



MIMAROPA
Regional Development Plan
2017-2022



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2017-2022



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MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022

Published by:

National Economic and Development Authority

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Printed in the Philippines

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Foreword

Earlier this year, we launched the **Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022** through the initiative of the **National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)**. The PDP serves as our medium-term blueprint towards attaining a better and more secure life for our people in the next 25 years.

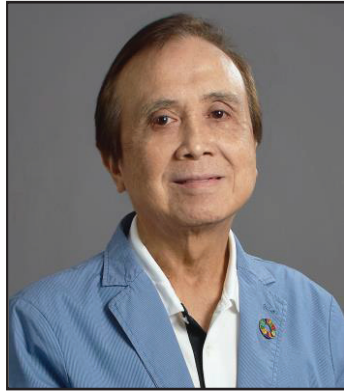
To complement the PDP, we are now launching the **Regional Development Plans (RDPs) 2017-2022**. This will provide direction in policy formulation for the next six years as we steer public and private investments to the regions.

We intend to place regional development at the center of our socioeconomic development strategy. By creating more jobs, improving social services, encouraging innovation and connecting the countryside to growth centers, we will reduce poverty and accelerate development in rural areas.

The RDPs will also prioritize accelerating infrastructure development, protecting our natural resources, addressing criminality and illegal drugs, and ensuring peace and security in the regions.

I commend the Regional Development Councils for aligning their respective regional plans to our PDP through fruitful collaboration with local government units and the private sector. I am confident that through the RDPs, we can realize our goal of laying a solid foundation for a stronger and more resilient nation for future generations.


RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President
Republic of the Philippines



Message

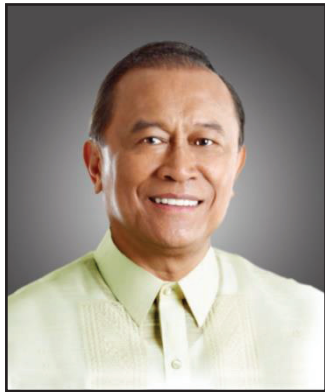
With regional and local development being one of the main thrusts of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's socioeconomic development agenda, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022, the first medium-term plan anchored on a long-term vision (*AmBisyon Natin 2040*), was specifically designed to cultivate growth and reduce inequality between the regions. This can be achieved by directing development to key areas throughout the country and connecting these growth centers to rural areas.

As such, the Regional Development Plans (RDPs), as accompanying documents to the PDP, will be an important tool in guiding both public and private investments that will catalyze growth in the regions. It will also serve as our blueprint in laying down the three main pillars of *Malasakit, Pagbabago, at Patuloy na Pag-unlad* that will help us build a secure, comfortable, and strongly rooted life for all Filipinos by 2040.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) for their leadership in the crafting of the RDPs, and in coordinating various development efforts in the regions. Finally, we seek the support of our local government units, regional institutions, and private institutions to support the realization of our plans as we venture towards the creation of prosperous, peaceful and resilient communities.

ERNESTO M. PERNIA

Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning



Message


The MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017 - 2022 serves as a guide in realizing our vision for MIMAROPA to be “The Destination of Choice”.

It lays down the strategies and priority programs, projects and activities which shall be implemented by the region’s stakeholders to make MIMAROPA globally competitive and at par with other regions.

Republic Act No. 10879, or otherwise known as the MIMAROPA Act, was enacted on July 17, 2016 and establishes the Southwestern Tagalog Region to be known as the MIMAROPA region. This encourages us to strive harder towards the realization of our vision. By taking advantage of the region’s strategic location and natural assets, MIMAROPA shall emerge as the favored destination for living and making a living.

As Chairperson of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Council, I would like to thank the members of the RDC and its sectoral committees for their valuable contribution and active involvement in the formulation of the RDP. I encourage everyone to advocate and utilize this plan, and to support the RDC in leading the region towards progress and sustainable development!

Let us continue our cooperation and together strive towards real change!


JOSE CH. ALVAREZ
RDC Chairperson and
Governor of Palawan



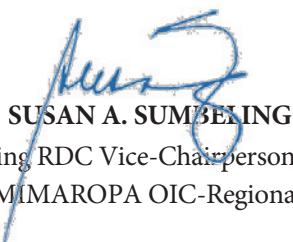
Preface

The MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 is the blueprint of the region for the next six years. It is the first of four medium term plans anchored on the 0-10 point socioeconomic agenda and geared towards the country's long term vision (Ambisyon Natin 2040).

Following the issuance of Memorandum Circular No. 12 on 24 October 2016 which directed the formulation of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and Public Investment Plan (PIP) for 2017-2022, series of consultation workshops on the formulation of MIMAROPA RDP were conducted to involve as many stakeholders as possible in translating the vision into actual development plan with accompanying priority programs, projects, and activities.

MIMAROPA RDP is based on the PDP's overall strategic framework which is to lay down the foundation for inclusive growth and a high trust society by balancing growth opportunities and benefits and enhancing social fabric. The plan considered the sustainable development goals and the MIMAROPA strategic regional development agenda. The spatial development frameworks of Luzon and Visayas served as inputs in crafting the spatial component of the RDP.

I thank our partners from the government and private sectors for their support. I also encourage the regional agencies, local government units, universities and colleges, private sector, and all MIMAROPAns to work together in making our region "The Destination of Choice."



SUSAN A. SUMBELING

Acting RDC Vice-Chairperson and
NEDA MIMAROPA OIC-Regional Director

PART I

INTRODUCTION



01

The Long View

The Long View

Memorandum Circular No. 12 (S.2016) directs the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to coordinate the formulation of the country's national and regional development plans and the accompanying investment programs, and monitor their implementation.

In line with Section 3 of Executive Order No. 05¹, dated 11 October, the MIMAROPA regional development plan (RDP) 2017-2022 is anchored on the 0-10 point socioeconomic agenda and geared

towards the country's long term vision (Ambisyon Natin 2040) until 2040. The long term vision is an initiative of NEDA started in 2015 under the previous administration.

Long Term Vision

AmBisyon Natin 2040 is a long term vision for Filipinos and the Philippines (refer to Figure 1.1). It is envisioned to be

a guide for development planning across administrations in the next 24 years.

Figure 1.1 AmBisyon Natin 2040 logo



¹ Approving and adopting the twenty five year long term vision entitled AmBisyon Natin 2040 as guide for development planning

The Filipinos aspire that by 2040:

“The Philippines shall be a country where all citizens are free from hunger and poverty, have equal opportunities, enabled by fair and just society that is governed with order and unity. A nation where families live together, thriving in vibrant, culturally diverse, and resilient communities.”

The vision was elicited from the Filipino people through a series of public consultations conducted in 2015. A total of 42 focus group discussions (FGDs) were held nationwide and participated in by representatives from the youth, fisherfolk, formal workers, farmers, urban poor, disaster survivors, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, families of overseas workers, local migrants, and government workers.

On the basis of the FGD findings, a national survey (sample size: 10,000) was

commissioned to ensure that the results are nationally representative. Respondents in the FGDs and national survey were limited to Filipinos aged between 15 and 50 years old.

A number of technical studies were commissioned in key thematic areas of development to understand whether the vision is achievable and what it will take to get there.

Online media campaigns, forums, and briefings were conducted to further boost interest on the issue. Communication and stakeholder engagements were also intensified in preparation for the next medium-term planning process.

This approach in development planning is in response to stakeholders' clamor for a forward-looking approach that goes beyond a single political administration.

MIMAROPA Vision

The MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 shall adopt the vision statement: “MIMAROPA: The destination of choice.” The region's stakeholders

envision MIMAROPA as the destination of investments, livelihood, residence, employment, adventure, rest, recreation, and retirement (refer to Figure 1.2).

Figure 1.2 MIMAROPA vision



Destination as a place denotes that by 2022, MIMAROPA will be the preferred place of residence, especially for the immediate family and other dependents of government employees whose official work stations have been moved to the designated regional government center in Calapan City. The other growth centers of the region will also attract returning emigrants and new immigrants who will have found an improved business and investment climate in the islands, particularly in agriculture and tourism. The uptrend in domestic and international tourist arrivals in the Region will be sustained as the global economy recovers. With the growing interest on the emerging diverse destinations in the region, including the retirement villages that are in various stages of development in the island provinces, its tourism industry continues to boom and has the potential to drive growth in agriculture and processing of agricultural products.

In the context of MIMAROPA as a destination for enriching experience of nature, biodiversity, adventure, health and wellness, rest and recreation, the region's natural land and seascapes offer world class attractions of ecological, cultural and historical significance. In the context of destination as a state of being, improved local governance and management for development results have been steadily progressing at all levels.

The intended results for the region will be reduction of poverty and improved living conditions of the MIMAROPA populations. The regional development outcome is increased number of MIMAROPANs benefiting from productive agricultural activities supported with efficient infrastructure facilities, adequate social services and favorable economic opportunities and who are committed as stewards of the region's natural monuments and cultural heritage.

Challenge

The MIMAROPA RDP 2011-2016 aimed at inclusive growth, one that creates jobs and reduces poverty. But due to the plan's limitation to 6 years, bound by the term of a political administration, inclusive growth was not fully achieved.

In 2015, MIMAROPA brought down its poverty incidence at a level which was still higher than the national average rate.

It will take years, even decades, to

drastically reduce poverty and bring the region to a significantly higher level of development. It is indeed possible to eradicate poverty within 25 years depending on economic growth and income distribution. If growth is accompanied by reductions in inequality, poverty could be eradicated before 2040. If income growth is strong, and inequality is reduced by 3 per cent yearly, poverty can be eradicated by 2030 – the SDG timeframe.

Goal

In line with the AmBisyon Natin 2040, President's 0-10 point socioeconomic agenda, and SDGs, the RDP's goal is to lay the foundations for inclusive growth and a high trust society through a two pronged approach of balancing growth opportunities and benefits and enhancing the social fabric.

Based on the Philippine development plan (PDP) 2017-2022 overall strategic framework, the RDP adopted the following broad strategies:

Balance growth and development opportunities across provinces, economic sectors, and people groups

- Expand economic opportunities
- Improve access to economic opportunities through enhancement of economic connectivity and networks, access to finance, skills training and

labor market policies, and promotion of competition

- Maintain economic stability
- Address vulnerabilities with main focus on climate change, adaptation and mitigation, and social protection
- Reduce inequality in human development outcomes underscoring health, nutrition, and education
- Provide infrastructure and build up capacity
- Maintain ecological integrity

Enhance the social fabric

- Build trust in government with emphasis on macroeconomic stability, strategic financing, citizen centered, clean and efficient delivery of public goods and services, and administration of justice
- Promote peace, public order, and security
- Promote and value cultural diversity

Outcome

Based on the 2012 official poverty statistics, fishermen and farmers posted the 2nd and 3rd highest poverty incidence rates among the basic sectors.

In 2015, all MIMAROPA provinces recorded decline in poverty incidence except Occidental Mindoro. Marinduque and Palawan remarkably brought down their poverty incidence by about half the level in 2012.

Thus, the desired outcome is to reduce poverty, specifically in agriculture, fishery, and provinces where poverty incidence is very high.

The sustainable development goals (SDGs), President's 0-10 point socioeconomic agenda, MIMAROPA strategic regional development agenda (SRDA), and principles of good governance are considered to ensure coherent, sustainable, and focused strategies and outcomes.

A harmonized gender and development guidelines checklist on development planning was used to ensure that gender and development issues and concerns, gender equality, and women's empowerment are mainstreamed and integrated in the RDP.

02 Global and Regional Trends and Prospects

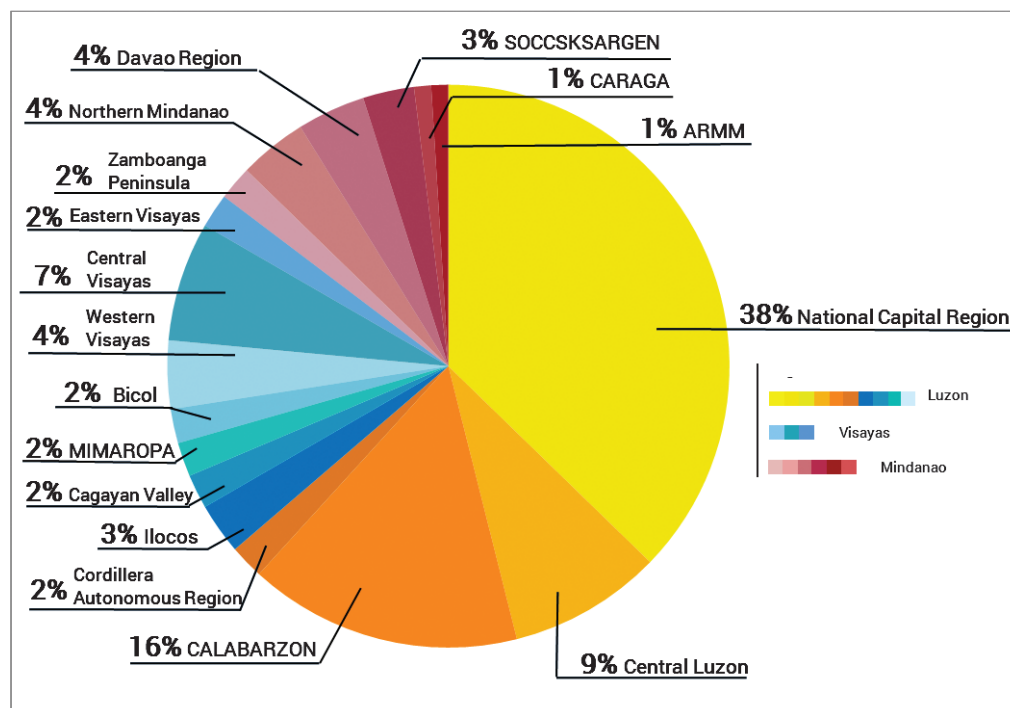
Global and Regional Trends and Prospects

MIMAROPA's strategic location and natural assets such as abundant agricultural products, natural endowments and heritage resources, and industrious people are the advantages of the region. Agriculture and tourism are the primary productive sectors where more investments can contribute to the regional economy. Tourism-driven agricultural development is the main strategy of the regional development plan. Interventions supporting these sectors are vital in the regional development.

In the last five years, the average contribution of MIMAROPA to national economy is 2 per cent. MIMAROPA is among the 13 regions with minimal contribution (1 per cent to 4 per cent) to national economy. NCR, CALABARZON, and Central Luzon which

are part of the mainland Luzon contribute nearly two-thirds to the national economy (refer to Figure 2.1). Central Visayas has 7 per cent contribution. These regions have diverse activities on manufacturing, commercial, and real estate development.

Figure 2.1 Average Regional Share in GDP, 2010-2015



Source: PDP 2017-2022, Chapter 3

With the improved economic activities on agriculture, processing of products, and tourism, MIMAROPA's economy hopes to increase its contribution to the national economy. The following factors will also influence the attainment of the region's development goals and objectives:

Establishment of the MIMAROPA Regional Government Center

The enactment of Republic Act 10879 (MIMAROPA Act) and the effectivity of its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) fully recognized MIMAROPA as a region. One of the provisions of the IRR is the establishment of the regional center in Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro. It requires all government offices to locate their regional offices in Calapan City. At present, there are only twelve (12) regional offices in Calapan City. To operationalize this, the RDC MIMAROPA approved the creation of a management committee to facilitate the transfer of all regional offices and oversee the establishment of regional government center (RGC). The establishment of the MIMAROPA RGC in Calapan City will strengthen one of the government thrusts to decongest Metro Manila. Establishing the RGC within the region and the full staff complementation of the regional line agencies will foster efficient delivery of government services to its constituent and provide locational advantages in the host economy which include employment generation, time and cost savings, efficient government transactions, potential income for local suppliers and businesses,

and open new opportunities for investments.

Locating the regional offices in one government center will improve coordination and integrate development undertakings in the region. The City Government of Calapan is expected to play an important role being the host city of the regional government center, one of the leading urban areas in the region. Calapan City must invest in basic facilities and services such as power and water utilities, waste management, social services, transportation, and urban management.

ASEAN Economic Integration and BIMP-EAGA Vision 2025

The principal goal of the ASEAN economic community integration is to make ASEAN member states a single market and production area. To attain that goal, member countries will implement common policies and reforms to facilitate the free flow of goods and services, investments, capital, and skilled labor. The Philippines and MIMAROPA will benefit from the ASEAN integration in terms of bigger market for products and services. That could be realized by making markets, goods, and services from MIMAROPA more competitive and comply with world-class quality standards and lower production costs.

There are number of completed value chain analysis (VCA) on major crops of the region. The next step is the incorporation of the recommendations

from VCA and commodity system studies in the regular government programs and adoption by private industry players. It is an opportunity for the regional government offices to synchronize their interventions on product development and promotion. RDC can promote convergence of projects among farmers, entrepreneurs, and government offices. It is noteworthy that the region have comparative advantage on selected commodities and to participate with other regions in global value chain. The ASEAN market is an opportunity for the MSMEs to expand its market and operations.

For tourism, the national tourism organizations of ASEAN have adopted tourism standards. The ASEAN tourism standards contain guidelines and process for the certification of six services such as green hotel, food and beverage services, public rest rooms, homestay, eco-tourism, and tourism heritage. These standards are very tough to follow but they will ensure the competitiveness of the region's tourism enterprises.

International cruise ships regularly visit the region particularly, Puerto Princesa City, Coron, El Nido, Sibuyan Island, Tubbataha Reef, and Apo Reef National Parks. The visits provide opportunities to develop tourism. In the first quarter of 2016, ten (10) international cruise ships visited the region bringing more than 14,000 tourists. Integrating culture and agri-tourism services will encourage the tourists to stay longer in the region.

Another important opportunity for the region, particularly Palawan, is the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-

Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA). The link of Palawan to the East ASEAN countries will provide the region additional opportunities to participate in trade, investment, tourism, and cultural exchange in the said areas. The region must be ready to embrace its role in the BIMP-EAGA in terms of aligning its policies and processes on trade, tourism, and investments.

MSME Development

MSMEs on agriculture, industry, and services will increase employment, livelihood, and strengthen economy. MSMEs in MIMAROPA created more than 90,000 jobs in the region and generated economic and social benefits particularly in rural areas. However, the growth and competitiveness of MSMEs are constrained by weak business and investment conditions, economies of scale, and quality standards, labor productivity, efficiency, and integration of products and marketing.

Convergence activities on R&D and science and technology among state universities and colleges (SUCs), regional line agencies (RLAs), and other relevant institutions will benefit the MSMEs by introducing new technologies to support the expansion of economies of scale, bringing down transaction and operating costs, developing new products and services, and better marketing and distribution mechanisms. Formulation of industry roadmaps for agribusiness will provide MSMEs options to improve competitiveness of their products.

Physical Connectivity

The physical connectivity of MIMAROPA is a major area of concern of the region. Accessibility and interconnection will create new opportunities and remove physical development constraints. Assistance and interventions in times of calamities will be easier if access within and outside the region is improved. The role of MIMAROPA in the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) afforded the region to access new markets for its agricultural products. The region can capitalize more on this being the link between the mainland Luzon and Visayas areas through SRNH.

Within the region, improving transportation facilities and services is critical to agriculture and tourism development. This includes connecting remote or island municipalities to main island. This will induce trade, tourism, and movement of people, goods, and services. Outside the region, there are other linkages which need to be strengthened through ports and airports. Besides CALABARZON, there are specific routes connected to Bicol, Western, Central, and Eastern Visayas regions that are being utilized. This provides an opportunity to develop tourism circuits. Another area for improvement is connectivity through internet and telephone services.

Given the potentials of the region in agriculture and tourism, unlocking the region's capacity for economic growth requires establishing tourism circuits, addressing infrastructure requirements, integrating and continuing the conduct of

trade and tourism fair. The continuous conduct of festivals will enhance the tourism promotion activities being undertaken in the region. The objective of the festival is to place MIMAROPA in the favorite destinations of the country.

The following are the critical projects in MIMAROPA to support physical connectivity, agriculture, tourism, and trade:

Establishment of an Integrated Port System

This will provide world-class sea transport service within the region and connect the region to other regions.

Completion of the Puerto Galera-Abra de Ilog Road

This will complete land transport connection within Mindoro Island. It will create tourism linkages between Oriental and Occidental Mindoro, and Northern Palawan.

Completion of Puerto Princesa Airport

The new airport with world-class facilities and services will attract new airlines from Taipei, Guanzhou, Macau, Shanghai, Hongkong, and Incheon (South Korea). Puerto Princesa City Airport will have a 24-hour operation to accommodate evening flights.

Power Development

Power development in Mindoro Island such as geothermal and hydro is at various stage of development. The National Grid Corporation of the Philippines is awaiting the decision of Energy Regulatory Commission to implement the Batangas-Mindoro Interconnection Project to

connect Mindoro island in the power source of mainland Luzon. Target completion is 2023. This will lessen power generation costs and provide more reliable supply of electricity.

The policy of the present administration on increasing investment in infrastructure up to 7.2 percent of the gross domestic product by 2022 is promising. Dubbed as the golden age of infrastructure, infrastructure spending would reach up to US\$168 billion over 5,000 projects nationwide. The government is eyeing funds from China, Japan, and other development partners including private sector under the public-private participation (PPP) scheme. The MIMAROPA hopes to generate substantial share from this amount given the current drive of the RDC Chairman to increase number of infrastructure projects through submission of well-prepared proposals from various government agencies and local government units.

Processing industries

The region shall promote processing and semi-processing industries given the availability of agricultural commodities and minerals. Establishment of ecozones and agro-industrial centers shall be supported given the availability of qualified workforce by aligning training

and education to the requirements of the emerging industries in the region.

Natural disasters/climate change

The region's economy is adversely affected by natural disasters, particularly the agriculture and forestry sectors. It affects the region's poverty situation since employment is higher in the agriculture sector. The local government units must strengthen their DRR-CCA systems and activities.

Support of private sector and local government units (LGUs)

The role of private sector and LGUs is highlighted in the plan. The private sector shall be supported to invest in industries such as agriculture, tourism, information and communication technology, and infrastructure development. Local government units must provide the right environment for private investments by improving the ease of doing business, peace and security, and local tax incentives. LGUs must tap possible Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects in areas such as agriculture, tourism, water, health, and transportation, among others.

03

Overlay of Economic Growth, Demographic Trends, and Physical Characteristics

Overlay of Economic Growth, Demographic Trends, and Physical Characteristics

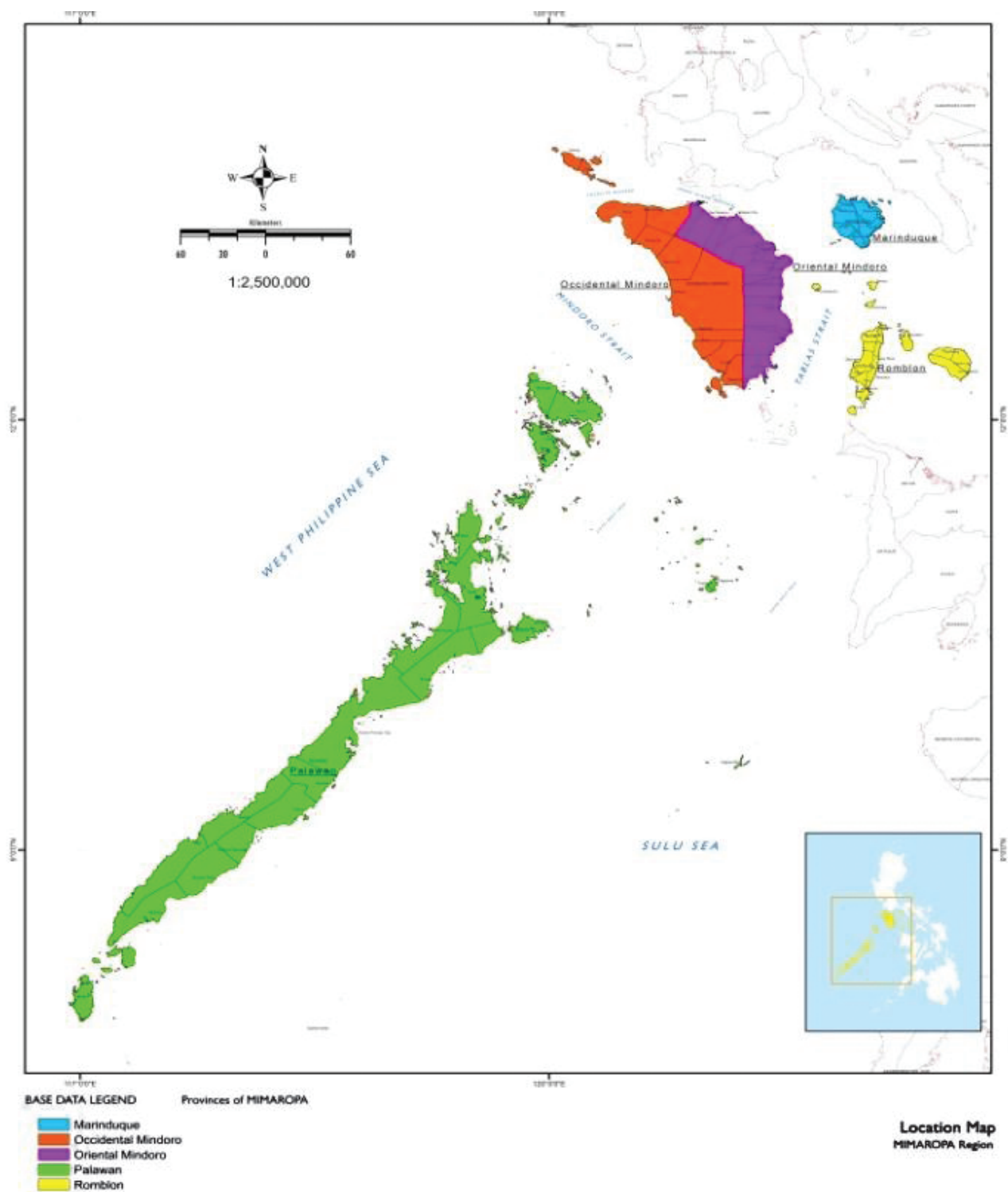
Republic Act 10879 establishes the Southwestern Tagalog Region as MIMAROPA Region composed of the following provinces and cities: Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, Romblon, Calapan City, and Puerto Princesa City.

Physical Characteristics

Geographic Location

MIMAROPA lies in the quadrant of 7°45'14"00 North Latitude and 116°30' 122°50 East Longitude. It is bounded by the West Philippine Sea in the West, Tayabas Bay in the North, Sibuyan Sea in the East, and Sulu Sea in the South.

Figure 3.1 Map of MIMAROPA Region



Map Sources:
ASTER Global Digital Elevation Model (ASTER GDEM), Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LP DAAC), located at USGS/EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
http://spdata.crk.gov/City/Principal/Boundary/Map/NARBA/NARBA_Road_Network/NARBA_Land_Use/Map/NARBA
Map prepared using the Geographic Coordinate System World Geodetic System (WGS 1984). Administrative boundaries are most approximate.



NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MIMAROPA Region

Land Area

MIMAROPA has a total land area of 29,606.25 square kilometers or 9.87 per cent of the country's total land area.

Palawan has the biggest land area in the region with 17,030.75 square kilometers (including Puerto Princesa City). This is followed by the provinces of Occidental Mindoro with 5,851.09 square kilometers and Oriental Mindoro 4,238.38 square kilometers. The provinces of Romblon and Marinduque have the smallest area

with only 1,533.45 square kilometers and Marinduque 952.58 square kilometers, respectively.

Political Subdivisions

MIMAROPA is composed of 5 provinces and 2 cities, with 71 municipalities and 1,459 barangays (refer to Table 3.1). The 5 provinces are further divided into 8 congressional districts: 3 in Palawan, 2 in Oriental Mindoro, and 1 each in the provinces Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, and Romblon.

Table 3.1 MIMAROPA Politico-Administrative Subdivisions, 2015

PROVINCE	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS	CITIES	MUNICIPALITIES	BARANGAYS
Marinduque	1	-	6	218
Occidental Mindoro	1	-	11	163
Oriental Mindoro	2	1	14	426
Palawan	3	1	23	433
Romblon	1	-	17	219
MIMAROPA	8	2	71	1,459

Source: Department of the Interior and Local Government MIMAROPA

Topography, Elevation, and Slope

Approximately 71.82 per cent or 1,944,855.75 hectares of the region's total land area have slopes ranging from 8 to 50. These areas are devoted to production and protection forest. The 24.40 per cent or 660,774.25 hectares with slope ranging from 0 to 8 are areas highly suitable for non-forest purposes such as agricultural, settlements, industrial, and other related uses. The remaining 3.77 per cent or 102,336 hectares are classified as

miscellaneous and unsurveyed areas. MIMAROPA's landscape is generally considered hilly. About 47 per cent or 1,217,686 hectares are characterized with elevation of not more than 500 meters and slopes greater than 18 per cent.

Water Resources

As of 2015, MIMAROPA region has 69 classified water bodies. These consist of 26 principal rivers, 28 minor rivers, 14 coastal and marine waters, and 1 lake.

Land Resources

MIMAROPA is an archipelagic region having no land border with other regions. Its coastline measures about 17.7 per cent of the country's total coastline or 6,428 km.

There are six major islands in the region namely: Palawan, Marinduque, Mindoro Island, Tablas, Romblon, and Sibuyan. The region is also home to the Kalayaan group of islands, popularly known as the Spratly islands. The Spratly Islands are important for economic and strategic reasons. The Spratly area holds potentially significant, but largely unexplored, reserves of oil and natural gas. It is a productive area for world fishing and one of the busiest areas of commercial shipping traffic. There is an on-going territorial dispute between the Philippines, China, Vietnam, Taiwan, Brunei, and Malaysia involving the Spratly area.

Geologic Features

The islands in the region are made up mainly of limestone, igneous, volcanic, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks. Some areas in the region form part of the continental block represented by northern Palawan, southern Mindoro, Romblon Island Group and Buruanga Peninsula in Panay Island, collectively known as the North Palawan Block. Rock suites in this block include schists that are characteristically rich in quartz and chert formations that have been dated Late Permian to Jurassic periods.²

Mineral Resources

MIMAROPA is rich in mineral resources both metallic and non-metallic. The metallic minerals in the region are nickeliferous laterite, copper, gold, silver, chromite, iron, manganese, mercury, molybdenum, lead and zinc. Non-metallic minerals are marble, limestone, cement raw materials, silica sand, construction materials, feldspar, talc, barite and sulphur.³ The region is host to three large scale nickel mining and two mineral processing companies all found in the southern part of Palawan. Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation, Berong Nickel Corporation, Citinickel Mines and Development Corporation, Coral Bay Nickel Corporation and Unichamp Mineral Philippines, Inc. which are big exporters to Japan, China and Australia.

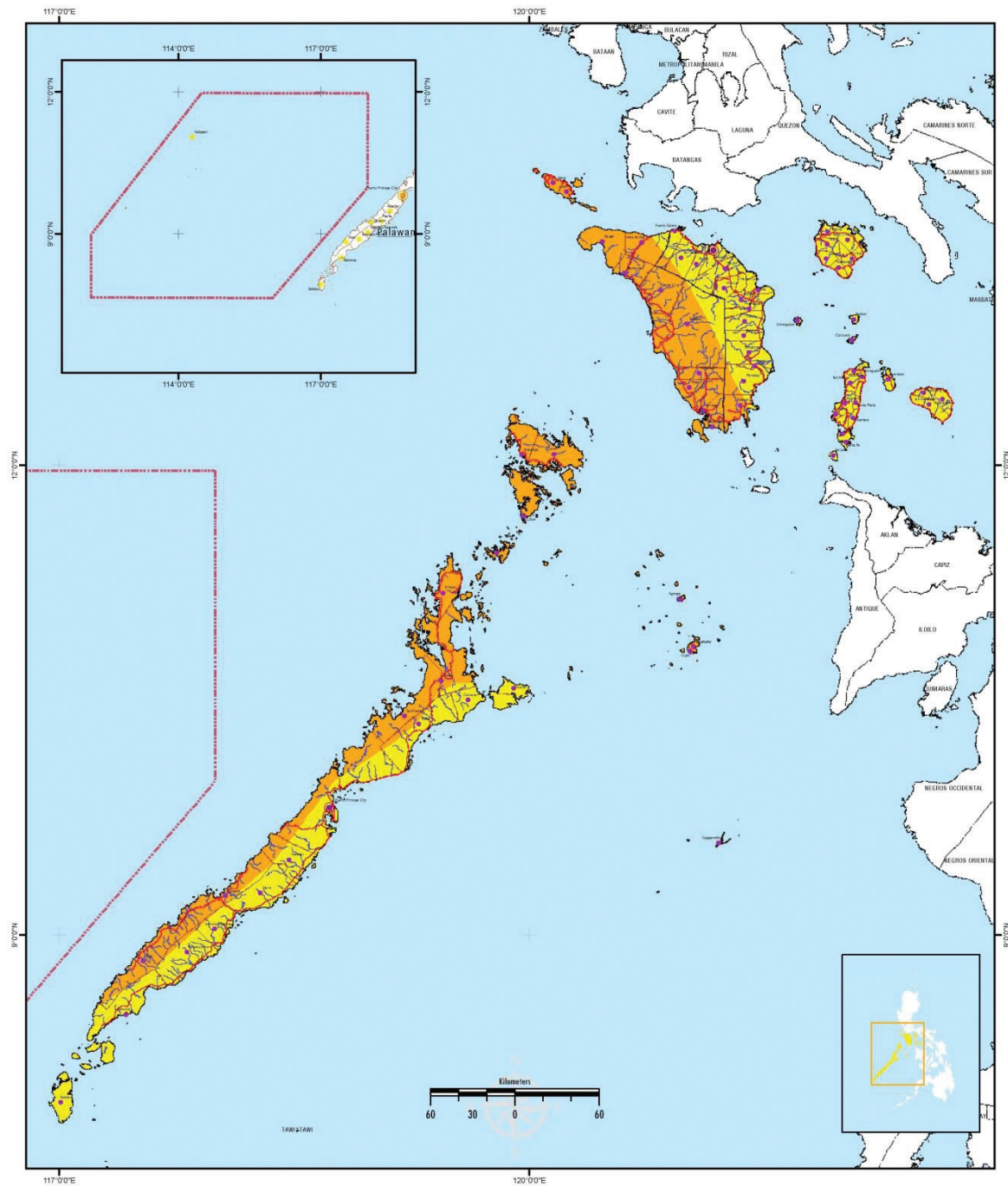
Climate and Weather

The region has 2 types of climate: type I and type III. Climatic type I is characterized by two pronounced seasons: dry from November to April and wet for the rest of the year. Rain under this climate type is mostly produced by the Southwest Monsoon. Climatic type III is characterized by seasons that are not very pronounced, relatively dry from November to April and wet during the rest of the year can be observed in the eastern area of Palawan, Romblon, Marinduque, and Oriental Mindoro (refer to Figure 3.2).

²Philippine Geology and Mineralization an Overview (www.kalibo.tukcedo.nl/geol_minerals.pdf)

³MIMAROPA RDP 2011-2016

Figure 3.2 Climate Type Map



- LEGEND**
- City
 - Municipality
 - National Roads
 - PD 1596 Kalayaan Island Group
 - Provincial Boundaries
 - City Municipal Boundaries
 - Rivers
- Climate Type**
- Type I - 2 Pronounced Seasons, Wet and Dry
 - Type III - No Pronounced Maximum Rain Period w/ Short Dry Season

**CLIMATE TYPE MAP
MODIFIED CORONAS CLASSIFICATION
MIMAROPA**



NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MIMAROPA Region

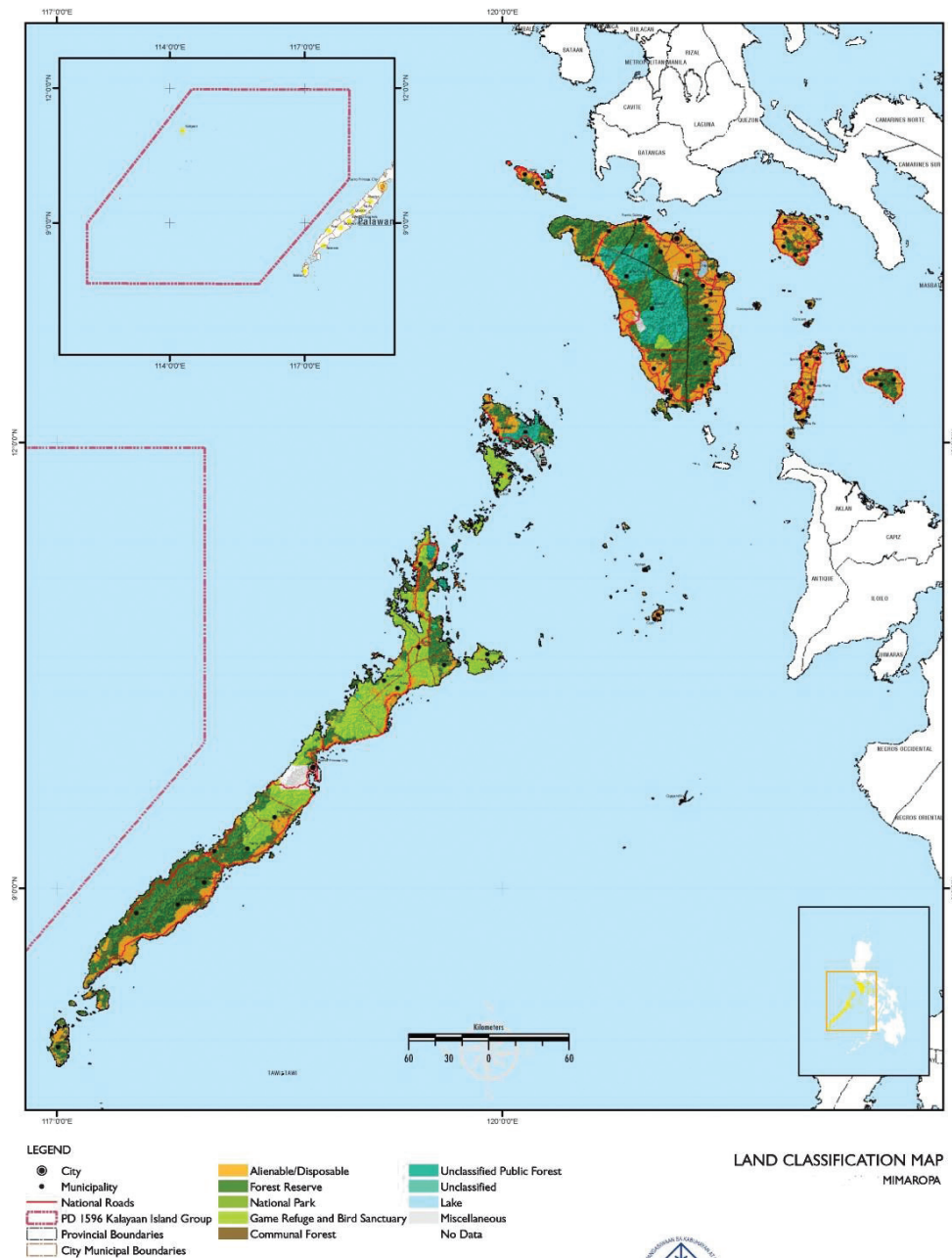
Map Sources:
ASTER Global Digital Elevation Model, Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LP DAAC), located at USGS/EROS, Sioux Falls, SD <http://lpdaac.usgs.gov>; City/Municipal Boundary Map, NAMRIA; Road Network, NAMRIA; Rivers, NAMRIA. Map prepared using the Geographic Coordinate System World Geodetic System 1984 Datum. Administrative boundaries are trace approximate.

Land Classification

The region has a total land area of 2,745,601 hectares. 36.37 per cent of which or 998,563 hectares are certified

alienable and disposable (A&D) lands. 63.63 per cent or 1,747,038 hectares are forest lands which are divided into classified and unclassified forest lands (refer to Figure 3.3)

Figure 3.3 Land Classification Map



Existing Land Use

Palawan has the largest area devoted to agricultural production with a total of 323,452.40 hectares (refer to Table 3.2). This was followed by the provinces of Romblon with 113,951.04 hectares and Oriental Mindoro with 111,510.59.

Marinduque and Occidental Mindoro have the smallest areas for agricultural production with 92,797.74 hectares and 78,331.67 hectares, respectively.

Other areas are utilized as mineral reservations, military reservations, and civil reservations.

Table 3.2 Existing Land Use by Province, MIMAROPA

LAND USE	MARINDUQUE	OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	ORIENTAL MINDORO	PALAWAN	ROMBLON
Agricultural	92,797.74	78,331.67	111,510.59	323,452.40	113,951.04
Residential	575.70	6,360.79	1,319.07	5,536.20	24,360.55
Industrial	74.87	18.92		550.12	954.91
Commercial	559.71	1,196.51		377.03	
Others	744.00	156,817.30	8,130.00	158,735.25	84.74

Source: CY 2014 ENR Information and Statistics, DENR MIMAROPA

Economic Development

Regional Economic Performance

MIMAROPA ranked 15th among the regions. The region's economy decelerated from 8.3 per cent in 2014 to 1.7 per cent in 2015. The region missed its 2015 target in the updated regional development plan (RDP) which was set at 4.2 per cent to 5.2 per cent.

Among 9 regions which posted decelerated growths, MIMAROPA downscaled the most at 6.6 percentage points. Contraction in the industry sector weighed heavily on the region's economy.

Industry contracted by 5.3 per cent in 2015, a reversal from its remarkable 17.1

percent growth in 2014. The 7.3 percent slump in mining and quarrying, which accounted for 61.0 percent of the sector's output, pulled down industry's overall growth.

Services kept MIMAROPA's economy afloat and remained to be the biggest contributor to the region's economy with a 43.7 per cent share in 2015, slightly higher than its 41.5 per cent share in 2014. The acceleration was brought about by the expansion in the following sub-industries: other services, from 5.4 per cent to 12.9 per cent; transportation, storage and communication, from 7.1 per cent to 8.9 per cent; trade, from 2.9 per cent to 8.3 per cent.

The AHFF sector accelerated from 2.3 per cent to 2.8 per cent in 2015. Agriculture and fishery managed to grow at a slower

pace along with improved fishing. Agriculture and forestry slowed down from 4.0 per cent to 3.8 per cent.

Demographic Characteristics

National and Regional Context

In 2015, MIMAROPA's population reached 2,963,360 or 2.93 per cent of the country's total population. Among the 18 regions in the country, MIMAROPA ranked 17th in the 2015 population census with 100 person per square kilometer.

Size and Density

MIMAROPA is lightly populated. Its population density of 100 persons per square kilometer is 3 times lower than the population density at the national level which is 337 persons per square kilometer.

In the last 15 years, the region's population density increased from 78 persons per square kilometer (2000) to 100 persons per square kilometer (2015). This was lower than the national average of 255 persons per square kilometer in 2000 and 337 persons per square kilometer in 2015. Marinduque recorded the highest density at 246 persons per square kilometer in 2015. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with 199 persons per square kilometer, Romblon with 191 persons per square kilometer, and Occidental Mindoro with 83 persons per square kilometer. Palawan recorded the lowest density with 58 persons per

square kilometer excluding Puerto Princesa City.

Palawan recorded the highest population with 1,104,585. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with 844,059 and Occidental Mindoro with 487,414. The provinces of Romblon and Marinduque recorded the lowest population with 292,781 and 234,521, respectively.

Growth Rate and Doubling Time

In the last three censal periods: 2000, 2010, and 2015, population growth rate in the region is lower than the national growth rate (refer to Table 3.3).

Among the 5 provinces, Palawan recorded the highest population growth rate with 2.38 per cent. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro with 1.64 per cent and Oriental Mindoro with 1.41 per cent. The provinces of Romblon and Marinduque registered the lowest growth rate from 2000 to 2015 with 0.67 per cent and 0.50 percent, respectively.

Given the region's current annual average growth rate of 1.47 per cent, MIMAROPA's population can double in 47 years.

Table 3.3 Population and Population Growth Rate by Province, MIMAROPA, 2000, 2010, and 2015

REGION/PROVINCE	POPULATION			POPULATION GROWTH RATE		
	2000	2010	2015	2000-2010	2010-2015	2000-2015
Philippines	76,506,928	92,337,852	100,981,437	1.90	1.72	1.84
MIMAROPA	2,299,229	2,744,671	2,963,360	1.79	1.47	1.68
Marinduque	217,392	227,828	234,521	0.47	0.55	0.50
Occidental Mindoro	380,250	452,971	487,414	1.76	1.40	1.64
Oriental Mindoro	681,818	785,602	844,059	1.43	1.38	1.41
Palawan (excluding Puerto Princesa City)	593,500	771,667	849,469	2.66	1.84	2.38
Puerto Princesa City	161,912	222,673	255,116	3.24	2.62	3.02
Romblon	264,357	283,930	292,781	0.72	0.59	0.67

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) MIMAROPA Region

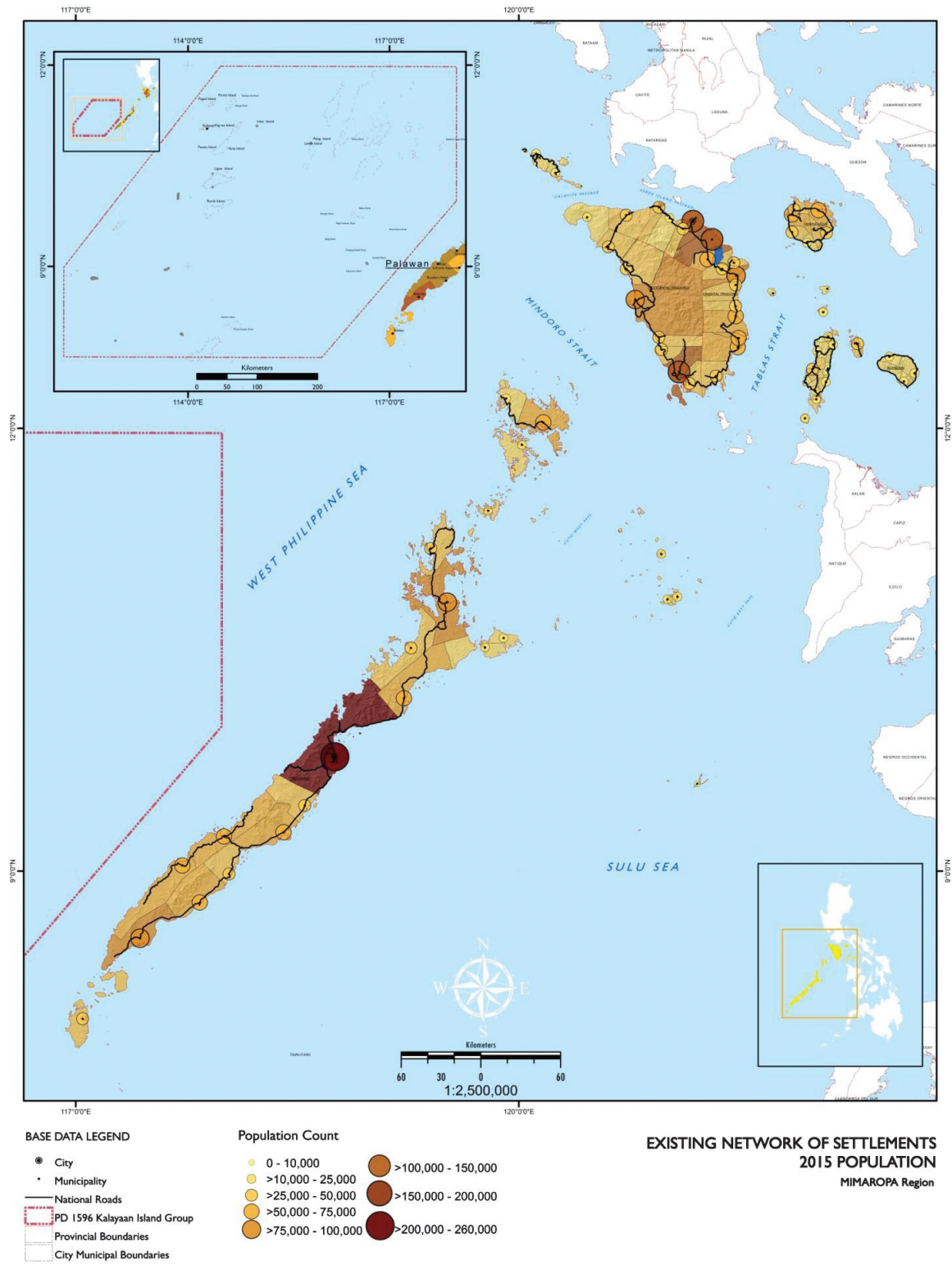
Network of Settlements

Among the 2 cities and 71 municipalities, Puerto Princesa City recorded the highest population with 255,116. This was followed by San Jose (Occidental Mindoro), Calapan City, and Naujan with

population of 143,430, 133,893, and 102,998, respectively.

Six municipalities in the region have population less than 10,000. These are the municipalities of Cagayancillo and Kalayaan in Palawan and Banton, Concepcion, Ferrol, and Santa Maria in Romblon (refer to Figure 3.4).

Figure 3.4 Existing Network of Settlements



MIMAROPA Spatial Framework

MIMAROPA being an archipelagic region shall adopt island development as overall spatial strategy. The four major islands namely: Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan shall be developed based on their distinctive economic and physical attributes and unique resource endowments.

Each island or province shall have particular area of product and industry specialization based on its comparative advantages.

Each province shall be further developed according to distinct roles and emerging industries/business opportunities (refer to Table 3.4).

Table 3.4 Roles of Provinces and their New Emerging Industries

PROVINCE	ROLE IN THE REGION/COUNTRY	NEW EMERGING INDUSTRIES
Marinduque	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butterfly capital of MIMAROPA • Lenten Capital of the Philippines (Moriones Festival) • Tourism hub hosting historical, and cultural landmarks (Battle of Pulang Lupa marker, Battle of Paye marker, Marinduque National Museum, Luzon Datum origin (Balanacan Station)) 	Agribusiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coco coir production • Butterfly industry • Abaca processing • Coconut sugar production
Occidental Mindoro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major producer of agricultural products and fishery and aquaculture products such as Tuna, Milkfish and Tiger Prawns • Region's top producer of corn • Region's top producer of onions • Top producer of salt in the region which supplies neighboring provinces of Southern Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and Metro Manila from its production of iodized and non-iodized salt • Tourism attractions which offers cultural/historical heritages, fine sandy beaches, coral reefs, mangrove forests and nature sports and recreational sites 	Agribusiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tuna • pickled fruits and vegetables • aquamarine processing • salt industry • seaweeds • pastillas • handicrafts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various diverse and unique tourist attractions such as Mts. Iglit-Baco National Park, F.B. Harrison Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary, Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary, Lubang's Lt. Onoda Trail and Caves, Sablayan's Apo Reef, Island to Island Zipline (the longest zipline in Asia), and the tamaraw or Mindoro dwarf buffalo in Mount Iglit, Mount Calavite and areas near the Sablayan Penal Settlement

PROVINCE	ROLE IN THE REGION/COUNTRY	NEW EMERGING INDUSTRIES
Oriental Mindoro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway for trade and investments in the eastern side of the country • One of the premier tourism destinations in the country: Puerto Galera as "One of the Most Beautiful Bays in the World" declared in 2005 by the Most Beautiful Bays in the World Club, a French-based organization supported by UNESCO, Naujan Lake as one of Ramsar's 'Wetland of International Importance" declared in November 1999 and Bulalacao beaches • Food Basket for Luzon and Visayas Region, providing a reliable and stable supply of agri-based, aquaculture, marine products and livestock to CALABARZON, the National Capital Region and the provinces of Aklan, Iloilo, Capi, Guimaras, Negros Oriental and Antique • Region and country's top producer of calamansi • Region's top producer of banana • Region's top producer of palay 	<p>Agribusiness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • banana chips • rice-based delicacies • calamansi purees and concentrates • virgin coconut oil • bamboo-based products • lamayo, dried biya and seaweeds • handicrafts and novelties and décor crafts from abaca, buri and cogon <p>Tourism activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mountain climbing at Mt. Halcon in Baco • water rafting in San Teodoro • island hopping in Bulalacao • scuba diving and health and wellness in Puerto Galera
Palawan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major tourism hub in the region hosting two world heritage sites (Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park and Puerto Princesa Underground River) • Highest contributor to the regional and national fisheries production • Region's and country's top producer of seaweeds • Region's and country's top producer of cashew 	<p>Agribusiness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) cacao in Brookespoint (2) seaweeds in Dumaran (3) pineapple in Rizal and Bataraza (4) banana in Rizal and Bataraza <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palm oil industry
Romblon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major supplier of fish and aquaculture products. • Top marble producer/processor and supplier in the region and in the country. • Host to tourism destinations such as natural, historical, cultural attractions, and fine beaches. (e.g. Carabao Island, San Jose and Mt. Guiting-guiting National Park) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft broom production (walis tambo) • Fish and other marine products processing • Meat processing • Peanut butter production • Coconut oil processing

Each island or province has its own agri-tourism destinations which are mostly located in rural areas. Transportation infrastructure in the region shall be improved to eliminate physical constraints in mobility and accessibility of both tourism and production areas.

Island development as the overall spatial strategy shall be coupled with the 3 land use strategies of the Luzon spatial development framework and the national spatial strategy.

Concentration

Concentration aims to increase overall densities of settlements in terms of population and economic activities as indicated in the national spatial strategy. Through agglomeration and economies of scale, the following benefits associated to urbanization shall be achieved:

- Increased innovation, creativity and economic activities and, in particular, greater opportunities for employment and poverty reduction
- Availability of a larger variety and higher levels of services
- Reduced encroachment into agricultural land and other environmentally sensitive, constrained, or protected areas (compared to low density sprawl)

Growth Centers in MIMAROPA

Growth centers expected to play an important role in the socio-economic development of the region.

Regional Centers

Calapan City and Puerto Princesa City serve as gateways from Luzon to the Southern Philippines and vice versa. Calapan provides access to the Western Visayas through the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH), while Puerto Princesa City to Zamboanga and Davao through the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP EAGA)

route from Brooke's Point, Palawan. Both centers offer higher level of services and opportunities to the increasing population in the region. Moreover, Calapan and Puerto Princesa City are seen as major transportation hubs for agriculture and tourism within its periphery.⁴

Subregional Centers

MIMAROPA region has 3 subregional centers. These are the municipalities of Boac in Marinduque, Romblon in Romblon, and San Jose in Occidental Mindoro. Boac serves as the center for manufacturing and processing center for agri-based products considering its accessibility through Cawit Port and Gasan Airport. Romblon is characterized by having agricultural economy with copra farming, fishing, and rice farming as the main agricultural activities. It caters the provincial transportation hub which links the province to Manila, Quezon, Batangas, Cebu, Capiz, Oriental Mindoro, and Occidental Mindoro. San Jose serves as the economic, financial, cultural, and educational center of Occidental Mindoro. It caters the largest commercial port and airport in the province.

Provincial Centers

There are 10 provincial centers in MIMAROPA: Santa Cruz in Marinduque, Sablayan and Mamburao in Occidental Mindoro, Puerto Galera and Pinamalayan in Oriental Mindoro, Brooke's Point, Coron, Roxas, and Taytay in Palawan, and Odiongan in Romblon. These municipalities provide urban services to

⁴Luzon Spatial Development Framework 2015-2045

adjacent towns or cluster of settlements with minimum population size of 50,000. Santa Cruz serves as the satellite growth center complementing the industry needs of the municipality of Boac particularly on fishery and marine resources since it is being promoted as the seafood capital of Marinduque.

Sablayan is one of the hosts to designated national park, biodiversity conservation areas, natural park and cultural structures such as old churches, lighthouses, prison penal farm and museum for cultural and heritage appreciation.

Mamburao serves as the administrative capital of Occidental Mindoro which is also the primary medical center in the province which offers high end health services (e.g. 16-slice CT scan services).

Puerto Galera is identified as the center of recreational services and premier tourism destination in Oriental Mindoro.

Pinamalayan and Roxas shall serve as trade centers for the central and southern portions of the province. They also serve as jump-off points to adjacent provinces – Pinamalayan as alternative entry and exit point to Marinduque while Roxas as jump off point to Caticlan (Western Visayas).

Brooke's Point shall serve as linkage between Palawan and Labuan, Malaysia through the Brooke's Point – Labuan Roll-on/Roll-off (RORO) route which is expected to bring in business opportunities in the province as part of the ongoing trade, tourism, and industry development under the auspices of BIMP-EAGA.

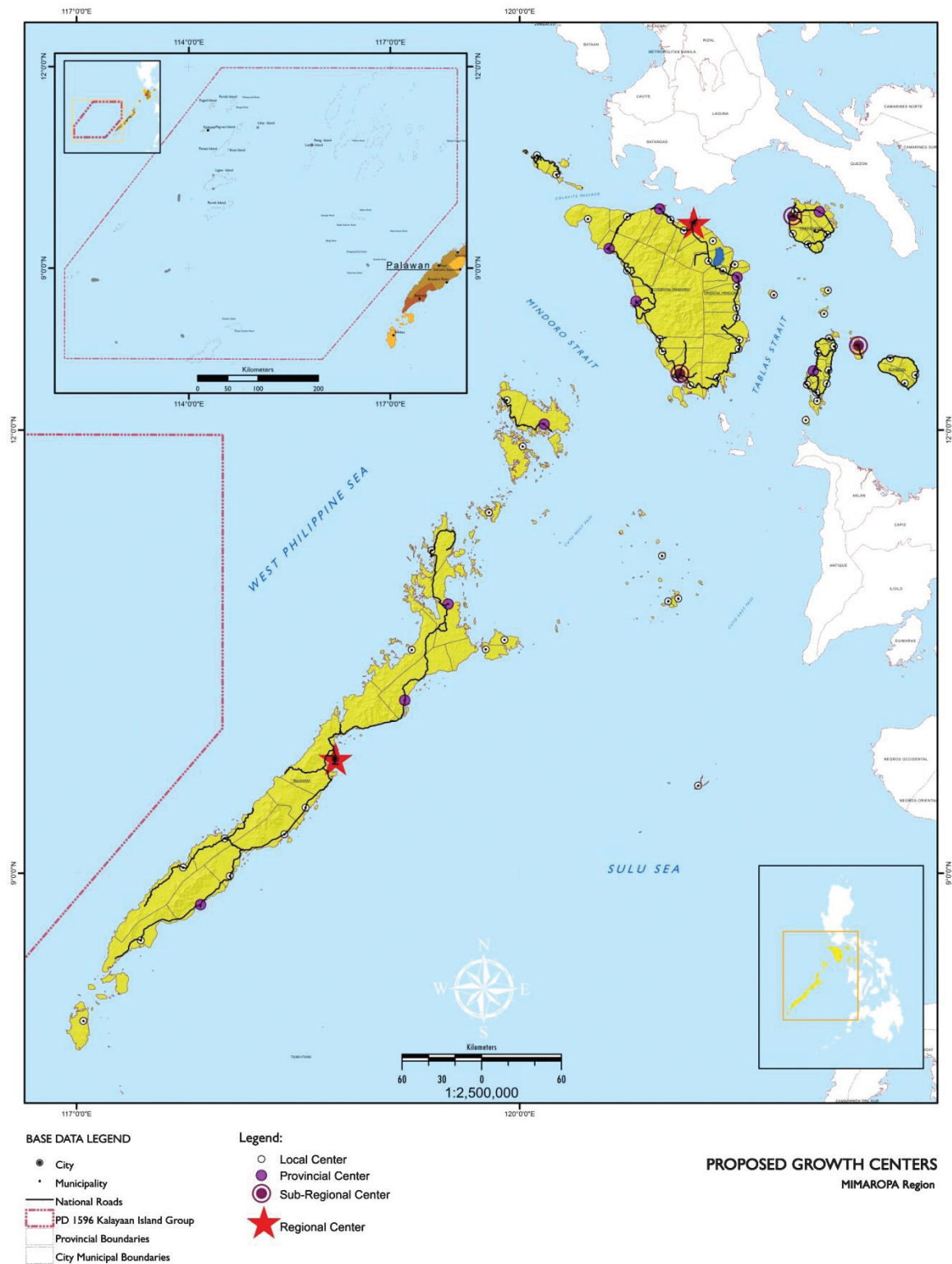
Coron has a national sea port which serves as a transit point of people from Busuanga and Culion as well as those from the coastal municipality of Linapacan.

