

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT MGB

On March 8, 2023, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) joined in the celebration of International Women's Day.

MGB's Gender and Development Focal Point Group gave flowers to the women employees of MGB – division chiefs, section chiefs, and all other employees, as a small token of appreciation and support for being public servants.

According to the Philippine Women's Commission, the Women's Month Celebration serves as a venue to highlight women's achievements and discuss continuing and emerging women's empowerment and gender equality issues and concerns, challenges, and commitments.

Through Proclamation No. 224 s. 1988, the first week of March is marked as Women's Week and March 8, 1988, as Women's Rights and International Peace Day. Signed by former President Corazon C. Aquino on March 1, 1988, it affirmed our solidarity with the United Nations and recognized Filipino women's contribution to the struggle for national independence, civil liberties, equality, and human rights.

With the new recurring theme from this year to 2028: *WE for gender equality and inclusive society*. It sparks a renewed commitment to the advocacy and banks on the gains achieved during the 2016-2022 theme, *WE Make CHANGE Work for Women*, which emphasized the need for compassionate and harmonized networks towards gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE).



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MINE MATTERS

THE MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU CENTRAL OFFICE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MGB CO Passed QMS and EMS Audits



Announcement of SGS during the Closing Meeting



SGS Closing Meeting during the ISO 14001:2015 Recertification Audit.

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Miceco Corner

New Interest Rate of Loans (Starting April 24, 2023)



TYPE OF LOANS	TERMS (No. of Months)	Old Interest Rate (Annual)	New Interest Rate (Annual)
Regular	12 months	15%	8.31%
	24 months	25%	13.54%
Special	12 months	24%	13.47%
Consumer	12 months	24%	13.47%
	24 months	36%	19.82%

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
NORTH AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY
PHILIPPINES 1104
TEL. NO. (63-2) 86676700
EMAIL ADDRESS: CENTRAL@MGB.GOV.PH

www.mgb.gov.ph
 OfficialMinesandGeosciencesBureau
 @minesandgeosciencesbureau
 @mgb_denr

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau Central Office (MGB CO) successfully passed the Surveillance Audit for its International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015, Quality Management System (QMS), and Recertification Audit for its ISO 14001:2015, Environmental Management System (EMS). The audits were conducted by SGS Philippines, Inc. (SGS) on December 7, 2022 for the QMS and December 19-21, 2022 for the EMS.

After almost two years of conducting audits virtually via Microsoft Teams, this year's Surveillance and Recertification Audits were conducted onsite. The audits aim to determine conformity of the QMS and EMS with the following audit criteria: (1) ability to ensure the applicable statutory, regulatory, and contractual requirements are met; (2) effectiveness to ensure the client can reasonably expect to achieve specified objectives; and (3) ability to identify as applicable areas for potential improvement.

Frontline services subjected to the QMS Surveillance Audit include Processing and approval of Exploration Permit applications including its Renewal; Processing and Approval of Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program & Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan; and Metallurgical and Geological Laboratory Testing Services for mineral industries. The audit also covered the following newly enrolled processes:

- ◆ Payment of Mine Waste and Mill Tailings Fee;
- ◆ Chemical Laboratory Services;
- ◆ Authority to Hire Foreign Nationals; and
- ◆ Conduct of Mineral Resource Validation/Evaluation of Final Exploration Report.

The EMS Recertification Audit covered the laboratories, offices and support facilities/services including contractors operating within the MGB CO Compound.

With the results of the audits, MGB CO has maintained its QMS and EMS Certification since 2015 and 2020, respectively.

By: Mine Safety, Environment and Social Development Division

EDITOR'S NOTE

On behalf of the MINE MATTERS editorial board, we are welcoming this new year with the continuation of the Official Quarterly Newsletter of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Central Office. We are blessed to have accomplished the quarterly newsletter last year and are eager to produce better publications this year.

