



LU TALENTS TAKE STAGE IN AGASEM! THE KAPROBINSIAN TALENT SHOWDOWN; BAUANG DANCE GROUP SECURES CHAMPIONSHIP

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

Held in the Baluarte Watchtower in Luna, La Union, a National Cultural Treasure, the first 'AGASEM! The Kaprobinsian Talent Showdown' which staged La Union talents hailed elyU Dance Company of Bauang as the Champion with their combination of pop jazz, contemporary, and hip-hop dance performance on March 12, 2022.

With the purpose to stage world-class talents from La Union, the talent competition was open to group and individual acts representing the 20 component Local Government Units of the province.

Other winners included Human Beatbox of the People's City of San Fernando as 2nd place; Singing Diva of Sudipen as 3rd place; Talentadong Guro, Timek iti Agoo as 4th place; and Dynamic Painters of Bangar as 5th place.

In his message, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III expressed gratitude to all who took part in the event and added, "Ngayong gabi, panahon na upang makilala ang ating probinsya bilang tahanan ng mga talentado at mahuhusay na

Pilipino na tunay nating maipagmamalaki saan mang panig ng mundo. Panahon na upang ang mga taga-La Union naman ang maging bida sa kanyang sariling kuwento."

The winning dance group from Bauang dedicated their performance to their families who serve as their source of inspiration as well as to their municipality. They expressed gratitude as this is the first time they are again given the opportunity to perform following the sudden halt brought by the pandemic.

Among the celebrity judges who decided the winners were Philippine prides Noel Cabangon, Lorraine Galvez, Alab Poi's Benjamin Tiniao, Boobay, and Streetboys who also gave electrifying performances.

The winners brought home trophies and cash prizes with high hopes to continue to spread words about tatak LUCal talents of La Union. The Provincial Government of La Union continues to foster programs to support inclusive development for all kaprobinsiaan to feel that truly, we are La Union La Unay.



LA UNION LA UNAY: PAGGUNITA NG IKA-172 ANIBERSARYO NG LA UNION BINIGYANG-DIIN ANG PAG-IBIG

Shairalene Guerrero at John Elysar Martin, PIO

Maalab ang pagsalubong sa ika-172 Anibersaryo ng Probinsya ng La Union noong Marso 2, 2022 sa pamamagitan ng pagsasagawa ng Flag Raising Ceremony sa Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union kung saan binigyang-diin ang pag-ibig sa temang "La Union La Unay: Naggapu iti Ayat, Gapu iti Ayat."

Nagkaroon ng Parade of Colors at raising of flags na pinangunahan ni Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III at ng mga Provincial Officials, Provincial Government of La Union Department Heads, Philippine National Police Marching Band at ng Security Services Unit.

Sabay-sabay namang itinaas ang mga local government unit (LGU) official seal banners na kumakatawan sa 19 na munisipalidad, isang syudad at probinsya habang kinakanta ang La Union Hymn kasunod ang pagpapalipad ng mga kalapati



bilang simbolo ng kapayapaan at pagkakaisa sa probinsya.

Sa naging talumpati ni Gov. Pacoy, binigyang diin niya na ang lahat ng ipinagdiriwang sa kasalukuyan ay nagmula sa pag-ibig na nabuo sa mahabang

panahon. Ang mga ito ay may malaking bahagi sa hinaharap, "Today, as we embark into a new chapter of history, we are reassured that we are always ready to face the future...It is our duty to secure a bright tomorrow that is why we are very much

dedicated to seizing opportunities in building a Stronger La Union that sits us up further into a secure, self-sufficient and sustainable province."

Naging makabuluhan din ang pagtatanim ng mga Bougainvillea sa Pagoda Park bilang simbolo ng pagkakakilanlan at kagandahan ng probinsya. Ang bougainvillea ay kinikilalang Provincial Flower sa bisa ng Provincial Ordinance No. 055-2014.

Kasabay ng pagdiriwang sa Provincial Capitol ay ang pagsasagawa rin ng flag raising ceremony sa mga component LGUs bilang pakikiisa sa pagdiriwang.

Sa pagdiriwang na ito ay mas napatunayan ang nananaig na pagmamahal at pagkakaisa ng Pamilyang La Union a naggapu iti ayat, gapu iti ayat! Dahil sa lahat ng panahon, datayo ket La Union La Unay!

LU LIBRARIES CELEBRATE PUBLIC LIBRARY DAY; INCREASE RESOURCES

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

In time for the celebration of the 63rd Public Library Day on March 9, 2022, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the La Union Provincial Library (LUPL) turned over Tourism Books to the La Union Public Libraries Association to be added to their respective Library Agri-Tourism Corners during their monthly meeting at the LUPL, City of San Fernando, La Union.

As their contribution to the realization of the Province's vision to position La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025, all public libraries in the province are maintaining their Agri-Tourism Corner containing resources in the topic.

Certificates of Completion for the 2021 Monthly Accomplishment Reports Completers from the National Library of the Philippines were also awarded to the public libraries Manuel E. Arquilla Silid Karunungan at Kultura in Bauang; Dr. Eufanio Chan Eriguel Congressional E-Library in Agoo;

Atty. Al-Fred O. Concepcion Municipal E-Library in Balaoan; City Of San Fernando Public Library; and Rosario Municipal Library. The LUPL is also a recipient of the same award.

To improve their services as public offices, Citizen's Charter preparation and utilization was also discussed in the meeting to ensure that customers have good library experience.

Provincial Librarian Ms. Marissa D. Acosta expressed her commitment to continue to collaborate with their counterparts in the Local Government Units to ensure that they are calibrated and aligned in their knowledge and resources management.

By virtue of Proclamation No. 563, series of 1959, March 9 of every year was designated as Public Library Day. PGLU recognizes the vital roles of public libraries most especially now that re-opening of face-to-face classes are eyed soon.

LU SK FEDERATION PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SELECTED BENEFICIARIES

Jiroh Joy D. Marbella, GPC-SP

With the intent to ease the educational worries of some students, the National Youth Commission (NYC), through the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation of La Union, continues to provide one-time educational and financial assistance to 1,000 kaprobinsiaan-beneficiaries aged 15-30 years old under the Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office 1's (DSWD-FOI) Assistance to Individuals/Families in Crisis Situation (AICS).

The awarding of educational support cash assistance began on March 2022 and targets to end in the first week of April 2022. It aims to assist and support students with their educational expenses and to improve student access in higher education by aiding them and their families in locating, getting, and effectively utilizing all available financial resources. Moreso, the program helps disadvantaged but deserving youth to continue in school and finish their education, allowing them to rise beyond their circumstances.

A thorough screening and selection process was conducted to identify beneficiaries. SK Federation Presidents, with the help of their SK Council of their respective municipalities/city selected deserving beneficiaries with the assistance of the Municipal and City Social Welfare Development Offices.

SK Federation of La Union led by Hon. Alyssa Kristine Sibuma expressed their gratitude to the NYC and DSWD-FOI AICS for this very meaningful and beneficial program. Likewise, Hon. Sibuma thanked the SK Federation Presidents of each municipality/city for their contributions to the success of this program.

Truly, the Provincial Government of La Union acknowledged the importance of education especially to the youth sector and helps them out in pursuing a better future as they shall become contributors in building a Stronger La Union, a province worth living in.

WHO, UNICEF, CDC CHECK LU VACCINATION BEST PRACTICES

John Elysar Martin, PIO

With the aim to streamline the National Government's CoViD-19 vaccination program, The World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) paid a visit at the La Union Provincial Capitol for the conduct of the CoViD-19 Post-Introduction Evaluation (cPIE) on April 20, 2022.

The evaluators from the WHO, UNICEF and CDC are deployed in the different parts of Ilocos Region including the Province of La Union to gather data and to properly check the implementation of the immunization program as a vital action in protecting the constituents against the deadly virus.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" Ortega III represented by Provincial Administrator Agnes

Grace Cargamento, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Eduardo Posadas and Vaccination Program Operations Manager Dr. Dan William Dacanay warmly welcomed Dr. Sara Clements of the United States CDC, WHO Representatives Dr. Sweet Alipon and Ms. Angel Zorilla, WHO Philippines Representative Mr. Venjie Benito and UNICEF Philippines Representatives Ms. Kathleen Solis and Ms. Teresita Hilario.

The said activity aims to assess the outstanding implementation strategies of the vaccination rollout and activities including the challenges encountered, provide recommendations for both national and subnational levels in order to optimize the impact from CoViD-19 vaccination, assess the impact of CoViD-19 vaccine deployment on the immunization system and core immunization

activities highlighting the lessons learned from CoViD-19 vaccine deployment to strengthen the over-all national immunization system and health security.

The final result of the evaluation will be consolidated and presented at the DOH-CHD-1 and DOH Central Office and other stakeholders in the international community.

The PGLU strongly supports these kind of activities capitalizing the good practice for the development of the immunization system and for capacitating the health security in the Province gearing towards addressing gaps and elevating the necessary efforts to protect public health amidst the pandemic.



