



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN**



MEMORANDUM

TO : **The Directors**
Ecosystems Research Development Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Human Resource Development Service

The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region X

FROM : **The Undersecretary**
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **NCI-SRD ACTIVITY PROCEEDINGS OF MPD SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM CONSULTATION WORKSHOP**

DATE : **SEP 27 2024**

May we respectfully refer the email dated September 12, 2024 transmitting the **Activity Proceedings** of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program Consultation Workshop held last August 27-30, 2024 in Cagayan de Oro.

For other clarifications and other concerns, please call NCI SRD National Secretariat at telephone number 89288741 local 2275 or via email at ncisrd@da.gov.ph.

For your information and reference, please.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

MEMO NO. 2024 - 879



Reggie PH

OUPIIA-2024-002368

Activity Proceedings: MPM-RD Scholarship Program Consultation Workshop: Final Drafting on August 27-30, 2024 at CDO

DA NCISRD <ncisrd@da.gov.ph>

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 1:59 PM

To: DENR FAMILY <erdbrecords@gmail.com>, DENR FAMILY <danellemaeaquino@gmail.com>, Danelle Mae Aquino <danellemae.aquino@erdb.denr.gov.ph>, Clarisse Ann Apolinar <clarisseann.apolinar@erdb.denr.gov.ph>, "Usec. Jonas Leones, Ceso I" <ouppia@denr.gov.ph>, "Usec. Jonas Leones, Ceso I" <oueiea.denr@gmail.com>, "Usec. Jonas Leones, Ceso I" <mariamagnoliadanganan@yahoo.com>, "Usec. ROWENA NIÑA O. TADURAN" <asecsso@dar.gov.ph>, "Usec. ROWENA NIÑA O. TADURAN" <asecsso.secretariat@dar.gov.ph>, "Usec. Marlo Iringan" <ouslg.dilg@gmail.com>, "Usec. Marlo Iringan" <miiringan@dilg.gov.ph>, DILG- FAMILY <lgamail@lga.gov.ph>, DILG- FAMILY <paolo.donado@lga.gov.ph>, DILG- FAMILY <thelma.vecina@lga.gov.ph>, DA- FAMILY <mfmagpantay@ati.da.gov.ph>, erdb.hrd.hannahpadin@gmail.com, sergiomanuel.arguilla@pcaf.da.gov.ph, "RED. JOSE APOLLO Y. PACAMALAN" <rci10secretariat@gmail.com>, arnilyn.pandong123@gmail.com, DAR-FAMILY <director.barbd@dar.gov.ph>, DAR-FAMILY <gerryza.rm1015@gmail.com>, "RED. JOSE APOLLO Y. PACAMALAN" <da10ored@gmail.com>, DENR FAMILY <icustodio@fmb.denr.gov.ph>, "Geoffrey Pontillas (Ponti)" <geoffreypontillas20@gmail.com>, "Dir. Maria Lourdes G. Ferrer, Ceso III" <libertyasis@gmail.com>, Zaldy Masangkay <zimasangkay@dilg.gov.ph>, Catherine Viray <catherine.viray@pcaf.da.gov.ph>, DEXTER TINDOC <dmindoc@denr.gov.ph>, "RED. JOSE APOLLO Y. PACAMALAN" <agri10cdo@gmail.com>

Dear Participants,

This is to furnish you with the signed Activity Proceedings for the **MPM-RD Scholarship Program Consultation Workshop: Final Drafting held last August 27-30, 2024 at TIEZA Gardens of Malasag, Cagayan de Oro.** Kindly see the attached file for your reference.

Thank you for your continuous support to the NCI-SRD.

Yours Truly,

Zaireen B. Cleofe
Capacity Development Component Working Group (CD CWG)



NCI-SRD National Secretariat

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MPMRD Activity Proceedings.pdf
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**NCI-SRD Master in Public Management Major in Rural Development (MPM-RD)
Scholarship Program Consultation Workshop
TIEZA Gardens of Malasag, Cagayan de Oro
August 27-30, 2024**

Day 1 (Tuesday, 27 August 2024)

1. *Arrival and Billeting of Participants*

The following participants arrived at the venue and were assisted for billeting:

- a. National Technical Working Group (NTWG) - Department of Agriculture Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (DA-PCAF)
- b. Capacity Development Component Working Group (CD CWG) Members and representatives:
 - i. DA - Agricultural and Training Institute (ATI)
 - ii. Department of Agrarian Reform - Agrarian Reform Capacity Development Service (DAR-ARCDS);
 - iii. Department of Agrarian Reform - Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development (DAR-BARBD);
 - iv. Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Forest Management Bureau (DENR-FMB);
 - v. Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (DENR-ERDB); and
 - vi. Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Human Resource Development Service (DENR-HRDS)
- c. DA-DAR-DENR Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) Northern Mindanao Cluster members and representatives

