31/2021	0.00%	-		
SUBTOTAL		294,954,520.60			78.67%	232,032,514.06		

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

FDP Form 12- Unliquidated Cash Advances

UNLIQUIDATED CASH ADVANCES
For the Fourth Quarter, CY 2021

Province, City or Municipality: LA UNION

Name of Debtor (in alphabetical order)	Amount Balance	Date Granted	Purpose	Amount Due					
				Current			Past Due		
				Less than 30 days	31-90 days	91-365 days	Over 1 year	Over 2 years	3 years and above
Aguino, Brenda	17,788.50	12/20/21	Grant of Cash Advance for BDI Dietary Supplies	17,788.50					
Algers, Ms. Camenota	32,940.00	12/13/21	Prisoner's Food Allowance	32,940.00					
Fernandez, Charito	8,682.70	12/22/21	Grant of Cash Advance for BDI Dietary Supplies	8,682.70					
Hugo, Sentinella	19,330.84	12/02/21	Grant of Cash Advance for BDI Dietary Supplies	19,330.84					
Remendez, Nara	23,832.69	11/29/21	Grant of Cash Advance for BDI Dietary Supplies		23,832.69				
Total	102,574.73			78,742.04	23,832.69	-	-	-	-

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

FDP Form 6 - Trust Fund Utilization

CONSOLIDATED QUARTERLY REPORT ON GOVERNMENT PROJECTS, PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER, CY 2021

Province: LA UNION

Program or Project	Location	Total Cost	Date Started	Target Completion Date	Project Status		No. of Extensions, if any	Remarks
					% of Completion	Total Cost Incurred to Date		
Performance Challenge Fund - Procurement of Two Rescue Vehicle	La Union	7,000,000.00	12/02/19	12/02/21	100.00%	7,000,000.00		
Medical Assistance Program	La Union	5,851,734.00	01/09/18	12/31/21	100.00%	5,851,481.04		
Completion of Annex Building, Renovation of Old Building, and Completion/Renovation and Modification of Operating Room of Balaon District Hospital		10,000,000.00	12/16/20	12/16/21	100.00%	10,000,000.00		
Construction of Communal Toilets in Coastal Areas	La Union	800,000.00	01/01/19	12/31/21	100.00%	799,258.90		
Delivery of Basic Health Services to Indigenous Cultural Communities	La Union	200,000.00	01/01/18	12/31/21	81.05%	162,100.00		
Provincial Malaria Elimination & Response/Sustenance of the Malaria Status of the Province	La Union	1,000,000.00	01/31/19	12/31/21	2.67%	26,650.00		
Excellence Award for Kalusugang Pangkalahatan	La Union	200,000.00	05/02/16	12/31/21	95.26%	190,520.00		
Improvement of DOTS Services & Operations in the LGU Hospitals	La Union	600,000.00	05/05/15	12/31/21	49.85%	299,100.00		
Maternal Newborn Child Health and Nutrition (MNCNH)	La Union	2,036,752.00	12/04/14	12/31/21	98.21%	2,000,379.39		
Dap-Ayan for Tourism Culture and the Arts	La Union	900,000.00	04/28/18	12/31/20	100.00%	900,000.00		
National Quality Corn Achievers Award 2019	La Union	3,000,000.00	02/05/20	12/31/21	82.85%	2,485,496.00		
Pilipine Rural Development Project - I-Build Projects	La Union	99,335,231.84	12/26/19	12/31/21	100.00%	99,335,231.84		
Pilipine Rural Development Project - Green Carabao Mango Production, Consolidation and Marketing Enterprise	La Union	8,424,652.38	10/12/18	12/31/21	90.10%	7,591,028.89		
Pilipine Rural Development Project - Mungbean Enterprise	La Union	2,650,868.37	12/10/19	12/31/21	80.34%	2,129,748.37		
Rice Achievers Award 2015-2016	La Union	4,000,000.00	01/01/18	12/31/21	66.89%	2,675,654.00		
RWMHEEF SHARE (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	7,552,968.09	10/14/20	12/31/21	42.51%	3,210,717.32		
DLF Share (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	2,418,450.86	02/23/21	12/31/21	9.86%	238,473.57		
EF Share (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	378,934.64	06/01/20	12/31/21	99.59%	377,365.36		
LGSF-Assistance to Indigent Individuals or Families	La Union	25,000,000.00	01/31/19	12/31/21	98.84%	24,709,500.00		
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Caba-Naguilan Road Phase II	La Union	40,000,000.00	10/07/19	07/24/20	100.00%	40,000,000.00	292 calendar days	
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Santol-San Gabriel Road Phase III	La Union	25,000,000.00	10/07/19	07/17/20	100.00%	25,000,000.00	285 calendar days	
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Balaon-Santol Road Phase II	La Union	24,578,111.00	10/16/19	07/02/20	100.00%	24,578,111.00	261 calendar days	
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Poblacion (Aringay)-Calikip	La Union	50,000,000.00	08/11/20	03/23/21	100.00%	50,000,000.00	14 calendar days	
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Sto. Tomas-Agoon-Tubao	La Union	42,793,838.00	08/11/20	03/08/21	100.00%	42,793,838.00	55 calendar days	
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Sto. Tomas-Agoon-Tubao Road Phase II	La Union	35,000,000.00	08/20/21	01/31/22	0.00%	5,234,469.01		
Fixed Tranche Work and Financial Plan 2021 of the Provincial Health Office	La Union	1,367,056.00	01/01/21	12/31/21	9.33%	127,550.00		
Construction of Isolation Facility at Balaon District Hospital	La Union	6,600,947.87	12/20/20	05/18/21	100.00%	6,600,947.87		
LGSF- Disaster Rehabilitation and Construction Assistance Program (DRRAP)	La Union	600,728.00	02/23/21	12/31/21	0.00%	-		
Special Risk Allowance (SRA)	La Union	37,615,418.18	10/27/21	12/31/21	53.38%	20,077,670.16		
LGSF- Financial Assistance to Local Government Units (FA to LGUs)	La Union	20,000,000.00	10/11/21	12/31/21	0.00%	-		