LU HOSTS 1ST NORTH LUZON AGRI-TOURISM SUMMIT

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

To further strengthen agripreneurship, tourism, and culture as key drivers of economic growth in northern Philippines, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) led by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III held the first-of-its-kind BURAS 2022: North Luzon Agri-Tourism Summit on March 17-18, 2022 via hybrid events.

Hosted at the Awesome Hotel Convention Center, BURAS 2022 brought together farm, heritage and leisure professionals and key stakeholders from the public and private sectors to learn the latest industry trends and forecasts, as well as to discuss strategies for recovery, developing resilience, and brand management for sustainable growth and effective communications amidst the on-going challenges of CoViD-19 pandemic. The niche event gathered about 200 participants from Regions 1, 2, 3 and the Cordillera Administrative Region – 70 of whom were only allowed onsite as adherence to health protocols.

In a video-recorded message, Gov. Pacoy encouraged everyone to continue to manifest their strong camaraderie as they strive to revive the Agri-Tourism industry in the provinces. "Our

unity and resiliency are our key strengths to rise again and emerge stronger in these trying times," he said.

Keynote speakers include Sen. Cynthia A. Villar, Cong. Loren Legarda, Department of Tourism (DOT) Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, represented by DOT Region 1 Director Joseph Francisco R. Ortega, and Department of Agriculture Secretary William Dar.

Ms. Yanna Valerie N. Paz of the Office of Provincial Strategy presented the best practices of the Stronger La Union Agri-Tourism Strategy. She

mentioned that the Agri-Tourism industry plays a vital role in the economy. Her presentations emphasized that the provinces' agriculture and tourism sectors must be given equal opportunity to grow because it paves the way for more economic development.

The summit's second day lined up an outstanding roster of resource speakers who imparted expertise and insights along four comprehensive topics: "Empowering Local Communities through the Unique Fusion of Farming and Tourism" by Dr. Mina Gabor of International School of Sustainable Tourism; "Roadmap for Low-Carbon and Resource-

Efficient Tourism" by Mr. Kiko Velhagen of Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, Inc.; "MSMEs Investment, Innovation and Market Diversification Strategies" by Dr. John Paolo Rivera of Asian Institute of Management – Dr. Andrew L. Tan Center for Tourism; and "Cultivating the Heritage Roots and Cultural Sustainability of Farm Tourism Practices" by Prof. Eric Zerrudo of University of Santo Tomas – Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and of Environment in the Tropics.

During her talk, Dr. Gabor lauded the efforts and synergy of PGLU and stakeholders and said "...not [to] wait for 2025 because today, La Union is already the farm tourism center of Northern Luzon."

The summit also became a successful avenue to convene the La Union Tourism Development Council, and to form the new organization for farm tourism establishments dubbed as La Union Farm Tourism Association. These indicators alongside multi-level coordination among various stakeholders push forward all the initiatives in realizing La Union's vision to become the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.



PGLU RECEIVES 30FT PATROL BOAT TO BOOST COASTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO

A 30-feet fiber reinforced plastic patrol boat was awarded to the Provincial Government of La Union on March 30, 2022 at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University – North La Union Campus (DMMMSU – NLUC) – Fisheries Research Training Institute (FRTI), Brgy. Paraoir, Balaoan, La Union. The said patrol boat was the output from the nine-day training on patrol boat making facilitated by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs – US Department of State and DMMMSU-NLUC.

During the awarding ceremony, Atty. Asis G. Perez, Senior Legal Adviser of Tanggol Kalikasan Inc. and concurrently the in-country representative of the US Department of Interior International Technical Assistance Program – US Department of State delivered the rationale and objectives of the activity. The awarded patrol boat will boost the enforcement of ordinances and laws on coastal resources management. Dir. Kelia Cummins, Bureau of

International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs – US Department of State gave the turn-over message of the mold and boat followed by acceptance message from Gov. Francisco Emmanuel R. Ortega, III represented by Provincial Administrator Agnes Grace A. Cargamento and Dr. Jaime I. Manuel, DMMMSU President. Chief Aquaculturist Remely B. Lachica of the Fisheries Production and Support Services Division, Department of Agriculture – Bureau Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 1 and Department of the Interior and Local Government – La Union Provincial Director Reggie R. Colisao also gave a message during the awarding ceremony.

Representatives from the Provincial Government – Environment and Natural Resources Office, Provincial Engineering Office, and Office of the Provincial Agriculturist participated in the nine-day training on fiber reinforced plastic patrol boat on February 22 – 30, 2022 at the DMMMSU-NLUC – FRTI, Brgy. Paraoir, Balaoan, La Union.



SEARCH IS ON FOR CLEANEST, SAFEST, AND GREENEST LGU IN LA UNION

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO



In celebration of 172nd La Union Foundation Anniversary, the Search for the Cleanest, Safest, and Greenest Local Government Unit in the Province of La Union officially kicked off on March 1, 2022 in Sudipen, La Union.

The Search for the Cleanest, Safest, and Greenest Local Government Unit in the Province of La Union was institutionalized by virtue of the Provincial Ordinance No. 267-2020. This program aims to institutionalize a system of providing recognition to the cleanest local government units in the province.

The Provincial Search Committee is composed of PGLU offices, representatives from various National Government Agencies, and private sectors. The cleanest, safest and greenest LGUs, municipal bodies of water, and barangays will receive a financial award to support their environmental projects.

The PGLU hopes that all LGUs, with the support from all Kaprobinsiaan, sustain cleanliness and orderliness in their community as we work together in solidarity in building a Stronger La Union, a province worth living in.

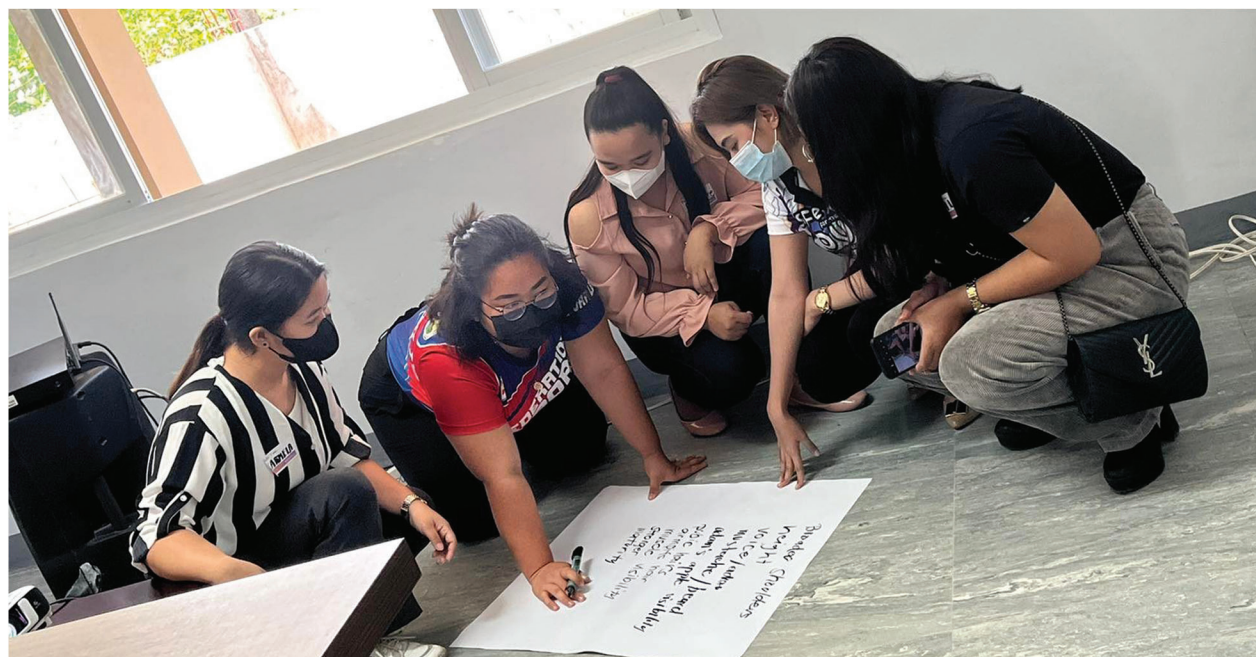
LU YOUTH SECTOR JOINS U4U TEEN TRAIL ACTIVITY

Geraldine B. Salazar-Lucero, PIO

Nowadays, the Kaprobinsiaan youth population has been exposed and struggling from different societal problems that affects their lives negatively, hence, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) conducted a Teen Trail Activity for the youth sector to address these problems and convey support to them.

On March 9, 2022, the PSWD carried out Youth for You (U4U) La Union Teen Hub Teen Trail Activity participated in by Youth Leaders from various youth-serving organizations provincewide. The said activity, which is part of the 172nd Foundation Anniversary of the Province La Union, aims to empower the youth and promote awareness on relevant societal problems faced by youth population such as teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, mental health, sexually transmitted illnesses and a lot more.