2. *Registration of Participants and Distribution of Activity Materials*

After assisting the participants during registration, the National Secretariat distributed the program of activities. Further, participants were informed that all activity materials were provided through a Google drive folder which is shared to participants prior to the activity. The following were uploaded:

- a. Program of Activities;
- b. Rationale and Leveling of Expectations;
- c. Revised Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No.1, Series of 2023;
- d. Draft Overview of Master in Public Management Major in Rural Development (MPM-RD);
- e. Draft Core and Major Courses of MPM-RD; and
- f. Update on the Status of MPM-RD Scholarship Program

The working documents may be accessed through:
<https://bit.ly/MPMRDProgramWorkshop>



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3. **Opening Ceremonies**

The Master of Ceremonies for the activity was Ms. Zaireen B. Cleofe of the NCI-SRD National Secretariat. Ms. Cleofe led the opening of the activity through a prayer, singing of the Philippine National Anthem, and playing of the NCI-SRD AVP.

4. **Introduction of Participants**

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, acknowledged the presence of the following participants:

- a. DAR-BARBD OIC-Director Eric M. Arevalo
- b. Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Director RFO Northern Mindanao – Jose Apollo Y. Pacamalan
- c. CD CWG: DA-ATI, DAR-ARCDs, DAR-BARBD, DENR-FMB; DENR-ERDB, DENR-HRDS; and
- d. DA-DAR-DENR Regional Convergence Initiative Technical Working Group (RCI TWG) Northern Mindanao Cluster members and representatives

5. **Welcome Remarks and Opening Message**

The welcome remarks were delivered by Director Eric M. Arevalo, DAR-BARBD. He highlighted that the challenges and opportunities are significant to design the strategic approach towards sustainable rural development. Further, he looked forward to strengthening and improving the curriculum and hoped that the involved agencies will be participative during the activity. Lastly, he encouraged future graduates to be prepared to tackle real-world challenges while executing both innovative and practical solutions.

DA Northern Mindanao Regional Executive Director Jose Apollo Pacamalan, delivered the opening remarks. He urged the future graduates to use this opportunity to improve the response time of government agencies to the demands of stakeholders and clients. He also called for using digital information for decision and policy development.

6. **Rationale and Leveling of Expectations, and Mechanics of the Workshop**

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the Rationale, Leveling of Expectations and Mechanics of the Workshop. She discussed the background of the activity, objectives, expected output, and program flow.

7. **Presentation of the DA-DAR-DENR-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 1, series of 2023: Revised Unified Scholarship Guidelines for the NCI-SRD Master in Public Management Major in Rural Development (MPM-RD) Scholarship Program**

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the approved JMC containing the revised guidelines for the application process, benefits, sanctions, and graduation requirements in the program.



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Below are the highlights of the discussion:

- a. Ms. Mae Odimyrl A. Morales, DA Northern Mindanao NCI-SRD Scholar commended the increase in Rural Development Action Plan and Project (RDAPP) support which is currently PHP 50,000.
- b. Ms. Mercedesita G. Barbarona, DENR Northern Mindanao NCI-SRD Scholar suggested to increase the age limit of applicants from 50 to 55 years old to accommodate those in supervisory roles who are over 50.
- c. Ms. Gerryza Montero, DAR-BARBD, suggested to remove the "Section 8.1 Conferment of a double-badge master's degree in MPM-RD or applicable master's degree", as this typically requires diploma from universities. She said that in previous batches of the program, scholars only received certificates instead of diplomas.
- d. Ms. Montero, DAR-BARBD, consulted with Mr. Jonas Soriano of Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) and clarified that RDAPP is equivalent to a Master's thesis. It was mentioned that Mr. Soriano confirmed that RDAPP qualifies as a Master's thesis since it contains essential elements found in master thesis. However, Ms. Montero suggested to still check the said matter in accordance with the approved policy of DAP.

Day 2 (Wednesday, 28 August 2024)

8. *Presentation of Overview of the MPM-RD Curriculum*

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the overview of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program. She discussed the challenges in Philippine rural development, response of the NCI-SRD, capacity building for rural development through the MPM-RD, and program description.

