# STATE OF THE PHILIPPINE PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY REPORT



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### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1	OPAPRU Mandate, Vision, Mission, The Comprehensive Peace Process, and Objectives
3	The Five-Point Peace, Reconciliation and Unity Agenda
4	OPAPRU Strategy Map 2028
8	Message of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity
12	PROGRAM 1: GPH-MILF PEACE PROCESS
15	Political-Legislative Track
17	Normalization Track
30	PROGRAM 2: GPH-MNLF Peace Process
33	Political Track
35	Transformation Track
44	PROGRAM 3: GPH-CPP-NPA-NDF Peace Process
47	Localized Peace Engagements and its Transformation Program
50	Agents of Transformation: Special Project Teams
52	National Peace Engagements
54	PROGRAM 4: GPH-RPM-P/RPA/ABB Peace Process
57	Program Mechanisms
59	Disposition of Arms, Forces, and Security Arrangements
60	Socio-Economic Reintegration of KAPATIRAN Members
64	PROGRAM 4: GPH-CBA-CPLA Peace Process
67	Socio-Economic Reintegration
70	Confidence-Building
71	Healing and Reconciliation
74	PROGRAM 5: Social Healing and Peacebuilding
77	A Decade of Commitment to Advancing the Women and Youth Security Agenda
80	Strengthened Transformation Program Planning and the National Steering Committee on WPS through Conflict-Sensitivity and Peace Promotion (CSPP) Mainstreaming
81	Multiple Peace and Development-Focused Communities' Capacity for Resilience Improved through Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and Healing and Reconciliation Initiatives
86	PROGRAM 6: PAyapa at MAsaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA)
89	Revitalizing PAMANA Program Financing and Impact
90	Bridging Communities for Better Access
92	Establishing Foundations for Community Transformation
93	Increasing the Feasibility of Development Interventions

94	Institutionalizing Transparency and Accountability
95	Celebrating the Gains of Peace Efforts
98	PROGRAM 7: International Cooperation and Partnerships
101	Building of Strategic Partnerships and Alignment of Plans, Programs, Policies, and Frameworks of International Partners to the Philippine Comprehensive Peace Process
103	Network Building
104	Program Management
108	PROGRAM 8: Organizational Capital
111	Policy Development, Strategic Planning, Legal and Legislative Services
112	Peace Capacity and Constituency Building
117	Knowledge Management and Organizational Learning
119	Organizational Systems and Processes
122	PROGRAM 8: Human Capital
128	PROGRAM 8: Finance/Resources
129	Optimizing Budget Utilization
134	PROGRAM 8: Strategic Communications
137	Media Values
137	Media Engagements
139	Social Media
140	CSPP Communications
142	Amnesty to Former Rebels
142	Issuance of Amnesty Proclamations
146	PAPRU as Ex-Officio Member of the National Amnesty Commission (NAC) and OPAPRU as NAC Secretariat
148	National Peace Consciousness Month 2023
150	Peace Bell Ringing Ceremony
151	KaPEACEtahan
152	OPAPRU 30th Founding Anniversary
153	Wreath Offering Ceremonies
154	Gawad Kapayapaan Awards 2023



#### Mandate

Vision

Mission

The OPAPRU is mandated to manage, direct, integrate, and supervise the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Process through promoting and reinforcing reconciliation and unity among the Filipino people.

A just and lasting peace for the nation and for all Filipinos

To manage, direct, integrate, and supervise the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Process including initiatives that promote and reinforce national reconciliation and unity.



# The Comprehensive Peace Process shall be:

**I. Conflict-Sensitive and Peace-Promoting.** It shall address the drivers and root causes of conflict. Peacebuilding interventions, programs and activities shall consolidate peaceful relations and strengthen viable political, socio-economic and cultural institutions to be capable of handling conflict, and enhance the capacity of other mechanisms to create or support the necessary conditions for sustained peace;

**II. Whole-of-Society.** There shall be continuing consultations, engagements and dialogues on both national and local levels to build consensus for a whole-of-society peace agenda; and

**III. Empowering.** The government shall mobilize and facilitate the people's meaningful participation, especially the vulnerable groups, towards social healing and reconciliation.

01

The goal and strategies of the Comprehensive Peace Process shall be anchored on:

**Objectives** 

**I. Embedding Peace, Reconciliation and Unity in the Social Fabric.** There shall be direct and meaningful engagements with the rebel groups and the affected communities at the grass-root level in order to reach a peaceful settlement, and achieve a more permanent resolution to conflict. Peacebuilding initiatives shall:

(1) address the legal status and security of former rebels;

(2) ensure the protection of non-combatants and reduce the impact of the armed conflict in affected communities; and

(3) provide for community-based assistance services that cater to the economic, social and psychological rehabilitation needs of former rebels, demobilized combatants, and civilian victims of the internal armed conflicts, especially women and children;

**II. Enhancing Resilience for Peace.** Peace agreements shall be strictly implemented, and the enabling environment necessary to realize their goals shall be actively pursued. Peace advocacy and peace education programs, and the implementation of various confidence-building, healing and reconciliation measures to improve relationships of trust within divided and broken communities, and between citizens and their government institutions, will be at the core peacebuilding strategies; and

**III. Social, Economic and Political Reengineering.** There shall be government initiatives and mobilization of different sectors of society in addressing the root causes of internal armed conflicts and social unrest through the passage and implementation of key social, economic and political reforms requiring administrative action, new legislation or constitutional amendments.

#### THE FIVE-POINT PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY AGENDA

#### The OPAPRU is mandated to manage, direct, integrate and supervise the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Process including initiatives that promote and reinforce national reconciliation and unity.

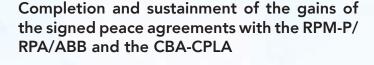


Completion of peace agreements with the MILF and MNLF towards healing and reconcillation in the Bangsamoro

Ending of armed conflict with the CPP-NPA-NDF and local armed groups by expanding the transformation programs for local peace process and forging political settlement

AGENDA 3

**AGENDA 2** 





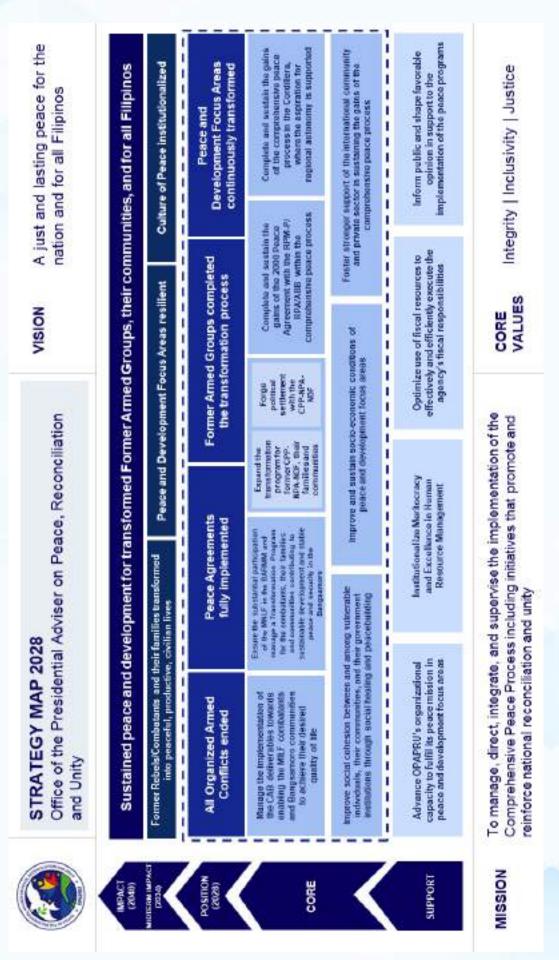
Enhancement of the resilience for peace of communities and vulnerable groups through social healing and peacebuilding approaches in support of the peace processes



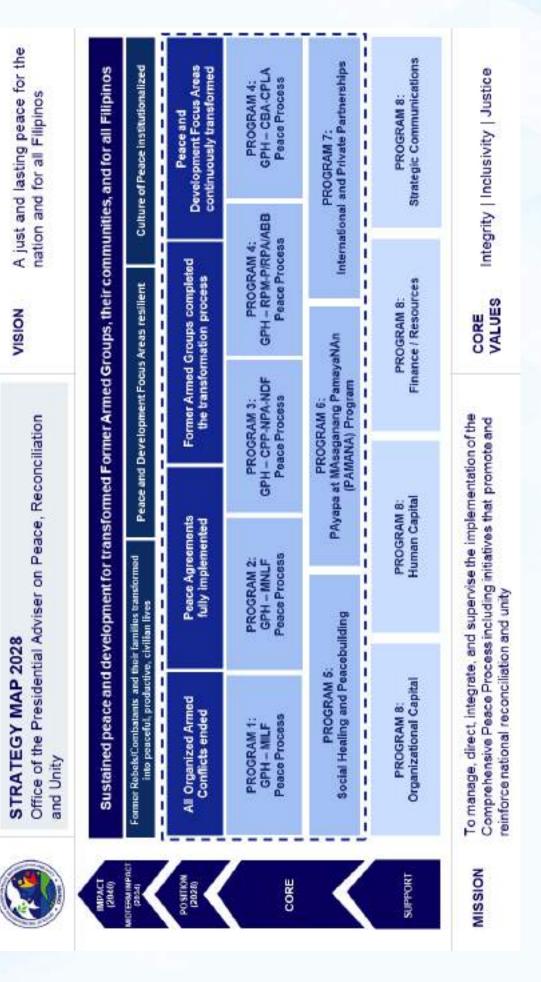
Enhancement of the delivery of Conflict-Sensitive and Peace-Promoting (CSPP)compliant interventions in addressing the root causes and drivers of conflict through convergence and complementation in support of the peace processes

# state of the philippine peace, reconciliation and unity report

# **OPAPRU STRAT**



# **EGY MAP 2028**



05



"For almost half a century, some of our fellow Filipinos have taken to arms to make their views known and felt. We are now at a point in our history when their armed struggle has evolved. We have now progressed together towards peace and development."

- President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., Second State of the Nation Address, 24 July 2023

#### MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY



Greetings of peace!

On behalf of the men and women of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), I am pleased to present to you, our dear peace partners, the State of the Philippine Peace, Reconciliation and Unity Report 2023.

This report is a testament of the Marcos administration's unwavering commitment to achieving genuine and long-lasting peace throughout our beloved nation — from the towering mountain ranges of the Cordilleras, to the picturesque coastal communities of Negros, to the sprawling flatlands of Maguindanao and majestic island-provinces of the Sulu archipelago.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. firmly believes that peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but working together to create a vibrant, progressive

and flourishing environment where every Filipino has the opportunity to thrive and achieve his or her full potential. This is the overarching principle upon which all of the national government's peacebuilding interventions are built upon.

The Marcos administration's peace, reconciliation, and unity agenda is acting as a powerful catalyst for the remarkable transformation that is sweeping across the country, particularly in the Bangsamoro region and the rest of Mindanao. We are witnessing a metamorphosis that is demonstrating that good things come to those who choose to walk the path of peace.

We are pleased to report that 2023 was a very fulfilling year for our office, as major milestones were achieved under our peace processes with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), Communist Party of the Philippines- New People's Army-National Democratic Front of the Philippines (CPP-NPA-NDFP), Cordillera Bodong Administration-Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA), and the Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas-Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPMP-RPA-ABB), now called KAPATIRAN.

Moreover, peacebuilding and socioeconomic initiatives under our Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA) and Social Healing and Peacebuilding (SHAPE) programs continue to gain momentum, as they help uplift the lives of our fellow Filipinos in focus areas and heal the wounds of the past caused by violence and armed conflict by fostering peace, mutual understanding and solidarity.

Through our Normalization and Transformation Programs, implemented in parallel with our Localizing Normalization Implementation (LNI) initiative, we are helping former rebels and combatants make the successful transition to mainstream society. This is being carried out with the strong support coming from our local government units.

Once scarred landscapes, where the sounds of gunfire echoed, are now turning into flourishing rice fields and agriculture areas teeming with promise. Weapons of war are being laid down and are being replaced by ploughshares and fishnets that symbolize a future where violence is a thing of the past, and prosperity is built upon hard work, determination and cooperation.

Former rebels and combatants are no longer defined by the armed struggle they were engaged in for decades, but by their dedication to cultivating a brighter future for themselves, their families, and their communities. This paradigm shift is evident in the socioeconomic progress they are enjoying, as their standards of living continue to improve and are now looked upon as instruments of peace and development.

These ex-fighters are blazing a new path, leaving behind the scars of the past, as they return to mainstream society as peaceful and productive citizens. Their knowledge, skills and experiences, once honed in the battleground, are now being channelled into productive endeavors that contribute to their areas' progress and prosperity.

Once remote, underdeveloped communities, which were perennially in the throes of conflict, are finally experiencing the transformative power of peace. Development programs and projects continue to be rolled out, bringing essential services, infrastructure, and long-overdue opportunities to these people who, for decades, were victims of armed conflict.

The dividends of peace and development are now being felt by our fellow Filipinos, especially in areas that, for many years, bore the brunt of violence and conflict. As before when they were passive onlookers who feared for their life, they have now become active participants in ushering increased livelihood opportunities, and steering the course of their communities' future.

This report details the significant strides we have made over the past year through our agency's various peace tables and programs — from facilitating the implementation of socioeconomic initiatives for former combatants in the Bangsamoro, to spearheading peace conversations among the marginalized sectors in Marawi, to preventing situations of conflict and finding viable solutions on how they can be avoided.

The OPAPRU, however, believes that it cannot do things by itself. We need the full and strong support of all our stakeholders – national line agencies, local government units, civil society, academe, religious and security sectors, the private sector and the international development community – in order to push forward, build on and sustain the gains of the comprehensive Philippine peace process.

Through this report, we hope to show to everyone that laying the foundations of peace is a collective effort where everyone should be involved in the process. No one should be excluded and left behind. Each and everyone has a key role to play. This will ensure that all our interventions are inclusive, responsive and will have the greatest impact on the people we serve.

# Mabuhay ang komprehensibong prosesong pangkapayapaan! Mabuhay ang Bagong Pilipinas!





Determined in sustaining the gains of peace, President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. continues to banner the Five-Point Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (PRU) Agenda which guide the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU) in achieving just and lasting peace for the nation and for all Filipinos.

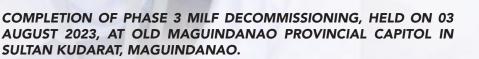
Under the leadership of President Marcos, Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr. and the whole of OPAPRU have been working towards sustained peace and development for transformed former armed groups, their communities, and for all Filipinos.

Here are the highlights of the Philippine Peace, Reconciliation and Unity efforts of OPAPRU for 2023.

#### **PROGRAM 1**

# **GPH-MILF PEACE PROCESS**

Manage the implementation of the CAB deliverables towards enabling the MILF combatants and Bangsamoro communities to achieve their desired quality of life



After 17 years of negotiations, the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) Peace Negotiating Panels signed the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) on 27 March 2014 in Manila, Philippines. The CAB proposes a comprehensive political settlement that aims to provide a just and lasting solution to the armed conflict. The implementation of the CAB has two main thrusts: the political-legislative track and the normalization track. The political-legislative track of the CAB includes the passage of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), the enabling statute for the creation of the Bangsamoro political entity that shall replace the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). The normalization track runs alongside and complements the political-legislative track. It is a process whereby conflict-affected communities can return to conditions where they can achieve their desired quality of life, which includes the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods and political participation within a peaceful deliberative society. The GPH-MILF peace process entered its implementation phase with the formal launch of the Peace Implementing Panels of the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) on 13 August 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

APEA

**GPH-MILF PEACE PROCESS** 

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FOUR (4) INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS BODY (IGRB) MEETINGS



ACTIVATION OF ALL THE SEVEN OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS (IGR) MECHANISMS



DECOMMISSIONING OF THE REMAINING 1,294 MILF COMBATANTS UNDER PHASE 3 COMPLETED



COMPLEMENTARY EFFORTS TO THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND ORDER IN 24 GPH-MILF MUTUALLY AGREED AREAS BY JPSTS IMPLEMENTED



PARTNERSHIP AND FORMULATION OF 14 TRANSFORMATION PLAN OF THE 14 COMMUNITIES OUTSIDE THE 6 PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED MILF CAMPS FACILITATED



OPERATIONAL DATABASE FOR THE PROCESSING OF AMNESTY APPLICATION FOR MILF DEVELOPED

# POLITICAL-LEGISLATIVE TRACK

Political reforms reshape governance structures, empowering communities and ensuring representation at all levels of government. The convening of the Intergovernmental Relations Body (IGRB) and the activation of all the seven other intergovernmental relations (IGR) mechanisms reflect a commitment to inclusive decision-making, and the recognition of the Bangsamoro people and their aspiration of self- governance.



CONDUCT OF THE 15TH IGRB MEETING, HELD ON 27 JULY 2023, AT PICC, PASAY CITY.

For 2023, four (4) IGRB Meetings were conducted to discuss and resolve IGR issues between the National Government and the Bangsamoro Government.

During the 14th IGRB Meeting, the Intergovernmental Infrastructure Development Board (IIDB), the Intergovernmental Energy Board (IEB), and the Joint Body for the Zones of Joint Cooperation (JBZJC), as well as the scheduled convening of the Bangsamoro Sustainable Development Board (BSDB) was convened. Notably, on 6 July 2023, the IEB signed the IEB Circular on the Joint Award on Petroleum Service Contracts (PSCs) and Coal Operating Contracts (COCs) in the BARMM. The signing was witnessed by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. at the Malacañan Palace.



MINISTER MOHAGHER IQBAL WITH BUDGET SECRETARY AMENAH F. PANGANDAMAN AT THE 14TH IGRB MEETING, HELD ON 01 JUNE 2023, IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY.