In adherence to the province's alert level 1 minimum health standard, the activity was done simultaneously in online and limited face-to-face settings at the Bahay Pag-asa, Sta. Rita, Bacnotan, La Union with a total of 59 youth participants – 26 online and 33 face-to-face attendees. Different interactive activities were prepared by the resource speakers to engage participation from the youth leaders and to clearly demonstrate to

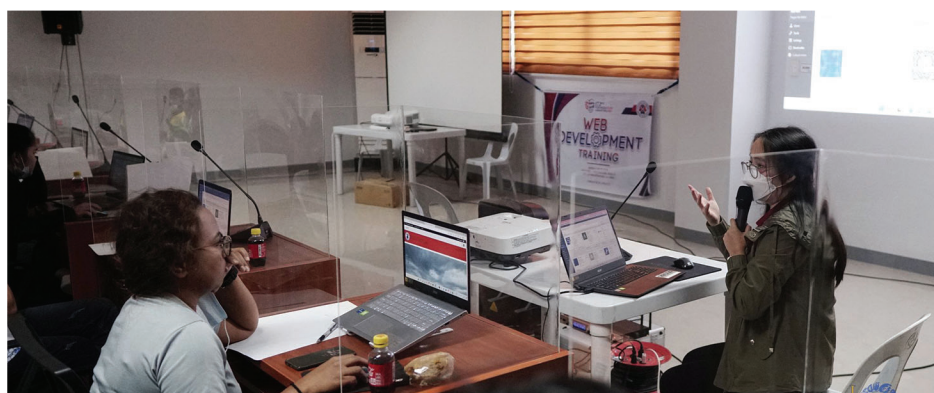


them the negative consequences of the conditions and behaviors led by current societal issues. This is to ultimately perceive solutions in order for them to become responsible and productive sector of the province and nation as a whole. Capping the activity was an open forum where the participants were able to open up and express their feelings and opinions towards each topic and activity.

The PGLU hopes that through the U4U La Union Teen Hub Teen Trail Activity, youth leaders and other participants from the youth sector shall be able to share their activity takeaways and take part in its implementation as every kaprobinsiaan work in solidarity in building a Stronger La Union, a province worth living in.

PGLU CAPACITATES LGUs TO IMPROVE ONLINE PRESENCE

Jamie Rose N. Mifa and Ma. Ashley A. Ebreo, GPC-ICTU



As part of the 172nd Foundation Anniversary of the Province of La Union, the Office of the Provincial Governor-Information and Communications Technology Unit of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) conducted a four-day hands-on training on Web Development Training for local government units (LGUs) held on March 7 to 10, 2022 at the 4th Floor, LUPOS-EOC Building, Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union.

32 participants from 17 LGUs attended the said training which aims to facilitate the creation of their organizations' official website through content buildup, by providing template-based on web content management systems platforms. The training ensured that the LGU's design and content complied with the Government Website Template Design set by the National Government.

At the end of the training, the LGUs are expected to create or re-develop their own websites. By institutionalizing their official websites, it shall enhance their effectiveness, efficiency and transparency in their business processes.

In line with vision to position La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025, the training is expected to help promote LGUs by showcasing their different products and tourist attractions that will eventually make them popular across the internet and be known by the tourist through their own websites.

The PGLU shall continue to be pro-active in increasing public participation and satisfaction through digital transformation for a stronger La Union La Unay.

BDH HELPS KEEP LA UNION BEATING

Venus F. Avecilla, GPC-BDH

The Provincial Government of La Union, headed by the Provincial Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R Ortega III, through Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) headed by Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan, in partnership with the Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center and Department of Health Region I, conducted the hospital's first bloodletting activity for 2022 in BDH Annex Grounds, Bacnotan, La Union.

Inspired by the 2022 World Blood Donor Day theme, "Give blood and keep the World beating", BDH aims to increase the number of blood donors as a result of the increasing number of patients needing blood transfusion as a result of the CoVid-19 Pandemic.

A total of 72 volunteers showed up to participate in the said event. 60 turned out as successful donors, 12 were deferred due to either low blood

pressure or lack of sleep. Courageous donors came from regular partner agencies like Philippine National Police,

Philippine Navy, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, National Bureau of Investigation, Bannuar Security Agency, Inc.

Lord of Zion Divine School, Bacnotan Road Runners Community, hospital employees as well as their friends and relatives.



The BDH Mobile Blood Donation is a quarterly activity purposely to supplement the blood supply requirement of the province.

The BDH coordinators through the mentorship of Dr. Pagaduan continue to actively recruit new donors as well as encourage the return of prior donors to eventually become regular donors.

The event also targets increased awareness to the need of regular blood donation activities to ensure that all those needing blood will have an easier access and timely supply of safe and quality blood and blood products and to instill public consciousness that blood donation is a noble and humanitarian act.

ON EARTH DAY 2022, PG-ENRO CONDUCTS ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT, REMINDS KAPROBINSIAAN TO TAKE PART IN #KALIKASANNAMAN

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO

In celebration of Earth Day 2022, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO) conducted an environmental summit via videoconferencing on April 22, 2022 attended by students from various colleges in La Union.

Aligned with this year's Earth Day theme "Invest in our Planet," the conducted online activity highlights Enterprise Green Initiatives of business establishments in La Union that promotes their best practices in Waste Management as their contribution in mitigating climate change.

Resource speakers from the Climate Change Commission and Department of Trade and Industry Region 1 were invited to share their insights to the young participants.

Atty. Rachel Anne Sibugan-Herrera, Commissioner of the Climate Change Commission presented the topic on "People's Priority over Protecting the Earth and Environment." She discussed briefly the effects of climate change that we are currently

experiencing and how we could achieve a sustainable environment. She also shared five easy and small actions coined in the acronym EARTH to make this possible - Eat Sustainability, Advocate for people and Planet, Repair or refill instead of buying new, Turn down plastic, Help organizations that are 'doing good' for the planet.

Ms. Joyce Segui-Sabado, Information Officer of the Department of Trade and Industry Region 1 presented the topic on "Green Economy, An Opportunity." She stressed that while Micro,

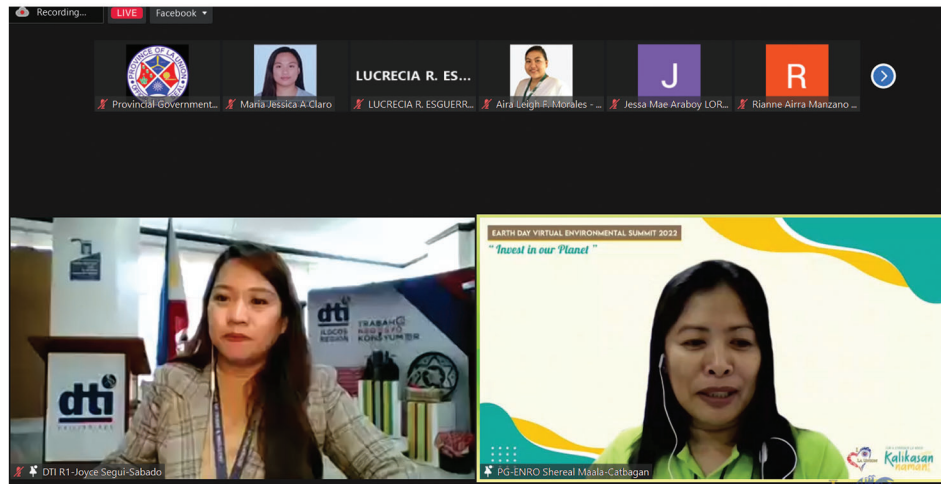
Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) contribute to the planet's environmental stress, climate change likewise affects them which leads to additional cost in their production causing decrease in sales. In her presentation, she mentioned that more MSMEs are going Green due to cost saving and market demand in organic products. Ms. Segui-Sabado capped her presentation with a challenge to patronize Green MSMEs and practice Greening as their way in helping mother nature.

On the other hand, in a message

delivered by PG-ENRO Officer-in-Charge and Supervising Environmental Management Specialist EnP. Annalyn Rosario-Valdez, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III reminded everyone to defend and save our planet and continue carrying out our roles as stewards of the environment and continue supporting PGLU's #KalikasanNaman campaign.

"Together, in our own little ways, let us step-up in combating the greatest threats to the planet earth. Let us move forward and accelerate the transition to an equitable, prosperous and green economy. May we all forge ahead in harmony with nature. Truly, now is the time to take action in defending our home, and ensuring that our future generation will have a better place to live in," he said.

Through the Presidential Proclamation No. 553 s. 1990, the Philippines officially joined the Earth Day celebration to raise environmental awareness and sustainability in the country. In 2008, by virtue of the Presidential Proclamation No. 1481 s. 2008, every April 22nd of the year was then declared as "Philippine Earth Day."



LU CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS CONVENE; ROLES DURING PANDEMIC GET RECOGNIZED

Zenaida D. Sellem, GPC-PSWDO

With the collaborative effort of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and the La Union Day Care Workers Association, Incorporated, 575 child development service providers from the province convened in the 6th Provincial Convention for La Union Service Providers and Child Development on April 20-22, 2022 at Hotel Supreme Convention Plaza, Baguio City.

Aligned with the theme "Pandemya: Hindi Handlang sa Paghubog sa Bata Tungo sa Magandang Kinabukasan" the face-to-face convention was organized to recognize the significant roles of Child Development Workers and other stakeholders as frontliners in Early Childhood Care and Development of children.