9. *Discussion of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program: Core Courses*

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the five (5) core courses of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program with 15 units adopted from the DAP, namely:

- a. PMC-201 Public Management: Theories, Principles and Innovations
- b. PMC-202 Philippine Administrative System and Governance
- c. PMC-203 Public Policy Analysis
- d. PMC-204 Personal Efficacy and Leadership
- e. PMC 205: APP 1 (Research Methods in Public Management 1) (Master's Thesis)

The participants presented the revised draft core courses title, description, objectives, and competencies prepared during the breakout session. The highlights of discussion are presented, as follows:

- a. Ms. Barbarona, DENR Northern Mindanao NCI-SRD Scholar recommended that the teaching approach for Core Course No. 1: Public Management: Theories, Principles and Innovation should include interactive role-playing at the community level and an investigative case analysis workshop. She



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proposed that the final course output should be the thesis and Project Application Plan. For Core Course No. 2: Philippine Administrative System and Public Governance, it was suggested that the course output should be a policy framework which clearly defines boundaries between administrative system and legislative systems. When it comes to Core Course No. 3: Public Policy Analysis, participants suggested that the output should be a model policy and a term paper for presentation and interactive debate among students. For Core Course No. 4: Personal Efficacy and Leadership, the output was suggested to be a progress report of Individual Development Plan (IDP) and leadership journey action plan.

- b. Ms. Montero, DAR-BARBD, recommended that learners in Core Course No. 5 Action Plan and Project (Research Methods in Public Management 1) should focus on developing sustainable projects with long-term impacts that can be scaled to other rural settings. In addition to this, the group of Ms. Montero highlighted the importance of stakeholder engagement in government agencies, community organizations, rural populations in the planning and execution of the proposed RDAPP.

The working documents may be accessed through:
<https://bit.ly/MPMRDProgramWorkshop>

10. Discussion of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program: Major Courses

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the seven (7) major courses of the MPM-RD Scholarship Program with 21 units, namely:

- a. Rural Development: Models and Approaches
- b. Climate Change, Agriculture and Environment: Integrated Adaptation - Mitigation Approaches
- c. Asset Reform and Natural Resource Governance
- d. Agricultural and Rural Development Tools/ Approaches to Agricultural Productivity
- e. Enhancing Institutional Mechanisms/ Approaches to Stakeholders Building
- f. Community Development
- g. Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME)

The participants presented the revised draft major courses title, description, objectives, and competencies prepared during the breakout session. The highlights of discussion are presented, as follows:

- a. Ms. Montero, DAR-BARBD, suggested that students of Major Course No. 2: Climate Change, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (AFF) Integrated Adaptation - Mitigation Approaches should explore the development of a model land-use plan that harmonizes development plans of different sectors. She emphasized that there should be an integration of developmental plans, such as but not limited to the Environment Natural Resource (ENR) land-use plan, water use zoning plan, and climate change action plan. Additionally, the



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group recommended incorporating integrated coastal management (ICM) and ridge-to-reef approaches into the course description. For Major Course No. 3: Asset Reform and Natural Resource Governance, the course methodology should include case analysis, focus group discussion, and adult learning principles and practices. The course output should include term-paper on natural resource valuation and asset reform plan.

- b. Ms. Morales, DA Northern Mindanao NCI-SRD Scholar, said that the Major Course No. 4: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (AFF) Development Tools and Institutional Approaches for Sustainable Rural Development should include introduction of AFF programs and projects of the rural development agencies, while mainstreaming climate resilience. For the Major Course No. 5: Enhancing Institutional Mechanism or Approaches to Stakeholders Building, lecturers should discuss barriers or challenges to convergence and strategies to overcome them, and include section on stakeholder communication and management.

Regarding the Major Course No. 6: Community Development, Organizational, Institutionalization, it should cover topics on gender analysis, cultural, traditional and indigenous knowledge sensitivity, introduction of community profiling, community mapping and training needs assessment. It should also include community immersion on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools, package PRA report and translate it into a rural development project.

For Major Course No. 7: Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME), it should include designing logical framework or Theory of Change (ToC). The course should also incorporate participatory monitoring and evaluation approaches, empowering stakeholders to play a more active role in setting targets and selecting indicators, thereby enhancing transparency and accountability.

The working documents may be accessed through:
<https://bit.ly/MPMRDProgramWorkshop>

Day 3 (Thursday, 29 August 2024)

11. **Presentation of Updates on the Status of MPM-RD Scholarship Program**

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the updates on the status of MPM-RD Scholarship Program. She discussed the background of the program, timeline and status of activities, number of graduates produced, and challenges and ways forward. One of the major concerns raised was non-commitment of Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) to be the lead educational partner MPM-RD Scholarship Program due to office restructuring. The participants were asked to identify new primary academic institutions in lieu of the DAP.



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The highlights of discussion are presented, as follows:

- a. Mr. Dexter Tindoc, DENR-CDD, suggested to try reaching out again to DAP through a meeting or ask for official communication of non-commitment in the implementation of the MPM-RD scholarship program. He further proposed organizing a meeting between the DA, DAR, and DENR Secretaries and the DAP Board of Trustees to lobby the discussion on the MPM-RD scholarship program. Ms. Montero, DAR-BARBD, also added that Secretariat may tap Dr. Evelyn Lozada or Mr. Jonas Soriano of DAP. Mr. Tindoc mentioned that they plan to seek DAP's commitment to the MPM-RD program during DENR upcoming meeting with the institution. Additionally, he provided alternative options in case DAP issues an official non-commitment to the program. In this scenario, the NCI-SRD National Secretariat may consider approaching other academic institutions with existing knowledge of the program, such as UP-NCPAG, Ateneo de Manila University, or Xavier University.
- b. Ms. Elinor Judyfind D. Abaragan, DAR Northern Mindanao NCI-SRD Scholar, suggested considering Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) as another potential partner. Dir. Arevalo of DAR-BARBD also recommended reaching out to the Polytechnic University of the Philippines - Open University System for possible collaboration.