Taytay will promote trade and the consequent economic activities in the northern mainland of Palawan through the RORO port in Bantulan which serves as link to Western Visayas.

Odiongan serves as inter-regional vessels to Aklan, Iloilo, Manila, Batangas, Mindoro, and other neighboring provinces. It is the center of education, major business, and trade and commerce in Romblon.

All other municipalities are considered as local centers. A total of 58 local settlement centers with population size of less than 50,000 forms the lowest level of hierarchy in the region (refer to Figure 3.5)

Figure 3.5 Proposed Growth Centers



Establish a Regional Government Center

The implementing rules and regulations of the MIMAROPA Act (RA 10879) directs all MIMAROPA regional government offices that have not yet established their offices in Calapan City to prepare their transfer plans containing the activities, logistic preparations, timelines and budgetary requirements. Calapan City must provide the basic facilities and amenities to facilitate the relocation of the regional offices of the national agencies from Manila.

Locating RLAs in Calapan City will act as stimuli to MIMAROPA's growth and development. The establishment of regional government center (RGC) shall promote efficient and effective delivery of public services. Additional revenues for the establishment of RGC are expected to contribute in the local economy. The cost and time savings from reduced transaction costs are added benefits.

The RDC, through its Regional Government Center Management Committee (RGCMC) shall be responsible for coordinating all activities in relation to the development of the RGC. The activities include the preparation of a master plan study for the establishment of the RGC.

Connectivity

The strategy for connectivity of the MIMAROPA region follows the connectivity framework for Luzon. It aims to enhance communication, transportation (land, air, and sea), and economic linkages to attain the following:

- increase access and improve market efficiency
- manage growth and the development of settlements according to specific urban and regional plans
- reduce vulnerability during emergency situations by increasing redundancy of transportation routes, communication and other infrastructure facilities

One of the major challenges in the development of MIMAROPA region is physical connectivity because of its island geography. Except for Oriental Mindoro and Occidental Mindoro, the provinces are separated from each other by sea.

Long travel time to and from MIMAROPA, high transport cost, and poor road conditions discourage investors from investing in the region. Improvement in the transport services will reduce transportation cost, promote more economic activities, and improve delivery of basic social services.

Transport in the region is multimodal through air, sea and land transport. Water transport is the main transportation system serving the trade and industry sectors and majority of the population to and from municipalities within MIMAROPA and other regions.

Improve Inter Island Connectivity

The RDC, during its 39th full council meeting held on 23 March 2012 in Quezon City, adopted the framework for the MITDP.

The MITDP provided a recommended list of short, medium and long term projects

that perform primary inter-island roles in MIMAROPA's intermodal transport system, integration to programs that enable project owners to raise the level of project preparation, through the provision of project development assistance, capacity building training and handholding, a set of policy shifts to enhance regional development

effectiveness, and a cyclic lifecycle, so that updates can be undertaken over the course of many years in response to changing contexts, attitudes and partnerships.

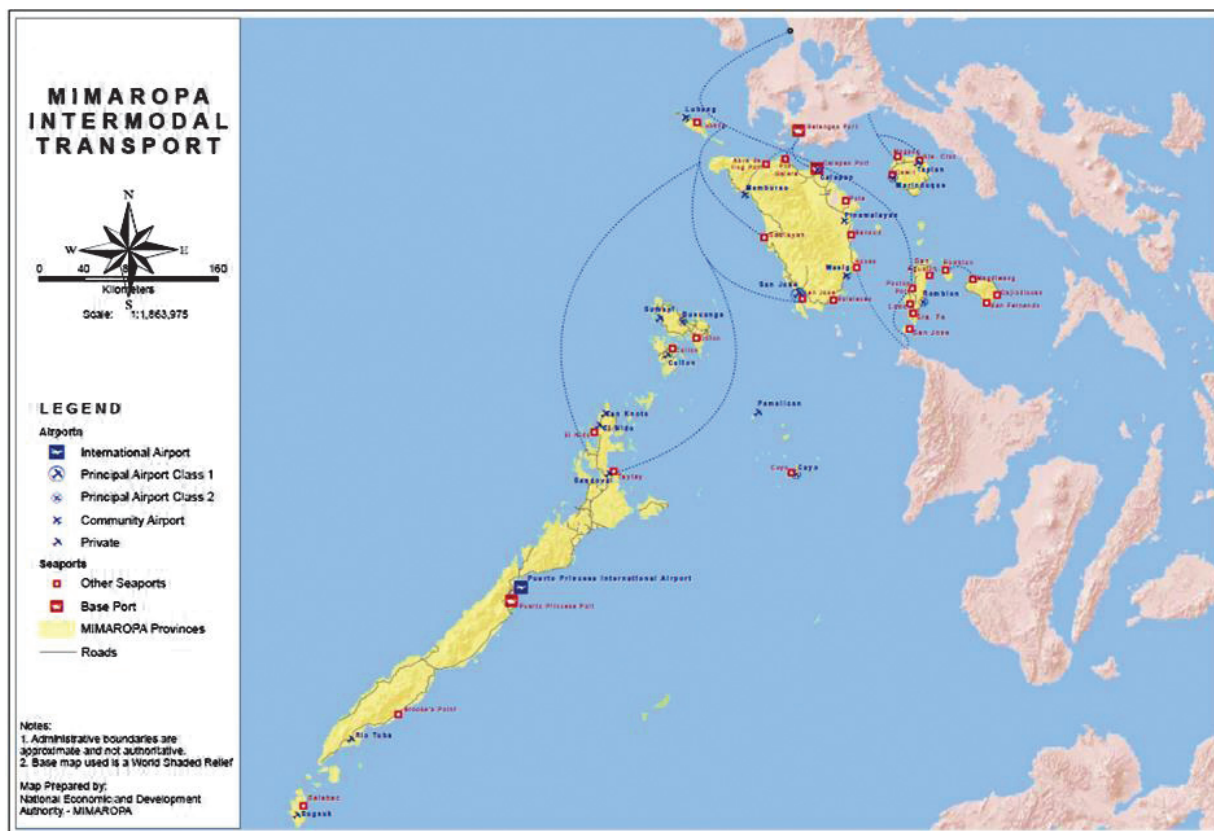
Designated transport hubs were identified in the MITDP (refer to Figures 3.6 and 3.7).

Figure 3.6 Transport Hubs in MIMAROPA

Transport Hub:	Inter-Island Role:	Corresponding inter-island Infrastructure:
1. Calapan City	Hub: Oriental Mindoro > Batangas (Region IV-A)	Calapan City Port
2. Balanacan	Hub: Marinduque > Quezon (Region IV-A)	Balanacan Port
3. Cawit	Hub: Marinduque > Oriental Mindoro	Cawit Port
4. Gasan	Hub: Marinduque > Metro Manila	Gasan Airport
5. Odiongan-Alcantara	Hub: Romblon > Oriental Mindoro, Catclan, Manila	Odiongan Port and Tablas Airport
6. Romblon	Hub: Romblon Island > Tablas Island, Sibuyan Island	Romblon Port
7. Magdiwang	Hub: Sibuyan Island > Romblon Island	Magdiwang Port
8. Puerto Galera	Hub: Oriental Mindoro > Batangas, Abra de Ilog	Balatero Port
9. Pala-Pinamalayan	Hub: Oriental Mindoro > Marinduque	Pala Port
10. Raxas	Hub: Oriental Mindoro > Catclan (Region VI)	Raxas Port
11. San Jose	Hub: Occidental Mindoro > Northern Palawan, Manila	San Jose Port
12. Busuanga	Hub: Northern Palawan > Metro Manila	Busuanga Airport
13. Coron	Hub: Northern Palawan > Mainland Palawan	Coron Port
14. Taytay	Hub: Mainland Palawan > Cuyo, Occidental Mindoro	Sandaval Airport and Taytay Port
15. Puerto Princesa	Hub: Palawan > Manila, Cebu City, Davao, Malaysian Borneo	Puerto Princesa Port and Airport
16. Cuyo	Hub: Palawan > Occidental Mindoro, Region VI	Cuyo Port
17. Brooke's Point	Hub: Southern Palawan > Malaysian Borneo	Brooke's Point Port
18. San Agustin	Hub: Tablas > Romblon	San Agustin Port

Source: MIMAROPA Intermodal Transport Development Plan

Figure 3.7 MIMAROPA Intermodal Transport Map



Source: MIMAROPA Intermodal Transport Development Plan

Poor transportation and communication networks in the region lead to difficulty in the delivery of basic and social services in rural areas with difficult to access roads.

The RDC, during its 52nd full council meeting in Palawan passed RDC Resolution No. 2015-052-398 approving the MIMAROPA strategic regional development agenda action plans. The SRDA focuses on critical programs and policies which need to be implemented in short and medium terms. Listed below are the priority areas included in the SRDA.

Port Development

A master plan study on the establishment of an integrated port system in the region

to provide an overall development concept and recommendations for future policies, programs and projects and to address the issues on connectivity, efficiency in cargo handling, and passenger friendly facilities.

Power Development

To ensure provision of adequate and reliable supply of electricity to domestic and industrial users in MIMAROPA, the provinces are directed to complete their respective island power development plans which will be bases for the preparation of the regional power development plan.

Access Roads

The LGUs shall strategic road projects in their locality for implementation by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). Some of the strategic roads include: Dr. Damian Reyes Memorial Road, Boac-Torrijos Interior Road; Victoria-Sablayan Road; Calapan-Naujan-Pola Bypass Road, Completion of National Road Network in Tablas and Sibuyan Island; Southern mainland Palawan Cross Country Road; Concreting of National Road Network in Palawan (Busuanga, Quezon to Rizal); Latud-Canipaan Circumferential Road, and Taytay-Bantulan Road.

Tourism Promotion

Tourism is one of the economic drivers of the region. A regional tourism committee (RTC) was created as a special committee of the RDC on 04 September 2014 to provide policy direction on key tourism

related issues, programs, and projects in MIMAROPA. The annual MIMAROPA Festival is one of the major activities conducted by the region relative to the promotion of agri-tourism in the country. The festival is hosted by the provinces on a rotation basis to promote and market the region as “the Destination of Choice.”

Improve Inter Regional Integration

Inter regional connectivity promotes complementation among regions sharing common boundaries and natural resources. Table 3.5 shows the linkage of MIMAROPA region with the National Capital Region (NCR), Region 4-A (CALABARZON), Region 5 (Bicol Region), Region 6 (Western Visayas), Region 7 (Central Visayas), Region 8 (Eastern Visayas), and Region 11 (Davao Region).

Table 3.5 MIMAROPA Seaport and Airport Inter Regional Linkages

NAME OF PORT	LOCATION	DESTINATION	REGION
Seaport			
Balanacan Port	Mogpog, Marinduque	Lucena City, Quezon	CALABARZON
Cawit Port	Boac, Marinduque	Lucena City, Quezon	CALABARZON
Abra de Ilog Port	Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro	Batangas City, Batangas	CALABARZON
Camanawit Port	San Jose, Occidental Mindoro	Libertad, Antique	Western Visayas
Tilik Port	Lubang Island, Occidental Mindoro	Nasugbu, Batangas	CALABARZON
Calapan City Port	Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro	Batangas City, Batangas	CALABARZON
Bulalacao Port	Bulalacao, Oriental Mindoro	Malay, Aklan	Western Visayas
Dangay Port	Roxas, Oriental Mindoro	Malay, Aklan	Western Visayas
Balatero Port	Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro	Batangas City, Batangas	CALABARZON

NAME OF PORT	LOCATION	DESTINATION	REGION
Cuyo Port	Cuyo, Palawan	San Jose, Antique Iloilo City, Iloilo	Western Visayas Western Visayas
Coron Port	Coron, Palawan	Manila	NCR
Banton Port	Banton, Romblon	Lucena, Quezon	CALABARZON
San Vicente Port	San Vicente, Palawan		Eastern Visayas
Odiongan Port	Odiongan, Romblon	Malay, Aklan Ormoc, Biliran Batangas City, Batangas	Western Visayas Eastern Visayas CALABARZON
San Fernando Port	San Fernando, Romblon Cajidiocan, Romblon	Roxas City, Capiz Masbate	Western Visayas Bicol
Airport			
San Jose Airport	San Jose, Occidental Mindoro	Manila	NCR
Puerto Princesa International Airport	Puerto Princesa City, Palawan	Manila Iloilo City, Iloilo Cebu City, Cebu Davao City, Davao	NCR Western Visayas Central Visayas Davao
Francisco B. Reyes Airport	Busuanga, Palawan	Manila	NCR
Tugdan Airport	Alcantara, Romblon	Manila	NCR

Source: Luzon Spatial Development Framework 2015-2045; Visayas Spatial Development 2015-2045; Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plans

Connectivity is the foundation for regional economic development and inter regional economic integration. It should be prioritized to be able to widen production networks and value chains in MIMAROPA.

Vulnerability Reduction

Vulnerability reduction will be an integral part of the concentration and connectivity strategies. The following principles on vulnerability reduction and land use conflict resolution will be adopted, to wit:

- Safety cannot be compromised. Settlements in danger zones or highly restricted areas will be relocated or provided with necessary mitigating measures
- Conflicts between urban expansion and key production areas shall be resolved in favor of the latter provided that provisions for expansion are recognized and are in place.
- Transportation routes and facilities must be an integral part of protection plans to channel growth (and eliminate or reduce potential conflicts) into areas that can accommodate them. Plans

should direct and not merely prevent. The preferred way of accommodating future growth is through higher densities within the existing built up areas, with appropriate support infrastructure and services. Since expansion into rural areas cannot be totally avoided and decisions have to be made where these can take place, it must not be allowed to take place indiscriminately.

- Eco-tourism, agri-forestry, and urban amenities can be part of the resolution involving conflicts between production and protection areas.
- Where infrastructure and transportation routes cannot avoid passing through disaster-prone or protected area, alternate routes are not subject to the same threat should be built. Ideally, all major regional and provincial routes should have such redundancy.
- Land use planning and zoning cannot fully address vulnerability issues. They can limit densities in areas susceptible to disasters, channel the direction of growth to avoid hazard-prone areas, and encourage de-concentration of service networks to reduce the possibility of total damage or disruption during emergency periods. But they must be augmented by other measures that are more effective in dealing with potential disasters. These include measures dealing with strategic planning of lifeline systems and utility networks, education and safety awareness programs, and building stock management.

Increase Resiliency of Communities to Natural Disasters

The provinces of Marinduque and Romblon were included in the top 10 provinces in the country which are highly susceptible to landslides. Oriental Mindoro is among the top 10 provinces which are highly susceptible to flooding.

The most affected by moderate to severe flooding are the flood plains and coastal areas of the region as shown in Figure 3.8.

Severe rainfall and various natural and human activities are among the factors which trigger landslide. Most of the municipalities within forest/watershed areas with steep slopes which experience heavy rainfall, deforestation, and mining activities are highly susceptible to landslides. These areas are shown in Figure 3.9.

Another hazard is the earthquake induced landslide. An earthquake is a result of a weak to a violent movement of the earth crust, often causing damage and sometimes death. Mostly, earthquakes are caused by an energy released associated with rapid movements in active faults and trenches. MIMAROPA lies above numerous active faults and trenches. These include Lubang fault, Aglubang river fault, Central Mindoro fault, Southern Mindoro fault, Tablas fault, and the Manila trench (refer to Figure 3.10). Among the MIMAROPA provinces, Mindoro Island is the most susceptible to this hazard (refer to Figure 3.11).

There is no base line data for hazard prone areas by municipality. The region must establish a baseline data by hazard type and municipality. This will be the basis of the municipalities in the integration of disaster risk reduction/climate change adaptation (DRR/CCA) in their local development plans.

The RDC, during its 53rd full council meeting in Occidental Mindoro passed RDC Resolution No. 2015-053-427 approving the following set of criteria in identifying geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs) in the region:

- inaccessible areas/communities because of harsh terrains during calamities

(island, upland, lowland, and landlocked communities)

- limited and unreliable mode of transportation during calamities (no alternate means of transportation)
- inadequate communication systems
- vulnerability of the communities to flooding and landslides

Using the set of criteria, road networks maps, and hazard susceptibility maps, the MIMAROPA RDC approved the list of GIDAs in the region through RDC Resolution No. 2015-053-428. These areas shall be prioritized and assessed relative to disaster preparedness (refer to Table 3.6).

Table 3.6 GIDAs in MIMAROPA Region

PROVINCE	MUNICIPALITY	BARANGAY
Marinduque	Boac	Binunga, Canat, Boi, Bayuti, Ambunan, Tumagabok, Sibuyao, and Sabong
	Mogpog Sta. Cruz	Bochoc Polo, Maniwaya, Makulapnit
Occidental Mindoro	Abra de Ilog	Udalo
	Calintaan	Malpalan, Poypoy
	Magsaysay	Paclolo, Pumaga
	Paluan	Mananao
	Rizal	Manoot
Oriental Mindoro	Sablayan	Caludio Salgado, Ilvita, Victoria, Tagumpay, Paetan
	Baco	Pulang Tubig, Putican-Cabulo, Manganganan, Lantuyan, San Ignacio
	Bansud	Malo
	Bongabong	Hagan, Lisap, Batangan, Morente,
	Bulalacao	Maasim
	Calapan City	Navotas
	Naujan	Paitan, Caburo, San Andres, San Luis, Banutan
	Pola	Misong, Tagumpay, Buhay na Tubig, Bacawan
	Roxas	San Raphael, San Vicente

Romblon	Banton Concepcion Corcuera Odiongan Romblon San Andres San Agustin Santa Maria Santa Fe	whole municipality whole municipality whole municipality Rizal, Progreto Weste Cabugaan, Cobrador/Naguso Marigondon Norte Cawayan Imelda Tabugon
Palawan	Aborlan Agutaya Araceli Balabac Bataraza Busuanga Cagayancillo Coron Culion Dumaran Kalayaan Linapacan Magsaysay Narra Puerto Princesa City Quezon Rizal Roxas San Vicente Taytay	Isaub whole municipality whole municipality Bataraza, Buksuk, Sebarina, Pandanan, Bancalaan Colandanum San Isidro, Panlalaitan whole municipality Cabugao, Banuang Daan, Bintuan Maglambay, De Carabao, Bulalacao whole municipality whole municipality Calibangbangan, Pical Cuyo Panacan, Tarcas, and Ipilan Pangangan and Marufinas Panitian Latud Islet Barangays of Tinitian, and San Miguel Islets of Port Barton, Caruray Batas, Debangon, Casian, Maytegued, Beton, Baras, Paly, Tumbod, San Jose, Banbaran

Source: MIMAROPA Strategic Regional Development Agenda

Integrate DRR/CCA in Local Development Plans

DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2015-77 provided the general guidelines on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in local development planning.

DRR/CCA enhanced provincial development and physical framework plans (PDPFPs) of Occidental Mindoro and Palawan were approved by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) through Board Resolution Nos. 927 (S.2015) and 939 (S.2016), respectively.

All LGUs in the region shall integrate DRR/CCA in their respective development plans and properly implement them.

Improve Solid Waste Management

There is a need to improve the methods and ways in handling solid wastes to ensure protection of public health and environment. Improper solid waste disposal leads to environmental problems such as air and water pollution, soil contamination, and climate change. The establishment of sanitary landfills in all provinces shall be prioritized.

Establishment of Flood Control Projects

Establishment of flood control and drainage system infrastructure projects

should be prioritized based on the severity of flood. Farmers and communities should be protected from agricultural losses and loss of life.

BASE DATA LEGEND

- City
- Municipality
- National Roads
- PD 1596 Kalayaan Island Group
- Provincial Boundaries
- City/Municipal Boundaries

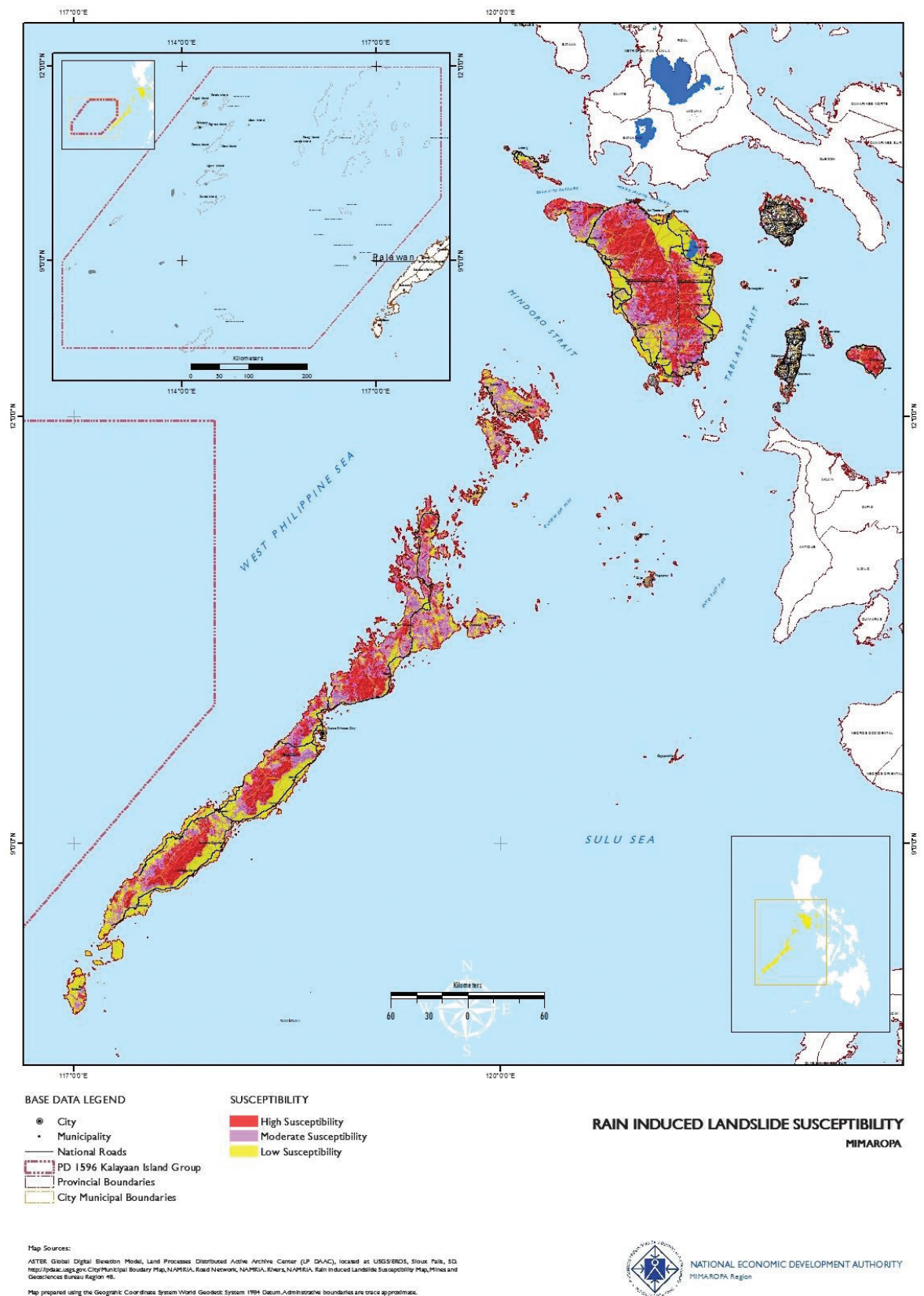
SUSCEPTIBILITY

- High Susceptibility
- Moderate Susceptibility
- Low Susceptibility

FLOOD SUSCEPTIBILITY
MIMAROPA

Map Sources:
ASTER, Global Digital Elevation Model, Land Processes Distributed Archive Center (LP DAAC), located at USGS/EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
http://data.usgs.gov/CofMunicipal Boundary Map, NAMRIA, Road Network, NAMRIA, Rivers, NAMRIA, Flood Susceptibility Map, PNAS and Geodesics Bureau Region 46.
Map prepared using the Geographic Coordinate System World Geodetic System 1984 Datum. Administrative boundaries are trace approximate.

Figure 3.9 Rain Induced Landslide Susceptibility Map



Earthquake Sources

Active Faults

- Solid line - trace is certain
- Dashed line - trace is approximate
- Approximate offshore projection

Convergence Zone

- Trench
- Collision zone

Capital City/Municipality

Other labels on map: Luzon City, Iloilo City, Zamboanga City, Marikina, Agulabang River Fault, Central Mindoro Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment, Central Mindoro Fault, Agulabang River Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment, Central Mindoro Fault, Agulabang River Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment.

Scale: 0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers

Inset Map: Shows the location of Mindoro within the Philippines.

Legend:

- Earthquake Sources
- Active Faults
- Convergence Zone
- Capital City/Municipality

Other labels on map: Luzon City, Iloilo City, Zamboanga City, Marikina, Agulabang River Fault, Central Mindoro Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment, Central Mindoro Fault, Agulabang River Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment, Central Mindoro Fault, Agulabang River Fault, Southern Mindoro Fault, Manila Trench, Philippine Sea Segment.

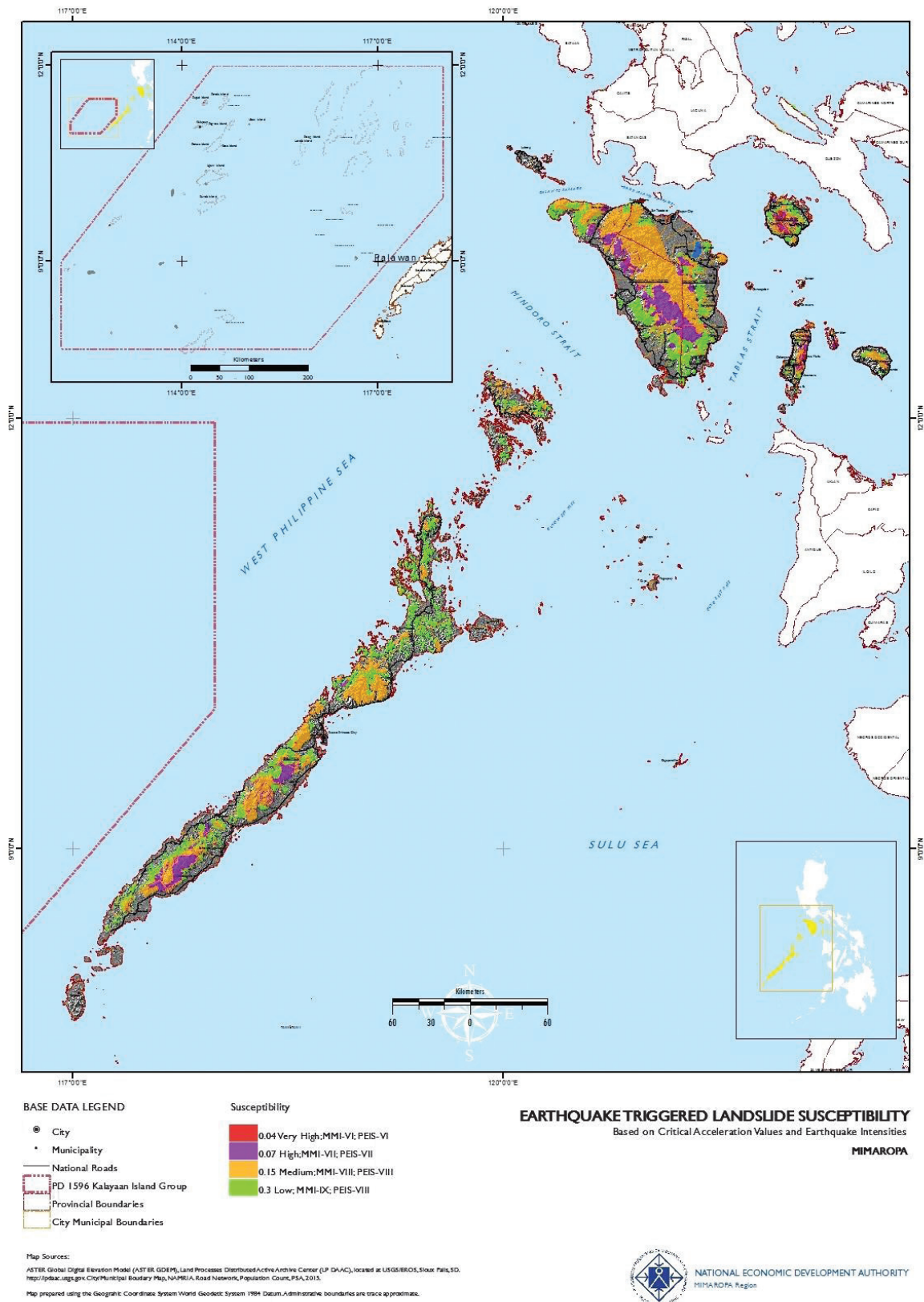
Scale: 0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers

Inset Map: Shows the location of Mindoro within the Philippines.

Legend:

- Earthquake Sources
- Active Faults
- Convergence Zone
- Capital City/Municipality

Figure 3.11 Earthquake Triggered Landslide Susceptibility Map



Programs, Projects, and Activities

The following programs, projects, and activities identified in the LSDF support island development:

Concentration

- Integrated Port Development Program
- Batangas-Mindoro Power interconnection project
- Mindoro-Batangas super/floating bridge

Connectivity

- Completion of Mindoro Circumferential Road
- Puerto Princesa Airport project

Vulnerability Reduction

- CLIPVIC Flood Control Project
- Rehabilitation of Mine Dams in Marinduque

04

MIMAROPA Regional
Development Plan
2017-2022 Overall
Framework

MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 Overall Framework

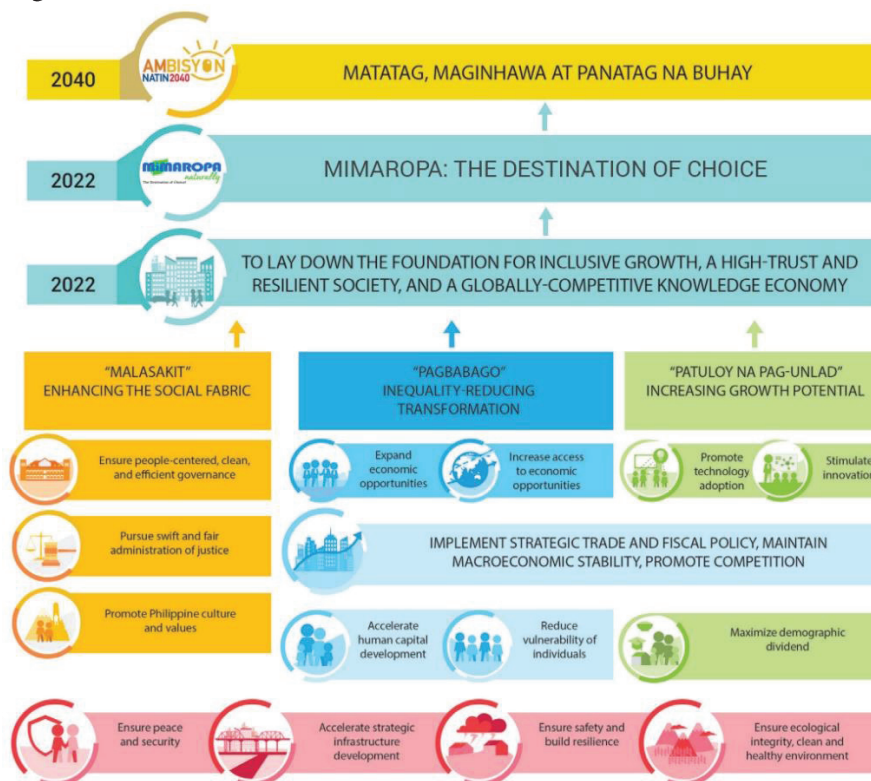
AmBisyon Natin 2040 translates to the following goal statement:

"By 2040, the Philippines shall be a prosperous, predominantly middle class society where no one is poor. Our peoples will enjoy long and healthy lives, be smart and innovative, will live in a high-trust society."

This is expected to be attained over a period of 24 years as a result of the series of strategies to be implemented by four administrations.

The first MIMAROPA RDP will lay the foundation for inclusive growth, a high trust society, and a globally competitive knowledge economy (refer to Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1 MIMAROPA RDP 2017-2022 Framework⁵



⁵ Based on Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 Overall Strategic Framework and MIMAROPA development vision

Enhancing the Social Fabric

The aim is to regain peoples' trust through “*Malasakit*” – making public institutions people-centered, efficient and clean. Administration of justice will be swift and fair. Filipinos will also be made aware of the country's cultural diversity and its value.

Reducing Inequality

For each economic sector, it is about expanding economic opportunities and then, increasing access to these opportunities particularly of sub-sectors and economic groups that used to lag behind, so that ordinary Filipinos can feel the “*Pagbabago*”. For individuals and people groups, this is about reducing vulnerability and improving human capital.

Increasing Potential Growth

It is imperative that growth is accelerated and sustained, “*Patuloy na pag-unlad*.” This can be done by graduating to a knowledge economy. Technology adoption will be promoted and innovation encouraged.

Potential growth can be further accelerated by maximizing the gains from demographic dividend. There will be aggressive efforts to ensure that families will be of the size that can be adequately cared for. This will be complemented by

measures to delay childbearing and lengthen the space between births.

Enabling and Supportive Economic Environment

Growth will be supported by maintaining macroeconomic stability, putting in place a strategic trade and fiscal policy, and enhancing access to financial services. The tax system will be made more efficient, equitable and globally competitive. At the same time, a national competition policy will be formulated and implemented to ensure a level playing field.

Foundations for Sustainable Development

The physical environment, on the other hand, will be characterized by a balanced and strategic development of infrastructure while ensuring that there is ecological integrity and a clean and healthy environment; and building resiliency against disasters – natural and human induced, and shocks etc.⁶

All these will be underpinned by ensuring national security against internal and external threats, and restoring public order and safety. There will be earnest efforts to secure lasting peace through the resumption of peace talks and pursuing economic justice.

The participatory process adopted in the formulation of the region's vision as the destination of choice generated four broad pillars which reflect the core values

⁶ Environmental, geological, human-induced, and hydro meteorological hazards

and standards by which development interventions in the region shall be measured.

Empowered Citizens and Communities

This pillar asserts the principle of empowerment as a basic building block for self sustaining communities. Empowerment implies awareness of one's present state, ability and capacity to discern opportunities and overcome obstacles, and purposive action to transcend to a better state. For MIMAROPA to become the destination of choice, it has to transform itself into a competitive and progressive economy, a peaceful and self sustaining community, a sound environment for living and making a living, and a hospitable haven for rich and diverse, yet restful, tourism experience. This transformation is not only intended for the investors and visitors it seeks to attract, but more so for the well-being of its citizenry who should rightfully benefit from the vibrancy of its economy and the livability of its environment.

Food Security

Fostering a healthy environment conducive to competitive agricultural production, specialization, diversification and value-adding processing would unlock the Region's vast agricultural lands to sustainable use for food and other agricultural production, tourism development and economic prosperity of rural populations and communities.

Beyond achieving adequate and sustainable food supply, the region's stakeholders seek to elevate MIMAROPA as a certified supplier of organically grown products. Creating a brand for the region's farm produce would not only promote production and consumption of food that enhance human health and wellness but would also contribute to ensuring high farm productivity. Any development or introduction of improved agriculture technology shall be preconditioned on the elimination of harmful chemical contamination and the risk of free radical build up. The MIMAROPA brand also assures safety from genetic modification in all farm produce of the islands. This pillar of the MIMAROPA vision supports the track on health and wellness experience to both the residents and the visitors.

Environmental Integrity

Ensuring that development promotes the protection, conservation and sustainable development of the region's rich natural endowments and heritage resources to minimize the economic risks to the public and protect the ecological integrity of the region is yet another important pillar of the vision. The sustainability of the small island communities threatened by climate change and geological hazards should not be overlooked in the design and implementation of interventions, especially along agriculture, tourism and infrastructure. Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation need to be mainstreamed into day-to-day routine down to the community and household levels.

Unified and Interdependent Island Provinces

Interdependence and cohesion among the island provinces is acknowledged as the way forward in building MIMAROPA's identity defined by the core values espoused in its development vision. This pillar takes up the cry of the islands' stakeholders for physical integration within and without to achieve sustainable forms of urban development according to

the preferred settlement pattern that ensures access to basic services and economic opportunities. This calls for the development of an integrated, high quality, safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system and the expansion of virtual connectivity between and among the island economies.

Table 4.1 provides a list of selected indicators of the four pillars of the vision with baseline and end of plan target values by 2022 which will determine if the vision is achievable.

Table 4.1 Vision-Reality Gap

PILLARS OF MIMAROPA VISION	INDICATORS	BASLINE DATA (2015)	END OF PLAN TARGET (2022)	AGENCY/SOURCE
Empowered citizens and communities	GDP growth rate increased	1.7%	6.2% - 7.2%	PSA
	Decreased poverty incidence among population	24.4%	13.0% (2021)	PSA
	Proportion of birth delivered in health facilities increased	71.05%	100.0%	DOH
	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) decreased	7.96%	5.9%	DOH
	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births) decreased	82.0%	75.0%	DOH
	Crude birth rate	20.73%	22.37%	DOH
	TB case detection rate	91.0%	95.0%	DOH
	Malaria morbidity rate per 100,000 population	247.9%	1.58% (2020)	DOH
	Proportion of population with access to safer water (household in per cent) increased	94.84%	100.00%	DOH
	Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) decreased	10.21%	7.5%	DOH
	Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age decreased (in %)	31.8%	24.8%	DOH
	Cohort survival rate in secondary education increased	82.44%	87.97%	DEPED
	Regional palay production (MT)	1,081,833.00 MT	1,332,241.00 MT	DA/LGUs
Food security	Yield of palay increased (MT/ha)	3.81%	5.61%	DA/ATI/ DOST/ DTI/FDA/ LGUs

PILLARS OF MIMAROPA VISION	INDICATORS	BASELINE DATA (2015)	END OF PLAN TARGET (2022)	AGENCY/SOURCE
	GVA growth rate in agriculture, fishery, and forestry (constant prices)	2.8%	2.0% - 3.0%	PSA/ DA/BFAR/DTI/ DOST/ PFIDA/ DOT/ DPWH/ PCA
Environmental integrity	Population of tamaraw species increased	405	523	DENR MIMAROPA
	National Greening Project (NGP) area planted and site prepared increased	66,058 ha	13,300 ha	DENR MIMAROPA
	National Greening Project (NGP) area maintained and protected increased	66,058 ha	46,801 ha	DENR MIMAROPA
	NGP number of seedlings produced increased	39,977,028	6,650,000	DENR MIMAROPA
	NGP number of seedlings planted increased	38,717,758	32,213,952 (2016)	DENR MIMAROPA
	NGP survival rate of seedlings equal or above 85%	81% (survival)	85%	DENR MIMAROPA
Unified and interdependent island provinces	Percentage of paved national roads (secondary)	81.69%	100.0%	DPWH
	Percentage of households provided with electric power supply	82.03%	95.0%	NEA, DOE
	Proportion of households with access to safe water supply	94.84%	100.0%	DOH
	Proportion of household with sanitary facilities	81.76%	92.26%	DOH

PART II

ENHANCING THE SOCIAL FABRIC ("MALASAKIT")



05 Ensuring People-Centered, Clean, and Efficient Governance

Ensuring People-Centered, Clean, and Efficient Governance

A high-trust society is a necessary condition to ensure quality, responsive, and accessible public service for the citizens. This chapter discusses strategies to ensure participatory, transparent, and responsive approaches in the delivery of public goods and services.

Assessment

Republic Act (RA) No. 10879 or the MIMAROPA Act lapsed into law on 17 July 2016. In line with the national government's policy to develop regional centers to foster the efficient delivery of government services, the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of RA 10879 identifies Calapan City as the appropriate regional center. All MIMAROPA regional government offices (RGOs) shall relocate to Calapan City within 18 months from the issuance of the IRR. All RGOs shall have established offices in Calapan City by May 2018.

As of September 2016, 12 MIMAROPA RGOs have completely transferred in Calapan City.

In 2010, the seal of good housekeeping was implemented to promote transparency and accountability. The seal of good local governance (SGLG) encourages and challenges local government units (LGUs) to improve

their performance and delivery of public services. SGLG awards has the following criteria: accountable governance, transparent governance, and frontline service performance.

In 2015, the following MIMAROPA LGUs were awarded with SGLG: the 5 MIMAROPA provinces and the municipalities of Sta Cruz, Marinduque, Buenavista, Marinduque, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro, and Brooke's Point, Palawan.

DILG-DTI Joint Memorandum Circular 2010-01 prescribed the standards for issuance of business permits and licensing. In 2014, all cities and municipalities in the region are compliant with the standards on BPLS.

The internal revenue allotment for MIMAROPA increased by 36.05 per cent from P9,316,606,713 in 2009 to P14,570,432,623 in 2015. This may be

attributed to increased national collection efficiency of LGUs.

The average IRA dependency rate of MIMAROPA provinces decreased from 95.20 per cent in 2009 to 91.80 per cent in 2015. Palawan registered the lowest IRA dependency rate from 92 per cent in 2009 to 88 per cent in 2015. Puerto Princesa City IRA dependency rate increased from 72.00 per cent in 2009 to 82.00 per cent in 2015.

As of 2015, the provinces of Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Palawan

have updated real property tax bases. General revisions on the real property tax bases of the provinces of Marinduque and Romblon were overdue by 20 years and 3 years, respectively.

In 2014, 40 municipalities participated in the cities and municipalities competitiveness index survey. In 2015, out of 58 participating LGUs in the region, only 7 LGUs increased their rankings.

In the 2015 CMCI survey, Oriental Mindoro ranked 15th among provinces (refer to Table 5.1).

Table 5.1 2015 CMCI provincial ranking, MIMAROPA

RANK	PROVINCE	SCORE
15	Oriental Mindoro	31.76234558
33	Marinduque	28.92051674
35	Occidental Mindoro	28.74665291
37	Palawan	28.44241032
58	Romblon	24.37818859

Source: 2015 CMCI survey result

For cities, Calapan City ranked 27th in 2015 with a score of 36.55 from rank 38th in 2014. Puerto Princesa city improved its ranking from 89th in 2014 to 63rd in 2015 with a score of 33.64.

A total of 68 LGUs or 87.17 per cent are compliant with the full disclosure policy.

The remaining LGUs only complied partially in the posting/uploading of financial documents in the FDP portal. The LGUs of Marinduque, Romblon, and Puerto Princesa City registered 100 per cent performance ratings.

Challenges

The geographical distance of the MIMAROPA provinces contributes to the high cost of government transactions. Integration of services in a government center for the region will expedite government-to-business and government-to-citizen transactions and reduce transaction costs.

The absence of a regional government center (RGC) is a disincentive to regional line agencies (RLAs) to locate in Calapan City. Nine (9) years after the issuance of EO 682, only twelve out of the thirty-seven prospective regional offices have moved to Calapan City. These agencies include the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Land Registration Authority (LRA), National

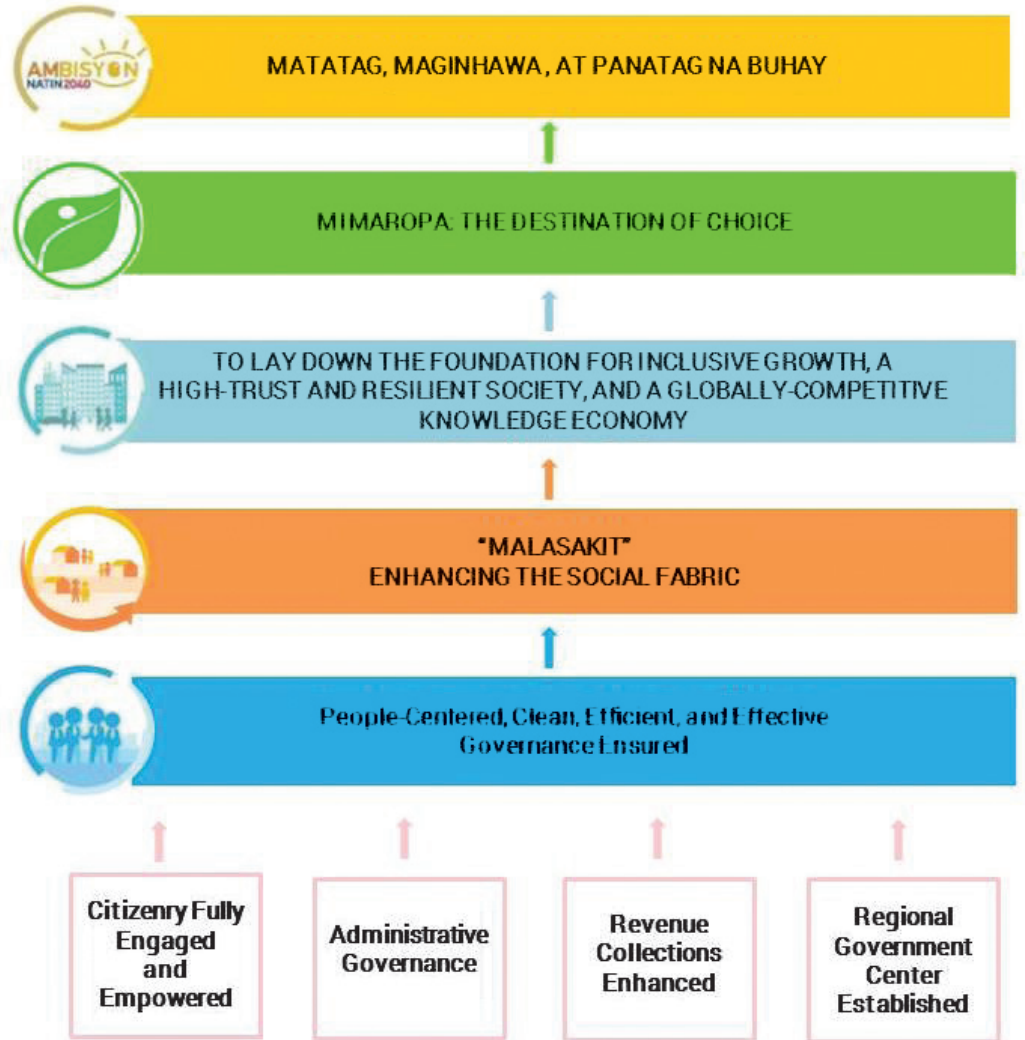
Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB), National Irrigation Administration (NIA), and Land Transportation Office (LTO).

The establishment of RGC is expected to streamline the RLAs' operations and reduce costs in providing services to the people. The accessibility of regional offices in the region will provide better services to LGUs, national government agencies, and private sector. The coordination/implementation of development programs will be more responsive to the needs of the people with additional revenues to the regional offices.

MIMAROPA LGUs rely mostly on limited IRA to finance their operations. They have low levels of local revenue collection and the cost of revenue collection is not commensurate with the amount of revenues collected.

Strategic Framework

Figure 5.1 Strategic Framework for Ensuring People-Centered, Clean, and Efficient Governance



Priority Strategies

To increase trust and confidence in government through transparency, accountability, and effective governance, public goods and services shall be delivered in timely manner and programs shall be responsive to the needs of the public.

Citizenry Fully Engaged and Empowered

- Ensure public access to information, promote transparency in all government and private transactions
- Institutionalize response and feedback mechanism
- Continue conduct of client satisfaction surveys
- 100% compliance on posting and publication of citizen's charter
- Enforce anti-red tape measures

Administrative Governance Enhanced

- Streamline business processes and frontline services
- Improve turnaround time and service quality

- Sustain training programs on streamlining the business permit and licensing system
- Ensure compliance with the government procurement transparency requirements
- Recognition of exemplary performance of LGUs by conferring CSC seal of service excellence
- Implement productivity improvement programs and aim for international standards certification

Revenue Collections Enhanced

- Improving local revenue generation by providing technical assistance to LGUs in updating of the LRCs and schedule of fair market values
- Intensify local taxes collections

Regional Government Center (RGC) Established

- Identification of site of the RGC
- Monitor transfer of regional offices to the regional government center

06 Pursuing Swift and Fair Administration of Justice

Pursuing Swift and Fair Administration of Justice

Improving the administration of justice is crucial in restoring the credibility of the justice system and earning the citizen's confidence. This chapter aims to address finger pointing and blame passing within the justice system which causes confusion and dissatisfaction of the public.

Assessment

As of 2015, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) MIMAROPA has operational control and supervision over 10 district jails, 2 city jails and 6 municipal jails. The 18 operational jails hold a total of 865 inmates, 850 of which are detainees and 15 are convicted inmates. Based on the standard floor area of 4.7 sq.m per inmate, the jails in MIMAROPA registered a congestion rate of 110 per cent. With 233 personnel, the region is within the ideal personnel to inmates population ratio of 1:7.

The legal assistance and representation in courts provided by the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) MIMAROPA to indigent clients increased by 31.80 per cent from 87,058 in 2015 to 114 744 in 2016. In 2016, PAO MIMAROPA, handled

141,232 cases, 24.10 per cent or 3,405 cases of which were terminated.

The community venue for settlements of disputes for a mutually acceptable solution at the barangay level is the Barangay Justice System (BJS) or the Katarungang Pambarangay. The BJS is an alternative community based mechanism for dispute resolution of conflicts between members of the same community. DILG MIMAROPA monitors the establishment of Lupong Tagapamayapa (LP) and performance of the BJS in the region. In 2015, 1,441 LPs were organized. All provinces registered 100 per cent accomplishment in terms of organized LPs except Palawan with 95.30 per cent accomplishment.

Challenges

Lack of human resources is evident in the uneven ratio between public

attorneys and courts. The region has 28 public attorneys assigned in 21 regional

trial courts, 21 municipal trial courts, 22 municipal circuit trial courts, and 2 quasi-judicial and administrative bodies in the region. The region has public attorney-to-court ratio of 1:2.35 despite the required ratio of 1:1.

There is a need to speed up the disposition of complaints and cases for investigation, prosecution, and trial. This will prevent backlogs in resolving cases, delays in case development procedures, and congestion of jail facilities.

Strategic Framework

Figure 6.1 Strategic Framework for Pursuing Swift and Fair Administration of Justice



Priority Strategies

Access to Civil and Criminal Justice System Enhanced

Replicate the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC) in the region. The JSCC is composed of the Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines, the Department of Justice, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government. It is a channel to institutionalize mechanism for ensuring effective and efficient coordination among all justice sector agencies.

The region will support the Justice Zone, a flagship project of the JSCC to provide platform for effective inter agency coordination in the criminal system. A Justice Zone is an area or locality where a minimum number of inter-agency coordinative reforms are present, rendering that area or locality fully compliant based on a selection and accreditation system established by the JSCC. This concept is guided by a strategy map or an operations flow-chart depicting critical processes in the criminal justice system (from alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, case build-up, to trial and post-judgment incidents) and resource requirements to fully operationalize a justice zone.

The e-Subpoena and e-Warrant systems shall be enhanced and expanded. The e-subpoena system enables the courts to send subpoena via e-mail directly to the police witness and the unit assigned. It also allows the PNP to monitor

compliance and sanction police officers who fail to attend hearings. The system particularly addresses negligence of police officers, who are witnesses in criminal cases, in responding to summons issued by the court.

In addition, the PNP's e-warrant system allows easy search, viewing, and retrieval of information relating to a person with an outstanding warrant of arrest and/or a previous arrest record.

On top of the e-warrant system, the PNP shall put up an electronic "rogues gallery" database which posts photos of suspects in a gallery for easy reference by investigators.

Implementation of automated hearings shall be promoted. This platform aims to speed up the delivery of justice by reducing case processing time, eliminate sources of graft, and improve public access to performance information in the lower courts. Automated hearings shall expedite the issuance and termination of court issued papers.

Case numbering needs to be standardized and integrated in judicial automation. Under the present system, the case number in the city and municipal courts (where most cases originate) is not carried through to the regional trial courts. When the case is elevated to the appellate courts, new number is assigned and a different number when it reaches the Supreme Court.

Sector Efficiency and Accountability Improved

Deliver Fair and Equal Justice

- Increase access to legal aid of the poor and the marginalized sector. Make legal services of the government lawyers available in the defense of the rights of the poor and indigenous people.
- Increase the plantilla positions for public attorneys and prosecutors to achieve the prosecutor-to-court (2:1) and public attorney-to-court (1:1) ratio.
- Expand the public attorney's office (PAO) 24-hour hotline
- Pursue strategies and reforms to decongest jails and detention. This involves construction new jails, construction of additional detention cells in existing jails, and upgrading the current detention facilities

Enhance Accountability through an Engaged Citizenry

- Enhance “Etap mo si Sir Taps”, BJMP's electronic complaint counter against BJMP personnel and irregularities in jail units.
- Conduct advocacy and information dissemination campaign to the

community on the policies relative to justice system

- Intensify crime prevention activities through information education campaign in school and communities
- Include posting of information, education, and communication materials on the citizen's charter of all government institution.

Enhance Sector Efficiency

- Address the staffing deficiencies in courts and jails to ensure efficient delivery of service. Fill up vacant plantilla positions and creation of new positions to ensure adequate personnel to manage the facilities and provide judicial services.
- Increase the coverage of the Katarungang Pambarangay and provide appropriate compensation to the justice council
- Strengthen the BJS through provision of capacity building trainings in dispute resolution
- Conduct more training on alternative dispute resolution
- Training of PNP personnel on mediation techniques to minimize entry of petty disputes in the judicial process.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

- Filling up of vacant positions of judges, prosecutors, and jail guards
- Expansion of the coverage of the Barangay Justice System
- Replicate the Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC)
- eSubpoena, eWarrant, eRouges gallery
- Continue the implementation of “Etap mo si Sir Taps”
- Information, education, and communication campaign on justice system
- Capability training on mediation, alternative dispute resolution
- Standardized case numbering system
- Automated hearings in court
- Construction/upgrading/repair/improvement of jail and office facilities

07 Promoting Philippine Culture and Values

Promoting Philippine Culture and Values

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defined culture as “a set of distinctive spiritual, material, intellectual, and emotional features of society or a social group, and that it encompasses, in addition to art and literature, lifestyles, ways of living together, value systems, traditions and beliefs”.

Culture plays a vital role in development planning. It acts both as a driver and an enabler of the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Assessment

Culture, which includes traditional knowledge and local environmental management practices, helps ensure environmental sustainability. Intangible cultural heritage such as skills and traditional practices provide useful tools to ensure agricultural sustainability and food security.

Cultural tourism increases revenues to communities that hosts them. There are three (3) categories of cultural attraction. These are the natural heritage that includes landforms, rural scenery, and flora and fauna; intangible cultural heritage that includes festivals, arts/crafts, and traditional practices/products; and the built heritage such as historic homes, monuments, and industrial sites.

Each province in the region has its own festival which characterizes its culture and traditions. The province of Marinduque

celebrates the Moriones festival, a folk religious event held annually during Holy Week. The province also performs “*Putong*” in which the visitors are honored and welcomed. The province of Romblon celebrates the Biniray festival yearly which is dedicated to Señor Santo Niño. Oriental Mindoro celebrates Pandang Gitab or the festival of lights which describes the old tradition of Mindoreños where married women carry lamps while accompanying their husbands on fishing. Arawatan festival celebrated by Occidental Mindoro yearly helped the Mangyan culture alive up to the present. The Baragatan festival showcases the history, culture and life of the province of Palawan.

The Cathedral of San Jose in Romblon, Romblon was declared as one of the National Culture Treasures. The Mangyan Heritage Center (MHC) located

in Calapan City is a library, archive, and research and education center which

promotes awareness of the indigenous peoples of the Mindoro Island.

Challenges

The region's diverse cultures are not adequately documented

A complete assessment of the region's diverse cultures, both tangible and intangible, remains a challenge as data are sparse, scattered, and not regularly gathered.

Limited awareness on culture

Republic Act No. 7356 provides that the level of consciousness of our people about our own cultural values in order to strengthen our culture and to instill nationhood and cultural unity, shall be raised formally through the educational system and informally through extra-scholastic means, including the use of traditional as well as modern media of communication. However, there is weak appreciation of Philippine culture

especially among the youth. There were also errors and omissions in history books.

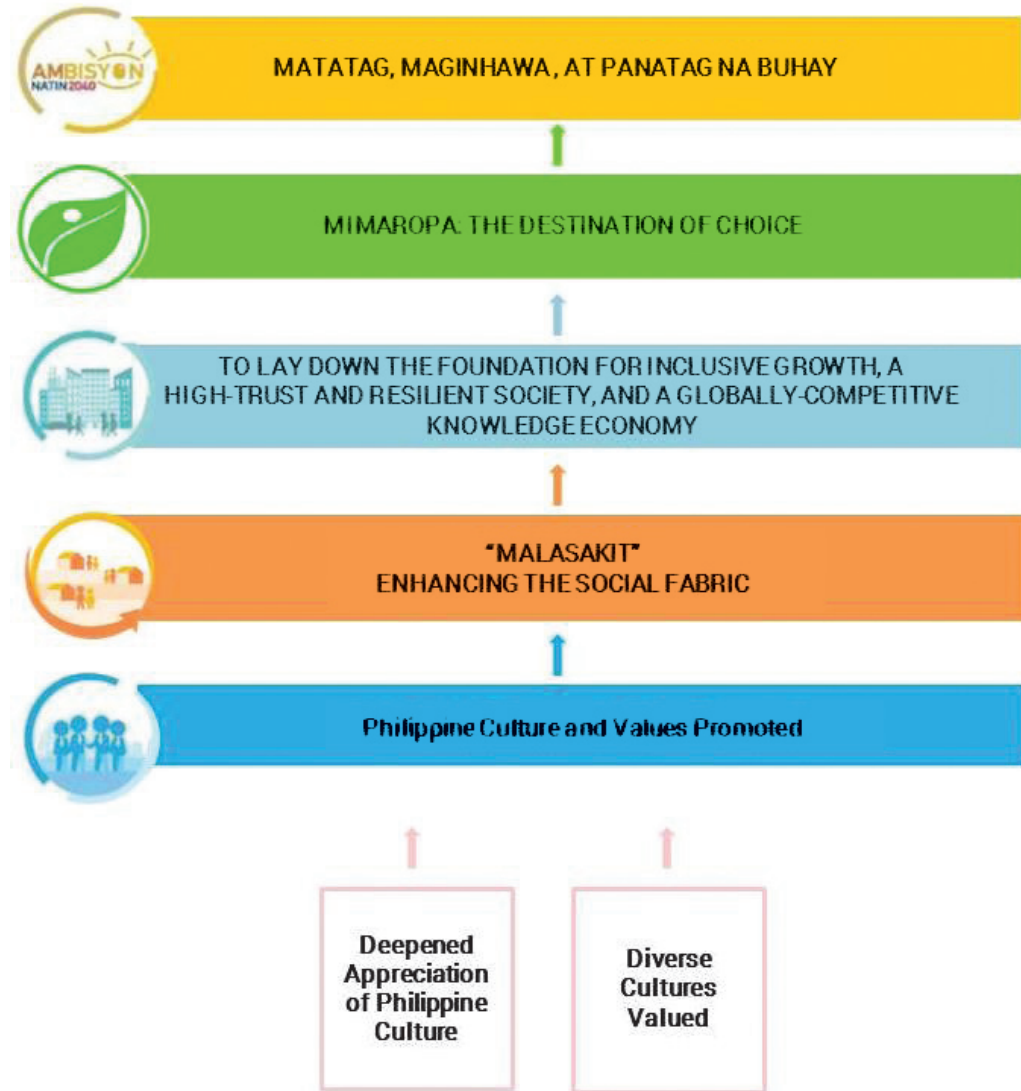
Absence of school of living traditions

School of living traditions is crucial to preserve the living traditions of the indigenous peoples as well as to conserve and promote the nation's cultural heritage. There is weak appreciation of indigenous culture. Cultural bearers or masters can impart their knowledge, skills and techniques of doing a traditional art or craft to the young members of the community in the school of living traditions.