During the 15th IGRB Meeting held on 27 July 2023, at PICC, Pasay City, several important discussions were held during the session, with two highlights being the Entry of Members from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) into the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the transfer of real properties of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) outside the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Both discussions underline the government's efforts to foster peace, reconciliation, and development in the Bangsamoro region.

Furthermore, the IGRB facilitated the entry of members of the MILF and MNLF to the PNP. A total of 396 qualified MILF and MNLF applicants have taken their oath as patrolman/patrolwoman of the PNP. These efforts reflect the commitment of the National Government-Bangsamoro Government Intergovernmental Relations Body towards achieving lasting peace and prosperity for the people of the region.

The Peace Implementing Panels of the GPH and the MILF have met for the first time on 01 July 2023 under the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr., to tackle pending concerns and items for approval to renew their commitment to the implementation of the CAB.



In October 2023, the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (PAPRU) Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr. presided over the inaugural Organization Meeting of the Cabinet Officer for Regional Development and Security (CORDS) Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The meeting took place at the Kampilan Officers Clubhouse, 6th Infantry

Division, Awang, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao Del Norte. The meeting aimed establish consensus to on the appointment of Permanent and Alternative Representatives Agency to the CORDS BARMM Group, set regular а meeting schedule, and present the preparation deployment plan and for the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) in 2023.



# NORMALIZATION TRACK Security

In the BARMM, security stands as the backbone for sustainable peace and development. Decades of conflict have left deep scars on communities, necessitating concerted efforts to forge stability.

A significant milestone on the security aspect of the Bangsamoro Peace Process was reached as the Joint Peace and Security Committee (JPSC) facilitated the completion of the turnover of the 24 JPST Stations in mutually agreed areas in the Bangsamoro communities, the latest instalment being the Midsayap and the Sultan sa Barongis Stations in North Cotabato and Maguindanao provinces, respectively. The deployment of JPSTs strengthens peace and order in the said areas.





OFFICIAL ACTIVATION OF A JPST AND THE OPENING OF ITS STATION AT GUINDOLONGAN, MAGUINDANAO DEL SUR ON 31 MAY 2023.

On 17 February 2023, the convoy of Lanao del Sur Governor Mamintal Adiong Jr. was ambushed, slaying four aids of the governor. The incident happened as Adiong's convoy was traversing the road between Maguing and Amai Manabilang town en route to Wao, Lanao del Sur. The incident happened at around three in the afternoon, as the JPST Maguing troops were conducting regular patrol in the area, allowing them to be the first ones to respond.



JPST Balindong personnel led by PMSg Hoda-Arief A Rascal, Team Leader and Abdul Jalil Maminta, Co-Team Leader, BIAF-MILF, proceeded to blast site at Dimaporo Gymnasium, MSU-Main Campus, Marawi City. The team monitored the situations and gather informations relative to the bomb explosion that transpired on December 3, 2023 by the unidentified perpetrators that resulted to the death of more or less (4) person and wounding of others while attending a Sunday Mass at Dimaporo Gymnasium inside the MSU-Main Campus, Marawi City.



Furthermore, the decommissioning of MILF forces and weapons signified a tangible step towards positive change, completing the decommissioning of the remaining 1,294 MILF combatants under Phase 3.



SECRETARY CARLITO GALVEZ JR., WITH SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT SECRETARY ANTONIO ERNESTO LAGDAMEO, CHIEF MINISTER MURAD EBRAHIM , AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS AT THE COMPLETION OF PHASE 3 MILF DECOMMISSIONING.





The disbandment of private armed groups and programs on small arms and light weapons (SALW) fostered a safer environment for all. Various projects mobilized these efforts, including: the launching of the Assistance for Security, Peace, Integration, and Recovery (ASPIRE) Project in Basilan in partnership with Joint Normalization Committee (JNC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Embassy of Japan, and the disbandment of 15 private armed groups in Western Mindanao by the NTF-DPAGs.



On 15 March 2023, a Potential Private Armed Group in Lanao del Sur, voluntarily surrendered to the together with their firearms at Butig Municipal Police Station in Brgy Bayabao, Butig, Lanao Del Sur as parrt of the program for the disbandment of private armed groups. Firearms surrendered were One (1) M16 Rifle, One (1) Barett Sniper Rifle, One (1) Cal. 38 Revolver, and One (1) Cal. 45 Pistol.

Efforts on policing have provided a transformative turn for former combatants, exemplifying the commitment to inclusive law enforcement. One hundred-two (102) applicants made it to the final stages of the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) screening process who eventually took their oath as Philippine National Police (PNP) patrolmen and patrolwomen last 10 August 2023; serving as the first batch. With the reopening of the recruitment process, 294 MILF and MNLF, including 39 women, took oath last December 2023; serving as the second batch.



BODY MASS INDEX (BMI) PROCESS DURING THE INITIAL APPLICATION PROCESS OF THE PNP HELD ON 09 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT PARANG, MAGUINDANAO DEL NORTE.



OATH-TAKING AND TURNOVER OF 294 MEMBERS OF THE MILF AND MNLF AS PATROLMEN AND PATROLWOMEN HELD ON 28 DECEMBER 2023, AT PRO BAR, PARANG, MAGUINDANAO.

# Confidence-Building



Confidence-building measures play a pivotal role in bridging divides and fostering trust among communities. Reconciliation initiatives create spaces for dialogue and understanding, addressing grievances and laying the foundation for peaceful coexistence and cooperation. On 21-24 November 2023, the Inter-Cabinet Cluster Mechanism on Normalization (ICCMN) conducted series of visit and ground consultation in Camps Abubakar, Rajamuda, Omar, and Badre. The group which is composed of senior officials from OPAPRU, OSAP, DOH, DBM, DOLE, CHED, NICA-BARMM, MinDA, NIA, DAR, DND and PNP PPDC held a consultation with the MILF communities to gather comments and observations on the status of implementation of the Normalization Program.







Commissioners Nasser Marohamsalic and Jamar Kulayan gave Chief Minister Al-Haj Murad an overview of the efforts to operationalize the National Amnesty Commission and its Local Amnesty Boards (LABs) held on April 2023 in Cotabato City.



CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF THE NATIONAL AMNESTY COMMISSION (NAC) AND THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) ON 16 MAY 2023, IN PASAY CITY.

# Transitional Justice and Reconciliation

As part of the Normalization Annex of the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) between the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the Transitional Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) was established in 2014 to undertake a study and make recommendations with a view to promote healing and reconciliation among the different communities affected by the conflict in Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago.

It was tasked to propose appropriate mechanisms to address legitimate grievances of the Bangsamoro people; correct historical injustices; address human rights violations; and, address marginalization through land dispossession. The TJRC report cited over 90 recommendations addressed mostly to government which are further classified into: (1) the creation of the National Transitional Justice and Reconciliation Commission for the Bangsamoro (NTJRCB); and, (2) the 4 pillars under the Dealing with the Past (DwP) framework, namely: (a) Right to Know; (b) Right to Justice; (c) Right to Reparations; and (d) Guarantee of Non-Recurrence.

As part of government's continuing response to the TJRC recommendations, the following measures were undertaken in 2023 at the national and local/community levels:



On 09 August 2023 at Mitra Building, Batasan Complex, Quezon City, the OPAPRU served as resource persons during the initial deliberations of two (2) versions of House Bills on the proposed NTJRCB creation, authored by Rep. Ziaur-Rahman "Zia" Alonto Adiong with Rep. Yasser Alonto Balindong (HB 2975), and Rep. Mujiv S. Hataman (HB 4330). This was organized by the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity of the House of Representatives. Updates on the Bangsamoro peace process and pressing peace issues were also discussed. The OPAPRU position supporting the bills on NTJRCB creation was presented and officially transmitted.

#### Community Consultations and Peace Conversations on the Proposed Community-based Reparation Program Framework and Installation of Historical

Women community members including victims/survivors and their next of kin were engaged in peace conversations to generate insights/inputs on what a Community-based Reparation Program should contain. These venues also served as an opportunity to consult and vet the content of the memorial marker to memorialize victims of past atrocities. Common to both communities are top three (3) socio-economic assistance identified by women, namely: livelihood, education and health/medical assistance. Consensus on the content of the historical/memorial markers that will be generated by the community, the victims/survivors and LGUs shall be endorsed to National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) for reproduction and installation.



# Socio-Economic



SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO L. PURISIMA AT THE CAMP BILAL, LANAO DEL NORTE ON APRIL 2023.

The BARMM undergoes a profound socio-economic transformation. Initiatives like the Access to Legal Identity and Social Services for Decommissioned Combatants (ALIAS DC) Program, and the PROACTIVE empower communities with financial support and skills training, fostering economic resilience and self-sufficiency. Complemented by funding from local and international partners, these programs alleviate disparities and provide avenues for sustainable livelihoods, fostering inclusive growth and prosperity. Under the ALIAS DC Program funded by the European Union (EU), Certificate of Live Birth (COLB) was distributed to 12,741 decommissioned combatants (DCs), their next-of-kin (NOK), and to their communities. The issuance of COLB is key for the DCs, their NOK, and their communities' in accessing government socio-economic services.



LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS HELD ON 23 AUGUST 2023 AT MASIU, LANAO DEL SUR.

Additionally, the development and transformation of six (6) MILF camps, along with the socioeconomic advancement of other Bangsamoro communities beyond these camps, are crucial steps towards fostering lasting peace and stability in the region. By revitalizing former conflict areas and providing economic opportunities, these initiatives promote trust, social cohesion,



LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HELD ON 17 JUNE 2023 AT ALANOGAS, LANAO DEL SUR,

and the reintegration of former combatants into civilian life. The MILF DCs received training and capacity development for their transformation. For this year, 600 MILF DCs received training under the PROACTIVE Program of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which aims at enhancing the locals' capacities to facilitate the transition and transformation of the major camps of MILF into peace and productive communities; 3,607 MILF DCs and their next-ofkin completed Functional Literacy Program under Alternative Learning System (ALS) Program; and 518 decommissioned combatants and their NOK participated in the Training Induction Program (TIP) with UNDP last June 2023.

Finally, to further aid the former MILF combatants, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the OPAPRU and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) was forged which aims to give cash assistance to the DCs for their socio-economic development.





"Former MILF combatants are now fighting a different battle and that is, a battle to improve their socioeconomic well-being and create a better future for themselves and their

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Kapihan sa Manila Bay, 06 December 2023



families."

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

#### **PROGRAM 2**

# **GPH-MNLF Peace Process**

Ensure the substantial participation of the MNLF in the BARMM and manage a Transformation Program for the combatants, their families and communities contributing to sustainable development and stable peace and security in the Bangsamoro

30



LAUNCHING OF MNLF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM, HELD ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2023, IN BASILAN.

TRANSFORMATION POLL

The peace process with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is a 46-year-old process, that started with the signing of the Tripoli Agreement on 23 December 1976, and the Final Peace Agreement (FPA) on 2 September 1996, with the Moro front predominantly located on the island provinces of Basilan and Sulu. To complete the remaining commitments of the 1996 FPA and manage a Transformation Program for the MNLF Combatants, their families, and communities towards sustainable development and stable peace and security in the Bangsamoro, a GPH-MNLF Peace Roadmap for FY 2022-2025 was agreed upon by the Parties. It has two tracks namely—the political track and transformation track.

GPH-MNLF PEACE PROCESS

### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

14 SEATS FOR MNLF LEADERS MAINTAINED AND SUPPORTED



PARTNERSHIP WITH 4 CSOS/NGOS/NGAS/BARMM MINISTRIES IN SUPPORT OF THE DELIVERY OF SOCIOECONOMIC INTERVENTIONS FORGED



1,848 FIREARMS IN THE PROVINCES OF BASILAN, LANAO DEL SUR, MAGUINDANAO DEL SUR, MAGUINDANAO DEL NORTE, SPECIAL GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF NORTH COTABATO AND COTABATO CITY DOCUMENTED AND VERIFIED



VALIDATION, VERIFICATION AND PROFILING OF 1,705 COMBATANTS IN BASILAN, LANAO DEL SUR, MAGUINDANAO, AND NORTH COTABATO FACILITATED 1,705 COMBATANTS HAVE COMPLETED THE PROCESS AND BENEFITTED FROM THE INITIAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE



RENEWAL OF 12,706 COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN MNLF AREAS ENDORSED TO PHILHEALTH

### **POLITICAL TRACK**

Pursuant to the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) and as part of the implementation of the remaining commitments to the 1996 Final Peace Agreement, the participation of the MNLF has become an integral part of the present Bangsamoro government. Fourteen (14) members of the current Bangsamoro Transition Authority represent the groups led by MNLF Founding Chair Nur Misuari and Chair Muslimin Sema represent the MNLF. The MNLF in the BARMM have also played leading and critical roles in the Parliament and in the Ministries.



UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CHAIR NUR MISUARI, THE MNLF HAS AGREED TO RECONSTITUTE THE JOINT PEACE BODY TO SUSTAIN THE PEACE PROCESS IN MINDANAO.

Along with the political participation in the BARMM, the MNLF groups deem it pivotal to converge to implement the remaining commitments on the 1996 Final Peace Agreement and implement an inclusive MNLF Transformation Program. Meetings were held in 2023 and first semester of 2024 to find common grounds to implement programs for the MNLF and address issues on political, security, socio-economic and legal of MNLF members and communities.



UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CHAIR MUSLIMIN SEMA, THE MNLF HAS AGREED TO REFORM THE JOINT PEACE BODY TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE PROCESS IN MINDANAO.

One of the remaining commitments of the 1996 Final Peace Agreement resulting from the Tripartite Review Process is the establishment of the Bangsamoro Development Assistance Fund (BDAF), which aims to provide financial support to the socio-economic development of MNLF communities.

On 18 May 2023, an Exploratory Meeting on the Establishment of the BDAF took place, with the participation of key agencies such as the Department of Budget and Management, Department of Finance, Department of Justice, and Department of Foreign Affairs.

Representatives from these agencies include Deputy Asec. Ma. Cynthia Pelayo from DFA, Atty. Ryan Omar Ching from DOF, Asec. Matthew Balanquit from DBM, and Ms. Fresita Araneta and Ms. Ma. Antonette Matibag from NEDA. Also present were Amb. Rafael Seguis, former Undersecretary of DFA and BARMM Member of the Parliament (MP) Jose Lorena. The OPAPRU consisted of PA David Diciano, PA Cesar Yano, EDir. Cesar De Mesa, Dir. Jana Gallardo, Dir. Rowena Lopez, Atty. Allan Brian Caser, and Mr. Val Bulanhagui. The agencies were briefed on the BDAF and the discussion revolves around the various policies, issuances and mechanisms that have to be studied further in relation to the establishment of a fund mechanism. At the end of the meeting, it was agreed to create a working group to be composed of representatives from the concerned agencies to study options for the operationalization and implementation of the BDAF.



### **TRANSFORMATION TRACK**

The MNLF Transformation Program is a testament to the government's commitment under the 1996 Final Peace Agreement. This program is designed to facilitate the transition of MNLF combatants into productive, empowered, and self-reliant members of society. By providing support and resources, it aims to help former combatants integrate into civilian life, fostering economic stability and social cohesion within their communities. The initiative underscores the government's dedication to sustaining peace and development in the region.

The program has four major components: security, socio-economic, confidence-building, and community healing and reconciliation.

### Security

The Security Component, based on agreed Implementing Arrangements and Mechanisms signed in 2020 with the MNLF Management Committee under Chair Muslimin Sema, aims to foster trust and strengthen cooperation among the MNLF, the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police. It was agreed that there shall be a validation and verification process for combatants and firearms based on the list submitted by the MNLF. Further, mechanisms such as Joint Body on Management of Arms and Forces along with GPH Validation Team, Joint Verification Team and Joint Security Monitoring and Coordinating Team shall be created to implement the agreed terms of the security component.



FIREARMS BEING VERIFIED BY JVEG IN MALUSO, BASILAN.

From September to December 2023, the GPH-MNLF security mechanisms were able to verify and record a total of one thousand eight hundred forty-eight (1,848) firearms in the provinces of Basilan, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao del Sur, Maguindanao del Norte, Special Geographic Area of North Cotabato and Cotabato City.



VERIFICATION OF FIREARMS BY JVEG IN TAMONTAKA 5, COTABATO CITY.

VERIFICATION OF FIREARMS BY JVEG IN MAGUINDANAO DEL NORTE.







VERIFICATION OF FIREARMS BY JVEG IN KABACAN, NORTH COTABATO.

### Socio-Economic



REPRESENTATIVES FROM DSWD AND OPAPRU PROVIDED SOCIO-ECONOMIC PACKAGE DURING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILING IN BASILAN.

Uplifting the conditions of the MNLF combatants, their families and communities is at the core of the MNLF Transformation Program.

To gather key data of the combatants and their families, in partnership with the Mindanao State University (MSU) System, socio-economic assessment has been held from September to December 2023 in the provinces where the verification of firearms took place.

By December 2023, a total of one thousand seven hundred five (1,705) combatants have completed the process and benefitted from the initial socio-economic assistance. A total of Seventy-Six Million, Seven Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (76,725,000.00) or forty-five thousand per combatant have been disbursed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development for transitional cash shelter or housing is one of the most basic human needs and essential for survival, personal safety, protection from different weather conditions.



THE MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES ENSURE THE PHYSICAL HEALTH PREPAREDNESS' OF THE MNLF COMBATANTS IN BASILAN TO UNDERGO THE VERIFICATION AND SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILING PROCESS OF THE MNLF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM.