The staff from Mineral Information and Publication Section of the Mineral Economics, Information and Publication Division wish to thank our newly appointed Director, Atty. Danilo U. Uykieng and Assistant Director, Engr. Teodorico A. Sandoval for showing their sincere support in the creation of the MINE MATTERS newsletter.

MINE MATTERS

Official Quarterly Newsletter of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau Central Office
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EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

Engr. Edgar C. Madera

ASSOCIATE

EDITORS: Ms. Diory G. Carr
Engr. Cesar Anthony A. Aben

WRITERS: Ms. Jamie Ruth T. Javier
Ms. Maureen Louise C. Cruz

LAY-OUT/GRAPHIC ARTISTS:

Mr. Nazario P. Abrasaldo
Ms. Venus Amor R. Sarmiento

CIRCULATION:

Mr. Edgardo D. Tolentino

CONTRIBUTORS:

Atty. Josephine V. Sescon
Engr. Teodorico A. Sandoval
Ms. Liza Socorro J. Manzano
Engr. Danilo D. Deleña
Engr. Marcial H. Mateo
Engr. Theodore E. Pestaño
Mr. Rogel G. Santos, Ph. D.
Ms. Gloria D. Mendoza
Ms. Edna R. Lorilla
Ms. Maybellyn A. Zepeda, D. Sc.
Ms. Ma. Erlina T. Tambasen
Ms. Marjorie C. Martinez
For. Teodorico L. Marquez

MGB Directory

ATTY. DANILO U. UYKIENG
OIC-Director

ENGR. TEODORICO A. SANDOVAL
*Assistant Director in concurrent capacity
Chief, Planning, Policy and
International Affairs Division*

ATTY. JOSEPHINE V. SESCON
OIC-Chief, Legal Service Division

ENGR. DANILO D. DELEÑA
Chief, Mining Tenements Management Division

ENGR. MARCIAL H. MATEO
*Chief, Mine Safety, Environment and Social
Development Division*

ENGR. THEODORE ROMMEL E. PESTAÑO
OIC-Chief, Mining Technology Division

MS. LIZA SOCORRO J. MANZANO
Chief, Lands Geological Survey Division

MR. ROGEL A. SANTOS, Ph. D.
OIC-Chief, Marine Geological Survey Division

ENGR. BERNARDO V. BITANGA
OIC-Chief, Metallurgical Technology Division

ENGR. ROMUALDO D. AGUILOS
Chief, Mineral Eco., Info. and Publication Division

MS. GLORIA D. MENDOZA
OIC-Chief, Financial Management Division

MS. EDNA R. LORILLA
Chief, Administrative Division

WHAT ON EARTH?

A brain teaser game on rocks and minerals

1. Which type of rock forms from melted rock deep within Earth?

_ g _ _ o _ s

2. Where are most volcanoes in the world located?

u _ _ e _ _ a _ _ r

3. Earth's thin, outer shell is broken up into big pieces called tectonic plates. What tends to occur along plate boundaries?

**_ o _ _ _ n _ _
_ r _ _ t _ _ _ s**

4. Almost all rocks are made of:

m _ _ e _ _ _ s

5. Fossils are the remains of ancient plants and animals. They are found in which type of rock?

**s _ _ i _ _ n _ a _ _
_ o _ _ s**

Look and Listen

“Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day”

Answers:
1. igneous
2. underwater
3. volcanic eruptions
4. minerals
5. sedimentary rocks

ACROSS

1) Cream-filled pastries	43) Cleveland hoopster, briefly
6) Snaky shape	44) "For pity's ___!"
9) Way out there	45) ___ Locks (Huron-Superior link)
13) Product demonstrators' pitches	46) Pub orders
15) Sinks	48) Court plea, for short
17) Playground rejoinder	50) Free TV ads, for short
18) Views of the future	54) Repair bill component
19) Suffer a huge financial loss	56) Nile slitherer
21) Clever comment	59) Guinness suffix
22) Masters org.	60) President's protectors
23) Hardly long-winded	65) Judge, as a coin dealer
26) Hang in there	67) Loose oomph
28) Remove, as fat	68) Interior designer's container
32) Spinnaker or sparker	69) Words that can precede the last words of 19-, 39- and 60-Across
33) Make public	70) Daily of "Cagney & Lacey"
36) Numbered work	71) Crude home
38) Boo-hoo	72) Flies, roaches and such
39) Prudish sort	