Limited funding support for promotion, restoration and preservation of cultural heritage

Strategic Framework

Figure 7.1 Strategic Framework for Promoting Philippine Culture and Values



Priority Strategies

- Provide capacity-building for collection/gathering of statistical data related to culture
- Establishment of a unified cultural statistics database
- Conduct/Intensify efforts in cultural mapping of local tangible and intangible heritage to document baseline of data on cultural assets
- Conduct assessment of status of cultural properties
- Develop training modules on how to conduct heritage documentation
- Conduct research on local Philippine heroes, historical events, and cultural artifacts
- Strengthen cultural workforce education, training, and opportunities
- Increase/Enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity and role in nation building
- Establish schools of living traditions
- Intensify information education communications campaigns on culture
- Formulate heritage conservation and development plan
- Capacitate local government units on mainstreaming cultural preservation/protection in development planning
- Mainstream culture and development in policies, plans, programs, and activities through ordinances
- Formulate a set of cultural indicators for development planning
- Enforce strict compliance to the National Cultural Heritage Law (RA 10066)
- Enforce the implementation of DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2002-81 on the creation of local culture and arts councils
- Full implementation of the IPRA Law
- Mapping of culture bearers
- Establish school of living traditions
- Establish center that will promote local culture
- Establish cultural hubs for cultural education, entertainment, and tourism
- Documentation of indigenous knowledge systems and practices
- Incorporate the concept and practice of volunteerism in all levels of educational curricula
- Promote volunteerism in the conduct of community forum and activities
- Incorporate volunteerism in government agencies, local government units, and private sector institutions' programs, projects, and activities to reinforce the innate character trait of "*bayanihan*" of the Filipinos and nurture and sustain the culture of service especially among the young generation

Priority Legislative Agenda

- Issue an executive order instructing all local government units to submit an inventory of all heritage resources (tangible and intangible) in their localities
- Review of all existing laws on heritage i.e. National Cultural Heritage Law (RA 10066) and charters of cultural agencies and formulate local implementing guidelines
- Institutionalize cultural programs in local development planning and implementation
- Support the establishment of the Department of Culture

PART III

INEQUALITY- REDUCING TRANSFORMATION ("PAGBABAGO")



08 Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

The agriculture and fisheries sector is one of the primary growth drivers of the region's economy. It provides livelihood opportunities in the rural areas of MIMAROPA Region. The sector continues to contribute to the country's goal of food security. MIMAROPA is one of the top producers of rice, corn, cashew, calamansi, onion, garlic, cacao, and fishery products.

Assessment

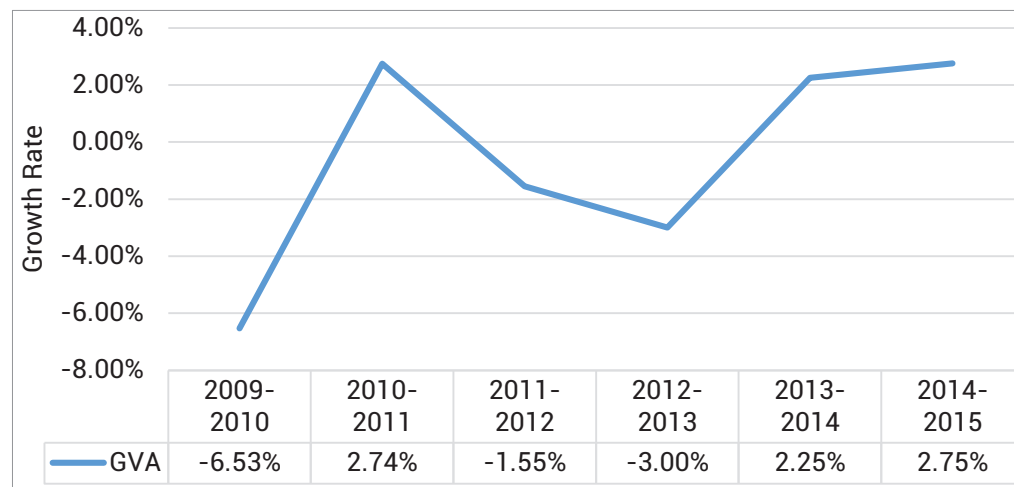
The desired outcomes for the agriculture and fisheries sector are increased rural income, improved food security, and resiliency to climate change. To achieve these outcomes, the concerned agencies delivered the necessary support programs and services such as rice, corn, high value crops, livestock development, farm-to-market roads, coconut development. Specific activities include seeds production, distribution and technology utilization, fertilization, distribution of farm equipment, farmers education, artificial insemination, and market matching.

Buffer stocking project mitigated the effects of calamities in rice crops by replacing damaged seeds with the buffer stocks. It also allowed sufficient inventory of rice in the region. Farm mechanization lowered the cost of production and minimized post-harvest losses. However, the region continues to fall short of achieving its target yields for cereals and crops except cashew, banana, and mango.

The growth rate of agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing sector accelerated from negative 6.5 percent in 2010 to 2.8 percent in 2015. The growth rate of agriculture and forestry increased from 2.1 percent to 3.8 percent during the same period. The sector contributed an average of 25.1 percent to the gross regional domestic product and grew at an average rate of negative 1.2 percent (refer to Figure 8.1).

The gross value added in agriculture, fishery, and forestry increased from P26,995 million in 2010 to P27,828 million in 2015. The region has the biggest GVA recorded during 2011 when new technologies and farming methods were promoted by the Aquino administration. On the other hand, the lowest GVA recorded during the reference period was in 2013 when the fisheries industry recorded a decline in production.

Figure 8.1 Growth in the Gross Value Added in Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry, 2010-2015



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

The total (agriculture and fishery) production of the region grew on the average of 2.14 percent from 3,106,266 metric tons (MT) in 2010 to 3,440,850.39 MT in 2015 (refer to Table 8.1). Significant increases in palay, corn, banana, calamansi, cashew, garlic and livestock dictated the increase in the total agricultural output of the region during the period.

The crops subsector's annual average growth rate was recorded at 3.79 percent from 2010-2015. Production of palay increased annually by 4.88 percent and corn production, by 13.57 percent. Banana, calamansi, cashew and garlic recorded an annual growth rate of 10.28 percent, 9.89 percent, 4.44 percent, and 7.04 percent, respectively. The annual growth rate of coconut, mango, and onion

were recorded at -3.67 percent, -5.02 percent, and -1.59 percent, respectively.

All components of the livestock subsector registered output gains in 2015 except carabao and duck egg production. The subsector (excluding poultry egg production) grew on the average of 2.54 percent annually. The subsector contributed 3.18 percent to the total agricultural output.

Fisheries production by all types decreased by 19.03 from 2010 to 2015. The fisheries subsector grew on the average of negative 3.17 percent annually. It contributed 17.10 percent to the total agricultural output of the region. Aquaculture contributed an average of 62 percent to the total fisheries production from 2010-2015.

Table 8.1 Agriculture and Fisheries Production, MIMAROPA, 2010-2015

ITEM	PRODUCTION (MT)						AAGR (%)
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
PALAY	857,532.00	981,699.00	1,030,606.00	1,033,942.00	1,081,878.00	1,081,833.00	4.88%
CORN	67,712.00	84,173.00	87,223.20	104,678.00	107,723.00	125,492.00	13.47%
BANANA	381,022.65	407,362.56	362,091.77	286,763.14	280,808.17	305,359.10	10.28%
CALAMANSI	109,611.59	105,408.64	102,628.09	88,747.51	83,749.72	84,211.93	9.89%
CASHEW	125,863.72	125,080.05	125,006.00	138,873.91	163,821.57	198,360.18	4.44%
COCONUT	659,219.26	712,899.74	745,488.54	779,134.54	806,928.97	818,146.12	-3.67%
MANGO	15,576.52	15,685.41	16,090.99	16,714.38	19,835.42	21,697.40	-5.02%
GARLIC	2,127.25	2,160.76	2,113.75	2,010.20	1,794.50	1,943.04	7.04%
ONION	14,816.70	8,888.30	8,465.25	12,589.79	13,333.94	17,579.28	-1.59%
CACAO	76.64	88.70	106.24	120.98	149.26	112.85	8.34%
OTHER MINOR CROPS	49,615.14	53,604.42	64,210.22	76,400.38	85,050.80	88,357.28	12.40%
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	96,614.00	99,030.00	101,986.00	104,176.00	105,573.00	109,500.00	2.54%
FISHERIES	726,498.20	728,972.45	685,647.54	550,760.00	562,058.98	588,279.35	-3.71%
TOTAL	3,106,266.00	3,324,995.17	3,331,621.46	3,194,855.46	3,312,638.60	3,440,850.39	2.14%

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Palay

During the reference period, palay production grew by 26.16 percent, reaching 1,081,833 MT in 2015 from 857,532 MT in 2010 (refer to Table 8.2). Production levels in most provinces grew during the period, led by Occidental and Oriental Mindoro. The growth could be attributed to one or combination of the following: (a) DA-LGU's seed and fertilizer subsidy program; (b) increased usage of fertilizer and hybrid seeds; (c) adequate irrigation water; and (d)

increased in areas planted in Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Palawan.

The average palay yield increased by 16.51 percent from 3.27 MT/ha in 2010 to 3.81 MT/ha in 2015. Occidental Mindoro and Palawan posted the highest yield at 20.11 MT/ha and 20 MT/ha, respectively.

Rice self-sufficiency level was at 155.25 percent, 4.6 percentage point higher than the 150.62 percent in 2010. The region achieved its rice self-sufficiency target.

Table 8.2 Palay Volume of Production, Area Harvested, and Average Yield, by Province, MIMAROPA, 2010 and 2015

PROVINCE	PRODUCTION (MT)		AREA HARVESTED (Has)		AVERAGE YIELD (MT/ha)		% CHANGE	
	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	PROD'N	YIELD
Marinduque	21,453	15,889	7,734	5,868	2.77	2.71	(25.94)	(2.17)
Occ. Mindoro	290,962	362,514	82,389	85,595	3.53	4.24	24.59	20.11
Or. Mindoro	308,469	392,213	91,590	101,514	3.37	3.86	27.15	14.54
Palawan	204,807	280,240	70,548	80,507	2.90	3.48	36.83	20.00
Romblon	31,841	30,977	10,123	10,102	3.15	3.07	2.71	(2.54)
Total	857,532	1,081,833	262,384	283,586	3.27	3.81	26.16	16.51
RDP Target	4.51							
2015 accomplishment rate	72.50							

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Corn

Corn production grew by 85.33 percent between 2010 and 2015 from 67,712 MT to 125,492 MT. Corn productivity level was about 35 percent higher than the 2.95

MT/ha in 2010 but slightly lower than the 4.04 percent end of plan target yield (refer to Table 8.3). The region nearly achieved its target productivity for yellow corn which recorded 4.55MT/ha yield or 0.22 percent lower than the RDP target yield of 4.56 MT/ha.

Table 8.3 Corn Volume and Value of Production, Area Harvested, and Yield by Croptype, MIMAROPA, 2010 and 2015

ITEM	2010	2015	% CHANGE
PRODUCTION (MT)	67,712	125,492	85.33
WHITE	10,654	16,407	54.00
YELLOW	57,058	109,085	91.18
AREA HARVESTED (HA)	22,984	31,391	36.58
WHITE	6,431	7,393	14.96
YELLOW	16,553	23,998	15.91
YIELD (MT/HA)	2.95	4.0	35.59
WHITE	1.66	2.22	33.73
YELLOW	3.45	4.55	64.93
VALUE OF PRODUCTION ('000 PESOS)	413.31	799.37	93.41
END OF PLAN TARGET (YIELD)		4.04	
WHITE (MT/HA)		2.55	
YELLOW (MT/HA)		4.56	
ACCOMPLISHMENT RATE (%)	73.02	99.01	25.99
WHITE	65.10	87.06	21.96
YELLOW	75.66	99.78	49.12

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Major Crops

MIMAROPA region is the country's leading producer of cashew and calamansi, 2nd largest producer of garlic, 3rd among regions in terms of onion production, 5th largest producer of cacao, and 6th largest producer of peanut and palm oil. The total production of major

crops grew by 10.63 percent (refer to Table 8.4). The region was able to surpass its target yield for banana and mango, despite the decrease in yield. Cashew production was recorded at 198,360.18 metric tons or 57.60 percent growth. However, the region achieved 7.45 percent lower than the end of plan target for calamansi.

Table 8.4 Major Crops Volume of Production, Area Harvested, and Average Yield, MIMAROPA, 2010 and 2015

ITEM	PRODUCTION (MT)		AREA HARVESTED (Has)		AVERAGE YIELD (MT/ha)		% CHANGE	
	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015	PROD'N	YIELD
BANANA	381,022.65	305,359.10	46,415.38	39,017.88	8.21	7.83	(19.86)	(4.63)
CALAMANSI	109,611.59	84,211.93	7,976.68	6,584.72	13.74	12.79	(23.17)	(6.91)
CASHEW	125,863.72	198,360.18	25,180	26,020	5.0	7.62	57.60	52.40
COCONUT	659,219.26	818,146.12	181,784	209,118	3.63	3.91	24.11	7.71
MANGO	15,576.52	21,697.40	5,901.08	5,835.5	2.64	3.72	39.30	40.91
GARLIC	2,127.25	1,943.04	488.57	306.51	4.35	6.34	(8.66)	45.75
ONION	14,816.70	17,579.28	1,805.65	2,117.01	8.21	8.30	18.65	1.10
CACAO	56.97	91.71	89.60	109.45	0.64	0.84	60.98	31.25
OTHER MINOR CROPS	49,615.14	88,357.28	20,520.89	25,871.40	2.42	3.42	78.09	41.32
RDP TARGET								
BANANA					7.60			
CALAMANSI					13.82			
MANGO					3.64			
CASHEW					5.30			
2015 ACCOMPLISHMENT RATE								
BANANA					103.03			
CALAMANSI					92.55			
MANGO					102.20			
CASHEW					143.77			

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Livestock and Poultry

Production of the livestock and poultry subsector reached 115,631 MT in 2015, 14.02 percent higher than the 2010 output of the subsector. The subsector contributed 3.50 percent to total agricultural output.

Hog production increased by 17.04 percent between 2010 and 2015. Other livestock components indicated output increments during the five-year period. At constant price, the subsector's gross receipts in 2014 amounted to P5,961,830. This represented a 14.03 percent increment from the 2010 record (refer to Table 8.5).

Table 8.5 Livestock and Poultry Volume and Value of Production by Animal Type, MIMAROPA, 2010 and 2015

ANIMAL TYPE	VOLUME OF PRODUCTION (MT)			VALUE OF PRODUCTION ('000)		
	2010	2015	% CHANGE	2010	2015	% CHANGE
CARABAO	7,350	6,086	(17.20)	373.45	309.43	(17.14)
CATTLE	10,734	12,268	14.29	752.17	860.13	14.35
SWINE	66,360	77,666	17.04	3,243.01	3,795.73	17.04
GOAT	2,302	2,462	6.95	73.95	79.09	6.95
CHICKEN	9,528	10,643	11.70	524.67	585.78	11.65
DUCK	340	375	10.29	17.62	19.18	8.85
CHICKEN EGGS	4,264	5,608	31.52	221.06	290.43	31.38
DUCK EGGS	533	523	(1.88)	22.49	22.06	(1.91)
TOTAL	101,411	115,631	14.02	5,228.42	5,961.83	14.03

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Fisheries

The volume of fisheries production in all subsectors decreased from 2010 to 2015 (refer to Table 8.6). Commercial fishery production decreased by 12.52 per cent, from 47,980.27 MT in 2010 to 41,972.98 MT in 2015. Municipal fishery production

decreased by 31.20 per cent from 211,880.18 MT in 2010 to 145,766.71 MT in 2015. Aquaculture production decreased by 14.16 per cent from 466,637.74 MT in 2010 to 400,539.66 MT in 2015. Despite lower aquaculture production, the region still ranked 2nd among regions in seaweed production.

Table 8.6 Fisheries Volume and Value of Production by Subsector, MIMAROPA, 2010 and 2015

SUBSECTOR	VOLUME OF PRODUCTION (MT)			VALUE OF PRODUCTION ('000)		
	2010	2015	% CHANGE	2010	2015	% CHANGE
COMMERCIAL	47,980.27	41,972.98	(12.52)	1,835,808.40	2,046,138.48	11.46
MUNICIPAL	211,880.18	145,766.71	(31.20)	8,978,005.57	8,179,908.53	(8.89)
AQUACULTURE	466,637.74	400,539.66	(14.16)	5,327,531.92	3,087,191.12	(42.05)
TOTAL	726,498.20	588,279.35	(19.03)	16,141,345.89	13,313,238.13	(17.52)

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Agrarian Reform

As of December 2015, there were about 965 hectares of CARPable lands processed under the land acquisition and distribution (LAD) program. The

Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) has also facilitated the subdivision and registration of collective certificates of land ownership award (CLOA) covering a total of 2,113 hectares. The total ancestral domain (AD) area estimated in the region is 1,805,470 hectares or 66 percent of the

region's total land area. Out of this area, 13,419.71 hectares or 0.74 percent were awarded to the Mangyans in the form of CADT.

Several programs, including technical support and assistance to agrarian reform beneficiaries through the Agrarian Reform Communities Connectivity Economic Support Services (ARCESS) project, were conducted. Support services

were also provided to indigenous women group through various livelihood projects that provided additional income to women beneficiaries. Other programs for ARBs include agrarian production credit program, community potable water, sanitation and hygiene (CPWASH), DAR-CDA coop development, village level processing center enhancement, and social entrepreneurship.

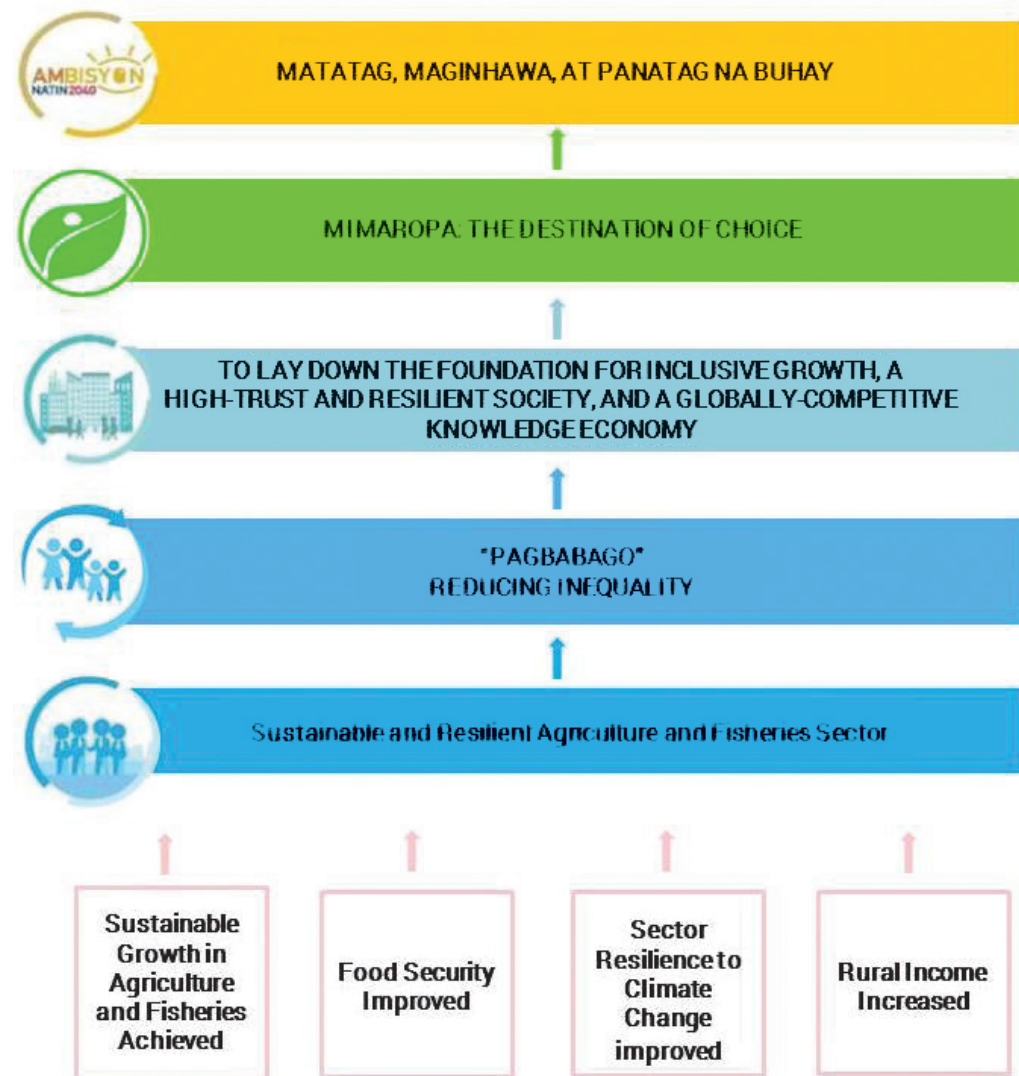
Challenges

The major challenges for the agriculture and fisheries sector are to increase productivity and to promote sustainable farming and fishing practices to avoid resource degradation, water shortage, and marine resource depletion. Climate change and natural disasters expose vulnerabilities. The following deficiencies in the agricultural value chain must be addressed to increase the output of the agriculture sector:

- High cost of production inputs such as fertilizer and pesticides for crops and feeds for poultry and livestock
- Inefficiencies along the agricultural supply chain and logistics support resulting in post-harvest losses, higher transaction and distribution costs
- Limited public sector investments in rural infrastructure, regulatory services, research and development (R&D), training and extension, and market support
- Insufficient use of technologies (certified seeds/varieties, good agricultural practices) due to limited access to technologies, technical knowledge, and financing
- Limited access to formal credit and financing for small processors to invest in needed machineries and technology
- Unsustainable production practices (slash and burn practices, deforestation) and unregulated fishing which threatens the region's natural resource base
- Limited private investment on commodities with comparative advantage and export potential
- Poor implementation of good agricultural practices (GAP) which require more resources for technical and institutional assistance
- Lack of accurate and reliable information necessary to formulate plans and policies to optimize the region's agricultural resources

Strategic Framework

Figure 8.2 Strategic Framework for Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries



Priority Strategies

Measures and interventions must attain long term impact on the incomes of farmers and fisherfolks to improve the productivity and competitiveness of the region's agricultural sector. These include adoption of sustainable farming practices, provision of infrastructure and logistics systems, shift from commodity-based development to area-based development, more agri-processing projects, promotion of self-help food production activities, intensifying technology transfer and extension, and provision of other support services particularly training with capital/micro credit support and marketing assistance. Specifically, the sector must endeavor to:

- Improve coordination and inter agency partnership key players to enhance implementation of agriculture programs and projects
- Creation of a task force for agriculture and fishery development in West Philippine Sea
- Improve capacity of LGUs to ensure effective implementation of development programs and projects including preparation of statistical production reports
- Promote agritourism, ecotourism and agri-entrepreneurship (refer to Table 8.7)
- Implementation of blue growth strategies
- Formulate commodity clustering and industry roadmaps for agribusiness
- Increase public investments on research and development, extension systems, irrigation facilities, regulatory systems, rural infrastructure, seed banks, nurseries, farm mechanization, and post-harvest facilities
- Establishment of ecozones and industrial centers for agribusiness, provision of tax incentives and flexible price stabilization scheme
- Full implementation of the Philippine National Standards for agriculture and fisheries and Food Safety Act of 2013 (RA10611)
- Adopt the National Logistics Master Plan
- Reduce climate change risks and vulnerability of ecosystems and biodiversity
- Transform agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARB) and small-holder farmers into entrepreneur

Table 8.7 Priority Areas for Agriculture and Tourism Development

PROVINCE	AGRICULTURE	TOURISM
ORIENTAL MINDORO THE PEARL OF MINDORO	Fruit processing particularly calamansi, rambutan, and mangoes into juice concentrates, preserved or dried candies/pastilles, marmalade and jelly; banana (saba) into sauce, catsup, chips, strings, powder, and flour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Naujan • Mount Halcon • Bulalacao • Pinamalayan • A Mangyan crafts village and living museum
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO THE MARINE WONDERLAND	Grains by product such as rice hull for cooking fuel, insulating materials, fiberboard and building blocks. Blast-freezing of prawns, crabs, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apo Reef • Pandan Island • Bagond Sabang River • Ambulong Island • Lubang Island
MARINDUQUE THE LENTEN CAPITAL OF THE COUNTRY	Root crop processing particularly arrow root into candies/pastilles/confectionaries; fruit processing; vegetable production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tres Reyes Islands • Balanacan Bay • Pulang Lupa • Elephant Island's • Bellarocca Resort • Luzon Datum, Mogpog • Forest and Wilderness Park, Tumagabok Boac
ROMBLON THE MARBLE CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES	Coconut processing into coconut oil and coco-engine oil and development of the Southern Tablas municipalities (Looc, Alcantara, Sta. Maria and Sta Fe) as major supplier of high value food crops to Carabao Island and Boracay Island.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt Guiting-Guiting • Carabao Island • Alcantara and Sta. Fe as HRD tourism hubs • Marina-Yachting Facility in Looc Bay for Carabao Island visitors. • Sibuyan Island-Romblon Island-Carabao Island and Bulalacao-Coron-Carabao Island circuits
PALAWAN THE LAST ECOLOGICAL FRONTIER	Fruit processing (fruit purees and juices, candies for mango, candies and pastilles for cashew) seaweed processing and aqua-marine processing of tuna, grouper and tiger prawn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabon Caves • Tubattaha Reef • Balabac Island • Coron-San Jose Circuit • Calauit Wildlife Sanctuary

Priority Legislative Agenda

The following are proposed legislative agenda to address some challenges and implement the development strategies:

Table 8.8 Priority Legislative Agenda to Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA	RATIONALE
Incorporate agribusiness in industrial incentives and zoning scheme	Advocate LGUs to promote agribusiness development by attracting agribusiness investments through amendments in their local incentive codes. The LGUs shall also review and amend zoning ordinances if necessary.
Increase budget for agriculture programs including research and development and extension activities.	Encourage collaborative researches among SUCs, regional line agencies, and other research institutions. There is a need to increase research development activities by increasing the budget of agencies mandated to do researches such as DOST, SUCs, and CHED. Collaborative researches and partnership with other research institutions such as National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), Bureau of Agricultural Research, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), and Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD) is encouraged.
Amendment in the National Irrigation Administration Law or RA 3601 to grant free irrigation to farmers	Waive the irrigation service fees to small farmers as many of them cannot afford to pay the fee imposed by the National Irrigation Administration. A minimal fee may be imposed on pump-driven irrigation systems as they have higher operating expenses.
Support Organic Agriculture Act	The Department of Agriculture shall develop a comprehensive organic agricultural program for the region through the promotion and commercialization of organic farming practices, cultivation and adoption of production and processing methods.
Adoption of the Fisheries Code by LGUs	The Local Government Units shall strengthen implementation of laws incorporated in the Fisheries Code. Thus, several investments related to law enforcement to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing to maximize the region's fishery resources.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

The following are priority programs, projects, and activities to implement the agriculture development plan:

- *IT support for fisheries development.* Fisheries related data especially in the local level are necessary in formulating plans and strategies for the MIMAROPA fisheries sector. Establishment of a database system will be vital for activities such as planning, fisheries resource assessment, and coastal resource management.
- National agriculture logistics master plan. The logistics masterplan which is being crafted by DTI in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development Advancing Philippine Competitiveness (USAID-COMPETE) aims to address issues and concerns that affect the competitiveness of the Philippine Logistics industry, including the lack of infrastructure and difficulties arising from regulatory bottlenecks.

- *Advocacy and capability building programs.* This involves trainings and technical assistance to extension workers and farmers on the use of technology, farm practices, and information materials.
- *Expansion of organic agriculture program.* Organic Agriculture contributes to the country's over-all agricultural growth and development, in terms of sustainability, competitiveness and food security. This can be observed in the increasing number of consumers supporting organic food products. This provide opportunities for MIMAROPA to expand organic agricultural areas and promote, propagate, further develop and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the region to become competitive.
- *Philippine Rural Development Program.* The Philippine Rural Development Project is designed to establish the government platform for a modern, climate-smart and market-oriented agri-fishery sector. PRDP will partner with the LGUs and the private sector in providing key infrastructure, facilities, technology, and information that will raise incomes, productivity, and competitiveness in the countryside.
- *Rice and corn productivity programs.* MIMAROPA's Rice and Corn Programs mainly focus on the Food Staples Sufficiency Program (FSSP) of the Department of Agriculture with a mandate to produce enough, accessible and affordable food for every Filipino and a decent income for all. The program aims to address various challenges facing the rice and corn industries such as increasing productivity to ensure food security in the region and contribute in attaining the goal of rice sufficiency in the country. The program also aims modernization of farm technologies to increase productivity, reduce labor cost and decrease post-harvest losses. The program also anchored on implementing and adopting strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change through buffer seed stocking, distribution of stress tolerant rice and corn varieties and concreting of irrigation earth canal.
- *High value crops development program.* The program provides assorted vegetable seeds and planting materials to increase production and income, create livelihood opportunities among farmers, promote the commercial production of high value crops such as onion, garlic, mung bean, peanut and black pepper to reduce the country's importation. It also support value adding/product development projects thru provision /establishment of community based processing facility and the market promotion of high value crops. The program shall expand areas for cashew, rubber, cacao and coffee through provision of quality planting materials to qualified, registered and interested farmers group or cooperatives
- *Livestock and poultry programs.* The Livestock and Poultry programs aim to improve productivity and increase farmers' income by providing

technology, support services and infrastructure. The programs continuously provide trainings and services on goat and native chicken production, beekeeping, artificial insemination and vaccination.

- *Postharvest facilities programs.* Expanding rural infrastructure systems by providing the required farm to market roads in major production areas, water supply system, public markets, cold storage facilities, and other agricultural post-harvest equipment to reduce post harvest losses, extending shelf-life, and improve quality standards of the agricultural commodities in the region.
- *Agriculture common service facilities.* The objectives of common service facilities are to improve productivity of the farmers by supplying inputs to farmers, encourage value addition activities and to establish linkages with exporters, processors and retail chain operators.
- *Multi-Grain processing centers.* The proposed project deals with the establishment of a multi-grain processing center in the Municipality of Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro. The primary purpose of the facility is to transform raw grains (rice and corn) into process and semi-process products including packaging and to increase value and market competitiveness.
- *Regional Research and Development Agenda.* Research is an important component of agricultural development. The Regional

Development Council (RDC) MIMAROPA through the Southern Tagalog Islands Research Development Consortium (STIRDC) should formulate a research and development agenda for the region. The agenda will address the agricultural priority concerns of the region particularly in the production of major crops in coordination with national and regional line agencies such as Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), and the local government units.

- *Resource Management Projects.* The region needs to assess the coastal resource management initiatives in the region to review its impact in socio-economic and environmental aspects. Coastal Resource Management projects aim to ensure sustainable utilization of coastal resources and bring optimal benefits to the people.
- *Establishment of Farmers' Cooperative.* Translating farmer associations into a cooperative is necessary to increase their income and to develop entrepreneurial mindset. Assistance from various governments such as TESDA, DTI, DOLE, and DOST will be vital through trainings on management, benchmarking activities, project proposal preparation, and provision of necessary technologies to jumpstart operations.

- *Kalayaan Group of Islands Integrated and Sustainable Marine Farming Project.* The project aims to develop an economically/ commercially sustainable and environmentally sound marine aquaculture activity in Sabina Shoal,

Ayungin Shoal, Half Moon Shoal, Rizal Reef, Hasa-hasa Shoal, and Royal Captain Shoal, using seaweeds, sea cucumber, cage culture of groupers, etc. in its sheltered lagoons and tidal flat.

09 Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo

Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo

The industry and services sector contributed significantly to the growth of the regional economy. To sustain the growth of industry and services, there is a need to create more opportunities and improve the competitiveness of its subsectors.

Assessment

The desired outcome of the industry and services sector is to expand economic opportunities and increase its share in the gross regional domestic product (GRDP).

Establishments

The number of establishments in the industry sector grew at an average rate of 0.30 per cent from 2010 to 2014 (refer to Table 9.1). The highest growth was recorded in 2011-2012 while the biggest decline of 5.72 per cent was in 2010-2011.

Manufacturing contributed the most number of establishments. On the other hand, the number of establishments in the services sector grew at an average rate of 4.34 per cent from 2010 to 2014. The highest growth of 20.27 per cent was recorded in 2011-2012 which was attributed to the growth in trade and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, personal and household goods subsector. The subsector also topped the record. However, a decline by 0.48 per cent was noted in 2012-2013.

Table 9.1 Number of Establishments by Sector/Subsector, MIMAROPA, 2010-2014

SECTOR/SUBSECTOR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
INDUSTRY	4,002	3,792	4,102	4,111	4,031
MINING AND QUARRYING	32	28	67	64	54
MANUFACTURING	3,866	3,668	3,893	3,900	3,924
CONSTRUCTION	55	41	63	58	35
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY	49	55	79	89	18
SERVICES	13,401	13,387	16,101	16,178	15,647
TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION	583	484	264	251	191
TRADE AND REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS	10,934	10,757	13,015	13,088	12,655
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION	655	645	681	712	766
REAL ESTATE, RENTING & BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	71	183	397	397	365
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENSE, COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	287	391	518	509	467
OTHER SERVICES	871	927	1,226	1,221	1,203
GRAND TOTAL	17,403	17,179	20,203	20,289	19,678

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Employment in the industry sector grew at an average rate of 1.60 per cent from 2010 to 2014 (refer to Table 9.2). The highest growth was recorded in 2011-2012 with 28.47 per cent while the biggest decline with 18.97 per cent was in 2013-2014. Manufacturing remained the biggest employer in the given period. In

the services sector, employment grew at an average rate of 9.25 per cent from 2010 to 2014. The highest growth was recorded in 2011-2012 at 38.07 per cent while a decline of 2.45 was recorded in 2013-2014. Most jobs generated were under the trade and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, personal and household goods subsector.

Table 9.2 Employment Generated by Sector/Subsector, MIMAROPA, 2010-2014

SECTOR/SUBSECTOR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
INDUSTRY	13,812	13,286	17,068	17,188	13,927
MINING AND QUARRYING	1,272	1,246	2,358	1,999	623
MANUFACTURING	10,367	9,352	12,287	12,222	12,016
CONSTRUCTION	511	656	824	984	754
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY	1,662	2,032	1,599	1,983	534
SERVICES	34,881	34,895	48,180	48,823	47,626
TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION	2,451	2,016	1,701	1,612	1,007
TRADE AND REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS	26,261	25,704	37,956	36,890	36,148
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION	3,459	3,486	3,250	4,860	5,079
REAL ESTATE, RENTING & BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	182	373	795	718	651
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENSE, COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	813	1,548	1,985	2,301	2,329
OTHER SERVICES	1,715	1,768	2,493	2,442	2,412
TOTAL	48,693	48,181	65,248	66,011	61,553

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Manufacturing dominates the industry sector in terms of number of establishments and employment. It accounts for 97 percent in number of establishments and 86 percent in jobs created. The number of trade and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods in terms of list of establishment and number of jobs generated dominate the services sector.

Transportation, storage and communication subsector recorded an average growth rate of 7.33 per cent from 2010 to 2015. The highest growth rate was experienced in 2014 to 2015 at 8.87 per cent while the lowest was in 2012 to 2013 at 5.14 per cent.

Wholesale and retail trade subsector recorded an average growth rate of 4.88 per cent from 2010 to 2015. Highest

growth rate was recorded from 2014 to 2015 at 8.29 per cent.

Gross Value Added of the Industry and Services Sector

The industry sector contributed 33.45 per cent to total GRDP while the service sector which includes tourism services contributed 43.74 per cent (refer to Table 9.3). The industry sector's GVA grew by 13.41 per cent from 2010 to 2015 with an average annual growth rate of 2.83 per cent. The highest growth was recorded in 2013 to 2014 at 17.07 per cent while the biggest decline was in 2014 to 2015 due to the reversal of growth in mining and quarrying (MAQ) from 12.1 per cent to negative 7.3 per cent. The production of metallic products decreased due to the shutdown of mine production of CMDC's

Sofronio Espanola mine project in July to December 2015 brought about by the falling nickel price. Based on submitted supply contracts of the mining companies,

the price went down to almost 50 per cent from an average price of \$45.00 per wet metric ton (WMT) in 2014 to an average price of \$23.00 per WMT in 2015.

Table 9.3 Gross Regional Domestic Product by Industrial Origin at Constant Prices (In Thousand Pesos) 2010-2015

INDUSTRY/SECTOR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
INDUSTRY	35,989,267	36,283,964	37,777,652	36,808,184	43,092,811	40,813,734
MINING AND QUARRYING	23,508,566	25,596,991	26,236,928	23,958,734	26,864,254	24,905,096
MANUFACTURING	3,723,047	4,321,901	4,954,154	5,233,237	5,966,458	5,980,739
CONSTRUCTION	8,282,883	5,885,269	6,075,106	7,023,800	9,592,489	9,168,765
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY	474,772	479,803	511,464	592,413	669,610	759,134
SERVICE	38,851,829	40,977,470	44,177,568	47,379,240	49,737,186	53,366,305
TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE & COMMUNICATION	8,881,056	9,593,576	10,312,202	10,841,734	11,614,737	12,644,710
TRADE AND REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS	4,731,643	4,844,489	5,189,678	5,383,987	5,538,852	5,997,780
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION	3,676,108	3,888,054	4,364,562	4,860,205	5,289,930	5,679,089
REAL ESTATE, RENTING & BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	6,145,807	6,674,603	7,714,024	8,458,799	8,548,294	8,521,896
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENSE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	4,782,155	4,731,142	5,149,395	5,410,393	5,655,848	5,750,402
OTHER SERVICES	10,635,061	11,247,606	11,447,707	12,424,122	13,089,525	14,774,472

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Manufacturing GVA grew by 51.26 per cent from 2010 to 2015. The highest growth rate was recorded in 2010 to 2011. The slightest growth was recorded in 2014 to 2015.

The service sector's GVA grew by 37.36 per cent in 2010 to 2015 with an average annual growth rate of 6.56 per cent. The

highest growth rate was recorded in 2011 to 2012 at 7.76 per cent while the lowest was in 2013 to 2014.

Financial intermediation subsector registered an average growth rate of 9.12 per cent from 2010 to 2015. The best performance was recorded in 2011 to 2012.

Table 9.4 Tourist Attractions by Province, MIMAROPA, 2015

TOURIST ATTRACTION	MARINDUQUE	OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	ORIENTAL MINDORO	PALAWAN	ROMBLON
NATURE	x	x	x	x	x
CULTURAL	x	x	x	x	x
SUN & BEACH			x	x	
LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT				x	x
MICE & EVENTS				x	
HEALTH, WELLNESS & RETIREMENT				x	
CRUISE & NAUTICAL				x	x
DIVING & MARINE SPORTS		x	x	x	x
EDUCATION				x	

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

Record of visitor arrivals in the region continued to increase from 2011 to 2015 except in 2012-2013 where it declined by 10.92 per cent due to change in the process

of generating data on accommodation establishments. The highest growth rate was recorded in 2011 to 2012 with 25.52 per cent (refer to Table 9.5).

Table 9.5 Visitor Arrivals by Province, MIMAROPA, 2011-2015

REGION/PROVINCE	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
MIMAROPA	974,183	1,222,833	1,089,400	1,239,594	1,422,580
MARINDUQUE	71,675	2,803	9,489	13,029	20,408
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	49,888	93,837	108,123	167,168	175,910
ORIENTAL MINDORO	127,247	197,218	78,366	89,268	158,700
ROMBLON	84,005	100,879	102,051	41,169	58,654
PALAWAN	641,368	828,098	883,019	936,167	1,008,908

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

In 2015, domestic tourists had the highest share in arrivals followed by foreign tourists and overseas Filipinos (refer to

Table 9.6). Among the provinces, Palawan had the highest share to total tourist arrivals in the region.

Table 9.6 Guest Arrivals by Residence, MIMAROPA, 2015

RESIDENCE	2015	% SHARE
PHILIPPINE RESIDENCE	1,040,085	73.11
NON-PHILIPPINE RESIDENCE	377,926	26.57
OVERSEAS FILIPINOS	4,659	0.32
TOTAL	1,422,580	100

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

The increase in tourist arrivals was attributed to the implementation of various programs and activities such as local and international expositions, exposure trips, accreditations, fora, and promotions conducted by tourism-related establishments and tour operators. Tourism statistics trainings for LGUs improved tourism data generation.

GVA in other services where tourism is accounted in had an average growth rate of 6.87 per cent from 2010 to 2015. The highest increase was recorded in 2014-2015 at 12.87 per cent while the lowest was in 2011 to 2012. It is assumed that tourism was responsible in the growth of the

services sector. Tourism increased activities in construction and consumption in electricity, gas, and water.

Jobs generated in tourism reached a total of 2,309 in 2015 which is 619.31 per cent higher than its baseline record of 321 in 2010 (refer to Table 9.7). Among the provinces, Palawan generated the most number of jobs followed by Oriental Mindoro while Romblon had the lowest. Employment recorded an average growth rate of 77.64 per cent. The highest growth rate was recorded in 2011 to 2012 with 305.86 per cent. Growth in employment manifested an uptrend from 2010 to 2014 but it declined by 23.52 per cent from 2014 to 2015.

Table 9.7 Jobs Generated in Tourism by Province, MIMAROPA, 2010-2015

PROVINCE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
MIMAROPA	321	563	2,285	2,716	3,019	2,309
MARINDUQUE	0	118	3	0	7	18
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	0	0	0	0	50	52
ORIENTAL MINDORO	29	129	180	359	239	2
PALAWAN	292	316	2,102	2,357	2,697	2,222
ROMBLON	0	0	0	0	26	15

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

Tourism establishments in the region are concentrated in Palawan and Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro. As of 2016, the region has 265 accredited tourism

establishments (refer to Table 9.8). Out of 264, 245 are in the Palawan cluster while the remaining 20 is present in the Marinduque-Mindoro-Romblon cluster.

Table 9.8 Number of Accredited Tourism Establishments by Enterprise and Cluster, MIMAROPA, 2016

ENTERPRISE	MARINDUQUE-MINDORO- ROMBLON CLUSTER	PALAWAN CLUSTER	TOTAL
RESORT	14	12	26
HOTEL	1	11	12
TOURIST INN	2	34	36
PENSION HOUSE	-	55	55
TOUR OPERATOR	1	62	63
TOUR GUIDE	-	66	66
RESTAURANT	2	3	5
ADVENTURE & ECOTOURISM FACILITY	-	2	2
TOTAL	20	245	265

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

MIMAROPA boasts several ecotourism areas which are home to several indigenous/endemic flora and fauna species (refer to Table 9.9). Exposure trips promoted the ecotourism sites in the

region. The recent inclusion of Puerto Princesa Underground River as one of the seven wonders of nature has drawn large foreign and local tourists to the site.

Table 9.9 Ecotourism Sites/Protected Areas in MIMAROPA

PROVINCE	ECOTOURISM SITE/PROTECTED AREA	ACTIVITIES
MARINDUQUE	MARINDUQUE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trekking • bird watching • photography • swimming
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	APO REEF NATURAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • swimming/snorkeling • diving • bird watching • island tour • mangrove tour • photography
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	MT. CALAVITE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trekking/ mountain climbing • camping • bird watching • swimming at Agboboc Falls
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	MTS. IGLIT-BACO NATIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trekking • bird watching • swimming • tamaraw encounter • photography
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	NAUJAN LAKE NATIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lake tour (Bangklase) • bird watching • picnicking
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	MT. HALCON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trekking/ mountain climbing • camping • photography • bird watching

PALAWAN	RASA ISLAND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • island tour • bird watching • photography • swimming/ snorkeling/ diving
PALAWAN	MALAMPAYA SOUND PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrawaddy dolphin watching • photography • bird watching
PALAWAN	EL NIDO-TAYTAY MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • island hopping • swimming/ snorkeling • picnicking • diving • photography • bird watching
PALAWAN	URSULA ISLAND GAME REFUGE AND BIRD SANCTUARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • swimming/ snorkeling • picnicking • bird watching • photography
PALAWAN	MT. MANTALINGAHAN PROTECTED LANDSCAPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trekking • bird watching • photography • swimming
PALAWAN	PUERTO PRINCESA SUBTERRANEAN RIVER NATIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • underground river cruise • bird watching • photography • wildlife encounter
ROMBLON	MT. GUITING-GUITING NATURAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mountain climbing • camping • bird watching • photography

Source: Department of Tourism MIMAROPA

Currently, most ecotourism sites in the region are stand-alone and are not linked to other ecotourism destinations except in Puerto Princesa City, thus, limiting the economic opportunities to be created. Accommodations, food, tour guiding, and transport services are among the opportunities that should be considered to make these attractions ready for tourists.

The Regional Development Council (RDC) MIMAROPA felt the need to enhance festivities and cultural activities to attract more tourists. In 2015, the RDC approved the annual conduct of MIMAROPA festival which will serve as one of the region's tourism strategies to attract tourists and investors in the region. The festival is being hosted by the MIMAROPA provinces on rotation basis.

Travelling in MIMAROPA requires a combination of air, sea and land-based transportation. Sea-based transportation is the region's primary mode of inter-island transport. MIMAROPA's sea-based assets include 23 primary and secondary ports, which are under the management of the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA). Other feeder ports are under the management of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), local government units (LGUs) and private sector (mining and gas industries). Integrated port development will help boost tourism in the region. Developing the region's total national road network of 2,260 kilometers remains a priority. In terms of air transport, the region has eleven (11) airports with five (5) producing regular commercial flights. Other airports are classified as community airports. Presently, four of

MIMAROPA's provinces provide connections to Manila and Cebu City.

Domestic Commodity Flow

Domestic commodity flow pertains to the total quantity of domestic trade transactions that flowed through different means of transportation. The total value of the region's domestic commodity outflow recorded an increase of 31.62 per cent from P838,118 in 2011 to P1,103,125 in 2012 (refer to Table 9.10). From 2012 to 2013, the value decreased by 35.80 percent

and from 2013 to 2014, it recovered at a rate of 155.96 per cent at P12,091 and P1,812,794, respectively.

The total value of the region's domestic commodity inflow on the other hand increased by 61.43 per cent from P2,522,318 in 2011 to P4,071,691 in 2012. In 2013, the value increased again by 42.87 per cent but it dropped by 12.70 per cent in 2014, valued at P5,078,643.

The value of the region's domestic commodity inflow in 2014 accounted 50 per cent of the national share while outflow had 50.08 per cent.

Table 9.10 Domestic Commodity Flow (in Thousand Pesos), MIMAROPA and Philippines, 2011-2014

PHILIPPINES/ REGION	2011		2012		2013		2014	
	INFLOW	OUTFLOW	INFLOW	OUTFLOW	INFLOW	OUTFLOW	INFLOW	OUTFLOW
PHILIPPINES	4,714,676	1,673,241	8,164,238	2,205,999	11,700,475	1,417,448	10,157,211	3,619,692
MIMAROPA	2,522,318	838,118	4,071,691	1,103,125	5,817,243	708,241	5,078,643	1,812,794

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Improved water transport services enhanced the flow of commodities in the region.

The Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) spurred growth in the subsector. The expected completion of the Mindoro circumferential road will create new opportunities in investment, trading and tourism.

Investments Generated

As of December 2015, 12,281 business names were registered which is 59.97 per cent higher than its record of 7,677 in 2011 (refer to Table 9.11). In terms of employment, a total of 25,906 were employed in 2015 which is 65.91 per cent higher than its record of 17,077 in 2011.

Table 9.11 Number and Growth Rate of Business Name Registrations and Employment by Industry, MIMAROPA, 2011-2015

ITEM	AGRICULTURE		INDUSTRY		SERVICES	
	BUSINESS REGISTERED	EMPLOYMENT	BUSINESS REGISTERED	EMPLOYMENT	BUSINESS REGISTERED	EMPLOYMENT
NUMBER						
2015	711	2,275	6,404	11,168	5,166	12,463
2014	567	1,656	5,148	8,936	4,570	11,255
2013	356	855	5,089	10,532	3,950	11,150
2012	288	803	4,433	8,884	3,576	8,986
2011	273	704	4,443	8,696	2,961	7,677
GROWTH RATE						
14-15	25.40	37.38	24.40	24.98	13.04	10.73
13-14	59.27	93.68	1.16	(15.15)	15.70	0.94
12-13	23.61	6.48	14.80	18.55	10.46	24.33
11-12	5.49	14.06	(0.23)	2.16	20.77	16.82
Average	28.44	37.9	19.51	7.64	14.99	13.21

Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA

Among the subsectors, industry constantly recorded the highest number of business names registered while services generated the most number of employment.

Business name registration in all industries grew at an average rate of 12.55 per cent from 2011 to 2015 with Occidental Mindoro posting the highest average growth rate at 14.15 per cent.

Employment grew at an average rate of 31.63 per cent from 2011 to 2015 with Romblon recording the highest average growth rate at 16.26 per cent.

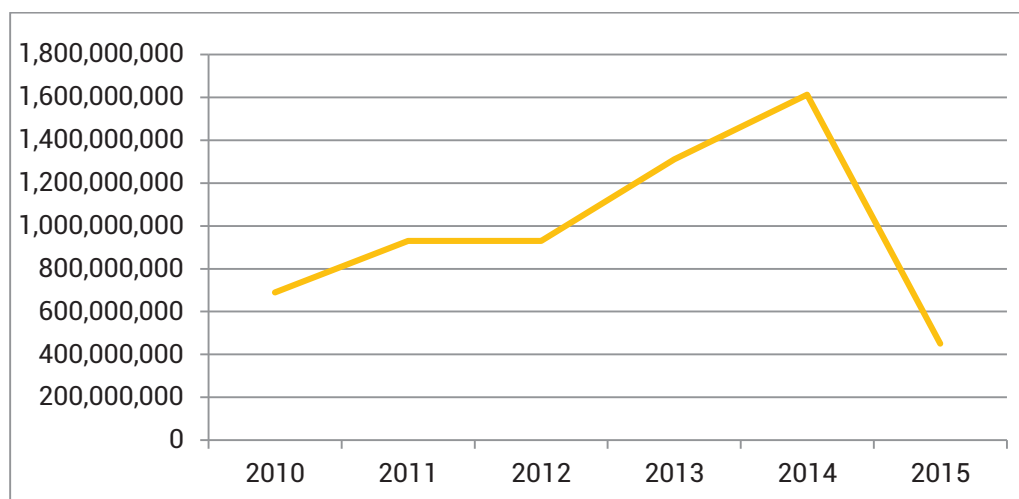
Exports

Total value of the region's exports grew from US\$690,138,853.00 in 2010 to US\$451,159,029.00 in 2015 (refer to Figure 9.1). The region's exports originated mostly from Puerto Princesa City Port. Export earnings in the region generally had an

In 2015, the share of employment in the industry sector is 12.2 per cent. Around 22,940 individuals directly benefitted from government interventions such as business assistance center (BAC) operations, consultancy, business matching, and product development activities. This figure is 9.07 per cent higher than the previous year's. Among the provinces, Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest number of jobs created with 5,751, followed by Occidental Mindoro with 5,094, Romblon with 4,466, Palawan with 4,139, and Marinduque with 3,310.

uptrend except in 2012. The highest was in 2014, valued at US\$1,611,829,911 but declined steeply by 72 per cent in 2015. The decline was due to the high cost of doing business as well as complex import and export procedures. Export products are concentrated in a limited number of goods as well as markets which have been adversely affected by weak global demand.

Figure 9.1 Exports (in US\$), MIMAROPA, 2010-2015



Source: Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA

Challenges

The major challenges for the industry and services sector are to increase investment on processing of major commodities and provide infrastructure support to tourism. Value adding activities will increase the number of MSMEs and create employment opportunities. To increase investments, the cost of doing business must be reduced, provide more efficient communication services, infrastructure, and utilities.

Tourism promotion requires concerted efforts to increase tourist arrivals. Tourism data generated on tourist arrivals, number of tourism-related establishments, transportation, employment and revenue must be accurate and updated. Reliable data are critical in planning and program implementation.

There is a need to strengthen the campaign/advocacy for accreditation of tourism-related establishments

specifically in enterprises with low number of accredited establishments such as restaurant, adventure and ecotourism facility, resorts, and hotels.

Attractions and facilities related to arts, culture and cuisine shall be developed to provide great opportunities. All the provinces have their own culture and native delicacies. The challenge is how to develop the cultural heritage-themed attractions that provide education, entertainment and excitement or 3Es.

Some LGUs where tourism is a significant industry have no permanent tourism officer which may indicate that tourism is not being prioritized. Regional and local tourism councils should be activated to assist in the development of the industry.

Tourism infrastructure such as ports, airports and access roads must be

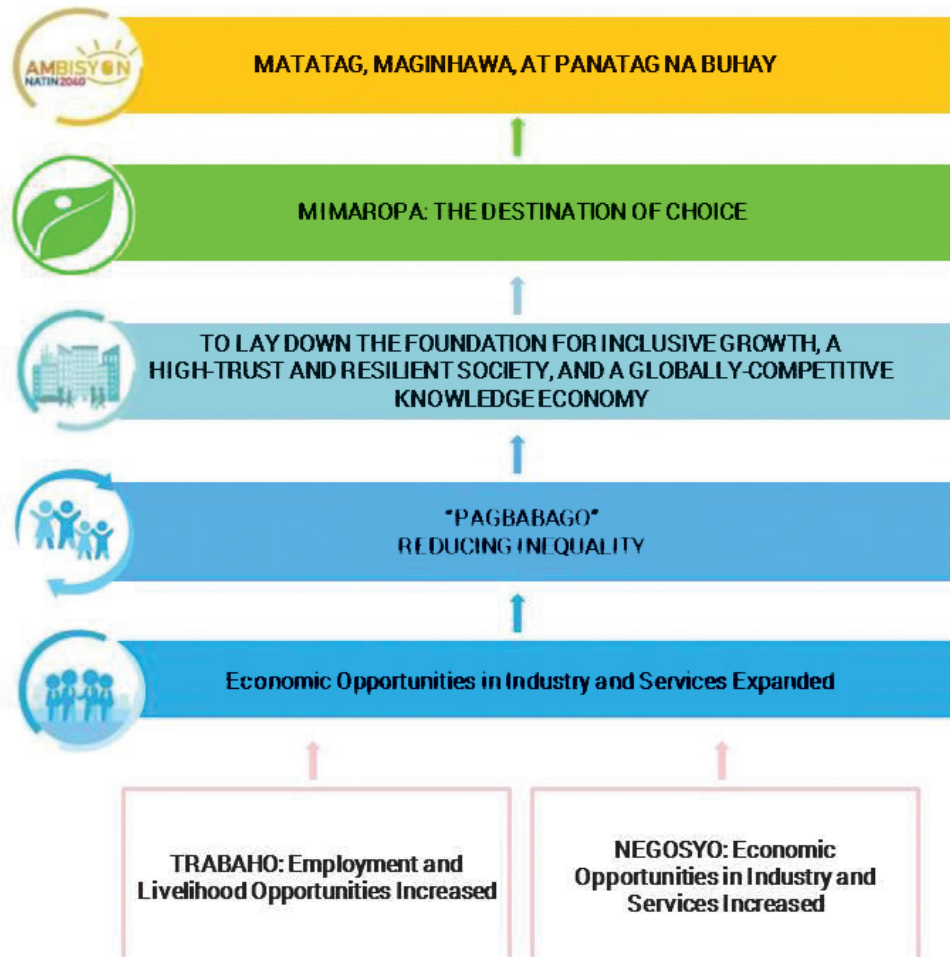
accelerated to increase investments. Strategic road networks are vital to connect tourism and production areas.

The ASEAN economic community is one opportunity to increase the benefits in tourism. However, there is certainty that most of the tourism services, facilities, and

manpower skills in the region do not conform to international quality standards. Accreditation of tourism-related establishments, services, and manpower needs to be accelerated to improve the level or quality of services consistent with ASEAN's mutual recognition agreement (MRA).

Strategic Framework

Figure 9.2 Strategic Framework for Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo



Priority Strategies

Increasing employment and promoting livelihood opportunities are the priority concerns of the industry and services sector. Growth of the sector may be attained by adopting the following strategies:

Sector Outcome A: “*Trabaho*”: Employment and livelihood opportunities in industry and services increased

- Improve business and investment climate through reduction of cost of doing business, efficient infrastructure, communication, utilities, and automation of critical business transactions (e-BPLS, e-RPTACS) at the local level
- Promote and utilize e-commerce and ICT-enabled automation
- Promotion of job-generating industries
- Utilize cities and municipalities competitive index results to improve LGU competitiveness
- Mandate participation of all LGUs in the annual Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) survey to improve the region’s competitiveness
- Conduct of education, capability building and various skills development trainings to professionalize tourism services
- Institutionalize tourism governance and human resources development

Sector Outcome B: “*Negosyo*”: Economic opportunities in industry and services increased

- Intensify the establishment of negosyo centers in every municipality
- Formulate regional and local tourism master plans to identify infrastructure

development, promotion strategies, investment code, and sustainable tourism development standards for tourism facilities and services, and enforcement of tourism regulations

- Activate local tourism councils to support in identification and promotion of new globally competitive tourism products and destinations, enhance existing tourism products, promote ecotourism sites, promote farm tourism, agriculture and ecotourism linkages, formulate tourism circuits within and among the provinces, and establish ecozone areas
- Continue convergence programs among DOT, DPWH, DTI, TIEZA, DILG, and local government units to accelerate tourism infrastructure development such as maintenance and rehabilitation of ports, access roads, sewerage, water supply, and communication services, tourism information centers, information signage, and tourism facilities
- Focus group discussion among LGUs, communities and tourism service providers to enforce generation of tourism data, accreditation of tourism related establishments and services, and security of tourists
- Monitor the establishment of local tourism office and appointment of permanent local tourism officers;
- Focus group discussions among private sector and transport service providers to create new air transport routes such as Puerto Galera, Sibuyan Island, Tablas Island, Lubang Island, Marinduque, and Carabao Island

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 9.12 Priority Legislative Agenda to Expanding Economic Opportunities in Industry and Services through Trabaho and Negosyo

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA	RATIONALE
Formulation of incentives and policy direction to encourage processing of minerals.	MIMAROPA is very rich in mineral deposits. Incentives must be formulated to increase opportunities, such as employment, and other related activities. There is a need to revisit existing provincial mining moratoria
Review and amend Barangay Micro-Business Enterprise (BMBE).	The law should be amended to relax MSMEs requirements, e.g., tax provision, to increase availment of its incentives.
Establishment of Food and Drug Administration office in the MIMAROPA Region	A separate office of FDA for MIMAROPA region will enhance its services and programs for the region.
Legislation of local tourism offices and appointment of permanent tourism officers	Province, cities and municipalities with significant tourism activities and tourism contribution to local economy should create local tourism departments and tourism officers to delineate tourism planning, coordination, and implementation at the local level. Local tourism officers can focus on the development of tourism resources, services, and programs such as generation of statistics, formulation of local tourism incentive codes, organization local tourism councils, promotion, and regulation.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

The following are proposed programs, projects, and activities to attain growth in industry and services in the region:

- Formulation of regional industry roadmaps. Industry roadmap for MIMAROPA major commodities must be prepared to highlight its current situations and outlines the various interventions needed to make them globally competitive. The roadmaps will be crafted by the local industries themselves with the guidance of BOI and other government agencies.
- Support to full implementation of the E-BPLS. The electronic business permit and licensing system (e-BPLS) is an offshoot of multi-agency and multi-sectoral nationwide project on streamlining BPLS to simplify the business registration process in the country. It aims to establish a computer-based business permits and licensing system that will not only effectively enhance the business tax collection performance of the LGU and support the need for information vital to the monitoring of delinquent and inactive business enterprises, but also, and more importantly, uplift the quality of service being rendered to the public.
- Promotion of e-BPLS and e-RPTACS. The system aims to minimize the red tape in the business registration process and real property tax collection. The electronic real property tax collection

system (e-RPTACS) is a system to computerize the management of real property tax billing and collection records, giving fast and accurate computation of reports required to efficiently collect all taxes.