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

Prepared by:
ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

Approved by:
FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

FDP Form 8 - Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund Utilization
(COA Form)

LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT FUND UTILIZATION
For the 4th Quarter, CY 2021

Province: LA UNION

Particulars	LRRRMF		NDRRMF	From Other LGUs	From Other Sources	Total
	Quick Response Fund (QRF) 30%	Mitigation Fund 70%				
A. Sources of Funds (Unutilized Balances)						
Current Appropriations	3,204,002.00	38,444,785.61				41,648,787.61
Supplemental Budget # 4		377,017.70				377,017.70
Supplemental Budget # 9		3,020,000.00				3,020,000.00
Supplemental Budget # 11		1,050,000.00				1,050,000.00
Supplemental Budget # 12		100,000.00				100,000.00
Supplemental Budget # 13		178,197.23				178,197.23
Continuing Appropriations		11,123,128.18				11,123,128.18
Previous Year's Appropriations transferred to the Special Trust Fund		2,830,827.66				2,830,827.66
Total Funds Available	3,204,002.00	57,123,956.38	-	-	-	60,327,958.38
B. Utilization						
Pre-An's Enterprises for the PPE, laboratory and medical supplies delivered to PGLU to be used during COVID-19 pandemic. V#3006, ch#2026020, JEV-2021-10-010794		891,000.00				891,000.00
Toyota La Union for the repair and maintenance of A7N-338, P7N-043, A7R-237 (PDRMO rescue vehicle). V# 2984 ch# 2025794, JEV-2021-10-010941		45,958.15				45,958.15
Payment of Cash Assistance to Gina Gapingan, et al. for hog raisers affected with African Swine Fever (5th batch). JEV-2021-10-011501, JEV-2021-11-012029, JEV-2021-11-012029		3,021,000.00				3,021,000.00
Palmer-Asia Inc. for the purchased Rescue Emergency Vehicle Truck for use at the PDRMO. V#3226A, ch#2026254		5,944,999.00				5,944,999.00
MetroVision Customized Printing & Gen. Mdse for the family food packs for disaster and COVID-19 relief operation and for stockpiling. V#3287, ch#2026440 JEV-2021-11-012064		11,465,000.00				11,465,000.00
Toyota La Union for the repair and maintenance of SAA-6350 & SAA-2071 (PDRMO rescue vehicle and ambulance). V#3249 ch# 2026246, JEV-2021-11-011996		27,295.67				27,295.67
Toyota La Union for the repair and maintenance of P7E 988 (PDRMO rescue vehicle). V# 3260 ch# 2026272, JEV-2021-11-012020		12,422.87				12,422.87
Carr brake Auto Supply for the Tires and Batteries of PDRMO rescue vehicle. V# 3336 ch# 2026429, JEV-2021-11-012070		53,337.68				53,337.68
Payment to Toyota La union for the repair and maintenance of Rescue Vehicle- SAA-6350 of PDRMO. V# 3413 ch# 2026481		36,000.00				36,000.00
King's Safetynet Inc. for the purchased fire search rescue equipment to be used by PDRMO during disaster and emergency response. V#3614, ch#2026590, JEV-2021-12-013228, JEV-2021-12-013229		470,000.00				470,000.00
Carr Brake Auto Supply for the repair and maintenance of service vehicles at the PDRMO Office. V#3561, Ch#2026526, JEV-2021-12-013229		395,760.00				395,760.00
Payment of Cash Assistance to Eddie Gumnad, et al. for hog raisers affected with African Swine Fever (6th batch). JEV-2021-12-013239, JEV-2021-12-013765, JEV-2021-12-013793, JEV-2021-12-015596		2,570,000.00				2,570,000.00