EATERY SIGN TRIO By Victor Fleming

DOWN

1) Book after Job
2) Yank out of the ground
3) Big bush
4) Wine and dine
5) The John B of song, e.g.
6) They may be inflated
7) Old French coins
8) Green of "Austin Powers" movies
9) Really goes for
10) LUK or marathon
11) Parrot's word, in comics
12) TLL specialists
14) Karaoke selection
16) Open, as an envelope
20) "Mangia!"
24) "Dear" addressee
25) English cathedral site
27) Former NBA star ___ Ming
29) Spur wheel
30) Wall St. debut
31) Tonsle, as hair
34) TSA requests
35) Actress Irene or Meg
37) "___ mull!"
39) Big bush
40) It may be applied to a tennis ball
41) Bout stopper, briefly
42) "Alley ___!"
43) Place for a tassel, maybe
47) "Tristram Shandy" author Laurence
49) Intercontinental gp. since 1948
51) Some Japanese watches
52) Trip to the summit
53) Dialectal users, perhaps
55) Sing like Cab Calloway
57) Concluded, with "up"
58) Before surgery, informally
61) Loaded with butter, say
62) Hairy twin in Genesis
63) "M*A*S*H" quarters
64) Barn attachment
65) Quick to catch on
66) Shell out

LGSD ORGANIZED VIRTUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON ENGINEERING GEOLOGIC AND GEOHAZARD ASSESSMENT (EGGA)



Ms. Liza Socorro J. Manzano, Chief, LGSD and Mr. Alvin Lucio M. Fernando discussing the latest policies and guidelines



Dr. Karlo L. Queano (Center) presents on the conduct of EGGA and EGGAR preparation with GHEGS personnel.



Participants from MGB Central and Regional Offices capping off the virtual training workshop.

The Geohazards and Engineering Geology Section (GhEGS) of the Lands Geological Survey Division (LGSD) is an essential arm of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in providing support to its Regional Offices (ROs) in the conduct of geohazard, risk assessment, and engineering geological studies. It also supervises the GhEGS of the Geosciences Division of all MGB ROs that undertake, implement, and review projects under the Engineering Geological and Geohazard Assessment (EGGA) activity of Geohazard Services of GhEGS. As such, GhEGS organized the virtual training workshop on EGGA last March 14 to 16, 2023 via the Microsoft Teams Platform to further capacitate the ROs in the conduct of EGGAR/GAR reviews.

The training workshop was attended by technical personnel from the MGB Central and Regional Offices, and from the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB). This undertaking is intended for the newly hired and young geologists of the ROs involved in the conduct of EGGA-related activities such as the Geological Site Scoping Report (GSSR)/Geohazard Identification Report (GIR), Geological Verification Report (GVR) and the review of Engineering Geological and Geohazard Assessment Report (EGGAR) in relation to the recent guidelines of EMB for EGGAR. These documents are important, particularly the EGGAR, which is required by EMB as an additional requirement for the issuance of Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) as provided for under Presidential Decree No. 1586, Presidential Proclamation No. 2146 and its implementing rules and regulations, requiring all proponents of subdivision development projects, housing projects, private or public, to undertake an EGGA.