- Conduct of basic skills, technology, and entrepreneurial and productivity improvement trainings. The activity aims to improve and professionalize the manpower and eventually meet the skills requirements of both national and international communities. It also aims to increase the productivity of entrepreneurs to and create more jobs;
- Provide consultancy services/assistance to MSMEs/exporters. This activity aims to constantly improve the efficiency of businesses;
- Provision of finance/credit support to MSMEs. This activity aims to sustain and improve the operation of MSMEs through provision of financial support;
- Conduct of trainings on project proposal preparation. This activity is being conducted to justify public investments and to ensure the viability of projects to be implemented;
- Conduct of MSME congress. This activity aims to apprise the MSMEs on current rules and guidelines on the operation of MSMEs. The RA 9501 or the Magna Carta for MSMEs is the primary basis of the activity.
- Conduct of market matching, product development and trade fairs. The activities aims to provide the MSMEs an opportunity to improve, promote, secure, and sustain market of their products.
- Establishment of pasalubong centers, bagsakan centers, kiosk and travel boutique. These facilities are consumer-

friendly innovation outlets that provide the enterprises a definite place to market and promote their different goods and services.

- Establishment of product traceability. Manufacturers of certain consumer goods must have systems in place to provide a trail of information that follows each item through the supply chain. To ensure product safety and efficient recalls, producers must be able to quickly identify and locate potentially faulty items in the supply chain that could pose a hazard to consumers.
- Promotion and utilization of mimaropaventures.ph, onestore.ph, and visitmimaropa.ph websites. MIMAROPA ventures is an online marketplace for government-assisted MSMEs in the region. Likewise, oneSTore.ph is the physical hub just like a “pasalubong center” consolidating locally-produced products. It is an e-commerce web application that operates nationwide. Visit MIMAROPA is an online tourism portal which is home to a diverse array of tourism destinations. The website greatly helps in promoting the tourism destinations in the MIMAROPA region.
- Create social media account to promote tourism. The popularity of social media is something that would be taken advantage in promoting the region’s tourism.
- Improvement of payment remittance system. The program aims to improve the efficiency in the processing of remittances.
- Establishment of negosyo centers and shared service facilities: Negosyo centers are facilities responsible for promoting ease of doing business and

facilitating access to services for MSMEs within its jurisdiction such as business registration assistance, business advisory services, business information and advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and perform such other function that may be assigned by the micro, small and medium enterprises development (MSMED) Council in relation to RA 10644 (Go Negosyo Act) and other related laws. The shared service facility is a major component of the MSMED program which aims to improve the competitiveness of the MSMEs by providing them with machinery, equipment, tools, systems, skills and knowledge under a shared system.

- Implementation of bamboo cluster projects. The project includes different programs to enhance the productivity and income of different bamboo stakeholders such as growers, furniture makers, and traders.
- Market and product development. Market and product development includes activities which aim to enhance the quality and quantity of produce of the government-assisted enterprises.

Following are the major programs, projects, and activities that would support and accelerate the tourism industry in the region:

- Local tourism promotion
- Establishment of softscapes. Softscapes refer to the live horticultural elements of a landscape which include flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, and flower beds.
- Improve generation of tourism data. Tourism data are inputs in tourism planning which need to be generated regularly and efficiently to formulate updated tourism development plans.

- Formulation of tourism development plans. Tourism development plans serve as guide in accelerating the tourism industry effectively. The plan is a necessary document since tourism is one of the primary growth drivers of the region.
- Advocacy on accreditation of tourism-related establishments. There is a need to promote DOT's accreditation program to increase the number of accredited tourism-related establishments in the region to ensure that most establishment is compliant to the standards of local and international tourism services.
- Conduct of trainings on hospitality, tour guiding and other tourism-related programs. Skills upgrading is needed to make the skills and capability of tourism personnel competitive and compliant to international standards.
- Identify farm-tourism and ecotourism-agriculture areas. Farm-tourism and ecotourism are potential advantages of the MIMAAROPA region. Developing them would help increase tourist arrivals and increase income of the local constituents.
- DOT-DPWH convergence program for tourism infrastructure development. The convergence program aims to facilitate the implementation of tourism road infrastructure projects (TRIP) to enhance access to priority tourism destinations and create more economic opportunities.
- DOT-DICT convergence program for communication system development. The convergence program aims to enhance the provision of information and communications technology and

efficiently promote tourism destinations.

- Implementation of LGU-proposed projects. These projects are proposed LGUs to TIEZA for development such as:

- Bato-bato Hot spring Development Program (Narra, Palawan)
- Sabsaban Falls cultural and eco-tourism development project (Brooke's Point, Palawan);
- Concepcion Falls development program (Busuanga, Palawan);
- Itabiak tourism information counter (San Vicente, Palawan);
- Manlag tourism information counter (El Nido, Palawan);
- Establishment of Tamaraw Falls as heritage park (Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro);
- Development of Muelle as a historical/cultural park (Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro).
- Balabac Port Development
- Laylay Promenade and Construction of Boac by-pass Road
- Calapan Convention Center (Calapan City)

- 1.75 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase I (New Ibajay, El Nido Palawan)
- 1.75 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase II (New Ibajay, El Nido Palawan)
- 1.75 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase III (New Ibajay, El Nido Palawan)
- 0.75 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase IV (New Ibajay, El Nido Palawan)
- 1.50 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase I (Pasadena, El Nido, Palawan)
- 1.50 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase II (Bucana, El Nido, Palawan)
- 1.50 km Road Concreting with Road Widening and Drainage Canal – Phase III (Bucana, El Nido, Palawan)

10 Accelerating Human Capital Development

Accelerating Human Capital Development

Human capital development requires creating an environment where people can rapidly learn and apply their acquired knowledge, skills, and competencies. Strategies to ensure that all MIMAROPAns especially those in disadvantaged sector will have long, healthy, and productive lives, lifelong learning opportunities, and improved income earning abilities shall be pursued.

Nutrition and Health

Assessment

The region embarked in innovative interventions to resolve long standing issues and problems in health and nutrition.

The region's infant mortality rate dropped from 9.64 per 1,000 livebirths in 2010 to 7.96 per 1,000 livebirths in 2015. This surpassed the 2015 target in the updated RDP which was set at 9.89 per 1,000 livebirths.

MIMAROPA's under 5 mortality rate dropped from 12.74 per 1,000 livebirths in 2010 to 10.21 per 1,000 livebirths in 2015. This was very close to the 2015 target in the updated RDP which set at 10.20 per 1,000 livebirths.

Maternal mortality rate decreased from 111.79 per 100,000 livebirths in 2010 to 81.88 per 100,000 livebirths in 2015. However, the region failed to achieve the 52 per 100,000 livebirths target for 2015.

The contraceptive prevalence rate increased from 48.04 per cent in 2010 to 60.93 per cent in 2015. The region failed to achieve the 2015 RDP target which is set at 80 per cent.

The region's proportion of births attended by health professionals increased from 58.23 per cent in 2010 to 81.76 per cent in 2015, but, much way below the 2015 RDP target of 87.32 per cent. Proportion of births delivered in health facilities increased from 44.17 per cent in 2010 to 72.75 per cent in 2015. The region surpassed the 70 per cent 2015 RDP target.

Crude birth rate increased from 19.56 per 1,000 population in 2010 to 20.73 per 1,000 population in 2015. This surpassed the 2015 RDP target of 16.81 per 1,000 population for 2015. The region's crude death rate increased from 3.64 per 1,000 population in 2010 to 4.49 per 1,000 population in 2015. The region failed to achieve the 2015 RDP target which was set at 3.47 per 1,000 population.

The percentage of households with access to safe water in the region increased from 85.85 per cent or 466,297 in 2010 to 94.84 per cent or 534,725 in 2015. The region has a total number of 543,181 and 563,793 households in 2010 and 2015 respectively. The region surpassed the 90 per cent RDP target for 2015.

MIMAROPA's number of households with access to sanitary facilities increased from 266,472 or 49.06 per cent in 2010 to 417,791 or 74.10 per cent in 2015.

Cases of malaria dropped from 368.88 per 100,000 population in 2010 to 247.88 per 100,000 population in 2015 but failed to achieve the 62 per 100,000 population in the 2015 RDP target. Although there were no cases in the provinces of Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque and Romblon, Palawan remains one of the provinces in the Philippines with most malaria cases. There are still some barangays in some municipalities in the province of Palawan with malaria cases.

Death rate associated with malaria slightly increased from 0.40 per cent in 2010 to 0.43 per cent in 2015. However, the region surpassed the 2015 RDP target which is set at 0.65 per cent.

Prevalence rates of underweight and stunting among children under five years of age generally increased for all the provinces in the region except Oriental Mindoro, from 24.9 per cent in 2011 to 31.8 per cent in 2015 and 37.2 per cent in 2011 to 40.9 per cent in 2015, respectively. On the other hand, prevalence rates of wasting and overweight slightly decreased from 10.5 per cent in 2011 to 9.7 per cent

in 2015 and 3.4 per cent in 2011 to 3.2 per cent in 2015, respectively.

Population growth increases healthcare costs through increased healthcare utilization and the need for healthcare expansion. With the growing population of the region, there will be a need to increase healthcare expenditures to meet the demand for more health personnel, healthcare facilities, and medical supplies.

As a result of all the measures and interventions, five targets as indicated both in the updated regional development plan (RDP) and the millennium development goals (MDGs) were achieved – decreasing infant mortality rate, and death associated with malaria, and increasing crude birth rate, proportion of births delivered in health facilities and the proportion of population with access to safe water. However, there are also lagging indicators and some have worsened compared with the baseline year data. These indicators are maternal mortality ratio, proportion of births attended by health professionals, malaria prevalence rate, used of contraceptives and prevalence of underweight and stunting children under five years old.

Challenges

Despite continues implementation of measures and interventions, the following challenges remain:

Gaps in health facilities and services

Although health facilities have been upgraded, there are still incidence of incomplete projects and delays in project implementation. There are numerous

problems that were encountered in the health facilities enhancement program specifically in the service delivery, contracting, funding for building facilities and facility licensing.

High out-of-pockets expenses for medicines

Patients are often still facing high out-of-pocket costs for services and prescription drugs. The out-of-pocket cost for services and prescription drugs should not be so large as to prohibit access to care, especially for those patients with severe and chronic conditions.

Increasing teenage pregnancies

Young mothers are more vulnerable to maternal deaths, stillbirths, and other pregnancy complications. They may also put their child's life at risk as they are more likely to have low birth weight infants.

Inadequacy and uneven distribution of human resources for health

Increase of health professionals in general, responds to global demand rather than on local demand.

Low utilization of Philhealth benefits

Low utilization is prevalent especially among the indigents who either do not know their entitlements or can not afford the still high out-of-pocket costs. Poor families who are expected to have the highest utilization rate, ironically, had the lowest utilization rates among all member groups.

Elimination of malaria

Despite dropped in the number of malaria cases in the region, Palawan remains one of the provinces in the Philippines with most malaria cases.

High prevalence of malnourished children

The number of underweight and stunting among children continues to increase from 2011 to 2015.

Rehabilitation of drug dependents

Intensified program of the national government on illegal drugs has created a sudden influx of people seeking treatment likewise demand for intensified intervention programs from the government. The intervention of the government should not only be corrective but rehabilitative as well.

Basic Education

Assessment

Enrolment rates increased but targets were missed. The elementary net enrolment, cohort survival, and completion rates increased from 88.63 per cent, 74.68 per cent, and 72.92 per cent, respectively, in SY 2010-2011 to 92.12 per cent, 87.95 per

cent, and 87.32 per cent, respectively, in SY 2014-2015. The elementary national achievement test mean percentage score (NAT MPS) increased from 72.87 per cent in SY 2010-2011 to 75.93 per cent in SY 2014-2015.

The targets for elementary net enrolment and achievement rates of 98.10 per cent

and 85 per cent, respectively were not met in 2015. However, the targets for elementary cohort survival and completion rates of 84.67 per cent and 81.04, respectively, were attained in 2015.

The secondary net enrolment, cohort survival, and completion rates increased from 56.55 per cent, 74.40 per cent, and 70.40, respectively, in SY 2010-2011 to 61.97 per cent, 82.44 per cent, and 79.01 per cent, respectively, in SY 2014-2015. The secondary NAT MPS increased from 48.20 per cent in SY 2010-2011 to 52.10 per cent in SY 2014-2015.

The targets for secondary net enrolment, cohort survival, and achievement rates of 87.73 per cent, 83 per cent, and 75 per cent, respectively, were not met in 2015. However, the target for completion rate of 75 per cent was surpassed in 2015 by 0.27 percentage points.

The K to 12 basic education program aims to provide sufficient time for the mastery of concepts and skills, develop lifelong learners, and prepare graduates for tertiary education, middle level skills development, employment, and entrepreneurship. It is in response to the

urgent need to improve basic education in the Philippines.

Issues on the implementation of the K to 12 basic education program such as shortage of classrooms and textbooks, curriculum design, human resource, and the required infrastructure shall be addressed.

Challenges

The mixed performance in basic education points to the need to focus on sectors that are left behind, to improve access to holistic, quality and relevant education. This will entail improving school facilities and providing additional classrooms and teachers to accommodate the number of enrollees of senior high school; ensuring that curriculum is responsive and relevant; and prioritizing the provision of quality learning resources such as textbooks, libraries, tools and equipment, and ICT assisted learning.

There is also a link between malnutrition and poor performance in school such as absenteeism, early dropout, and poor classroom performance of school children.

Higher Education

Assessment

Enrolment in higher education meets the target. As of SY 2014-2015, the region has a total of 48 public and private higher education institutions (HEIs). The public schools consist of six (6) state universities

and colleges (SUCs), two (2) local universities and colleges (LUCs) and forty (40) private higher education institutions. For SY 2015-2016 the region has a total of 49 public and private HEIs, the increase is due to the opening of one (1) new private higher education institution.

Enrolment in HEIs increased from 59,260 in SY 2010-2011 to 86,693 or a 68.36 per cent increase in SY 2015-2016. The target for HEI enrolment of 86,693 was met in SY 2015-2016 by 100 per cent.

Graduates from HEIs also increased from 9,368 in SY 2010-2011 to 17,776 graduates or a 52.70 per cent increase in SY 2015-2016. The target for HEI graduates of 16,724 was surpassed in SY 2015-2016 by 1,502.

The number of board passers increased significantly from 407 in 2010 to 3,877 passers in 2015, registering an 852 per cent increase.

Higher education faculty with masteral degree and doctorate degree increased from 358 and 59 in 2010 to 850 and 306, respectively, in 2015.

The Philippine government in an effort to upgrade the quality of education in the entire country came up with the implementation of the K to 12 basic education program.

The K to 12 transition program is an unprecedented and long-needed investment in Philippine higher education. It is a five (5) year program aim to mitigating the impact and provides support to HEIs and personnel during the transition period. The program aims to utilize the opportunity presented by the foreseen low teaching load in order to

upgrade the quality and relevance of higher education in service of local and national development. Moreover, it will allow HEIs to innovate and grow during the transition through increased support for research, extension, internationalization, industry-academe linkage, and training.

Challenges

Limited access to quality higher education and number of recognized priority higher education institutions programs within the locality and sustainability in the implementation and compliance of higher education institutions to the policies, standards, and guidelines of the specific programs implemented, are major challenges encountered by the higher education sector.

Adding to the challenge of providing quality higher education is the mismatch between higher education and industry arrangements. These may be attributable to underdeveloped 21st century competencies among graduates, and the adherence to a teacher centered and inputs based education paradigm.

Higher education institutions need to be responsive to international challenges and developments in higher education as this can significantly affect the region's competitiveness.

Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

Assessment

The technical vocational education and training sector continues to produce competent middle level workforce.

The number of persons profiled increased by 26.42 per cent from 20,078 in 2010 to 27,287 in 2015.

TVET enrolment slightly increased from 67,486 in SY 2010-2011 to 69,177 in SY 2014-2015. However, the 2015 target of 76,577 enrollees was not attained.

Graduates from the technical vocational institutions increased by 5.25 per cent from 58,593 graduates in 2010 to 61,842 graduates in 2015. However, the 2015 target of 72,930 graduates was not met.

Out of the total number of graduates, 14,651 or 25 per cent were employed in 2010. The number of employed graduates in 2015 decreased to 8,633 or 13.96 per cent. The 2015 target of 72,930 employed graduates was not met.

In 2015, 29,294 persons were certified, which is 31 per cent higher than the 2010 data of 20,174. However, the 2015 target of 40,982 certified persons was not met.

Challenges

TVET programs need to be more responsive to local and regional industry needs. There is a mismatch of manpower needs with TVET programs and job-skills mismatch remains one of the reasons for not attaining the target for employed graduates.

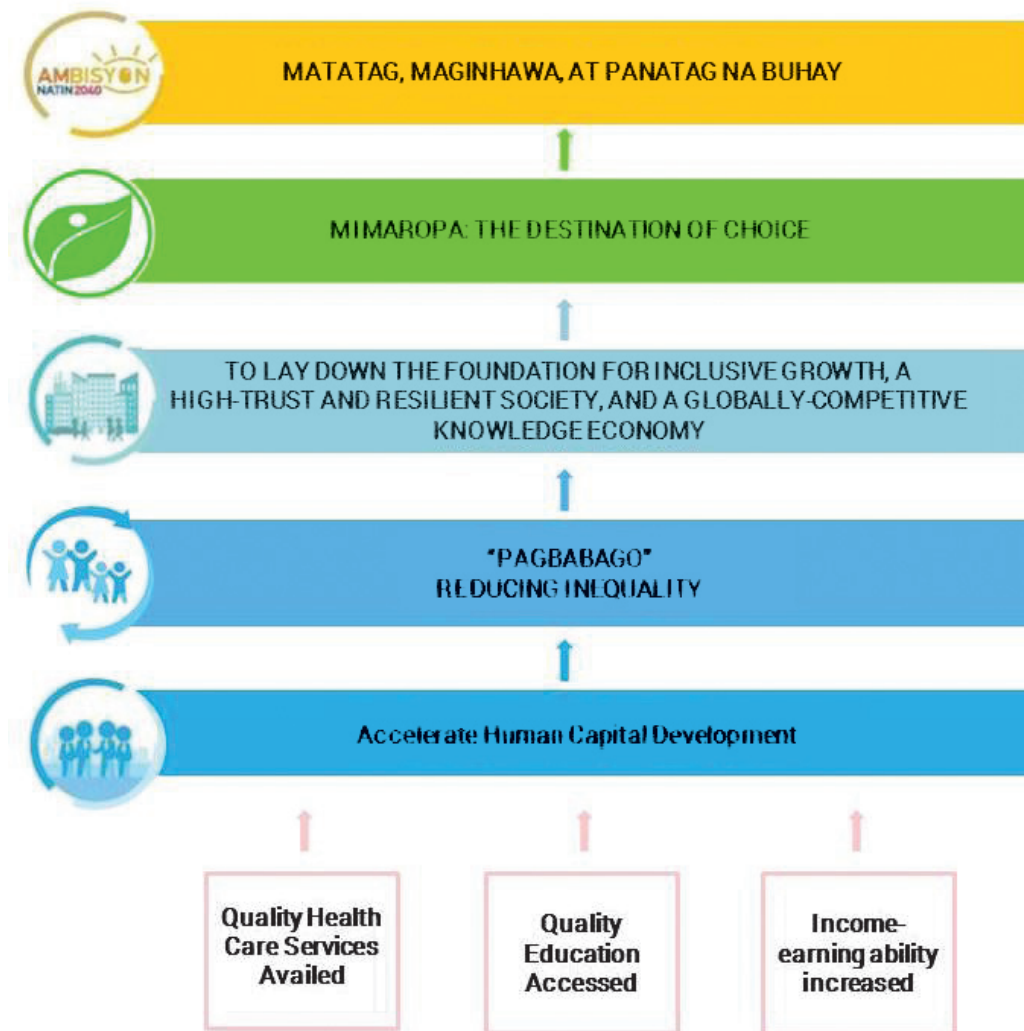
Labor Policies

There was an improvement in the employment rate in the region from 96.1 in 2011 to 96.7 in 2015. However, underemployment rate decreased from 21.6 in 2011 to 20.8 in 2015. This may be

attributed to job-skills mismatch or considerable segment of laborers and unskilled workers. Moreover, the income of the employed is not enough to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

Strategic Framework

Figure 10.1 Strategic Framework for Accelerating Human Capital Development



Priority Strategies

To improve nutrition and health for all, the following strategies shall be pursued:

- Intensify programs on nutrition and reproductive health like the early childhood care and development (ECCD) intervention package for the First 1,000 Days and the full implementation of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Law
- Full implementation of the community based management for acute malnutrition (CMAM) in the areas

where there is high prevalence of malnutrition

- Implementation of drug rehabilitation programs
- Establishment of regional drug rehabilitation center
- Establishment of drug rehabilitation centers in every barangay. The centers will be managed and operated by the barangays. Funding and technical support shall be provided by the DOH
- Advocacy and IEC on the importance and availability of reproductive health services and counselling and education of mother and father on breastfeeding and home care practices for newborn and increasing coverage of maternal, newborn and child health program interventions in remote rural areas
- Ensure high quality services in all local health facilities through provision of adequate quality and quantity of medical supplies, drugs and medical facilities/equipment, adequate staffing and incentives and motivation scheme for local health/hospital workers
- Pursue policy-related measures to recruit, retain and regain skilled health professionals that will satisfy the local demand on human resources for health
- Formulate health financing ordinances at the local level that will provide health insurance coverage for the residents and health funds for the community and design and implement alternative health financing resource allocation mechanisms
- Increase coverage, access and utilization of health care services through implementation of sector wide approach and providing equitable poor, client-oriented and best quality services.
- Improve implementation of health and nutrition programs at all levels – national and local - by improving coordination among the various health program providers or implementers, both public and private, and harmonizing the policies and programs of DOH, its bureaus and attached agencies
- Implementation of RA 10862 or the Nutrition and Dietetics Law of 2016
- Promote good nutrition practices through nutrition education classes, multimedia campaign, nutrition counseling, and integration in the school curriculum
- Continue monitoring and evaluation of local level plan implementation of nutrition programs
- Establishment of nutrition offices in the provincial and municipal levels with qualified personnel and support staff for the proper implementation of nutrition programs
- Conduct of nutrition education and advocacy
- Policy/plan/guidelines development for nutrition
- Implement the Ancestral Domain Investment Plan for Health – This aims to set guidelines that will address access, utilization, coverage, and equity issues in the provision of basic health care services for indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs) to achieve better health outcomes
- Healthcare interventions complementing with indigenous peoples' cultural practices
- Traditional complementary and alternative health care – Improve the quality and delivery of health care services through recognition of

traditional and alternative medicine and its integration into the national health care delivery system.

- Establishment of MIMAROPA medical center
- Establishment of collaborating center for other vector borne diseases – An interdisciplinary research center focused on vectors and vector-borne diseases of significant importance to human health. It aims to develop a network to build collaborative research in the region involving health professionals, academic institutions, and other private organizations having shared interests.
- Improve the implementation of the health information system
- Implementation of Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2022
- Implementation of the Philippine Health Agenda 2016-2022
- Creation of National Nutrition Council (NNC) MIMAROPA with complete plantilla positions. Full staff complementation will help the agency perform its functions efficiently and improve the nutritional status of the MIMAROPAns.

Lifelong learning will be pursued to attain both personal and regional goals. MIMAROPAns will be equipped with 21st century skills to engage in meaningful yet rewarding careers in today's changing world of work. It will also contribute to the development and growth of the agriculture, industry, and services sectors of the region. Education will also be made accessible to vulnerable groups and those not reached by formal education to yield greater equity in human development

outcomes. To ensure that good quality education and training are accessed by all, the following strategies shall be pursued:

- Expand and upgrade school buildings and facilities and teaching resources/tools to accommodate student enrolment demands as well as comply with local and national standards
- Improve the quality of education through modern and up to date teaching and learning processes and methods, laboratory, classroom equipment and facilities, ICT rooms/facilities/equipment and training and retooling of teachers
- Continue curricular reforms. Conduct periodic review of basic education curriculum to enhance their practicality, relevance, appropriateness, content and quality. Emphasis will be given to culture and arts, drug abuse prevention, reproductive health, gender, environmental awareness, disaster risk reduction and management, and climate change.
- Strengthen advocacy on indigenous peoples education through various media campaigns (print, radio and television) to inculcate awareness to both IP and non IP communities on the need for viable, culture-sensitive, and effective IP education curriculum
- Strengthen inclusion programs. Improving mechanisms for mapping, profiling, and tracking of learners and school-aged children will ensure that learners with special needs, indigenous peoples (IPs), and out of school youth are provided with appropriate educational interventions. Strengthening the alternative learning

system (ALS) will make education more accessible to those people from different socioeconomic backgrounds along with the Implementation of DepEd Department Order No. 62 (S. 2011) adopting the National Indigenous Peoples (IP) Education Policy Framework.

- Promote courses responsive to the needs of regional development such as agriculture and tourism related courses
- Strengthen alternative learning system (ALS) to make education more accessible to people from different socioeconomic backgrounds
- Continue implementation of school-based feeding program to address the nutritional needs of students to ensure physical and mental capacity to complete study
- Modify K to 12 system. The current K to 12 basic education program must be reviewed. Funding is a major constraint in the implementation of K to 12. Academe and industry linkage at the secondary level will help solve the problem of lack of funds for high school technical and vocational training. It is proposed that the 2 year senior high school will be required only for students who opt to pursue a college degree. As implemented, the K to 12 program covers kindergarten plus 12 years of elementary and secondary education. More specifically, the current K to 12 program uses the K-6-4-2 model which includes one year kindergarten, six years of elementary education (Grades 1 to 6) four years of junior high school (Grades 7 to 10) and two years of senior high school (Grades 11 to 12). The two years of senior high school are designated under different "tracks" to

prepare students for college, vocational, or technical education. It is proposed that the additional two years pre-college course shall be offered by the state universities and colleges (SUCs) and private higher education institutions (HEIs). The cost of the additional two years shall be borne by the student so the additional two years will no longer put additional burden on DepEd in terms of facilities, faculty, and operating expenses. Those who opt not to pursue college degrees shall be considered high school graduates and shall be given high school diploma after finishing mandatory basic education, i.e., six years elementary and four years secondary which have been proven sufficient to qualify students for post secondary technical, specialized, and vocational trainings. Students who will not pursue college degrees will not be required to go to senior high school (additional two years of basic education) so they can already proceed to advanced technical, highly specialized, or vocational courses. This will shorten the period and lower the cost of training for most technical and vocational workers.

- Expand access to higher education. Effective and efficient implementation of the Republic Act 10687 or the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education Act (UniFAST)
- Enhance the quality of higher education programs. Quality higher education can be enhanced through the implementation of and compliance with the outcomes-based education, provision of institutional development and innovation grant, and upgrading the qualification and capability of

- qualified and committed faculty and non-faculty of higher education institutions through faculty development program, scholarship for graduate studies and provision of financial assistance for thesis and dissertation preparation.
- Provision of institutional development and innovation grant
 - Upgrade the qualification and capability of qualified and committed faculty and non-faculty of higher education institutions
 - Constant monitoring and evaluation of higher education institutions and programs
 - Strict implementation of the policy on the declared priority programs of the commission
 - Integrate 21st century competencies. Enhance the curriculum of higher education institutions to meet industry standards and qualifications criteria and produce graduates who can demonstrate 21st century competencies, lead, compete, and excel in the global economy. Courses responsive to the needs of regional development such as agriculture and tourism related courses should also be promoted.
 - Conduct of TVET impact assessment
 - Review TVET programs to make it more responsive to local and regional industry needs and skills development of local labor force for self-employment opportunities and in line with key employment generators
 - Provide/Strengthen job facilitation for employment seekers abroad and in other regions
 - Encourage business investment to create jobs for skilled workers
 - Continuous provision of scholarship programs in the TVET sector by the government
 - Strengthen networking with the organized bodies of TESDA, regional and provincial TESD committees to ensure an improved governance in technical vocational education and training
 - Develop a bridging program to match industry requirements with available supply of trainees/skilled workers
 - Conduct of trainers' training on new and emerging technologies or industries that is anchored to international standards, as well as, industry immersion that will help upgrade the skills of TVET trainers
 - Most technical and vocational trainings can and should be offered at the secondary education level. This is where academe and industry linkage is more appropriate and should be promoted. Those who cannot afford to go to college are the ones who need support in acquiring employable skills and in finding jobs. It has been proven historically that graduates of the schools of arts and trades were employable after completing vocational secondary education. Industry must focus its linkage and assistance to vocational education at the secondary and post secondary levels. The "arts and trades" vocational and technical training must be provided in high schools where it is feasible. Companies can provide financial and technical assistance to allow as many high schools as possible to offer vocational training in skills needed by industries. Trained faculty and state of the art industrial training

equipment are necessary to produce employable high school graduates.

- Expand academe-industry collaboration. Linkages between

academic and training institutions and industry shall be strengthened to look into ways of supporting enterprise-based trainings through the provision of training grants.

11

Reducing
Vulnerability of
Individuals and
Families

Reducing Vulnerability of Individuals and Families

The region realized the challenge of improving the lives of disadvantaged sector and the resiliency of poor individuals and families through enhanced social protection services. The plans and targets to reduce poverty are more focused on enhancing the quality of life of the poor. The government and other stakeholders shall continue to implement strategies to reduce vulnerabilities of individuals and families by decreasing their exposure to risks and increasing their adaptive capacities.

Assessment

Poverty is a universal and recurrent problem which resulted to many challenges in the lives of the children, youth, women, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and all members of the family. A high dependency ratio and scarcity of employment opportunities impede the development of an individual, family, and the community. Children have been deprived of education, unhealthy and exposed to various risks. Likewise, youth and women's full potential were not maximized due to poverty.

From 2009 to 2015, the number of identified poor households decreased by 14.3 per cent from 242,633 poor households in 2009 to 207,863 poor households in 2015. Poor households have access to social protection programs such as Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino program, sustainable livelihood program, social pension and other social protection programs of national government

agencies, local government units and other stakeholders.

The 2015 Listahanan household assessment showed that Palawan with 83,520 poor households topped the 5 provinces of MIMAROPA with the highest number of poor households. This is followed by Oriental Mindoro with 53,323 poor households, Occidental Mindoro with 37,983 poor households, Romblon with 19,860 poor households and Marinduque with 13,177 poor households.

The improvement in the level of well being of poor households is the target outcome of convergent efforts of the government and its program partners. A total of 195,629 poor households in the region have received 2 or more social protection services through convergence.

The number of poor households covered by regular conditional cash transfer

increased by 171.4 per cent from 67,285 households in 2010 to 182,648 households in 2015. There were 3,590 indigenous peoples beneficiaries under the modified conditional cash transfer.

In 2011, a convergence strategy was introduced including the complementation of the three (3) flagship poverty reduction programs, namely: Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS), sustainable livelihood program and the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino program.

The number of beneficiaries served under the sustainable livelihood program increased by 590.4 per cent from 2,719 household beneficiaries in 2011 to 18,773 household beneficiaries in 2015.

On the KALAHI-CIDSS program, the number of completed projects increased by 785.3 per cent from 95 projects in 2012 to 841 projects in 2015. Among the subprojects are farm to market roads, schools, evacuation centers, day care centers, water systems, etc.

Other social protection programs for the vulnerable sectors such as persons with disability (PWDs), children, youth, women, senior citizens and indigenous peoples were also provided.

Persons with Disability

PWDs are one of the society's most marginalized groups. The cause of this marginalization boils down to one common thread: barriers. Barriers to participation, opportunities and success

exclude PWDs across all sectors of society by limiting their ability to benefit from and participate in development process at all levels. The region has a total of 38,865 persons with disabilities wherein 14,453 are poor individuals. A total of 94 PWDs and parents of children with disability were trained. Likewise, a total of 44 PWDs were provided with financial assistance and other needs.

Children

In MIMAROPA, children comprised the large part of the population. There were 933,188 children assessed wherein 47.3 per cent are poor children living mostly in rural areas. Out of this total, 558,639 children aged 0 to 14 years old living in poor household, almost half are in Occidental Mindoro with 48.4 per cent. According to UNICEF, nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition. For the MIMAROPA region, both underweight and stunting have slightly increased its percentage of 4.2 and 5.1, respectively. In response to the increasing rate of malnutrition, the number of beneficiaries served through the supplementary feeding program increased by 66.1 per cent from 82,536 day care children in 2011 to 137,060 day care children in 2015.

The result of Listahanan 2nd round assessment shows that in MIMAROPA, almost 55 per cent or 82,839 children, both poor and non-poor children are not attending day care service out of the total assessed 128,130 preschool children in 2015. Out of the 82,839 children who are not attending day care

service, 63 per cent or 52,403 children are identified as poor.

Although the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino program only supports children until high school, the program continues to work with other national government agencies for children to achieve a higher level in education. Children who are in college level are referred to the students grants in aid program for poverty alleviation programs of educational institutions. In 2015, there are 2,172 students under this program enrolled in state universities and colleges in the region.

The region has reported 472 children in conflict with the law (CICL) cases, 50 per cent or 248 are from Palawan, 21 per cent or 103 from Occidental Mindoro and 14 per cent or 70 are from Marinduque. Oriental Mindoro and Romblon have 31 and 20 reported CICL, respectively. Children mostly committed cases on theft, rape, vagrancy and robbery.

Youth

Republic Act (RA) No. 8044 or the Youth in Nation-Building Act declares that the youth is the critical period in a person's growth and development from the onset of adolescence towards the peak of mature, self-reliant and responsible adulthood comprising the considerable sector of the population from the age of fifteen (15) to thirty (30) years. The region was able to assess 749,860 youth, 40.23 per cent or 301,657 of which are poor. Furthermore, 25.60 per cent or 40,180 poor youth who are also head of their households while 2 per cent or 5,924 are poor youth solo parents.

To continuously monitor the progress of youth served by the MIMAROPA youth center, a regular conduct of psychological assessment to residents and academic group sessions were done. The center served thirty four (34) residents. On the other hand, community based services have served a total of 4,822 clients across all sectors, disaggregated as follows:

Table 11.1 Services Offered to Children and the Youth, MIMAROPA

SECTOR	SERVICES	NO. OF CLIENTS SERVED
CHILDREN	Children in need of special protection (referrals, TA on case managers)	11
	Certification of minors traveling abroad	4,728
	Child placement services	12
YOUTH	Government internship program and immersion outreach program	71
TOTAL		4,822

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development MIMAROPA

Women

Women sector in the region constitutes 568,387 or 48.1 per cent of the total identified poor individuals. Full empowerment of women has always been the goal that the government wants to achieve. Based on the 2015 Listahanan assessment, there are 568,387 poor women in the region. This represents 45.20 per cent of the total 1.25 million women assessed.

The reported cases on women in especially difficult circumstances (WEDC) decreased by 69.6 per cent from 69 cases in 2013 to 21 cases in 2015. Aside from services provided to WEDC, one of the programs that is being implemented is the recovery and reintegration program for trafficked persons (RRPTP). Advocacy campaigns on anti-human trafficking through community orientations and youth assemblies are continuously strengthened to promote awareness and information to prevent human trafficking. A total of 100 women victim-survivors of trafficking were provided with support and financial assistance for employment and other needs.

On community participation, 20 per cent or 3,554 beneficiaries of the total employed in subproject implementation of KALAHI-CIDSS are women. For aid to individual in crisis situation, 18 women clients were provided with financial assistance and other needs.

Moreover, several social welfare development laws that cater to the women sector were disseminated and monitored to be implemented and complied by

LGUs. These are as follows: RA 9262 (Anti-Violence against Women and their Children Act of 2000), RA 9710 (Magna Carta of Women), RA 7192 (Women in Development and Nation Building Act of 1988), RA 8505 (Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998), and RA 8353 (Anti Rape Act of 1997).

Older Persons

The 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to design programs of social security for the elderly members of the society. The family, community and the government shall recognize the rights of senior citizens and take their proper place in society. Among the 176,983 senior citizens in the region, the number of poor senior citizens covered by social pension increased by 921.8 per cent from 4,824 in 2010 to 49,296 in 2015. This surpassed the 2015 target in the updated RDP which was set at 17,102 senior citizens. Of the total number of poor senior citizens, 50.7 per cent are female and 49.3 per cent are male wherein mostly found in the provinces of Palawan and Oriental Mindoro. Of the total poor households, 11.4 per cent or 23,160 poor households are headed by senior citizens.

Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous peoples are inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures and ways of relating to people and the environment. Despite their cultural differences, indigenous peoples share common problems related to the protection of their rights as distinct peoples. The 2015 Listahanan database listed 482,986

indigenous peoples wherein 317,924 or 65.82 per cent are poor individuals. They are mostly found in the provinces of

Palawan and Mindoro that comprises 28.2 per cent of the total poor households in the region.

Table 11.2 Number of Poor and Non-Poor Indigenous Peoples by Province, MIMAROPA, 2015

REGION/PROVINCE	POOR	NON-POOR	TOTAL
MIMAROPA	317,924	165,062	482,986
MARINDUQUE	28	31	59
OCC. MINDORO	41,692	2,526	44,218
OR. MINDORO	55,181	7,188	62,369
PALAWAN	209,735	142,835	352,570
ROMBLON	11,288	12,482	23,770

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development – 2015 *Listahanan*

The indigenous peoples are vulnerable to preventable and communicable diseases. The isolation of IPs, lack of poor distribution of health personnel, services and health facilities contributes to IPs vulnerability. The government continues to identify programs that will address existing gaps in the delivery of essential services to IPs in the region.

The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997 provides that the State shall protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs) to their ancestral domains to ensure their economic, social and cultural well-being and shall recognize the

applicability of customary laws governing property rights or relations in determining the ownership and extent of ancestral domain. Ownership has to be protected by the State through an instrument called certificates of ancestral domain titles (CADTs). The CADTs ensure the uninterrupted exercise and enjoyment by IPs of the rights and privileges attached to collective ownership to the exclusion of other. As of January 2016, there are 20 approved CADTs comprising 709,508.36 hectares with 58,002 right holders. This is 13.88 per cent of the 5,110,393 hectares approved in the entire Philippines.

Natural Risks

There are about 37,852 households in the MIMAROPA region who were displaced

due to natural and man-made disaster, armed conflict and development projects

Table 11.3 Number of Internally Displaced Poor Household by Classification, MIMAROPA, 2015

CLASSIFICATION	TOTAL
DISPLACED HOUSEHOLD DUE TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTER	35,858
DISPLACED HOUSEHOLDS DUE TO ARMED CONFLICT	244
DISPLACED FAMILIES DUE TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	215
OTHERS	1,535

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development – 2015 *Listahanan*

Economic Risks

The class and nature of employment of individuals have significant impact on the poverty status of every household. In MIMAROPA, 179,209 poor individuals with short-term or seasonal job, business or unpaid family work shares 60.1 per cent of the total poor individuals aged 15 years and above where mostly are engaged as farmers, forestry workers and fisherfolks and laborers or unskilled workers. Furthermore, 93,773 poor individuals or 31.4 per cent belong to the category with permanent job, business or unpaid family work. With insignificant number of 25,253 or 8.35 per cent are working for different employers or customers on day-to-day or week-to-week basis.

The region has brought significant accomplishments in addressing the various risks being faced by the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors. The introduction of convergence strategy and complementation of the three flagship poverty reduction programs: KALAHI-CIDSS, sustainable

livelihood program (SLP) and Pantawid Familyang Pilipino program ensured that the capacities of the targeted poor families to access opportunities to move their level of well-being are improved. However, the region's employment sector was being challenged by natural and man-made risks. Natural disasters had ruined the employment situation as well as the productivity of the region. Moreover, due to the suspension of mining companies, numerous workers were displaced. Emergency employment program was implemented in the region to reinforce all affected workers during disasters. To further promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, the region will continuously ensure full and productive employment. Furthermore, the rights of workers including migrants will be protected in order to guarantee safe and secure working environments as well as improve the level of well-being of vulnerable sectors.

Poverty Situation

From 2009 to 2015, poverty incidence in MIMAROPA dropped by 6.2 percentage points from 27.2 per cent in 2009 to 17.4 per cent in 2015 but remained higher than the national average of 16.5 per cent. All provinces posted decline except Occidental Mindoro which increased by 5.0 percentage point from 25.0 per cent in 2009 to 30.0 per cent in 2015.

Consequently, the region's subsistence incidence decreased by 3.9 percentage points from 9.8 per cent in 2009 to 5.9 per cent in 2015. The province of Occidental Mindoro registered increased by 7.5 percentage points from 8.3 per cent in 2009 to 15.8 per cent in 2015.

Table 11.4 Poverty Incidence among Families and Subsistence Incidence among Families by Province, MIMAROPA, 2009, 2012, and 2015

REGION/PROVINCE	POVERTY INCIDENCE AMONG FAMILIES			SUBSISTENCE INCIDENCE AMONG FAMILIES		
	2009	2012	2015	2009	2012	2015
PHILIPPINES	20.5	19.7	16.5	7.9	7.5	5.7
MIMAROPA	27.2	23.6	17.4	9.8	8.4	5.9
MARINDUQUE	27.4	23.9	11.7	10.4	6.2	1.9
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	25.0	29.8	30.0	8.3	13.6	15.8
ORIENTAL MINDORO	28.8	21.5	15.0	9.8	8.1	6.8
PALAWAN	25.3	20.5	11.9	10.4	6.7	2.2
ROMBLON	32.6	30.4	28.1	9.7	9.0	5.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

The improvement in poverty reduction was attributed to the implementation of different social protection services. Furthermore, conditional cash transfer has augmented the income of the poor households. The regularity of the cash transfer for poor household beneficiaries has accorded them some resiliency to risks and vulnerability. The program also induced more economic activities in poor barangays given the presence of a cash economy. These conditions may have also encouraged a number of them to diversify their livelihood sources.

The impact of cash grants was evident in the reduction of malnourished children, upturn in survival rate in school and reduction of poverty and subsistence incidence. The program has helped in sustaining the attendance of students in school, improving the nutritional status and reducing hunger among poor families.

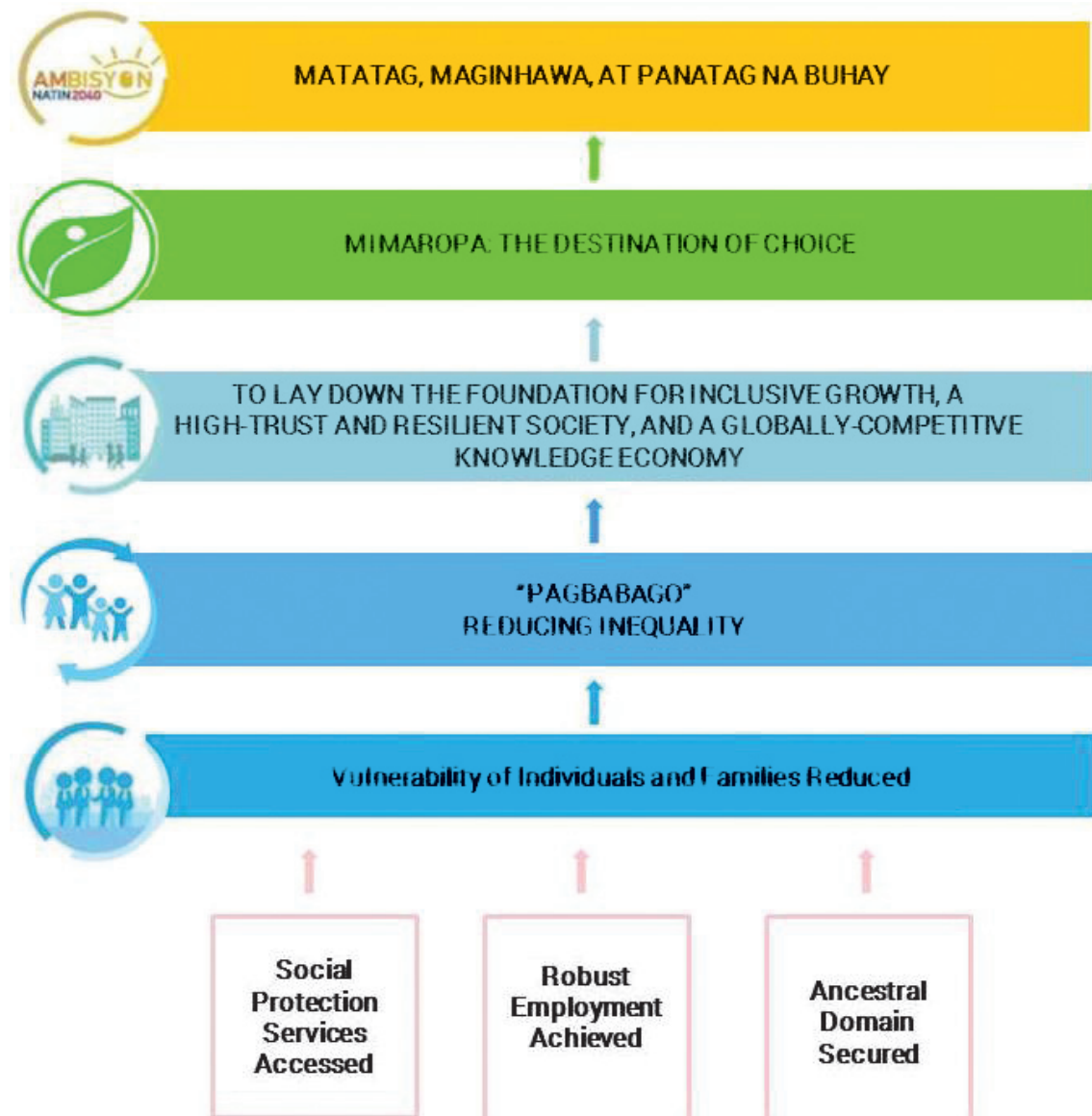
The increased budget and sustained implementation of social development programs has improved the resiliency of poor individuals and families and the vulnerable sector to risks and shocks.

Challenges

- Reduction of poverty incidence
- Early learning for children below 6 years old remains a major concern. Despite the passage of a national law on early childhood care and development, many parents still shun the practice of early learning stimulation whether through formal or non-formal structures
- Limited information/data on cases involving children, youth and women in especially difficult circumstances submitted by LGUs/CSOs
- Continuity of social protection programs to poor and disadvantaged beneficiaries
- Limited compliance on the implementation of laws for the protection and welfare of PWDs and senior citizens
- Poor implementation of Batas Pambansa Bilang 344 in local government units Awareness and implementation of policy concerning lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual and intersexed (LGBTIs)
- Ownership of and access of IPs to their ancestral domains
- Complementation of livelihood programs as well as partnership with micro-finance institutions for employment of target beneficiaries
- Insufficient information on displaced workers including migrants
- Limited implementation of safety nets program for the employment sector

Strategic Framework

Figure 11.1 Strategic Framework for Reducing Vulnerability of Individuals and Families



Priority Strategies

- Strengthen safety nets programs and convergence on social protection interventions
- Sustain feeding program
- Assessment and accreditation of child development centers
- Increase coverage of social pension program
- Expand convergence on livelihood programs. A graduation program shall be included in the program design of sustainable livelihood programs to ensure self reliance among the beneficiaries.
- Sustainability of projects by communities and local government units
- Establish/Improve social welfare protection centers in all municipalities. The LGUs must provide sufficient funds to assist persons in distress
- Strict implementation of Batas Pambansa Bilang 344 – An Act to enhance the mobility of disabled persons by requiring certain buildings, institutions, establishment, and public utilities to install facilities and other devices
- Promote local policies concerning LGBTIs
- Completion of the formal recognition of IPs claims to their ancestral domain titles
- Fast track the issuance of certificate of ancestral domain titles (CADTs)
- Reinforce the practice of volunteerism by harnessing the services of volunteers from the sectors of the academe, corporate, nongovernment organizations, and government in the delivery of social services, provision of technical assistance, responding to disaster and undertaking humanitarian efforts especially in serving the needs in geographical isolated and depressed areas in the region
- Complementation of livelihood programs as well as partnership with microfinance institutions for employment of target beneficiaries of social protection programs
- Mapping of industries and businesses
- Full implementation of social protection programs for workers including migrants
- Pursue research study on migration and development

Priority Legislative Agenda

- Philippine Adoption Act for Abandoned and Neglected Children and for Children with Special Needs
- Anti-Senior Citizen Abuse Act
- An Act Establishing a Disability Support Trust Fund
- Amend Republic Act 8972 on Benefits and Privileges to Solo Parents and their Children
- Social Security Initiatives
- Amend Accessibility Law
- Unemployment insurance or involuntary separation benefit system
- Extension of maternity and paternity leave benefits
- Mandatory establishment of women-child friendly spaces in all evacuation centers in the country
- Evacuation Center Act

12 Building Safe and Secure Communities

Building Safe and Secure Communities

The right to adequate housing is one of the most important basic human rights. Adequate housing requires land, services and the dwelling itself. The 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall undertake a continuing program which will make available at affordable cost, decent housing and basic services to underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlement areas. The right of access to adequate housing suggests that it is not only the State that is responsible for the provision of houses, but that other agents within society, including individuals themselves must be enabled by legislative and other measures to provide housing.

Assessment

The government housing corporations namely, Home Development Mutual Fund, National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation, Home Guaranty Corporation, National Housing Authority, and Socialized Housing Finance Corporation formulated their respective manuals of corporate governance and no gift policy which was approved by their respective governing boards. These are significant tools to ensure transparency and accountability with utmost degree of professionalism and effectiveness.

The key shelter agencies (KSA) adopted risk management programs to ensure continued viability such as capital adequacy framework, credit scoring, other risk reports and the KSAs' respective code of good governance and code of ethics.

Technical assistance in the conduct of orientation, training workshops and write

shops on local shelter plans for local government units (LGUs) was provided by the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC). The Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) instituted reforms on the centralization of the approval of the housing loan applications. HDMF also extended calamity loans to members who were affected by different typhoons that hit the region. Continuous provision of technical assistance to local government units in coming up with complete local shelter plans was conducted to facilitate better housing projects especially for informal settlers, families and communities in vulnerable and disaster prone areas. However, for the past years, efforts made by the government on instituting reforms with regard to the housing needs of the region was very minimal and does not respond to the immediate concerns of the sector.

HUDCC and NHA coordinated with DENR in segregating the areas identified for resettlement, for issuance of any appropriate tenurial instrument. In addition to the permanent housing projects of NHA for typhoon victims, the Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) also undertook projects for its members in affected areas in the region.

The government is in the process of amending the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) on housing cooperatives

to strengthen the implementation of cooperative housing programs. Aside from amending the IRR, the concept of cooperative housing was also harmonized with the existing housing programs.

Based on the profile of poor families in MIMAROPA, majority of the poor households have their own or owner-like possession which comprised 86,030 households or 41.4 per cent of the total poor households in the region.

Table 12.1 Percent Distribution of Poor Households by Tenurial Status, MIMAROPA, 2015

TENURIAL STATUS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
OWN HOUSE, RENT LOT	2.1
RENT HOUSE INCLUDING LOT	2.1
OWN OR OWNER-LIKE POSSESSION	41.4
RENT-FREE HOUSE AND LOT WITH CONSENT OF OWNER	10.0
RENT-FREE HOUSE AND LOT WITHOUT CONSENT OF OWNER	0.5
OWN HOUSE, RENT-FREE LOT WITH CONSENT OF OWNER	40.7
OWN HOUSE, RENT-FREE LOT WITHOUT CONSENT OF OWNER	3.2

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development, 2015 *Listahanan*

Among the cities and municipalities in MIMAROPA, the municipality of Bataraza in Palawan has the most number of poor households living in a housing unit with roof and outerwalls made of light materials with 5,333 households. It was followed by Quezon, Rizal, Taytay and Puerto Princesa City in Palawan with 4,957, 4874, 4,704, and 4,228 poor households, respectively.

Numerous typhoons hit the region for the past years which destroyed homes and lives. Through government programs

affected families were assisted to restore their damaged dwellings.

Emergency Shelter Assistance

The government has provided emergency shelter assistance (ESA) to 657 beneficiaries in five municipalities of the province of Oriental Mindoro amounting to PhP 16,425,000.00. The fund was charged to ESA regular fund at P 25,000 each unit. 183 more beneficiaries in the municipality of Baco in Oriental Mindoro will be provided emergency assistance

with fund allotment of P 4,575,000.00. Additional 133 beneficiaries located in Calapan City and 8 municipalities in Oriental Mindoro were provided with ESA charged to continuing fund and supplemental budget in 2016.

Table 12.2 Number of Additional Beneficiaries Provided with ESA Regular Fund by Municipality, Oriental Mindoro

MUNICIPALITY	NO. OF BENEFICIARIES	AMOUNT	REMARKS
NAUJAN	284	7,100,000.00	Completed
PINAMALAYAN	122	3,050,000.00	Completed
POLA	67	1,675,000.00	Completed
VICTORIA	92	2,300,000.00	Completed
GLORIA	92	2,300,000.00	Completed
BACO	183	4,575,000.00	Settlement of lot on-going

Source: Oriental Mindoro Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office

Table 12.3 Number of Additional Beneficiaries Provided with ESA by Municipality, Oriental Mindoro

MUNICIPALITY	NO. OF BENEFICIARIES	AMOUNT
SOCORRO	8	40,000.00
CALAPAN CITY	13	75,000.00
GLORIA	1	5,000.00
PINAMALAYAN	4	20,000.00
POLA	5	25,000.00
NAUJAN	75	585,000.00
VICTORIA	19	95,000.00
SAN TEODORO	1	5,000.00
BACO	5	25,000.00
TOTAL	133	875,000.00

Source: Oriental Mindoro Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office

Yolanda Housing Assistance

The National Housing Authority (NHA) and the Provincial Government of Palawan signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the construction of housing

projects in Busuanga, Coron and Culion in the Calamianes group of islands in Northern Palawan. The MOA provides that the LGU will acquire the land and NHA will be providing the budget for housing construction and land development.

The National Housing Authority (NHA) was tasked to assist 8,760 families/beneficiaries in Palawan. The affected families are distributed in five (5) municipalities, namely: Agutaya with 200, Busuanga with 618, Coron with 4,500, Culion with 2,164 and Linapacan with 1,278.

The delay in the implementation of the Yolanda Housing Projects was mainly due to the following: 1) slow process in land acquisition; and, 2) limited appropriations of the LGUs.

Crafting of a Sustainable Urban Development Framework

Republic Act 7279 or the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA) of 1992 provides that the State shall uplift the conditions of the underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban areas and in resettlement areas by making available to them decent housing at affordable cost, basic services, and employment opportunities. The law also provides that the government shall improve the capability of local government units in

undertaking urban development and housing programs and projects.

In view of the transfer of regional line agencies to the regional government center, there is a need to come up with an urban development framework responsive to the increase in population, rapid urbanization, and rural-urban migration.

Provision of Technical Assistance to LGUs

As of April 2016, there are 16 approved comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs). However, 56 CLUPs are due for updating wherein 54 of which are assisted by Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), 1 is assisted by consultants and the other 1 is assisted by other agencies. On-going formulation was recorded in Romblon with 7 and Palawan with 2.

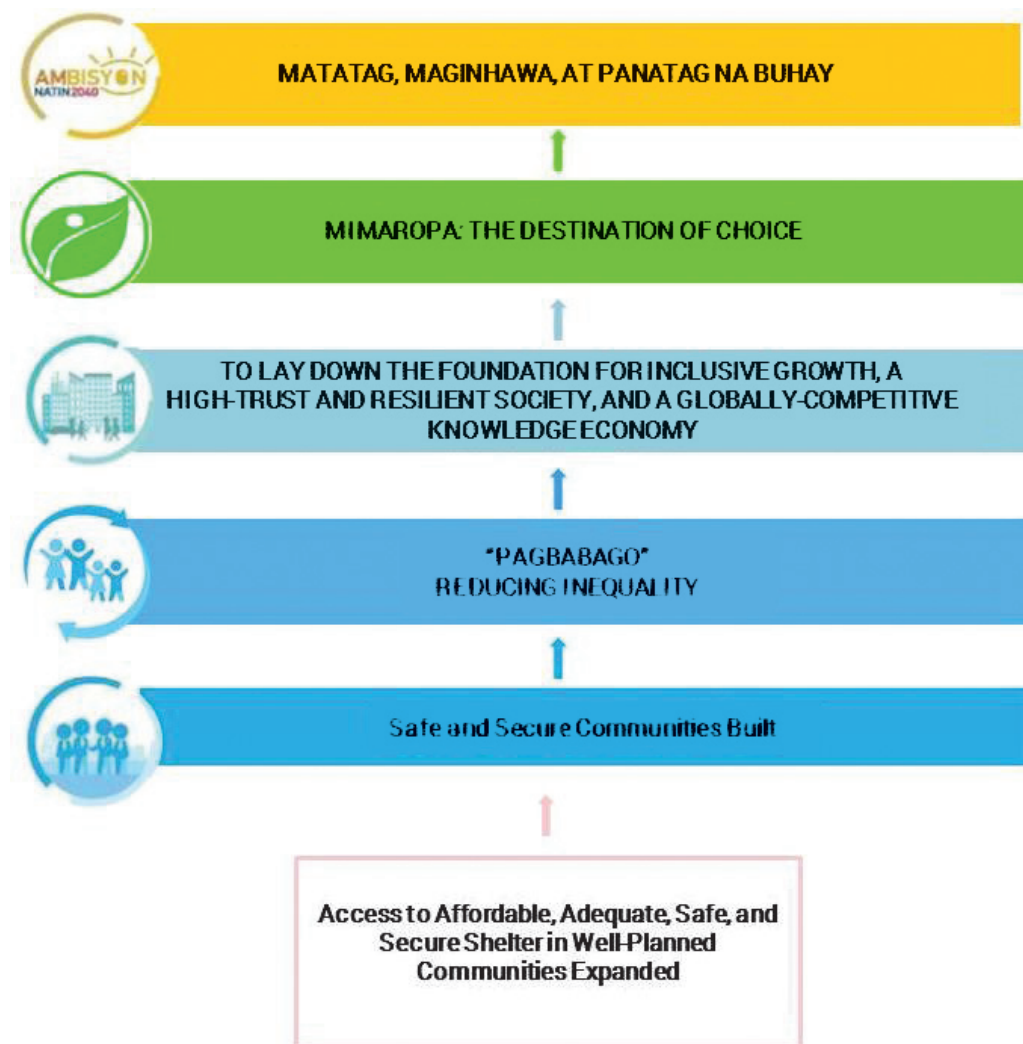
The region shall continue to provide technical assistance to local government units in coming up with complete local shelter plans and comprehensive land use plan.