Autobarts AutoShop for the upgrade of PDRMO vehicle with Plate No. AS H739 & SKA-800. V#3743, ch#2026749, JEV-2021-12-013880		638,000.00				638,000.00
Payment of Cash Assistance to Jocelyn Benita, et al. for hog raisers affected with African Swine Fever (7th batch). RD62, JEV-2021-12-013764		397,000.00				397,000.00
Toyota La Union for the repair and maintenance of Rescue Vehicle A7N388, P7E988, SAA2071, A7R237, SAA6350 & AS739 of PDRMO. V# 3719 ch# 2026694, JEV-2021-12-013920		101,375.11				101,375.11
Carr brake Auto Supply for the Tires and Batteries of PDRMO jetski. JEV-2021-12-014032		6,500.00				6,500.00
Carr brake Auto Supply for the Tires and Batteries of PDRMO rescue vehicle A7R 237 JEV-2021-12-014250		12,980.00				12,980.00
Toyota La Union for the preventive maintenance of rescue vehicle SO Q300 of PDRMO. V# 3831 ch# 2026734, JEV-2021-12-014322		7,146.76				7,146.76
A-Ramp Trading for the purchased drugs and medicines for use at PDRMO during emergencies. JEV-2021-12-014822		58,078.30				58,078.30
Dreiblund Corporation for the payment of medical supplies at PDRMO during emergency operation JEV-2021-12-015012		994,400.40				994,400.40
Medspex Solutions, Inc. for the medical supplies for use at PDRMO during emergency operations. JEV-2021-12-015031		1,480,709.28				1,480,709.28
Toyota La Union for the repair and maintenance of rescue vehicle SAA 6350 of PDRMO. JEV-2021-12-015083		25,140.50				25,140.50
AMRRMR Forwarders, Inc. for the fuel, oil and lubricants expenses of PDRMO rescue vehicle for the period September to December 15, 2021 JEV-2021-12-015156		888,805.78				888,805.78
Total Utilization	-	29,542,909.50	-	-	-	29,542,909.50
Unutilized Balance	3,204,002.00	27,581,046.88	-	-	-	30,785,048.88

STATEMENT OF DEBT SERVICE										
CY 2022										
PROVINCE OF LA UNION										
GENERAL FUND										
Creditor (1)	Date Contracted (2)	Term (3)	Principal Amount (4)	Previous Payments Made		Amount Due for CY 2022			Balance of the	
				Principal (5)	Interest (6)	Principal (7)	Interest (8)	Total (9)	Principal (10)	Total (11)
Land Bank of the Philippines	August 20, 2018	10 years	170,450,980.00	41,870,334.33	25,835,321.17	67,805,655.50	21,035,065.84	7,469,960.85	28,565,016.79	116,545,589.83
Land Bank of the Philippines	July 18, 2019	10 years	500,000,000.00	63,946,678.36	58,658,992.27	122,605,670.63	59,233,715.40	24,308,104.56	83,541,819.96	385,819,606.24
TOTAL			688,450,980.00	105,817,012.69	84,494,313.44	190,411,326.13	80,268,771.24	31,778,065.41	112,046,836.75	602,365,196.07

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

MANPOWER COMPLEMENT				
Republic of the Philippines				
Budget Year 2021				
Fourth Quarter				
Nature of Appointment or Employment	Number	Compensation and Other Benefits		Total
		Salaries and Wages	Other Monetary Benefits	
I. Permanent	1,464	421,772,976.43	273,212,337.35	694,985,313.78
II. Contractual				
III. Job Order/Contract Service	487	77,231,585.71	15,017,210.00	92,248,795.71
Grand Total	1,951	499,004,562.14	288,229,547.35	787,234,109.49

