# MGA KWENTO NG POOSAL STATES NGA KWENTO NG





Strengthening SLP - Employment Facilitation through notable Local Government Unit Partnerships







FIRST SEMESTER 2019 Issue II

### About the Cover



#### "Paghinang ng Pangarap"

It takes genuine skills and craftsmanship to create one masterpiece from scratch, metal crumbs, and iron dust. Such skills are honed through time and are welded to strengthen the bond between dreams and reality. In this issue of the Mga Kwento ng PagSibol, let us rekindle our sparks of hope and witness how and why working with our notable partners are indeed significant, with every flicker of light.







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The Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) aligns its communication strategy to the Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) and focuses on affirming the growth of SLP participant's capabilities and bridging livelihood opportunities towards inclusive economic development.

To further celebrate the early wins and the big impact of SLP in the lives of our program participants, the "Mga Kwento ng PagSibol" (MKP) creates an enabling and empowering platform so as to spark up the hope that the marginalized and vulnerable sectors do have a great chance in life. From humble beginnings to rewarding transformations.

'Mula sa isang pangarap, hanggang sa PagSibol'

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#### Message from THE UNDERSECRETARY



Atty. Aimee S. Torrefranca-Neri Undersecretary for Operations

Mabuhay!

I commend the men and women of SLP: the program implementers and all the stakeholders for their commitments and hard works to improve the socio-economic status of all the Filipino families through inclusive and collaborative programs. I am confident that our partnership shall further ensure the better future of our people.

May each and every one of us continue to be challenged to be partners of change and contribute to the initiatives of the national leadership in giving hope and great chance to the marginalized and vulnerable sectors.

We will be together in this journey in realizing our vision: the Filipino people's collective vision of a MATATAG, MAGINHAWA, AT PANATAG NA BUHAY PARA SA LAHAT.





## Stories of Change & Growth





lloillo makes "change" special for DSWD - SLP

Isabel, Leyte walking the extra mile for employment facilitation







# ILOILO MAKES "CHANGE"

The Provincial Government of Iloilo, a first class province in the country, provided a wide array of support to the Employment Facilitation (EF) initiatives of the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) notably from 2013 – to the present year 2019.

Through the institution of the Iloilo Provincial Convergence Committee (IPCC) in 2013 through Executive Order 121 s. 2013, the Province of Iloilo provided a concrete platform to support various DSWD programs, specifically the SLP, and continues to do so by virtue of Executive Order 165 s. 2016.

It is worthy to note that the DSWD SLP, among other Provincial agencies and offices, compose the regular members of the IPCC. Hence, consultative and collaborative efforts were possible, specifically on policy support/ implementation and advocacy; technical assistance; capacity building; and monitoring and evaluation led by Neneth Q. Pador, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (PSWDO).

Inspired with the convergence points brought about by the institutionalization of the IPCC, the DSWD and the Province of Iloilo further strengthened the focus to employment facilitation through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DSWD Field Office VI and the Iloilo Provincial Government- Public Employment Service Office (PESO), in August 2016, supported with Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) Resolution 2016-067. The said MOU emphasizes the shared responsibilities and co-ownership of DSWD-SLP and LGU-PESO in the efforts for employment facilitation and provision of protection against employment injustices (e.g. exploitation, human trafficking, sexual abuse, among others). Thus, advocating for the rights of workers/ employees





Another notable practice/ innovation of the LGU – PESO in furtherance of employment facilitation efforts for SLP participants is the conceptualization and operationalization of the Customized Employment Package (CEP). The said employment facilitation model concretizes the collaboration between and among the LGU – PESO, DSWD-SLP, and the private sectors.

The CEP, as the flagship employmentpartnership project of DSWD-SLP and LGU-PESO creates an enabling environment for the SLP participants. Considering that the 1st phase of implementation in 2016 was conducted exclusively for SLP participants, wherein 51 out of 78 (65%) trained individuals were hired on the spot by partner Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) companies in the province. The results of the said 1st phase of CEP implementation served as basis for the enhancement of the project. Hence, considering the expansion of industry partners and assessment mechanisms for potential participants which were integrated in the preliminary planning stages for the 2nd phase of the CEP.

It is notable that the Province of Iloilo allocated a separated budget for the operationalization of the CEP. In 2018, it was reflected in the LGU's approved Annual Investment Plan (AIP) that a total of P50,000.00 was dedicated for the CEP. On the other hand, a longer-term (2019-2021) AIP showed an investment of P50,000.00 per year, totaling to P150,000.00 exclusively pertaining to budget allocation for CEP.