Challenges

- Weak urban planning
- Adoption and implementation of settlement plans of LGUs (CLUPs and LSPs)
- Identification and funding of areas for socialized housing.
- Housing and settlement that will accommodate the migrating workers and their families in urbanizing centers of the region.
- Housing for the families/communities in vulnerable/disaster prone area

Strategic Framework

Figure 12.1 Strategic Framework for Building Safe and Secure Communities



Priority Strategies

- Promote housing as an economic driver.
- Advocate standardized housing construction parts to lower cost of housing and create jobs
- Provision of technical assistance to LGUs for the preparation of local shelter plans
- Access the housing programs of the key shelter agencies (KSAs) and implement through partnership with stakeholders (LGUs, private developers, communities, NGOs/CSOs)
- Revisit the Lina Law and its implementing rules and regulations

PART IV

INCREASING GROWTH POTENTIAL ("PATULOY NA PAG-UNLAD")



13 Reaching for the Demographic Dividend

Reaching for the Demographic Dividend

Demographic dividend, as defined by the United Nations Population Fund is the economic growth potential that can result from shifts in a population's age structure, mainly when the share of the working-age population (15 to 64) is larger than the non-working-age share of the population (14 and younger, and 65 and older).

As mentioned in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP), demographic dividend stems from the demographic transition when the fertility (birth) and mortality (death) rates decline such that the age distribution changes to an extent that lesser spending is required to meet the needs of the youngest and oldest age groups. The demographic transition needs to be observed and carefully planned for to enable the economy to reap the demographic dividend.

Assessment

MIMAROPA region's population reached 2,963,360 based on the 2015 Census of Population. It is higher by 218,689 compared with the region's population of 2.74 million in 2010, and by 664,131 compared with the region's population of 2.30 million in 2000.

The total population of MIMAROPA accounted for about 2.9 per cent of the Philippines population in 2015. The population of MIMAROPA region increased by 1.47 per cent annually, on the average, during the period 2010 to 2015. Among the five provinces of the region, Palawan (excluding Puerto Princesa City) had the biggest population in 2015 with 849 thousand, followed by Oriental Mindoro with 844 thousand, Occidental Mindoro with 487 thousand, and

Romblon with 293 thousand. Marinduque had the smallest population with 235 thousand. Puerto Princesa City, the only highly urbanized city in the region posted a population of 255 thousand.

MIMAROPA is lightly populated; its density is lower than the national average and second lowest among the regions in Luzon, next to Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). Over the 15-year period, the population density of the region increased to 100 persons per square kilometer in 2015 from 78 persons per square kilometer in 2000. These were lower than the national average of 255 persons per square kilometer in 2000 and 337 persons per square kilometer in 2015. Among the provinces, the province of Marinduque recorded the highest density

at 246 persons per square kilometer in 2015. This was followed by Oriental Mindoro with 199 persons per square kilometer, Romblon with 191 persons per square kilometer, and Occidental

Mindoro with 83 persons per square kilometer. The province of Palawan posted the lowest density with 58 persons per square kilometer excluding Puerto Princesa City.

Table 13.1 Population and Annual Growth Rate, Philippines and MIMAROPA, 2000, 2010, and 2015

PHILIPPINES/ REGION	TOTAL POPULATION (IN MILLIONS)			ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH RATE (IN PER CENT)	
	2000	2010	2015	2000-2010	2010-2015
PHILIPPINES	76.51	92.34	100.98	1.9	1.72
MIMAROPA	2.30	2.74	2.96	1.79	1.47

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

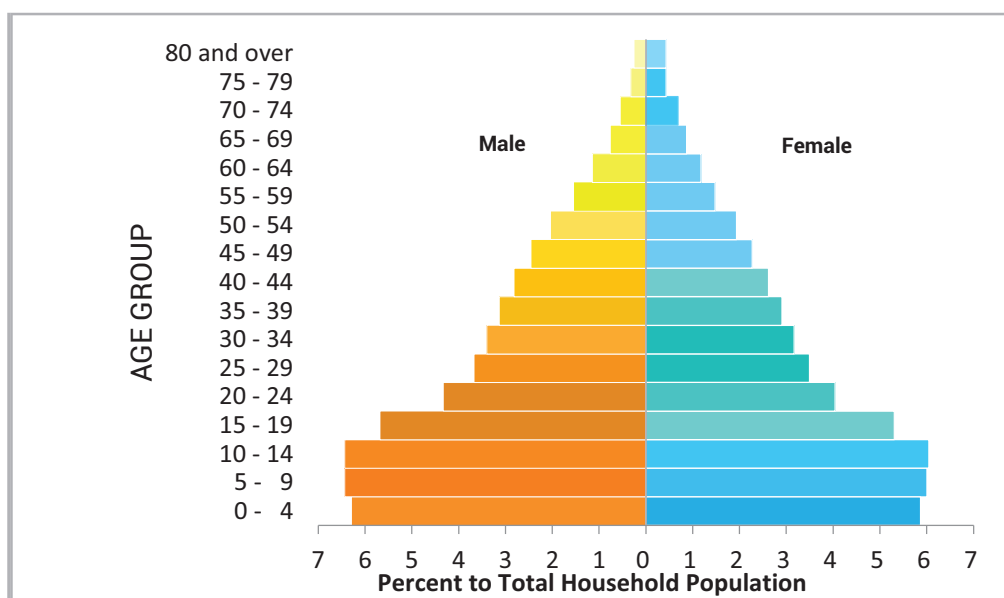
Palawan, excluding Puerto Princesa City, was the fastest growing province in MIMAROPA with an average annual population growth rate of 1.84 per cent during the period 2010 to 2015. It was followed by Occidental Mindoro (1.40 percent), Oriental Mindoro (1.36 percent), and Romblon (0.59 percent). Marinduque posted the lowest provincial population growth rate of 0.55 percent.

Among the cities (excluding Puerto Princesa City) and municipalities in the MIMAROPA, the largest in terms of population size is San Jose, Occidental Mindoro with 143,430 persons. It was followed by Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro with 133,893 persons and Naujan, Oriental Mindoro with 102,998 persons. Of the 1,459 barangays in the region, the largest in terms of population size is San Pedro in Puerto Princesa City,

Palawan with 22,089 persons. It was followed by Rio Tuba in Bataraza, Palawan with 21,330 persons and Santa Monica in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan with 20,094 persons.

MIMAROPA region has basically young population, with those below 19 years old comprising 48 per cent of the total population in 2010. Fig 13.1 shows that the region has continuous supply of young labor force which can support the manpower needs of various industries. There was an improvement in the employment rate in the region from 96.1 in 2011 to 96.7 in 2015. However, underemployment rate decreased from 21.6 in 2011 to 20.8 in 2015. This may be attributed to job-skills mismatch. Because of this, it is necessary that skills of the labor force match the needs of the industries.

**Figure 13.1 Age-Sex Distribution of Household Population
MIMAROPA, 2010**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

2013 Young and Adult Fertility and Sexuality Survey (YAFS4) revealed that almost 1 in 3 MIMAROPA youth has engaged in premarital sex. Of the estimated 570,000 youth in MIMAROPA in 2013, around 179,000 youth have engaged in premarital sex. Further, the

study also revealed that more than 1 in 5 MIMAROPA youth engaged in sex before age 18.

Based on the 2013 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), MIMAROPA region ranked 4th with high fertility rate.

Table 13.2 Fertility Rate by Region, Philippines, 2003 and 2013

REGION	2003	2013
National Capital Region	2.8	2.3
Cordillera Admin Region	3.8	2.9
I- Ilocos Region	3.8	2.8
II- Cagayan Valley	3.4	3.2
III- Central Luzon	3.1	2.8
CALABARZON	3.2	2.7
MIMAROPA	5.0	3.7
V- Bicol	4.3	4.1
VI- Western Visayas	4.0	3.8
VII- Central Visayas	3.6	3.2
VIII- Eastern Visayas	4.6	3.5

IX- Zamboanga Peninsula	4.2	3.5
X- Northern Mindanao	3.8	3.5
XI- Davao	3.1	2.9
XII- SOCCSKSARGEN	4.2	3.2
XIII- Caraga	4.1	3.6
ARMM	4.2	4.2

Source: National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), 2003 and 2013

The region's contraceptive prevalence rate increased from 48.04 per cent in 2010 to 60.93 per cent in 2015. However, the

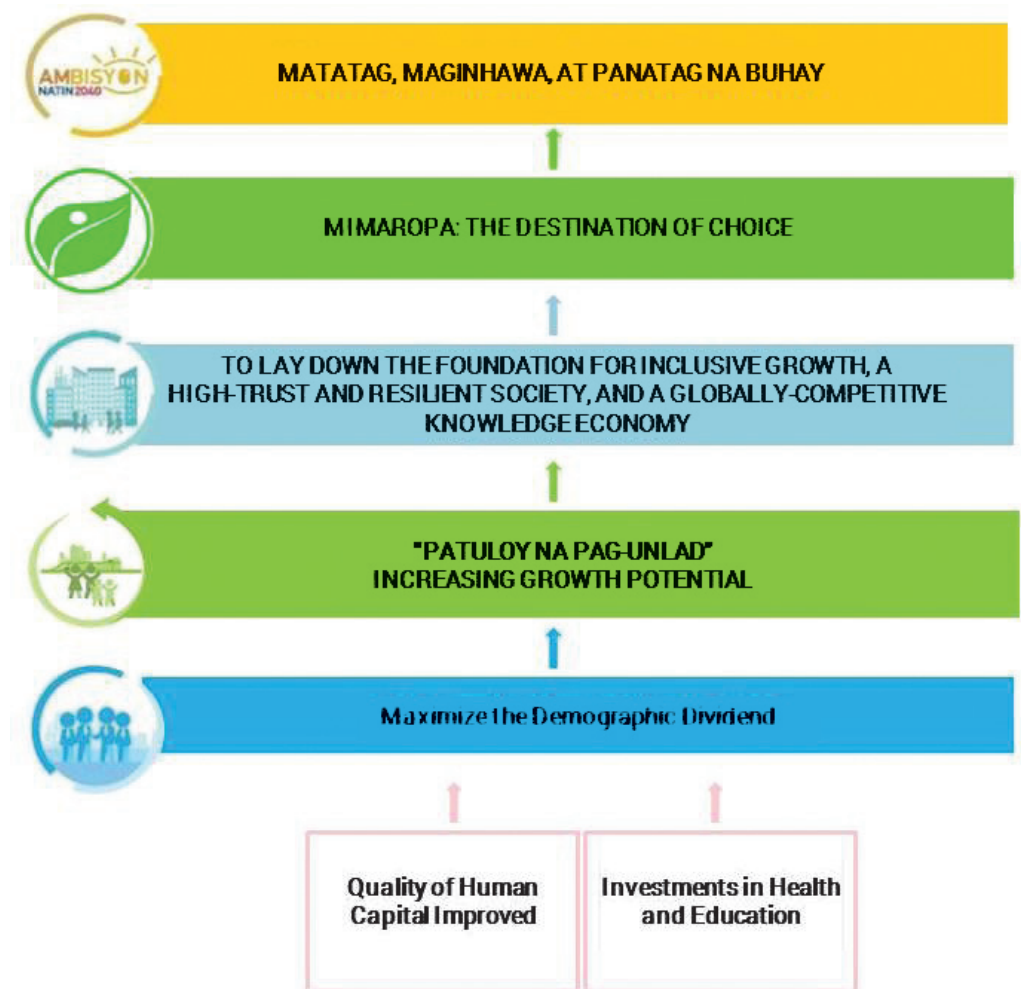
region failed to achieve its 2015 target of 80 per cent.

Challenges

- Early and unplanned marriages/teenage pregnancies. There has been an increasing number of girls getting pregnant and giving birth for the first time at a young age. Increasing teenage pregnancies is one of the significant factors of high fertility in the region.
- High levels of unemployment rate and underemployment rate
- Slow reduction on fertility rate

Strategic Framework

Figure 13.2 Strategic Framework for Reaching for the Demographic Dividend



Priority Strategies

- Integrate population and development strategies at all stages of development
- Integrate gender and development (GAD) in the regional population management strategies
- Improve the school curriculum and strengthen academe-industry linkage. This will ensure that the jobs opportunities for the youth match the skills required by the industries.
- Improve the health and education status especially of women, children, and the youth
- Implementation of Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022
- Promote courses responsive to the needs of regional development such as agriculture and tourism-related courses
- Full implementation of the Republic Act No. 10354 or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Law.
- Implementation of Executive Order No. 12 (S. 2017) with local government units (LGUs) encouraged to integrate the following strategies in their local development plans (LDPs) and the investment programs to support universal access to RH services through demand generation, service delivery network and mobilization of community volunteers:
 - Map areas to locate couples and individuals with unmet need for modern family planning;
 - Capacitate and mobilize local structures, including, but not limited to health, population, social welfare, barangay operations, and other relevant offices to accelerate the implementation of the RPRH Law, particularly in the provision of modern family planning commodities and services;
- Conduct intensive community-based demand generation and referral activities and ensure the provision of quality modern family planning information and services, within the principle of informed choice and voluntarism; and
- Engage, collaborate and partner with civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector in attaining zero unmet need for modern family planning in their respective localities.
- Convergence of concerned agencies such as DOH, DEPED, DSWD, NYC, DILG, PCW, Philhealth, and POPCOM towards attaining zero unmet needs for modern family planning through the implementation/integration of the following as outlined in EO 12 (S. 2017):
 - Review the gaps in the implementation of the RPRH Law, issue corresponding orders and guidelines, and implement interventions to support LGUs and CSOs in ensuring the equitable availability of, and access of all Filipinos to modern family planning and other reproductive health care services;
 - Implement a gender-sensitive and rights-based comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) in the school curriculum;

- Integrate RPRH strategies in the national poverty reduction and social protection programs;
- Integrate adolescent reproductive health concerns in youth development agenda and strategies;
- Monitor compliance of LGUs with the implementation of the RPRH Law;
- Promote reproductive health rights in their initiatives for women's empowerment and gender equality;
- Implement benefit packages that ensure maximum benefits for family planning services;
- Adopt the attainment of zero unmet need for modern family planning as a population management strategy, particularly in assisting couples and women to achieve their desired family size and to reduce the incidence of teenage pregnancy.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Support the full implementation of Executive Order No. 12 (S. 2017) attaining and sustaining zero unmet need for modern family planning through the

strict implementation of Republic Act No. 10354 or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Law.

14 Vigorously Advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation

Vigorously Advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation

Science, technology, and innovation (STI) plays a significant role in the country's socio-economic progress. Accelerating a knowledge-based economy will likewise create more livelihood opportunities and improve the regional economy. Support to education, and research and development is imperative.

Assessment

In 2013, MIMAROPA ranked twelfth (12th) on research and development (R&D) expenditures. The region shared only 0.67 per cent of the total R&D expenditure in the country while NCR

who ranked first shared 51 per cent. The variance shows that NCR gets majority of the technology and innovation programs and projects. Hence, more investment on R&D in the region is encouraged.

Table 14.1 Research and Development Expenditure by Region and Sector, Philippines, 2013 (in thousand pesos)

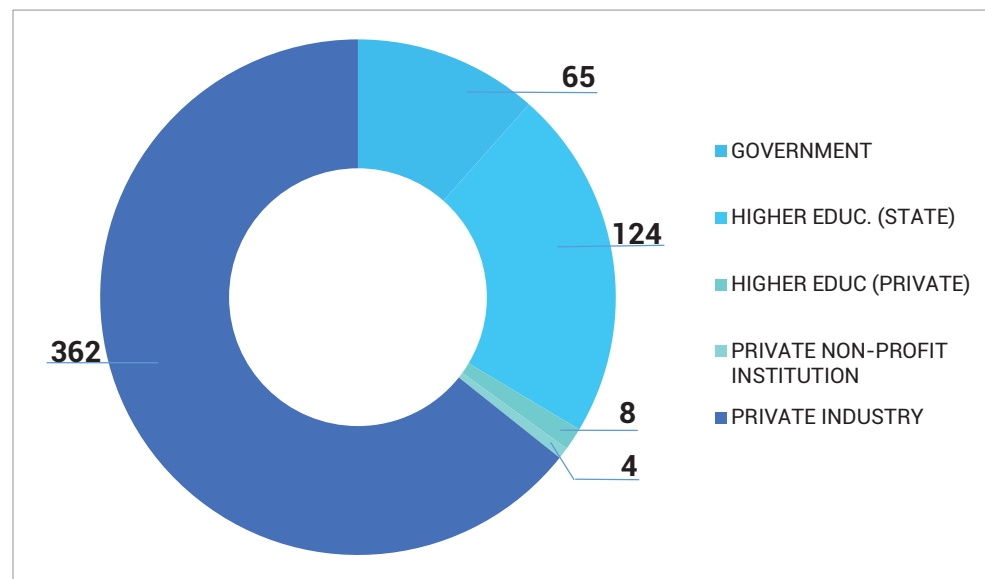
PHILIPPINES/ REGION	GOVERNMENT	HIGHER EDUCATION		PRIVATE NON-PROFIT INSTITUTION	PRIVATE INDUSTRY
		STATE	PRIVATE		
PHILIPPINES	4,731,594	4,810,956	555,072	130,967	5,686,120
NCR	2,334,740	3,065,714	447,343	110,023	2,111,115
CAR	4,942	12,835	-	-	16,543
Reg. 1	41,000	104,054	2,633	-	51,549
Reg. 2	76,672	2,769	12,973	-	6,180
Reg. 3	557,753	46,525	9,139	-	152,925
Reg. 4A	1,239,109	894,915	4,472	-	2,696,154
MIMAROPA	93,332	6,790	157	1,584	4,664
Reg. 5	66,742	80,611	12,925	-	12,694
Reg. 6	24,596	94,603	8,483	-	56,254
Reg. 7	10,934	5,024	12,784	-	228,093
Reg. 8	9,223	44,502	8,388	-	8,364
Reg. 9	42,061	13,434	3,795	-	7,042
Reg. 10	106,111	229,550	12,668	12,722	222,701
Reg. 11	35,442	112,863	16,513	2,425	53,076
Reg. 12	64,501	28,584	1,920	4,214	22,622
Reg. 13	20,784	64,623	519	-	35,778
ARMM	3,653	3,560	361	-	365

Source: Compendium of Science and Technology Statistics (ISSN 2244-3614)

In 2013, a total of 563 personnel are engaged in R&D in the region. This pertains to those who are employed directly on R&D as well as those providing direct services such as R&D managers,

administrators and clerical staff. Among the sectors, private industry had the biggest share with 362 or 64.3 per cent of the total number of R&D personnel.

Figure 14.1 Research and Development Personnel in MIMAROPA by Sector, 2013



Source: Compendium of Science and Technology Statistics (ISSN 2244-3614)

In terms of number of researchers per 2013 record, the top three (3) regions were NCR, CALABARZON, and Region 3, respectively. MIMAROPA ranked thirteenth with only 1.42 per cent share to total number of researchers in the country. Researchers are those engaged in

the conception or creation of new knowledge, products, processes, methods and systems, and also in the management of the projects concerned. Most researchers in the region are from private industries.

Table 14.2 Number of Researchers by Region and Sector, Philippines, 2013

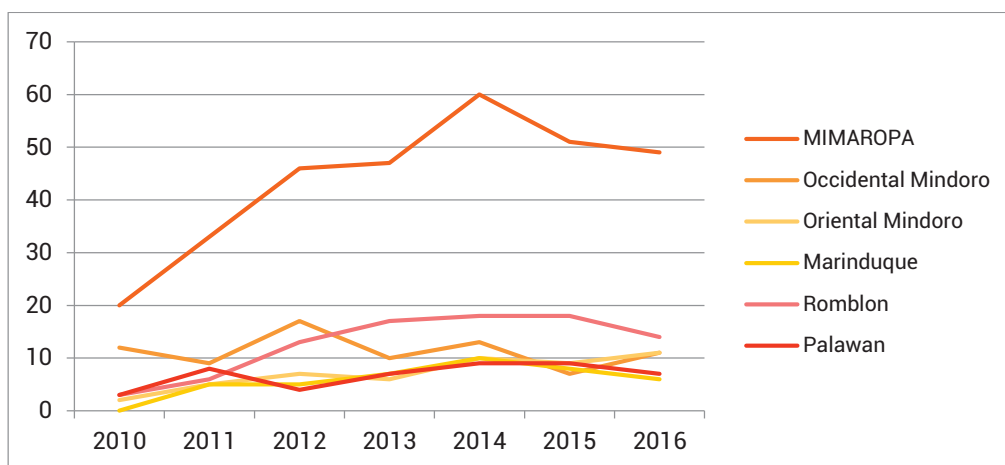
PHILIPPINES/ REGION	GOVERNMENT	HIGHER EDUCATION		PRIVATE NON-PROFIT INSTITUTION	PRIVATE INDUSTRY
		STATE	PRIVATE		
PHILIPPINES	2,965	7,144	2,364	179	13,843
NCR	1,486	1,286	748	154	5,393
CAR	34	162	-	-	153
Reg. 1	86	401	50	-	174
Reg. 2	181	147	234	-	92
Reg. 3	204	415	124	-	1,074
Reg. 4A	170	2,210	163	-	4,111
MIMAROPA	43	101	8	1	224
Reg. 5	103	415	85	-	98
Reg. 6	57	508	117	-	185
Reg. 7	151	217	168	-	1,150
Reg. 8	46	301	15	-	142
Reg. 9	52	76	124	-	76
Reg. 10	20	371	120	5	269
Reg. 11	121	134	322	18	316
Reg. 12	143	263	56	1	195
Reg. 13	52	130	29	-	101
ARMM	16	7	1	-	90

Source: Compendium of Science and Technology Statistics (ISSN 2244-3614)

With the active intervention of the government, an increasing trend on the number of enterprises who benefitted from the small enterprise technology upgrading program or SETUP was

observed from 2010 to 2014 but slightly declined from 2014 to 2016 (refer to Figure 14.2). A total of 306 beneficiaries was recorded within the given period.

Figure 14.2 Number of SETUP Beneficiaries, 2010-2016



Source: Compendium of Science and Technology Statistics (ISSN 2244-3614)

Establishment of community-based enterprises (CBEs) is another government mechanism to accelerate the economy in the countryside. CBE are enterprises owned by the communities and benefits returned to the community members. CBEs use business to improve the life of a

community. They are different from private enterprise because their business activity is undertaken as a means of achieving community benefit not private gain. From 2010 to 2016, a total of 189 CBEs were assisted/established region wide.

Table 14.3 Number of Assisted/Established Community-Based Enterprises by Province, MIMAROPA, 2010-2016

PROVINCE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
MIMAROPA	39	20	23	18	29	26	34
MARINDUQUE	10	3	4	1	3	5	5
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	6	4	6	3	6	3	10
ORIENTAL MINDORO	8	5	3	5	5	7	6
PALAWAN	7	4	6	6	10	7	5
ROMBLON	8	4	4	3	5	4	8

Source: Department of Science and Technology MIMAROPA

Various kinds of science and technology (S&T) services were provided to the different enterprises region wide from 2010 to 2016 which totaled 4,600. Among the services rendered were productivity consultancies, technology trainings, fora/clinics, laboratory service (started in 2013), and packaging and labeling. Technology trainings were most common services.

The region has established the Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL) which consists microbiology laboratory, physico-chemical laboratory and methodology laboratory. It is an IT-based project that broadens public access to all DOST laboratories, other government agencies' laboratories, and selected private laboratories at a single touchpoint, allowing seamless handling of samples from receiving, referral, and analysis to transmit and delivery of results. In MIMAROPA, government laboratories

are found in Palawan such as Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) environmental laboratory, water district laboratory, optimal laboratory, and Palawan health office laboratory.

The Department of Science and technology's (DOST) interventions to industry also facilitated the increase of access of MSMEs and CBEs, not only to local markets, but also for foreign markets by enabling their compliance on mandatory technical requirements such as safety, fair trade, and consumer and environmental protection. DOST also provided the MSMEs with the free-to-use information technology solutions/applications. In 2014, the website on mimaropaventures.ph was developed in partnership with the MIMAROPA provincial governments and the Palaweno ICT Association to assist in online marketing and selling of

products of all government-assisted enterprises in the region. The MIMAROPA ventures propelled the creation of a website onestore.ph to cater DOST-assisted products from the

different regions in the country. The visitmimaropa.ph website was also launched in 2017 which serves as information hub for tourism products and services in the region.

Table 14.4 Number of Firms Provided with Science and Technology Services, MIMAROPA, 2010-2016

S&T SERVICE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
PRODUCTIVITY CONSULTANCIES	74	36	171	40	40	35	48
TECHNOLOGY TRAININGS	200	171	253	149	240	483	423
FORA/CLINICS	251	337	336	148	186	206	256
LABORATORY SERVICES	-	-	-	1	34	36	78
PACKAGING AND LABELING	28	29	70	66	62	40	73
TOTAL	553	573	830	404	562	800	878

Source: Department of Science and Technology MIMAROPA

Challenges

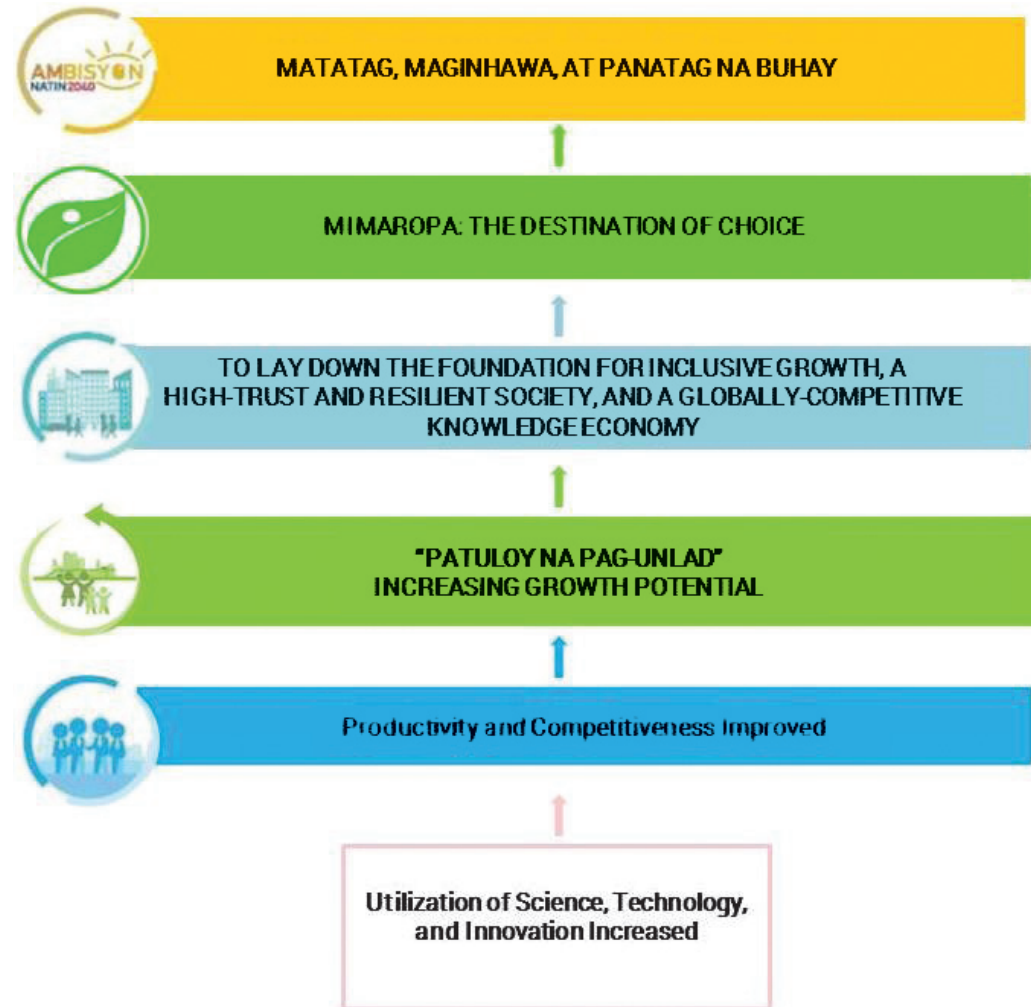
Most of the R & D results were not translated into viable applications for household, micro-enterprise, and commercial level. The Southern Tagalog Islands Research and Development Consortium (STIRDC) identified the lack of full-time researcher among SUCs as one of the challenges. Faculty members usually conduct researches in addition to their regular teaching loads which affect the quality of both the research outputs and the classroom teaching. Another challenge is brain drain due to minimal allocation of resources for R&D activities, prompting the researchers to find another job. The regional science and technology research agenda formulated by the

STIRDC was not pursued. The region also needs to address the following challenges:

- low spending on R&D activities
- low number of R&D personnel
- low number of researchers
- Low adoption and application of STI to advance the MSMEs particularly on the agriculture and fisheries sector
- weak public motivation on the conduct of STI researches
- low absorptive capacity of institutions
- limited infrastructure facilities
- limited R&D equipment/facilities
- limited public and private collaboration

Strategic Framework

Figure 14.3 Strategic Framework for Vigorously Advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation



Priority Strategies

- Strengthen R&D consortia and regional and provincial science and technology offices to serve as fulcrum of STI development
- Increase budgetary allocation for R&D to increase the number R&D activities, personnel, infrastructure, equipment, capacity building, workshops, promotion, advocacy, and coordination
- Improve research-extension continuum of SUCs
- Strengthen collaboration between public and private R&D entities
- Enhance technology commercialization
- Establish strong linkage between research institutions and technology adaptors
- Raise awareness on intellectual property rights within the academe and research communities
- Strengthen academe-industry linkage for effective transfer of technology and skills needed by industries
- Enhance STI statistics to properly assess the sectoral requirements
- Adoption and implementation of regional R & D agenda

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 14.5 Priority Legislative Agenda to Vigorously Advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA	RATIONALE
Strengthen Magna Carta of Scientists, Engineers, Researchers and other S&T Personnel in the Government (RA 8439).	The State recognizes S&T as an essential element for the attainment of national development and progress. The Act aims to provide for a program of human resources development in S&T to achieve and maintain the necessary reservoir of talent and manpower that will sustain its drive for total S&T mastery.
Strengthen/advocate RA 10055 or the Technology Transfer Act	STI shall be given priority to encourage the widest and most systematic participation of all stakeholders in policy-making related to science and technology, and in the generation, transfer and utilization of intellectual property, especially for the benefit of the general public.
Promotion of intellectual property rights and patenting.	The Act aims to encourage Filipinos scientists and technology experts from abroad to return to the Philippines and share their expertise to help accelerate the growth and progress of the country.
Promotion of intellectual property rights and patenting.	Intellectual property rights are the protections granted to the creators of intellectual property and includes trademarks, copyright, patents, industrial design rights, and in some jurisdictions trade secrets. This is intended to assure researchers of their rights on their studies and products.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

- Formulation of regional research and development (R&D) agenda. R&D activities are critical to develop products, procedures, and systems. R&D agenda for MIMAROPA will focus science, technology, and innovation activities of all government offices, SUCs, and LGUs in maximizing the existing resources to increase economic opportunities.
- Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP). This is a nationwide strategy to encourage MSMEs to adopt technological innovations to improve existing products, services, and operations; increase productivity and competitiveness; and to enable MSMEs to develop new products and establish and sustain market niches.
- Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST). The program aims to empower the poorest and most depressed communities in the country, via S&T interventions in health and nutrition, water and sanitation, basic education and literacy, livelihood/economic enterprise development, and disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.
- Create user/reader-friendly STI advocacy materials. STI advocacy materials are expected to broaden the understanding of the constituents in the region on the different STI programs, projects and activities, hence, generating better support and participation.
- Upgrading of processing facilities. This activity aims to increase the production and income, and improve the quality of produce of the MSMEs.
- Provision of science and technology support. This activity is intended to enhance the capability of the MSMEs and improve their production procedures and practices through trainings, tutorials and conferences.
- Promotion of science and technology outputs and activities. The government has a significant role in promoting the research and development outputs to help the researchers find appropriate funding institutions to implement their studies/researches.
- Community-based enterprises (CBEs). This mechanism uses business to improve the life of a community. It is different from private enterprises because the business activity is undertaken as a means of achieving community benefit, not private gain. CBEs are also called social enterprises.
- Establishment/upgrading of innovation hubs: Infrastructure support is also necessary in STI activities. Following are the facilities proposed for establishment/upgrading:
 - Food innovation centers
 - Technology business incubators
 - Common/shared service facilities/
 - Community factories
 - R&D centers

PART V

ENABLING AND SUPPORTIVE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



15 Ensuring Sound Macroeconomic Policy

Ensuring Sound Macroeconomic Policy

This chapter assesses the economic performance of the region and identifies the gains, issues and challenges, and opportunities of various economic sectors. The assessment leads to strategies which will serve as guide in the attainment of sustainable macroeconomic stability.

Assessment

MIMAROPA's economy slowed down by 1.7 per cent in 2015 from 8.3 per cent in 2014. This was below the target in the updated RDP which was set at 4.2 percent to 5.2 per cent. The slowdown in economic growth was attributed to the decline in the mining industry (refer to Table 15.1).

MIMAROPA's economy posted increasing growth in 2010-2015, though at a slower pace in 2013 and 2015. The region rebounded from negative 0.3 per cent in 2010 to 1.7 per cent in 2015. The increasing trend was attributed to the

sustained growth of service sector from 5.9 per cent in 2010 to 7.3 per cent in 2015. The service sector accounted for 38.2 per cent and 43.7 per cent the region's economy in 2010 and 2015, respectively.

The growth in other services was mainly driven by influx of tourists in the region which led to increase in tourist receipts. Other services such as health and education facilities, hotels and restaurants, recreational facilities, and other tourism related activities contributed significantly to the recorded increase in the service sector.

Table 15.1 GRDP Growth Rate by Industrial Origin, MIMAROPA, 2010-2015
(at constant 2000 prices)

INDUSTRY	GROWTH RATE (IN PER CENT)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
AGRICULTURE, HUNTING, FORESTRY, AND FISHING	-6.5	2.7	-1.6	-3.0	2.3	2.8
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY	2.1	6.6	1.7	0.7	4.0	3.8
FISHING	-19.8	-4.8	-8.7	-11.9	-2.6	-0.5
INDUSTRY SECTOR	-1.6	0.8	4.1	-2.6	17.1	-5.3
MINING AND QUARRYING	-3.7	8.9	2.5	-8.7	12.1	-7.3
MANUFACTURING	-5.8	16.1	14.6	5.6	14.0	0.2
CONSTRUCTION	6.7	-28.9	3.2	15.6	36.6	-4.4
ELECTRICITY, GAS, AND WATER SUPPLY	4.4	1.1	6.6	14.6	13.0	13.4
SERVICE SECTOR	5.9	5.5	7.8	7.2	5.0	7.3
TRANSPORT, STORAGE, AND COMMUNICATION	1.9	8.0	7.5	5.1	7.1	8.9
TRADE AND REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, PERSONAL, AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS	6.6	2.4	7.1	3.7	2.9	8.3
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION	11.7	5.7	12.3	11.4	8.8	7.4
REAL ESTATE, RENTING, AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	5.8	8.6	15.6	9.6	1.1	-0.3
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, AND DEFENSE; COMPULSARY SOCIAL SECURITY	7.0	-1.1	8.8	5.1	4.5	1.7
OTHER SERVICES	6.7	5.8	1.8	8.5	5.4	12.9
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	-0.3	3.1	4.1	1.3	8.3	1.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

Industry sector contributed 35.3 per cent to the region's economy in 2010 and 33.5 per cent in 2015. Industry contracted by 5.3 per cent in 2015. The 7.3 per cent slump in mining and quarrying, which accounted for 61.0 per cent of the sector's output, pulled industry's overall growth. This was brought by the decrease in metallic production caused by the falling nickel price in the world market.

Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing (AHFF) rebounded from negative 6.5 per cent in 2010 to 2.8 per cent in 2015. The sector's output contributed 26.5 per cent to the region's economy in 2010 to 22.8

per cent in 2015. Agriculture and fishery managed to grow at a slower pace along with fishing. Recovery from the adverse effects of typhoons that hit the region and several government interventions helped the sector to increase its value added.

In 2015, MIMAROPA ranked 11th among 17 regions in terms of per capita GRDP. The region has an estimated ₱39,495.00 per capita GRDP, more than half of the national per capita GDP. In 2009 to 2015, the per capita GRDP of the region increased by 4.69 per cent.

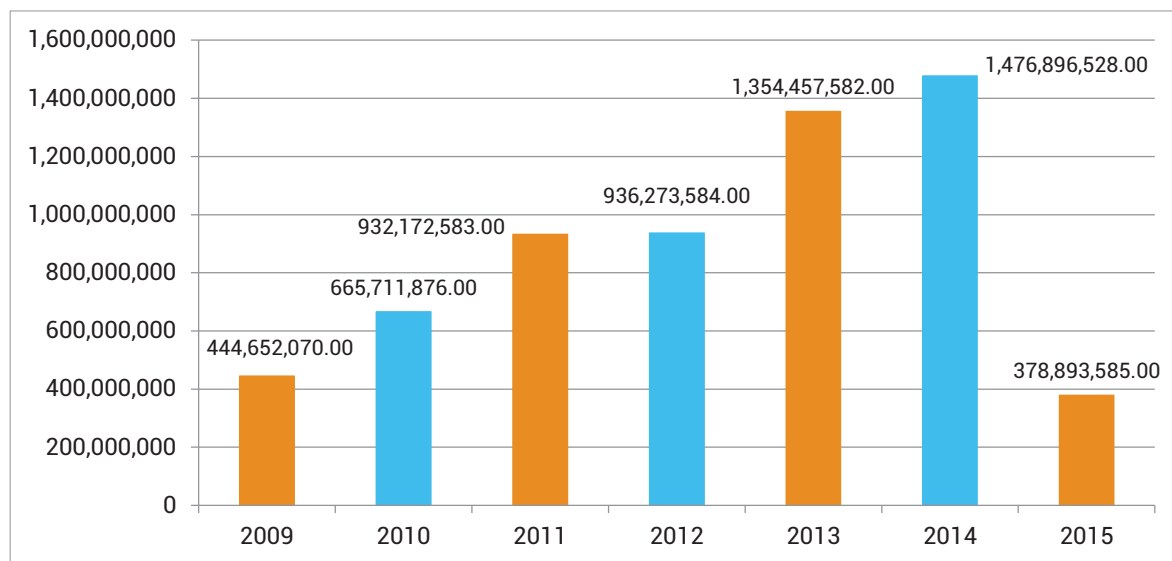
MIMAROPA's average CPI increased from 116.5 in 2009 to 144.8 in 2015. The region's inflation rate eased to 1.4 per cent in 2015 from 4.0 per cent in 2009. All MIMAROPA provinces except Oriental Mindoro registered lower inflation rates. Food and non-alcoholic beverages recorded the highest CPI while communication had the lowest CPI. Purchasing power of peso decreased from 0.86 in 2009 to 0.69 in 2015.

Export value decreased by 14.79 per cent from US\$444,652,070.00 in 2009 to US\$378,893,585.00 in 2015 (refer to Figure 15.1). This was attributed to less

demand for exporting commodities particularly condensate, crude petroleum oil, iron, and nickel ores and concentrates. Republic of Korea, Japan, and People's Republic of China were the top 3 export destinations of the region in 2015.

In 2015, lower labor force participation rate was recorded at 65.5 per cent from 70.1 per cent in 2009. Employment rate increased from 95.6 per cent in 2009 to 96.7 per cent in 2015. MIMAROPA's employment rate was still higher by 3.0 percentage points than the national average of 93.7 per cent.

Figure 15.1 Export Value, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015 (in US\$)



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

The region's unemployment rate of 3.3 per cent was lower by 3.0 percentage points compared with the national average of 6.3 per cent in 2015. Underemployment rate decreased by 5.2 percentage points from 26.0 per cent in 2009 to 20.8 per cent in 2015 (refer to Table 15.2).

Employed persons in the agriculture sector comprised 44.6 per cent of the region's total employment in 2015. This was followed by services with 43.3 per cent. Employment generated by the industry sector was the lowest at 12.2 per cent.

Table 15.2 Labor Force Annual Estimates, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015 (in per cent)

INDICATOR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
LFPR	70.1	69.2	70.0	68.4	66.3	67.2	65.5
Employment rate	95.6	95.6	96.1	95.8	95.9	95.4	96.7
Unemployment rate	4.4	4.4	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.6	3.3
Underemployment rate	26.0	23.6	21.6	22.6	23.4	20.4	20.8

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

In 2009 to 2015, MIMAROPA's labor productivity increased from ₱85,982.00 to ₱94,144.00. Industry sector produced the largest amount of goods and services by

one hour of labor with ₱259,962.00. This was followed by service and agriculture sectors with ₱95,130.00 and ₱48,145.00, respectively (refer to Table 15.3).

Table 15.3 Labor Productivity by Major Sector, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015 (in Pesos)

REGION/SECTOR	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
MIMAROPA	85,982	84,581	83,133	87,618	89,180	92,811	94,144
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING	46,658	43,681	42,737	43,618	44,217	45,363	48,145
INDUSTRY	297,382	276,838	276,977	290,600	257,399	274,478	259,962
SERVICES	82,260	85,202	85,015	90,159	94,948	92,448	95,130

Note: Regional labor productivity is defined as GRDP per employed person in the region

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority MIMAROPA

The total number of establishments in MIMAROPA increased from 22,498 in 2009 to 26,673 in 2015. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles recorded the highest number

with 11,295 establishments in 2009 to 12,615 establishments in 2015.

In 2009 to 2015, the number of financial institutions increased by 37.12 per cent. Among financial institutional groups,

non-bank financial intermediaries recorded the highest number with 386 non-bank financial intermediaries. This was followed by banking institutions and non-bank thrift institutions with 246

banks and 7 non-bank thrift institutions, respectively (refer to Table 15.4).

Despite the increase in number of banks, bank density ratio was still low at 2 per city/municipality in 2015.

Table 15.4 Number of Financial Institutions by Institutional Group, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015

INSTITUTIONAL GROUP	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
BANKING INSTITUTIONS	176	184	189	206	220	234	246
UNIVERSAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS	39	41	44	53	63	67	70
THRIFT BANKS	27	30	29	37	41	45	53
RURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANKS	110	113	116	116	116	122	123
SPECIALIZED GOVERNMENT BANKS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NON-BANK FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES	286	319	337	364	362	362	386
INVESTMENT HOUSES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FINANCING COMPANIES	0	0	0	2	2	2	3
LENDING INVESTORS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PAWNSHOP	286	319	337	362	360	360	383
NON-BANK THRIFT INSTITUTIONS	4	4	5	7	7	7	7
NON-STOCK SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS	4	4	5	7	7	7	7
TOTAL	466	507	531	577	589	603	639

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

The total number of automated teller machines in MIMAROPA increased by

57.86 per cent from 140 ATMs in 2012 to 221 ATMs in 2015 (refer to Table 15.5).

Table 15.5 Number of Automated Teller Machines by Type of Bank, MIMAROPA, 2012-2015

TYPE OF BANK	2012	2013	2014	2015
ONSITE	106	136	143	157
UNIVERSAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS	70	88	89	98
THRIFT BANKS	33	37	41	44
RURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANKS	3	11	13	15
OFFSITE	34	40	53	64
UNIVERSAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS	29	36	42	50
THRIFT BANKS	5	4	11	14
RURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANKS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	140	176	196	221

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Deposit liabilities in the region increased by 126.52 per cent from ₱24,093 million in 2009 to ₱54,575 million in 2015. Among the 3 bank groups, universal and commercial banks recorded the highest deposit liabilities with ₱46,016 million (refer to Table 15.6).

Table 15.6 Deposit Liabilities by Type of Bank, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015

TYPE OF BANK	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
UNIVERSAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS	19,503	21,418	23,986	26,323	31,343	37,355	46,016
THRIFT BANKS	2,094	2,377	2,572	2,949	3,572	4,295	5,229
RURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANKS	2,496	1,999	2,535	2,507	2,749	2,980	3,330
TOTAL	24,093	25,794	29,093	31,779	37,664	44,630	54,575

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

The amount of loan extended by banks increased by 209.85 per cent from ₱17,841 million to ₱5,758 million in 2009 (refer to Table 15.7).

Table 15.7 Loan Portfolio by Type of Bank, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015
(in million pesos)

TYPE OF BANK	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
UNIVERSAL AND COMMERCIAL BANKS	3,106	3,677	5,620	6,961	7,530	9,151	10,936
THRIFT BANKS	647	761	862	1,042	1,641	2,387	3,474
RURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANKS	2,005	1,841	2,253	2,262	2,396	2,935	3,431
TOTAL	5,758	6,279	8,735	10,265	11,567	14,473	17,841

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Registered cooperatives in MIMAROPA increased by 260.16 per cent from 246 cooperatives in 2009 to 886 cooperatives in 2015. Multipurpose, credit, and marketing type of cooperative recorded the highest number with 512, 104, and 83 cooperatives, respectively. Among the five

provinces, Palawan recorded the highest number of cooperatives with 398 cooperatives (refer to Table 15.8).

The total cooperative assets in the region increased by 64.30 per cent from ₱17.450 billion in 2009 to ₱28.671 billion in 2015.

Table 15.8 Number of Registered Cooperatives by Type, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015

TYPE OF COOPERATIVE	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
PRIMARY COOPERATIVE	243	395	75	45	39	40	37
ADVOCACY	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
AGRARIAN	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
AGRICULTURE	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
CONSUMERS	2	11	8	9	2	7	4
CREDIT	15	41	19	13	8	6	2
DAIRY	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
FISHERMEN	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
HOUSING	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
HEALTH SERVICE	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
LABOR SERVICE	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
MARKETING	3	28	23	12	7	3	7
MULTIPURPOSE	208	284	3	1	9	5	2
PRODUCERS	3	16	14	7	7	10	14
SERVICE	12	12	2	2	1	3	2
TRANSPORT	0	2	2	0	2	1	1
WATER SERVICE	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
WORKERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SECONDARY COOPERATIVE	3	6	1	0	1	1	0
BANK	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERATION	0	5	1	0	0	1	0
UNION	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	246	401	76	45	40	41	37

Source: CDA Region 4

MIMAROPA's IRA dependency rate decreased by 3.4 percentage points from 95.2 per cent in 2009 to 91.8 per cent in 2015. All provinces posted downward trends from 2009 to 2015 (refer to Table 15.9).

Table 15.9 Internal Revenue Allotment Dependency by Province, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015 (in per cent)

REGION/PROVINCE	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
MIMAROPA	95.2	95.4	94.2	93.0	92.4	93.6	91.8
MARINDUQUE	96	96	96	95	93	93	93
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	96	95	95	96	93	96	95
ORIENTAL MINDORO	94	95	93	90	91	91	90
PALAWAN	92	94	91	89	91	94	88
ROMBLON	98	97	96	95	94	94	93

Source: Bureau of Local Government Finance

Targets for all revenue collection were attained or surpassed except for real property tax. Business tax registered the highest actual collected revenue with ₱629.27 million. This was followed by real property tax, fees and charges, and economic enterprise (refer to Table 15.10).

Table 15.10 Revenue Generation Collection by Type, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015 (in million Pesos except collection efficiency)

YEAR	ITEM	REAL PROPERTY TAX	BUSINESS TAX	FEES AND CHARGES	ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE
2009	TARGET	494.30	156.82	167.52	154.04
	COLLECTION	458.15	389.26	271.31	191.08
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	93	248	162	124
2010	TARGET	463.50	194.90	220.20	149.40
	COLLECTION	455.97	294.33	262.39	197.68
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	98	151	119	132
2011	TARGET	659.0	290.5	295.7	197.8
	COLLECTION	543.56	338.09	292.89	282.76
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	82	116	99	143
2012	TARGET	690.40	326.75	310.19	281.27
	COLLECTION	614.96	377.75	360.92	314.07
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	89	116	116	112

2013	TARGET	906.30	354.50	325.70	298.20
	COLLECTION	503.11	423.51	413.88	282.06
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	56	119	127	95
2014	TARGET	1,016.9	434.2	400.4	293.4
	COLLECTION	476.53	509.87	462.71	264.30
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	47	117	116	90
2015	TARGET	832.1	481.1	404.0	259.8
	COLLECTION	529.96	626.97	513.95	308.67
	COLLECTION EFFICIENCY (%)	64	130	127	119

Source: Bureau of Local Government Finance

In 2009 to 2015, the annual average family income and expenses increased by 26.45 per cent and 7.77 per cent, respectively.

The region's annual average savings increased by 133.33 per cent (refer to Table 15.11).

Table 15.11 Average Family Income, Expenditure, and Savings, MIMAROPA 2009, 2012, and 2015 (at constant 2006 prices, in P'000, except Gini coefficient)

ITEM	2009	2012	2015
INCOME	121	134	153
EXPENDITURE	103	104	111
SAVINGS	18	30	42

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

MIMAROPA brought down its poverty incidence among families by 9.8 percentage points from 27.2 per cent in 2009 to 17.4 per cent in 2015. Poverty incidence among population decreased from 34.5 per cent in 2009 to 24.4 per cent in 2015.

All MIMAROPA provinces except Occidental Mindoro recorded decline in poverty incidence. Marinduque recorded the lowest poverty incidence among families and population at 11.7 per cent

and 16.2 per cent, respectively. Occidental Mindoro recorded the highest poverty incidence among families and population at 30.0 per cent and 41.2 per cent, respectively.

To be able to provide for both food and nonfood basic requirements in MIMAROPA, an individual needed ₱1,685.00 monthly income in 2015. Palawan recorded the lowest annual per capita poverty threshold of ₱19,435.00.

A family of 5 in MIMAROPA needed ₱5,872.00 monthly income in 2015 to meet basic food needs. Romblon recorded the highest annual per capita food threshold of ₱15,084.00.

Income of poor families was lower by 25 per cent from the poverty threshold. An additional income of ₱2,107.00 is needed by a poor family of five to move out of poverty in 2015.

Challenges

GRDP Bottom 5 Ranking

MIMAROPA was among the bottom five regions in terms of regional contributions to GDP growth from 2009 to 2015.

MIMAROPA's economy slowed down by 1.7 per cent in 2015 from 8.3 per cent in 2014. This was below the target in the updated RDP which was set at 4.2 percent to 5.2 per cent. The slowdown in economic growth was attributed to the decline in the mining industry.

Job Mismatch

In 2015, agriculture sector recorded the least contribution to GRDP with 22.8 per cent share. The sector employed 44.6 per cent of the total employed persons in the region. This was followed by service and industry sectors with 43.3 per cent and 12.2 per cent, respectively.

Business administration and related courses, education science and teacher training, and information technology related courses recorded the highest number of college graduates in AY 2015-2016 with 3,275 graduates, 2,207 graduates, and 1,411 graduates,

respectively. Agriculture, forestry, and fishery courses recorded 393 graduates.

Managing the West Philippines Sea

MIMAROPA was the country's second largest producer of fish and other marine products in 2015. Palawan contributed 11.54 per cent to the total national fisheries output. Territorial and resource disputes in the West Philippines Sea should be managed to ensure national security and sustainable development of the region's marine economy and resources.

Farmers not Benefitting from their Production

Families in the agriculture sector recorded the lowest annual income of ₱125,361.37 in 2012. This was followed by the income of families in the service and industry sectors with ₱272,949.72 and ₱163,774.19, respectively.

Fishermen recorded the second highest poverty incidence at 38.7 per cent in 2009 and 36.5 per cent in 2012. Number of farmers living below the poverty

threshold increased from 33.9 per cent in 2009 to 35.6 per cent in 2012.

Social and Environmental Issues on Mining

The mining and quarrying subsector was the largest contributor to the region's economy with 20.4 per cent share in 2015. Noncompliance of some mining companies to environmental standards and opposition from environmental groups and local communities are some of the major issues and challenges encountered in the mining industry.

Exports Concentrated on Few Products/markets

The region's total exports in 2015 valued at US\$378,893,585.00 came from Palawan, mainly from mining. Export portfolios should be diversified to expand the volume and value of export commodities.

High IRA dependency

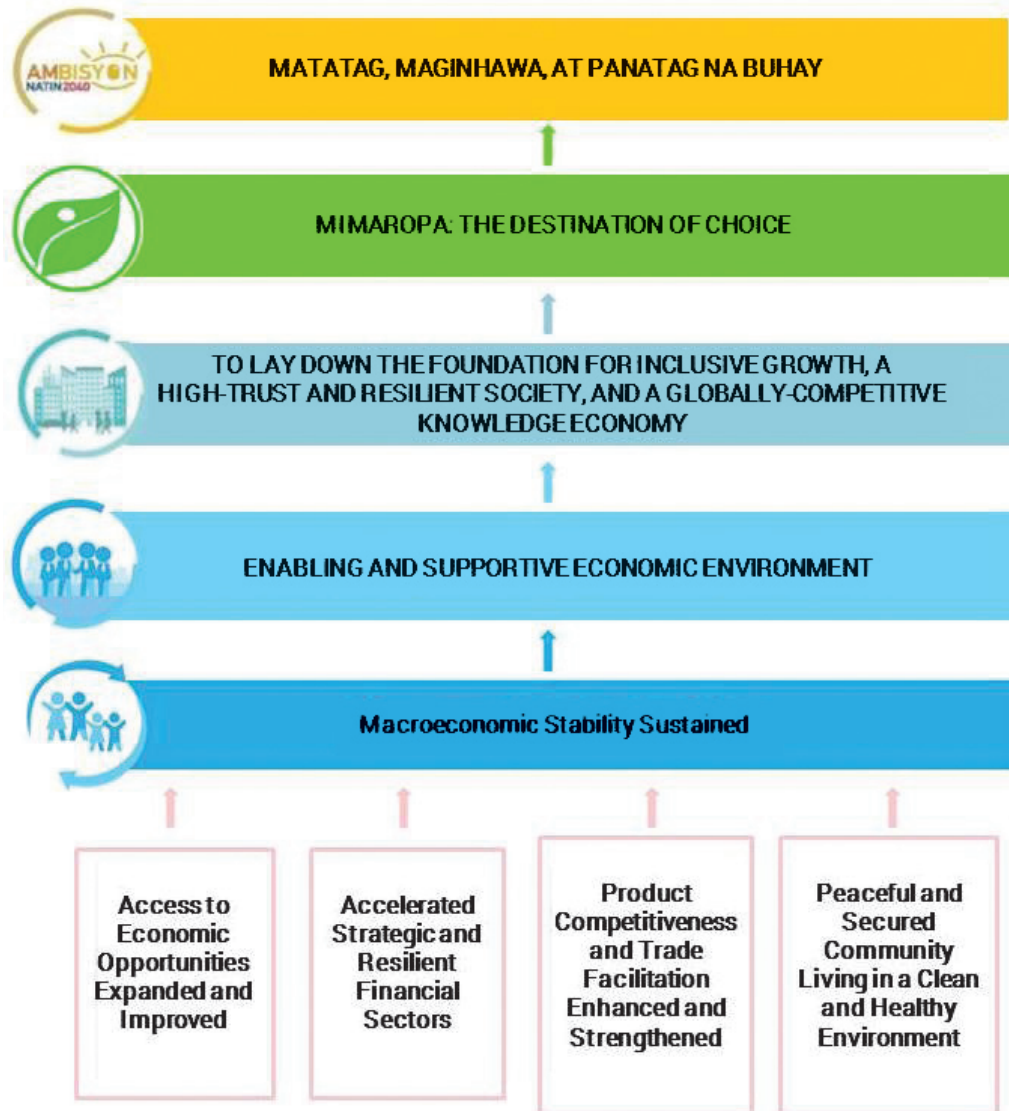
MIMAROPA's IRA dependency rate was 91.8 per cent in 2015. The region's financial resources rely heavily on internal revenue allotment.

Decrease Poverty Incidence in all MIMAROPA Provinces

All MIMAROPA provinces except Occidental Mindoro posted decreasing trend in 2009, 2012, and 2015. Poverty incidence among population in Occidental Mindoro increased from 35.9 per cent in 2009 to 41.2 per cent in 2015. Poverty incidence among families increased from 25.0 per cent in 2009 to 30.0 per cent in 2015. This may be attributed to increasing CPI, low employment opportunity, job mismatch, economic activities of indigenous peoples, and adverse effects of typhoons that hit the province.

Strategic Framework

Figure 15.2 Strategic Framework for Ensuring Sound Macroeconomic Policy



Priority Strategies

The following strategies and measures shall ensure expanded and improved access to economic opportunities; accelerated, strategic, and resilient financial sectors; enhanced and strengthened product competitiveness and trade facilitation; and peaceful and secured community living in a clean and healthy environment.

Access to Economic Opportunities Expanded and Improved

- Strengthen products and services delivery, investment promotion, and industry development through systematic marketing and streamlining regulations implemented by the government.
- Create regional action plan for investment attraction and retention that identifies joint ventures or projects.
- Establish tourism market research and segmentation focused on product development and marketing initiatives.
- Create more jobs and employment opportunities by expanding MSMEs market.
- Promote local products by establishing additional drop-off centers for farm produce (bagsakan center).
- Promote clustering of LGUs to enable them to plan and implement large scale projects.

Accelerated, Strategic, and Resilient Financial Sectors

- Update local revenue code and schedules of market values and implement strict compliance.
- Review tax incentive programs to invite more investors.
- Strengthen financial stability by revisiting policies and processes on financial subsidies, loan programs, and tax abatements of microfinance/lending institutions and cooperatives that enable MSMEs to avail more capital and expand businesses.
- Establish microfinance institutions access points distributed evenly over the region.
- Strengthen linkages between large financial institutions with retail microfinance institutions.
- Improve saving mobilization, capital market development, and capital formation through provision of investment opportunities in the local economy.

Product Competitiveness and Trade Facilitation Enhanced and Strengthened

- Increase global competitiveness by enhancing productivity through adopting international standard supported by laws, rules, and regulation.
- Promote product innovation by adopting improved science and technology system.
- Intensify export activities of the region by developing projects on value adding of agricultural products and providing business incentives to investors.
- Support and adopt proposed integrated transport hub and spoke system (air, land, and sea) in the Luzon spatial development framework.
- Improve infrastructure facilities which connect and integrate road, airport, and seaport transportation system among key production, infrastructure, and tourism areas.

Peaceful and Secured Community Living in a Clean and Healthy Environment

- Promote good governance through strict compliance to government procurement requirements, transparency seal requirements, and local revenue codes.
- Strengthen the National Task Force for the West Philippine Sea by creating area-level and tactical level task force.
- Intensify convergence programs between RLAs, LGUs, and private sectors to implement more livelihood and social services programs.
- Strengthen partnership of LGUs and private sector in promoting environmental programs.

16

Leveling the Playing Field through a National Competition Policy

Leveling the Playing Field through a National Competition Policy

This chapter assesses the competitiveness of provinces, cities, and municipalities of MIMAROPA. The Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) conducted by the Regional Competitiveness Committee (RCC) and the Department of Trade and Industry MIMAROPA will be used. A brief discussion on the level of transportation services and the capacity of accredited construction companies present in the region is also presented.

Assessment

LGU Competitiveness

The Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index is an annual ranking of Philippine cities and municipalities developed by the National Competitiveness Council through the Regional Competitiveness Committees (RCCs) and Department of Trade and Industry with the assistance of the United States Agency for International Development.