By December 2023, a total of one thousand seven hundred five (1,705) combatants have completed the process and benefitted from the initial socio-economic assistance. A total of Seventy-Six Million, Seven Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (76,725,000.00) or forty-five thousand per combatant have been disbursed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development for transitional cash shelter or housing is one of the most basic human needs and essential for survival, personal safety, protection from different weather conditions





THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY (MSU) CONDUCTS A ONE-ON-ONE SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILING TO THE MNLF COMBATANTS IN MAGUINDANAO/COTABATO, TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE DEBRIEFING OF THEIR LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS.



THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA) PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO THE MNLF COMBATANTS IN MAGUINDANAO/ COTABATO FOR THE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ID SYSTEM.



MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) ASSISTING IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY'S (NFA) 50-KILOGRAM SACKS OF RICE TO MNLF COMBATANTS IN LANAO DEL SUR, AS PART OF THE SOCIDECONOMIC PACKAGE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE MNLF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM.



As part of the OPAPRU's commitment to ensure that basic services are delivered to conflict affected and vulnerable communities, through the PAyapa at MAsaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA)- Department of Social and Welfare Development (DSWD) Modified Shelter Assistance Program (MSAP), fifty (50) shelter units were turned-over in July 2023 in Sirawai, Zamboanga del Norte to beneficiaries which include members of the MNLF. This initiative was complemented by a cash-for-work program, involving beneficiaries in the construction.



## **Confidence-Building**

Confidence-building measures are important initiatives in establishing trust between communities and fostering positive momentum in the peace process.

The granting of amnesty to eligible former MNLF combatants through Proclamation No. 406, dated 22 November 2023, and intensified information dissemination efforts signify key components in this endeavor.



SECRETARY CARLITO GALVEZ JR. (PREVIOUS DEFENSE SECRETARY) AND SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO PURISIMA (PREVIOUS ACTING PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR PEACE, RECONCILIATION, AND UNITY) VISITED MNLF FOUNDING CHAIRMAN NUR MISUARI LAST 28 FEBRUARY 2023 AND AGREED TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION ON PEACE AND SECURITY ESPECIALLY IN SULU.

Collaboration is pivotal in these efforts, uniting diverse stakeholders in a common goal of peace and trust. Engaging communities, local leaders, and former combatants in dialogues and initiatives ensures that various perspectives are heard and respected. This inclusive approach not only enhances mutual understanding but also reinforces the legitimacy and effectiveness of various measures. By working together, these groups create a robust foundation for trust and cooperation, essential for sustaining positive momentum in the peace process and fostering long-term stability.

As pillars of communities, enhancing the capacities of women to implement peacebuilding projects contribute to sustainability and increased participation of women and girls in



BRIEF ORIENTATION ON MNLF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM IN BASILAN.

community development. In 2020 until present, the OPAPRU and the MNLF under the leadership of Chair Nur Misuari has embarked on series of capacity building activities to strengthen the role of women in communities especially in peacebuilding.

On the 3rd year of its implementation, the MNLF Women's Project, has developed guidelines for formulation of innovation projects to empower women and youth to propose small projects on peacebuilding through a small grant facility that they themselves have written.

### Community Healing and Reconciliation

Confidence-building measures are important initiatives in establishing trust between communities and fostering positive momentum in the peace process.

The granting of amnesty to eligible former MNLF combatants through Proclamation No. 406, dated 22 November 2023, and intensified information dissemination efforts signify key components in this endeavor.



THE DIALOGUE, ATTENDED BY SENIOR MNLF OFFICIALS INCLUDING THEIR CENTRAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MUSLIMIN SEMA, ENDED WITH AN IFTAR, THE MEAL BREAKING THE DAY-LONG RAMADAN FAST. THIS EVENT, HELD AT EBRAHIM SEMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BAGOINGED, WAS HOSTED BY OPAPRU REPRESENTATIVES, LED BY SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO PURISIMA, AS A "UNITY AND THANKSGIVING BANQUET."

During the Holy Month of Ramadan, the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU) organized various peace engagement activities in Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) communities. Known as Duyog Ramadan, these Iftar celebrations and peace conversations with MNLF communities were held in municipalities of Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte; Barangay Kagay and Pasil in Indanan, Sulu; Madamba, Lanao del Sur; and Lamitan City, Basilan in April 2023.

The Duyog Ramadan initiative been has instrumental in building stronger ties between OPAPRU and the MNLF communities. The Iftar gatherings and peace conversations provided platform for open dialogue and collaboration contributing to deeper understanding and respect for each other's culture and practices. By participating Ramadan celebrations, in demonstrated **OPAPRU** solidarity and unity with the Muslim Filipino community.



"Our MNLF brothers and sisters are demonstrating their determination to help move forward the national government's peace agenda and walk the path of peace. More importantly, the national government is showing the MNLF that it is focused, more than ever, to fulfill all the commitments it had made under the 1996 Final Peace Agreement."

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Launching of MNLF Transformation Program Lamitan City, Basilan, 30 September 2023



# **PLEDGE OF COMMITMENT** By the RTF, PTF, PLGU & SPT of Region 8

TOGETHER WE SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM IN SAMAR ISLANDS

Signeo

**PROGRAM 3** 

# **GPH-CPP-NPA-NDF Peace Process**

Expand the transformation program for former CPP-NPA-NDF, their families and communities; and forge political settlement with the CPP-NPA-NDF



ring the Transformation Program: Sama April 24-27, 202

MAYOR ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ OF TACLOBAN, RPOC CHAIRMAN, SIGNS THE PLEDGE OF COMMITMENT DURING THE TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR SAMAR ISLAND, ON 22-24 MAY 2023.

The OPAPRU supports the implementation of Executive Order No. 70 (s. 2018), "Institutionalizing a Whole of Nation Approach in Attaining Inclusive and Sustainable Peace, creating a National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), and Directing the Adoption of a National Peace Framework" through the mainstreaming of Localized Peace Engagements (LPE).

The LPE involves: Track 1: Community Consultations and Problem-Solving Sessions; and Track 2: Local Peace Dialogues with the CPP-NPA-NDF towards reaching local peace settlement with the group. These interventions pave the way for the implementation of a Transformation Program (TP) for former rebels (FRs), their families and communities that aims to address their needs so that their return to the mainstream of society will be sustained, and that they will remain resilient against the recovery efforts of the CPP-NPA-NDF. The TP entails the localization of the framework to Provincial Local Government Units (PLGUs) and localized implementation of the respective TP Plans with inter- agency support.

For the first time in six (6) years since the termination of the talks with the CPP-NPA-NDF, the GPH has reengaged for peace discussions and possible agreements.

**IPH**-CPP-NPA-NDF PEACE PROCESS

### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



26 PLGUS CAPACITATED AND SUCCEEDED IN DEVELOPING THEIR RESPECTIVE DRAFT PROVINCIAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM (TP) PLANS



8 PLGUS LOBBIED TO COVER AND MANAGE THE PILOTING OF 8 PEACE CENTERS



9 SPECIAL PROJECT TEAMS (SPTS) ORGANIZED TO SERVE AS TRANSFORMATION AGENTS



ESTABLISHED PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS TOWARDS CREATING A CONDUCIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR LPE CONDUCT



**OSLO JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED** 

### Localized Peace Engagements and its Transformation Program

On 10 February 2023, the LPE Cluster, co-chaired by the OPAPRU and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), established consensus and expressed support to the implementation of the Transformation Program, commencing with its localization to PLGUs.



SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO L. PURISIMA, UNDERSECRETARY MARIO IRINGAN, UNDERSECRETARY ERNESTO TORRES JR., ASSISTANT SECRETARY MICHEL ANDRE DEL ROSARIO, REPRESENTATIVES FROM NICA, OSG, PNP, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF LPE CLUSTER GATHERED TO BUILD CONSENSUS ON THE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM CASCADING AND IMPLEMENTATION ON 10 FEBRUARY 2023.

OPAPRU continues to support the conduct of LPE activities: Zamboanga Peninsula: (1) Brgy Sunop; (2) Brgy. Mansanas, Josefina; (3) Brgy. Paraiso, Mahayag; (4) Brgy. Salvador, Dumingag; (5) Rizal, Kalinga; (6) Bontoc, Mountain Province (7) Asipulo, Ifugao (8) Malibcong, Abra (9) Pudtol, Apayao; (10) Sagada, Mountain Province, (11) Pilar, Abra, (12) Brgy Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City, (13) Claveria, Misamis Oriental; (14) San Jose de Buan, Samar; (15) Silvino Lubos, Samar; (16) Matuguinao, Samar; (17) Basey, Samar; (18) Can-avid, Eastern Samar; (19) Brgy Cablangan, Mondragon, Northern Samar; (20) Mapanas, Northern Samar; (21) Catubig Northern Samar.

As part of the said localization strategy, 26 PLGUs were capacitated and succeeded in developing their respective draft Provincial Transformation Program (TP) Plans: (1) Davao Oriental, (2) Davao del Norte, (3) Davao de Oro, (4) Zamboanga del Sur, (5) Zamboanga Sibugay, (6) Samar, (7) Eastern Samar, (8) Northern Samar, (9) Sarangani, (10) South Cotabato, (11) Sultan Kudarat, (12) Aurora, (13) Negros Occidental, (14) Agusan del Norte, and (15) Surigao del Sur, (16) Masbate, (17) Camarines Sur, (18) Sorsogon, (19) Quezon, (20) Kalinga, (21) Isabela, (22) Cagayan, (23) Bukidnon, (24) Misamis Occidental, (25) Misamis Oriental, and (26) Oriental Mindoro.



CONDUCT OF TRACK 1: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SESSIONS AT BRGY PARAISO, MAHAYAG ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR ON 13 NOVEMBER 2023.



CONDUCT OF TRACK 1: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SESSIONS AT BRGY MANSANAS, JOSEFINA, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.



PARTICIPANT DISCUSSION DURING WORKSHOP PROPER ON THE CONDUCT OF TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR SORSOGON, ON 5-7 SEPTEMBER 2023.



SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO L. PURISIMA PROVIDING SPT – REGION II GUIDANCE DURING TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR PROVINCE OF AURORA, 6-7 JUNE 2023.



GOVERNOR EUGENIOR JOSE LACSON OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AND UNDERSECRETARY WILBEN M. MAYOR DURING TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL ON 22-23 JUNE 2023.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUSANA GUADALUPE H. MARCAIDA WITH SPT REGION VIII DURING THE CONDUCT OF TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR SAMAR ISLAND ON22-24 MAY 2023.

During each TP planning workshops, representatives of RTF and PTF ELCAC member agencies, and local authorities collaborated to create a comprehensive plan that addresses the needs of the former rebels while promoting sustainable peace and development in the region. The activity also served as an avenue to strengthen partnerships between key actors. Various topics were also discussed, ranging from the security situation of the province, the status of national and local peace efforts implemented, social preparation of concerned agencies, and other pertinent topics related to TP.





UNDERSECRETARY ERNESTO TORRES, JR. DELIVERING HIS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT DURING TRANSFORMATION PLANNING WORKSHOP PLANNING FOR THE PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL ON 6 MARCH 2023.

ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY TP VALIDATION AND FINALIZATION SESSION ON 24-25 OCTOBER 2023.



NEXUS ORIENTATION OF LPE AND TP FOR THE SECURITY SECTOR AND KEY PARTNER AGENCIES IN THE AREAS COVERED BY VISAYAS COMMAND WITH RESOURCE PERSON MGEN EDGARDO DE LEON (RET.) ON 21 NOVEMBER 2023.



NEXUS ORIENTATION OF LPE AND TP FOR THE SECURITY SECTOR AND KEY PARTNER AGENCIES IN THE AREAS COVERED BY SOUTHERN-LUZON COMMAND ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

As part of continuing efforts to mainstream the TP with government partners, OPAPRU conducted Nexus Orientation of LPE and TP for the Security Sector and key partner agencies in the areas covered by Southern Luzon Command, JRTF- NCR, and Visayas Command. The participants were oriented and reoriented on the Framework for TP, Conflict-Sensitivity and Peace-Promoting Approaches (CSPP), National Action Plan for Women Peace, and Security (NAP-WPS), Youth, Peace and Security (YPS), and Indigenous People (IP) in the context of conflict. The major topic discussed was the CPP-NPA-NDF dynamics, briefing participants on the organizational framework of the CPP- NPA-NDF and recruitment strategies aligning to the need for the TP.

#### **Provincial Peace and Development Centers**

The Provincial Peace and Development Center (PPDC) is a mechanism that will ensure the provincial-level adoption and implementation of the LPE and its TP. It seeks to ensure the timely execution of the implementation plan. For FY 2023, OPAPRU has established partnerships with eight (8) pilot provinces namely: (1) Aurora; (2) Masbate; (3) Negros Occidental; (4) Northern Samar; (5) South Cotabato, (6) Agusan del Norte; (7) Surigao del Sur; and (8) Zamboanga del Sur.

On 20 September 2023, Agusan Norte inaugurated their del very own Provincial Peace and Development Center named "Kagawasan 143." The facility shall serve as a bridge in supporting former members of CPP-NPA-NDF in their respective reintegration process. The inauguration was headed by the Governor of Agusan del Norte herself - Maria Angelica Rosedell Amante, and was graced by different agencies, signifying their commitment for the transformation of the former members of CPP-NPA-NDF, their families and communities.



AGUSAN DEL NORTE'S VERY OWN PROVINCIAL PEACE CENTER NAMED KAGAWASAN 143. SITUATED AT CAMP BANCASI BUTUAN CITY.

#### Agents of Transformation: Special Project

The Special Project Teams (SPTs), composed of several stakeholders, serve as consultants, coordinators, facilitators, and overall transformation agents in the operationalization of the Transformation Program—ensuring that the four (4) components of the TP are in place and are implemented. The SPTs serve as a springboard in the advocacy of deradicalization in their areas and provide support in the sustainment of efforts of LPE and its transformation program for FRs, their families and communities.





REGIONAL ADVISER FOR PEACE AND SECURITY (RAPS) MGEN EDGARDO DE LEON (RET.) PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO SPT – REGION VII DURING SPT ORIENTATION AND PLANNING WORKSHOP ON 25-26 JULY 2023.



AREA MANAGER FOR CENTRAL LUZON DISCUSSING OPERATIONAL PLAN WITH SPT – REGION II DURING SPT ORIENTATION AND PLANNING WORKSHOP ON 25-26 JULY 2023.

Nine (9) SPTs were established in the following regions: Davao Region, Central Luzon, Eastern Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, SOCCSKSARGEN, Bicol, Northern Mindanao, CARAGA, and National Capital Region (NCR). Additionally, a series of capacity building training for SPTs for Regions 10, 11, 12, and 13 was conducted in December 2023, ensuring that the teams are well- equipped to support the TP initiative and make a significant impact in their respective regions.



SPT NCR DISTRIBUTION OF NFA RICE AS PART OF CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURE IN BRGY. SIPAC ALMACEN, NAVOTAS, ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2023.

### National Peace Engagements



SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT (SAP) SECRETARY ANTONIO ERNESTO F. LAGDAMEO JR. AND NDF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER LUIS JALANDONI DURING THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT STATEMENT ON 28 NOVEMBER 2023 IN OSLO, NORWAY.

The Oslo Joint Statement signed in Oslo, Norway on 28 November 2023 emerged from a series of informal and exploratory discussions between the GPH and CPP-NPA-NDF to usher in a new beginning in the forging of a political settlement. The statement states that both parties agreed to a principled and peaceful resolution to the armed conflict and end to the armed struggle, recognizing the need for the nation to unite in the face of serious socioeconomic, environmental, and foreign security issues. Various national government agencies especially the security sectors welcomed this development—showing the efficacy of the whole-of-government approach.

"We want to resolve all the socioeconomic drivers of conflict, and at the same time, end armed struggle through peaceful resolution of conflict. We've been divided as a people by this conflict for more than 50 years...We, as Filipinos, really need to show the world that we are united as a nation. This is our best way to usher sustainable development and at the same time, protect our country's sovereignty as a nation which is now under threat.

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Announcement of the Oslo Joint Communique, 28 November 2023 CEREMONIAL TURNOVER OF THE COMPLETED SITE DEVELOPMENT

MMUNITYL

#### **PROGRAM 4**

# **GPH-RPM-P/RPA/ ABB Peace Process**

Complete and sustain the gains of the 2000 Peace Agreement with the RPM-P/ RPA/ABB within the comprehensive peace process

CEREMONIAL TURNOVER OF THE COMPLETED SITE DEVELOPMENT IN THE KAPATIRAN PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY HELD ON 4 JULY 2023 AT TANJAY, NEGROS ORIENTAL.

The Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa-Pilipinas/Revolutionary Proletarian Army/ Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPM-P/RPA/ABB) is a rejectionist group of the Communist Party of the Philippines and New People's Army. On 06 December 2000, the RPM-P/RPA/ABB signed a peace agreement with the Philippine Government but later split into two factions—the Tabara-Paduano Group (TPG), now known as Kapatiran Para sa Progresong Panlipunan Inc. (KAPATIRAN), and the Nilo dela Cruz Group (NDCG), which are the major stakeholders in the RPM-P/RPA/ABB Peace Process. Both factions expressed their interest in implementing the 2000 Peace Agreement. However, only the KAPATIRANcontinued its engagement with the government and signed a Clarificatory Implementing Document (CID) on 19 July 2019. Meanwhile, efforts are being undertaken to re-engage with the RPM-P/RPA/ABB-NDCG to fulfill the obligations outlined in the 2000 Peace Agreement.