Resource speakers from the EMB, MGB ROs, and the Marine Geological Survey Division (MGSD) imparted their knowledge on the different policies, procedures, and methodologies of EGGA. Engr. Jose Paolo Aragoncillo of EMB discussed the latest policies of EMB in relation to EGGAR/GAR, particularly the newest Memorandum Circulars. Dr. Karlo L. Queano of MGSD presented how the MGB Geologist should conduct an EGGA and the subsequent report preparation if there is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or requests from the Local Government Units (LGUs). Ms. Danica B. Guinto of MGB RO No. IVA imparted the procedure for compliance with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order No. 2000-28, the conduct of GSS/GIS, and preparation of GSSR/GIR, GVR, and when to prepare these reports. Ms. Guinto along with Ms. Beverly Mae Brebante of MGB RO No. XI also demonstrated the process of the conduct of EGGAR/GAR reviews of their respective regions.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau's NEW EMPLOYEES



- Lawrence Oliver D. Buduhan - LGSD
- Bernadette M. Buladaco - LGSD
- Jethro B. Capino - LGSD
- Armani Yula V. Estanislao - LGSD
- Ruth C. Madrideo - LGSD
- Edrian M. Tubalado - LGSD
- Jane G. Cabaña - FMD
- Shanylale G. Dionisio - FMD
- Geleni Shalaine P. Bello - MeTD
- Cesar Anthony A. Aben - MEIPD
- Jedidia T. Acuña - MEIPD
- Kenneth Davebrune Red G. Chan - MTMD
- Ever Praising Mariah B. Dumangeng - MTMD

NUIECP-NSC Conducted PR and Crisis Management Training Part II

The National Unified Information, Education and Communication Plan (NUIECP) National Steering Committee, in collaboration with the Mineral Economics, Information and Publication Division (MEIPD) of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Central Office conducted its second installment of the Public Relations (PR) and Crisis Management Training last 28 February to 03 March 2023 at Princesa Garden Island Resort, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

The crisis workshop, which was a continuation of the first installment last 19-20 December 2022, served as the avenue for the participants to practice various PR skills, with special focus on their use during crisis situations, such as practice writing press materials, holding statements, press releases, social media posts, etc.; and improve public speaking capability giving importance in practicing conversations that deal with crisis situations like death, disasters and the like.

The training program was participated by the information officers and community relation officers from all MGB Regional Offices and various mining companies nationwide via face-to-face and virtual mode.

Among the key officials present during the workshop were Atty. Ronald C. Recidoro, Chair of the NUIECP-NSC, Ms. Angelita I. Lee, Co-Chair of the NUIECP-NSC, Ms. Liz Cherry D. Solijon, OIC-Chief of the MGB-MEIPD and Engr. Marcial H. Mateo, Chief of the MGB-MSESDD. The event was hosted by Ms. Venus Amor Sarmiento, Development Management Officer III of MEIPD-MGB.

Ms. Maria Teresa L. Pacis, Assistant Vice President for Corporate Affairs, Apex Mining Co. Inc., was the key speaker all throughout the event. The activity was conducted in a bootcamp style where 60% of the time will be dedicated to practice sessions and discussions and 40% will be on lectures and presentations.



The first day of the program focused on the discussion of crisis management, as a sequel to the first workshop, where definitions and concepts were refreshed to the participants. Crisis scenarios were also tackled giving examples to natural disasters, security, human resource and safety, mining, environment, legal, marketing, governance, and community relation, among others.

One of the discussion highlights of the second day were the following— crisis management team composition, including the roles/tasks of each personnel; the audience universe giving example to target audiences affected after a crisis; and the type of messaging when conveying the right words to the right audience.

A visit to the Palawan Quicksilver Mines, Inc. (PQMI) in Barangay Sta. Lourdes, Puerto Princesa City was made to immerse the participants and have an appreciation of what an abandoned mine turned out to be a rehabilitated area.

The last day of the training program was dedicated to workshop activity where participants practiced creating crisis-specific messages and crisis-specific channels based on the mine-visit conducted, as well as applying the rudiments of crisis communication skills such as stakeholder mapping, messaging, media relations that were discussed in the December 2022 training.

At the end of the workshop, it was emphasized that the “industry is so complex and subject to several legal, normative, social and reputational progressive constraints.” Succeeding in managing crisis communication in the mining sector requires a preparedness that is far meticulous than for other sectors.”