Cities and municipalities are ranked on their competitiveness based on an overall competitiveness score. The overall competitiveness score is the sum of scores on three main pillars which pool data from several sub-indicators. The three main pillars are: economic dynamism, government efficiency and infrastructure.

Scores are determined by the values of the actual data, as well as the completeness of the submitted data. The higher the score of a city or municipality, the more competitive it is. RCC has already conducted three CMCI surveys, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

For MIMAROPA, Marinduque and Palawan improved its overall ranking among the provinces that participated in the CMCI 2015 and 2016 surveys. Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro and Romblon declined in overall ranking in the same period (Refer to Table 16.1). The ranking of the provinces are based on the CMCI scores of the participating municipalities and cities under them. There are 68 and 74 provinces participated in 2015 and 2016 CMCI surveys, respectively.

Table 16.1 CMCI Overall Ranking, MIMAROPA Provinces, 2015 and 2016

PROVINCE	2015		2016		
	RANK	SCORES	RANK	SCORE	SCORES
MARINDUQUE	33	28.9205	20	26.0681	28.9205
PALAWAN	37	28.4424	30	25.0841	28.4424
ORIENTAL MINDORO	15	31.7623	37	23.6516	31.7623
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	35	28.7467	42	23.2583	28.7467
ROMBLON	58	24.3782	68	18.3591	24.3782

Source: Department of Trade and Industry/RCC MIMAROPA

Puerto Princesa City improved in ranking from 89th, to 63rd and 45th in the 2014, 2015, and 2016 CMCI results, respectively. Calapan City, a component city of Oriental Mindoro and designated as the regional center of the region, was ranked 38th in 2014 and improved to 27th in 2015 but declined to 86th in overall ranking in 2016. In 2016 CMCI, Puerto Princesa City attained zero scores in productivity (economic deficiency) and

capacity of schools (government efficiency). Calapan City obtained zero scores under the following sub-pillars: productivity (economic dynamism), ratio of LGU collected tax to LGU revenue (government efficiency), accommodations, and infrastructure investment (infrastructure). There are 144 cities participated in the 2016 CMCI survey.

Table 16.2 CMCI Ranking, Calapan City and Puerto Princesa City, 2014, 2015, and 2016

CITY/PILLAR	2014		2015		2016	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
PUERTO PRINCESA CITY	89	29.041	63	33.6364	45	31.781595
ECONOMIC DYNAMISM	136	3.0211	89	7.1859	84	7.679917
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY	36	17.401	70	17.5164	37	14.450862
INFRASTRUCTURE	48	8.619	28	8.9341	44	9.650817
CALAPAN CITY	38	34.146	27	36.5540	86	28.77933
ECONOMIC DYNAMISM	29	9.8134	56	7.8278	67	7.921135
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY	62	15.905	57	18.1229	82	12.96451
INFRASTRUCTURE	54	8.426	10	10.6033	112	7.893695

Source: Department of Trade and Industry/RCC MIMAROPA

In the overall rankings of the municipalities, only three (3) municipalities of MIMAROPA were included in the first 100 of CMCI 2016. These are Pinamalayan, Boac, and San Jose (Refer to Table 16.3). In the 2014 CMCI, there were eight (8) municipalities of MIMAROPA included in the first 100. In the last CMCI survey, 28 municipalities continued to decrease in rankings. These include the municipalities of Odiongan, Roxas, Socorro, Sablayan, and Puerto Galera which are among the eight municipalities included in the first 100 ranking in 2014. From 2015 to 2016, there are more municipalities that declined in rankings (41) than municipalities that increased in overall rankings (15). Pinamalayan has been consistently overall ranked 1 in the MIMAROPA region. Based on the three CMCI surveys, most of the municipalities in the MIMAROPA region are continuously outranked by municipalities from other regions indicating that their competitiveness have not been not improving. MIMAROPA municipalities have low scores in the pillars of government efficiency and infrastructure.

As of 2016, there were 1,245 municipalities participated in the survey nationwide. For MIMAROPA, only 56 municipalities participated. The 16 LGUs are island municipalities where the transportation of enumerators has not been considered.

Water Transport Services

MIMAROPA is an archipelagic region having no land border with other regions and is composed of six major islands and

several island municipalities. Connectivity among these islands and with the rest of the regions is critical to strengthen economic activities. Water transport service is the most affordable means for mobility of passengers and goods and services. There are many water transport routes within the region and going to other regions however water transportation service providers in each route are very limited (Refer to table 16.4). Water transport services are dominated by a very few shipping vessels. In some areas like Puerto Galera and Romblon, water transportations are confined to small outrigger boats which are not safe during bad weather conditions. The Calapan-Batangas route, which has the highest traffic of passenger and cargoes, despite the presence of two fast craft vessels, did not experience a significant reduction of passenger fare. The very limited and few water transport services does not provide a healthy competition to enhance their services, lower the transport fares, and ease the transport of commodities and passengers.

Accredited Construction Companies

Competition in the construction activities in the region is very limited due a very few number of accredited construction companies with higher capacity to participate in bigger projects. As of 29 December 2016, the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) issued a total of 8,419 contractors' licenses. Of the total, large-sized (AAAA, AAA & AA) accounted for 6% of the total contracting population. This is followed by medium-sized (A & B) contractors

with 34% share, while the remaining (C, D, Trade/E) 60% remained to be the majority of the licensed contractors. For MIMAROPA, there are only two (2) AAA category that can bid up to P75 million projects or more. There are only two (2) AA category to bid for projects with total cost of P50 million to P75 million. There are 17 contractors with A category who can only bid within the range of P25 million to P50 million. The rest are under category B, C and D whose bidding capacity is lower than P25 million project cost. The low number of contractors with large-sized category may indicate that

large scale government projects are always awarded to the same contractors. This could be among the reasons why the region has low absorptive capacity to undertake bigger projects.

Contractors from other regions with large-sized category can participate in the implementation of bigger projects in the region. However, these contractors are discourage to participate in the bidding due to possible higher cost to be incurred in the mobilization of their manpower and equipment going to island provinces.

Challenges

Based on the CMCI results for the three years, improving the rating of MIMAROPA LGUs relative to the rest of the country is a biggest challenge. Transportation of enumerators going to island municipalities is a major consideration for the conduct of the surveys.

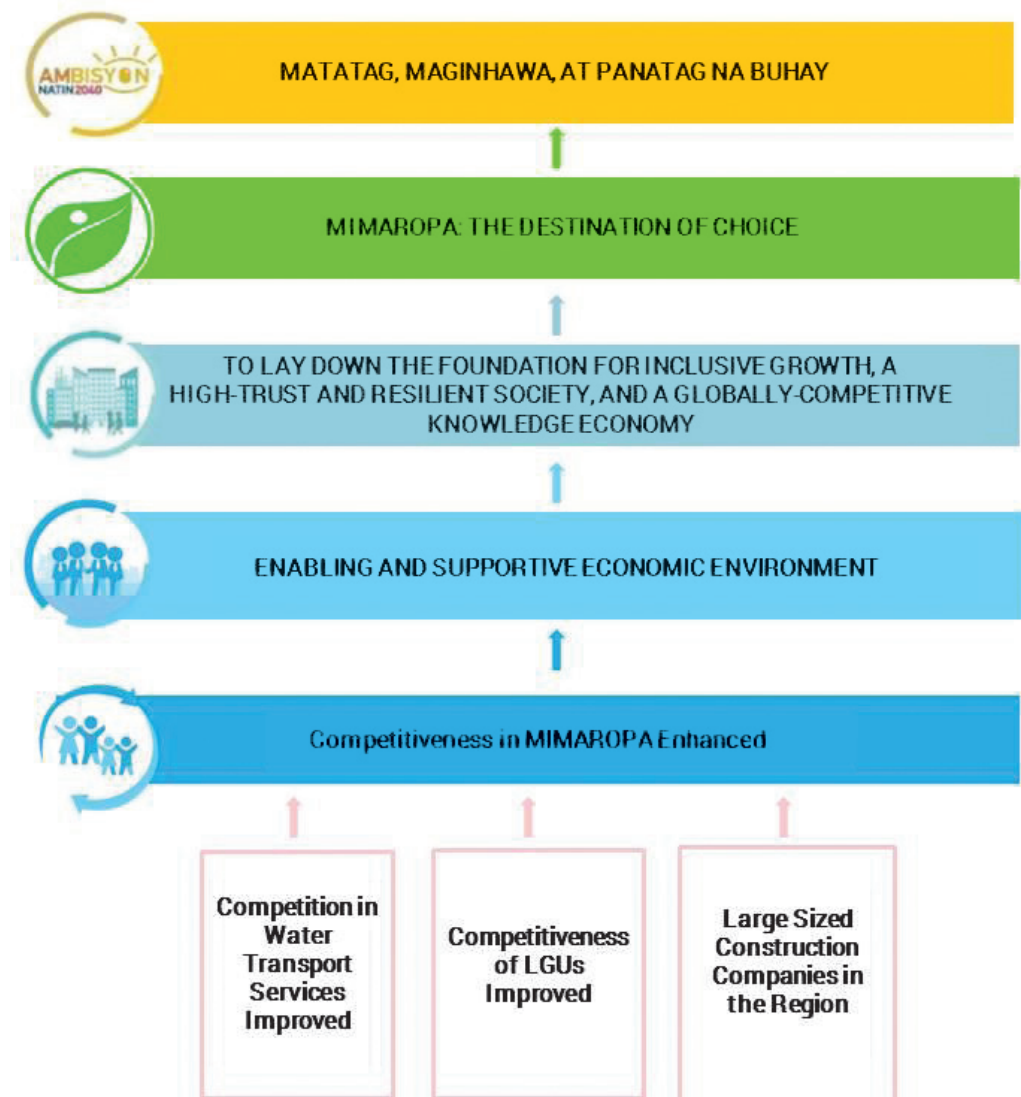
The major challenge on the connectivity among MIMAROPA island provinces and

with the mainland region is the limited number of water transport service providers.

Increasing the number of contractors with large sized category for bigger projects is a major challenge to improve the level of competition in the construction activities in the region.

Strategic Framework

Figure 16.1 Strategic Framework for Leveling the Playing Field through a National Competition Policy



Priority Strategies

CMCI survey is a very important indicator and serves as gauge to determine what specific aspect or criteria that local government units needs to improve. Interventions to improve the LGU competitiveness can be address through the identification of the pillars or indicators where LGUs have a very low or zero score. Technical assistance should be provided to LGUs that belongs to the lowest rankings including the completion of required documents (Comprehensive Land Use Plans, Disaster Risk Reduction Plans, etc.) Additional resources should

be provided for the conduct of surveys and enumeration in the island municipalities.

There should incentives to increase the number of water transport service providers within the routes going and within MIMAROPA to enhance water transport services.

To attract more construction companies in the region, mobilization cost should be added in the approved budget cost (ABC) of the projects.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

- Special recognition to LGUs who performed well in the rankings by DTI/RCC, DILG and RDC
- Additional budget allocation for the enumeration of CMCI surveys in the island municipalities
- Provide incentives to encourage missionary routes and increase the water transport service providers in the island provinces
- Provision of mobilization cost in the approved budgetary cost of projects

Table 16.3 RORO Routes and Shipping Company/Operator

RORO ROUTES	COMPANY/OPERATOR
Batangas City - Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro	Besta Shipping Lines, Inc. Montenegro Shipping Co., Inc.
Batangas City - Balatero, Pto. Galera, Or, Mindoro	Monenegro Shipping Co. Inc
Batangas City - Calapan, Oriental Mindoro	Archipelago Philippine Ferries Corp. Besta Shipping Lines, Inc. Montenegro Shipping Co. Inc Starlite Ferry Corp Asian Marine Ttransport Corp.
Batangas City - Odiongan, Romblon	Montenegro Shipping Co. Inc
Batangas - Odiongan - Caticlan - Batangas	2Go Group, Inc
Batangas - Romblon .. Roxas - Romblon – Batangas	2Go Group, Inc
Batangas - Romblon - Roxas - Caticlan - Romblon –Batangas	2Go Group, Inc
Bulalacao, Or. Mindoro - Catician, aklan	Archipelago Philippine Ferries Corp.
Dalahican- Banton, Romblon	Kalayaan Shipping Lines
Iloilo - Cuyo - Puerto Princesa, Palawan	Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc
Lucena City - Balanacan, Mogpog, Marinduque	Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc
Lucena City - Boac, Marinduque	Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc
Lucena City - Balanacan, Mogpog, Marinduque - Subuquin, San Juan, Batangas - Cawit, Boac, Marinduque	Starhorse Shipping Lines
Manila - Coron - Culion	Silverio M. Atienza
Manila - Coron - Cuyo (Palawan)	JVS Jorney Sea Transport Inc.
Manila - Coron - El Nido - Liminangcong - Taytay	Silverio M. Atienza
Manila - Coron - Puerto Princesa - Coron - Manila - Romblon - Masbate - Ormoc - Cebu -Ormoc - Masbate - Romblon - Manila	2Go Group, Inc.
Manila - Tilik, Lubang Island, Occ. Mindoro	Silverio M. Atienza
Nasugbu, Batangas - Tilik, Lubang Island, Occ. Mindoro	Asian Marine Transport Corp. Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc.
Odiongan, Romblon - Romblon, Romblon	Montenegro Shipping Lines, Inc.
Roxas, Oriental Mindoro - Catician, Malay, Aklan	Besta Shipping Lines, Inc. Orange Navigation Inc. Philharbor Ferries and Port Services, Inc. Montenegro Shipping Lines Inc. Starlite Ferry Corp Aleson Shipping Lines Inc.
San Agustin - Romblon --Magdiwang (all in Romblon)	Montenegro Shipping Lines Inc.
San Jose, occ. Mindoro - Coron - Taytay (Palawan)	Montenegro Shipping Lines Inc.
San Jose, Occ. Mindoro - Semirara, Caluya, Antique - Culasi, Antique	Kalayaan Shipping Lines
Talao-talao, Lucena City - Cawit, Marinduque	Montenegro Shipping Lines Inc.

Source: Maritime Industry Authority

PART VI

FOUNDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



17 Attaining Just and Lasting Peace

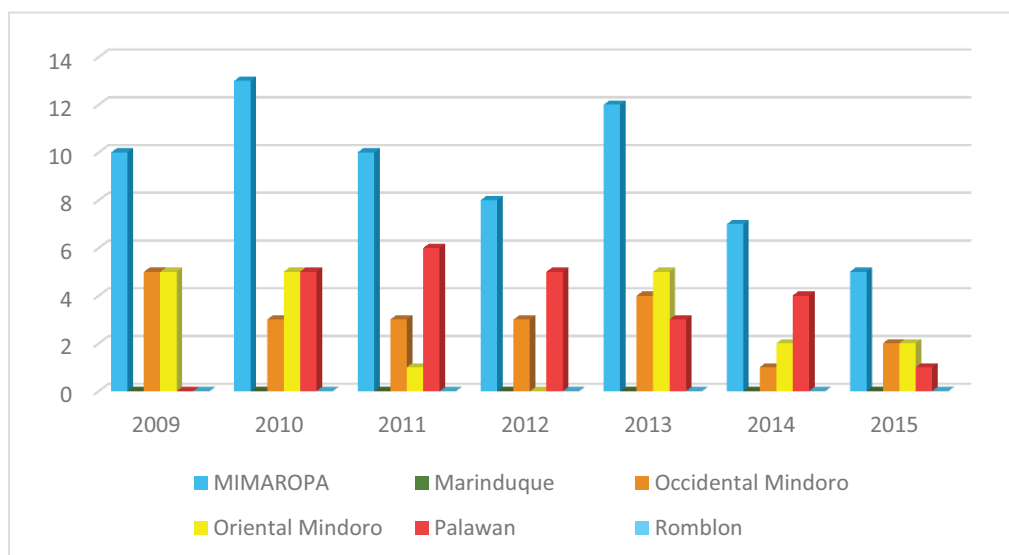
Attaining Just and Lasting Peace

The government has always been in pursuit of peaceful and secured environment for the people. Existence of insurgency may disrupt normal business operations and the everyday lives of the people. Different programs and initiatives were made to address the problem on internal conflict with armed groups and create a conducive and favorable environment for economic and social development.

Assessment

In 2009 to 2015, 65 incidents of internal conflict were reported in the region. These include arson, harassment, liquidation, grenade throwing, explosion, abduction, and ambush. The highest number of incidents was recorded in 2010 with 13 incidents.

Figure 17.1 CNN Atrocities, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015



Source: Philippine National Police MIMAROPA, Philippine Army

The province of Palawan recorded the highest number of conflicts with 24 incidents. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro and Oriental Mindoro with 21 incidents and 20 incidents, respectively. No incidents were recorded in Marinduque and Romblon from 2010 to 2015.

The region is at risk to terror attacks due to its geographic condition. In December 2015, Palawan and other areas in the country were placed under high terrorism threat category. This was due to reports of Abu Sayyaf and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters' plan of attack and engagement in kidnap-for-ransom activities.⁷

The provinces of Romblon, Oriental Mindoro, and Occidental Mindoro were declared as conflict manageable and ready for further development (CMRFD). Romblon was declared as CMRFD on September 17, 2009, Oriental Mindoro on October 8, 2015, and Occidental Mindoro on October 11, 2016.

CMRFD is an honor given to provinces which passed the parameters set forth by the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police. The declaration of CMRFD can spur economic growth, political stability, and social harmony.

Internal conflict may arise from insufficient delivery of basic services like education, health, employment, inability to provide good governance, violation of

human rights, and issues on land ownership.

To address these issues, several initiatives were spearheaded by the national government. Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA), government's program and framework for peace and development, was launched for the isolated, hard-to-reach, conflict-affected, and conflict-vulnerable communities.

From 2012 to 2015, a total of 13 subprojects amounting to P125,000,000.00 was granted by the DILG MIMAROPA to Oriental Mindoro which benefitted 3 municipalities (Bulalacao, Mansalay, and Gloria). In 2014, two PAMANA projects were awarded to Palawan through the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace Process.

A program which seeks to contribute toward achieving the goal of permanent and peace closure of all armed conflicts with non-state armed groups was also launched. The Comprehensive local integration program (CLIP) for former rebels (FRs) gives immediate and livelihood assistance to FRs to be productive citizens of the country.

In 2015, a total of 9 FRs (6 from Occidental Mindoro, 2 from Palawan, and 1 from Oriental Mindoro) were given the CLIP assistance fund. Each of the FRs was given P15,000 immediate assistance and P50,000 livelihood assistance.

⁷<http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2015/12/14/1532565/high-terror-threat-warning-raised-19-areas>

Challenges

Continued Presence of Internal Conflict with Armed Groups in the Region

The conflict with the Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front-New People's Army (CNN) poses threat to the region especially in the delivery of basic services to conflict-affected areas. CNN atrocities from 2009-2015 include robbery, ambush, and arson of government and private properties.

Deferred Peace Negotiations with the CNN

Meetings and informal talks were conducted in Manila, Norway, and the Netherlands under the previous administration.⁸ Despite efforts by the government to hold peace negotiations, no final peace agreement was made with the CNN.

Vulnerability of the Region to Terrorist Attacks

The numerous entry and exit points due to the archipelagic characteristic of the region may open opportunities to terrorist groups.

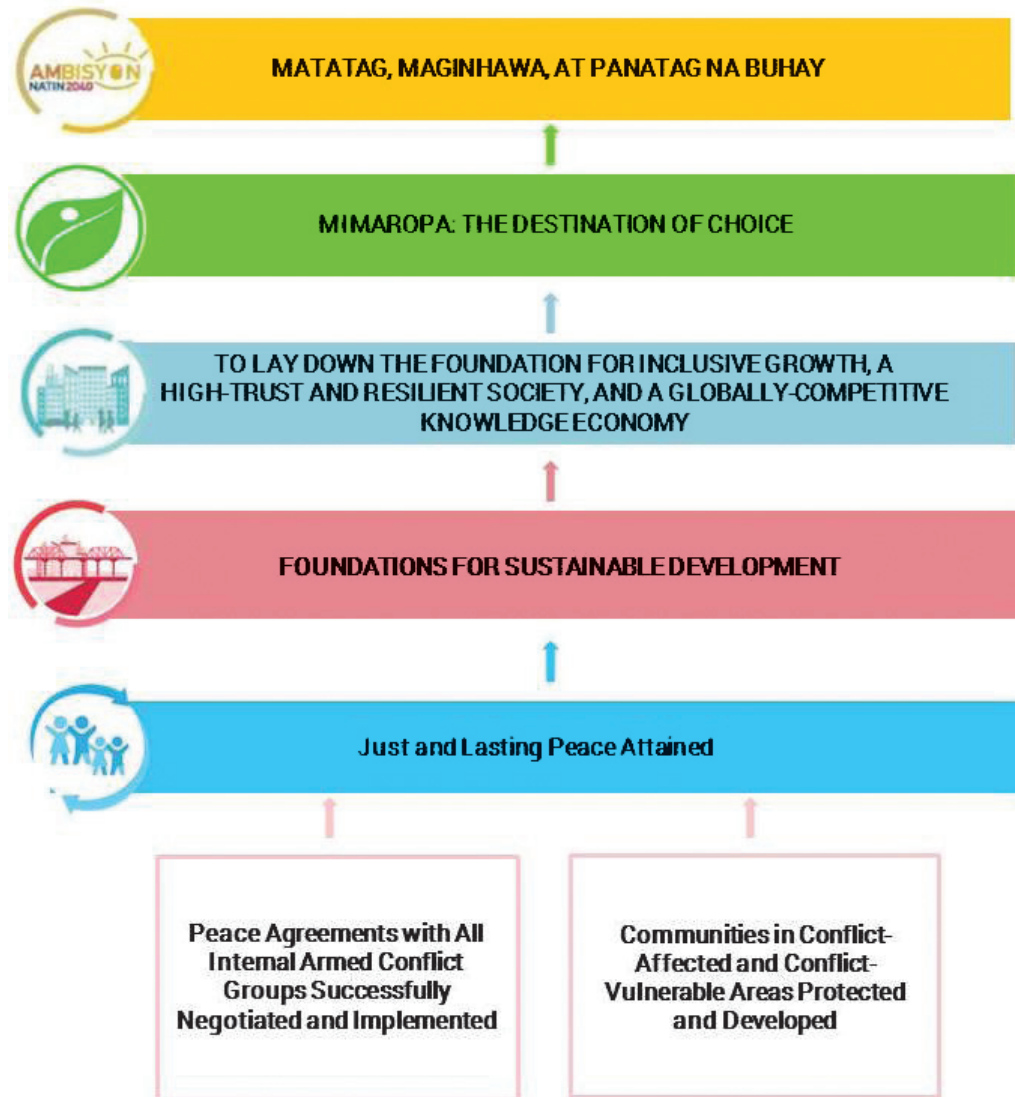
Encounter with Armed Groups Disrupt Business Operations on Some Areas

From 2010 to 2015, there were reported incidents of encounter, ambush, arson, robbery, and grenade throwing in the region. Burning of facilities like backhoe, dump trucks of construction companies, and cellsite towers were reported. Government properties were not spared from robberies and attacks.

⁸ www.rappler.com/newsbreak/iq/143551-cpp-npa-ndf-peace-talks

Strategic Framework

Figure 17.2 Strategic Framework for Attaining Just and Lasting Peace



Priority Strategies

Peace Agreements with Internal Armed Conflict Groups Successfully Negotiated and Implemented

- Support the Peace and Development Roadmap of the present administration which aims to have a final peace agreement with the CNN. The roadmap promotes catch-up socioeconomic development in conflict-affected areas and build a culture of peace and conflict sensitivity.
- Support Development Support and Security Plan Kapayapaan of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The DSSP Kapayapaan has four strategic concepts: (1) sustained military operations to defeat the foreign and local terrorist organization; (2) contribute to the promotion of peace;

(3) active support to law enforcement in war against drugs; and (4) contribute to nation-building.

Communities in Conflict-Affected and Conflict-Vulnerable Areas Protected and Developed

- Intensify intelligence monitoring of law enforcement entities to prevent terror threats. Activate the barangay information networks (BINs) and capacitate them in information gathering.
- Provide and strengthen livelihood assistance to conflict-affected areas through the PAMANA program.
- Continue the CLIP project to encourage rebel groups to surrender and be part in nation building.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 17.1 Priority Legislative Agenda to Attaining Just and Lasting Peace

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Amnesty proclamation for the release of all detained political prisoners	Amnesty/Pardon is part of the confidence-building measures that will be undertaken in the peace tables with the different armed rebel groups.

Programs, Projects, Activities

Peace Agreements with Internal Armed Conflict Groups Successfully Negotiated and Implemented

- Support the Campaign Against Terrorism (LOI SANGLAHI-ALPHA)

PNP ISO Campaign Plan steers the PNP's internal security efforts and complement the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Internal Peace and Security Plan "Bayanihan" against all internal threats, such as Communist Terrorists Movement (CTM), the Southern Philippines Secessionist Groups (SPSG), Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), and Jemaah Islamiya (JI).

- Supervise the Internal Security Operations Campaign Plan

In support to ISO Campaign Plan SAMAHAN, this program prescribes the specific concepts and guidelines in the implementation of the PNP's intensified campaign against internal security threat groups.

- Organized Crime Groups/Crime Groups

This program aims to identify, gather information, and arrest organized crime groups and crime groups.

- Partisan Armed Groups (PAGs)

This program aims to monitor, identify and neutralize private armed group members in the region.

Communities in Conflict-Affected and Conflict-Vulnerable Areas Protected and Developed

- Enhance Intelligence Operations

The program aims to identify, arrest, and file criminal charges against wanted persons and criminal gangs.

- Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA)

PAMANA is the national government's focused development program for isolated, hard-to-reach, conflict-affected, conflict-vulnerable communities.

18 Ensuring Security, Public Order, and Safety

Ensuring Security, Public Order, and Safety

MIMAROPA remains to be one of the peaceful regions in the country with low crime volume and average monthly crime rate. The challenge is to maintain peace and order to provide bigger platform for economic and social development. Programs for peace and security are continuously being developed to cater to the security demands of the region.

Assessment

In 2013 to 2015, crime volume and average monthly crime rate (AMCR) in the region decreased. A total of 17,207 crimes were recorded in 2015. This was lower by 42.24 per cent from the 29,791 recorded crimes in 2013. The AMCR decreased by 52.46 percentage points from 100.01 per cent in 2013 to 47.55 per cent in 2015.

Of the region's total crime volume, 59.71 per cent were non-index crimes while 40.29 per cent were index crimes. Physical injury was the most prevalent index crime.

The region's crime solution efficiency increased by 5.27 percentage points from 33.35 per cent in 2013 to 38.62 per cent in 2015. This surpassed the 2016 target in the updated RDP which was set at 36.0 per cent.

The region's crime clearance efficiency increased by 10.58 percentage points from 43.01 per cent RCCE in 2013 to 53.59 per cent in 2015. This was, however, lower than the 2016 target in the updated RDP which was set at 73.0 per cent.

Table 18.1 Crime Statistics, MIMAROPA, 2013-2015

YEAR	CRIME VOLUME	CRIMES CLEARED	CRIME CLEARANCE EFFICIENCY	CRIMES SOLVED	CRIME SOLUTION EFFICIENCY	AVERAGE CRIME RATE
2013	29,791	12,814	43.01	9,936	33.35	100.01
2014	22,812	9,930	43.53	7,806	34.22	65.46
2015	17,207	9,222	53.59	6,646	38.62	47.55

Source: Philippine National Police MIMAROPA

In 2015, all barangays were compliant with the establishment of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs) with 13,864 civilian members.

MIMAROPA's police to civilian ratio improved from 1:700 in 2011 to 1:688 in 2015.

A total of 27,097 community awareness activities were conducted in 2015. This surpassed the 2016 target in the updated RDP which was set at 6,192 community awareness activities.

In 2015, 304 barangays or 20.85 per cent were drug-affected. Oriental Mindoro recorded the highest drug-affected

barangays with 91 barangays. This was followed by Occidental Mindoro, Palawan, and Romblon with 63, 58, and 49 affected barangays, respectively. Marinduque recorded the lowest with 43 affected barangays.

Fire incidents increased by 120 per cent from 75 incidents in 2009 to 165 incidents in 2015. Only 41 cities/municipalities in the region have fire stations. The fireman to population ratio improved from 1:7,979 in 2011 to 1:5,595 in 2015.

In 2015, MIMAROPA ranked 2nd among 17 regions in terms of having the lowest crime volume.

Challenges

Managing the West Philippine Sea

MIMAROPA was the country's second largest producer of fish and other marine products in 2015. Palawan contributed 11.54 per cent to the total national fisheries output. Territorial and resource disputes in the West Philippine Sea should be managed to ensure national security and sustainable development of the region's marine economy and resources.

Improvement of Crime Situation in the Region

The law enforcement agencies should maintain the improved crime situation in the region considering the development of

physical interconnectivity among the island provinces and peace and order being one of the top priorities of the present administration.

Implementation of Strict Security Protocols on Ports

Strict security protocols on ports should be implemented. Numerous entry and exit points in the region may open opportunities for drug trafficking, human trafficking, and other crimes.

Maintenance of Security Facilities in the Region

Additional security facilities should be established and maintained to ensure security of both locals and tourists. The influx of tourists due to extensive tourism development and promotion should be considered.

Establishment of Security Facilities

There are no forensic laboratories and drug rehabilitation centers in the region to

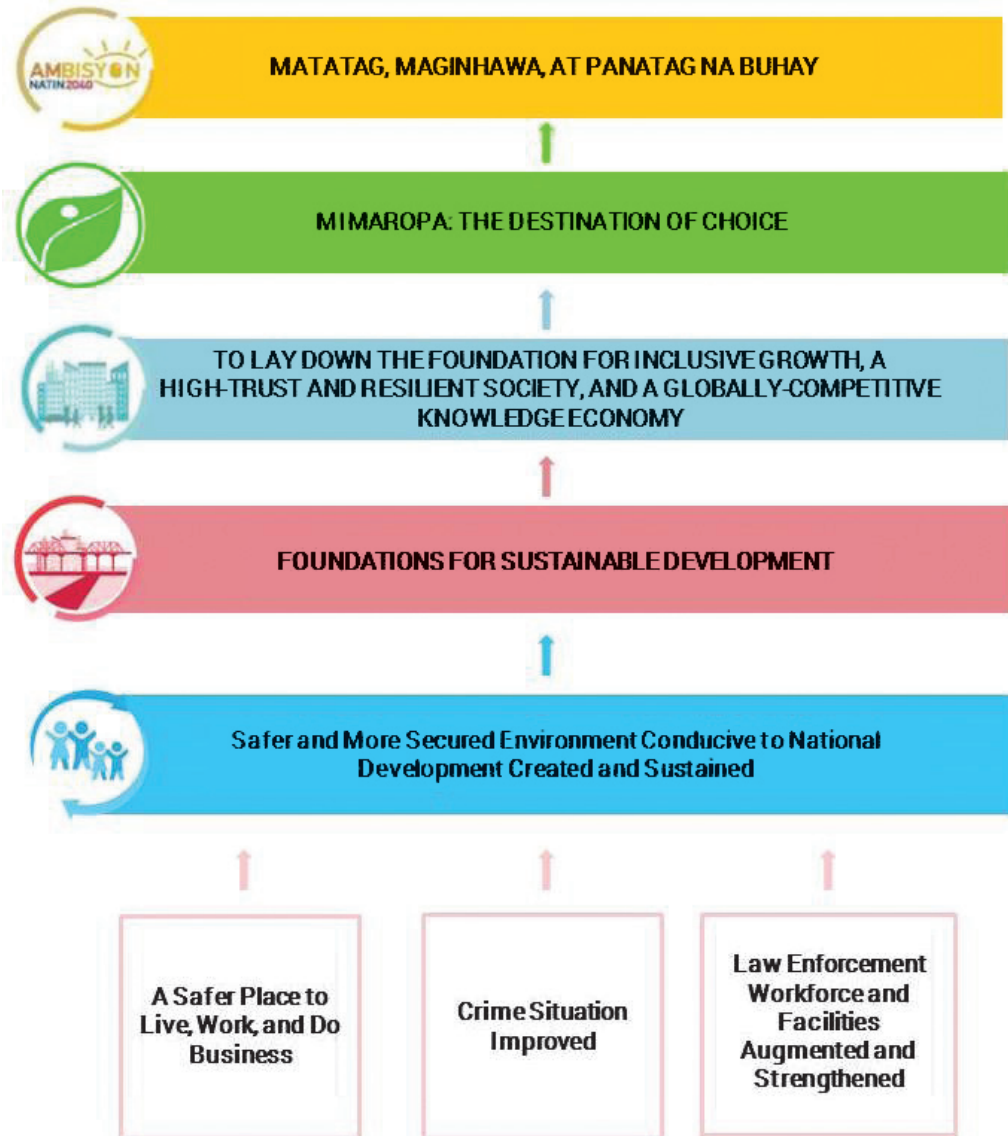
support the region's campaign against illegal drugs. These facilities should be established considering MIMAROPA's geographical distances.

Community Awareness on Peace

Community participation should be advocated to ensure greater participation in the various peace and order programs and initiatives in the region.

Strategic Framework

Figure 18.1 Strategic Framework for Ensuring Security, Public Order, and Safety



Priority Strategies

A Safer Place to Live, Work, and Do Business

- Conduct regular crime prevention campaigns in the communities to ensure awareness of social responsibilities in crime prevention.
- Train and empower barangay peacekeeping action teams (BPATs) and barangay anti-drugs abuse councils (BADACs) to be effective partners in the fight against crimes and illegal drugs.
- Support the present administration's war against drugs through the implementation of MASA MASID program of DILG and Oplan Tokhang of PNP.

Crime Situation Improved

- Reduce crime volume by increasing mobile and foot patrols in populated and high risk areas.
- Increase crime solution efficiency through collaboration with stakeholders

and other pillars of the criminal justice system.

Law Enforcement Workforce and Facilities Augmented and Strengthened

- Establish additional law enforcement facilities in the major tourist destinations and highly populated areas in the region.
- Equip and modernize law enforcement facilities considering the geographical situation of the region.
- Strict implementation of Section 56 of RA 6975 or the establishment of one fire station with adequate personnel, firefighting facilities and equipment in every provincial capital, city and municipality.
- Recruit highly competent, motivated, and values-oriented law enforcement personnel.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 18.2 Priority Legislative Agenda to Ensuring Security, Public Order, and Safety

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Defense Procurement Act	To introduce amendments to Republic Act (R.A.) 9184 also known as the Government Procurement Reform Act regarding the procurement of defense assets. This will propose a specialized procurement process for defense capabilities considering the classified nature of the assets to be acquired.
National Defense Act	To amend the National Defense Act of 1935 in order to: a) update national defense policies, principles, and concepts; and, b) codify various laws on national defense, the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the civilian bureaus in the defense establishment with the aim of streamlining and professionalizing the defense bureaucracy by institutionalizing defense reforms.
National Security Act	To provide for a national security policy and planning framework and institutionalizing its planning process with the national development planning. This will enable every administration to lay down a blueprint of its national security priorities, policies, and strategies.
PNP Reorganization and Modernization	To further improve its system capability in providing better police services giving premium to crime prevention and suppression, and crime investigation.
Amendment of the Comprehensive Dangerous Act of 2002	To enhance certain provisions to address the present drug situation in the country particularly in the enforcement of the law, the functions of concerned government agencies, and the organization of PDEA. The amendments will support and complement the active and holistic approach being implemented in addressing the drug problem in the country.
Mandatory Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)	Based on the Constitutional provisions empowering the Government to call upon its citizens to defend the State and render personal military service and recognizing the vital role of the youth in nation-building, this will inculcate in them patriotism, nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs. The DND envisions to create a pool of trained reservists by making the ROTC mandatory again in order to generate the needed human resources in times of war, calamities and disasters, and in support to the Government's enhanced anti-crime strategy.

Programs, Projects, Activities

A Safer Place to Live, Work, and Do Business

- Enhance Intelligence Operations

The program aims to identify, arrest, and file criminal charges against wanted persons and criminal gangs.

- Strengthening of Intelligence Community

The program's goal is to establish barangay information network and recruit and utilize agents / informants.

- Community Information and Education Program

This includes the conduct of community awareness activities including lectures, dialogue/pulong-pulong.

- Increase production and dissemination of IEC materials

This program aims to gather, process, and disseminate information to end users.

Crime Situation Improved

- Supervise the implementation of Police Integrated Patrol System

The Police Integrated Patrol System directs all PNP units to enhance crime prevention and solution. This calls for the pursuit and intensification of police presence (foot and mobile patrols), anti-criminality and police security operations, Oplan

Bakal/Sita (campaign against criminals riding in motorcycles), and other police interventions.

- Monitor the implementation of limited beat/foot patrol

This program directs all PNP units to deploy uniformed personnel assigned to administrative functions to perform limited beat patrol duties, in addition to their usual tasks, for maximum police presence as well as to intensify law enforcement operations, anti-criminality campaigns and public safety services.

- Monitor the implementation of LOI Sang-ingat Charlie

LOI Sang-ingat Charlie sets the operational guidelines and procedures to be undertaken by the PNP to ensure peace and order and public safety during the year-round observance of holidays, festivals, fiestas, and other related celebrations; the safe and orderly conduct of local and international meetings/conferences, special events, presidential visits, elections, plebiscites or referendum; and the peaceful conduct of mass actions and/or demonstrations in all parts of the country.

- Implementation of Bantay Turista Project

LOI Bantay Turista ensures the safety of foreign and domestic tourists and promotes a secured environment in priority tourist destination areas through the National Tourist-Oriented Police for

Community Order and Protection (NTOPCOP) Program.

- Strengthening Case Evidence and Case Filing

This prescribes the operational guidelines and procedures for the conduct of investigation and filing of cases.

- Intensification of Case Tracking System

This prescribes the operational guidelines and procedures for the conduct of case tracking of the cases filed in court.

- MASAMASID Program

This program is a community-based initiative to engage volunteers in the fight against criminality, corruption, and illegal drugs.

Law Enforcement Workforce and Facilities Augmented and Strengthened

- Administration of PNP Entrance and Promotional Examinations, Recruitment/Selection Program

This refers to the overall process of attracting, selecting and appointing suitable candidates for jobs.

19 Accelerating Infrastructure Development

Accelerating Infrastructure Development

MIMAROPA Region needs dependable infrastructure and efficient delivery of transportation support services to integrate the island economies of the five provinces in the region and with other regions.

The region is composed of island provinces which make travelling difficult requiring intermodal transport services.

Transport Infrastructure

Transportation propels economic growth in the region through the movement of people and goods. There is the need for the physical integration of the island provinces through efficient and reliable network of roads, ports, and airports.

Assessment

Water Transport

Given the archipelagic composition of the region, water transport is the main means of transportation across the islands. Improving port facilities, such as passenger terminal buildings (PTBs) and access roads, are some of the measures necessary to make port operations more efficient. Providing safe and reliable services to passengers must be provided by shipping lines in existing routes.

The BIMP-EAGA established in 1994 identified Palawan as an international interconnection point such as Brooke's

Point port in Palawan to Sandakan/Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia. Palawan is strategically located because it connects directly to Brunei, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The Philippine Ports Authority built the Brooke's Point port to accommodate cargo ships from different parts of the country to connect the BIMP-EAGA. The port also caters to local fishing vessels. Commercial vessels from Malaysia, Indonesia and other countries also make port calls in the port. It also serves vessels containing commercial goods from abroad and outgoing materials. The Brooke's Point port is one of the most profitable ports in Southern Philippines.

Palawan will benefit from the opening of roll on roll off (RoRo) route connecting San Jose, Antique to Palawan through the Port of Taytay and Port of Cuyo. The RoRo connection has been committed and facilities have been constructed to support the route. The road to Taytay port

in Palawan is being constructed and will be completed in 2017.

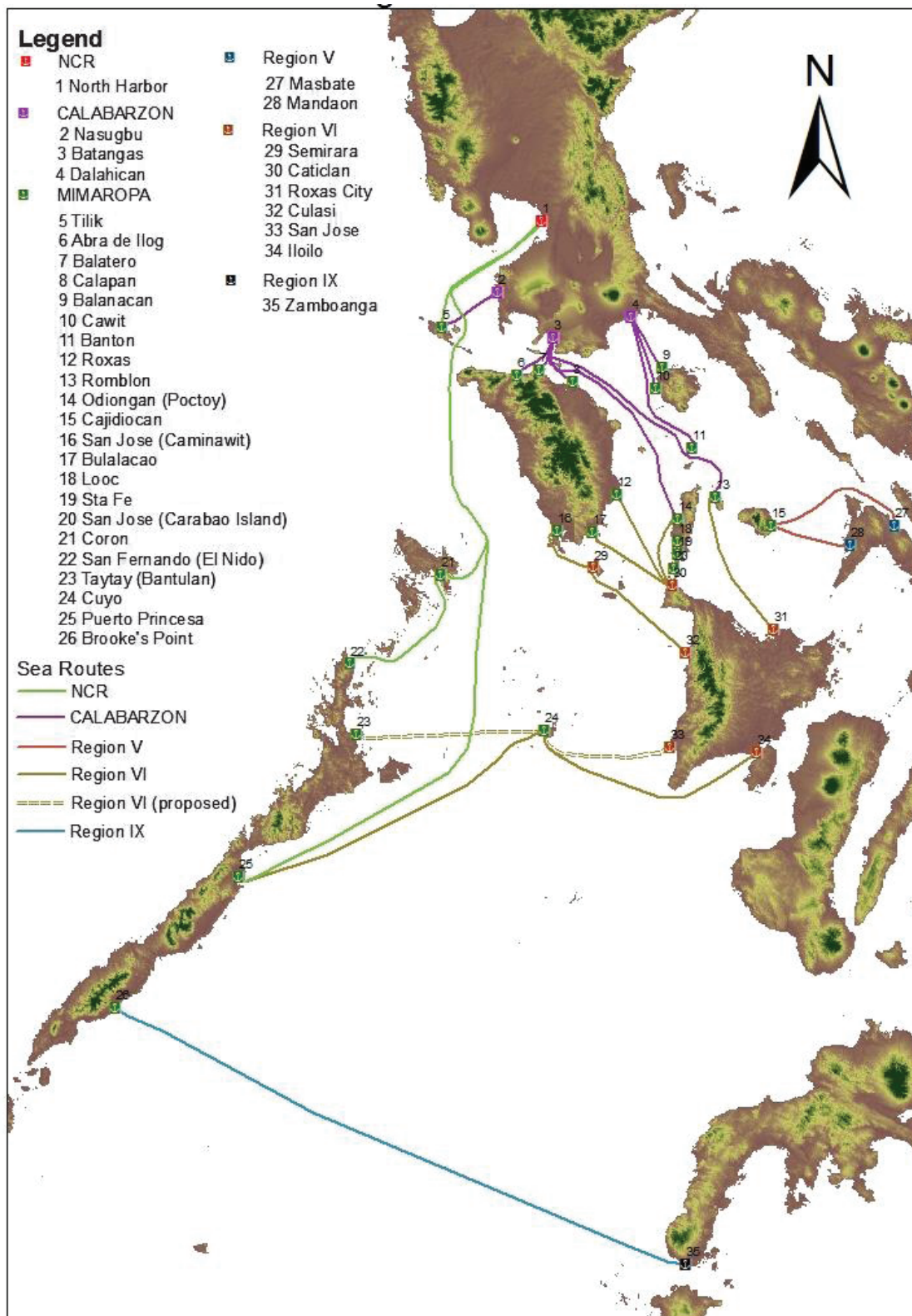
The Visayas Spatial Development Framework strengthened the linkage of MIMAROPA to Visayas region. The Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) connected Luzon to the Visayas passing through the Mindoro Island. The improvement of Mindoro SRNH section is a priority concern because it links MIMAROPA to and from mainland Luzon and Visayas region. The Mindoro Island Circumferential Road of the SRNH boosted trading and tourism in the region. The following port linkages between Visayas and MIMAROPA Region have been identified: Libertad-Magsaysay, Malay-Bulalacao, Malay-Odiongan, Roxas City-San Fernando, Masbate-San Fernando and Iloilo City-Puerto Princesa City (PPC). Libertad Port may be connected to the Port of Bulalacao, Oriental Mindoro. Bulalacao Port has rock causeway pier and a RoRo ramp. It is an alternate port to Roxas port and can serve the tourism circuit of Coron-San Jose (Occidental Mindoro) – Bulalacao-Caticlan.

Passenger traffic increased to 51.93 per cent between 2010 and 2015 in the major ports in the region. Most passenger traffic used the Strong Republic Nautical Highway (SRNH) passing through Calapan port exiting to Roxas port going to Visayas region. The SRNH route was expanded with the opening of Port of Bulalacao in Oriental Mindoro as alternate route in going to Caticlan. The development of Puerto Galera Port will also provide more access in the SRNH.

Cargo volume increased to 9.62 per cent in the last past five years. Bulk of foreign cargoes for export was from the mining companies in Palawan which increased to 13.3 per cent from previous years. Export cargoes increased to 63.25 per cent while import cargoes decreased to 6.64 per cent.

Shipping services has improved in viable routes but routes with less traffic are saddled with ageing ships. Passengers are looking for safe, clean ships with reliable trip schedule. MARINA, PPA and PCG are working to provide the region with better services.

Figure 19.1 Inter-Regional Sea Routes



Source: National Economic and Development Authority MIMAROPA

Table 19.1 Port Statistics, MIMAROPA, 2010-2015

ITEM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
NUMBER OF VESSELS	34,861	34,339	33,256	33,773	39,139	45,111
DOMESTIC	34,478	33,956	32,834	33,299	38,709	44,724
FOREIGN	383	383	422	474	430	387
TOTAL PASSENGERS	5,597,153	5,591,195	6,662,655	6,943,283	7,722,400	8,504,000
DISSEMBARKING	2,846,381	2,842,712	3,415,366	3,621,215	4,048,885	4,395,060
EMBARKING	2,750,772	2,748,483	3,247,289	3,322,068	3,673,515	4,108,940
TOTAL CARGO THROUGHPUT (M.T.)	7,132,947	7,137,168	10,568,076	9,458,923	10,792,915	10,402,585
DOMESTIC	1,824,837	1,829,058	2,371,308	2,185,366	2,037,409	2,309,422
FOREIGN	5,308,110	5,308,110	8,196,768	7,273,557	8,746,938	8,093,163

Source: Philippine Ports Authority

Air Transport

Providing air transportation services in MIMAROPA remains a challenge. At present air transportation are availed only in limited destinations in the region.

Puerto Princesa airport is the only international airport in the region. It has night landing capability. The Philippine Airlines began international flights to Taipei-Taoyuan in 2015. The international flights of Malaysian airlines in 2013-2014 did not generate sufficient passenger traffic. The Puerto Princesa Airport Development Project will further boost Palawan as an international destination.

MIMAROPA has eleven airports but only four airports, namely Busuanga, Puerto

Princesa in Palawan, San Jose in Occidental Mindoro, and Romblon have regular commercial flights. The other airports are for general aviation. Marinduque airport is not operational due to the delayed completion of its runway due to political conflicts.

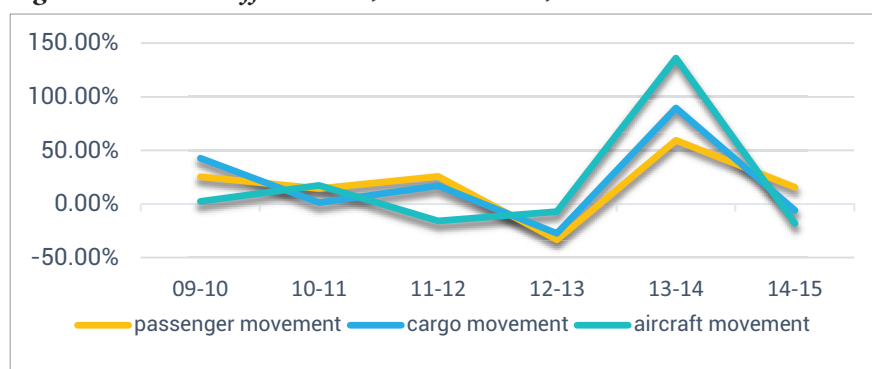
There is an increase in aircraft movement by 19.17 per cent and corresponding increase in passenger movement by 17.84 per cent, and 19.60 per cent in cargo movement. The decrease in passenger movement in 2012 and 2013 is attributed to the temporary closure of Romblon and Marinduque airports.

Table 19.2 Air Traffic Statistics, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015

ITEM	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
PASSENGER MOVEMENT	876,504	1,100,190	1,256,938	1,578,691	1,051,398	1,677,156	1,937,833
CARGO MOVEMENT	7,788,640	11,122,424	11,272,207	13,198,334	9,587,433	18,176,039	17,112,131
AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT	11,209	11,490	13,485	11,345	10,531	24,894	20,369

Source: www.data.gov

Figure 19.2 Air Traffic Trends, MIMAROPA, 2009-2015



Source: www.data.gov.ph

Land Transport

A total length of 756.23 kilometers of national roads was concreted during the assessment period. The 37 kilometers Bulalacao-San Jose road section connecting Oriental and Occidental Mindoro was completed in 2012. The Department of Tourism and Department of Public Works and Highways Convergence Program funded the construction of 170.952 kilometers of roads leading to tourist destinations in Palawan. MIMAROPA was provided P5.294 Billion for the construction of 206.45 kilometers of tourism roads in 2012-2015.

The region has a total length of 2,297.70 kilometers of national road as of 2015,

ranking 4th in the country in terms of road length. It ranks 2nd among regions with national roads in bad condition. The region has 470.86 kilometers of unpaved national roads in 2015.

The completion of the 20.33 kilometers Abra de Ilog to Puerto Galera road project started in 2014 will integrate the provinces of Oriental and Occidental Mindoro. The project with an approximate amount of P 1.93 billion is targeted for completion in 2020. The road project will maximize the potential of the Strong Republic Nautical Highway. It will connect trading and tourism areas in Occidental Mindoro to Oriental Mindoro.

Table 19.3 Average International Roughness Index (IRI) by Region, Philippines, 2016

REGION	INDEX
PHILIPPINES	4.62
CAR	6.88
NCR	4.69
NIR	4.93
I	4.10
II	4.88
III	3.92
IV-A	4.11
MIMAROPA	5.30
V	4.22
VI	5.22
VII	4.23
VIII	3.48
IX	4.16
X	4.90
XI	4.23
XII	4.36
XIII	4.94

Note: Segments of roads with an average IRI of 1-3 are in “good” condition, > 3-5 in “fair” condition, >7 in “bad” condition

Source: Department of Public Works and Highways

While there is an increase in the length of paved roads in the region, MIMAROPA roads are still in poor condition based on the average international roughness index (IRI).

It is not enough that the region is provided with roads. Roads must be in good condition to provide for efficient and safe land travel.

The total length of bridges along the national road is 22,346 linear meters in 2015. The length of permanent bridges

increased from 17,427 linear meters in 2009 to 21,170 linear meters in 2015. Temporary bridges decreased from 3,303 linear meters in 2009 to 1,178 linear meters in 2015. MIMAROPA region has the most number of temporary bridges among regions. Infrastructure investments must prioritize construction of bridges.

Palawan has 7,972 linear meters of permanent bridges and 455 linear meters of temporary bridges. Palawan has the longest length of bridges in the region.

Table 19.4 Existing National Bridge by Province, MIMAROPA

PROVINCE	PERMANENT BRIDGES (IN LINEAR METER)	TEMPORARY BRIDGES (IN LINEAR METER)	TOTAL
MIMAROPA	21169	1178	22347
MARINDUQUE	1,617	0	1,617
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	5,895	208	6,103
ORIENTAL MINDORO	3,052	360	3,412
PALAWAN	7,972	455	8,427
ROMBLON	2,633	155	2,788

Source: Department of Public Works and Highways

Challenges

The main challenge in infrastructure development is to provide physical connectivity to support trade and tourism activities. Critical transportation infrastructure projects in the region are not considered among the priority investments in the Philippine Transport Infrastructure Development Framework Plan.

Investing on strategic infrastructure projects will hasten the economic development of the region. The present administration is pursuing massive infrastructure development as the main foundation to realize the country's Long-Term Vision 2040.

The MIMAROPA Intermodal Transportation Development Plan (MITDP) 2011-2030 identified challenges that must be hurdled by the region. Investments that build transport capacities and provide accessibility to the Regional Government Center and other centers must be provided.

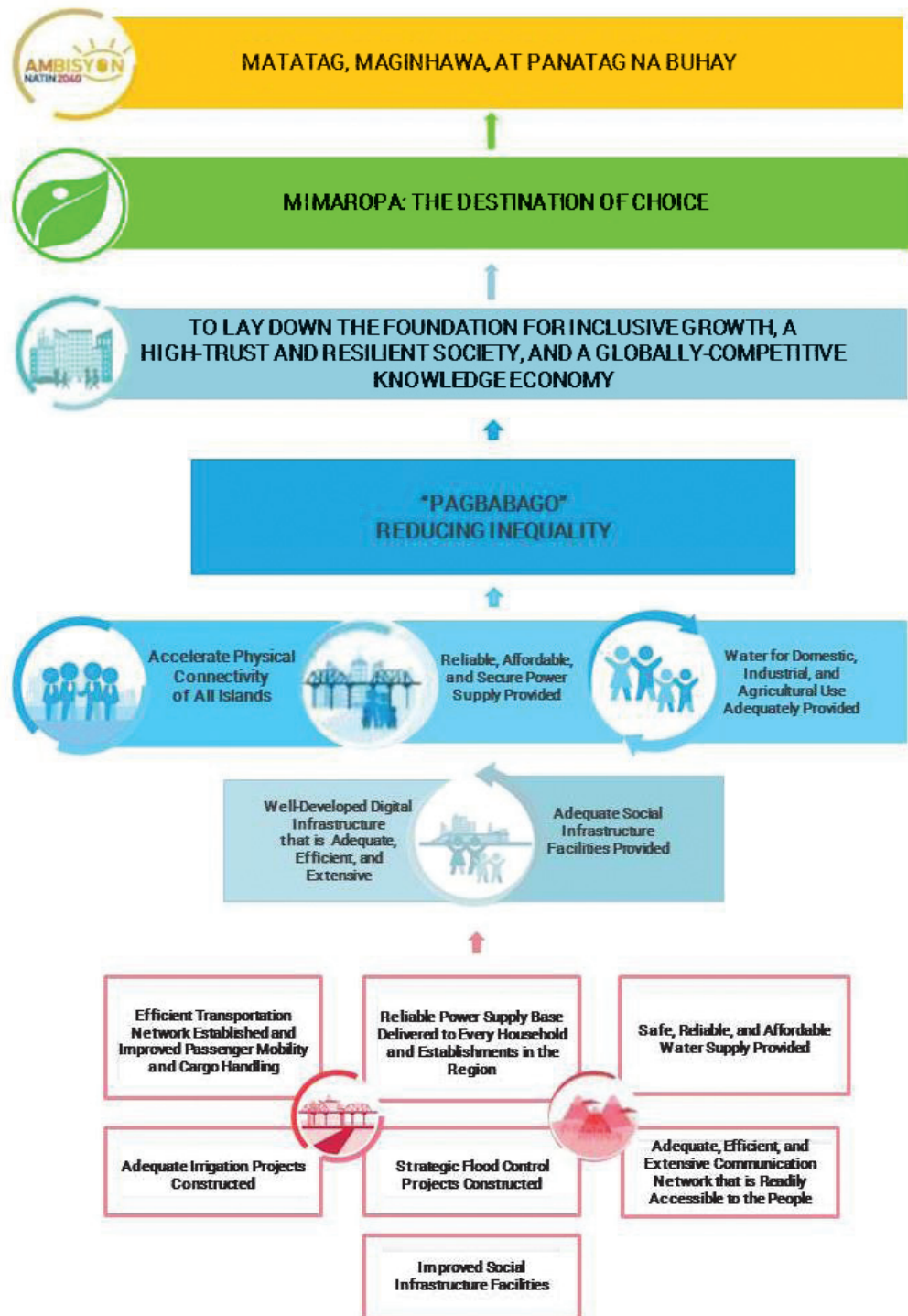
MIMAROPA needs investments beyond building transport capacities. Transportation networks in the region must improve tourism and agriculture in undeveloped areas, connect remote towns and municipalities to production, markets and tourists to induce trade and move economic activities.

The Regional Government Center in Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro should be made easily accessible. Access to the RGC is difficult. In order for the regional government offices of MIMAROPA to render efficient delivery of services, the provision of efficient transportation must be given priority.

Infrastructures in MIMAROPA are vulnerable to natural hazards and climate change. The typhoons that hit the region in the last several years exposed the vulnerability of infrastructures to floods and landslides. Rigorous site selection and applying risk-mitigation measures must be included in planning infrastructure projects in the region.

Strategic Framework

Figure 19.3 Strategic Framework for Accelerating Infrastructure Development



Priority Strategies

Integrated planning of seaports and airports will facilitate the promotion and funding. It will also maximize the use of public funds. The formulation of strategic transport master plan will ensure better coordination in the implementation of infrastructure programs and projects.

The implementation of a strategic regional development agenda for Port Master Plan and Strategic Road Development will provide a framework for identifying and implementing infrastructure projects. It will facilitate planning and implementation of inter-island transportation systems. It is necessary to update the projects identified in the MIMAROPA Intermodal Transportation Development Plan (MITDP) 2011-2030. Priority projects by local governments or national agencies must be consolidated in the plan and

programmed based on their importance and project readiness.

High passenger traffic during peak seasons and weather disturbances overwhelm port facilities/services. Managing congestion in ports should be prioritized to ease the plight of travelers. Improve port facilities such as passenger terminal buildings (PTBs) and access roads to make port operations more efficient.

Pursue development of roll on roll off (RoRo) route connecting San Jose, Antique to Palawan through the Port of Taytay and Port of Cuyo.

Enhance necessary construction standards of roads and bridges. They must be made disaster resilient and built according to world class engineering standards.

Improve access to region's far-flung areas.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 19.5 Priority Legislative Agenda to Transport Infrastructure

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Amendments to the Build-Operate-Transfer Law and its IRR	To further encourage private sector participation in funding and implementation of viable infrastructure projects.
Policy to review cost of implementing infrastructure in the island provinces	To provide for a different pricing scheme for infrastructure projects in island provinces to encourage more contractors to participate in bidding.
Enactment of National Transport Policy	The enactment of the policy is perceived to support the promotion of inter-island connectivity, provide for the identification of strategic infrastructure projects that will be viable for funding support. It will also support the designation of strategic transport centers.
Enactment of Law Creating an Independent Body for Transport Safety and Security	To create an independent body that will, among others investigate transport accidents and provide transport safety recommendations, thereby eliminating conflicting and overlapping functions of existing agencies or entities.

Power and Energy

Assessment

Installed and Dependable Capacity

NPC-SPUG operates 60.784 percent of the power plants in the region contributing 53.844 MW or 28.610 per cent of the total dependable power supply. Non-NPC generating facilities contributed 134.355 MW or 71.39 per cent of the total dependable supply as of December 2015.

Overall demand for electricity is 123.644 MW while the overall dependable supply is 188.199 MW. The region has a net reserve of 34.301 per cent or 64.555 MW. Peak demand is expected to increase by 6.3 per cent annually.⁹

Electrification

Eight electric cooperatives and two local government units deliver electricity to consumers in 29 small island and isolated grids (SIIG) in the region.

Sixteen areas have 24 hours electric supply, three areas with 16 hours electricity, two areas with 12 hours electricity, and eight areas with only eight hours electricity.

Ninety per cent of the region's electricity demand is concentrated in six of the 29 existing grids. These are Palawan Mainland, Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, Tablas Island, and Busuanga Island.