663 ELIGIBLE KAPATIRAN MEMBERS ENDORSED TO THE PAMANA PHILHEALTH PROGRAM



150

306 SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM (SLP) GRANTS AWARDED TO SLPAS



7 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT SITES COMPLETED AND TURNED OVER

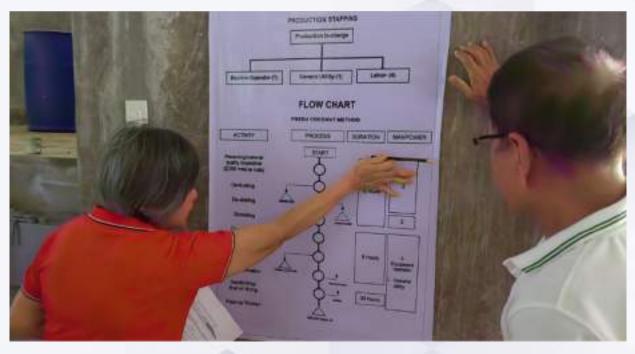


10 KAPATIRAN CHAPTERS CONTINUOUSLY CAPACITATED ON SUSTAINING LIVELIHOOD ENTERPRISES



**10 KAPATIRAN CHAPTERS ACCREDITED** 

### Program Mechanisms



JOINT ENFORCEMENT AND MONITORING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR MS. MARIA VERONICA TABARA FACILITATING THE REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE COCO MILL FACILITY IN IBAJAY AKLAN, ON 1-4 OCTOBER 2023 IN KALIBO, AKLAN

The Joint Enforcement and Monitoring Committee (JEMC) plays a crucial role in overseeing and supervising the holistic interventions of the GPH-RPM-P/RPA/ABB-TPG Peace Process, ensuring alignment with the 2019 CID. Its active participation in the monitoring of the settlement site visits led to the creation of action plans that enable the implementation of deliverables and KAPATIRAN projects, including the completion of the Tanjay Peace and Development Community (PDC) settlement site and the KAPATIRAN Coco Mill in Ibajay, Aklan. Furthermore, JEMC Resolution No. 4, issued on 17 May 2023, marked a significant step towards operationalizing the Transition and Sustainability Plan for the Security Arrangement Component of the CID by affirming the transition of Community Community Defense Units (CDUs) to Regular CAFGU Active Auxiliaries (CAA) and allowed for the activation of two CAA companies.

With the help of the local Site Coordination Teams, various activities, and programs were successfully conducted such as the implementation of Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) funded projects as additional support to the coco mill project of the KAPATIRAN Aklan Chapter; turnover of Completed Site Development in Tanjay Peace and Development Community (PDC) KAPATIRAN Settlement Site on 04 July 2023; Project Site Validation for KAPATIRAN Peace and Development Community Site in Tanjay, Negros Oriental on 08 August 2023; and support to KAPATIRAN members' application for amnesty.

The JEMC participated in the security assessment of the existing patrol bases in KAPATIRAN settlement sites spearheaded by the Armed Forces of the Philippines Peace and Development Center (AFP PDO) and Philippine National Police Peace and Development Center (PNP PPDC) as the lead office of the Joint Body on the Disposition of Arms and Forces (JBDAF). Firstly, the security assessment aims to determine the threat level to the KAPATIRAN settlement sites for the implementation of the Community Defense Unit's (CDU) transition plan; second, to survey the security situation of the KAPATIRAN members and CDUs; and lastly, to conduct an inspection of PDC sites, congregated sites, and patrol bases on the status of security in said areas. It is through the regular conduct of security assessments that the KAPATIRAN members, their settlement sites and adjacent communities are kept safe, and facilitates their pursuit of social and economic development.



JOINT BODY ON THE DISPOSITION OF ARMS AND FORCES AND THE JEMC LEADING THE CONDUCT OF SECURITY ASSESSMENTS IN WESTERN VISAYAS IN NOVEMBER 2023.

### Disposition of Arms, Forces, and Security Arrangements



GRADUATION CEREMONY OF CITIZEN ARMED FORCES GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT (CAFGU) ACTIVE AUXILIARY (CAA-1) HELD ON 20 NOVEMBER 2023, IN ISABELA, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL.

To operationalize the security arrangements for settlement sites outlined in the Transition and Sustainability Plan, the series of meetings in January and February 2023 culminated in the finalization of an MOA with the Department of National Defense (DND) - Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This critical agreement facilitated the transfer of PhP42.8 Million to the DND - AFP, enabling the activation of two (2) CAFGU Active Auxiliary-1 (CAA-1) companies.

In the CDU Detachment in Sitio Binacay, Brgy. Talacdan, Cauayan, a Solar Lighting and Installation of Solar Panels Training Workshop equipped fifteen (15) KAPATIRAN members with fundamental skills in safety, system design, and equipment selection for installing 480-watt panels with batteries and inverters to cover the needed power supply of the community patrol base in the area.

### Socio-Economic Reintegration of KAPATIRAN Members



CONDUCT OF GRAND OPENING OF PAMANA SLP VARIETY STORE HELD ON 20 NOVEMBER 2023 IN KALIBO, AKLAN.



PAYOUT FOR THE REMAINING KAPATIRAN MEMBERS WHO HAVE YET TO RECEIVE THEIR CASH ASSISTANCE HELD ON 22 MAY 2023.

Through various socio-economic interventions, KAPATIRAN members are continuously supported in their peaceful reintegration. These programs, implemented in close collaboration with the DSWD, DOLE, and DENR, provide KAPATIRAN members with diverse opportunities to rebuild and maintain their livelihoods. The partnership with DENR facilitated employment opportunities as Forest Guards, providing a stable income while contributing to environmental protection. The annual conduct of Social Welfare and Development Indicators (SWDI) Assessment by the DSWD ensures responsive interventions by identifying KAPATIRAN members' specific needs in Negros and Panay.



DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO 97 KAPATIRAN NEXT-OF-KIN IN KABANKALAN AND CAUAYAN CHAPTERS HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2023.

As part of a holistic peace process, socio-economic interventions also extend to the KAPATIRAN member's next-of-kin. In partnership with the Negros Occidental Provincial Government, educational assistance was given to KAPATIRAN next-of-kin on various occasions to support their schooling and highlight the government's commitment to promoting sustainable peace.



"Once people start enjoying the dividends of peace and their lives start to improve, there is no longer reason for them to engage in armed struggle. They themselves will volunteer to become instruments of peace and development as what our CBA-CPLA and KAPATIRAN have shown."

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Kapihan sa Manila Bay, 06 December 2023

#### **PROGRAM 4**

# **GPH-CBA-CPLA Peace Process**

Complete and sustain the gains of the comprehensive peace process in the Cordillera, where the aspiration for regional autonomy is supported.

**2023** STATE OF THE PHILIPPINE

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UNVEILING OF THE PEACE MARKER AT THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN BAGUIO CITY.

On 13 September 1986, the Philippine Government and the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) entered into a "Sipat" (a Kalinga-based peace treaty that involves swapping of peace tokens called "allasiw" of about equal value), which signals a truce/ceasefire and the start of negotiations to resolve the cause of conflict. This led to the issuance of Executive Order No. 220 (s. 1987), which established the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), which aims to allow Cordillerans to participate in the region's peace and development initiatives

On 31 August 2001, Administrative Order No. 18 was issued which led to the integration of Cordillera Bodong Administration-Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA) members into the Armed Forces of the Philippines and implementing livelihood programs, which was followed by a Memorandum of Agreement that started the disposition of arms and forces and the provision of livelihood programs. The CBA and CPLA are two separate organizations combined to advance the welfare of the Cordillerans.



### Socio-Economic



DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO 97 KAPATIRAN NEXT-OF-KIN IN KABANKALAN AND CAUAYAN CHAPTERS HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2023.

Providing opportunities for economic stability and social inclusion is an essential component of fully reintegrating former combatants into mainstream society. In facilitating this, various programs and initiatives such as access to education, provision for universal healthcare, livelihood, and skills training were provided. A one-time grant for the first semester of School Year 2023 was allocated for the additional two hundred (200) student-grantees of the OPAPRU-NCIP Special Educational Assistance Program (SEAP) for CBA-CPLA and/or their next-of-kin.

A total of 849 CBA-CPLA beneficiaries are currently enrolled under the PAMANA-PhilHealth program and the OPAPRU maintains close coordination with PHIC-CAR to accommodate future endorsements from the CBA-CPLA members and their next-of-kin.

The OPAPRU-DENR Joint Memorandum Circular 2013-02 is also being operationalized through the continuous renewal of Community Environment and Natural Resource Offices/ Community/ Provincial Environment and Natural Resource Offices (CENROs/PENROs) on their personnel and the filling of vacated slots. A total of four (4) applications across CAR for the OPAPRU-DENR Bantay Gubat Program were received and endorse to DENR.



CEREMONIAL TURN-OVER OF OPAPRU-DA SIPAT AGRI-RELATED LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS ON 10-11 MAY 2023.



SIPAT TURNOVER WITH DA-RFO-CAR HELD ON 18 DECEMBER 2023 IN KIBUNGAN AND MANKYAN, BENGUET.

The implementation of the Sustainable Inclusive Peace and Transformation (SIPAT) Program facilitated the turn-over of various agricultural tools and small machineries such as multi- tiller, micro tiller, micro mill, pipes, grab hoes and organic fertilizers to qualified peoples organizations (POs). Recipients of the SIPAT Program include the Agayap Farmers Organization of Hungduan, Ifugao; Canaan Organic Farmers Association Cooperative, Kinniwid Ya Sinnagkat Women's Association, and Mangali Centro Fisherfolk's Association in Kalinga; Luna and Pudtol, Apayao Province; Hungduan, Lamut, and Hingyon Ifugao Province; Natonin (Alunogan and Tonglayan), Bontoc (Tucocan) and Sadanga (Belwang and Demang) Mt. Province; and Bakun, Hungduan, Lamut, and Buaya, Balbalan, Kibugnan and Mankyan, Benguet.



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MONITORING OF SIPAT-IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS HELD ON 14-16 NOVEMBER 2023.
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Together with the DA-RFO-CAR and stakeholders, ceremonial turnovers of agriculture-related livelihood interventions were conducted in Hungduan and Lamut, Ifugao Province, and Buaya, Balbalan, Kalinga Province which strengthened partnerships with stakeholders and reinforced the commitment to the sustained management of the OPAPRU-DA SIPAT Program. The requested training inputs on Muscovado Training and Large Ruminant Production were utilized for the main livelihood of the PO members, particularly muscovado production and agriculture-based assistance on cattle dispersal in their communities. Overall, the community members present (composed of women and their children, and senior citizens), verbally expressed their gratitude to OPAPRU and DA for such meaningful intervention for their respective communities as it provided ready input for their next farming cycle. The CPLA and PO beneficiaries physically monitored the interventions to determine immediate concerns and issues raised.

## **Confidence-Building**

Focused on fostering trust, mutual understanding, and positive relationships, the series of key activities in support of Cordillera Autonomy was facilitated in partnership with the Regional Development Council (RDC). Under the Confidence Building component, the following were successfully conducted: Civil Society Organization-led autonomy provincial forum and activities were; review and validation of the legacy documentation for CBA-CPLA women and old guards; medical missions in the provinces of Abra and Mt. Province; and Defender and Advocates of Youth and Women (DAYAW) Program forums on peace and development.



CONSULTATION WITH CPLA WIVES, YOUTH, AND LEADERS ON THE DAYAW AND IEC ON OPAPRU'S PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH ON 23-24 MAY 2023.

A capacity-building activity for the Tacadang Rural Improvement Club and Youth (TRICY) was also conducted in partnership with the Kibungan Local Government Unit, joined by the Tacadang Organic Coffee Growers Association. The training was a collaborative lecture-discussion on the Introduction and Agronomic requirements of ginger and production techniques, crop pests and diseases management, orientation on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and 5S (sort, set in order, shine, standardize, sustain), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and its Return Demo on Ginger tea (salabat) processing, packaging, and labeling catered to the women and youth in Kibungan, Benguet.





DEFENDERS AND ADVOCATES OF YOUTH AND WOMEN (DAYAW): 2-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE TACADANG RURAL IMPROVEMENT CLUB (RIC) AND YOUTH HELD ON 17-18 MAY 2023 IN BENGUET.

## Healing and Reconciliation



MEDICAL-DENTAL MISSION FOR WOMEN, OLD GUARDS, AND THEIR NEXT-OF-KIN (NOKS) ON 18-19 NOVEMBER 2023.

Five hundred twenty-six (526) patients in Sadanga, Mountain Province were served during the two-day medical-dental mission organized by OPAPRU in partnership with the Department of Health-CAR, Philippine Information Agency-CAR, Luis Hora Memorial Regional Hospital, Provincial Local Government Unit of Mountain Province and Municipal Local Government Unit of Sadanga, Philippine Red Cross-Mountain Province Chapter, and Medical Outreach Missions Fellowship (MOMFI) under the Saint Louis University-School of Medicine on 18-19 November 2023 at the town's municipal ground. As part of the Healing and Reconciliation initiatives of OPAPRU, this activity catered to the medical and dental needs of women, old guards, and their next-of-kin. This was the second leg of the medical-dental mission after its pilot activity conducted in Bucloc, Abra.

In addition, the OPAPRU-RCCO personnel availed the National ID registration organized by the Philippine Statistics Authority. This endeavor served as one of the provisions under the inked MOA between the Sadanga MLGU and the Philippine Statistics Authority-Cordillera Administrative Region.



'LONGAYBAN PEACE MARKER' UNVEILED AT THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY GROUNDS ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2023.

A peace marker, made up of decommissioned gun parts coming from 339 firearms turned in by members of the Cordillera Bodong Administration and Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA) as part of their commitment under the 2011 Closure Agreement with the national government, was unveiled at the grounds of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA). The peace marker will serve both as a preservation and recognition of the unwavering commitment of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to the GPH-CBA-CPLA peace process and a symbol of our common goal of bringing lasting peace and sustainable development to the people of the Cordillera. PAPRU noted that the establishment of the third peace marker is anchored on the healing and reconciliation component of the GPH-CBA-CPLA peace process. "The government continues to implement a Normalization Program for both groups [CBA-CPLA and KAPATIRAN] that enable its members and their families to improve their socioeconomic wellbeing."

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Kapihan sa Manila Bay, 06 December 2023

#### **PROGRAM 5**

# Social Healing and Peacebuilding

anow kag

Improve social cohesion between and among vulnerable individuals, their communities, and their government institutions through social healing and peacebuilding



Anchored on the national government's Peace and Development Agenda, OPAPRU's Presidential Peace Adviser's Policy Guidance includes the Social Healing and Peacebuilding (SHAPE) Program that supports and operationalizes the strategy to protect and ensure the development of vulnerable sectors in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable areas as laid down in the 2023-2028 Philippine Development Plan on Peace Security.

In realizing an "improved social cohesion between and among vulnerable individuals, their communities, and their government through social healing and peacebuilding," the SHAPE Program specifically seeks to address the key drivers of conflict with an emphasis on reducing vulnerability and increasing the capacity and resilience of communities. In 2023 through a whole-of-nation approach, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) policy instruments were finalized and launched, and measures in preparation for their localization and to improve implementation monitoring were secured. Furthermore, the mainstreaming of Conflict-Sensitivity and Peace Promotion (CSPP) to government agencies and mechanisms, as well as healing and reconciliation initiatives are among the Program's key accomplishments.

OCIAL HEALING AND PEACEBUILDING

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FINALIZED AND LAUNCHED NAPWPS AND NAPYPS 2023-2033



SUPPORTED 37 TP PLANNING WORKSHOPS MAINSTREAMING CSPP, WPS, AND YPS AGENDA



ENGAGED 247 WOMEN AND YOUTH IN PEACE CONVERSATIONS IN MARAWI CITY



TRAINED 47 INDIGENOUS WOMEN TO ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS



PROVIDED A PLATFORM FOR A DIALOGUE RESULTING TO SHELTER AGREEMENTS FOR THE IDPS, AND SUPPORTED MSU BOMBING VICTIMS IN MARAWI CITY

### A Decade of Commitment to Advancing the Women and Youth Security Agenda



LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY 2023-2033.

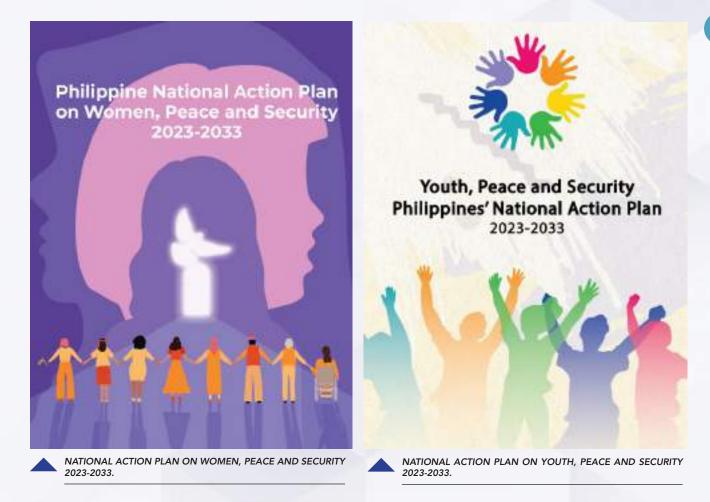
The Philippine National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAPWPS) 2023-2033, is the Philippines' reaffirmation of its commitment to recognizing and promoting women in all their diverse and intersecting identities' complex roles in peace and conflict situations, as peace agents, leaders, and survivors. It was done through a whole-of-government approach, emphasizing conflict-sensitivity and peace promotion (CSPP), and the meaningful and substantive participation of vulnerable groups in healing and reconciliation. Building on the NAPWPS 2017-2022 evaluation, the new NAP addresses gaps and aligns with the Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (PRU) Agenda, Magna Carta of Women and the 2023-2028 Philippine Development Plan, as well as the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on WPS, among others. 77

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TURN-OVER OF THE 11 POINT CSO AGENDA ON WPS TO OPAPRU BY THE WOMEN ENGAGED IN ACTION ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (WE ACT 1325) ON 29 MARCH 2023 IN OPAPRU CENTRAL OFFICE.