Applicants keep themselves busy in preparing pre-employment requirements and documents during the conduct of a provincial job fair in Iloilo City. It may be observed that a banner with a "DSWD LANE" written on it provides the program participants of SLP with a better opportunity in facilitating employment procedures | Photo provided by DSWD SLP Field Office VI





While conduct of Job Fairs and Special Recruitment Activities by the LGU is a regular activity dictated by the mandate of the LGU to provide / access for employment opportunities for its local constituents, the Province of Iloilo further prioritizes the SLP participants by providing special lanes or queues so that the SLP participants may be able to efficiently access available employment opportunities.

The LGU – PESO conducts a semestral job fair every year. Since 2016 until 2018, LGU – PESO of Iloilo was able to accommodate and access a total number of 17,316 participants (1,401 were SLP participants) to gainful employment to at least 148 industries or employment companies. From the total of number of registered participants, a number of 1,004 were considered hired-on-the-spot. However, the DSWD-SLP and LGU-PESO are still on the process of tracking and documenting the monitoring reports, vis-àvis employed SLP participants, in the interest of integrating to the Electronic – Manpower Skills Registry System of the LGU-PESO.

Likewise, the LGU-PESO aimed at reaching-out further to the levels of the Barangay through an issued Resolution No. 2016-529 on the "Enjoining all Punong Barangays of the Province of Iloilo to facilitate the designation of Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Coordinators in their respective barangays". Hence, providing a strong participation and representation in aid of employment facilitation affairs and coordination of the entire province.

In line with the employment facilitation role of the LGU – PESO, an Electronic – Manpower Skills Registry System (E-MSRS), a digital platform providing an updated list of available workforce (supply side) and industries (labor market demands) within and throughout lloilo province and the rest of the country, provided that the latter complies with the set requirements and policies on the use of the E-MSRS.

The said E-MSRS also contains a quick find/ filtering feature which efficiently sorts out required information (e.g. SLP participants, type of sector, other personal information). Hence, providing an efficient database in aid of employment facilitation, directly managed and monitored by the LGU – PESO.





Series of job fairs are regularly conducted by the Provincial Government of Iloilo to address issues on unemployment and promote more productive and profitable opportunities for its constituents, especially the participants of SLP and the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program | Photo provided by DSWD SLP Field Office VI





# ISABEL, WALKING THE EXTRA MILE FOR LEYTE EMPLOYMENT FACILITATION

The Local Government Unit of Isabel, a first class municipality, in the province of Leyte, provides an enabling environment for the employment facilitation efforts, in close partnership with the Sustainable Livelihood Program and other external stakeholders.

As part of their commitment to provide employment opportunities for the SLP participants in their locality, the LGU of Isabel directly hired at least four hundred sixty-three (463) SLP participants for various job order and casual positions destined in the different offices and departments of the LGU.

These program participants-turned employees, started rendering their services since July 2016 and were consistently rehired every year, until this current year 2019, as certified by Ma. Jackelyn D. Cerillo, Chief Administrative Officer of LGU Isabel and supported by Alma S. Manosa, the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer.

Through proactive partnerships between the LGU and private businesses, LGU of Isabel was able to endorse/ recommend SLP participants, who were also graduates of SLP-implemented skills training, to various employers such as but not limited to Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining (PASAR) Employees' Multi-Purpose Cooperative; Esguerra, Mappala & Associates, Inc; RP Mappala Inc; FNV Construction and .



The photo series shows the various activities done by SLP participants from Isabel, Leyte who underwent Skills Training on Shielded Metal Arc Welding towards Employment Facilitation. | Photos provided by DSWD Field Office VIII

Supply; and LIDE-Affected Landowners' Management and Development Cooperative.

In 2017, the LGU of Isabel shouldered the electricity bill, amounting to a total of P30,000.00, utilized by at least ninety (90) program participants for the Skills Training on Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW). This particular counterpart led to the success of the said skills training.







Short-term employment was provided to SLP participants through the Cash-for-Building-Livelihood-Assets during the project on Wellness Hilltop Garden & Restaurant. | Photos provided by DSWD Field Office VIII

The LGU of Isabel has been supportive in the conduct of SLP-related activities, specifically the Leyte II Cluster Meeting and Strategic Planning of Monitoring/ Implementing Project Development Officers in 2018. The LGU of Isabel provided logistics support amounting to P48,500.00 for the said activity.

Likewise, the LGU also shared its resources for office space and supplies, and transportation assistance for monitoring

Furthermore, the LGU of Isabel, through its Sangguniang Bayan and the rest of the LGU offices and departments, regularly include the SLP in its meeting agenda, particularly the partnership project of the LGU and DSWD-SLP on the implementation of a cash-for-building-livelihood-assets (CBLA) project on Wellness Hilltop Garden & Restaurant (P200,000.00 worth of LGU-sourced funds), Sunflower Blossom Park (P56,260.00 from LGU funds), and Apale Eco-Tourism Park (P6,000,000.00 worth of LGU-sourced funds for phase II).

Upon completion of the projects , more or less a thousand of program participants are aimed to be provided with short-term employment  $\mathbf{x}$ 











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