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

AGNES GRAJE G. CARGAMENTO
Provincial Administrator

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

Notes:

1. Contractual personnel are those whose employment in the government is in accordance with a special contract to undertake a specific work or job, requiring special or technical skills not available in the employing agency, to be accomplished within a specific period, which in no case shall exceed one year, and performs or accomplishes the specific work or job, under his own responsibility with a minimum of direction and supervision from the hiring agency. (Source: PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 807 October 6, 1975)

2. Contract of Services/Job Orders are employees whose services rendered are not considered governments services and do not enjoy the benefits enjoyed by government employees. The job order covers piece work or intermittent job of short duration not exceeding six months on a daily basis. (Source: Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of E.O. No. 292 and Other Pertinent Civil Service Laws)

Note:

Permanent Position - includes coterminous but plantilla position; permanent casual but plantilla position

Contractual - includes consultant, compensation from PS

Job Order/Contract Service - includes Casual; compensation from MOOE; coterminous but NOT plantilla position

SEF UTILIZATION	
Fourth Quarter, CY 2021	
Province - LA UNION	
Receipt from SEF	91,992,289.75
Less : DISBURSEMENTS (broken down by expense class and by object of expenditure)	
Personal Services	
Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses	
Training Expenses	497,419.00
Donations	10,225,650.00
Other Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses	1,800,000.00
Capital Outlay	
Land	318,987.34
Buildings and Other Structures	23,024,976.62
Construction in Progress - Buildings and Other Structures	11,252,065.59
Financial Expenses	
Total Disbursements	47,119,098.55
Balance	44,873,191.20

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the data or information contained in this document.

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

LA UNION'S 2022 BUDGET: A WORK IN PROGRESS, A BUDGET FOR PROGRESS

Hiram Nephi A. Costales, GPC-PBO

In alignment to the CY 2022 National Budgets overarching theme "Sustaining the Legacy of Real Change for the Future Generations," the Province of La Union proposed its own Budget with the priorities on the Stronger La Union Roadmap on Response, Recovery, and Local Economic Development towards becoming the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.

With a total budget of P2,094,486,596.00 for the General Fund and P316,056,372.00 for the Economic Enterprises, the Province of La Union continues to prioritize funding for CoViD-19 response measures that includes programs, projects and activities for healthcare development and social services. At the same time, the province is planning to implement projects to sustain Public Infrastructure investments to restore the course of its growth during pre-pandemic.

With the leverage of modernized agriculture and sustainable tourism development to improve the quality of life of the constituents, the province also allotted budget for agricultural programs and activities headed by the Provincial Agriculture Office with an amount of P50,713,840.00 and the La Union Provincial Tourism Office with an amount of 35,054,722.00.

In line with the priority programs of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III for continuous measures to combat CoViD-19, the focus on Healthcare Services consists of funding various programs and projects spearheaded by the Provincial Health Office with a total of P139,780,408.79 of the total budget of the province with the local Provincial District Hospitals having their own budget amounting to P316,956,372.00. Aside from these funds, there is also a Social Development Fund to support Social Development within the province amounting to P177,600,172.00 which is part of the mandated 20% of the total Budget of the province for inclusive Development Fund. These funds for programs in healthcare services help with the strategic measures to continue the health pandemic response and recovery and start to regularize

implementation of the Universal Health Care Service Delivery Network towards the new normal in the post-pandemic era.

The 20% Local Development Fund of the budget includes an amount of P133,020,320.00 reserved for Economic Development such as Maintenance of Provincial Roads and Bridges, Infrastructure Development for Tourism and Cultural Site preservations, and Maintenance of Eco-Tourism Sites. An amount of P88,750,000.00 for Environment Management and Development is also included that focus to finance Projects that enhance and maintain the environmental structures within La Union. These programs for the environment include programs such as Water Quality management and marine protection activities, Assistance for local government units (LGUs) in the Establishment of Wastewater facilities, and the assistance for LGUs for their establishment of Sanitary Landfill.

On top of these funds solely mandated to fund development programs, the Province of La Union appropriated an amount of

P340,138,363.18 under the Special Purposes Appropriations for prioritize programs and activities of the province for the constituents deemed by the Governor as necessary and also mandated by local Ordinances enacted by our Legislative Committees. This includes activities for support and assistance to our local Stakeholders that includes the Non-Government Agencies, the component LGUs, and Civil Society Organizations. It also includes scholarship funds for the constituents attending Colleges and Senior High School, Aid to Individuals in Crisis Situation such as Burial and Medical Assistance, Peace and Order Programs that includes Anti-Illegal Drug Activities, and additional Subsidy for the operation of the Provincial District Hospitals.