The localization of the NAPWPS 2023-2033 through the engagement with the Regional GAD Councils (RGADCs) in the consultation of the development of the NAP, and notably, RGADC Region XII which adopted a resolution to include the NAPWPS in the preparation and submission of the region's GAD Plans and Budgets (GPBs) complements the launch of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) Regional Action Plan on WPS, and provides a prototype for further localization efforts.



The completion of the National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security (NAPYPS) involved a series of multi-stakeholders' meetings attended by sixty-seven Members (67) of the Multi-Stakeholders Group for Youth, Peace and Security composed of National Government Agencies, the academe, development cooperation agencies, international non-governmental organizations, youth leaders and youth groups, and other relevant stakeholders upholding the YPS agenda to finalize the NAPYPS 2023-2033 document.

The multi-stakeholders group meetings served as a venue for National Government Agencies and YPS stakeholders to discuss and finalize the Agency-Specific Action Points and Everyday Peace Indicators aligning to the five pillars of the NAPYPS mainly Partnership, Protection, Participation, Prevention, and Disengagement and Reintegration.

#### Strengthened Transformation Program Planning and the National Steering Committee on WPS through Conflict-Sensitivity and Peace Promotion (CSPP) Mainstreaming

Conflict Sensitive and Peace Promotion (CSPP) mainstreamed in government agencies and peace partners aligns with the vision of capacitating government agencies and peace partners in conflict transformation and establishing proactive measures to prevent violence and instability. The SHAPE Office operationalizes this by supporting the comprehensive peace process, and through interagency and local mechanisms, national government agencies, and local government partners.

SHAPE Office provided technical support in 37 Transformation Program (TP) Planning Workshops led by the CPP-NDF-NPA Peace Program Office (CNNPPO) throughout 2023. This resulted to the integration of Conflict Sensitive and Peace Promotion (CSPP), Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) lens and agenda into the TP Plans. This also provides a convergence platform for the follow through interventions such as the refinement of the TP Plans and the establishment of Peace Centers with the localization of the NAP WPS and YPS, and Indigenous People's Healing and Reconciliation framework.

As Chair of the National Steering Committee on WPS (NSCWPS), OPAPRU, through the SHAPE Office, continuously provides capacity building to the member agencies. Some of the highlights from 2023 includes the Philippine National Police-Directorate for Police Community Relations (PNP-DPCR) provided with technical support on the drafting of their Agency Specific Action Plan (ASAP) on WPS for 2024. The workshop was attended by 55 female and 70 male PNP personnel from the headquarters and regional offices. A lecture-presentation on Gender, Peace, and Security for the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS) Batch 3 - 2023 of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) was conducted. Comprehensive briefings on the NAPWPS were conducted during the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Gender and Development Executive Briefing and another during the Inter-Agency Gender, Peace and Security Forum of the Department of National Defense (DND).



DISCUSSION OF CSPP IN A TP PLANNING WORKSHOP HELD IN DAVAO CITY.

#### Multiple Peace and Development-Focused Communities' Capacity for Resilience Improved through Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and Healing and Reconciliation Initiatives

One of the principles of the Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (PRU) Agenda is the enhancement of the resilience for peace of communities and vulnerable groups through social healing and peacebuilding approaches in support of the peace process. This is done through investing in the communities' active engagement in ongoing peace initiatives that are locally led and sustained. This includes regular peace dialogues, and community-driven reconciliation processes.



DIALOGUE BETWEEN INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS), LANDOWNERS AND THE LGUS OF MARAWI CITY.

Solidarity activities and peace conversation fosters the active participation and representation of all community members, with emphasis on inclusion and diversity, specifically, of women, youth, and other marginalized sector, in decision-making processes related to peace and development. These ensure that diverse perspectives are considered, leading to more resilient outcomes. Two Marawi City crises in 2023 were addressed. OPAPRU convened a dialogue between the internally displaced persons (IDPs), landowners, and the local government units (LGUs) of Marawi City and Lanao del Sur to address the IDP's concerns and fear of eviction from their temporary shelters. The landowners agreed to extend the usufruct agreement for the temporary shelters for another year and the IDPs will not be evicted while they are waiting to be transferred to their permanent shelters. Meanwhile, Secretary Carlito Galvez, Jr., together with the BARMM Chief Minister, Governor of Lanao del Sur and MSU President immediately visited each of the victims wounded in the bombing incident in Mindanao State University (MSU) Marawi City campus on 03 December 2023. The victims confined in the infirmary of MSU and Amai Pakpak Medical Center, Marawi City were provided financial support.



PEACE CONVERSATIONS AND ARTS FOR PEACE WITH THE WOMEN AND YOUTH IN MARAWI CITY.

Empowering communities as peace partners help rebuild trust and improve their capacities to identify, prevent, and manage conflicts and sustain peace gains. As part of the capacity building and constituency building of OPAPRU, peace conversations with 247 women and youth and Arts for Peace with youth and children were conducted in three (3) transitory shelters in Marawi City. Using the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach, the dialogue focused on harnessing the assets, skillset, and capabilities of Maranao women in peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery. The women were able to realize and identify existing assets they possess as individuals, as well as those in their communities, including the connections, linkages and partnerships, and physical structures that they can maximize to address their concerns on basic needs, livelihood, and security in housing. Their recognition of inherent assets and capacities shifted their perspective in terms of appreciating their role not as passive recipients of peace gains, but as active peace agents.

Additionally, forty-seven (47) members of the Agusan del Norte Indigenous People's Women Organization (ANIPWO) from 11 Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICC) were capacitated on data gathering, analysis and program development for the Formulation of the ANIPWO Development Framework which will contribute to the completion of their Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) of all ICCs. This empowers the ANIPWO to take a more active and substantive role in advancing peace and development within their communities by contributing to mapping and identifying concrete and actionable solutions to key drivers of conflict within their ICCs.



CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE AGUSAN DEL NORTE IP WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION ON 9-16 AUGUST 2023 IN BUTUAN CITY.

The key progress achieved by the SHAPE Office in fulfillment of the Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (PRU) Agenda include the launch of the NAPWPS and the finalization of the NAPYPS, which reaffirms the commitment to the recognition of women and the youth's meaningful and substantive roles in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. The successful implementation of capacity building initiatives has enhanced institutional capabilities in Conflict-Sensitivity and Peace Promotion (CSPP), most notably, in the Transformation Program (TP) Plans of the CPP-NDF-NPA Peace Process Office (CNN PPO). Peace Conversations and Arts for Peace with 247 women and youth in Marawi City transitory shelters have empowered the local communities to take an active role and a sense of ownership of the peace gains. This is also true with the 47 members of the Agusan del Norte Indigenous People's Women Organization (ANIPWO) in data gathering, analysis, and program development for their Development Framework. This contributes to the completion of the Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) for their Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs).

Looking ahead, OPAPRU's focus on the localization of the NAPs and the IP H&R, aligns with the next steps in the TP process, as well as the initiatives for Preventing and Transforming Violent Extremism (PTVE). This ensures a harmonized, comprehensive, and sustained advancement of the PRU Agenda built on the foundation laid in 2023 and addressing emerging challenges with a proactive and inclusive approach.

"We believe that the best way to effectively and permanently address the threat of violent extremism is to involve everyone in the healing and peacebuilding process, especially the most vulnerable sectors of society."

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Kapihan sa Manila Bay, 06 December 2023



#### **PROGRAM 6**

# PAyapa at MAsagang PamayaNAn (PAMANA)

Improve and sustain socio-economic conditions of peace and development focus areas.



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PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SITE FOR THE KAPATIRAN IN IBAJAY, AKLAN CHAPTER

In addressing key drivers of conflict to uphold the Comprehensive Peace Process, the PAMANA Program sustains and expands the implementation of socio-economic and development interventions that are Conflict-Sensitive and Peace-Promoting (CSPP).

FY 2023 symbolized a year of rebuilding and transformation. As the National Program Management Office (NPMO) reshaped its perspective in transforming families and communities, the PAMANA Program revitalized its interventions to better serve its stakeholders. The expanded PAMANA Program, through the whole-of-nation approach, exemplifies the resolute commitment of the government in pursuing the attainment and sustainment of just and lasting peace.

PAYAPA AT MASAGANANG PAMAYANAN

### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REVITALIZING PAMANA PROGRAM FINANCING INCREASING THE FUNDING FOR 2024 EXPONENTIALLY



BIG TICKET INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AMOUNTING TO PHP2.2 BILLION COMPLETED ,BENEFITING EIGHT (8) MUNICIPALITIES, TRANSLATING TO AT LEAST 7,417 HOUSEHOLDS.



CONTINUOUS IMPLEMENTATION OF PAMANA PROGRAM WITH IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, DSWD, NCIP, AND PHIC TO PROVIDE SOCIAL SERVICES OF COMMUNITY DRIVEN PROJECT INTERVENTIONS, LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE, HOUSING PROJECTS, EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GRANT



MASTER DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE CAMP BILAL AND CAMP ABUBAKAR INITIATED, TO BE LAUNCHED IN 1ST QUARTER OF 2024



EXPANDING SITE VALIDATION ACTIVITIES ENSURING PROPER COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT TO DIRECTLY ADDRESS THEIR NEEDS AND THE CAUSES OF THEIR VULNERABILITY TO CONFLICT.



STRENGTHENING THE CITIZEN LED MONITORING (CLM) THROUGH THE CONFLICT-SENSITIVE AND PEACE PROMOTING (CSPP) APPROACH TO CAPACITATE COMMUNITIES TO DEVELOP THEIR OWNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND INSTITUTIONALIZING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS.

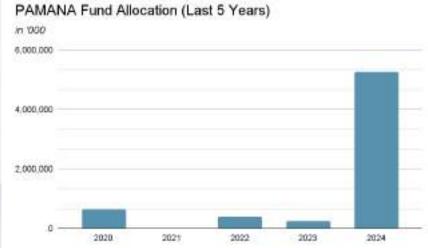
#### Revitalizing PAMANA Program Financing and Impact

The OPAPRU reinforced its engagement with legislators and implementing agencies to increase budget allocation in order to expand its community reach and diversify interventions that it can provide. Policy legislation for the continuity of the program was established through the support of the peace champions in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. This was furthered by strengthened partnerships with National Government Agencies (NGAs),

Local Government Unit (LGU), and the academe as implementers.

The significant increase in the financing of peace efforts in 2023 is a testament to the unwavering advocacy of the PAMANA Program to strengthen the gains of the Comprehensive Peace Process in transforming communities.

In a message during the KaPEACEtahan celebration, Congressman Jose Ma. Clemente "Joey" Salceda mentioned, "How do we peace? achieve lasting Through shared and inclusive prosperity...The PAMANA Program, despite setbacks, has increased economic activity by as much as 21% according to a NEDA official evaluation of the project. Very few government intervention can cause such immediate effects."





CONG. SALCEDA DURING THE KAPEACETAHAN IN 04 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT TRINOMA MALL, QUEZON CITY.

#### Bridging Communities for Better Access

The PAMANA – Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) inaugurated projects in 2023 amounting to PhP2.2 Billion which provided access to several communities signaling movement and connectivity through farm-to-market roads and bridges. Among these are 59.68 kilometers (km) road in Alamada, North Cotabato; 309.7 meters (m) bridge with 12 km road in Silvino Lobos, Northern Samar; and 2,735 square meter (sqm) bridge with 41.15 km road in Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte.

Eight (8) municipalities, translating to at least 7,417 households, benefited. These big ticket infrastructure projects have significantly increased the communities' access to various socioeconomic activities and services enhancing their outlook not only on their way of life but also on the government's genuine service.



CABADBARAN-PUTING BATO-SITIO LUSONG-AND-SURIGAO DEL SUR BOUNDARY WITH BRIDGE PHASE 2A, CABADBARAN, AGUSAN DEL NORTE THAT STRETCHES 41.15 KMS.



CABADBARAN-LANUZA STEEL BRIDGE IN PHASE 2A, CABADBARAN, AGUSAN DEL NORTE.

The PAMANA Program did not only prioritize the infrastructure projects but also supported various services of PAMANA implementing agencies. Among these are the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC). This is to capacitate the communities for co-ownership of program interventions and reinforce the efforts towards prevention of conflict recurrence.

#### 😾 DSWD

KALAHI-CIDSS 150 SUB-PROJECTS COMPLETED EST. AT 37,500 HOUSEHOLD BENEFITED

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROJECT 358 SLPAS AWARDED WITH LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE OF 300K EACH. BENEFITING 358 BARANGAYS

MODIFIED SHELTER ASSISTANCE PROJECT 50 UNITS TURNED OVER 123 UNITS COMPLETED 377 UNITS ON-GOING CONSTRUCTION



#### Establishing Foundations for Community Transformation

Master Development Plans for Camp Abubakar and Camp Bilal were initiated in 2023 and are set to be formalized by the first quarter of 2024. This is a crucial step towards the fulfillment of the Camp Transformation Plan for the acknowledged camps of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) under the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB).

In September to November of 2023, the OPAPRU-PAMANA together with the National Housing Authority (NHA) conducted a rapid assessment in these camps followed by aerial survey and geotagging.

The Master Development Plan in the two (2) camps are estimated to benefit 220 of households from the initial housing project commencing the Master Development Plan and will continue to benefit from various infrastructure projects underway. This affirms the commitment of the government in addressing the needs of our Muslim brothers and sisters.



CABADBARAN-PUTING BATO-SITIO LUSONG-AND-SURIGAO DEL SUR BOUNDARY WITH BRIDGE PHASE 2A, CABADBARAN, AGUSAN DEL NORTE THAT STRETCHES 41.15 KMS.



RAPID ASSESSMENT OF CAMP BILAL, 03-05 SEPTEMBER 2023.

# Increasing the Feasibility of Development Interventions

The PAMANA-NPMO in coordination with the Peace Tables Area Management Offices conducted various site validation in project areas all throughout the year. This is a crucial first step of the project implementation cycle that ensures proper community assessment to directly address their needs and the causes of their vulnerability to conflict.

The rigorous site validation coupled with expanded financing enabled the PAMANA-NPMO to facilitate extensive project implementation across all PAMANA Areas. With the continuous reinforcement of the site validation activities and with the inclusion of CSPP approaches in the conduct of the same, it is anticipated to increase community participation from the early stages of the project implementation cycle and eventually - community involvement and ownership from inception to completion.



LANAO DEL NORTE, LANAO DEL SUR, BASILAN AND SULU SITE VALIDATION, OCTOBER 2023.

# Institutionalizing Transparency and Accountability

The Citizen Led Monitoring (CLM) is an initiative of PAMANA to capacitate communities to develop their ownership and accountability of community projects. In 2023, the PAMANA-NPMO continuously strengthened the CLM through incorporating Conflict-Sensitive and Peace Promoting Approach (CSPP) that uses Gender and Development lens and Do no Harm Principle designed to prevent adverse effects and the escalation of tensions between conflicting parties resulting from development initiatives.

The incorporation of CSPP systematized the initiative through standardization of the CLM process and lines of communication. This is also designed to prevent adverse effects and the escalation of tensions between conflicting parties resulting from development initiatives. CSPP-CLM serves as OPAPRU's strategy to foster positive engagement with key partners and address issues related to project implementation.

The launching of the CSPP-CLM initiative and its training of trainers is set to roll-out in 2024 in 5 pilot areas, specifically: Baguio, Bicol, Negros, Aklan, and Bangsamoro Automous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

With the institutionalized CSPP-CLM, the identified citizen monitors will support the PAMANA-NPMO in monitoring project development from the procurement process up to the completion and turn-over to the identified beneficiaries.



CONDUCT OF CLM IN SAGADA, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE, 04-08 DECEMBER 2023.

#### Celebrating the Gains of Peace Efforts

As part of the celebration of the National Peace Consciousness Month during September 2023, the PAMANA-NPMO launched the KaPEACEtahan held in three sites: Trinoma Activity Center in Quezon City, Metro Manila; Bicol University in Legazpi, Bicol; and in Mindanao State University in General Santos City.

KaPEACEtahan is a two-day trade fair for OPAPRU-PAMANA Communities, showcasing their livelihood products that were developed through the assistance of the PAMANA Program. More than 20 exhibitors are present in each site sharing not only their products but also their stories of peace.



YOUTH PARTICIPATION DURING THE LAUNCHING OF THE KAPEACETAHAN PEACE FAIR AT BICOL UNIVERSITY GROUNDS, 15 SEPTEMBER 2023.

"The bulk of OPAPRU's nearly Php 7 billion budget for 2024 will be used to fund the PAMANA Program, which seeks to bring essential government services closer to the people, especially in remote, undeveloped communities in focus areas. Through PAMANA, we want to build high-impact infrastructure projects that will connect remote, far-flung communities to market centers, and consequently, boost trading and commercial activities."

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Kapihan sa Manila Bay, 06 December 2023



#### PROGRAM 7

# International Cooperation and Partnerships

Fostering stronger support of the international community in sustaining the gains of the comprehensive peace process

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The OPAPRU, in partnership with the whole of the Philippine Government, is committed to strengthening the Philippines' role in ensuring regional and global peace, security and prosperity. It will continue to support the Philippines' policy on forging practical cooperation and multinational engagements to address common security challenges. The OPAPRU also supports the Philippines' pursuit of bilateral, regional, and multilateral cooperation, sharing with like-minded states in the region and the world the global norms of universal human rights, the rule of law, market economics, and rule-based international order.

Through its Program 7 on International Cooperation and Partnerships, the OPAPRU seeks to foster the stronger support of the international community in sustaining the gains of the Philippine Comprehensive Peace Process, in line with the implementation of Agenda 5 of the Five-Point Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (5-PRU) Agenda: Enhancement of the Delivery of Conflict-Sensitive and Peace-Promoting (CSPP)-Compliant Interventions in Addressing the Key Drivers of Conflict through Convergence and Complementation in Support of the Peace Process.