An active and meaningful speaker-attendees participation was observed during the plenary

sessions and were timely with the on-going validation of the Local Council for the Protection of Children and Seal of Good Local Governance where one of the indicators is on Capability Building of Barangay and Municipal Council for the Protection of Children members.

On the first day of the convention, Pastors Gary Ariz and Richillen Ariz of the Inter-faith based Sector welcomed the participants with a very comforting discussion on "Healing of the Heart". On the second day, Provincial Social Welfare Development Officer Ranilo Ipac lectured on Barangay Council for the Protection of Children and Early Childhood Care and Development while PCpt. Arcellie Pang-ag of the Philippines National Police shared her notes on Ako, "Ikaw at ang VAWC." Ingrid Ira M. Ignacio, MLGOO II of the Department of

the Interior and Local Government Region 1 talked about the "Child-Friendly Local Governance and Laws on Children." Lastly, Ms. Sharon Fontanilla, Nurse III of Provincial Health Office discussed "Mental Health: Managing the Stress in You."

Ms. Vini Nola A. Ortega, Chairperson of La Union Vibrant Women Incorporated (LUVWI) graced the activity as the Keynote Speaker, along with Ms. Raphaella Ortega-

David, LUVWI San Fernando City Chapter President. Their presence made this year's convention special as they delivered their messages acknowledging the challenges encountered by the day care and child development providers in delivering their duties during the pandemic. They also gave them gratitude and encouragement to continue what they are doing in the name of public service.



PGLU EQUIPS SENIOR HIGH WITH FINANCIAL SKILLS, TAX AWARENESS

Geraldine B. Salazar-Lucero, PIO

To cap the month-long celebration of La Union's 172nd Foundation Anniversary, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), through the Provincial Treasurer's Office headed by Provincial Treasurer Janet D. Molina, conducted an online Financial Literacy and Tax Awareness Campaign on March 23, 2022 via video conferencing.

Targeting the province's youth sector, the said activity was attended by Senior High School Students of Luna National High School who are enrolled under the strands of Accountancy, Business and Management and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The PGLU made sure that through the online activity, the participants would be able to

better understand and appreciate taxation. Learning Service Providers gave a comprehensive lecture and notes on taxation that raised students' awareness on the value and importance of local taxes and how it affects the local development and effective and efficient delivery of basic services to the people. Participants were

also able to have their own takeaways in managing their financial resources to effectively come up with better financial decisions.

In his message, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III mentioned that the online Financial Literacy and Tax

Awareness Campaign of the PGLU is a great opportunity for the students to learn some adulting tips as they enter young adulthood, "I am optimistic that after today's webinar, you would realize the importance of managing your finances as young as you are, and that this activity was made to prepare you in the next years of your lives as you enter young adulthood."

With the positive feedback from the Senior High School participants, the PGLU is looking forward to conduct similar activities to more Kaprobinsiaan who belong to the youth sector for it allows them to appreciate their vital roles as future responsible tax payers and contributors in building a Stronger La Union, a province worth living in.



LA UNION LA UNAY CELEBRATION FEATURES CAMPUS VIRTUAL JOBS FAIR

Rowell Timoteo, GPC-PESO

Relative to the 172nd La Union Foundation Anniversary Celebration, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) through the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) conducted the La Union Campus Virtual Jobs Fair on March 8, 2022 at the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University – Mid La Union Campus (DMMMSU-MLUC) Covered Court, City of San Fernando, La Union.

633 jobseekers registered on the pre-registration of PESO and 168 jobseekers underwent virtual job interview via video conference. A total of 4,753 job vacancies for local employment offered by 12 participating employers for customer service representatives, collections specialists, retail/sales agents, stockman, cashier, sales assistant, driver, ref & aircon technicians, waiters, laundry attendants, public attendants, heavy equipment operators, structural fitters, steel workers, building electricians, administrative assistant, general manager, sales personnel, marketing staff, F&B Banquet, and service crew while two overseas recruitment agencies offered 1,134 jobs for factory workers, truck drivers, offset printing/bookbinding.

The activity was done in partnership with the DMMMSU-

MLUC and their DMMMSU Trabaho Center, in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment- Regional Office I (DOLE-RO I), the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration – Regional Center for Luzon, private business establishments and overseas recruitment agencies.

The event was graced by DOLE-RO I Regional Director Atty. Evelyn R. Ramos; DOLE-La Union Provincial Officer Ms. Veronica A. Corsino; Provincial PESO Manager Ms. Charito C. Dator; DMMMSU-MLUC Office of the Student Affair

Services Head Dr. Bernardo D. Lamadrid and Career and Placement Service In-charge Ms. Alicia A. Cadwising.

With the full support of the PGLU headed by the Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III and the DMMMSU Institution headed President Dr. Jaime I. Manuel, Jr., this activity was successfully undertaken. In the Governor's video message, he expressed the relevance of the activity saying, "I am delighted by the conduct of this activity because after months of lull, the

enthusiasm of our jobseekers is back through this La Union Campus Virtual Jobs Fair 2022...As we transform the entire backbone of our economy, this activity is a great opportunity to generate employment and to provide sources of income to our kaprobinsiaan."

Four employers who were in need of management trainees, cook and kitchen helper, cashier office clerk, supervisor, manager and salesman were also invited by PESO to join the jobs fair. The representatives in-charge of the job hiring physically interviewed the 13 jobseekers on the jobs fair venue. Among the 13 jobseekers, two Persons with Disability jobseekers were assisted by a friend via video call and interpreted their answers to the interviewer.

As the alert level eases in the Province of La Union, the Provincial PESO together with the newly established DMMMSU Trabaho Center continues to strengthen their partnership in providing improved employment facilitation services for the acceleration of new normal recovery programs to lift the employability status of active jobseekers in the province. Truly, we are La Union La Unay, naisangangayan la unay.



LU'S BEST PRACTICES ON WASTE MANAGEMENT PRESENTED IN PINAS: THE BASURA BUSTER REGIONAL LAUNCHING

Diana E. Jutba, GPC-ENRO

Representatives from the Provincial Government of La Union – Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO) attended the Regional Launching of PINAS: The Basura Buster on March 24-25, 2022 at The Monarch Hotel, Calasiao, Pangasinan.

EnP. Annalyn Rosario-Valdez, Officer-in-Charge of PG-ENRO and Supervising Environmental Management Specialist presented the best practices of the Province of La Union on waste management. Highlighted in the presentation was PG-ENRO's Project ECHO (Ecobricking Challenge at Home is On!), a program which

started at the onset of the pandemic encouraging the residents to stay at home during the quarantine period and make ecobrick-ready bottles to be exchanged for rice.

DENR-EMB Region 1's OIC-Chief on Ecological Solid Waste Management Section EnP. Marygail Antonnette N. Killa and Engr. Rynne Narvaez, Chief of Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Division presented the certificate of recognition to EnP. Valdez for serving as the resource speaker during the said event.



KAPROBINSIAAN JOINS IN THANKSGIVING FOR LU'S 172ND FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY

Geraldine Salazar-Lucero, PIO



Prayer warriors and Provincial Government of La Union employees headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III gathered early morning on March 2, 2022, to join the Dawn Watch Prayer in celebration of the 172nd Foundation Anniversary of the province in the Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Just as the dawn promises new beginnings, the activity brought hope to the province and kaprobinsiaan as prayers and intentions of healing, recovery and thanksgiving were made.

Gov. Pacoy also imparted a short message for all. He said that this

pandemic has brought us in different uncontrollable situations, but despite all the good and the bad, we should learn to trust God and uplift everything to Him, "There are things that we cannot control but I firmly believe that God is in control. Surrender to Him and everything will be okay."

The Dawn Watch Prayer is one of the highlights of the month-long La Union Foundation Anniversary celebration that serves a reminder to everyone to never falter in front of difficult situations, but rather be steadfast and face these challenges head-on, standing our ground, because we are a proud and resilient race of La Union La Unay.

LUDHS, LUMC SUCCESSFULLY PASSED IMS AUDIT FOR THREE ISO

Angelica C. Real, GPC-NDH

Showing commitment for continual improvement of Management System in Provincial Hospitals in La Union, Provincial Health Officers Dr. Eduardo S. Posadas and Dr. Dan William Y. Dacanay II, together with the La Union District Hospitals Chiefs, ISO Auditors, ISO Officers, and Document Control Custodians convened for the opening of the International Organization for Standardization Audit on April 7, 2022 at the Dr. Eufanio "Franny" C. Eriguel Memorial Hall, La Union Medical Center, Agoo, La Union.

The La Union District Hospitals (LUDHs) successfully passed the Stage 1 Audit of Integrated

Management Systems: ISO 14001:2018 Environmental Management System ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management System and Surveillance 1 of ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) and recommended for

Stage 2 Audit (IMS) and continuous recertification (QMS) by the National Quality Assurance.



Stage 2 Audit for the Integrated Management System (IMS) shall be held on 4th Week of April 2022 and Surveillance 2 will be in November 2022. The LUDHs as well as La Union Medical Center assures the public they will continue to deliver quality services to its patients / customers by being compliant to the statutory and regulatory requirements of internal and international standards and regulation.