With this projection for CY 2022, The province looks forward to a progressive year and the constituents will surely hope for a better La Union. Despite CoViD-19's attempt to hinder the progress of the province, the Programs and activities aims to enable the pre-pandemic tract of progress towards attaining the vision of the province to be worth living in.



LU TALENTS SHINE IN THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL THEATER SCENE

With the restrictions brought about by the current pandemic, theater halls may be closed, and stages may be empty, but that does not mean that nothing is happening for local and international actors of La Union. Community-based theater group Dulaang ELYU brought the province's talents to the virtual stage of the 15th Tanghal National University and Community-based Theater Festival. At the same time, Balaoan, La Union-native Winchester Lopez continues to shine in the Vienna, Austria production of the Broadway hit musical Miss Saigon.

Dulaang ELYU's drama piece "Kayatayo" focused on the festival's theme "Theater in New Normal Life" and created a platform for conversations on theater practice including, challenges and opportunities on the national and global scales during the so-called "New Normal." Their performance showcased the power of a community working together during difficult times. The 15th Tanghal, which is the fourth time the group is participating, highlighted the traditions and interweaving boundaries that make up the theater fiber of each region towards a colorful fabric of Philippine theater.

"Our mission is to explore collaborative platforms so it is imperative to continuously tap

on our network of performers from different theater groups across the province for most of our performances," Dulaang ELYU's Production Manager Vernon Albert Cabading shared during an interview with La Union Provincial Tourism Office (LUPTO) – Culture and Arts Section (CAS). Cabading added that the creative team continues to make plans for the group and future productions amidst the pandemic.

On the other hand, Winchester Lopez enjoys his stint as an international theater performer in the Vienna, Austria tour of 'Miss Saigon'. Lopez plays the Swing/Dance Captain role – a challenging but fulfilling role for him. Aside from being a professional dance teacher, Lopez has been a professional jazz and contemporary dance artist for more than 17 years. So snagging in the hit Broadway musical is truly a milestone in his professional art career.

In a virtual interview, Lopez said that 'Miss Saigon' is opening its doors for many Filipino and Asian talents since the play's setting is in war period Vietnam. "This is life-changing for a lot of Asian actors and me. Every aspiring Asian actor out there would love to get into a big-scale show like this. It has opened up many opportunities for Asian actors and has put us on the map. We're grateful for this kind of show that

we have been given the opportunity to be involved in," Lopez added.

After finishing primary education in Balaoan, La Union, Lopez qualified for a full dance scholarship in Philippine High School for the Arts in Makiling, Laguna. His stint in the University of the Philippines (UP) Filipiniana Dance Group earned him a scholarship and degree in the

same university.

With this pride for the province, the Provincial Government of La Union commits its continued support to the artistic and cultural organizations. It shall be steadfast in nurturing opportunities and life-changing experiences in culture and the arts towards a Stronger La Union – a province worth living in.



LA UNION CELEBRATES OUR LADY OF NAMACPACAN'S SESQUICENTENNIAL ARRIVAL ANNIVERSARY

Loreнна C. Luna, GPC-LUPTO



Parishioners and devotees of the Parish of Saint Catherine of Alexandria in the Municipality of Luna, La Union, celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Arrival of Our Lady of Namacpacan on November 19, 2021. Famously known as Apo Baket (dear elderly woman) by the locals, the faithful community-led various activities to highlight the religious milestone of the Shrine of Our Lady of Namacpacan.

The celebration started with a fluvial procession by local fishing boats and the Philippine Coast Guard embarking from the shores of Baluarte Watchtower in Barangay Victoria to Darigayos Cove. Then, attendees witnessed the actual re-enactment of the arrival of the Marian image on the shores of USAFIP-NL National Military Shrine and Park in Barangay Darigayos.

Most Rev. Daniel O. Presto, DD, Archbishop of the Diocese of San Fernando de La Union, presided over the eucharistic celebration and other diocesan and missionary priests. Former congressman and Gov. Victor

Francisco C. Ortega and his wife, former City of San Fernando Mayor Mary Jane C. Ortega, were present during the event. The celebration continued with a grand procession to St. Catherine of Alexandria Church and ended with a final blessing and fireworks.