Table 19.6 Demand Forecast by Island/Grid, MIMAROPA, 2016-2022 (in MW)

ISLAND /GRID	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
ORIENTAL MINDORO	45.474	48.202	51.095	54.160	57.410	60.854	64.506
PALAWAN MAINLAND	36.793	39.000	41.340	43.821	46.450	49.237	52.191
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	19.154	20.303	21.522	22.813	24.182	25.633	27.171
MARINDUQUE	8.586	9.101	9.647	10.226	10.840	11.490	12.179
TABLAS ISLAND	6.039	6.401	6.785	7.192	7.624	8.081	8.566
BUSUANGA ISLAND	1.919	2.034	2.156	2.285	2.422	2.568	2.722
TOTAL	117.965	125.041	132.545	140.497	148.928	157.863	167.324

Source: Power Electric Cooperative, Busuanga Island Electric Cooperative, Tablas Island Electric Cooperative, Occidental Mindoro Electric Cooperative, Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperative, Marinduque Electric Cooperative

⁹ Philippine Energy Plan 2012-2030

Generation

Power generation in the region relies heavily on oil-based power plants. Gross electricity generation for 2015 reached 655,952.32 MWh.

MIMAROPA has 51 power plants: 44 land-based, 3 hydropower and 4 barge-mounted diesel power plants with a total rated capacity of 253.896 MW. National Power Corporation – Small Power Utilities Group (NPC-SPUG) operates and maintains 31 power plants: four

barge-mounted and 27 land based diesel power plants.

New Power Providers (NPPs) operate and maintain a total of twenty power plants including three hydropower and seventeen land-based diesel/bunker fired power plants.

System Efficiency

Distribution utilities attained an average system loss of 11.50 per cent in 2015 from a high of 13.34 per cent in 2010. The ERC has set the system loss cap at 13.0 per cent.

Table 19.7 System Efficiency

DIST. UTILITY	SYSTEM LOSS	ERC SYSTEM LOSS CAP
LUBELCO	10.79%	13 %
OMEKO	14.71%	
ORMECO	10.42%	
MARELCO	11.53%	
TIELCO	9.11%	
ROMELCO	11.25%	
BISELCO	11.75%	
PALECO	11.36%	

Source: National Electrification Administration

Electrification

A total of 6,034 sitios out of the 6,095 total sitios or 99 per cent have been energized by the end of 2015. Sitio electrification level in the region exceeded the national target of 90 per cent by 2016.

The number of households with power connections reached a total of 515,725 or 82 percent of the total potential.

Table 19.8 Household Electrification Level by Province, MIMAROPA

PROVINCE	TOTAL HH 2015	ELECTRIFIED HH 2015 DECEMBER	PERCENTAGE LEVEL
MIMAROPA	628,673.00	515,725.00	82.03%
MARINDUQUE	52,800.00	50,859.00	96.32%
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	90,400.00	81,294.00	89.93%
ORIENTAL MINDORO	191,400.00	187,425.00	97.92%
ROMBLON	64,935.00	62,011.00	95.50%
PALAWAN	229,138.00	134,136.00	58.54%

Source: Department of Energy

Energy Development

By the end of 2015, a total of 46 renewable energy projects with a combined capacity of 349.15 MW have been awarded. Thirty-three hydro projects accounted for 198.80 MW or 57.79 per cent of the total. There are only three installed hydro projects with a combined capacity of 5.1 MW.

The renewable energy potential of the region totaled 343.98 MW that remains to be developed. Palawan has a total renewable energy potential of 156.36 MW from solar and hydro. Oriental Mindoro has a total renewable energy potential of 142.25 from hydro, wind, geothermal, and biomass. Occidental Mindoro has renewable energy potential of 42.5 MW from wind and biomass. Romblon has 2.87 MW of renewable energy potential from hydro.

The Montelago Geothermal Power Plant Project in Naujan, Oriental Mindoro is expected to contribute a total of 40 MW of electricity to the provinces of Oriental and Occidental Mindoro by 2018.

Transmission Development

In view of the land configuration of the region, the main challenge is increasing

system reliability and reducing spinning reserve requirement. This can be done through interconnection of two or more islands by submarine cable. However it requires much investment and the potential demand generation to the islands to be connected. Power cable systems have high reliability and life of more than 20 years and require lesser maintenance.

The Batangas-Mindoro Interconnection Project is being proposed by the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) for “Strategic Interconnection” for implementation in 2023.

The power system of Mindoro Island, which is composed of 69 kV lines connected to several power plants and various load-end substations, is being operated by the Small Power Utilities Group (SPUG) of the National Power Corporation (NPC). Power distribution to the consumers is handled by Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperative (ORMECO) and Occidental Mindoro Electric Cooperative (OMECO). The major load center is in Calapan City in Oriental Mindoro and the total peak demand in 2015 was about 57.4 MW based on the combined total load of ORMECO and OMECO.

There is a need to develop a more reliable power delivery system from the Luzon Grid to Mindoro Island to meet its growing demand which is projected to reach 65 MW in 2016 and 83 MW by 2020. The improvement in reliability of supply is necessary to attract more investors in industrial, commercial, and tourism enterprises.

The proposed interconnection facility will transmit power from the Batangas 230 kV substation in the main Luzon Grid up to the interconnection point in Calapan City. Due to the long 69 kV radial line from Calapan City to San Jose, Occidental Mindoro at 253 kilometers and from Calapan City to Roxas at 125 kilometers, there is a need for additional diesel generators to provide voltage regulation support for the island.

In addition to the existing HVDC link between Luzon and Visayas Grids, the future 230 kV looping configuration from

Mindoro to Panay islands will strengthen the grid to provide more reliable operation. The loop will allow operational flexibility in exchange of power between Luzon and the Visayas even when the HVDC link is not operational. The project requires a maximum transfer capacity of 300 MW that will be complementary to Cebu-Negros-Panay 230 kV Backbone Project in the Visayas once the loop is in place.

The interconnection would make Mindoro Island as a viable location for new generating plants such as coal-fired and RE plants. In DOE's Philippine Energy Plan (PEP 2007-2014), Mindoro is identified as one of the areas that contain significant coal deposits. The wind power and bio-fuels are the other energy resource potentials of the island. The potential for power export to mainland Luzon was also considered in the decision for the 300 MW maximum capacity.

Challenges

The power sector is hampered by bottlenecks in the approval of proposed power projects. Numerous permits to implement power projects delay the implementation of power projects. Accessibility and right-of-way for sub-transmission and distribution projects is a common obstacle. There is a need to harmonize the national power development plans with local development plans.

The poor reliability and high cost of power supply in the island provinces is caused by

the lack of investments in power generation. The development of renewable energy sources requires huge start up investments. There is also frequent delay in the approval of UCME rates and adjustments.

The challenge is to make the electrified and un-electrified areas more attractive to private sector through Qualified Third Party (QTP) and New Power Provider (NPP).

Priority Strategies

There are few energy providers in the region. Some companies awarded with energy projects did not comply with their power supply agreements. DOE should facilitate completion of power projects and intervene in case of non-compliance by power providers to their power supply agreements.

The national government must promote investments in SPUG area and promote renewable energy (RE) use in remote islands and barangays. Consider the use of appropriate installation target and technology in these areas.

Develop and institutionalize new business model for Distribution Utilities/Electric Cooperatives.

Fast-track implementation of priority transmission projects (e.g. Batangas-Mindoro transmission project).

The formulation of a Regional Power Development Plan will provide a framework for identifying and implementing power supply projects. It will ensure power supply security in the region.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 19.9 Priority Legislative Agenda to Power Development

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Amendments to RA 9163, the Electric Power Industry Reform Act	Aims to improve the implementation of the law's provisions and enhance its effectiveness to address high cost of electricity, alleged market collusion, and insufficient power supply.
Expedite the implementation of remaining policy mechanisms under the RE 354 Act of 2008 (e.g., RE market, renewable portfolio standards) to further encourage RE development;	To encourage investments in the development and implementation of Renewable energy projects.
Enactment of a Law Declaring Energy Projects as Projects of National Significance	Aims to expedite the timely completion of energy projects to help cushion the impacts of high power rates.

Water Resources

Water is a basic need. There should always be safe, clean, reliable, and affordable water for domestic and industrial use. MIMAROPA is endowed with abundant source of water.

Access to safe water supply is essential to good health and clean environment. Safe water supply and good sanitation prevent common waterborne diseases.

Assessment

Domestic Water Supply

From 2011 to 2015, a total number of 155,321 households have access to safe water supply, exceeding the 2016 RDP target by 0.64 per cent. Puerto Princesa showed the highest rate of households

with access to safe water (99.95 per cent) followed by Oriental Mindoro with 98.98 per cent households with access to safe water.

Of the 94.60 per cent of households with access to safe water, 49 per cent are still using level I water service (e.g., handpumps, shallow wells, rainwater collection).

Table 19.10 Households with Access to Safe Water by Province, MIMAROPA

PROVINCES/ CITIES	TOTAL NUMBER OF HH	HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO SAFE WATER				
		LEVEL I	LEVEL II	LEVEL III	TOTAL	%
MARINDUQUE	56,438	15,755	17,165	19,349	52,269	92.61
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	104,979	66,459	8,653	20,887	95,999	91.45
ORIENTAL MINDORO	183,513	117,206	28,616	35,819	181,641	98.98
PALAWAN	108,674	46,894	24,511	27,549	98,954	91.06
ROMBLON	66,603	26,896	19,841	15,559	62,296	93.53
PUERTO PRINCESA CITY	43,586	7,1041	1,299	35,163	43,566	99.95
MIMAROPA	563,793	280,314	100,085	154,326	534,725	94.60

Source: Department of Health-CHD MIMAROPA

Irrigation

Irrigation projects are necessary to support to farmers in their farming activities. MIMAROPA has a potential irrigable area of 138,718 hectares with only 57.77 per cent developed.

Irrigated area in MIMAROPA increased by 5.42 per cent from 52.35 per cent in 2008 to 55.77 per cent in 2015. Oriental Mindoro has the biggest area for irrigation development while Palawan has the biggest irrigation area developed. Marinduque has the smallest potential irrigable area.

Table 19.11 Irrigation Status by Province, MIMAROPA

PROVINCE	POTENTIAL IRRIGABLE AREA (HAS)	TOTAL DEVELOPED AREA (HAS)	% DEVELOPED	REMAINING AREA FOR DEVELOPMENT (HA)
ORIENTAL MINDORO	53,395	24,051.59	45.04%	29,343.62
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	43,901	27,898.88	63.55%	16,002.33
MARINDUQUE	2,618	1,874.00	71.59%	743.53
ROMBLON	8,442	3,420.00	40.51%	5,022.00
PALAWAN	30,362	22,886.00	75.38%	7,475.97
MIMAROPA	138,718	80,130	57.77%	58,587.46

Source: National Irrigation Administration

Implementation of irrigation projects is hampered by environmental concern and right-of-way problems.

Flood Control Projects

Flood control projects include construction of river control structures,

construction of seawall, construction of breakwater, and flood control dike. The amount of investment in flood control structures during the period of assessment is P392. 69 Million.

The funding of flood control structures is a major concern of the LGUs.

Challenges

There is a need to identify other sources of water for domestic and industrial uses to minimize ground water extraction.

Most household in rural areas are not served with level III water systems.

The provision of water supply is hampered by the island characteristics of the region.

The lack of water impounding facilities results to shortage of water during dry season.

Heavy siltation and change in river course due to climate change contribute to flooding.

Existing irrigation facilities are not properly maintained. Right-of-way (ROW) problems in the construction of irrigation facilities are common.

Priority Strategies

Encourage private sector investment in the construction of water supply facilities.

Implement environmental measures to protect, rehabilitate and maintain water sources in watershed areas.

Improve Implementing Agency capacities through the strengthening of the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT).

Implement Environmental and Social

Management Plan (ESMP) before the implementation of irrigation projects.

Improve the coordination between implementing agencies and LGU in the
 Implement strategic flood control projects and ensure protection of flood prone areas.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 19.12 Priority Legislative Agenda to Water Resources

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Enactment of a Law Creating an Apex Body for the Water Resources Sub-sector	To address the weak and fragmented institutional set-up of the water resources sub-sector with the creation of an Apex Body that will act as the single lead agency to oversee/coordinate overall policy and project/program implementation.
Provide for a policy on the mandatory testing of local water sources.	To ensure the quality of water sources.
Provide for a policy on the domestic use for water a high priority for water resources development.	To provide for the development of surface water for domestic water supply in areas where groundwater sources may not be adequate.
Enactment of a Law Creating an Independent Economic or Financial Regulator for Water Supply and Sanitation	To harmonize the regulatory practices, processes, fees on water supply and sanitation while addressing the overlapping functions or jurisdictions of existing regulatory entities.

Communications

Assessment

Improvement in communications infrastructure enhances efficiency and transparency in government services, provide better business operations, and enhance competitiveness, and productivity in public and private sectors.

The private sector leads in providing

communications services in the region.

There was an increase in the number of mobile phone subscribers and increase in the number of cellsites in the region. There were only 345 cellsites in 2009 which increased to 637 cellsites in 2015. These cell sites provided wider coverage of signals for cellular mobile phones and better access to internet.

Table 19.13 Number of Cell Sites by Province and Provider, MIMAROPA 2009 and 2015

REGION/PROVINCE	2009			2015		
	GLOBE	SMART	SUNCELL	GLOBE	SMART	SUNCELL
MIMAROPA	151	173	21	353	142	142
MARINDUQUE	13	16	5	33	11	11
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	28	19	5	62	13	13
ORIENTAL MINDORO	32	34	10	77	29	29
PALAWAN	60	84	1	147	73	73
ROMBLON	18	20		34	16	16

Source: National Telecommunication Commission

As of 2015, 100% of NGAs, GOCCs and SUCs within the region as well as the 2 cities and the 5 provinces have internet access. Some municipalities do not have reliable internet access. Globe, Smart and Sun cellular are the three major CMTS providers in the region.

Postal Services

There is continuous decrease in the use of postal services in the region. There are 62 post offices in 2009. There are only 39 left in 2015. Private couriers provide alternate service.

Table 19.14 Number of Post Offices by Province, MIMAROPA, 2009 and 2015

REGION/PROVINCE	2009	2015
MIMAROPA	62	39
MARINDUQUE	6	5
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	12	5
ORIENTAL MINDORO	17	11
PALAWAN	13	10
ROMBLON	14	8

Source: Philippine Postal Corporation

Challenges

More investments in ICT facilities to improve internet access.

Increase access to information and communication technology services.

Priority Strategies

- Improve postal services to compete with private couriers.
- Require internet service providers (ISPs) to increase internet speed.
- Promote and implement the Local Government Unit Information System Plan.

- Provide at least one Cellular Mobile Telephone System in every municipality.
- Partnership with the private sector in online marketing;
- Provision of incentives and entering joint venture agreements with the private sector.
- Strategic placing of cell sites to have wider area of cellular service coverage.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 19.15 Priority Legislation to Communications

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Amendments to the public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines	To make the laws more responsive to technology advancement and changes in the market landscape, considering convergence of technologies; and also to strengthen the roles of DICT and NTC in fostering and upholding competition in the market.
Provide for a policy to streamline government's bureaucratic process (e.g., securing numerous permits from LGUs for the construction of telecommunication infrastructure within their jurisdiction).	To facilitate funding and implementation of ICT projects.

Social Infrastructure

Assessment

Social Infrastructure includes physical assets and facilities for delivery of social services. Social infrastructure includes educational facilities, hospitals and social welfare. MIMAROPA must provide adequate social infrastructure.

Education

The number of classrooms in public elementary schools increased by 11.43 per cent from 12,947 in SY 2010-2011 to 14,427 in SY 2014-2015. Public secondary schools increased by 21.30 per cent from 3,897 in SY 2010-2011 to 4,727 in SY 2014-2015.

Table 19.16 Number of Classrooms and Enrolees by Province, MIMAROPA, SY 2014-2015

REGION/PROVINCE	CLASSROOMS SY 2014		ENROLLEES SY 2014-2015	
	ELEMENTARY	SECONDARY	ELEMENTARY	SECONDARY
MIMAROPA	14,427	4,727	470,160	207,090
MARINDUQUE	1,588	524	36,030	17,184
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	2,385	706	81,711	33,776
ORIENTAL MINDORO	3,536	1,021	107,058	44,939
PALAWAN	3,699	1,265	146,066	59,950
ROMBLON	1,806	604	47,856	24,400
CALAPAN CITY	544	208	17,152	9,861
PUERTO PRINCESA CITY	869	399	34,287	16,980

Source: Department of Education MIMAROPA

The average classroom-student ratio of public schools in the region is 1:33 for elementary and 1:44 for secondary which is above the standard ratio of 1:45. Occidental Mindoro, Palawan and Calapan are below the standard ratio for secondary public schools.

There is the need for additional classrooms due to the increasing number of public school students in the K12 program. Public schools must provide clean water and sanitation facilities.

Health Facilities

There are 66 hospitals operating in the region. There are 38 government hospitals

and 28 private hospitals. The combined hospital bed capacity increased by 2.40 per cent from 1,959 in 2014 to 2,006 in 2015. The bed to population ratio in most of the hospitals in the region is still below the standard of 1:1000.

The government pursued health facilities improvement through the Health Facilities Enhancement Program of the Department of Health. The phased implementation of projects resulted in inadequate provision of hospital facilities. Funding for complete construction of hospitals to deliver its services must be provided.

Table 19.17 Hospital Beds (Government and Private) by Province, MIMAROPA

REGION/ PROVINCE	TOTAL POPULATION	NO. OF AUTHORIZED BED			TOTAL BEDS GOVT. & PRIVATE	BED POPULATION RATIO
		GOVERNMENT DOH	NON-DOH	PRIVATE		
MIMAROPA	3,004,207	300	1,002	704	2,006	1:1,498
MARINDUQUE	232,548	0	135	0	135	1:1,723
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	494,043	0	230	47	277	1:1,784
ORIENTAL MINDORO	842,185	0	177	320	497	1:1,695
PALAWAN	880,375	200	210	99	509	1:1,730
ROMBLON	293,538	0	230	53	283	1:1,037
PUERTO PRINCESA CITY	261,519	100	20	185	305	1:857

Source: Department of Health – CHD MIMAROPA

Drug Rehabilitation Facilities

There is no existing drug rehabilitation facility in the region that must be addressed immediately.

Housing

The housing problem in the region is most felt in informal settlers, and households in danger zones and vulnerable areas. With the establishment of the Regional Government Center in Calapan City, housing and settlements development are expected to incur to accommodate the movement of government workers and their families. More service providers will be drawn by the urbanization in the region's growth center.

The significant housing project in the region is the Yolanda housing assistance in Palawan. The National Housing Authority (NHA) and the Provincial Government of Palawan signed a

memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the construction of housing projects in Busuanga, Coron and Culion in the Calamianes group of islands in Northern Palawan. The MOA provides that the LGU will acquire the land and NHA will be providing the budget for housing construction and land development.

The National Housing Authority (NHA) will provide housing assistance to 8,760 families/beneficiaries distributed in the municipalities of Agutaya, Busuanga, Coron, Culion, and Linapacan.

Solid Waste and Sanitation

The MDG target of 83.8 per cent of households with sanitary toilets was not met by the region. MIMAROPA has 51,361 households with sanitary toilets or 81.76 per cent of the households in 2015. The households with satisfactory disposal of solid waste are at 448,679 or 79.58 per cent.

Table 19.18 Number of Households with Sanitation and Solid Waste Disposal by Province, MIMAROPA

REGION/PROVINCE	NUMBER OF HH	HH WITH SANITARY TOILETS		HH WITH SATISFACTORY DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE		HH WITH COMPLETE BASIC SANITATION	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
MIMAROPA	563,793	460,983	81.76	448,679	79.58	417,791	74.10
MARINDUQUE	56,438	49,585	87.86	49,270	87.30	44,984	79.71
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO	104,979	80,243	76.44	78,692	74.96	72,040	68.62
ORIENTAL MINDORO	183,513	147,251	80.24	154,674	84.29	146,237	79.69
PALAWAN	108,674	89,978	82.80	74,503	68.56	63,235	58.19
ROMBLON	66,603	52,963	79.52	49,779	74.74	49,534	74.37
PUERTO PRINCESA CITY	43,586	40,963	93.98	41,761	95.81	41,761	95.81

Source: Department of Health – CHD MIMAROPA

All LGUs in MIMAROPA must manage their sewerage and solid waste disposal. The influx of tourist in Puerto Galera and Palawan aggravated the problem. This will also be faced in all of the provinces. The proposal of Puerto Galera for sewerage treatment facility is not yet implemented.

MIMAROPA has 62 operational Materials Recovery Facility (MRFs). The sanitary landfill in Puerto Princesa City will be converted to waste-energy facility to reduce garbage accumulation and disposal. It will also contribute to energy generation.

Challenges

There is a need for the additional classrooms due to the increasing number

of students in the K12 program. Public schools should provide clean water and sanitation facilities.

Construction and upgrading of health facilities should be implemented in coordination with partner agencies. The provision of health manpower should also be addressed.

The main problem in the housing sector is the refusal of informal settlers to relocate due to lack of livelihood opportunities and basic needs in the proposed relocation sites.

LGUs are not willing to put up their own disposal facility. LGUs lack financial and technical capability to establish solid waste management facilities.

Priority Strategies

- Construct more schools and upgrade school buildings/facilities to

accommodate increasing number of students in remote areas and densely populated barangays.

- Promote access to primary education by constructing more schools.

- Construction of disaster resilient school buildings and facilities.
- Upgrade secondary school building and facilities to comply with local and national standards.
- Promote public-private partnership in the construction of health facilities.
- Construction of a regional hospital in the Regional Government Center.
- Include in all Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUP) sites for housing development.
- Provide incentives to recycling industries. Adopt technologies supportive of waste-to-energy solutions.
- Promote LGU clustering in the provision of wastewater and solid waste disposal facilities (e.g. sanitary landfill).
- Prioritize tourism areas for the development of wastewater treatment facilities and solid waste disposal system.

Priority Legislative Agenda

Table 19.19 Priority Legislative Agenda to Social Infrastructure

PROPOSED LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
Amendments to RA 9003, the Ecological Solid Waste Management	To address the weak administrative, organizational and institutional dynamics of LGU's in implementing SWM programs or projects.
Policy reforms that will allow income retention of health facilities for the operation and maintenance of all government health facilities shall be pursued.	To address limited funding support in the construction and operation of health facilities.
Streamline government agencies involved in the construction of health facilities.	To facilitate the completion of health facilities.
Firm policy on professional squatting, resettlement and relocation and housing tax incentives.	To ensure the provision of housing to the intended beneficiaries.

Targets

Table 19.20 Infrastructure Targets

INDICATOR	YEAR	VALUE	END OF PLAN TARGET
Road Transport			
International Road Roughness index in national primary roads	2016	5.30	4.0
All national, secondary roads concreted in 2022	2015	1,690.14	2,297.70
Air Transport			
Air passenger traffic increased (in number of passengers)	2015	1,937,833	7,342,822
Air cargo traffic increased, in MT	2015	17,112,131	35,165,133
Water Transport			
No. of shipcalls increased	2015	45,111	199,112
No. of ship passengers increased	2015	8,504,000	23,641,038
Cargo throughput increased, in MT	2015	10,402,585	20,219,208
Energy			
Increase percentage of sitios provided with electricity	2015	99%	100%
Power requirements met (in MW)	2015	123.644	167.335
Water Resources			
Increase percentage of households provided with level III water supply	2015	28.86%	60%

Increase coverage of irrigation area to 100% of potential (in Has.)	2015	80,130	138,718
Water and Sanitation			
Increase percentage of households with sanitary toilets	2015	90.88%	100%
Social Infrastructure			
Maintain classroom per pupil ratio			
Primary	2015	1:33	1:33
Secondary Junior High School		1:44	1:44
Secondary Senior High School			1:40
Increase hospital beds per population ratio to standard	2015	1:1,498	1:1,000

Programs, Projects, Activities

Mindoro-Batangas Super Bridge

The proposed 15-kilometer bridge project will connect Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro and Ilijan, Batangas City through Verde Island.

constructing new airport access roads and parking areas; and constructing new cargo terminals.

Airport Development Projects (Cuyo, San Jose, Busuanga, San Vicente, and Puerto Princesa)

Upgrading and expansion of various airport facilities:

(1) Airside civil works including runway upgrading; widening and grading of landing strips; establishing object-free areas; installing airfield approach and runway lighting; installing perimeter security fences; relocating and recalibrating navigational aids; removing existing obstructions; constructing crash, fire and rescue centers, and new control towers; constructing airfield perimeter roads; constructing taxiways to new terminal areas;

(2) Landside civil works including constructing new and refurbishing existing passenger terminal buildings; constructing new administration and operation and maintenance buildings; and supplying and installing passenger and cargo terminal equipment and utilities.

(3) Provision and installation of equipment, including airfield maintenance equipment, additional communications equipment and navigational aids, meteorological equipment, emergency generators, and selected spare parts.

(4) Land acquisition and relocation of affected families.

Integrated Port Development Program

Integrated Ports and Roads development for Roro routes and other partner ports development.

Various Port Development Projects

Port development projects will ensure that port facilities can handle the demands of increasing volume of passengers, cargo, and vehicle traffic. Port development projects include the following:

- Calapan port development project
- Puerto Galera port development project
- Bulalacao port development project
- Odiongan port development project
- Puerto Princesa City port development project
- Coron port development project
- El Nido port development project
- Cuyo port development project

Brgy. Pagasa Port, Kalayaan, Palawan

Construction of the port in Barangay Pagasa in Kalayaan, Palawan will improve accessibility to the area and bolster the country's claims in the West Philippine Sea.

Abra de Ilog-Puerto Galera Road Project

The 20.330-kilometer road opening project will connect the Mindoro provinces on the northern side to complete the Mindoro Island circumferential road network.

Mindoro (Victoria-Sablayan) Cross Island Road Project

The Mindoro Cross-Island Road will connect Sablayan to Victoria through a 50-kilometer road network system that will traverse several mountain ranges of the two agricultural municipalities in the center of the island, Sablayan, in Occidental Mindoro, and Victoria, in Oriental Mindoro.

Opening of Pola-Naujan Road

The road project will support the operation of Pola port and easy access to the agricultural produce in Naujan.

Road Widening of Calapan South Road

The road project will support the SRNH route.

Calapan Port Access Road

The project involves widening of the port access road to ease congestion of vehicles passing through the port which is increasing by 9.66 percent annually.

Completion of Sibuyan Circumferential Road

The project will provide for the interconnection of the three municipalities of Sibuyan Island with paved road.

Construction of Missing Gaps in Dr. Damian Reyes Road

The project will complete the interconnection of the roads of Marinduque.

Upgrading of Palawan Main Road

Completion of Palawan Circumferential Road

Construction of Roxas-Dumaran-Taytay Coastal Highway

TRIPC Projects

TRIPC is a convergence initiative between DPWH and DOT which provides for the concreting of roads leading to ports, airports, and tourist destinations.

ROLL-IT Projects

ROLL-IT is a convergence program launched by DTI and DPWH to develop road infrastructure leading to key manufacturing and economic zone.

Expanded Rural Electrification Program

The Expanded Rural Electrification (ER) Program integrates the rural and missionary

electrification efforts of the government in collaboration with the private sector, non-government organizations, and several donor-funded projects with the view to attaining total barangay electrification.

Formulation of Power Development Plans

This will provide the framework on the development of power supply requirements of each island/province in the region. It identifies the optimum power generation technology mix that will provide the balance between supply stability and cost.

New Energy Projects

Timely construction of power generation and transmission facilities that will ensure sufficiency and reliability of power supply in the region.

Batangas-Mindoro Power Interconnection

The interconnection of Mindoro would only serve as the initial stage in the development of the power system in the island. Calapan would serve as the interconnection point but given the configuration of the island involving long 69 kV lines, in-land generators will still have to operate to provide voltage regulation support. In the long term, a 230 kV backbone system within the island could be developed as well as the future establishment of a loop to Panay Island thereby providing another corridor for the Luzon and Visayas link.

Bulalacao-Semirara Interconnection Project

The transmission line project will connect Mindoro to Visayas.

Montelago Geothermal Project

The 40 MW geothermal power project is envisioned to provide cheap and reliable power supply to Mindoro Island. Commercial operation of the power plant will start in 2017.

Puerto Galera Wind Project

Phase I of the project is a 16MW wind power generation facility in Puerto Galera which is scheduled for commercial operation in 2019.

Various Hydropower Projects

Water District Facilities Improvement Project SALINTUBIG Program

The Sagana at Ligtas na Tubig sa Lahat Program (SALINTUBIG) is one of the government's main actions in addressing the plight of Filipino households in such areas.

Extension/Expansion of Existing National and Communal Irrigation Systems

Restoration/Rehabilitation /Repair of Existing National and Communal Irrigation Systems

Restoration/Rehabilitation of National Irrigation Systems covering more than 1,000 hectares (ha), and constructed by NIA. These are jointly operated and maintained by NIA and the farmer-beneficiaries thru their Irrigators Associations (IA)

The repair of Communal Irrigation Systems with 1,000 ha or less in area, constructed by NIA with the participation of the IAs. The O&M of the CIS is turned over to the IAs upon project completion.

Ibato-Iraan Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (SRIP)

The project involves the construction of small reservoir with a total project cost of P 780 Million. The service area is 860 hectares farmlands with 425 farmer beneficiaries.

Bagtingon Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (SRIP)

The project involves the construction of small reservoir with a total project cost of P

345 Million. The service area is 301 hectares farmlands with 114 farmer beneficiaries.

CLIPVIC Flood Control Projects

Flood control and river protection of Claudio Salgado, Ilvita, Pag-asa, Victoria (CLIPVIC) areas. Construction maintenance of flood control mitigation structures and drainage system, Amnay Flood Control (Pag-asa section) and Amnay Flood Control (Bagong Sikat Section).

Health Facilities Enhancement Program

The program involves the repair/rehabilitation of health facilities funded by the Department of Health in the region.

National Septage and Sewerage Management Program (NSSMP)

The NSSMP, as defined in the CWA's Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), includes the preparation of a framework plan to address various national issues on sanitation and treatment and disposal of wastewater, focusing on, among others, objectives, strategies, targets, institutional mechanism, financing mechanism, technology implementation, programming, monitoring and evaluation and other key national concern.

The goal of the NSSMP is to improve water quality and protect public health in urban areas of the Philippines by 2020. Its objectives are to enhance the ability of local implementers to build and operate wastewater treatment systems for urban centers and promote the behavior change and supporting environment needed for systems to be effective and sustainable. The main strategy is to facilitate a bottom-up, demand-driven project development process by providing national government support and incentives.

20 Ensuring Ecological Integrity, Clean, and Healthy Environment

Ensuring Ecological Integrity, Clean, and Healthy Environment

The desired outcome for the environment sector is to provide the region with more productive activities while ensuring sustainable utilization of natural resources.

Assessment

Forest and Watershed Resources

Restoration of the open and denuded forest areas is among the priorities of the region. To carry this out, the government implemented the National Greening Program (NGP) which is a convergence activity of DA, DENR, DAR, LGUs, and the private sector and civil society.

The NGP is implemented in pursuit of sustainable development for poverty reduction, food security, biodiversity conservation, environmental stability, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In the region, a total of 66,058 hectares were planted under the national greening program from 2011 to 2015. This accomplishment is 91.40 percent of the RDP target area of 72,282 hectares by 2016.

Table 20.1 NGP Areas Target and Actual Area Planted, MIMAROPA, 2011-2015

ITEM	AREAS PLANTED PER NGP YEAR					TOTAL
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
DENR Target Area Planted	4,999	6,392	15,891	19,159	31,483	65,664
DENR Actual Area Planted	5,171	6,420	16,039	19,217	31,483	66,058
% Accomplishment	103.44	100.44	101	100.30	99.77	100.60

Source: Department of Environment and Natural Resources MIMAROPA NGP Annual Report 2015

A total of 39,977,028 seedling were produced from 2011-2015, exceeding the 2016 RDP target of 34,117,764 seedlings by 17 percent.

Table 20.2 Number of Seedlings Produced and Planted per NGP Year, MIMAROPA

ITEM	NO. OF SEEDLINGS PER NGP YEAR					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTA:
Production Target	2,541,376	3,481,728	9,165,000	9,246,650	13,006,131	37,440,885
Actually Produced	2,583,200	3,539,042	9,288,786	10,305,820	14,260,180	39,977,028
Actually Planted	2,577,979	3,539,042	9,288,786	10,305,820	13,006,131	38,717,758
Produced vs. Target	101.64 %	101.00 %	101.35 %	111.45 %	109.64 %	106.77 %
Planted vs. Target	101.54 %	101.00 %	101.35 %	111.45 %	100.00 %	103.41 %

Source: Department of Environment and Natural Resources NGP Annual Report 2015

A total of 35,050 hectares of NGP sites planted had been maintained and protected in 2015. These comprise the areas planted in 2013 and 2014 (refer to table 3 below). Local community organizations and local government units were contracted by the DENR to ensure

the minimum survival rate of the eighty five percent (85%) for the planted seedlings. For 2015, survival rate of NGP planted seedlings recorded an 81 percent survival rate. This is below the target survival rate for 2015. It was affected by Typhoon Nona.

Table 20.3 NGP Planted Areas by Province, MIMAROPA, 2013-2014

REGION/PROVINCE	2013	2014	TOTAL
MIMAROPA	15,891	19,159	35,050
MARINDUQUE	959	-	959
MARINDUQUE	959	-	959
OCC. MINDORO	5,484	13,291	18,775
OR. MINDORO	6,550	5,748	12,298
PALAWAN	1,939	120	2,059
ROMBLON	959	-	959

Source: Department of Environment and Natural Resources NGP Annual Report 2015

Table 20.4 Survival Rates of Seedlings Planted Under Maintenance and Protection (M&P) by Province, MIMAROPA, 2013-2014

REGION/PROVINCE	2013		2014	
	ACTUAL AREA UNDER M&P (HA)	SURVIVAL RATE	ACTUAL AREA UNDER M&P (HA)	SURVIVAL RATE
MIMAROPA	16,039.38	88%	19,217.00	79%
MARINDUQUE	965	86%	-	-
OCC. MINDORO	5,514	88%	13,347	78%
OR. MINDORO	6,555	88%	5,747	83%
PALAWAN	2,023.38	87%	123	86%
ROMBLON	982	91%	-	-

Source: Department of Environment and Natural Resources NGP Annual Report 2015

Forest Protection

The continuing forest protection activities of DENR and LGUs in the region are complemented by the implementation of Upland Development Program (UDP), NGP and other related activities. In 2015, 136 Confiscation Orders were issued for the confiscated forest products totaling to 326,787.719 cubic meters with an estimated value of P8, 745,913.65. In addition, 24 conveyances and 16 logging implements were confiscated. Twenty (20) illegal logging cases were filed during the year although no case has been resolved. Sixty nine (69) forest protection officers were hired for the protection of the established NGP plantations. Four (4) hot spot areas with incidence of illegal logging remain, all in Palawan.¹⁰

Watershed Areas Management/ Protected Areas (PAs) Management

Protection areas are reserved for rehabilitation, conservation, and management to allow degraded resources to regenerate, and to protect the human population from environmental hazards.

MIMAROPA has 23 sites as initial components (not proclaimed) under the NIPAS. These include national parks, game refuge and marine sanctuary, watershed forest reserve, mangrove swamp forest reserve, wildlife sanctuary, natural parks, managed resource protected area, and protected landscape/seascape. Out of the 23 sites, 13 sites were considered suitable for the establishment of protected areas while 10 sites were proclaimed under NIPAS.

For protected area boundary delineation in 2015, a total of 2,614.28 hectares of protected areas and zones were delineated and surveyed. This surpassed the 2016 RDP target of 1,584.28 hectares.

¹⁰ DENR MIMAROPA 2015 annual accomplishment report

Table 20.5 Caves and Wetlands by Province, MIMAROPA

PROVINCE	CAVES	WETLANDS
MIMAROPA	19	15
MARINDUQUE	1	-
OCC. MINDORO	1	3
OR. MINDORO	1	2
PALAWAN	15	10
ROMBLON	1	-

Source: Biodiversity Management Bureau

The assessment, management, and protection of the caves aims to preserve its quality. Activities and intervention of man in the areas were limited. These resources are among the region's potential tourist attractions and/or destinations. In the management of caves and cave resources, total of 8 caves were assessed, managed, and classified and some were recommended temporarily closed for ecotourism activities.

Land Management

For cadastral land surveys, a total of 473,259 lots consisting of 2,715,164.7976¹¹ hectares were approved for the region.

A total of 4,056 residential patents with an aggregate area of 74.67 hectares had been processed in 2015. For agricultural lands, 4,510 patents were signed with a total area of 2,694.2529 hectares.

The regional assessment and delineation team (RADT) was able to delineate 131.90 kilometers of boundary line in Mts. Iglit – Baco National Park. Delineation of multiple use and protection zones in

Calatrava, San Andres, and San Agustin (CALSANAG) watershed forest reserve covers a total of 2,614.28 hectares. It consists of 1010.64 hectares of multiple use and 1,600.34 hectares of strict protection areas. The delineated, surveyed and zoned areas surpassed the target for the updated regional development plan of 1,030 hectares by 2016.

Biodiversity Protection and Conservation

Critically Endangered Habitat/Species

In the region, the Ilin and Ambulong Islands located in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro is known to have the critically endangered Philippine Teak¹² tree, one of the only 3 known teak species in the world. This hard wood species has been overexploited for timber purposes and charcoal production. According to local folks, several years ago huge volumes of Philippine Teak lumber were transported to as far as Negros and Panay and used in hauling sugarcane from the field to sugar mills. The relatively poor economic

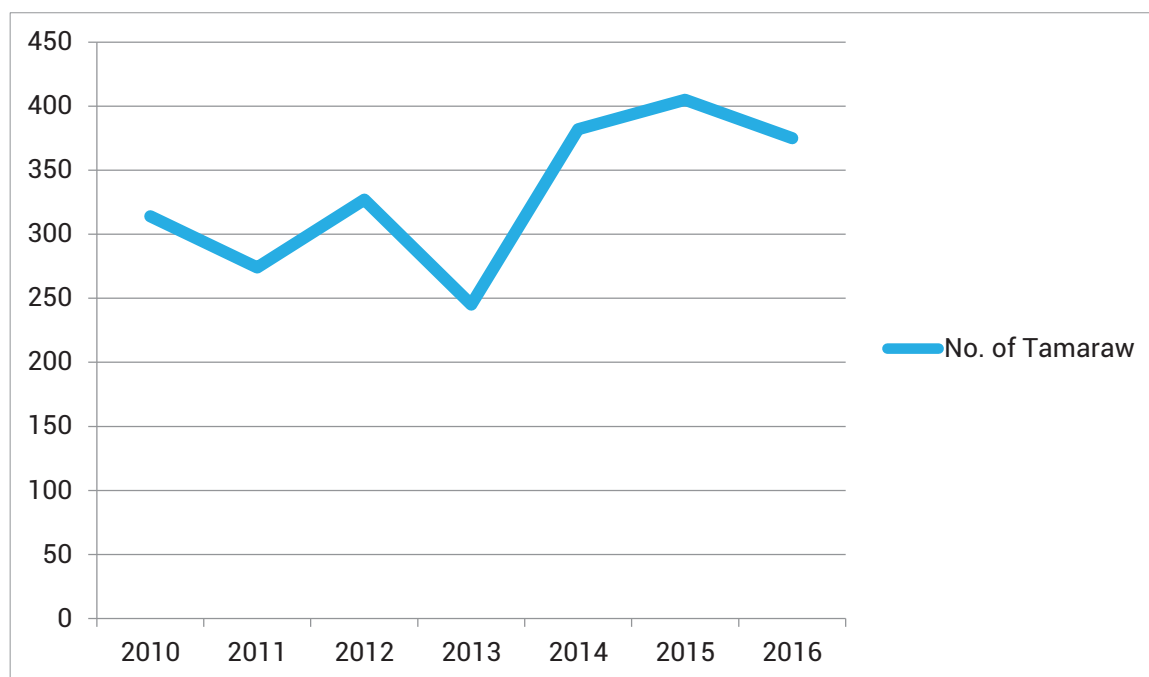
¹¹ LMS ENR Statistical Report CY 2014

¹² Philippine Teak is a small tree known to science as *Tectona Philipinensis* while local folks called it "Malabayas". (source: The Vanishing Philippine teak by Errol A. Gatumbato, Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. (PBCFI)

activity in the island poses threat to the survival of the remaining population of Philippine Teak because some residents continuously use it for timber and charcoal production. Because of this the critical habitat of the Philippine Teak needs to be protected and maintained.

Tamaraw population increased by 29.0 per cent from 314 heads in 2010 to 405 heads in 2015. This exceeded the 2016 target in the updated RDP which was set at 375 heads.

Figure 20.1 Tamaraw Population RDP Target



Source: Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016 Statdev Indicators

Coastal Resources

A combined area of 10,000 hectares of coral reefs were rehabilitated and protected in Palawan. This includes the Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape (MSPLS) and El Nido Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area (ENTMRPA).

For surveys and mapping of foreshore areas, 6,713 hectares of foreshore areas

had been surveyed while the survey and mapping division (SMD) of DENR MIMAROPA verified and approved the survey plans of about 5,600 lots from the target 4,000 lots to be surveyed boosting the annual target to 140 percent. Consequently, 226 foreshore lease permits were issued by the end of 2015.

Environmental Constraints/Resilience of Natural Systems

Typhoons, floods, landslides and drought are the most common natural hazards that affect the region. Islands are more vulnerable to these kind of hazards.

To address these constraints, all cities and municipalities in the region should be assessed for flood and landslide susceptibility and be provided a 1:10,000 scale geohazard map. As of 2014, all cities and municipalities in MIMAROPA were assessed for flood and landslide susceptibility. The assessment will be used by LGUs in the

preparation of the disaster resilient plans, especially for identified geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAS)¹³

Air Quality

Three primary stations were established and maintained for the ambient air quality monitoring of the Baco – Calapan City-Naujan airshed in Oriental Mindoro during CY 2014.

Table 20.6 List of Monitoring Stations Established at Baco-Calapan City-Naujan Airshed

STATION NUMBER	STATION ID	LOCATION OF STATION	PARAMETER(S) MEASURED
1	Calapan City Public Market	Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro	Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)
2	Municipal Hall	Baco, Oriental Mindoro	Total Suspended Particulates (TSP), Particulate matters PM 10
3	Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO)	Naujan, Oriental Mindoro	Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)

Source: EMB MIMAROPA Air Quality Report 2015

Three (3) monitoring stations passed the conducted testing for (TSP) measurement. The other parameter measured is the particulate matters less than 10 microns or (PM10). Per the United Nations Environmental Programme, PM10 refers to particles with

a diameter less than 10 micros. PM 10 samples collected in the Municipal Hall, Baco, Oriental Mindoro station in 2015 all passed the PM10 testing.

Despite the improved air quality results from air sampling stations, the

¹³ Bureau of local health Development definition refers to communities with marginalized population physically and socio-economically separated from the mainstream society and characterized by: 1. Physical Factors - isolated due to distance, weather conditions and transportation difficulties (island, upland, lowland, landlocked, hard to reach and unserved/underserved communities). 2. Socio-economic Factors (high poverty incidence, presence of vulnerable sector, communities in or recovering from situation of crisis or armed conflict).

procurement of better equipment, provision of regular manpower, and additional air sampling stations in the areas will provide better air quality monitoring.

Water Quality

The classified water bodies in the region

increased from 49 water bodies in 2010 to 73 water bodies in 2015.¹⁴

For the Sagip Ilog Program, the Calapan river in Oriental Mindoro, failed the test on biological oxygen demand (BOD), dissolved oxygen, and phosphate. While, Tagburos river in Palawan failed the pH test and passed all other test conducted.

Table 20.7 Sagip Ilog Program, Calapan River – Oriental Mindoro (Classification: C)

PARAMETERS	DENR Criteria	2015	REMARKS
BOD mg/L	7(maximum)	8.6	Failed
DO mg/L	5.0 (minimum)	4.2	Failed
pH	6.5 – 8.5	6.53	Passed
TSS mg/L	not more than 30 ml/L increase	18.32	Passed
Nitrates mg/L	-	0.075	-
Phosphates mg/L	0.4	0.523	Failed

Source: Environmental Management Bureau Water Quality Status Report 2015

Table 20.8 Sagip Ilog Program, River-Palawan (Classification: C)

PARAMETERS	DENR CRITERIA	2015	REMARKS
BOD mg/L	7(maximum)	3.8	Passed
DO mg/L	5.0 (minimum)	6.23	Passed
pH	6.5-8.5	8.93	Failed
TSS mg/L	not more than 30 ml/L increase	16	Passed
Nitrates mg/L	-	0.302	-
Phosphates mg/L	0.4	0.155	Passed

Notes: BOD was not measured as pollutant parameter as required under the Sagip Ilog Program since the distance from the laboratory will not meet the required holding time for BOD analysis

Source: Environmental Management Bureau Water Quality Status Report 2015

The failed water tests may be attributed density of the population leading to increased air and water pollution to major rivers. In addition, improper disposal of

wastes into riverbanks contribute to the degradation of water bodies.

In addition to the two (2) Priority Rivers of the region, five (5) additional water

¹⁴ EMB MIMAROPA Water Quality Status Report of 2015

bodies were monitored. These are Bacuit bay and Coron bay of Palawan, Sabang Bay of Oriental Mindoro, and Boac and Mogpog river of Marinduque.

Solid Waste Management

Waste generation in the region increased from 909.43 tons per day in 2012 to 957.90 tons per day in 2015. This may be attributed to the construction of 27 open/controlled dumpsites in the region.

Solid waste management (SWM) program facilitators in the region continuously extend technical expertise and assistance to LGUs. LGUs compliance on ten year solid waste management plans are being evaluated, municipal solid waste management boards (MSWMB) are being made operational as well as monitoring of material recovery facilities.

As of 2014, eleven (11) SWM plans were evaluated out of the total target of five (5) for 220% accomplishment for the year¹⁵. The SWM plans were consistent with the National Solid Waste Management Framework and for the re-use, recycling and composting of wastes generated by LGUs respective jurisdiction. Likewise, the plan place primary emphasis on implementation of all feasible re-use,

recycling and composting programs while identifying the amount of landfill and transformation capacity that it be needed for solid waste which cannot be re-used, recycled or composted.

As of 2014, 11 LGUs submitted 10-year SWM plans such as:

- Provincial Government (PG) of Occidental Mindoro
- Concepcion, Romblon
- Provincial Government (PG) Romblon
- Torrijos, Marinduque
- Corcuera, Romblon
- San Agustin, Romblon
- Odiongan, Romblon
- Roxas, Palawan
- San Jose, Romblon
- Gasan, Marinduque
- Sta. Maria, Romblon

For the same year, 64 operational Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) were monitored in the region. Out of the 64 registered MRFs 16 are located in the province of Occidental Mindoro, 8 in Oriental Mindoro, 5 in Marinduque, 6 in Romblon, and 29 in the province of Palawan. For the establishment of sanitary landfills, 8 sanitary landfills are identified in the region.

Challenges

The development, conservation and protection of the region's natural resources and biodiversity must be

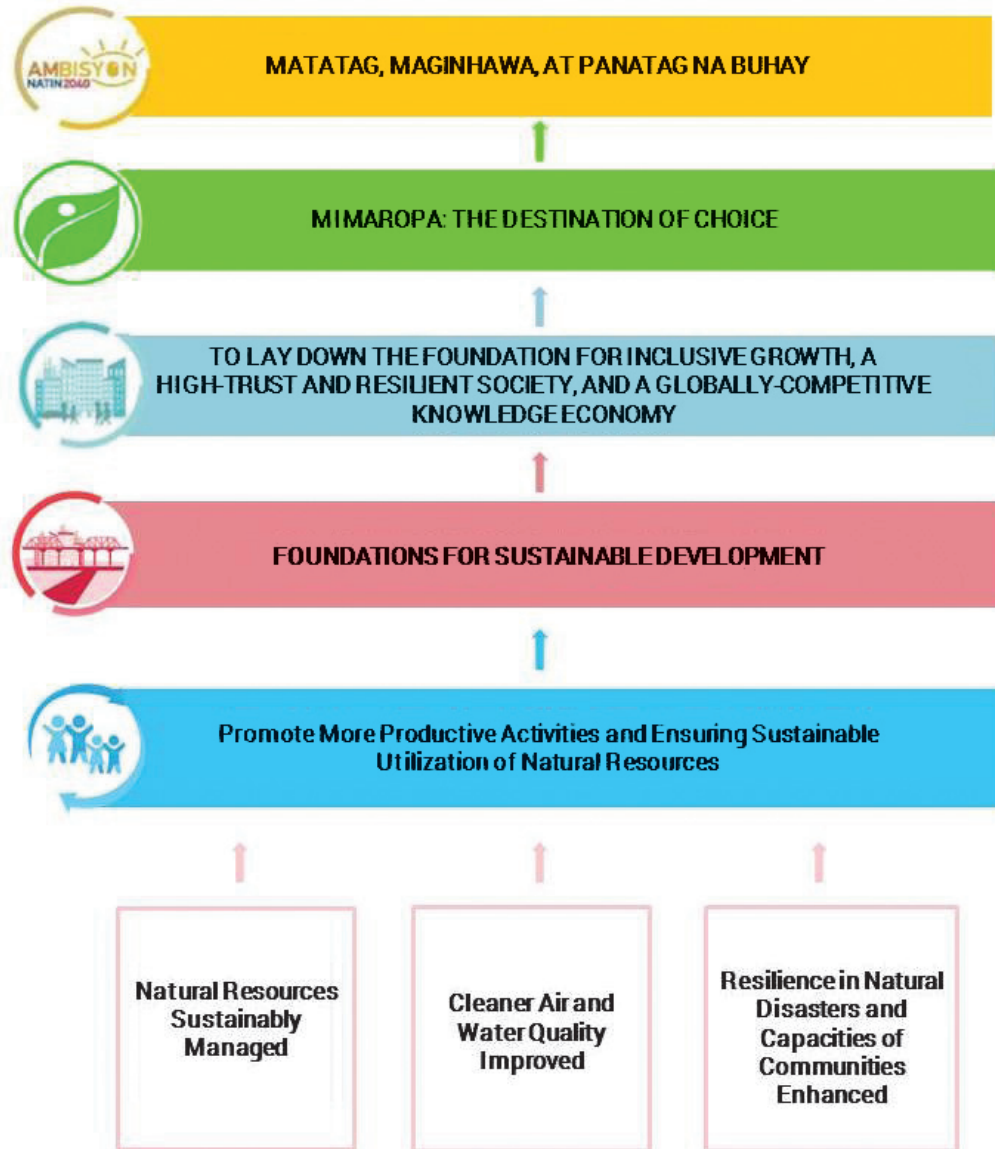
accorded highest priority and shall never be compromised. The following are the challenges that threaten the environmental integrity of the region:

¹⁵ 2014 Regional State of Brown Environment Report

- High mortality rate of seedlings planted under NGP. This may be due to frequent typhoons, El Niño and other natural disasters. Production of additional seedlings in exchange of dead seedlings takes time and budget to produce and be planted again.
- Limited manpower especially in monitoring and protection of vast forest lands and other protected areas
- Low enforcement of environmental laws (Philippine clean air act, Philippine clean water act, ecological solid waste management act, Philippine mining act, and other environmental laws)
- Availability of accurate and up to date information on the state of ENR in the region

Strategic Framework

Figure 20.2 Strategic Framework for Ensuring Integrity, Clean and Healthy Environment



Priority Strategies

The following are proposed strategies to strengthen sustainable utilization of the region's resources:

Natural Resources Sustainably Managed

- Strengthen the convergence programs among national, local government units, grassroots and private sectors to improve monitoring and protection of environment and natural areas
- Delineate the watershed and protected areas
- Promote compatible and sustainable use of lands and natural resources to optimize ecological, cultural and economic benefits
- Establish a regional database to strengthen ENR assessment, monitoring and evaluation process
- Resettlement of upland and protected area occupants in safe areas
- Strengthen and promote best practice in mining and responsible mining and continue auditing of compliance to environmental laws and of the mining industry
- Protection of habitats; monitoring of poaching activities, key biodiversity areas; provide breeding programs for specific species
- Localization of no-go zones on metallic mineral extraction and minahang bayan under EO 79

- Institutionalize a comprehensive program of payment for ecosystem services to recover the costs from those who benefit from these resources and services¹⁶
- Strengthen the implementation of Wildlife Act, NIPAS Act, Philippine Fisheries Code (Amended).

Cleaner Air and Water Quality Improved

- Strengthen the implementation of the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 and Clean Water Act of 2004, and RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Program
- Enhance implementation of market-based instruments and other fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for water pollution reduction initiatives
- Reinforce mechanisms for imposing fines and penalties on water pollution and for determining liabilities for water pollution damages with due consideration on sustainability
- Enhance the capability of local implementers to build and operate wastewater treatment systems for urban centers, and tourism areas
- Engage LGU to PPP option, joint venture, and financial schemes for the establishment of large-scale waste treatment technologies; monitoring of water quality

¹⁶ Conserving Tropical Forests and Biodiversity for Human Development and Inclusive Growth 2011 FAA 118/119 Report Philippines Biodiversity and Tropical Forestry Analysis Ateneo School of Government for the United States Agency for International Development/Philippines.

- Conduct of ground water assessment that can be used as guide by Local Government Units (LGUs) at the provincial level, for the development and conservation of groundwater resources.

Resilience of Natural Systems Enhanced and

Capacities of Human Communities Improved

- Strengthen institutional capacity on DRRM and CCA in the regional and local levels
- Accelerate mainstreaming of DRR/CCA in the regional and local development plans
- Provision of vulnerability assessment and technical assistance to all cities and municipalities

Priority Legislative Agenda

The following are proposed legislative agenda to address the challenges and reinforce the implementation of policies and strategies:

Table 20.9 Priority Legislative Agenda to Ensuring Integrity, Clean, and Healthy Environment

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA	RATIONALE
Passage of the Sustainable Forestry Management Act (SFMA)	Sustainable Forestry Management Act is a bill that mandates the development and adoption of a sustainable forest management strategy based on rational allocation of forestland uses and promotion of land use practices that increase productivity and conserve soil, water, and other forestland resources, as well as the protection of existing forest resources and conservation of biodiversity, rehabilitation or development of denuded areas to expand the forest resource base and promote food production activities
Comprehensive Forestry Law Formulation of clearer guidelines or policies that will regulate activities within the buffer zones	Institutionalize the development of an effective and sustainable forest management strategy based on the allocation of forestland uses (i.e. production and protection zones). This will also enhance private sector participation and develop systems on Forest Certification and Forest Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting
Passage of a National Land Use Act	Address the urgency to provide rationalized land use planning in the country, consolidate national laws on land uses and address long-standing land use conflicts
Enactment of new fiscal regime and revenue sharing arrangement particularly for large-scale metallic mining	Guarantees the share of government from mining. Increase in revenue from mining could support the implementation of Natural Resource Management programs
Expanded NIPAS Act	Finalize/hasten establishment of around a hundred national protected areas since only 13 have been established since 1992.
Establishment of the National Coastal Greenbelt Program	Establishment of greenbelts of mangroves and beach forests along coastlines as green engineering intervention. Coastal forests can reduce the force, depth, and velocity of tsunamis, lessening damage to property and reducing loss of life.

Programs, Projects, and Activities

The following are priority programs, projects, and activities to sustain the utilization of natural resources of the region:

- **Enhanced National Greening Program.** National Greening Program (NGP) is a massive forest rehabilitation program of the government established by virtue of Executive Order No. 26 issued on Feb. 24, 2011 by President Benigno S. Aquino III.
- **Protected Areas and Biodiversity Conservation,** management of protected areas, wildlife coastal and marine resources, and inland wetland resiliency assessment program.

This program involves dealing with the management and conservation of an Integrated Protected Areas System, preservation of biological diversity and genetic resources, protection and conservation of wildlife sanctuaries and conservation and propagation of the endangered Philippine flora and fauna.

- **Land Management/Land Disposition and Distribution.** The program involve matters pertaining to land classification and management and disposition of Alienable and Disposable (A and D) lands.
- **Management of Foreshore Areas.** The program/project aims to promote the sustainable use of our country's foreshore/marshy lands through

effective and efficient management of schemes and strategies

- **Coastal and Marine Management Programs.** The program/project aims to integrate all efforts related to the protection, conservation and management of coastal resources with the participation of coastal communities and other stakeholders. It involves activities such as resources assessment, community organizing, resource protection, conservation and IEC.
- **Protection and Conservation of Wildlife.** The program/project project involves issuance of Wildlife Permit is the basis of this activity conservation and protection of wildlife.
- **Coastal and Marine Resources Management Program.** The program aims to integrate all efforts related to the protection, conservation and management of coastal resources with the participation of coastal communities and other stakeholders. It involves activities such as resources assessment, community organizing, resource protection, conservation and IEC.
- **Inland Wetland Resiliency Assessment Program.** The program/project provides profiling of Inland Wetlands (disaster risk/ hazard assessment, resource assessment, threats, management & mapping)

- Environmental Education and Information. The program/project aims for the organization of environmental education in the country, and disseminate information on environmental and pollution matters to the DENR/EMB regional offices and the general public.
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control
 - Air Quality Management. Program/projects aims to achieve and maintain clean air that meets the National Air Quality guideline values for criteria pollutants, throughout the Philippines, while minimizing the possible associated impacts to the economy
 - Water Quality Management. Program/project aims to protect the country's water bodies from pollution from land-based sources (industries and commercial establishments, agriculture and community/household activities). It provides for comprehensive and integrated strategy to prevent and minimize pollution through a multi-sectoral and participatory approach involving all the stakeholders.
 - Ecological Solid Waste Management. Program/projects aims to adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program that shall ensure the protection of public health and environment. The law ensures proper segregation, collection, storage, treatment and disposal of solid waste through the formulation and adaptation of best eco-waste products
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). EIA System in the Philippines, officially referred to as the Philippine EIS System (PEISS), was established under Presidential Decree (PD) 1586 on 11 June 1978. Section 4 of PD 1586 provides that no person, partnership or corporation shall undertake or operate any such declared environmentally critical project or area without first securing an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC).
- Toxic Chemicals and Hazardous Waste Management. The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), a policy making body of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is seeing that hazardous waste management is made an integral part of the industrial planning process. In the case of new industrial projects, environmental impact assessments are used to balance economic growth with ecological protection.
- Vulnerability and Risk Assessment. An assessment associated with risk mapping; Review of the technical characteristics of hazards such as their location, intensity, frequency and probability; Analysis of exposure and vulnerability including the physical, social, health, economic and environmental dimensions; Evaluation of the effectiveness of prevailing and

alternative coping capacities in respect to likely risk scenarios

- Ground Water Resource Assessment. The outputs of the program/project can be used as guide by Local Government Units (LGUs) at the provincial level, for the development and conservation of groundwater resources.

- Palawan Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) Management Program.

The ECAN management program is an integrated, ridge-to-reef strategy to safeguard the natural capital of Palawan and properly manage it as a fragile island ecosystem.

PART VII

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING



21

Plan Implementation and Monitoring

Plan Implementation and Monitoring

In line with the Ambisyon Natin 2040, the President's 0-10 point socio-economic agenda, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 aspire to lay the foundation for inclusive growth and a high trust society through a two pronged approach of balancing growth opportunities and benefits and enhancing the social fabric which is based on the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022 overall strategic framework.

The adoption of the strategies in the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 will provide for the realization of the goals and desired outcomes for each of the sectors.

The effective planning, programming, budgeting, and implementation of strategic programs, projects, and activities (PPAs) will ensure the sustainability of development interventions within the budgetary resources of the government.

The monitoring activities and institutionalized feedback mechanism through the Regional Development Council will result in better policies and informed decisions, as well as, continuous learning from implementation practices.