The PR and Crisis Management Training is part of the initiative of the NUIECP which is a unified IEC campaign plan focusing on responsible mining practices of the mining industry with the tagline #MineResponsibility. The plan initiates for the collaboration of IEC plans of the minerals industry as embedded in the Social Development Management Program (SDMP) mandated of mining permit holders and contractors.



LGSD Successfully Concluded its First-Ever Hybrid 2023 Geoscience Workshop

Navigating its way through the new normal setup, the Lands Geological Survey Division (LGSD) of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) spearheaded the first-ever hybrid 2023 Geoscience Workshop while finding the right balance between remote and in-person interaction to be more prolific, inclusive, and accessible to everyone. This year's gathering was participated by over 300 geologists, chemists, engineers, and other technical personnel of the MGB Central and Regional offices. It was held in-person last February 20–24, 2023 at Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City, and virtually through the Microsoft Teams platform. The workshop is anchored on its central theme of *“Cultivating a Culture of Progressive and Synergistic Implementation of Geoscience Programs: Sustaining a Legacy of Excellence”*.

Despite the challenges brought about by a volatile socio-economic landscape over the years as the global communities are slowly adjusting to an implicit new normal, the LGSD optimistically advances in its pursuit of a more integrated implementation and monitoring of its geoscience programs. The 2023 Geoscience Workshop aims to standardize the methodology and output of new activities under Geoscience Programs; to update and review the methodology of ongoing projects and activities; to monitor the overall implementation of the projects; to make an initial review of project output and gathered data for the

ongoing projects; and to conceptualize new projects and discuss the future direction of the Geoscience Programs. Several resource speakers were also invited to impart their extensive knowledge and expertise on some of the policies and methodologies of the different programs, projects, and activities of the MGB.

The workshop officially commenced with opening remarks given by Ms. Liza Socorro J. Manzano, Chief Geologist of the LGSD. She warmly welcomed the participants and praised everyone's unwavering efforts to support all Geosciences Programs. DENR Assistant Secretary for Finance, Information Systems and Mining Concerns Nonita S. Caguioa, DENR Undersecretary for Integrated Environmental Science Dr. Carlos Primo David, and MGB Officer-in-Charge Director Atty. Danilo U. Uykieng also graced the event.

After the opening program, the presentation of accomplishments of the MGB Geosciences Programs for 2022 and the 2023-2028 roadmap for LGSD was followed by talks on mining application and permitting process, Engineering Geological and Geohazard Assessment (EGGAR) and Environmentally Critical Area (ECA) technical consultation, landslide and karst susceptibility mapping, flood hazard models via OpenLISEM, and overview of the SKUA-GOCAD Geological Modelling software.

The succeeding days of the workshop are split into three (3) breakout sessions: Room 1 for OO1-Mineral Resources and Geosciences Development Program (e.g., National Geologic Quadrangle Mapping Program and National Mineral Reservation Program), Room 2 for OO3-Geological Risk Reduction and Resiliency Program (National Geohazard Assessment and Mapping Program and National Groundwater Resources and Vulnerability Assessment Program), and Room 3 for special concerns (e.g., Gender and Development (GAD), Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and administrative/financial/planning/policy matters).

Aside from the synthesis report of the final workshop outputs and agreements, the last day was also allotted for presentations on the National Committee on Geological Sciences (NCGS), guidelines for the establishment of Geoparks, and the Philippine Mineral Reporting Code (PMRC) of 2020.

In the forthcoming years, LGSD Chief Liza Manzano is certain that we will continue to implement this workshop's agreements and resolutions that are tied up to the goals and milestones of the land geosciences road map for the next six years harmonized with the Philippine Development Plan for 2023-2028.

Four years have passed since the last MGB Regional Office hosted the Geoscience Workshop, and now the Central Office has amicably passed the baton to Region IV-B MIMAROPA to serve as the host region for the 2024 Geoscience Workshop.