The sesquicentennial anniversary celebrations continued until, November 25, 2021, for the Feast of Saint Catherine of Alexandria.

According to chronicles, the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary from Spain was supposed to be brought to the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, found refuge and haven in the pueblo of Namacpacan, now Municipality of Luna after a heavy storm in the year 1871. Stories and legends of Apo Baket's miracles travel far and wide, especially to the lost and hungry being guided and fed in their journeys as the town acted as a resting place for travelers before. This is why the pueblo was then called Namacpacan – an Iloko word that means giving and serving meals.

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PGLU PARTNERS WITH DTI FOR LA UNION FAIREST 2021

Mia Jayn Ochoco, GPC-LEEIPU



The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Local Economic Enterprise and Investment Promotions Unit (LEEIPU) supports the La Union's Fairest in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) La Union.

With the theme "La Union's Fairest @20: Agkaykaysa toward MSME Recovery", the Trade Fair was launched on December 9, 2021 at the CSI City Mall Atrium, highlighting local products of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and OTOP Hub La Union 2.0.

Aside from featuring 38 MSMEs/Exhibitors in the Trade Fair, special presentation and awarding of certificates for the successful completion of the Branding and Product Development for La Union OTOPreneurs was also conducted.

Present during the ceremonial

ribbon cutting of the trade fair were Board Members Jonathan Justo Orros, Nancy Corazon Bacurnay, Jennifer Mosuela-Fernandez, Abraham Rimando, and Gerard Ostrea. Together with them were Mayor Menchie Lomboy-De Guzman of Bauang, LUVWI City of San Fernando Chapter Chairperson Ms. Raphaelle Veronica Ortega-David, DTI Provincial Director Merlie D. Membrere and LEEIPU Head Charito C. Dator.

In his message delivered by Board Member Orros, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III emphasized, "Makakaasa po kayo na patuloy tayong magsusulong ng pantay na oportunidad upang mapalago ang inyong mga negosyo. We are La Union, and our unity is what gets us through our toughest moments. That's how we know something better is awaiting with our steady, persistent, collective effort."

PG-ENRO CONDUCTS COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS ACTIVITY

Grace Libong, GPC-ENRO

In support to the #KalikasanNaman Campaign, the Provincial Government of La Union's (PGLU) forefront program in fostering ecological integrity, and clean and healthy environment, the Provincial Government-Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO) strengthened its programs and initiatives on environmental advocacies through a two-day Environmental Awareness Activity held on December 9-10, 2021.

In partnership with the Municipality of San Gabriel and the assistance of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the PG-ENRO conducted Community Environmental Awareness activity on December 9, 2021 which aims to raise awareness and educate the youth on the importance of mountains and help communities adapt to climate change and conserve natural resources.

The conduct of Environmental Awareness in San Gabriel evolved

on the discussion of climate change, forest protection, coastal and freshwater resources protection in connection to proper solid waste management. Distribution of hygiene kits and slippers to 98 beneficiaries, mostly children, also happened in the activity. Moreover, the Municipal Health Unit of San Gabriel stressed the importance of CoViD-19 vaccines and conducted on-the-spot Vaccination to interested individuals. On the other hand, PNP distributed different Information and Education Campaign materials/pamphlets as they discussed their commitment to serve and protect the people, especially women and children. A total of 121 children and adults participated in the said successful activity.

In line with the annual celebration of International Mountain Day on December 10, 2021 PG-ENRO Staff climbed and documented La Union's highest peak - Mount Mugong. The team trekked a distance of 2.78 kilometers uphill

from the nearest community (Sitio Nalusbo) and reached the summit after almost 2.5 hours. Along the scenic trail, floral diversity of vines, ferns, palms and native trees and shrubs, the team was able to appreciate the beauty even more.

To commemorate their activity and to take part in the IMD

celebration, PG-ENRO planted 10 native seedlings of Kupang and Arangin on top of the mountain.

PGLU remains optimistic that our kaprobinsiaan will continue supporting #KalikasanNaman and shall take part in taking care of our natural resources for a more ecological, clean and environment-friendly province.



LIGTAS NA BAGONG TAON, LIGTAS SA VIRUS: KALIGTASAN SA LU TOURISM ESTABLISHMENTS SINIGURO NG PGLU

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO



Patuloy ang random inspections ng joint team ng Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) mula sa La Union Provincial Tourism Office at Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office; Philippine National Police (PNP); at Department of Tourism Region I sa mga La Union tourism establishments sa kanilang pagsunod sa minimum health standards habang patuloy rin ang maigting na pagbabantay ng border checkpoints sa mga requirements ng pumapasok sa probinsya noong Disyembre 31, 2021 kasabay ng paghahanda sa pagsalubong sa Bagong Taon 2022.