TECH-VOC SKILLS SHINE IN LA UNION SKILLS COMPETITION

John Elysar Martin, PIO

Championing excellence in technical-vocational (tech-voc) skills, different institutions in the Province of La Union compete as the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) -La Union hosted the 13th Provincial Skills Competition on March 22, 2022 held at the TESDA Regional Training Center, City of San Fernando, La Union.

11 tech-voc graduates and skilled workers showcased their talents and skills in different trade areas of competition for the World Skills Category such as: Automobile Technology, Electrical Technology, Welding, Cooking, Restaurant Service, and Visual Graphic Design.

TESDA Regional Director Vincent Cifra, TESDA La Union Provincial Director Alvin Yturralde, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator Ms. Michaela Louise Delfinado, Regional Training Center Chief Art Pulido and Engr. Antonio Alvarado Jr. of the Association of Technical Vocational Institutions of La Union graced the opening ceremony.

Dir. Yturralde extended his gratitude to the PGLU under the leadership of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" Ortega III for

the unwavering support to the event and said, "Provincial Skills Competition targets to be an avenue to recognize core excellence and develop highly competent workers."

Gov. Pacoy enjoined the participants to give their best shot and continue to make La Union proud to be the National

Champions until they reach World Skills Competition. "Today, you will be given the opportunity to showcase the skills you have mastered through hardwork and perseverance," he added.

The event aims to promote the development of quality technical and vocational skills as well as work values among the youth and skilled workers fostering cooperation among the government, industries, employers and tech-voc institutions.



Beejay Dacumos was hailed as the champion and Vincent Lomandas garnered 1st runner up for the Automobile Technology category; while Janmar Nisperos wins in the Electrical Technology category. For the Welding category, Carlo Basas was hailed as the champion while Denver Gomez and Crizel Ann Almirol bagged the 1st and 2nd runners up, respectively. For the cooking skills, Edrei Orpilla was hailed as the champion while Sophia Samonte obtained the 1st runner up. Daisery Hipona championed the restaurant service skill as Margie Hipol placed 2nd runner up.

Winners of the various skills competition will represent the province in the Regional competition. The PGLU continues to produce home-grown talents with world class skills that promote youth empowerment and livelihood development and build a strong partnership with the stakeholders towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development.

The activity was a part of the month-long celebration of the 172nd Foundation Anniversary of the Province with the theme, La Union La Unay: Naggapu iti Ayat, Gapu iti Ayat.

PGLU PAMPERS JUANA EMPLOYEES, PROMOTES EQUALITY, EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL GENDER

Geraldine B. Salazar-Lucero, PIO

In view of Women's Month, on March 28, 2022, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) celebrates and pays tribute to the strong, smart, capable, beautiful, and empowered Juanas or the women employees who provide best government services to Kaprobinsiaan amidst their personal battles and circumstances.

Spearheaded by the Provincial Health Office (PHO), this year's Women's Month is celebrated with the theme "Musika para kay Empleyadong Juana." The PGLU has prepared a whole day pampering event for the Juana employees at the PGLU PHO-PSWD Ground, City of San Fernando, La Union.

After the Zumba dance workout, the Juanas were able to avail free services such as OB Gynecologist Consultation and Pap Smear, Pre-Counseling with HIV Screening, Dental Services, Laboratory Testing, body massage, hair-cut, manicure and pedicure. The

female employees were also being serenaded by a live performer so they could enjoy more their free treat. Hygiene kits, roses and snacks were distributed to all service avalees as tokens.

Through a message delivered by Provincial Administrator Agnes Grace Cargamento, Gov.

Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III acknowledged the roles, efforts and outstanding positive attitudes of women employees that has contributed in building a better province.

"My dearest empowered women colleagues in the government service, I would like to commend

all of you for remaining persistent, determined and selfless amidst the challenges of the CoViD-19 pandemic. Pinatunayan ninyo na walang pinipiling kasarian at edad ang kagastuhang tumulong at mag-ambag para sa ikabubuti ng ating mahal na probinsya. Women like you have a special role in building a Stronger La Union."

This year's women's month activity is inclusive for all genders to show that PGLU continues to uphold the welfare, equality and empowerment not only for women, but for all.

The PGLU encourages all Kaprobinsiaan to honor all women, of all genders and backgrounds, for their amazing contributions to the history and culture of the province through recognizing their skill, accomplishments, leadership, courage, and strength. All of these contribute in building a Stronger La Union, a province worth living in.



MODERN PUVS ROLL OUT IN LOCAL ROADS OF LA UNION

Geraldine B. Salazar-Lucero, PIO

In line with the National Government's goal of making the country's public transportation system efficient and environmentally friendly, 22 units of Modernized Public Utility Vehicles (MPUV) were launched and shall begin to operate serving commuters bound to City of San Fernando to Naguilian, La Union, vice versa.

In cooperation with the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Genesis Auto Corp. Hyundai Bus & Trucks, represented by Cabanatuan City Branch President Dennis P. San Juan, turned over the first batch of the new modern jeepneys to the La Union Transport Multi-Purpose Cooperative (LUTRAMPCO) as their support to the modernization program of the government. This happened on April 19, 2022 at LUTRAMPCO Grounds, Bacuit Norte, Bauang, La Union.

LUTRAMPCO Chairperson Dr. Pio M. Soriano expressed his gratitude to the government agencies and the Provincial Government of La Union for their

consistent support to the public transportation cooperatives in providing steady source of livelihood for drivers while ensuring a reliable, efficient and safe means of transportation for the public through the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program.

In a message delivered by Executive Assistance IV Justo Orros III, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III responded that the MPUVs are

vital in the province's recovery from the effects of the pandemic.

"We are truly privileged here in La Union to have these PUVs as these are vital in our recovery from the effects of the pandemic. I strongly believe in the opportunities brought by advancement of technology and this milestone would mean that we will be able to advance our game in economic recovery," he said.

The 22 units of 22-seater modernized jeepneys are just the initial batch of the targeted 35 units to be deployed in the roads of La Union to be driven by public transportation cooperative members who are mostly jeepney, bus and truck drivers.

As a form of gratitude, LUTRAMPCO will be giving free rides to commuters for the first week of their operations under LTFRB's Service Contracting Program Phase 3.

Also present during the launching and turning over of MPUVs were Dir. Ahmed G. Cuizon, Atty. Anabel A. Marzan-Nullar, Atty. Mark Anthony G. Espenilla and Atty. Veronica Peralta of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board Region 1; Dir. Teofilo E. Guadiz III of the Land Transportation Office Region 1; ARD Alberto A. Sabarias of the Cooperative Development Authority Region 1; Mr. Eugene M. Pabualan of the Office of Transportation Cooperative; Ms. Myra Myrtha M. Padolina of La Union Lending Center; and officers and members of LUTRAMPCO.



LA UNION MAINTAINS "LEAST POOR" STATUS SINCE 2018; MOST AFFORDABLE PROVINCE TO LIVE IN REGION 1

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

With the welfare of the people as the primary transformative governance focus of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) under the leadership of Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, the Province of La Union remains proactive in alleviating poverty incidence through data driven decision making.

Following the nationwide increase in poverty incidence, Assistant National Statistician (ANS) Wilma A. Guillen of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) presented the factors affecting the increase on the poverty incidence in La Union for the First Semester of 2021. This is in response to the request of Gov. Pacoy for additional data on poverty statistics in the province with the intention to better plan and implement proactive actions to alleviate poverty. The meeting was conducted at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on April 13, 2022.

In her presentation, ANS Guillen explained how the agency comes up with the result through use of the official poverty estimation methodology generated through data on provincial food bundles, price, and income. For the Official Poverty Statistics of La Union in the Cluster of Provinces in Region 1, La Union remains under Cluster 5 or among the 'least poor' from 2018 to 2021 along with Ilocos Norte while Ilocos Sur and Pangasinan went from Cluster 5 to 4 in 2021. Cluster 1 comprises the 'poorest' provinces while provinces belonging to cluster 5 are regarded as 'least poor'.

Based on statistical data, ANS Guillen explained that the increase in the poverty incidence in the province are caused by high cost of fish and food, Increased Consumer Price Index, Increased Poverty Incidence and Food Poor Incidence, Lower wages, and the fact that 2021 is a CoViD-19 pandemic year. However, she also emphasized

that the province was able to maintain its cluster 5 position in 2018 through 2021 while it maintains to be the most affordable province to live in Region 1.

Provincial Planning Development Coordinator EnP Michaela Louise T. Delfinado expressed PGLU's utmost gratitude to PSA for the strong partnership. She also highlighted that Gov. Pacoy is highly committed to improve data collection in the province and is very passionate in extending support to the LGUs to improve the poverty incidence in La Union.

The Provincial Government will work towards addressing the factors affecting poverty through: Strengthening of Local Price Coordinating Councils; Continuing Backyard and Community Gardening Program; Expanding livelihood assistance to CoViD-19 affected workers; and Continuing its coordination with the LTFRB for

the resumption of Public Transportation, among others.