By: Lands Geological Survey Division

MGB WELCOMES 2023 WITH ITS NEW LEADERS

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau Central Office (MGB-CO) welcomes the designation of certain MGB officers as Officer-In-Charge (OIC) and alternate authorities as concurrent officers this 2023.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources Honorable Secretary Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga appointed Atty. Danilo U. Uykieng as OIC-Director of MGB on February 16, 2023 through Special Order (SO) 2023-41. He was previously the Division Chief of the Legal Service Division (LSD).

While Engr. Teodorico A. Sandoval was designated as MGB's OIC-Assistant Director and as concurrent Planning, Policy, and International Affairs Division Chief on February 16, 2023 as stated on DENR SO 2023-40.

Other officers that have been appointed were Engr. Romualdo D. Aguilos, Mining Engineer V, assuming his post as Chief of the Mineral Economics, Information and Publication Division.; Atty. Josephine V. Sescon, Attorney IV, as concurrent OIC-Chief of the LSD; and, Engr. Bernardo V. Bitanga as OIC-Chief of the Metallurgical Technology Division.

The staff at MGB Central Office fully support the newly appointed officers of the bureau.

By: Mineral Economics, Information and Publication Division.

MGB LEADS PROCUREMENT STATUS OF DENR FOR FIRST QUARTER OF 2023

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources released the procurement performance for the first quarter of the year on March 31, 2023.

Among all the bureaus, regional offices, and other agencies, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau lead the ranking — topping at number one with a rate of 92.80%.

Top 5 DENR Offices:

- 1. MGB-CO 92.80%
- 2. DENR REGION IX 87.39%
- 3. ERDB 69.68%
- 4. DENR REGION XI 58.69%
- 5. DENR REGION I 58.39%

By: Mineral Economics, Information and Publication Division.



MGBEA CONDUCTED SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF MINING AND GEOSCIENCES IN EVERYDAY LIVING

As part of its capacity building program pursuant to the 2020 MGBEA-MGB Collective Negotiation Agreement (Article VIII, Employees Welfare and Professional Development), the Mines and Geosciences Bureau Employees Association (MGBEA) in coordination with the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) organized a 3-day seminar on the role of mining and geosciences in everyday living with the theme: "Mining and Geosciences as key partners for a sustainable future" The activity which was held on March 28 to 30, 2023 at the MGB Multi-Purpose Building, North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City aims to capacitate and increase awareness of the MGB employees, specifically its non-technical personnel, in support of MGB's program on responsible mining as drivers of economic growth. Personnel from the different MGB divisions participated in the said undertaking.

Dr. Maybellyn A. Zepeda, MGBEA National/Central Office Chapter President and Engr. Teodorico A. Sandoval, Chief of the Policy, Planning and International Affairs Division and MGB OIC-Assistant Director in concurrent capacity delivered the welcome and inspirational messages, respectively. The seminar featured presentations from the various MGB technical divisions, namely, Lands Geological Survey Division, Marine Geological Survey Division, Metallurgical Technology Division, Mining Tenement Management Division, and Mining Safety, Environment and Social Development Division high-lighting their respective functions and project involvements. Likewise, topics discussed include a wide array of subject areas ranging from governing principles of mining, geology and metallurgy; what minerals are and their importance to humanity; a working knowledge of the basic elements of mining including the different operational stages; mine management, permit issuances, mine remediation and rehabilitation, and safety, health, environment and social development (SHES) policies among others.

A mix of learning methodologies such as lectures and educational tour to the Republic of the Philippines Ship (RPS) Explorer, MGB's research vessel that will enable participants to interact during group work activities to produce the expected outputs of the seminar were introduced. A Pre-test and Post-test have been administered to determine the degree of the participant's acquisition of learning. By the end of the seminar, participants are expected to increase their knowledge and awareness on the role of mining and geosciences in their everyday living and help in the promotion of responsible mining as key partner in nation building.