Ininspika ang compliance ng mga tourism establishments sa San Juan, La Union na isa sa pinakadinadagsa ng mga turista ngayong holiday seasons. Maliban sa pagpapaalala sa mga dapat sunding minimum health standards ay ipinaalala rin sa kanila ang responsibilidad sa pagberipika ng requirements ng mga customers batay sa PGLU Executive Order No. 55, series of 2021.

Kasabay ng monitoring ay ang round-the-clock na pagbabantay ng PGLU at PNP sa mga entry borders ng probinsya upang siguruhin na kumpleto ang mga requirements ng mga pumapasok sa probinsya lalo na ngayong pinaghahandan ang bagong taon.

Sa pakikipagtulungan ng PGLU sa iba't ibang ahensya at establisyemento at pagsulong ng #DisiplinaKoma sa mga kaprobinsiaan, mapapanatili natin ang kaligtasan ng bawat isa hindi lang ngayong holiday seasons kundi sa mga susunod pang araw.

5 SAFETY SEALS CONFERRED TO ALL PGLU CAPITOL COMPLEX BUILDINGS

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

Ensuring the safety of clients and employees, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) received on November 15, 2021, five Safety Seals for all the buildings in the capitol complex during the PGLU Monday Flag Raising Ceremony.

The buildings in the capitol complex including the Main Capitol, Provincial Engineering Office, Provincial General Services Office, Old and New Sangguniang Panlalawigan Buildings underwent the DILG Safety Seal Validation and Assessment of the Inter-Agency Safety Validation Team from the Department of the Interior and Local Government, Bureau of Fire Protection, and the Philippine National Police on November 5, 2021.

The PGLU Safety Seal Team presented the compliance of the organization to 14 out of 14 checklists as the validation team

lauded the preparedness of the PGLU most especially in the main capitol building which caters to most PGLU clients.

To continue the great start, purchase of UV scanner for document sterilization or sanitization; additional air purifiers and air filters; and installation of additional barriers (for frontline) will be done by the PGLU as recommended by the validation team in preparation for the next assessment which will happen in six months.

Gov. Pacoy also announced to the Cabinet Members that there will also be schedules for Safety Seal Assessments for PGLU Buildings and Hospitals outside the Complex.

In his message, Gov. Pacoy emphasized the relevance of the safety seal saying, "I am optimistic that all our facilities and offices will pass the DILG

Safety Seal as this is a manifestation of our commitment to deliver outstanding public service in the CoViD-19 pandemic."

He also expressed his appreciation to all PGLU employees for their service, "To all offices, hospitals, and work units of the Provincial Government of La Union, thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for your demonstrated relentless

pursuit for excellence in providing our best for our clients - our kaprobinsiaan...I therefore ask each of you whatever your position or rank may be, continue being true to our sworn oath of public service and perform your duties as public servants...work relentlessly for we want to give the brand of service we wish to receive as we too, are constituents and residents of this great province."



PGLU PARTNERS WITH NCCA, EXPERTS TO TRAIN LOCAL ARTISTS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

To promote, support and continue the creative and artistic expressions of the province's local arts community amidst the CoViD-19 pandemic, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the La Union Provincial Tourism Office - Culture and Arts Section has conducted free Online Learning Series for various arts and culture stakeholders under the program Singing Galing for Recovery and Healing from October to November 2021 via video conferencing.

With three components - Open Space Arts, Iloko Songs, and Composition, and Therapeutic Performance Arts, Singing Galing aims to assist and encourage school-based and community-based artists and arts stakeholders to be part of the moving forward initiatives of the local and national government towards recovery and reintegration. Training Phase sessions offered two area discussions facilitated by local and national experts.