Also in attendance in the meeting were Regional Director Atty. Sheila O. De Guzman PSA Regional Statistical Services Office I; Chief Statistical Specialist Mr. Juanito Y. Yabes of PSA RSSO I; Chief Statistical Specialist Dr. Danites E. Teñido of PSA La Union; Supervising Statistical Specialist Mr. Malvin A. Quinto of PSA La Union; Resilient Communities Sector Head and Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer Mr. Ranilo P. Ipac; Economic Dynamism Sector Head and Provincial Tourism Officer Mr. Arthur S. Cortez, Jr.; and OIC-Provincial Information Office Camille R. Bumatay.

Through effective analysis of data, the PGLU continues its commitment to attain its mission to serve as catalyst of sustainable and inclusive development that improves the quality of life of the people.

PG-ENRO, LU EMCS JOINTLY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FOREST

Grace Libong, GPC-ENRO



In observance of the International Day of the Forest (IDF) which is celebrated every March 21 of the year, the Provincial Government - Environment and Natural Resources Office together with the Environmental Management Coordinators (EMCs) of La Union conducted the 1st Quarter EMC Meeting Cum Training activity on March 21, 2022 at Damortis Provincial Nursery, Sto. Tomas, La Union. Celebrated with the theme "Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption," IDF aims to increase awareness about how forests play in sustaining lives on earth.

The 1st Quarter EMC Meeting Cum Training activity served as an avenue for the PG-ENRO to discuss different environmental issues and concerns. Further, to contribute towards the IDF theme, Tree Surgery as forest-based innovation was done to capacitate EMCs on the control measure of wood decay primarily due to harmful pests and diseases attacking the trees thereby prolonging the life and bringing back the beauty of the tree. EMCs were able to perform actual tree surgery training using fruit trees such as Tamarind and Star Apple.

Trees are vital to sustain the health of our ecosystem. They constitute the best cover of the land, hence PG-ENRO urges the kaprobinsiaan to join in their advocacy in saving and healing trees through Tree surgery.

PGLU NAKASAGANA ITI KALAMIDAD; KINATALGED NASUPORTARAN ITI KAADDA ITI SAFETY OFFICERS ITI TUNGGAL OPISINA

Camille R. Bumatay, PIO

Katulungan iti 36 a trained safety officers iti naduma-duma nga opisina iti Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), naballigi a naiganwat iti Earthquake Drill sadiay Provincial Capitol, Ciudad iti San Fernando, La Union idi Abril 28, 2022. Babaen iti naaramid nga evaluation, mangipasimudaag a pudno a sisasagana iti PGLU no adda iti mapasamak a didigra.

Tartarigagayan iti daytoy nga aktibidad a maipalagip kadagiti opisiales ken empleyado iti Provincial Government a nasken nga agtalinaed a kalmado no adda iti kalamidad kas iti ginggined tapno makaaramid iti nasimbeng a desisyon ken aksyon.

Addaan iti agarup 500 nga empleyado iti nagpartisipar iti nadakamat a drill. Malaksid iti regular a duck, cover and hold ken panagturong iti open area a kasapulan nga aramiden no adda iti ginggined, nangiganwat pay iti PGLU iti Simulation Exercise nga indauluan iti Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Provincial Health Office ken dagiti trained Safety Officers iti tunggal opisina. Iti kinaadda iti PGLU Response

Group ket singasing a naggapu iti Office of the Civil Defense (OCD).

Paset iti simulation exercise ket iti panangaramid iti 'hailing' tapno maala dagiti natrap iti uneg iti establisimiento; 'shoring' tapno masuportaran wenno maingato dagiti agtinnag a debris ken dagiti saan a natibker nga istruktura; kasta met iti panagresponde kadagiti biktima a nadangran. Maysa pay a naaramat ket iti basic fire fighting no inkaso nga adda man iti uram a mapasamak bayat iti kaadda iti ginggined.



Nagserbi met nga evaluators dagiti representatives a naggapu iti OCD, Philippine National Police, Philippine Red Cross, Bureau of Fire Protection ken Department of Health ket kas iti validationda, napaneknekan a pudno a sisasagana iti kapitolio kadagiti didigra gapu ta amin a minimum requirements para iti earthquake drill ket napagsaganaan.

Karaman kadagiti nadakamat a nasayaat a naaramidan iti earthquake drill iti kaadda iti naitakder a medical stations, Incident Command Post ken

natalged a komunikasion; addaan iti confident medical emergency responders nangnangruna iti epektibo a command leader; kaadda iti Basic Emergency Equipment ken iti nalaing a panagusar kadagitoy; kasta met iti naurnos a patient endorsement ken adu a medical transport.

Kabayatanna, nangipaay met dagiti evaluators iti wagas a mabalin pay a mangpatalged iti panangiganwat iti sumarsaruno a drill a pakaibilangan iti mas aktibo a partisipasion dagiti empleyado; panangiddep iti central circuit breaker; panagusar iti back board no ag-Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation; panag-report iti incident commander sakbay nga agturong dagiti recuers iti site; re-evaluation iti PGLU evacuation sites; ken ti inter-agency emergency participation kadagitoy a drill.

Ipangpangruna iti PGLU iti kinatalged dagiti residente iti probinsia kasta met iti pannakaallukoy iti tunggal maysa nga agtalinaed nga Alerto Kaprobinsiaan.

LA UNION EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP CODE PASSES THIRD READING

Rhea Matilde A. Ballesteros, GPC – SP

With 13-0 vote, the proposed La Union Educational Assistance and Scholarship Code was passed on third and final reading during the 143rd Regular Session of the 22nd Sangguniang Panlalawigan on March 22, 2022.

Recognizing education as a priority program, Hon. Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay, Chairperson of the SP Committee on Education and Culture introduced the said measure to harmonize, standardize and organize policies that are timely and relevant for the purpose of extending educational assistance and programs to the constituents of the province with the end view that no person shall be deprived of the benefits of education on account of poverty.

The code provides scholarship programs, assistance and



incentives to deserving and qualified high school graduates, college students, indigenous peoples, senior high school students,

technical and vocational students, junior high school science stream students, persons with disabilities and children of persons with

disabilities and solo parents and children of solo parents and Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) employees. They shall be given scholarships or educational assistance in accordance with the requirements and qualifications set in the code.

To implement the program, an initial amount of P30,000,000.00 will be appropriated from the annual budget of the PGLU, part of which will be utilized as financial assistance to qualified grantees.

This milestone legislation will surely benefit the youth for them to acquire education or to finish a degree despite their economic situation and this will certainly help them uplift their family's well-being and the province as well.

NDH HONES SKILLS ON BASIC LIFE SUPPORT

Angelica C. Real, GPC-NDH

In line with the Celebration of Nagulian District Hospital's (NDH) 50th Anniversary, the staff undergone a three-day Basic Life Support (BLS) Training last March 21-23, 2022 in collaboration with Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office.

Said training was made for the NDS staff to hone and re-learn their life saving skills which is essential as hospital employees. For three days, participants were taught and equipped with basic knowledge and were introduced to different methodologies and techniques in saving lives.

On the first day of their BLS Training, the staff were given lectures on basic first aid techniques, proper dressing and

bandaging of wounds, proper procedures in performing a Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and appropriate usage and handling of spine board. To check the participants' comprehension during the previous day, an examination and return demonstration was done during the second day. For the third day, a simulated road accident was organized to assess how NDH staff would respond using the life-supporting skills they have acquired during the BLS Training.

NDH has organized the BLS Training for all of their staff in batches. Second and third batches will be on April 6-8, 2022 and April 20-22, 2022, respectively.

LOCAL BUDGET ADMINISTRATORS IN ILOCOS CONVENED FOR UPDATES, OATH TAKING OF NEW OFFICERS

Hiram Nephi A. Costales, GPC-PBO

The Association of Local Budget Administrators of Region I (ALBA-I), Inc. conducted a one-day dialogue relative to the local budgeting updates pertaining to the implementation of Full Devolution of Certain functions of the Executive Branch to the Local Government Units pursuant to Executive Order No. 138 on April 7, 2022 at the Thunderbird Resorts and Casinos, Poro Point, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Present during the dialogue is Asst. Sec. Achilles Gerard C. Bravo, Department of Budget and Management Functional Group Head, who discussed critical key matters involving the current status of the implementation of the Executive Order 138 of the

various Local Government Units (LGUs) within the Region. Highlighted during the discussion were the reiteration of the Increase in the National Tax allowance (NTA) share of LGUs and the responsibility of the Local Chief Executives as endmost decision maker for Prioritize program to be funded by the increase in the NTA share.