This year, in line with the pronouncement of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. during his speech at the UN General Assembly in September 2022, the OPAPRU, through the same Program, also supports the Philippine Government's bid for the non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council for 2027 to 2028.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

STRATEGIC POLICY DIRECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO AT LEAST 78 HIGH-LEVEL AND TECHNICAL LEVEL ENGAGEMENTS WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS AND STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS WITH AT LEAST 42 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS PROVIDED



OVERSIGHT OF PEACE-RELATED PROGRAMS/PROJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS, ALIGNING PROGRAMS/PROJECTS TO THE PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY AGENDA OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT



STRATEGIC MOBILIZATION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, RESULTING TO POUR OUT OF OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA) TO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUS AREAS



PARTICIPATION TO INTERNATIONAL FORA TO SHOWCASE THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE PEACE PROCESS AND ITS MILESTONES, RESULTING TO INCREASED INTEREST AND INVESTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS TO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUS AREAS

#### Building of Strategic Partnerships and Alignment of Plans, Programs, Policies, and Frameworks of International Partners to the Philippine Comprehensive Peace Process

Throughout the year, strategic policy guidance and recommendations to at least 78 highlevel and technical-level engagements with international partners were provided.



PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. AT THE SIGNING OF LETTERS OF INTENT/AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND JAPAN, HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2023, IN TOKYO, JAPAN. © IMAGE COURTESY OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE (PCO).

During the State Visit of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to Japan, the President Marcos and Japan Prime Minister Fumio Kishida reaffirmed the importance of the steady implementation of the Mindanao peace process towards instituting an autonomous government in Bangsamoro by 2025 for the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. The Japanese Government committed to strengthen its support to the peace process through vocational training for livelihood improvement and industrial development, in addition to its current support on the decommissioning of combatants and weapons of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), capacity development on governance to the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA), and socio-economic assistance to the Bangsamoro, among others, under its Japan-Bangsamoro Initiatives for Reconstruction and Development.

Another high-level engagement was the State Visit of Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim to the Philippines, where Malaysia committed to continue its assistance to the Philippines not only in the Mindanao peace process and the tensions in the region, but also through its Malaysia Technical Cooperation Program (MTCP), Malaysia's commitment to South-South Cooperation through the sharing of Malaysia's development experiences and expertise with other developing countries.

The OPAPRU also actively participated in various international engagements this year, such as the 5th Capital Level Meeting of Women, Peace, and Security – Focal Points Network in Washington, D.C., United States of America (USA) and the Oslo Forum in Oslo, Norway June 2023, the 3rd Philippines – European Union Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) in Brussels, Belgium in July 2023, the exchange visit to Colombia in September 2023, and the Paris Peace Forum in September 2023

Other policy inputs were provided to the following: Political Consultations with Spain, France, Romania, and Croatia, Concept Note on the East Asia Summit (EAS) High Level Policy Dialogue, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2028, Priorities of Indonesia as ASEAN Chair for 2023, ASEAN Matters Technical Board (AMTB), Philippine Priorities with ASEAN's External Partners, PH-Morocco Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation, Zero Draft of the Chairman's Statement of the 42nd ASEAN Summit, and Zero Draft Joint Communique of the 56th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

The Program continued to manage and provide government oversight to the nine (9) peacerelated programs of the international partners: the EU's Peace and Development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), Support to Bangsamoro Transition (SUBATRA) Programme, and Bangsamoro Agri-Enterprise Programme (BAEP), the Japanese Embassy's Assistance to Normalization Project, the JICA's Capacity Development Programme for the Bangsamoro (CDPB), UN Women's Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), Australia's Peacebuilding in Conflict-Affected Mindanao Portfolio, Colombia's Technical Cooperation Project on the Reincorporation and Normalization of Former Combatants, and the USIP's Technical Cooperation Project. It also continued to implement the Community Peace Dividends Fund (CPDF) Project, specifically Conflict-Sensitive and Peace Promoting (CSPP) livelihood projects, in RPMP- RPA-ABB and CBA-CPLA areas.



3RD SUBATRA PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2023.

### Network Building

The OPAPRU, through the Program, also maintained and strengthened its engagement with the following international partners, namely: the Embassies of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Indonesia, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Qatar, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkiye, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Northern Ireland, and the United States of America; foreign embassy attached or affiliated agencies, such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), United States Institute for Peace (USIP), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID); UN Agencies, such as the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), International Organization for Migration (IOM), and World Food Programme (WFP); international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) such as the Community and Family Services International (CFSI), Fondation Suisse de Deminage (FSD), Principles for Peace (P4P), Asia Foundation, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD), Conciliation Resources (C-R), and Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP); and international financial institutions such as the Word Bank.



#### Program Management

In partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and agencies from the security sector, the OPAPRU facilitates the implementation of the Revised Rules on Visits of Foreign Governments and International Organizations (FGIOs) in Conflict-Affected Areas in Mindanao (CAAM, now Peace and Development Focus Areas]), evaluating and endorsing a total of 160 travels of FGIOs in the CAAM. This has led not only to ensuring that the travels of FGIOs are monitored and they are provided with the necessary security arrangements, but it also paved the way for the international community to further interest in supporting peace and development in the these areas.





GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY FOR A LOCAL LIBRARY AND THE TURN-OVER OF FARMING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WITH EU DELEGATION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND UNDP, HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2023, AT CAMP ABUBAKAR, MAGUINDANAO.





On 14 April 2023, the 4th National Steering Committee (NSC) of the UN's Women Peace Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), which was co-chaired by the OPAPRU and the UN, and whose members include the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), European Union (EU), the Embassy of Australia, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the Miriam College, was convened. Key updates on the WPHF, including remaining deliverables, reflections on the implementation, and next steps, were presented to the NSC. The NSC was also apprised on the discussions between the UN Women Philippines and the WPHF Secretariat from the UN Headquarters relative to the possible second round of WPHF funding to the Philippines.



On 11 June 2023, Secretary Antonio Lagdameo Jr., Special Assistant to the President, and Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. joined civil society leaders and other peacebuilders in the launch of the Principles for Peace (P4P) initiative in Southeast Asia.

105



On 13-14 June 2023, Senior Undersecretary Isidro L. Purisima, then Acting Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (APAPRU), attended the Oslo Forum where he presented highlights of the Bangsamoro Peace Process. Aside from the Forum itself, the APAPRU met Norwegian Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt. The Oslo Forum, co-hosted by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the CHD, was founded in 2003 as a convention for international conflict mediators, high-level decision-makers and other peace process leaders.



Following a four-part virtual exchange between the OPAPRU and the Colombian Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization (ARN) from July to August 2023, OPAPRU sent a delegation to Bogotá and Florencia, Colombia in October 2023, followed by an ARN delegation to Mindanao in November 2023. This collaboration stems from the Technical Cooperation Agreement (TCA) established between the two agencies in 2014, and is currently focused on the Technical Cooperation Project titled "Strengthening Institutional Capacities in Processes for the Reintegration of Former Combatants." Through this partnership, it is the goal for the Philippines and Colombia to continue exchanging best practices, concepts, and methodologies, particularly in the areas of reincorporation, normalization, and the successful mainstreaming of former combatants into civilian life.

107

"By working closely with our international and local partners, we aim to directly address the roots of violence that is being used by terrorists and extremists to bring in recruits into their fold. "

- Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., 3rd OPAPRU Peace Research Conference, 07 September 2023

# PROGRAM 8

# **Organizational** Capital

Advance OPAPRU's organizational capacity to fulfill its peace mission in peace and development focus areas

108



The Program 8–Organizational Capital aims to enhance technical advisory and support services for the Comprehensive Peace Process. This entails advancing the Agency's Organizational Capacity to fulfill its Peace Mission. Achieving this outcome requires efforts to secure the adoption of Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity policies and programs by both internal and external stakeholders. Additionally, it involves establishing foundations for a Peace Institute, improving business process management capacity, and ensuring that ICT systems and infrastructure are fit for purpose.

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPITAL

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OPAPRU'S PRU AGENDA ARTICULATED IN PDP 2023-2028 (CHAPTER 13.1) AND NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY 2023-2028



5 LEARNING SESSIONS FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PEACE STAKEHOLDERS FACILITATED



2 NATIONAL CONFERENCES ON PEACE RESEARCH AND PEACE EDUCATION CONDUCTED



OPAPRU RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND EVALUATION (RDE) AGENDA 2023-2028 LAUNCHED



**CITIZEN'S CHARTER UPDATED** 



MAINSTREAMING OF THE AUTOMATED PROGRAM DASHBOARD SYSTEM V2

# Policy Development, Strategic Planning, Legal and Legislative Services

These critical components entail the meticulous crafting of responsive policies conducive to peace, strategic planning to chart the course of peace initiatives, and legal and legislative services to ensure the robust legal framework necessary for peacebuilding endeavors. Through these processes, frameworks are established to guide actions, navigate complexities, and uphold legal integrity within peacebuilding efforts.

To address the slew of issues surrounding the previously released Executive Order 570, s. 2006, the OPAPRU drafted a proposed Executive Order (EO), Strengthening the Institutionalization of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development Education in Basic and Higher Education and Other Learning Institutions. The OPAPRU met with Anti- Terrorism Council (ATC) member/support agencies to gather and consolidate the proposed E.O. After careful deliberation, the ATC adopted a Resolution endorsing the proposed E.O. to the Office of the Executive Secretary for the President's approval.

Pursuing internal transformation with the heightened adoption of the Performance Governance System (PGS) into the organization's systems and processes, a Visioning and Strategic Planning with the technical assistance from the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) was spearheaded for the organization to identify key factors that may potentially shape the overall peace and security environment and develop strategic plans to proactively respond to changing circumstances.



OPAPRU EXECUTIVES AND DIRECTORS WITH MSGC MEMBER DR. JOSELITO R. BASILIO AT THE VISIONING AND STRATEGIC PLANNING, HELD ON 21-22 FEBRUARY 2023, AT ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT (AIM), MAKATI CITY.

# Peace Capacity and Constituency Building



At its core, this result area embodies the nurturing of capabilities within individuals, groups, and communities to actively engage in fostering peace. It encompasses the cultivation of a broad spectrum of stakeholders who champion the cause of peace, fostering a shared sense of ownership and commitment to collective peacebuilding endeavors. Through capacity and peace constituency building initiatives, awareness, resilience, and inclusivity become hallmarks of sustainable peace efforts.

Learning sessions such as "TechKNOWlogy: Education in the Digital Frontier Towards Achieving Gender Equality and Empowerment," "Learning and Reflection Session on Cultivating Interreligious Dialogue as Effective Peacebuilding Mechanism in the Academe," "Learning and Reflection Session on Future Proofing Peace Education through Effective Cybersecurity Measures in the Academe," and lectures with members of the Security sector were also conducted to further peace capacitation among internal and external stakeholders. Capacitation for external stakeholders is guided by the OPAPRU Learning and Development Plan which envisions to capacitate as many peace educators as possible and peacebuilders in the country across various subject matter including WPS, National Peace Engagement, YPS, IP, Resource-based Conflict, and on the Comprehensive Peace Process and Peace Constituency Building towards achieving just and lasting peace.



FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING SESSION OF THE "TECHKNOWLOGY: EDUCATION IN THE DIGITAL FRONTIER TOWARDS ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT," HELD ON 08 MARCH 2023, AT DISCOVERY SUITES HOTEL, PASIG CITY.

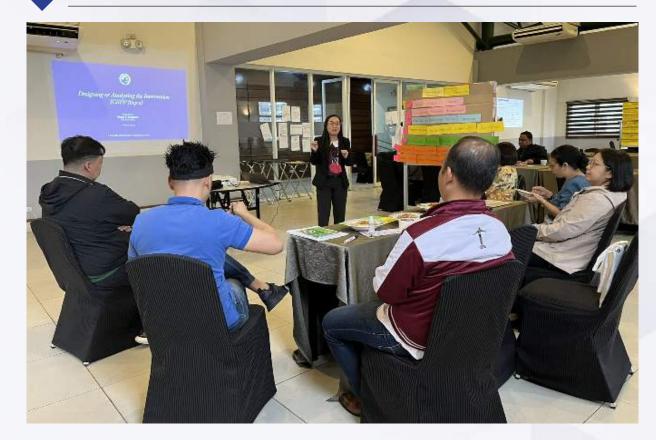


ONLINE ON-THE-SPOT ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION, HELD ON 15 MARCH 2023. VIA VTC, WITH PARTICIPANTS SUPERVISED REALTIME BY OPAPRU EMPLOYEES.

A multi-leg Conflict Sensitivity and Peace Promoting (CSPP) course was facilitated to capacitate and enhance peacebuilder's skills, mindsets and tools in implementing peacebuilding initiatives. Comprised of three courses—Conflict Sensitivity and Peace Promoting (CSPP) Training-Refresher and Training of Trainers (ToT) Course, Conflict Sensitivity and Peace Promoting (CSPP) Training-Basic Level (Concepts and Frameworks), and Conflict Sensitivity and Peace Promoting (CSPP) Training-Advanced Level (Operationalizing CSPP Steps). The capacity building project equipped participants with peace and conflict concepts and analytical skills and tools to help them develop and implement CSPP interventions.



CONDUCT OF THE CONFLICT SENSITIVITY AND PEACE PROMOTING (CSPP) TRAINING-REFRESHER AND TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) COURSE, HELD ON 2-5 OCTOBER 2023, AT LINDEN SUITES INC., PASIG CITY.







CONDUCT OF THE CONFLICT SENSITIVITY AND PEACE PROMOTING (CSPP) TRAINING-BASIC LEVEL (CONCEPTS AND FRAMEWORKS) & ADVANCED LEVEL (OPERATIONALIZING CSPP STEPS), HELD ON 16-19 OCTOBER 2023, AT LINDEN SUITES INC., PASIG CITY.



To foster the Agency's peace networks, most specifically towards integrating Peace Education into the Academe and across various sectors, the 2nd National Peace Education Summit with the theme "Reigniting Education for Peace and Sustainable Development towards a Resilient Philippines," and the Peace Education University Tour at the Western Mindanao State University were organized.



2ND PEACE EDUCATION SUMMIT, HELD ON 26-27 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT LUXENT HOTEL, QUEZON CITY.



PEACE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY TOUR AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE EDUCATION RESOURCE NOOK, HELD ON 04 DECEMBER 2023, AT THE WEST MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY.

# Knowledge Management and Organizational Learning



CONDUCT OF THE 3RD KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT FOCAL POINT SYSTEM (KMFPS) MEETING, HELD ON 27 MARCH 2023, AT OPAPRU CENTRAL OFFICE, PASIG CITY.

The results area encapsulates the systematic capture, analysis, and dissemination of insights, lessons, and experiences garnered. It entails fostering an environment of continuous learning and adaptation, where knowledge serves as a catalyst for innovation and informed decision-making. Through effective knowledge management, organizations evolve, grow, and become more adept at navigating the complexities of peacebuilding dynamics.

## 3 rd OPAPRU Peace Research Conference

Building Resilient Communities: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalism 07-08 Suprember 2022 (Clamborning by Astron



As a strategic measure for the capture and sharing of peace knowledge towards informed programming implementation, and the Agency organized the annual Peace Research Conference. In its third year, the Peace Research Conference focused on Preventing Countering and Violent Extremism and Radicalism which was attended by peace stakeholders from both the public and private sectors.

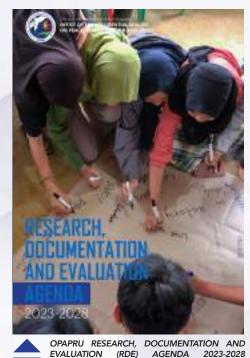
CONDUCT OF THE 3RD OPAPRU PEACE RESEARCH CONFERENCE, HELD ON 07-08 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT CHARDONNAY BY ASTORIA, PASIG CITY.



SECRETARY CARLITO G. GALVEZ JR. GIVING HIS MESSAGE AT THE 3RD OPAPRU PEACE RESEARCH CONFERENCE, HELD ON 07-08 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT CHARDONNAY BY ASTORIA, PASIG CITY.

In the same Peace Research Conference, the OPAPRU Research, Documentation and Evaluation (RDE) Agenda 2023-2028 was launched. The RDE Agenda seeks to advance and streamline the research, documentation, and evaluation needs and initiatives of various OPAPRU Programs for internal and external use and reference. It ought to guide OPAPRU Programs on the potential direction of their knowledge creation and provide a pool of research and documentation topics for external partners for knowledge sharing and co-creation.

Further, in the Agency's efforts towards creating knowledge systems to facilitate sharing to promote learning and innovation, the Knowledge Management Focal Point System was organized to create a platform for the exchange and harnessing of organizational knowledge and experiences to drive learning, innovation, and continuous improvement. A Knowledge Management Assessment was also conducted in line with this effort.





CONDUCT OF THE 1ST OPAPRU KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT, HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2023, AT OPAPRU CENTRAL OFFICE, PASIG CITY.



HANDBOOK

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# Organizational Systems and Processes

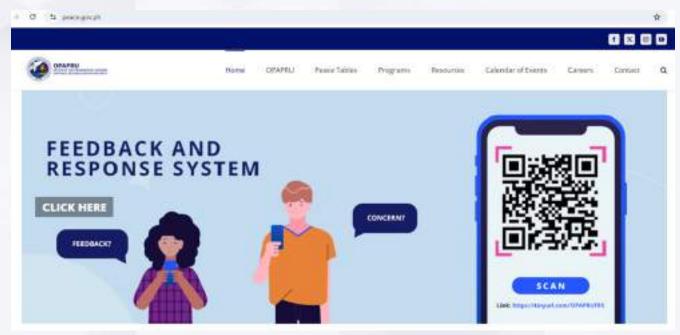
The design, implementation, and refinement of organizational structures and workflows to facilitate seamless coordination and collaboration is an important component towards the establishment and utilization of communication channels to foster efficiency, accountability, adaptability, and agility. Pursuant to R.A. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), the Agency developed and published its updated Citizen's Charter. This document is one of the various tools used by the OPAPRU to effectively communicate its services and processes to its beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders.