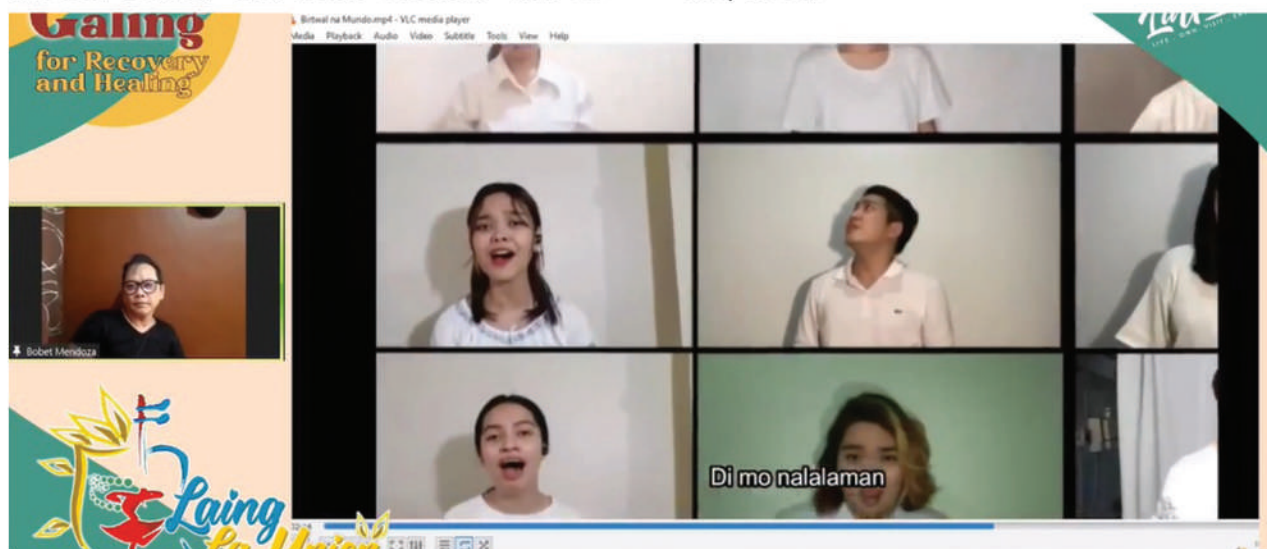
Attended by 113 participants, MARIS TI AGLAWLaU: Pride of Place Mural Painting kicked off the series on October 11, 2021, with topics on Creative Arts of Life in the Midst of Crises, and Theories, Processes, and Experience in Mural Art. Trained participants gained insights into the theoretical and professional mural design, which helped them produce entries for the component's mural painting competition.

Meanwhile, local singers and composers participated in the second session dubbed SAMIWENG: Iloko Singing Online Learning on November 9, 2021. Topics discussed by OPM icon Noel Cabangon and Kampeon Ti Lengguah 2021 awardee Djuna R. Alcantara encouraged and inspired 125 participants on experiences, strategies, and style of producing and writing Filipino and Iloko songs.

Capping the program, mentors from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts actively facilitated LAING La Union: Therapeutic Theater, Dance, and Music sessions with 211

participants on November 25 - 26, 2021. Participants learned the potent and power of performance arts as a healing platform amidst the challenges and effects of restrictions and quarantine and its contribution to overall wellness.

As communities move forward from the effects of the current pandemic and the onslaught of recent typhoons, the PGLU is steadfast in developing creative and dynamic learning platforms to ensure that stakeholders of the local arts community receive the intervention they need.



PGLU GRANTS WORK FOR STUDENTS THROUGH SPES

Rowell B. Timoteo, GPC - PESO

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Provincial Public Employment Service Office (PESO) granted a 22-day work for 30 Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) beneficiaries as part of the Second Batch of SPES Deployment in the different departments and offices in the PGLU.

Hired SPES Workers together with their parents were given SPES Employment Guidelines Orientation on November 10, 2021 from Provincial PESO Manager Ms. Charito C. Dator together with Labor and Employment Officer III Ms. Darbie Ann A. Fernandez of Department of Labor and Employment - La Union Field Office at 4th Floor, LUPAC Building, Quezon Ave., City of San Fernando, La Union.

Before the start of SPES Employment Period, the 30 SPES beneficiaries were directed to undergo CoViD-19 RT-PCR Swab Test as part of the strict compliance in the CoViD-19 Safety and Health Protocols of PGLU. All test results were negative and the majority of the 2nd batch SPES workers were already inoculated with CoViD-19 Vaccines.

SPES is one of the PESO programs that aims to help needy but deserving students to encourage and provide employment to be able to gain income to help them pursue their education. This program is mandated under Republic Act 10917 and DOLE Department Order No. 175 Series of 2017. The 30 SPES Workers rendered employment in PGLU on November 15 - December 17, 2021.

SPES is an excellent training ground for students to discover and develop their skills as they go on with their studies. This program has always been a part of PGLU's development agenda for education and employment.