Communication advocacy and capability building on plan formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation shall be pursued to support the plan implementation.

Planning for Development Outcomes

The formulation of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan 2017-2022 is anchored on the long term vision for Filipinos and the Philippines, the Ambisyon Natin 2040. It is also consistent with the President Duterte's 0-10 Point Socioeconomic Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The plan defines the sectoral outcome and intermediate outcomes and outputs that are further measured by indicators for each level of results formulated. These are targets for the development of MIMAROPA Region anchored on the MIMAROPA vision as "Destination of Choice."

The formulation of Strategic Regional Development Agenda (SRDA) in the areas of solid waste management; disaster preparedness; high value crops; tourism promotion; improving competitiveness; port development; power development; priority road projects, and establishment of regional government center was done

to support the strategies in the implementation of the MIMAROPA RDP. The SRDA will provide the programmatic approach in the implementation of the plan through the identification of viable projects that are high impact and relevant in the continuous development of the region.

Investment Programming and Budgeting

The Regional Development Investment Program (RDIP) 2017-2022

As the accompanying document to the MIMAROPA RDP, the RDIP translates the plan into concrete programs and projects that are systematically programmed to achieve the desired results of the MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan, 2017-2022. The RDIP shall be the region's investment guide for the next six years. It shall translate the development goals, objectives, and strategies identified in the Regional Development Plan into viable public sector PPAs.

The RDIP shall consider the 0-10 point socioeconomic agenda, social development goals, and strategic regional development agenda, and the establishment of the regional government center in Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro. All ongoing and pipelined projects are automatically included in the RDIP. All new projects shall be evaluated according to the comprehensive investment planning guidelines (CIPG) of the RDC

for review and endorsement by the concerned sectoral committees.

The RDC Sectoral Committees (SecComs) serve as clearinghouse for projects to be included in the RDIP. The CIPG guidelines also provide for the submission of documentary requirements to support the proposals such as comprehensive project profile, concept papers, project feasibility study, endorsement by local development councils and other bodies like the SUC board of trustees/regents, among others. The LGU proposals shall secure the concurrence of implementing agencies for inclusion in their Annual Investment Program (AIP).

Formulation of the Annual Investment Program

The RDIP shall be updated on an annual basis to come up with the Annual Investment Program (AIP). The AIP shall contain the projects that shall be approved and endorsed by MIMAROPA RDC to agency central offices for inclusion in the agency budget proposal. After their endorsement to ACOs, these projects are

to be tracked to ensure that these are considered in the budget proposal and subsequently funded. These projects are continuously monitored to ascertain the extent of the implementation of the RDIP, and to assess the effectiveness of RDC endorsement of its regional priorities.

The MIMAROPA RDC Secretariat shall prepare regular reports on project tracking to MIMAROPA RDC. One of the challenges for project proposals to be funded is availability of feasibility studies.

There is need to advance the preparedness of project proposals of regional development priorities particularly those proposed by local government units (LGUs). A regional Project Development Assistance Center under the RDC may be formed to provide this support to LGUs to advance their proposals for funding. This will also provide a venue to build up LGU capability on project preparation, feasibility study, and project appraisal and financing.

Managing the Plan Implementation Process

Good governance is the key to achieving effective coordination, collaboration and participation in managing the plan implementation process. Central to this strategy is the MIMAROPA Regional Development Council as the highest policy making body of the region and the overall coordinator and facilitator of regional development. MIMAROPA RDC ensures the maximum participation and involvement of local government units, national government agencies, private sector, non-governmental organizations, academe and other institutions and stakeholders in the implementation of the plan.

The various committees of MIMAROPA RDC play major roles in providing support to plan implementation. The Advisory Committee (AdCom) serves as a forum to provide continual coordination and collaboration between the executive agencies and the Congress in the region on plan implementation. Being composed by the MIMAROPA RDC Executive Committee and the Members of the House of Representatives in the region, it ensures a stronger link between planning and investment programming/budgeting with the support of the legislators in terms of budgetary appropriation and policy making.

Monitoring of Results

The MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation System (RDP-IMES) shall be established to improve monitoring of the 2017-2022 indicator targets. The system will be results-based. Regional performance reports on a quarterly and annual basis will be reported to the Regional Development Council.

Project Implementation Monitoring

The monitoring of project implementation shall be undertaken by the Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC). The Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) shall be enhanced through results matrix. The MIMAROPA RPMC will provide general information

on the progress of implementation of projects in the region according to funding source on a quarterly basis. It will also identify projects that need to be validated in the monitoring activities. Project field monitoring reports shall be prepared to report the observations and findings and comparative analysis on the project implementation as reported by implementing agencies.

The RPMC will recommend necessary actions to recognize exemplary performance, address implementation bottlenecks and call attention of implementing agencies. With the operationalization of the Project Tracking System the status of project proposals and approved projects will complete the monitoring and evaluation loop of development planning process.

Evaluation of Results

Regional Development Report

The MIMAROPA RDC Sectoral Committees, as the Planning Committees, shall undertake the annual monitoring of plan implementation, through the preparation of the Regional Development Report (RDR). The RDR shall focus on the annual performance of the region in its attainment of objectives and targets of the MIMAROPA RDP based on targets. It assesses the extent of the attainment of regional targets, identifies the factors that

facilitate or hinder the attainment of the objectives, determines gaps and priority concerns, and recommends measures for review and approval by the MIMAROPA RDC.

The RDR shall also cover the attainment of the 10 Point Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets, as well as gender and development, and other priority concerns. The Sectoral Committees are responsible for ensuring that all regional line agencies (RLAs), government-owned and controlled

corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), the local government units (LGUs), the private sector, and all other concerned stakeholders carry out their respective monitoring function in accordance with their respective mandates, level and responsibilities, particularly to their commitments or contributions to the implementation of the regional development plan. The MIMAROPA RDC Secretariat shall coordinate, integrate and present this report to MIMAROPA RDC on a regular basis.

Midterm Plan Evaluation and Updating

In the mid-implementation of the MIMAROPA RDP, an evaluation shall be conducted to provide analytical and objective information on the progress of attainment of sectoral implementation results. The primary objective of this midterm review is to determine the efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, responsiveness, as well as, sustainability of development programs/projects towards the fulfillment of the regional development goals.

There are two levels of approaches for this midterm review; first is through the conduct of technical review based on the annual performance reports prepared by the region. The second is through focused group discussion (FGD) with multi-stakeholders to generate qualitative assessment of plan results. The integration of these levels of review would provide the inputs for the updating of the MIMAROPA RDP in terms of its objectives, targets, strategies and action plans that would guide the remaining years of plan implementation.

The midterm review shall take into consideration the following, but not limited to: a) assessment of plan results towards attainment of overall development goal; b) documenting best practices and lessons learned on priority regional and sectoral strategies/interventions; c) appraisal on the effectiveness of policies, capacities and processes of the region on plan implementation; and d) reformulation or adjustments of targets of baseline indicators, as well as the identification of new strategic interventions and SRDAs.

Support Activities for Effective Plan Implementation

Communicating and Advocating Support for Plan Implementation

Communication and advocacy shall be continuously pursued as the social marketing component of plan implementation to ensure wide dissemination and support for the plan. After the MIMAROPA RDP shall have

been approved by MIMAROPA RDC, the MIMAROPA RDC Secretariat shall formulate an effective communication and advocacy program (CAP) that shall utilize the tri-media approach.

A regional launching shall be conducted to ensure maximum impact of the advocacy program. Information materials shall be prepared like brochures, tarpaulins, as well as, audio visual presentations. Speakers' bureau shall also be organized to consist not only of MIMAROPA RDC secretariat but also members of Sectoral Committees to assist in the conduct of local level and multi-stakeholder orientations. Branding of the MIMAROPA RDP may also be an effective advocacy and communication tool to promote unity and singularity of the regional constituents and rally behind the vision of the region. For the CAP to be realized, MIMAROPA RDC shall allocate resources to support its implementation.

Addressing Capability Needs for Plan Formulation,

Implementation, and Monitoring and Evaluation

Given these requirements for plan evaluation and updating, the region needs to beef up its capability in the following areas to improve plan formulation, monitoring and evaluation:

- improving regional target-setting methodologies;
- setting up of an indicators system for non-traditional sectors such as governance;
- policy review and analysis;
- mainstreaming national and international policies and commitments like SDGs, etc.;
- approaches for results management-based evaluation; and
- inclusive and participative processes in plan formulation.

MIMAROPA RDC shall formulate a capability building program for the progressive realization of these capability building needs within the plan period.

List of Acronyms

4Ps	Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program
A&D	Alienable & Disposable
ABC	Approved budget cost
AD	Ancestral Domain
ADIPH	Ancestral Domain Investment Plan for Health
AFP	Armed Forces of the Philippines
AHFF	Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry, and Fishery
ALS	Alternative Learning System
AMCR	Average monthly crime rate
ARB	Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries
ARCESS	Agrarian Reform Communities Connectivity Economic Support Services
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASG	Abu Sayyaf Group
ATM	Automated teller machine
BADACs	Barangay Anti-Illegal Drug Abuse Councils
BAR	Bureau of Agricultural Research
BIMP-EAGA	Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BINs	Barangay information networks
BIR	Bureau of Internal Revenue
BISELCO	Busuanga Island Electric Cooperative
BJMP	Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
BJS	Barangay Justice System
BLGF	Bureau of Local Government Finance
BMBE	Barangay Micro Business Enterprise
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
BPATs	Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams
BSP	Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
CADT	Certificates of Ancestral Domain Title
CALABARZON	Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon
CALSANAG	Calatrava, San Andres, and San Agustin
CBE	Community-Based Enterprises
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CDA	Cooperative Development Authority
CEST	Community Empowerment through Science and Technology
CHR	Commission on Human Rights
CICL	Children in Conflict with the Law

CLIP	Comprehensive local integration program
CLOA	Certificates of Land Ownership Award
CLUP	Comprehensive Land Use Plan
CMAM	Community Based Management for Acute Malnutrition
CMCI	Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index
CMRFD	Conflict manageable and ready for further development
CMTS	Cellular Mobile Telephone System
CNN	Communist Party of the Philippines – National Democratic Front-New People’s Army
CPI	Consumer price index
CPWASH	Community potable water, sanitation and hygiene
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTM	Communist Terrorists Movement
DENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DICT	Department of Information and Communications Technology
DILG	Department of the Interior and Local Government
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
DOE	Department of Energy
DOH	Department of Health
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOST	Department of Science and Technology
DPWH	Department of Public Works and Highways
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DRR-CCA	Disaster risk reduction and climate change assessment
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
DRRP	Disaster Risk Reduction Plans
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
E-BPLS	Electronic Business Permit and Licensing System
ECAN	Environmentally Critical Areas Network
ECC	Environmental Compliance Certification
ECCD	Early Childhood Care and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ENTRMPA	El Nido Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area
EO	Executive Order
EODB	Ease of Doing Business
ERC	Energy Regulatory Commission
E-RPTACS	Electronic Real Property Tax Assessment

	Collection System
ESA	Emergency Shelter Assistance
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FDI	Foreign direct investment
FDP	Full Disclosure Policy
FIC	Food Innovation Center
FMR	Farm-to-market road
FRs	Former rebels
FSSP	Food Staples Sufficiency Program
GAD	Gender and Development
GDP	Gross domestic product
GIDA	Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Area
GOCCs	Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations
GRDP	Gross regional domestic product
GVA	Gross Value Added
Ha	Hectares
HDMF	Home Development Mutual Fund
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HFEP	Health Facilities Enhancement Program
HGC	Home Guarantee Corporation
HLURB	Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board
HUDCC	Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
HVDC	High-Voltage, Direct Current
I&S	Industry and services
ICCs	Indigenous Cultural Communities
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IPRA	Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IRA	Internal Revenue Allotment
IRI	International Roughness Index
IRR	Implementing rules and regulations
ISPs	Internet Service Providers
IUU	Illegal, unreported, unregulated
JI	Jemaah Islamiya
JSCC	Justice Sector Coordinating Council
KALAHI-	Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive
CIDSS	Integrated Delivery of Social Services
KSA	Key Shelter Agencies
kV	kiloVolt
LAD	Land Acquisition and Distribution

LDPs	Local Development Plans
LGBTIs	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Transexual and Intersexed
LGU	Local government unit
LSDF	Luzon Spatial Development Framework
LUBELCO	Lubang Electric Cooperative
LUCs	Local Universities and Colleges
MARELCO	Marinduque Electric Cooperative
MARINA	Maritime Industry Authority
MASAMASID	Mamamayang ayaw sa anomalya, mamamayang ayaw sa droga
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MIMAROPA	Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan
MITDP	MIMAROPA Intermodal Transport Development Plan
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MSME	Micro, small, and medium enterprises
MSPLS	Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape
MSWMB	Municipal Solid Waste Management Boards
MT	Metric Tons
MW	Mega Watts
MWh	Mega Watt hour
NAT MPS	National Achievement Test Mean Percentage Score
NCP	National Competition Policy
NCR	National Capital Region
NDHs	National Demographic and Health Survey
NEDA	National Economic and Development Authority
NFA	National Food Authority
NFRDI	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NGAs	National Government Agencies
NGCP	National Grid Corporation of the Philippines
NGO	Non-government organization
NGP	National Greening Program
NHA	National Housing Authority
NHMFC	National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
NOAH	Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards
NPC-SPUG	National Power Corporation - Small Power Utilities Group

NPPs	New Power Providers
NRPF	National Resettlement Policy Framework
NSS	National Spatial Strategy
NTC	National Telecommunications Commission
NTOPCOP	National tourist-oriented police for community order and protection
OMEKO	Occidental Mindoro Electric Cooperative
ORMECO	Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperative
PA	Protected Areas
PAGs	Partisan Armed Groups
PALECO	Palawan Electric Cooperative
PAMANA	Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan
PAO	Public Attorney's Office
PCAB	Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board
PCAMRD	Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development
PCARRD	Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development
PCC	Philippine Competition Commission
PCG	Philippine Coast Guard
PDEA	Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency
PDP	Philippine Development Plan
PDPFP	Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plans
PH	Potential of Hydrogen
PHA	Philippine Health Agenda
PhilHealth	Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
PIPS	Police Integrated Patrol System
PM 10	Particulate matter 10 micrometers or less in diameter
PNP	Philippine National Police
PPA	Philippine Ports Authority
PPAN	Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition
PPP	Public-private participation
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
PTB	Passenger Terminal Building
PWDs	Persons with Disability
QTP	Qualified Third Party
R&D	Research and development
R&D	Research and development
RA	Republic Act
RADT	Regional Assessment and Delineation Team

RCC	Regional Competitiveness Committee
RCCE	Region's crime clearance efficiency
RDC	Regional Development Council
RDP	Regional Development Plan
RE	Renewable Energy
RGC	Regional Government Center
RGCMC	Regional Government Center Management Committee
RLAs	Regional Line Agencies
ROMELCO	Romblon Electric Cooperative
RoRo	Roll-on/roll-off
RORO	Roll-on/Roll-off
ROTC	Reserve Officers' Training Corps
ROW	Right-of-Way
RPRH	Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health
RRPTP	Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons
S&T	Science and technology
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEMA	Sustainable Forestry Management Act
SETUP	Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program
SGLG	Seal of Good Local Governance
SHFC	Socialized Housing Finance Corporation
SHS	Senior High School
SIIG	Small Island and Isolated Grids
SLF	Sanitary Landfill
SLP	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMD	Survey and Mapping Division
SPSG	Southern Philippines Secessionist Groups
SRNH	Strong Republic Nautical Highway
SSF	Shared Service Facility
STI	Science, technology and innovation
SUCs	State Universities and Colleges
SWM	Solid Waste Management
SY	School Year
TBI	Technology Business Incubator
TIELCO	Tablas Island Electric Cooperative
TIEZA	Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority
TRIP	Tourism Road Infrastructure Program
TSP	Total Suspended Particulates
TSS	Total Suspended Solids

TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UCME	Universal Charge on Missionary Electrification
UDHA	Urban Development and Housing Act
UDP	Upland Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIFAST	Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education
USAID- COMPETE	United States Agency for International Development Advancing Philippine Competitiveness
VCA	Value chain analysis
WEDC	Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances
YAFS4	Young and Adult Fertility and Sexuality Survey

Glossary

Absorptive capacity	A measure of an agency's ability to maximize the use of financial resources made available to it.
Accreditation	The action or process of officially recognizing the competence of any supplier of Philippine goods and services to promote reliability and confidence in its quality, competitiveness, and international acceptance. The process follows a uniform and technical policy. (Aquino, 2016)
Acquisition	The purchase or transfer of securities or assets, through contract or other means, for the purpose of obtaining control.
Adaptive capacity	The ability of ecological, social or economic systems to adjust to climate change including climate variability and extremes, to moderate or offset potential damages and to take advantage of associated opportunities with changes in climate or to cope with the consequences thereof (RA 9729, 2009).
Agrarian Reform Beneficiary	Farmers who were granted lands under Presidential Decree No. 27, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law and Republic Act No. 9700 or the "Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Extension with Reforms" and regular farm workers who are landless, irrespective of tenurial arrangement, who benefited from the redistribution of lands, regardless of crops or fruits produced, to include the totality of factors and support services designed to lift the economic status of the beneficiaries and all other alternative arrangements to the physical distribution of lands, such as production or profit sharing, labor administration, and the distribution of shares of stock which will allow beneficiaries to receive a just share of the fruits of the lands they work
Agro-Industrial Centers	Agro-Industrial Economic Zone" shall refer to a selected area with highly developed or which have the potential to be developed into agro-industrial estate whose metes and bounds are fixed or delimited by Presidential Proclamation. The agro-industrial economic zone shall be planned and designed to have support facilities and services required for processing and agro-based manufacturing activities, utilizing local agricultural and marine products as basic raw materials (e.g., post-harvest treatment, packaging, printing, cold storage, blast freezing, by-product and waste management and other facilities and services). Similar

	agricultural products may be brought into the zone to be stored, sold, exhibited, broken up, repacked, distributed, sorted, graded, cleaned, mixed with foreign or domestic merchandise, or otherwise manipulated or manufactured and exported
Applied research	Original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge directed primarily towards a specific practical aim or objective.
Approved budget cost	Estimated cost of a project prepared based on design plan composed of direct and direct cost and shall be the ceiling of acceptable bid prices
Balik Scientist Program	A program that encourages highly-trained overseas Filipino scientists and technologists, experts, and professionals to return to the Philippines and share their expertise for the acceleration of the scientific, agro-industrial and economic development of the country.
Bank density ratio	The number of banks per city/municipality
Basic research	Experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.
Basic services	The provision of basic necessities such as: potable water, power and electricity, and adequate power distribution system; sewerage facilities and an efficient and adequate solid waste disposal system, access to primary roads and transportation facilities; and the provision of health, education, communications, security, recreation, relief and welfare services in accordance with Republic Act No. 7279.
Batangas-Mindoro Interconnection Project	Installation of a 51kilometer overhead lines with associated cable terminal stations, voltage conditioning devices and additional switching facilities. The submarine cable will intrer-connect Mindoro Island to mainland Luzon gr id for a more stable, cheaper and reliable source of electricity. The interconnection would also make Mindoro as a viable location for new generating plant s such as coal and renewable energy (RE) plants. Realization of the project will be able to link Panay power source to mainland Luzon through Mindoro
Biological Diversity	The variability among living organism from all sources including terrestrial, marine and aquatic ecosystems and ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and ecosystems. (1) Convention on Biodiversity. 1993. Philippine Biodiversity

	Assessment. Manila. (2) EFI-CFTD. Internal Report No. 6 (3) EO 247. Prescribing the Guidelines and Establishing a regulatory Framework for the Prospecting of Biological and Generic Resources, their By-Products and Derivatives, for Scientific and Commercial Purposes and other Purposes. 1995
Brain drain	A problem where a country loses its best workers such as skilled workers attracted by better rates of pay and working conditions in other countries.
Buffer stocking	A supply of inputs held as a reserve to safeguard against unforeseen shortages or demands
Buffer Zone	Identified area outside the boundaries of and immediately adjacent to designated protected areas that needs special development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the protected area. The buffer zone of twenty meters from the riverbank or lakeshore or seashore. RA 7586. NIPAS ACT. 1992
Business dynamism	The ways businesses respond to opportunities through measuring: cost required to start a business, time required to start a business, cost of bankruptcy proceedings, strength of insolvency framework, attitudes toward entrepreneurial risk, growth of innovative companies, and willingness to delegate authority.
Business incubation	A unique and highly flexible combination of business development processes, infrastructure and people designed to nurture new and small businesses by helping them to survive and grow through the difficult and vulnerable early stages of development.
Capital outlay	Appropriations for the purchase of goods and services, the benefits of which extend beyond the fiscal year and which add to the assets of the government, including investments in the capital stock of government-owned and controlled corporations and their subsidiaries.
Cargo Throughput	Total volume of cargo discharged and loaded at the port
Cave	Any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess or system of interconnected passages beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge and which is large enough to permit an individual to enter, whether or not the entrance is located either in private and public land
Cities and municipalities Competitiveness index	An annual ranking of Philippine cities and municipalities developed by the National Competitiveness Council through the Regional Competitiveness Committees (RCCs) with the assistance of the United States Agency for

	International Development.
Civil justice	As a factor of the Rule of Law Index, this measures whether civil justice systems are accessible and affordable, free of discrimination, corruption, and improper influence by public officials. It also measures the accessibility, impartiality, and effectiveness of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.
Climate change	Changes in climatic systems as measured by mean temperatures or variability of its properties, and persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity (RA 9729, 2009).
Climate change adaptation	The adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities (RA 9729, 2009).
Closed fishing season	The period during which the taking of specified fishing gear is prohibited in a specified area or areas in Philippine waters (RA 8550, 1998)
Coastal Area	A band of dry land and adjacent ocean space (water and submerged land) in which terrestrial processes affect oceanic processes and uses and vice versa. Its geographic extent may include areas within a land mark limit of 1 kilometer from the shoreline at high tide to include mangrove swamps, brackish water ponds, nipa swamps, estuarine rivers, sandy beaches and other area within a seaward limit of 200 meters isobath to include coral reefs, algal flats, sea grass, beds, and other soft bottom areas
Commercial fishing	The catching of fish with the use of fishing boats with a capacity of more than three gross tons
Commercial Flight	A civil aviation transports passengers and cargoes for business purposes. It includes domestic and international flights
Commercial Vessel	Any vessel engaged in commercial trade or carries passengers for hire
Commercialization	The process of deriving income or profit from a technology, such as the creation of a spin-off company, or through licensing, or the sale of the technology and/or Intellectual Property Rights.
Community Based Forest Management Program (CBFMP)	Partnership between the government and the local community, represented by people's organization, as forest managers, which has a term of 25 years, renewable for another 25 years. Any forest development program which

Competitiveness	adopts the CBFM strategy as its core concept Ability of a firm or a nation to offer products and services that meet the quality standards of the local and world markets at prices that are competitive and provide adequate returns on the resources employed or consumed in producing them.
Conservation	Protection of plant and animal habitat including the management of renewable natural resource with the objective of sustaining its productivity in perpetuity while providing for human use compatible with sustainability of the resources
Consumer price index	It is an indicator of the change in the average retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services commonly purchased by households relative to a base year.
Convergence activities	Coming together of distinct or separate activities and resources toward achieving a common objectives and beneficiaries
Convergence Program	The interface between and among various telephony, radio, video, broadcasting and multimedia infrastructure, devices and services, enabling users or subscribers thereof to communicate with one another. The complementation of agency initiatives within a defined area under a common intervention strategy to maximize impact
Coral Reef	A natural aggregation of coral skeleton, with or without living coral polyps, occurring in intertidal and subtidal marine waters (RA 8550, 1998)
Crime	Include felonies which are violations of the Revised Penal Code and offenses which are violation of special laws
Crime clearance efficiency	The percentage of cleared cases out of the total number of crime incidents handled by law enforcement agencies for a given period of time
Crime rate	The number of crime incidents in a given period of time for every 100,000 inhabitants of an area
Crime solution efficiency	The percentage of solved cases out of the total number of crime incidents handled by law enforcement agencies for a given period of time
Crime volume	The number of crime incidents committed in a given area over a period of time which include the index and non-index crimes
Crimes cleared	Crimes in which the offender has been identified; there is sufficient evidence to charge the offender; the offender has been charged before the prosecutor's office or any other court of appropriate jurisdiction

Crimes solved	<p>Cases in which the following elements occur: (1) the offender has been identified; (2) there is sufficient evidence to charge the offender; (3) the offender has been taken into custody; and (4) the offender has been charged before the prosecutor's office or court of appropriate jurisdiction</p> <p>Cases in which some elements beyond police control prevent the arrest of the offender, such as when the victim refuses to prosecute after the offender is identified or the offender dies or absconds</p> <p>Cases in which the arrest of one offender can solve several crimes or several offenders may be arrested in the process of solving one crime</p>
Criminal justice	As a factor of the Rule of Law Index, this measures whether the criminal investigation, adjudication, and correctional systems are effective, and whether the criminal justice system is impartial, free of corruption, free of improper influence, and protective of due process and the rights of the accused.
Critical Habitat	Area outside protected areas order RA 7586 than is known habitats of threatened species and designated as such based on scientific data taking into consideration species and endimicity and richness, presence of manmade pressures and threats
Critically Endangered Species	Species or subspecies that is facing extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future
Deforestation	The conversion of forest to another land use or the long-term reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10% threshold
Degradation	A decline in the productivity of an area of land or in its ability to support natural ecosystems or types of agriculture
Deposit liabilities	This refers to the money that people or companies put in banks which banks have to pay at some future time
Disaster	A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic, or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources (RA 10121, 2010).
Disaster risk	The potential disaster loss (i.e., lives, health status, livelihoods, assets, services) which could occur to a particular community or a society over some specified future time period (UNISDR, 2009)

Disaster risk reduction	The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and manage the causal factors of disasters, including the reduction of exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events (UNISDR, 2007; RA 10121, 2010).
Disaster risk reduction and management	The systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement strategies, policies and improve coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards and the possibility of disaster (RA 10174, 2012).
Doubling time	Doubling time is the period of time required for a quantity to double in size or value
Early warning system	The set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities, and organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss (RA 10121, 2010).
Ease of doing business	An index published by the World Bank. It is an aggregate figure that includes different parameters which define the ease of doing business in a country.
Economic dynamism	<p>The quality and reliability of government services and government support for effective and sustainable productive expansion. Conceptually, this factor looks at government as an institution that is generally not corrupt; able to protect and enforce contracts; apply moderate and reasonable taxation and is able to regulate proactively (La Porta et al, 1999). This represents the people and culture factor that Porter alluded to in understanding the process of competitiveness and making locations productive. It is divided into ten indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity of Health Services 2. Capacity of Schools 3. Security 4. Business Registration Efficiency 5. Compliance to BPLS standards 6. Presence of Investment Promotions Unit 7. Compliance to National Directives for LGUs 8. Ratio of LGU collected tax to LGU revenues 9. Most Competitive LGU awardee 10. Social Protection

Economic services	Enhancement of industrial/agricultural production capacities, covering, among others, the development of natural resources, promotion of trade and industry, and the setting up of infrastructure and utilities.
Economic zone	Selected areas with highly developed or which have the potential to be developed into agri-industrial, industrial, tourist, recreational, commercial, banking, investment and financial centers whose metes and bounds are fixed or delimited by Presidential Proclamations (PEZA, 1995).
Economies of scale	The reduction in long-run average and marginal costs arising from an increase in size of an operating unit (a factory or plant, for example). Economics of scale can be internal to an organization (cost reduction due to technological and management factors) or external (cost reduction due to the effect of technology in an industry)
Ecosystem	A community of living organisms interacting with each other and with their physical environment
Ecotourism	Form of sustainable tourism within a natural and cultural heritage area where community participation, protection and management of natural resources, culture and indigenous knowledge and practices, environmental education and ethics as well as economics
eCourts	This is a computer-based system designed to enable trial judges and court personnel to organize, plan and control the flow of cases from filing to resolution and enforcement. This system involves the electronic capture, storage, management and retrieval of essential case data to aid the judges and court case processors in more efficiently handling the volume of cases that flood the judiciary.
Ecozones	<p>An area in which business and trade laws are different from rest of the country. SEZs are located within a country's national borders, and their aims include: increased trade, increased investment, job creation and effective administration. To encourage businesses to set up in the zone, financial policies are introduced. These policies typically regard investing, taxation, trading, quotas, customs and labour regulations. Additionally, companies may be offered tax holidays, where upon establishing in a zone they are granted a period of lower taxation.</p> <p>Selected areas with highly developed or which have the potential to be developed into agro-industrial, Industrial tourist/recreational, commercial, banking, investment and</p>

	financial centers. An ECOZONE may contain any or all of the following: Industrial Estates (IEs), Export Processing Zones (EPZs), Free Trade Zones, and Tourist/Recreational Center
El Niño	A climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean that causes extreme dry weather or drought. It is the warm phase of a larger phenomenon called the El Nino-Southern Oscillation.
Electric cooperatives	An organization or corporation authorized to provide electric services pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 269, as amended, and Republic Act No. 6938 within the framework of the national rural electrification plan.
Emergency Shelter Assistance	The provision of emergency “self-build” shelter assistance through limited materials or financial assistance to augment resources of affected families who opt not to be transferred to a resettlement site to enable them to purchase materials for their damaged houses.
Employed persons	Employed persons include all those who, during the reference period are 15 years and over as of their last birthday and are reported either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. At work. Those who do any work even for one hour during the reference period for pay or profit, or work without pay on the farm or business enterprise operated by a member of the same household related by blood, marriage or adoption; or b. With a job but not at work. Those who have a job or business but are not at work because of temporary illness/injury, vacation or other reasons. Likewise, persons who expect to report for work or to start operation of a farm or business enterprise within two weeks from the date of the enumerator's visit, are considered employed.
Endangered Species	Species or subspecies that is not critically endangered but whose survival in the wild is unlikely if the casual factors continue operating. Species with small populations that could be threatened if the environment worsens
Environment Impact Statement (EIS)	A document prepared and submitted by the project proponent and/or environmental impact assessment consultant that serves as an application for an environmental compliance certificate. It is a comprehensive study of the significant impacts of a project on the environmental management plan. It includes an environmental management plan/program that the

Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC)	<p>proponent will fund and implement to protect the environment.</p> <p>A document issued by the DENR/EMB after positive review of an ECC application, certifying that based on the representations of the proponent, the proposed project or undertaking will not cause significant negative environmental impact. The ECC also certifies that the proponent has complied with all the requirements of the EIS System and has committed to implement its approved environmental management plan. The ECC contains specific measures and conditions that the project proponent has to undertake before and during the project's abandonment phase to mitigate identified environmental impacts</p>
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	<p>The process that involves evaluating and predicting likely impacts of project (including cumulative impacts) on the environment during construction, commissioning, operation and abandonment. It also includes designing appropriate preventive, mitigating and enhancement measures addressing these consequences to protect the environment and the community's welfare. The process is undertaken by among others, the project proponent and/ or EIA consultant EMB, a review committee, and affected communities stakeholder</p>
Environmentally Critical Project	<p>Project or program that has high potential for significant negative environmental impact</p>
Environmentally Critical Area	<p>Area delineated as environmentally sensitive such that significant environmental impact are expected if certain type of proposed projects or programs are located, developed or implement in it</p>
eSubpoena	<p>An automated notification system which enables the courts to send subpoena via electronic mail directly to the police witnesses and the units where they are assigned</p>
eWarrant System	<p>A policy that mandates local government units to post plans, budgets, and full utilization reports to enable the public to view, download, and print these financial documents to allow their constituents to understand how their local governments budget and spend for public services</p>
Farm mechanization	<p>The process of improving farm labour productivity through the use of agricultural machinery, implements and tools. It involves the provision and use of all forms of power sources and mechanical assistance to agriculture, from simple hand</p>

	tools, to animal draught power (DAP), and to mechanical power technologies.
Farm-to-market roads	Road linking the agriculture and fisheries production sites, coastal landing points and post-harvest facilities to the market and arterial roads and highways.
Fast craft vessels	A high speed water vessel for civilian use, also called a fastcraft or fast ferry.
Fisherfolk	People who are directly engaged in catching, culturing, and processing of fishery and/or aquatic resources.
Flora	All species of plants found in a given area, including ferns, lycopods and mosses
Food security	A condition where all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (FAO,2002)
Food threshold	It refers to the minimum income/expenditure required for a family (or individual) to meet the basic food needs, which satisfy the nutritional requirements for economically necessary and socially desirable physical activities.
Foreign direct investments	Investment made by a resident entity in one economy to another economy to acquire a lasting interest and have a significant influence in the management over the enterprise.
Foreshore	A string of land margining a body of water; the part of a seashore between the low-water line usually at the seaward margin of a low tide terrace and the upper limit of wave wash at high tide usually marked by a beach scarp or berm. (Section 4 [48] of Republic Act No. 8550 The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998)
Forest	Land with an area of more than 0.5 hectare and tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10%. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 meters at maturity in situ. It consist either of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground or open formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10%. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes, which have yet to reach a crown density of more than 10% or tree height of 5 meters are included under forest
Forest Land	Include public forest, permanent forest or forest reserves, and forest reservations. PD 1559. Further Amending PD 705, otherwise Known as The Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines. 1978

Forest Products	Goods and services derived from the forest such as but not limited to timber, lumber, veneer, plywood, fiberboard, pulpwood, firewood, bark, tree top, resin gum, wood oil, honey, beeswax, nipa, rattan or other forest growth such as grass, shrub and flowering plant, the associated water, fish, game, scenic, historical, and educational
Forest Reserve	Land of the public domain which has been a subject of the present system of classification and declared to be needed for forest purposes. Also known as Permanent Forest. PD 1559 – Further Amending PD 705, otherwise Known as The Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines. 1978
Forest Resource Management	The application of integrated and sustainable development, regulation, production and conservation strategies for each of the different forest resources. DAO 2000-65 – Guidelines Governing the Creation of Sub project Sites Management Office and its Institutionalization in the forestry Sector Project Implementation. 2000
Forest Resources	Includes soil and all elements found on it, above and below the ground in an area classified as forest land. DAO 2000-65 – Guidelines Governing the Creation of Sub project Sites Management Office and its Institutionalization in the forestry Sector Project Implementation. 2000
Forested Wetlands	Forested wetland growing along tidal mudflats and along shallow water coastal areas extending inland along rivers, streams and their tributaries where the water is generally brackish and composed mainly of Rhizopora, Bruguiera, Ceriops, Avicenia, Aegicera spp
Forestry	The profession embracing the science, art and practice of creating, managing, using and conserving forests and associated resources for human benefit in a sustainable manner to meet desired goals, needs and values.
Full Disclosure Policy	A policy that mandates local government units to post plans, budgets, and full utilization reports to enable the public to view, download, and print these financial documents to allow their constituents to understand how their local governments budget and spend for public services.
Game Refuge	A forest land designated for the protection of game animals, birds and fish, and closed to hunting and fishing in order that the excess population may flow and restock surrounding areas. PD 1559. Further Amending PD 705, otherwise Known as The Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines. 1978

Gender and development	The development perspective and process that "seeks to achieve gender equality as a fundamental value that should be reflected in development choices; seeks to transform society's social, economic, and political structures and questions the validity of the gender roles they ascribed to women and men; contends that women are active agents of development and not just passive recipients of development assistance; and stresses the need of women to organize themselves and participate in political processes to strengthen their legal rights". (RA 9710, 2009)
General Aviation	It refers to the operation of civilian aircraft for purposes other than commercial passenger transport, including personal, business and instructional flying
Gini coefficient	It measures of the extent to which the distribution of income/distribution among families/individuals deviates from a perfectly equal distribution, with limits 0 for perfect equality and 1 for perfect inequality.
Global Competitiveness Index	A set of institutions, policies, and factors that determine the level of productivity of a country, conditions of public institutions, and technical conditions (WEF, 2013). This was created by the World Economic Forum and is considered as an accepted tool for evaluating a country's potential for growth (Reut Institute, 2007).
Golden age of infrastructure	A strategy of the President R. Duterte to increase investment in infrastructure by at least seven (7) percent of the gross domestic product
Good Agricultural Practices	Practices that address environmental, economic, and social sustainability for on-farm processes, and result in safe and quality food and non-food agricultural products (FAO,2003)
Gross domestic product	The value of all goods and services produced domestically. It is the sum of gross value added of all resident institutional units engaged in production (plus any taxes, and minus any subsidies, on products not included in the values of their outputs).
Gross regional domestic product	The aggregate of gross value added of all resident producer units in the region. This includes regional estimates on the three major sectors including their sub-sectors namely: 1) Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry Sector; 2) Industry Sector (Mining and Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction, Electricity, Water); 3) Service Sector (Transport, Communication, Storage, Trade, Finance, Ownership of Dwellings and Real Estate, Private or Government Services).

	(PSA, n.d.)
Gross value added	The total payment to factors production, namely: wages, interests, profits, rents, including capital consumption allowance, and indirect taxes. It is estimated by deducting from gross value of output the sum of the non-factor cost such as raw materials and supplies, containers and packaging materials, fuel, advertising and other non-industrial overhead cost
Ground Water	Water in the ground that is in the zone of saturation, from which wells, springs and ground water and runoff are supplied
Habitat	A place or environment where a species or subspecies naturally established its population
Habitat Loss	The permanent conversion of the habitat to an area where the original species can no longer exist
Harmonized National R&D Agenda	A blueprint of the priority R&D areas that will be pursued by the country to address societal needs and achieve inclusive socioeconomic development. A product of comprehensive and widespread consultation with various stakeholders, the agenda aims to provide direction on the government-funded R&D programs and projects; provide an important step in enhancing the effective allocation and efficient use of public investments in R&D; and avoid duplication of R&D pursuits and promote complementation among government research institutions.
Hazard	A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage (UNISDR, 2007)
Hazardous Waste	Used or discarded substances or materials that are without any safe commercial, industrial, agricultural or economic uses, and which pose substantial or potential threats to public health and/ or the environment
Heritage resources	Archaeological or historic sites, burial sites, artifacts and other objects of historical, cultural or religious significance, and historical or cultural records
High value crops	Non-traditional agricultural and horticultural commodities that include coffee, cacao, fruits, root crops, vegetables, spices and condiments, cutflowers, and ornamental plants
Inclusive growth	Growth that is rapid enough to matter, given the country's large population, geographical differences, and social complexity. It is sustained growth that creates jobs, draws

	the vast majority into the economic and social mainstream, and continuously reduces mass poverty
Income gap	It is the average income shortfall, expressed in proportion to the poverty threshold, of individuals with income below the poverty threshold.
Index crimes	Crimes which are serious in nature and which occur with sufficient frequency and regularity such that they can serve as an index to the crime situation (murder, homicide, physical injury, carnapping, cattle rustling, robbery, theft, and rape)
Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous People (ICCs/IPs)	A group of people of homogenous societies identified by self ascription by others, who have continuously lived as organized community on communally bounded and defined territory, and who have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, possessed and utilize such territories, sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions and other distinctive cultural traits, or who have, through resistance to political, social and cultural in-roads of colonization, non-indigenous religions and cultures, became historically differentiated from the majority of the Filipinos. ICCs/IPs shall likewise include people who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations which inhabited the country, at the time of conquest or colonization, or at the time of inroads of non-indigenous religious religions and cultures, or the establishment of present state boundaries, who retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions, but who may have resettled outside their ancestral domains.
Indigenous Species	Species or genotypes that have evolved in the same area, region or biotope and are adapted to the specific predominant ecological conditions at the time of establishment
Industry roadmaps	Details of a sector's current situation and outlines the various interventions it needs to be globally-competitive. The roadmaps are crafted by the local industries themselves with the guidance of BOI and other government agencies
Inflation rate	It is the annual rate of change or the year-on year change of the CPI expressed in percent. Inflation is interpreted in terms of declining purchasing power of money
Information and communication technology	An umbrella term that covers all technical means for processing and communicating information. It defines a broad range of technologies, including methods for

Infrastructure

communication (communication protocols, transmission techniques, communications equipment, media communication), as well as techniques for storing and processing information (computing, data storage, etc.).

Refers to the physical building blocks that connect, expand, and sustain a locality and its surroundings to enable the provision of goods and services. It involves basic inputs of production such as energy, water; interconnection of production such as transportation, roads, and communications; sustenance of production such as waste, disaster preparedness, environmental sustainability and human capital formation infrastructure. This represents the idea of making productivity sustainable over time. It is divided into nine indicators:

Existing Road Network

1. Distance from City/Municipality Center to Major Ports
2. DOT-Accredited Accommodations
3. Availability of Basic Utilities
4. Annual Investments in Infrastructure
5. Connection of ICT
6. Number of Public Transportation Vehicles
7. Health Infrastructure
8. Education Infrastructure
9. Number of ATMs

Inland Water

The bodies of water surrounded by land (e.g. rivers, lakes, streams, mudflats, ponds/fishponds, dams and reservoirs)

Integrated Port System

The project involves identification of major and critical ports in the region to prioritize investments which will enhance sea transport facilities and services within the MAMAROPA region and going to other regions. Facilities and services of the primary and secondary ports in the five provinces shall be enhance through provision or upgrading of RORO ramps, passenger terminal buildings, port utilities, port administration, back up areas, management system and access roads. Appropriate incentives and policies will be identified to encourage the participation of sea transport service providers

Intellectual property

The intangible assets resulting from the creative work of an individual or organization. IP also refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names, images and designs used in commerce. IP can also refer to future tangible and/or intangible assets that

Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA)	may be recognized as intellectual property. Shares of the province/municipality from national internal revenue taxes collected
International Airport	Airport that offers customs and immigration facilities and international flights for passengers travelling other countries
International cruise ships	A passenger ship or vessel used for pleasure voyages, where the voyage itself and the ship's amenities are a part of the experience, including international destinations along the way
International Roughness Index	It is a worldwide standard for measuring road smoothness longitudinally (in direction of driving)
IUU fishing	Fishing activities conducted by: (a) vessels without nationality but operated by a Filipino and/or Filipino corporation; (b) Philippine flagged fishing vessels operating in areas or fish stocks where there are no applicable conservation and management measures; (c) Philippine flagged fishing vessels operating in areas of fish stocks where there are no applicable conservation and management measures (RA 10654, 2015)
Judiciary Case Management System	A reform project of the Judiciary to decongest dockets and help solve delays in case management and resolution through the use of information technology
Justice Sector Coordinating Council	An inter-agency body composed of senior representatives from the Judiciary, the Department of Justice, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and their relevant attached agencies, which serves as a joint forum for dialogue on issues of common interest and mechanism for effective coordination and sharing of information for planning and implementation of joint initiatives.
Justice Zone	An area or locality where a minimum number of inter-agency coordinative reforms are present, rendering that area or locality compliant based on the selection and rating criteria to be established by the Justice Sector Coordinating Council.
K to 12	A program that covers Kindergarten and 12 years of basic education (six years of primary education, four years of Junior High School, and two years of Senior High School).
Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan	Comprehensive Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) – a community-driven development project implemented by the DSWD
Key Biodiversity Areas	These are places of international importance for the

	conservation of biodiversity through protected areas and other governance mechanisms. They are identified nationally using simple standardized criteria based on their importance in maintaining species population. As the building blocks for designing the ecosystem approach and maintaining ecological networks, these sites are the starting point for conservation planning at landscape level
Labor Force or Economically Active Population	This refers to population 15 years old and over who are either employed or unemployed.
Labor productivity	Labor productivity in agriculture, forestry, and fishery pertains to the value of agricultural output per employed person in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries
Land	Resources both man-made and natural, found on the surface, below, and above the ground including inland waters and the air therein
Land Classification	A system for determining land of the public domain into forest land, mineral land, national parks, and agricultural land based on the 1987 Constitution. In current practice, land of the public domain are classified into either forest land and alienable & disposable land
Land Cover	The observed physical and biological cover of the earth's land, as vegetation and man-made features
Land Management Unit	A recurring pattern of land, soil types associated with relatively uniform land use, vegetation and parent materials. It serves as basis for the integration of field and resource information and suitability rating for different crops and land uses
Land Mapping Unit	A subdivision of agro-climate zone mostly homogenous with regard to slope, slope length, and soil characteristics
Land Use	The manner of utilizing the land, including its allocation, development and management
Land Use Allocation	The classification procedure that signifies the degree of suitability of a particular land unit
Land Use Classification	The process of delineating or allocating lands according to protection, production, settlements, and infrastructure
Landscape	A heterogeneous land area distinguished by differences in land forms, vegetation, land use, cultural features, and aesthetic characteristics within a geographical region
Loan portfolio	This refers to loans and receivables which comprised of both individual and corporate accounts
Local centers	With population size of less than 50,000 forms the lowest

	level of hierarchy in the region				
Local Fishing Vessel	A fishing vessel owned and operates by the people within the municipality				
Local tax incentives	Policies or strategies by local government units specified in their legislation to encourage or motivate doing business on specific areas				
Locational advantages	Any reason for a firm to locate production, or a stage of production, in a particular place, such as availability of a natural resource, transport cost, or barriers to trade. May explain why a country's firms succeed in trade, or why a multinational firm locates there natural gift, or a physical attribute				
Lumber	The product of the saw and planing mill. Not further manufactured other than sawing, resawing and passing lengthwise through standard planing machine, crosscutting to length, and matching				
Mangroves	A community of intertidal plants including all species of trees, shrubs, vines and herbs found on coasts, swamps, or border of swamps (RA8550, 1998)				
Marine protected areas	A defined area of the sea established and set aside by law, administrative regulation, or any other effective means in order to conserve and protect a part of or an entire enclosed environment through the establishment of management guidelines. It is considered a generic term that includes all declared areas governed by specific rules or guidelines in order to protect and manage activities within an enclosed area (Republic Act 10654)				
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	<p>Refer to any business activity within the major sectors of the economy, namely: industry, trade, services, including the practice of one's profession, the operation of tourism-related establishments, and agri-business, which for this purpose refers to any business activity involving the manufacturing, processing, and/or production of agricultural produce, whether single proprietorship, cooperative, partnership or corporation:</p> <p>(1) whose total assets, inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land on which the particular business entity's office, plant and equipment are situated, must have value falling under the following categories:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Micro</td><td>: not more than P3,000,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Small</td><td>: more than P3,000,000 to</td></tr> </table>	Micro	: not more than P3,000,000	Small	: more than P3,000,000 to
Micro	: not more than P3,000,000				
Small	: more than P3,000,000 to				

	<p>P15,000,000</p> <p>Medium : more than P15,000,000 to P100,000,000</p>
National ID System	<p>(2) duly registered with the appropriate agencies as presently provided by law, except in the case of micro enterprises as defined above</p> <p>An official identification system for all citizens of the Philippines through the issuance of a Filipino identification card to convert and consolidate all existing government-initiated identification systems into one integrated and efficient identification system.</p>
National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS)	<p>The classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems, preserve genetic diversity, ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and maintain their natural conditions to the greater extent possible</p>
National Justice Information System	<p>A program that is intended to address and remedy the current information gaps in the Philippine criminal justice system by enabling effective sharing of data between the police, judiciary, probation services, custodial authorities, and criminal information registries, at key decision points in the criminal justice system process.</p>
National Park	<p>A forest reservation essentially of natural wilderness character which has been withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or any form of exploitation except in conformity with approved management plan and set aside as such exclusive to conserve the area, preserve the scenery, the natural and historic objects, wild animals and plants therein, and provide enjoyment of these physical features in such areas</p>
National Road	<p>The term used for roads owned and maintained by the national government</p>
Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards	<p>A government program which undertakes disaster science research and development, advances the use of cutting edge technologies and recommends innovative information services in the government's disaster prevention and mitigation efforts.</p>
Natural endowment Republic Act 10879 (MIMAROPA Act)	<p>A law passed by the congress for the creation of MIMAROPA as separate region</p>
Natural Park	<p>A protected area under the NIPAS which is relatively large not materially altered by human activity where extractive</p>

	resource uses are not allowed. Resources are maintained to protect outstanding natural and scenic areas of national and international significance for scientific, educational and scientific use
Nitrates	Group of minerals that contain one or more metallic elements plus the nitrate radical (NO ₃). These minerals are all fragile and soft. With one exception, they are all soluble in water, and are therefore found only in arid regions or in caves, and especially in dry lake deposits. The nitrates are a small group, and are sometimes classified as a sub-category of the carbonate group
One Store	An e-commerce web application that operates nationwide, which provides consumers a choice of a wide range of products and retailers with direct access to a large customer base in the Philippines.
Outrigger boats	A wooden hull boat supported by one or more of lateral floats which are secured to one or both sides of the main hull to increase stability
Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)	A human development measure of the national government that provides conditional cash grants to the poorest of the poor, to improve the health, nutrition, and the education of children aged 0-18
Passenger Traffic/Cargo Movement	It refers to the number of passengers and cargoes taking different transport modes such as maritime, air and land transports
Patent	A grant issued by the government through the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines. It is an exclusive right granted for a product, process or an improvement of a product or process which is new, inventive and useful. This exclusive right gives the inventor the right to exclude others from making, using, or selling the product of his invention during the life of the patent.
Phosphates	Group of minerals that are compounds of one or more metallic elements associated with the phosphate radical (PO ₄). The phosphates are classified together with the arsenates and vanadates. Many phosphates are heavy, and none are hard. They are often brittle and are frequent in compact aggregates
Physical Connectivity	Physical connectivity encompasses transport, information communications technology (ICT) and energy infrastructure as well as the regulatory framework and the software necessary to deliver associated services and utilities
Physical Integration	This refers to the physical connectivity of the five provinces

	of the region through efficient and reliable network of infrastructure in the delivery of goods and services
Population density	Number of people per unit of area, usually quoted per square kilometer or square mile
Population growth rate	Rate at which the number of individuals in a population increases in a given time period
Port	A shelter harbor where marine terminal facilities are provided consisting of piers or wharves where ships berth/dock while loading or unloading cargoes and passengers
Post harvest losses	Measurable quantitative and qualitative loss in a given product
Poverty incidence	It is the proportion of families (or individuals) with per capita income expenditure less than the per capita poverty threshold to the number of families (or individuals)
Poverty threshold	It refers to minimum income/expenditure required for a family/individual to meet the basic food and non-food requirements
Protected Area Management Board (PAMB)	A decision-making body created by RA 7586, which exercises jurisdiction over a protected area within its area of responsibility
Protected Landscape/Seascape	A protected area under the NIPAS which has national significance characterized by the harmonious interaction of man, water and land while providing opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation and tourism within the normal lifestyle and economic activity of these areas
Provincial centers	Municipalities which provide urban services to adjacent towns or cluster of settlements with minimum population size of 50,000
Public Financial Management	The set of laws, rules, systems, and processes used by the government in resource mobilization and expenditure management. It is about the way government raises its income (in the form of taxes, customs duties and other revenues) and manages its expenditures to deliver essential services to its citizens in various areas (i.e., education, health care and other social programs, roads and infrastructure, the rule of law and security).
Public-private partnership	A contractual arrangement between the government and the private sector to deliver public infrastructure and/or public services.
Purchasing power of peso	Shows how much the peso in the base period is worth in the current period. It is computed as the reciprocal of the CPI for the period under review multiplied by 100

Ranking	Rankings of Cities and Municipalities are based on the sum of their scores on 3 Pillars: Economic Dynamism, Government Efficiency, and Infrastructure. Provincial rankings are based on population and income weighted average of the Overall scores of cities and municipalities under a province
Reforestation	The establishment of forest plantations on temporarily unstocked lands that are considered as forest. Also called as artificial regeneration
Regional centers	Cities in the region with population size not less than 120,000 which serve as seat of regional government administration, political and industrial center, or area with high access to basic services
Regional Government Center	A government hub designated to foster efficient and effective delivery of government services
Regional labor productivity	It is defined as GRDP per employed person in the region
Regional Power Development Plan	A plan document formulated to provide framework on the power needs and supply potentials of the region
Rehabilitation	Measures that ensure the ability of affected communities/areas to restore their normal level of functioning by rebuilding livelihood and damaged infrastructure and increasing the communities' organizational capacity (Republic Act 10121).
Renewable Energy	Energy generated from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides and geothermal heat which are renewable (naturally replenished). Renewable energy technologies range from solar power, wind power, hydroelectricity/micro hydro, biomass and biofuels for transportation
Report Card Survey	An evaluation to obtain feedback on how provisions in the Citizen's Charter are being followed and how the agency is performing. This evaluation also includes estimates of hidden costs incurred by clients to access frontline services, which may include, but are not limited to, bribes and payment to fixers.
Resiliency or Resilience	The capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend disturbance, responding, or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation (IPCC, 2014)
Right-of-way (ROW)	A type of easement granted or reserved over the land for

	transportation purposes, this can be for a highway, public footpath, canal, as well as electrical transmission lines, oil and gas pipelines
Risk Assessment	A methodology used to determine the nature and extent of risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihood, and the environment on which they depend (RA 10121, 2010)
RORO (Roll-On/Roll-Off)	This refers to vessels designed to carry wheeled cargo such as cars, trucks, and semi-trailer trucks that are driven on and off the ship. It has built-in or shore based ramps that allow cargo to be efficiently rolled on and off the vessel when in port
RORO route	A term used to refer to the lane at sea that is regularly used as vessels' path from point of origin to destination
Rule of law	A principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the state itself, are accountable to laws
Sanitary Landfill	A waste disposal site designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in a manner that exerts engineering control over significant potential environmental impacts arising from the development and operation of the facility
Seal of Good Local Governance	A mechanism that monitors and recognizes adherence of local government units to performance criteria on any of the following areas: good financial housekeeping, disaster preparedness, social protection for the basic sector, business friendliness and competitiveness, environmental compliance, and law and order and public safety. This used to be referred to as the Seal of Good Housekeeping.
Seedling	Nursery grown planting material smaller than 5 centimeters in diameter developed out of a seed
Social Infrastructure	This is part of the infrastructure sector which includes structures and facilities that accommodate social services such as health, nutrition, education, and housing
Social services	Education, manpower development, health, housing and social security and welfare services.
Solid Waste	Discarded household, commercial, institutional and industrial materials, street sweepings, construction debris, agricultural refuse, and other non-hazardous/non-toxic solid excess
Solid Waste Management	Discipline associated with the control of generation, storage, collection, transfer and transport, processing, and disposal of solid wastes in a manner that is in accord with the best

	principles of public health, economics, engineering, conservation, aesthetics, and other environmental considerations, and that is also responsive to public attitudes
Spatial Development Framework	It is a framework that seeks to guide, overall spatial distribution of current and desirable land uses within a region in order to give effect to the vision, goals and objectives and harmonize its inter regional development potentials/advantages. It outlines the strategies to be pursued to realize socio economic development
Sub-regional centers	Large settlements which complement the regional centers and provide urban services to neighboring provincial and town centers
Subsistence incidence	It is the proportion of families (or individuals) with per capita income/expenditure less than the per capita food threshold to the number of families (or individuals)
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
Sustainable Forest Management	The process of managing a forest to achieve one or more clearly specified objectives of management with regard to production of a continuous flow of desired forest products and services without undue reduction of its inherent values and future productivity and without undesirable effects on the physical and social environment
Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP)	A government flagship poverty-alleviation project implemented by the DSWD through the financial support of the World Bank
Technology business incubation	A specific type of business incubator – a property-based venture that provides tangible and intangible services to new technology-based firms, entrepreneurs, and spin-offs of universities and large firms, all with the aim of helping them increase their chances of survival and generate wealth and jobs and diffuse technology.
Technology transfer	The process by which one party systematically transfers to another party the knowledge for the manufacture of a product, the application of a process, or rendering of a service, which may involve the transfer, assignment or licensing of Intellectual Property Rights.
Technopreneur	A new age entrepreneur who makes use of technology to come out with something new to make some innovation. Once the person succeeds in it, he exploits his achievement in the market to make money.

Temporary Bridge	Bridges made from modular basic components that can be moved by medium or light machinery. They are usually used in military engineering or in circumstances when fixed bridges are repaired
Threatened Species	A general term to denote species or subspecies considered as critically endangered, vulnerable or other accepted categories of wildlife whose population is at risk of extinction
Tourism Circuit	A route on which at least three major tourist destinations are located and none of these are in the same town or city (e.g. Coron-San Jose-Bulalacao-Caticlan). At the same time they are not separated by a long distance. It should have well defined entry and exit points
Tourism driven agricultural development	A strategy adopted for the RDP MIMAROPA prioritizing development of agriculture and tourism
Tourism Road	It refers to roads leading to tourism areas
Transparency Seal	The mandatory disclosure of key budget and major plans of national government agencies (statement of allotment, obligation and balances; disbursement and income; procurement plans) in their respective websites
Transport Infrastructure	It refers to the framework that supports the national/regional transport system. This includes water, air, and land transports
Underemployed	Underemployed persons include all employed persons who express the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours. Visibly underemployed persons are those who work for less than 40 hours during the reference period and want additional hours of work.
Unemployed	Unemployed persons include all those who, during the reference period are 15 years old and over as of their last birthday who have no job/business and actively looking for work. Also considered as unemployed are persons without a job or business who are reported not looking for work because of their belief that no work was available or because of temporary illness/disability, bad weather, pending job application or waiting for job interview.
Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992	An act that was formulated to provide for a comprehensive and continuing urban development and housing program.
Value chain	The full range of activities that are required to bring a product or service from conception, through the different phases of production (involving a combination of physical transformation and the input of various producer services),

	delivery to final consumers, and final disposal after use.
Value chain analysis	A strategy tool used to analyze internal firm activities. Its goal is to recognize, which activities are the most valuable (i.e. are the source of cost or differentiation advantage) to the firm and which ones could be improved to provide competitive advantage
Vulnerability	The characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard. Vulnerability may arise from various physical, social, economic, and environmental factors such as poor design and construction of buildings, inadequate protection of assets, lack of public information and awareness, limited official recognition of risks and preparedness measures, and disregard for wise environmental management. (RA 10121, 2010; UNISDR, 2007)
Vulnerable	Households confronted by ex-ante risk that, if they are currently non-poor, will fall below the poverty line, or if they are currently poor, will remain in poverty. It is also defined in terms of exposure to adverse shocks to welfare and not only in terms of exposure to poverty (NEDA-SDC, 2007)
Vulnerable Species	Species or subspecies that is not critically endangered nor endangered but is under threat from adverse factors throughout their range and is likely to move to the endangered category in the near future
Water Quality	The characteristics of water which define its use in terms of physical, chemical, biological, bacteriological or radiological characteristics by which the acceptability of water is evaluated
Water Quality Management Areas	Designated sites, pursuant to Republic Act 9275, which uses appropriate physiographic units such as watershed, river basins or water resources regions. The objective of the designation is to protect, through stakeholder collaborations, the water body and its tributaries by keeping their water quality within the Water Quality Guidelines or Criteria conforming to the water body's classification or even improve the quality to higher classification (e.g., from C to B or SC to SB)
Water Resources	Refers to the quality and quantity of water produced naturally as one of the Earth's major resources
Watershed	(1) A land area drained by a stream fixed body of water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface-runoff.

	(2) A land area drained by a stream or fixed body of water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface-runoff Also basin, catchments
Watershed Management	The process of guiding and organizing land and other resource uses in a watershed to provide desired goods and services without adversely affecting soil and water resources
Wetlands	An area of marsh, fen, peat land or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt including areas of marine water, with depth not exceeding during low tide
Wildlife	All wild species of plants and animals.
Wildlife Sanctuary	A protected area under the NIPAS which assures the natural conditions necessary to protect nationally significant species, groups of species, biotic communities or physical features of the environment where these may require specific human manipulations for their perpetuation

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MIMAROPA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2022

Published by:

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