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EXCERPTS FROM THE OPAPRU CITIZEN'S CHARTER 2023 (1ST EDITION).

#### Feedback and Response System (FRS)

The OPAPRU Feedback and Response System (FRS) provides the public and stakeholders with a platform to submit their queries, comments, and/or grievances on OPAPRU interventions at the convenience of their computers and mobile devices. For FY 2023, OPAPRU officially incorporated the FRS into its website and assigned it a Quick Response (QR) Code for greater accessibility. Moreover, OPAPRU integrated the FRS into its official Facebook Messenger account to guide the public on where to formally submit their feedback. OPAPRU provides orientation sessions to promote awareness and usage of the system.



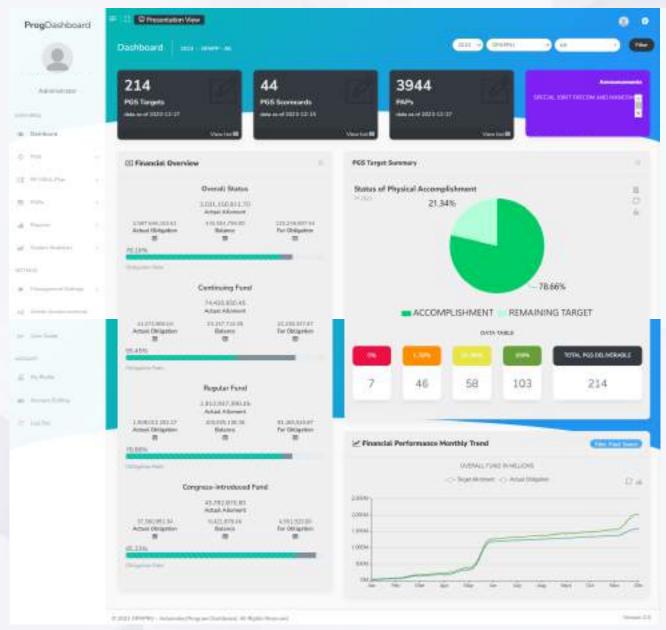
ACCESS TO THE FRS WAS INTEGRATED INTO OPAPRU'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE (HTTPS://PEACE.GOV.PH), INCLUDING A "QUICK RESPONSE" (QR) CODE FOR EASY ACCESS. THIS INTEGRATION WAS DONE IN COLLABORATION WITH CPAS.

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#### Automated Program Dashboard System V2

The Automated Program Dashboard System is OPAPRU's official tool for monitoring and reporting its commitments under the Performance Governance System (PGS) and its financial accomplishments as approved in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). To enhance its functionality and meet the organization's evolving reporting needs, the following major upgrades were implemented:

- Classification of Allotments (MOOE, PS, CO)
- Sub-classification of Particulars (PPA, OPEx, Salary-COS)
- Utilization Modality (Internal Management or Fund Transfer)
- Strategy Review Tool
- Presentation View



THE AUTOMATED PROGRAM DASHBOARD LANDING PAGE SHOWS THE SUMMARY OF THE ENCODED DATA (PAPS, PGS TARGETS & SCORECARDS), STATUS OF OVERALL FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT, AND OTHER FEATURES.

122

# OPAP 30th Fou

## PROGRAM 8

# Human Capital

Institutionalize Meritocracy and Excellence in Human Resource Management RU mding Selebration



CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH OPAPRU ANNIVERSARY, HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2023, AT PICC, PASAY CITY.

The Program 8 – Human Capital strives to create and sustain a work environment that nurtures employees committed to the nation's peace efforts, and promotes a culture of performance, accountability, and individual and organizational learning and development.

OFFIC

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



34 ADDITIONAL CONTRACTUAL-REGULAR POSITIONS APPROVED



OPAPRU LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT PLAN DEVELOPED



UPDATED STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OPERATIONALIZED



OPAPRU UNIFIED PROGRAM ON AWARDS AND INCENTIVES FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE POLICY IMPLEMENTED The Human Resource Management Service (HRMS) has made a substantial stride in achieving its strategic goals towards level 2 accreditation of the Civil Service Commission's Program to Institutionalize Meritocracy and Excellence in Human Resource Management (PRIME-HRM) and securing competent and satisfied OPAPRU personnel.

The Service has undertaken initiatives to further enhance the maturity level of the current competencies, systems, and practices in the HR core areas – Recruitment, Selection, and Placement (RSP), Learning and Development (L&D), Employee Relations and Welfare (ERW), Performance Management (PM) and Rewards and Recognition (R&R).

In view of the staffing rationalization efforts led by the Service, the Department of Budget Management has approved the creation and retention of additional thirty-four (34) Contractual-Regular positions of the Agency. As a result, OPAPRU's current staffing complement has been gradually increased, enabling it to carry out its mandated functions effectively and efficiently.

Through the enhanced L&D Plan, the HRMS remains committed to providing a working environment where continuous learning and development takes place to assist the agency's workforce to be efficient, effective and competent to respond to the changes and demands of public service. Majority of Service' targeted trainings was provided, facilitated, and supported in coordination with OPAPRU offices/services, through various internal interventions and external institutions. Among the L&D accomplished are the peace orientation training for newly-hired staff, leadership development program, disaster risk reduction and management training, and HR and organizational development courses, gender and peacebuilding courses, brown bag sessions, orientation on HR policies, and road safety and defensive driving seminar.



OPAPRU PERSONNEL FROM VARIOUS OFFICES/SERVICES PARTICIPATED IN THE 2023 MINDANAO PEACE INSTITUTE'S ANNUAL PEACEBUILDING TRAINING WITH THE THEME "FORGING THE PATH TOWARDS PEACE: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES" HELD ON 15 MAY TO 02 JUNE 2023 IN MERGRANDE OCEAN RESORT, DAVAO CITY.

The Agency's Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS) has been continually operationalized through the completion of the SPMS guidebook for OPAPRU personnel, regular orientation sessions on the performance evaluation, coaching and mentoring processes as well as the guidelines in accomplishing the individual performance commitment and review (IPCR) form among administrative and technical staff assigned at the various field offices of the OPAPRU.

The Unified Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Policy Implemented – On 19 September 2023, the OPAPRU commemorated its 30th Founding Anniversary. This momentous event has provided a festive venue that strengthened the camaraderie and most especially appreciated and recognized the invaluable contributions of the OPAPRU personnel as peace builders and peace advocates for the last 30 years. The highlight of the celebration was the awarding ceremony of thirty-seven (37) personnel with milestone years of service in the Agency - 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years. This only proves their commitment and dedication in service while providing significant contributions in attaining a just and lasting peace for the nation and for all Filipinos.





ALMOST FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY (550) OPAPRU OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL ACROSS CENTRAL AND FIELD OFFICES IN LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO JOINED THE CELEBRATION PHYSICALLY AND THROUGH VIDEO TELECONFERENCE. THE CELEBRATION LIKEWISE FORMED PART OF THE NATIONAL PEACE CONSCIOUSNESS MONTH CELEBRATION WITH THE THEME - "KAPAYAPAAN: RESPONSIBILIDAD NG BAWAT MAMAMAYAN". The reconstitution of various HR mechanisms including the Human Resource Merit Selection and Promotion Board (HRMPSB), Grievance Committee, PRAISE Committee, and Performance Management Team (PMT), was essential in institutionalizing the HR policies and programs that support organizational effectiveness and achievement of goals.

Moreover, the timely and accurate processing of salaries and benefits of personnel regardless of employment status has contributed to a higher employee engagement, satisfaction and morale. In order to deliver accurate, timely, and efficient HR services, the Service is continuously streamlining its functions in administering the appointment papers and service contracts of personnel, enhancing database of personnel information, leverage technology through biometric installation in the field offices, and conducting orientation on Human Resource Information System (HRIS).

On gender and development (GAD), the HRMS has led the re-establishment of the lactation room and the issuance of its guidelines on maintaining the facility. These initiatives aim to promote breastfeeding awareness, knowledge and appreciation, attend to the gender needs of women employees while enhancing their productivity in the office in accordance with R.A. No. 10028 or the Expanded Breastfeeding Act of 2009 and R.A No. 9710 or the "Magna Carta of Women". Other welfare activities organized by the HRMS include the cluster and agencywide year-end thanksgiving activity, free eye examination, thanksgiving mass, blood-letting activity, NBI clearance assistance, wellness day, mental health seminar, breast and cervical cancer screening for OPAPRU personnel.



AS PART OF THE HRMS' COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS THE WELFARE OF OPAPRU PERSONNEL, THE SERVICE LED THE INITIATIVES ON STRESS MANAGEMENT, CANCER SCREENING, AND LACTATION ROOM SETUP IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SOCIAL HEALING AND PEACEBUILDING OFFICE, PHILIPPINE CANCER SOCIETY, AND PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH.

### PROGRAM 8

# **Finance/Resources**

Optimize use of fiscal resources to effectively and efficiently execute the agency's fiscal responsibilities

The Program 8–Finance/Resources works to provide efficient and effective technical support to ensure the proper execution of operational planning, programming, budgeting, performance monitoring and management, and compliance to financial and procurement guidelines set by existing government rules and regulations for effective and efficient management of government funds.

PRESENTATION OF THE OPAPRU BUDGET TO THE SENATE HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2023, IN PASAY CITY.

"At the onset, let me point out that the rationale for the OPAPRU budget increase has been our repeated call to fund socio-economic interventions, particularly as we focus now on the post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation and transition to sustainable peace and development," Sec. Carlito G. Galvez Jr., said during his presentation to Congress of the OPAPRU FY 2024 budget proposal. Secretary Galvez stressed that the government must devote its resources to addressing the socio-economic triggers that lead to recruitment and rebellion, preventing renewed rebellion, and encouraging members of rebel groups to come forward and return to the folds of the law.

The PAPRU also noted that "this budget will fund our projects and these projects will uplift the lives of millions of people in conflict-affected areas. This budget is a peace investment because once all the signed peace agreements are fulfilled under the Marcos administration, we could all enjoy a more peaceful and more developed Bagong Pilipinas."

FINANCE/RESOURCES

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



90% IN THE OBLIGATIONS BUDGET UTILIZATION RATE (OBUR)



100% DISBURSEMENTS BUDGET UTILIZATION RATE (DBUR)



DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES AND COMPLIANCE BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STRUCTURES THROUGH THE SENIOR AND JUNIOR PBAC MECHANISMS IMPROVED



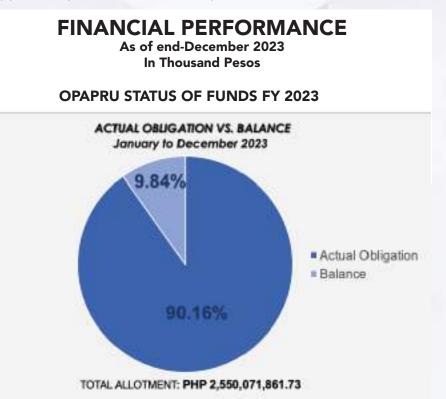
DATA MANAGEMENT WITH THE UTILIZATION OF THE PROGRAM DASHBOARD STRENGTHENED

# **Optimizing Budget Utilization**

For FY 2023, the OPAPRU achieved 90.16% budget utilization of its FY 2023 current fund and FY 2022 continuing fund amounting to a total of PhP2.5 billion. The agency's budget utilization has been constantly improving from previous years, as the agency continues to implement tighter linkage between strategic and operational planning and budgeting, aligning to physical targets under the Performance Governance System (PGS) adopted by the agency since 2019 to level up the advancement and implementation of its peace initiatives.

The financial performance of the OPAPRU for FY 2023 covers its core programs, operations and minimal specific projects to support components under signed peace agreements. These funds are

mostly for the Program GPH-MILF Peace 1 Process, particularly the Normalization Program in the Bangsamoro and Transformation other Programs for transitioning rebels. former The remaining unobligated balance is due to political factors and emerging conditions in the areas of implementation, such as the decision of partner transitioning rebel groups to pursue decommissioning activities and agreements and phases for the socioeconomic interventions and priority areas.



PARTICULAR	ALLOTMENT RECEIVED	OBLIGATIONS	BALANCES (UNOBLIGATED ALLOTMENT)	% OBLIGATIONS
Current Year FY 2023 GAA (RA No. 11936)	2,476,569	2,228,299	248,270	89.98%
Agency Specific Budget	2,476,569	2,228,299	248,270	89.98%
Continuing Fund FY 2022 GAA (RA No. 11639)	73,502	70,801	2,700	96.33%
Agency Specific Budget	73,502	70,801	2,700	96.33%
TOTAL	2,550,071	2,299,101	250,970	90.16%

Other important advances by the agency are the regular Budget Talakayan and program and budget consultations, offering vital assistance in formulating work and financial plans and budget proposals in conjunction with the annual national budget call.



CONDUCT OF THE 2025 BUDGET TALAKAYAN, HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2023, AT OPAPRU CENTRAL OFFICE, PASIG CITY.

Also worth noting is the PBAC which serves as a pivotal mechanism designed to methodically oversee the planning, programming, budgeting, and assessment of both physical and financial performance. Organized into a two-tiered structure—the Senior PBAC which provides supervision, approval, and review; and the Junior PBAC which provides the updates on the status of various Programs/Projects/Activities (PPAs)—such approach enables the Agency to conduct discussions on the allotment/aligning of the Agency funds, strengthen the linkage and integration of planning and budgeting, ensure transparency and accountability, and establish a more efficient and effective utilization of limited resources. The Senior PBAC convenes on a quarterly basis and whenever there are urgent matters that needs to be addressed, and the Junior PBAC convenes on a monthly basis.

The setting up and launching of the automated program and budget utilization dashboard has also enabled more active monthly, quarterly and annual monitoring of Programs, Activities and

Projects (PAPs) as indicated in the programmed WFPs and PGS commitments of all units and offices.

Lastly, the linking of plans and budgets to procurement activities has been strongly supported by the PAPRU through the strengthening of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), and the establishment of the Procurement Division. All of these efforts contribute to enhancing financial management practices and establishing a cohesive set of procedural guidelines, rules and well-structured framework on program implementation and budget utilization.

OPAPRU

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#### HEADLINES

# 2023: A banner year for peace p

Jose Rodel Clapano - The Philippine Star (i) December 24, 2023 | 12:00am

#### **PROGRAM 8**

# Strategic Communications

Inform public and shape favorable opinion in support to the implementation of the peace program

EXPLAINERS FACT CHE



The Program 8–Strategic Communications manages the overall communication efforts and public information activities of the agency. It is responsible for strategically communicating the Philippines' Peace and Development Agenda, particularly the initiatives being carried out by the national government in pushing forward the nation's peace process. Essentially, it acts as OPAPRU's "communications nerve center" and serves as the vital link between the organization and the various peace stakeholders, particularly with civil society and members of the press.

2023 is the banner year for the Philippine peace process and there are a lot of significant milestones and breakthroughs in terms of media engagements, media values, social media outputs and the roll out of the Conflict Sensitive and Peace Promotion (CSPP) Communications.

TRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# 

A TOTAL OF 3,218,299 PEOPLE REACHED IN SOCIAL MEDIA



A TOTAL 194 MILLION PR VALUES GENERATED



25 NEW INFORMATION OFFICERS CAPACITATED WITH CSPP COMMUNICATIONS APPROACH



218 NEW SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS PUBLISHED



132 MEDIA PARTNERS REPORTED NEWS STORIES WITH PEACE MESSAGE

# Media Values

Towards effective communication and dissemination of information related to the gains and status of the Comprehensive Peace Process, the OPAPRU had actively engaged with media partners and were able to carry out our peace messages through platforms such as print, radio, TV and new media. For this year, the Agency had engaged with 143 new media personnel that translated into 841 media pick-ups and generated Php 2,724,711.00 in media values. Media values is the cost of the OPAPRU's media releases if it would have been paid through advertising.

# Media Engagements

Media briefings and interviews were also consistently being facilitated to further promote the peace, reconciliation and unity agenda of the government. A total of 42 media activities were conducted throughout the year. Most notable among these include spearheading the Media Launch for Gawad ng Kapayapaan on 30 March 2023 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City, Press Briefing on the Phase 3 MILF Decommissioning on 3 August 2023, and the Press Conference of the NTF-ELCAC Press Conference on the National Peace Engagement with CPP-NPA-NDF in Malacañang.

Media Launch Gawad ng Kapayapaan

30 March 2023, Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City



Press Conference for the Resumption of Phase 3 MILF Decommissioning



As part of its initiative in communicating the progress of the Bangsamoro peace process, the OPAPRU's Strategic Communications is also part of the GPH-MILF Joint Communications Committee (JCC) along with the MILF Comms Team. Among the GPH-MILF JCC's activities include the weekly radio program entitled, "Boses ng Kapayapaan" which was launched on 24 April 2023 and funded by the European Union through the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre). Boses ng Kapayapaan is a weekly program which aired at DXMY 90.9 FM (RMN Inc.) Radio Station every Monday at 6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M, and live streamed at the GPH-MILF JCC Facebook page and shared through OPAPRU's Facebook account. The radio program tackles topics which highlight the roles and contribution of different GPH-MILF peace mechanisms as well as issues/ concerns that need to be clarified to the stakeholders of the peace process.