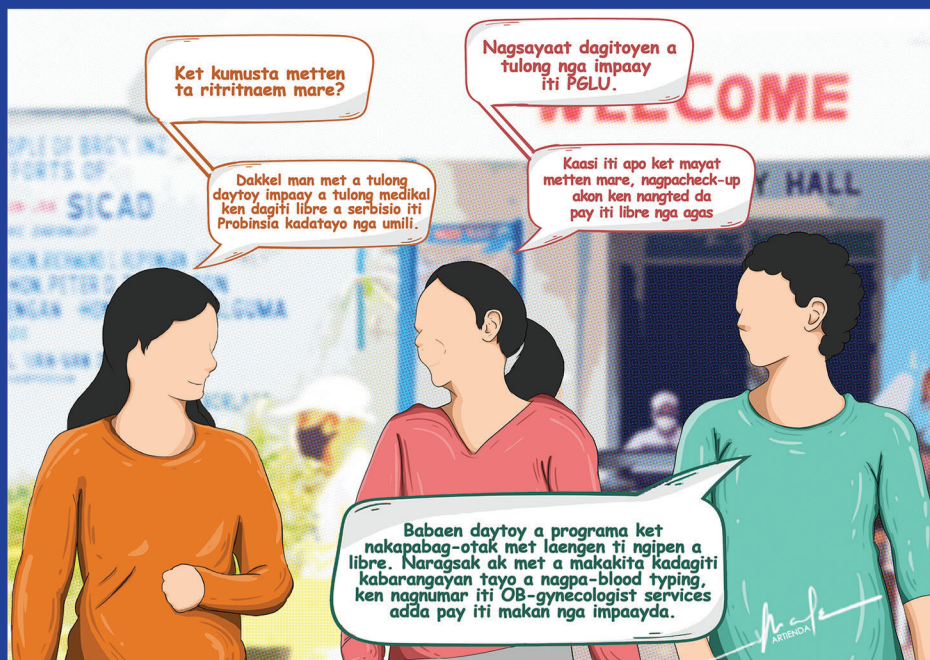
The event also included an oath-taking ceremony of the officers of the ALBA-I, Inc. which includes La Union's Provincial Budget Officer, Ms. Catherine E. Franco, taking oath as the Vice-President of the association and the Municipal Budget Officer of Bangar, La Union, Ms. Ma. Elvira P. Dian as part of the Board of Trustees.

John Elysar Martin at Shairalene Guerrero, PIO

Mayor Robert B. Madarang, Jr. ang pasasalamat kay Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III at sa PDRRMO sa pagsasagawa ng nasabing training. "Through the completion of this activity, we have done something good for the sake of the well-being of our people and those who will visit our town," dagdag ng Alkalde.



Inladawan ni: Mark Anthony Artienda, PIO



EDITORIAL BOARD

PGLU FINANCIAL REPORT 1ST QUARTER 2022

FDP Form 7 - 20% Component of the IRA Utilization

20% COMPONENT OF THE IRA UTILIZATION
FOR THE 1ST QUARTER CY 2022

Province of La Union	Location	Appropriation	Date Started	Target Completion Date	% of Completion	Total Cost Incurred to date	No. of Extensions, if any	Remarks
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT								
Completion of Residential Care Facility (RCF), Sta Rita, Bacnotan	La Union	17,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Project-Based Nurses for Isolation Facilities, District Hospital/Hospital and RHUs (Contractual Fee)	La Union	21,843,310.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Nurse Vaccination (Contractual Fee)	La Union	3,801,204.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Provision and maintenance of resources such as PPEs and essential drugs and medicines, vaccines, lab and medical supplies and disinfectants	La Union	43,100,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Upgrading and Maintenance of PGLU Hospitals and Isolation Facilities	La Union	20,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	2.72%	453,621.13		
Food Supplies Expense	La Union	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-			
Other Property, Plant and Equipment	La Union	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-			
Other Supplies and Materials	La Union	990,658.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Electricity Expense	La Union	675,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Rent Expense	La Union	6,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Laundry Services for Isolation Health Facilities	La Union	1,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Waste Disposal Management for Isolation Health Facilities	La Union	3,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Transport Support for Quarantine Control Points	La Union	3,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Food Support for Border Checkpoints	La Union	6,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Construction of Nephrology Center (Phase III), Bacnotan District Hospital	La Union	5,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Completion of DEWATTS Phase I and III as alignment to Environmental Framework, Bacnotan District Hospital	La Union	5,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Completion of TB-DOTS Center, Phase II, Balaocan District Hospital	La Union	1,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Construction of Isolation facility building Phase II, Balaocan District Hospital	La Union	15,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	33.31%	4,996,986.00		
Completion of DEWATTS Phase I, Balaocan District Hospital	La Union	5,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Completion of DEWATTS Phase 2, Caba District Hospital	La Union	800,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Renovation and expansion of the OR-DR-RR-LR Complex at the main building, Naguilan District Hospital	La Union	15,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Completion of Phase II of the Hospital waste water treatment plant (DEWATTS), Naguilan District Hospital	La Union	3,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Completion of the DEWATTS (Phase III), Rosario District Hospital	La Union	1,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Mechanical beds with bedside tables and overbed tables, Rosario District Hospital	La Union	280,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT								
Turok ken Tawar: Cultural and historical site preservation and rehabilitation	La Union	5,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Construction and improvement of soils laboratory building	La Union	4,400,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Buildings	La Union	250,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Agricultural Supplies	La Union	150,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Office Equipment	La Union	100,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Furniture and Furnishings	La Union	900,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Establishment of Produkto ti La Union Pasalubong Centers	La Union	30,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Rehabilitation/Repair/Replacement and improvement of Provincial Roads and Bridges	La Union	10,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Construction and improvement of Bakawan Eco-Tourism Site	La Union	82,220,320.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	25.76%	21,175,879.66		
Loan repayment (Purchase of BOPP lot)	La Union	11,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT								
Conduct of Search for the Cleanest, Safest and Greenest LGUs in the Province	La Union	500,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Water Quality Management Areas (Implementation of Watershed Master Plan for Cluster: Establishment of Rain Water Collector/Harvester)	La Union	250,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Marine Protected Area (Fabrication and Deployment of Artificial Reef)	La Union	1,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Kalkasan Naman Intervention (Eco-Tourism Sites)	La Union	53,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Assistance to LGUs in the establishment of Landfill	La Union	3,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Establishment of material recovery facility of the District Hospitals	La Union	20,000,000.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	0.00%	-		
Assistance to LGUs in the establishment of Wastewater Treatment Facility (sewerage, septage, etc.)	La Union	399,379,482.00	01/01/2022	31/12/2022	6.67%	26,626,486.79		
TOTAL								

We hereby certify that we have reviewed the contents and hereby attest to the veracity and correctness of the

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

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 1st Quarter, CY 2022
Province: LA UNION

Particulars	LDRRMF		NDRRMF	From Other LGUs	From Other Sources	Total
	Quick Response Fund (QRF) 30%	Mitigation Fund 70%				
A. Sources of Funds (Unutilized Balances)						
Current Appropriations	31,417,299.00	73,307,031.00				104,724,330.00
Continuing Appropriations		8,230,533.00				8,230,533.00
Previous Year's Appropriations transferred to the Special Trust Fund		22,554,515.88				22,554,515.88
Transfers (Grants)						
Total Funds Available	31,417,299.00	104,092,079.88	-	-	-	135,509,378.88
B. Utilization						
NO TRANSACTION						
Total Utilization	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unutilized Balance	31,417,299.00	104,092,079.88	-	-	-	135,509,378.88

I hereby certify that I 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

FDP Form 13- Manpower Complement

MANPOWER COMPLEMENT
Republic of the Philippines
Budget Year 2022
First Quarter

Nature of Appointment or Employment	Number	Compensation and Other Benefits		Total
		Salaries and Wages	Other Monetary Benefits	
I. Permanent	1,455	110,718,709.63	28,236,566.02	138,955,275.65
II. Contractual				
III. Job Order	471	16,231,690.51	805,125.00	17,036,815.51
Grand Total	1,926	126,950,400.14	29,041,691.02	155,992,091.16

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 GRACIA CARGAMENTO
Provincial Administrator

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL R. ORTEGA III
Provincial Governor

Notes:

- 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)
- 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 I of E.O. No. 292 and Other Pertinent Civil Service Laws)

Note:

- Permanent Position - Includes cotermious but plantilla position; permanent casual but plantilla position
Contractual - Includes consultant, compensation from PS
Job Order/Contract Service - Includes Casual; compensation from MOOE; cotermious but NOT plantilla position

FDP Form 11 - SEF Utilization
(SEF Budget Accountability Form No. 1)

SEF UTILIZATION
First Quarter, CY 2022

Province - LA UNION

Receipt from SEF

48,572,673.79

Less : DISBURSEMENTS (broken down by expense class and by object of expenditure)

Personal Services

Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses

Other Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses 504,000.00

Capital Outlay

Buildings and Other Structures 2,995,147.33

Financial Expenses

Total Disbursements

3,499,147.33

Balance

45,073,526.46

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 9 - Statement of Cash Flow
(COA Form)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the First Quarter Ended March 31, 2022
Province: LA UNION

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:

Cash Inflows:

Collection from Taxpayers	81,796,669.07
Share from Internal Revenue Collections	499,212,561.00
Receipts from business/service income	28,786,833.38
Collection of Receivables	14,627,214.81
Receipt of Interest Income	1,231,963.96
Other Receipts	149,278,659.13
Total Cash Inflow	774,933,901.35

Cash Outflows:

Payment of Expenses	2,159,343.40
Payments to Suppliers/Creditors	160,780,319.98
Payments to Employees	167,006,058.84
Other Disbursements	163,710,333.98
Total Cash Outflow	493,656,056.20

Net Cash from Operating Activities

281,277,845.15

Cash Flows from Investing Activities:

Cash Inflows:

From Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	-
From Sale of Debt Securities of Other Entities	-
From Collection of Principal on Loans to Other Entities	-
Total Cash Inflow	-

Cash Outflows:

To Purchase Property, Plant and Equipment	147,447,464.98
To Purchase Debt Securities of Other Entities	-
To Grant/Make Loans to Other Entities	-
Total Cash Outflow	147,447,464.98

Net Cash from Investing Activities

(147,447,464.98)

Cash Flows from Financing Activities:

Cash Inflows:

From Issuance of Debt Securities	-
From Acquisition of Loan	-
Total Cash Inflow	-

Cash Outflows:

Payment of Loan Amortization	20,067,192.81
Interest Expense	8,318,644.50
Other Financial Charges	-
Total Cash Outflow	28,385,837.31

Net Cash from Financing Activities

(28,385,837.31)

Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash

105,444,542.86

Cash at Beginning of the Period

1,577,821,477.85

Cash at the End of the Period

1,683,266,020.71

Prepared by:

ATTY. ALBERT F. PADILLA, CPA
Provincial Accountant

FDP Form 6 - Trust Fund Utilization

CONSOLIDATED QUARTERLY REPORT ON GOVERNMENT PROJECTS, PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FIRST QUARTER, CY 2022

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		
Medical Assistance Program	La Union	5,851,734.00	01/09/18	12/31/21	100.00%	5,851,481.04		
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	12/31/22	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	12/31/22	2.67%	26,650.00		
Excellence Award for Kalusugang Pangkalahatan	La Union	200,000.00	05/02/16	12/31/22	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	100.00%	590,722.50		
Maternal Newborn Child Health and Nutrition (MNCNH)	La Union	2,036,752.00	12/04/14	12/31/22	98.21%	2,000,379.39		
National Quality Corn Achievers Award 2019	La Union	3,000,000.00	02/05/20	12/31/22	82.85%	2,485,496.00		
Pilipine Rural Development Project - Green Carabao Mango Production, Consolidation and Marketing Enterprise	La Union	8,424,652.38	10/12/18	12/31/22	90.89%	7,657,028.89		
Pilipine Rural Development Project - Mungbean Enterprise	La Union	2,650,868.37	12/10/19	12/31/22	80.34%	2,129,748.37		
Rice Achievers Award 2015-2016	La Union	4,000,000.00	01/01/18	12/31/22	66.89%	2,675,654.00		
RWMHEEF SHARE (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	7,552,968.09	10/14/20	12/31/22	49.68%	3,752,259.64		
DLF Share (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	2,418,450.86	02/23/21	12/31/22	20.04%	484,577.64		
EF Share (ER 1-94/1590 Energy Corporation)	La Union	378,934.64	06/01/20	12/31/22	99.59%	377,365.36		
GSF-Assistance to Indigent Individuals or Families	La Union	25,000,000.00	01/31/19	12/31/21	99.43%	24,857,500.00		
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Sto. Tomas-Agubio Road Phase II	La Union	35,000,000.00	08/20/21	03/10/22	79.86%	13,723,598.45		
Fixed Trade Work and Financial Plan 2021 of the Provincial Health Office	La Union	1,367,056.00	01/01/21	12/31/22	4.17%	57,050.00		
GSF- Disaster Rehabilitation and Construction Assistance Program (DRRAP)	La Union	600,728.00	02/23/21	12/31/21	100.00%	600,728.00		
Special Risk Allowance (SRA)	La Union	37,615,418.18	10/27/21	12/31/21	84.62%	31,831,101.84		
GSF- Financial Assistance to Local Government Units (FA to LGUs)	La Union	20,000,000.00	10/1/21	12/31/21	100.00%	20,000,000.00		

PGLU, DOH-CHD I PENS MOU FOR ADDITIONAL UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE SUPPORT FROM NAT'L GOVT

Marjorie Ann Ramiscal Lucero, GPC-PHO

To ensure equitable access to quality and affordable healthcare services and to express La Union's commitment to local health system integration, the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III together with the Department of Health - Center for Health Development I (DOH-CHD I) Regional Director Dir. Paula Paz M. Sydiongco, MD, MPH, CESO IV had a ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Universal Health Care - Integration Site (UHC-IS) in La Union on March 1, 2022 at the Provincial Capitol - the first in Region I. The importance of signing the document means the Province of La Union will be provided with additional technical and financial support

from the National Government for the implementation of the UHC. This sealed partnership opens doors for the achievement of an integrated province-wide health system.

Afterwards, Dir. Sydiongco made a courtesy call to Gov. Pacoy for being the new Regional Director of the DOH-CHD I as she handed over to the Governor donations which includes different medicines for the province to promote and build a stronger and healthy La Union. Aside from PGLU and DOH-CHD I, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation is part of the MOU as another signatory. Witnesses of the said ceremony were Provincial Administrator Agnes Grace A. Cargamento, and Provincial Health Officer II Dr. Eduardo S. Posadas.



LU STREETDANCERS WIN BIG IN 2022 PANAGBENGA

Joy Ann L. Gurtiza, GPC-LUPTO

The Namacpacan Streetdancers representing the Municipality of Luna, La Union was hailed as First Runner-up in the recently-concluded Festival Dance Category of the 27th Panagbenga Festival Dance Competition on March 20, 2022 at the Baguio City.

Embodying the town's former name "Namacpacan" which means the one who feeds, the group from Luna, along with 10 other competing contingents in two categories, showcased spectacles of colors and motions during the field demonstration performances immediately after the parade along the city's Burnham Park.

Wearing colorful attire, the group performed an Ilokano dance banner their town's celebration

for a bountiful harvest through the Pinnakan Festival. First celebrated in 2018, the featured festival is a commemoration of celebrating the joyous people of Luna who fed the travelers during the Spanish era. It also depicts the abundance of fish from the sea as a blessing to the local folk and thanksgiving to the town's patron saint, St. Catherine of Alexandria. The dance narrated the story of the people of Luna whose main livelihood is fishing. It also showcased how the municipality was able to recover from the effects of the current pandemic.

During the interview with the La Union Provincial Tourism Office - Culture and Arts Unit staff, dance choreographers Josef Angelo Alfred Casem and Jefferzon Navidad shared that it only took

two weeks for them to practice the dance routines. They were very happy and thankful as this is the first Panagbenga streetdance competition after three years of hiatus.

The Provincial Government of La Union is steadfast in supporting various avenues and platforms that banner the tatak LUCal genius of the Kaprobinsiaan in culture and the arts.



LA UNION COMMEMORATES 80TH ARAW NG KAGITINGAN

Lorena C. Luna, GPC-LUPTO

To recognize the bravery and patriotic sacrifice of the fallen soldiers and veterans during the Second World War, a flag raising and wreath laying ceremony was held at the Shrine of the United States Armed Forces in the Philippine-Northern Luzon (USAFIP-NL) in Barangay Darigayos, Luna, La Union on April 9, 2022.

The ceremony highlights the week-long observance of the 80th Araw ng Kagitingan (Day of Valor) and the Philippine Veterans Week with a theme "Ika-80 Taong Paggunita sa Araw ng Kagitingan: Kagitingan ng mga Beterano, Inspirasyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino."

Philippine Veterans Affairs Office - La Union headed by Head Field Service Officer Adeadatus J. Retuta, and USAFIP-NL Military Shrine Officer-in-Charge Fischer Guererro lead the roster of offices, organization and veterans present during the ceremony. The

Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) was represented by Provincial Tourism Officer Mr. Arthur S. Cortez, Jr. while Mr. Tito Gorospe, Municipal Tourism Officer-designate attended on behalf of the Local Government Unit of Luna, La Union. Other attending entities include Philippine National Police Regional Office I headed by PBGen. Enrique N. Magalona, and La Union Provincial Police Office headed by PCOL Jonathan G. Calixto.

On April 9, 1942, officials in command of Bataan—where Filipino and American forces maintained the main resistance in the war against the Japanese—formally surrendered. PGLU joins the nation in commemorating not only the bravery and heroic act of martyr soldiers, but also in acknowledging the post war heroes for their selfless contribution in defending the Philippines in times of war and peace.



LU SP OKd GOV TO SIGN MOA IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DMMMSU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE PROVINCE

Rafael Mosuela, GPC-SP

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of La Union has approved a resolution that authorizes Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU) in support for the establishment of the DMMMSU College of Medicine in the province, as well as enhancement of the existing DMMMSU College Community Health and Allied Medical Science.

province in order to augment human resources in the medical field that cater to the needs of the public and ensure that health services can be better availed by all.

The PGLU is looking forward to the much-anticipated establishment of the first College of Medicine in the Province which shall offer more accessible education to medically-inclined students in the La Union and nearby provinces.

Hon. Jennifer C. Mosuela-Fernandez, the main sponsor of the said resolution (Provincial Resolution No. 420-2022), disclosed that the proposed agreement between the Provincial Government of La Union and DMMMSU is executed to set forth the duties and obligations of both parties with respect to the establishment of the DMMMSU College of Medicine in the province, as well as enhancement of the existing DMMMSU College Community Health and Allied Medical Science.

She then underscored the importance of establishing a DMMMSU College of Medicine, College Community Health and Allied Medical Science in the