Personnel from the different MGB divisions participated in the 3-day seminar.



Dr. Maybellyn A. Zepeda and Engr. Teodorico A. Sandoval delivered the welcome and inspirational messages, respectively.



MGB technical personnel discussed subject areas relating to the functions, organizational structure, and projects of their respective divisions.



MGB's research vessel which conducts offshore exploration studies.



Part of the learning methodology of the seminar involves an educational tour of the RPS Explorer.



PHILKARST PROGRAM ORGANIZED A LECTURE ON THE DETERMINATION OF CARRYING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DESTINATIONS

On February 3, 2023, the PhilKARST Program under the Lands Geological Survey Division (LGSD) organized an online lecture on the Determination of Carrying Capacity for Sustainable Tourism Destinations via Zoom Conference to aid its personnel in understanding carrying capacity concepts and its computation.

In line with the Program's objectives to provide a planning tool for the sustainable management of tourist destinations underlain by karst terrain, a discussion on the conceptual framework of carrying capacity and its computation was conducted with Mr. Jan Marrion Cadelino from the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau-Urban and Biodiversity Research, Development and Extension Center (ERDB-UBRDEC) as the resource speaker.

Carrying capacity is defined as the ability to support healthy organisms while sustaining their productivity, adaptation, and capacity renewal. It also refers to the number of individuals that can be supported in a given area within natural resource limits, and without degrading the natural, social, cultural, and economic environment for present and future generations.

The lecture highlighted the importance of physical, biological, and social components when it comes to determining carrying capacity and the four (4) types of Carrying Capacity computations, namely: (1) Tourism Carrying Capacity, (2) Physical Carrying Capacity, (3) Population Carrying Capacity, and (4) Biophysical Assessment in relation to Carrying Capacity. Following the discussions and the differences between each concept, the PhilKARST Program has identified avenues with which it may contribute to the formulation of a Karst Management Plan for its target sites, the Municipalities of El Nido, Palawan, and Del Carmen and General Luna, Surigao del Norte.

The PhilKARST Program will proceed in preparing its Karst Management Plans focused on using physical carrying capacity by adding limiting factors such as extreme weather occurrences and geohazards in its computation.

By: Contributed by: Isabelle Bianca B. Gonzales, Project Assistant II, PhilKARST Program

MGB JOINS DENR IN PUSH FOR CLIMATE-SENSITIVE IMPLEMENTATION FOR 2023

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau participated in the FY 2023 Re-programming Workshop of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) held last January 23-27, 2023 at Taal Vista, Tagaytay. The said workshop aims to realign DENR sectoral targets for this year towards the intended outcomes of the recently released 2023-2028 Philippine Development Plan and the eight-point socioeconomic agenda of the Marcos administration.

MGB Director Wilfredo G. Moncano had the opportunity to present the significant accomplishments and near-term roadmaps of the mines and geosciences sector to DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga and the rest of the agency's top management. The presentation focused on the Philippine mining sector roadmap and the push for increased revenue share of the mining sector through priority mining projects and intensified support for the declaration of Minahang Bayan across the country. The geosciences roadmaps also promote the expansion of geological and mineral information of both onshore and offshore potential mineral lands and further collaboration for research and development.

Considering the pressing threats of climate change, MGB is also urged to expand its advance exploration program, particularly for rare-earth minerals, which are identified as raw materials for renewable energy technologies and explore initiatives leading to climate smart mining. Secretary Loyzaga also directed the MGB to fast-track its geohazards program to fully respond and capacitate vulnerable communities against loss of lives and property during disasters. MGB was also provided additional PhP10 Million for the replacement of its ground penetrating radar equipment in support of the karst subsidence mapping and assessment of cities and highly urbanized local government units.

For the current year, Mines and Geosciences Bureau has been allocated PhP1.4 Billion for the implementation of its program and activities geared towards mineral resources and geosciences development.