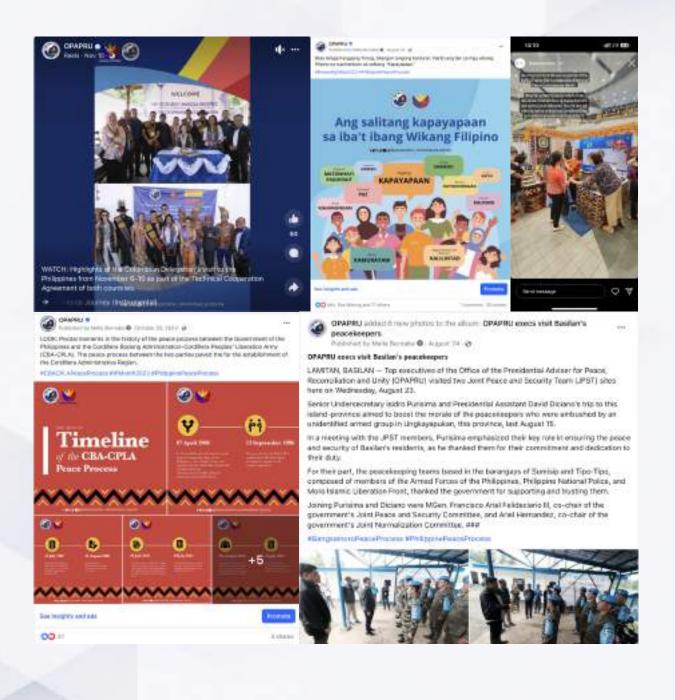


As a way of assessing the impact and reach of its media efforts, Thanksgiving for Media Partners were also organized in Manila, Cotabato City, Davao City, and Zamboanga City. Members of media reporting about the peace process from these areas were gathered and were provided a space so they were able to reiterate challenges and give feedback and recommendations on how to improve on media coverage.



### Social Media

In terms of reaching the general audience and stakeholders through social media, a total of 3,218,299 People Reached for OPAPRU's official Facebook were accomplished. Several informational content was produced that increased the reach and engagement with the public through photo releases, reels, infographics. Major events and activities were also live streamed and reported through OPAPRU's official social media accounts including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Peace partners also shared posts from OPAPRU's official accounts through their accounts.



### **CSPP** Communications

Part of the efforts under Strategic Communications is to mainstream CSPP to government communicators through conduct of CSPP Training-Workshop for Government Information Officers. Two (2) major CSPP training-workshops were held in Cotabato City on 14-18 March 2023 which was participated by different BARMM ministries and offices, and in Iloilo City on 14-17 November 2023 which was participated by representatives from regional offices of government agencies including DSWD, DENR, TESDA, DEPED, DOH, DTI, NCIP, AFP, PNP.



Finally, a strategic partnership was forged among the OPAPRU, Presidential Communications Office (PCO), and Philippine Information Agency (PIA) through a signing of a MOA last 30 August 2023, to boost the national government's information campaign on its anti-insurgency and peacebuilding efforts. The MOA was signed by Presidential Peace Adviser Sec. Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., Presidential Communications Office Secretary Atty. Cheloy Velicaria-Garafil, and Philippine Information Agency Director-General Jose A. Torres, Jr. It is also aimed to increase the awareness of local journalists and government information officers in 13 target regions on the government's LPE and TP.



## Amnesty to Former Rebels

Issuance of Amnesty Proclamations

The amnesty program is an integral component of the government's comprehensive peace efforts. Accepting rebels back into the folds of the law through amnesty and providing them access to the government's existing socio-economic services are essential to attaining peace, reconciliation and unity in the country.



PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR., DURING HIS SECOND STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS ON 24 JULY 2023, AT BATASANG PAMBANSA PROMISES AMNESTY TO FORMER REBELS.

The OPAPRU, through Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., emphasized the importance of granting amnesty to members of revolutionary groups who have committed crimes in pursuit of their political beliefs.

"Amnesty does not only extinguish criminal liability for the acts committed by these former rebels. It creates a path toward their full transformation and enables them to return to mainstream society," Secretary Galvez said in a statement.

Guided with the firm philosophy of peace, OPAPRU under Secretary Galvez's leadership spearheaded the initial undertaking for the presidential issuance of the amnesty proclamations.

Peace being one of the pillars of his administration, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. during his State of the Nation Address on 24 July 2023 vowed to help former rebels regain their legal rights through an amnesty program as part of the administration's effort to push forward the country's comprehensive peace process.

"Through community development and livelihood programs, the Barangay Development and Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Programs have been effective in addressing the root cause of conflict in the countryside," President Marcos said in his second SONA on July 24.



OPAPRU, REPRESENTED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUSANA GUADALUPE MARCAIDA (LEFT) WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM NAC AND THE TECHNICAL TEAM FROM OPAPRU MET WITH THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS ANNA LIZA G. LOGAN (SECOND FROM RIGHT) TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT AMNESTY PROCLAMATIONS AND ELABORATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AMNESTY PROGRAM AND ITS IMPACT TO THE PEACE PROCESS, 28 APRIL 2023, MALACAÑANG.

### "To complete this reintegration process, I will issue a proclamation granting amnesty to rebel returnees. And I ask Congress to support us in this endeavor," the chief executive highlighted.

True to his word and commitment to peace for the Filipino people, the president, on 22 November 2023 issued Amnesty Proclamation Nos. 402, 404, 405, and 406 s. 2023 granting amnesty to members of (i) Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa ng Pilipinas/ Revolutionary Proletarian Army/Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPM-P/RPA/ABB, (ii) former members of Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF), (iii) members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and (iv) members of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) who have committed crimes punishable under the Revised Penal Code and special laws in furtherance of their political beliefs.

Acting on the constitutional requirement for legislative concurrence, the House of Representatives sealed its concurrence on 12 December 2023.

The amnesty proclamations are in line with the implementation of the national government's peace agreement and programs with the different rebel groups. In particular, the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, 1996 Final Peace Agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front, 2000 Peace Agreement and Clarificatory Implementing Document with the RPM-P/RPA/ABB, Executive Order No. 70, and E-Clip Cluster-Amnesty Program.

In the case of RPM-P/RPA/ABB Peace Process, the amnesty program under Proclamation No. 403 s. 2023 is part of the 2000 Peace Agreement between the Government of the Philippines and the RPM-P/RPA/ABB or Kapatiran.

Under EO 70 series of 2018, the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) created 12 clusters/lines of effort (LOE). The Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and amnesty program cluster through Proclamation No. 404 s. 2023 is one of these clusters/LOE, in support of the government's long-term quest for peace, reconciliation and unity.



Amnesty program in the form of Proclamation No. 405 s. 2023 under the MILF Peace Process, is part of the commitment of the government under the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro with the common desire to end the armed conflict and sustain peace and stability in Mindanao.

Proclamation No. 406 s. 2023 and the amnesty program under the MNLF Peace Process, is part of the commitment of the government pursuant to the 1996 Final Peace Agreement. This commitment serves as part of the full implementation of the 1976 Tripoli Agreement between the GPH and MNLF, particularly Item 12 (a), third paragraph which provides for complete amnesty in the areas of autonomy (present-day BARMM) and renunciation of all legal claims resulting from the rebellion that took place in southern Philippines. Section 153, Item III(F) of 1996 Final Peace Agreement carried over the amnesty provision under the 1976 Tripoli Agreement.

In the eyes of the law, amnesty is an act of justice, as it were, it being granted unilaterally by the government and with or without the need of acceptance by its recipients/benefactors and, once granted, abolishes criminal liability for past political offenses and restores them

to their civil and political rights as good citizens. In a way, amnesty is a form of affirmative or positive intervention by the government that endeavors to bring the rebels back to the fold of the law so that they may live not only normal and peaceful but also meaningful and productive lives in the communities.

Expressed otherwise, the president's grant of amnesty is a political instrument by the State to forge reconciliation and unity between opposing groups among its constituencies, including the recalcitrant who have for some time lived beyond the pale of the law, to forego their prosecution for political offenses or obliterate the offenses for the greater interest of peace and national stability and economic development or, to quote the common provision of the proclamation for each of the groups, "[to] promote an atmosphere conducive to the attainment of a just, comprehensive, and enduring equanimity [that] is in line with the government's call for peace, unity, and reconciliation to bring closure to past enmity, rancor and bitterness that has stymied lasting amity among the Filipino people.

### PAPRU as Ex-Officio Member of the National Amnesty Commission (NAC) and OPAPRU as NAC Secretariat

Executive Order No. 125 s. 2021 as amended by EO 47 s. 2023, creates the National Amnesty Commission (NAC) mandated to receive and process amnesty applications from the four (4) amnesty proclamations. The PAPRU is directed to be one of the four (4) ex-officio members alongside the Secretary of Justice, Secretary of National Defense and Secretary of Interior and Local Government.



NAC COMMISSIONERS (SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH FROM LOWER ROW) MET WITH PA WILBEN M. MAYOR (RIGHTMOST) AND DIRECTORS OF PEACE IMPLEMENTING TABLES TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF OPAPRU IN THE AMNESTY PROGRAM 13 JUNE 2023, OPAPRU CENTRAL OFFICE, PASIG CITY

The executive issuances further direct the OPAPRU to provide secretariat support to the NAC.

Pending the formal operationalization of the NAC, the congressional concurrence of the amnesty proclamations and in preparation for the full implementation of the amnesty program, the NAC and the OPAPRU conducted a series of coordinative meetings for the development of the Implementing Rules and Regulations and Rules of Procedure taking important considerations of the diverse contextualized realities of the subject groups elaborated by the concerned peace tables.

The OPAPRU continues to support the NAC in its endeavors to achieve seamless, responsive, and inclusive processing of amnesty applications. OPAPRU strongly subscribes to the view





SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY ISIDRO L. PURISIMA (LEFT) DELIVERS HIS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FOR THE AMNESTY PROGRAM DURING THE CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NAC AND THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF CASES OF AMNESTY APPLICANTS ON 16 MAY 2023, AT PICC, PASAY CITY.

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# National Peace Consciousness Month 2023

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> H.E. PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR., RINGING THE PEACE GONG WITH SECRETARY CARLITO G. GALVEZ, JR. DURING THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL PEACE CONSCIOUSNESS MONTH IN PUERTO PRINCESA CITY, PALAWAN ON 01 SEPTEMBER 2023.

Proclamation 675, s. 2004 mandates the continued implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Process and designates September as National Peace Consciousness Month (NPCM), urging all agencies to lead Peace Month activities and promote a just and inclusive peace. The 2023 NPCM, themed "Kapayapaan: Responsibilidad ng Bawat Mamamayan," featured numerous activities aimed at enhancing societal engagement in peacebuilding. The festivities began with the announcement of Palawan's freedom from insurgency, celebrated by President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., and other dignitaries. This milestone highlighted the importance of coordination and cooperation in peace efforts, culminating in a ceremonial ringing of the peace gong to signify the start of the month-long nationwide celebration. 149

### Peace Bell Ringing Ceremony

The OPAPRU spearheaded the Peace Bell Ringing Ceremony at Quezon Memorial Circle, Quezon City, as part of the NPCM 2023 celebrations. Quezon City Mayor Josefina "Joy" Belmonte attended as guest of honor and speaker. Other dignitaries present included BARMM Senior Minister Abunawas "Von Al-Haq" Maslamama representing BARMM Chief Minister Ahod Balawag Ebrahim, KAPATIRAN Leader Veronica "Ka Inca" Tabara, Minister of Labor and Employment Muslimin Sema, Deputy BTA Parliament Speaker Abdulkarim Misuari, NHCP Chairperson Emmanual Calairo, representatives from various government agencies, congress, ambassadors, international peace partners, and members of peace mechanisms. As a symbolic commitment for peace, the attendees signed on the Pledge for Peace wall, took an oath to work for peace, and participated the candle lighting ceremony. Most importantly, the Peace Bell was rang by the dignitaries in attendance led by Sec. Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., a meaningful gesture that represents the Filipino aspirations for a just and lasting peace.



MAYOR JOY BELMONTE DELIVERING HER SPEECH AND DIGNITARIES PARTICIPATING IN THE CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES AND RINGING OF THE PEACE BELL IN QUEZON MEMORIAL CIRCLE, QUEZON CITY, 05 SEPTEMBER 2023.

### KaPEACEtahan

This year's National Peace Consciousness Month introduced an expanded KaPEACEtahan, a major event designed to amplify the success of government peace efforts through the OPAPRU. Previously a half-day event, the KaPEACEtahan transformed into a three-day fair held at TriNoma Mall in Quezon City, with additional regional events in Bicol and SOCCSKSARGEN. The Quezon City fair showcased peace initiatives and community enterprise, featuring exhibits from various government agencies, NGOs, and local vendors, including the unique Mambabatok tattoo artistry. In Bicol, the fair celebrated regional culture with traditional dances, local products, and educational exhibits, while the event at Mindanao State University included cultural performances and activities like the Walk for Peace, emphasizing peace education and community engagement.



KAPEACETAHAN BEING CELEBRATED IN QUEZON CITY, BICOL, AND GENERAL SANTOS DURING THE NATIONAL PEACE CONSCIOUSNESS MONTH 2023.

### OPAPRU 30<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary

The Agency marked its 30th Founding Anniversary on 19 September 2023 with a memorable celebration that strengthened camaraderie and honored the dedicated contributions of OPAPRU personnel as peace builders and advocates over the past three decades. The festivities commenced with a thanksgiving mass at the Central Office in Pasig City, attended by various OPAPRU personnel and executives. Reverend Fr. John De Castro delivered a homily reflecting on the agency's peace efforts, drawing parallels to the devotion of Mother Mary.

The Anniversary Program, opened by Presidential Assistant Arnulfo R. Pajarillo, featured heartfelt remarks and recognition of 37 personnel for milestone years of service, highlighting their commitment to achieving lasting peace in the Philippines. A solemn moment of silence honored three fallen colleagues, followed by poignant testimonials from two awardees. The evening continued with a dinner and a Best Dressed Award, celebrating personnel who showcased Filipino and cultural attire symbolizing peace. Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr. delivered a keynote speech, commending OPAPRU for their pivotal role in advancing the nation's comprehensive peace process.

The event concluded with musical performances by the Special Forces Regiment (Airborne) Philippine Army Band, uniting approximately 550 officials, personnel, and consultants across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao physically and via teleconference.



REV. FR. JOHN DE CASTRO OF SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH, MANDALUYONG OFFICIATING THE THANKSGIVING MASS FOR OPAPRU.



BEST DRESSED AWARDEES REPRESENTING VARIOUS CULTURAL ATTIRE DURING THE 30TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF OPAPRU AT THE PICC, 19 SEPTEMBER 2023.

### Wreath Offering Ceremonies



UNDERSECRETARY DAVID B. DICIANO OFFERED WREATHS ON THE TOMBS THE LATE PRESIDENT CORY AQUINO, BENIGNO AQUINO AND AMBASSADOR MANUEL T. YAN FOR THEIR PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE COUNTRY'S PEACE PROCESS.

As part of this year's National Peace Consciousness Month, OPAPRU honored our nation's peace champions with a simultaneous wreath-laying ceremony at the Libingan ng mga Bayani and the Manila Memorial Park. Honored at Libingan ng mga Bayani were the late Presidents Ferdinand E. Marcos Sr. and Fidel V. Ramos, and former COMELEC Commissioner Atty. Haydee Yorac. The event in the Manila Memorial Park on the other hand was attended by Francis Aquino Dee, grandson of former Presidents Corazon 'Cory' Aquino and Benigno S. Aquino, and Marienette Aglipay Yan, daughter of former ambassador Manuel Tecson Yan. The ceremony highlighted past peace efforts, such as the 1986 talks with the Cordillera People's Liberation Army led by Conrado "Ka-Ambo" Balweg and the historic peace agreement with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front during President Noynoy Aquino's administration. Manuel Yan, a distinguished soldier and diplomat who mediated the 1996 agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front, was also honored. Commemorative speeches were delivered by OPAPRU Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr. in the Libingan ng mga Bayani and Presidential Assistant David B. Diciano and Executive Director Susana Guadalupe H. Marcaida in the Manila Memorial Park, while a 21-gun salute by the Philippine Navy and Marines marked the beginning of the ceremony. The wreaths were placed at the tombs of Manuel Yan, Presidents Aquino, and Benigno Aquino III, with Francis Aquino Dee expressing appreciation for the recognition of his ancestors' contributions and gratitude to those involved in organizing the event.

### Gawad Kapayapaan Awards 2023

The Gawad Kapayapaan Awards symbolize significant recognition for those who have greatly contributed to fostering lasting peace in the Philippines. Created to honor individuals and organizations committed to peace and social justice, these awards highlight the nation's dedication to a more harmonious and equitable society. They also serve to motivate others to engage in peace advocacy by publicly acknowledging the achievements of peacebuilders and encouraging proactive citizenship. The inaugural awards, presented during the closing of the National Peace Consciousness Month, honored the Armed Forces of the Philippines, represented by Lt. Gen. Arthur Cordura; former Aklan Governor Florencio "Joeben" Miraflores; and former Executive Secretary Eduardo R. Ermita, who was also the event's Guest of Honor. Recipients were awarded the Gawad Kapayapaan Trophy, symbolizing peace, reconciliation, and unity. Overall, the awards encapsulate the hope and perseverance in the pursuit of peace, recognizing exceptional contributions and reinforcing the importance of collaborative efforts for a just society, thus helping to build a lasting legacy of peace for future generations.





THE FIRST GAWAD KAPAYAPAAN AWARDEES: HON. FLORENCIO MIRAFLORES, ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FORMER EXECUT THE COUNTRY. THE AWARDING CEREMONY WAS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CULMINATING ACTIVITY OF THE NPCM HELD AT PICC LAST



IVE SECRETARY EDUARDO ERMITA RECEIVE THE GAWAD KAPAYAPAAN TROPHY TO CELEBRATE THEIR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACE PROCESS IN 29 SEPTEMBER 2023.















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