The working documents may be accessed through:
<https://bit.ly/MPMRDProgramWorkshop>

12. Summary of Agreements

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented the following summary of agreements based on the suggestions and recommendations during the activity:

- a. The CD CWG to revise the following Sections on the next updating of the JMC no. 1, series of 2023:
 - Section 8 Scholarship Benefits "1. Conferment of a double-badge master's degree in MPM-RD or applicable master's degree" as this typically requires diploma from universities. In previous batches of the program, scholars only received certificates instead of diplomas.
 - Increase the age limit of applicants from 50 to 55 years old to consider applicants with supervisory functions who's 50 years old up.
- b. DAP, partner universities, and scholars to improve coordination to prevent future challenges. For instance, the extension of the master's program of scholars arose because DAP approved a case study submission in place of a final exam, a requirement that UP was not fully informed about;
- c. The National Secretariat to include the ridge-to-reef approach in the course description of applicable courses;
- d. The CD CWG to consult with partner institution or academe regarding the use of the term "master's thesis" for the RDAPP;
- e. National Secretariat to coordinate again with DAP through a meeting or ask for official communication of non-commitment in the implementation of the



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MPM-RD scholarship program. If DAP issues an official non-commitment, the NCI-SRD National Secretariat may consider approaching other academic institutions with existing knowledge of the program, such as UP-NCPAG, Ateneo de Manila University, or Xavier University. The National Secretariat may also explore coordinating with the Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) and Polytechnic University of the Philippines – Open University System;

- f. The CD CWG to consider changing the term “rural development managers” to “development managers” with focus in rural development;
- g. The CD CWG to revise the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tool or baseline tool for the RDAPP to better capture additional key outcomes, such as successful convergence efforts. The proposed revision of M&E tool may help justify the continuation of Batch 5 scholars. The CD CWG may consider adopting the M&E tool developed by National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) for the said purpose;
- h. The National Secretariat to update the database of the MPM-RD graduates to include their expertise acquired after graduating from program;
- i. The National Secretariat may consider conducting an MPM-RD graduates congress in 2025 to present testimonials such as positive outcomes of RDAPP to rural communities; and
- j. The National Secretariat to orient the approved scholars on the expectations regarding MPM-RD funding.

13. Ways Forward

Ms. Cleofe, NCI-SRD National Secretariat, presented upcoming activities of each component working groups as presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Schedule of NCI-SRD Meetings

Title of Activity	Date	Venue
1. CD CWG 5 th Meeting	September 12, 2024	DA BAR, Quezon City
2. CWG Workshop	September 24-27, 2024	Laguna
3. Competency Manual: Final Drafting	October 8-11, 2024	Zamboanga City
4. CD CWG 6 th Meeting	November 7, 2024	LGA

14. Closing Remarks

Dr. Karen Kristine A. Roscom, Director of Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) and NCI-SRD Head National Secretariat, delivered the closing remarks. She expressed her gratitude to the active members of the DA, DAR, and DENR during the workshop. Dir. Roscom emphasized the potential amendment of the JMC no. 1, series of 2023 where its scope be expanded to cover food security and



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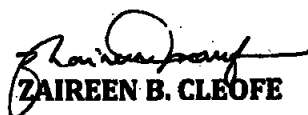
climate change, with a focus on rural development. She also expressed hope for the prompt approval of Convergence Strategy Bill for Rural Development by the Senate.

In addition to this, Dir. Roscom provided clarifications to some of the agreements during the workshop. She clarified that RDAPP is not considered a master's thesis, as it only carries 3 units, while master's thesis requires 6 units. She also said that RDAPP lacks a research methodology. Dir. Roscom also presented the MPM-RD scholarship program assessment for Batch 1-4.

Day 4 (Friday, 30 August 2024)

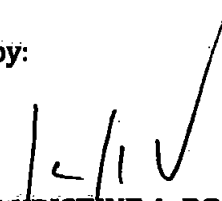
15. Departure of the Participants

Prepared by:


ZAIREEN B. CLEOFE
 Project Development Officer III


WENDY M. ARCEO
 Project Development Officer III

Noted by:


KAREN KRISTINE A. ROSCOM, PFT, PhD
 Director, Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) and
 Head, National Secretariat, NCI-SRD 