

RoLMin conducts capacity-building training for IP leaders in Mt. Apo to improve their access to justice

Indigenous Peoples (IP) leaders in the Mount Apo Natural Park (MANP) were trained in just and responsible handling of land-related complaints resolution. This training, held on April 11-12 in Digos City, was part of the capacity-building initiative of the Promotion of the Rule of Law (RoLMin) project by GIZ, aimed at enhancing the access to justice of communities surrounding MANP.

A total of 26 IP leaders and ADMO officers from the Bagobo Tagabawa community in Marilog district and Davao del Sur participated in the 2-day event.

The training covered sessions on basic conflict resolution techniques, complaint documentation and recording, and complaint processes, among other topics.

This activity is part of a series of training sessions for local complaint bodies, including IP leaders, Barangay Lupon Tagapamayapa, and Human Rights Action Centers. Its goal is to enhance the effectiveness of local complaint resolution structures and processes in addressing land-related disputes and complaints.

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GIZ collaborates with DOJ to enhance partners Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) skills.

As part of RoLMin's capacity-building initiative for officials in Mt Apo Natural Park, officials from partner agencies such as DENR, NCIP, DILG, CHR, and LGUs of the project sites underwent a course on mediation and conciliation. The certification training, attended by 40 participants, aimed to equip the local officials with practical knowledge on mediation and conciliation to enhance their capacities in handling land-related conflicts. Aligned with the project's focus on women, the training also integrated a gender-sensitive approach to mediation and conciliation. The training was supported by the Department of Justice (DOJ) with the participation of Undersecretary Irene De Torres Alogoc of the Office for Alternative Dispute Resolution (OADR).

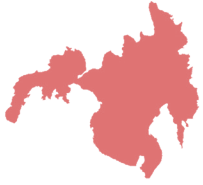
This activity supports one of the components of the project on expanding and promoting the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) to contribute to the peacebuilding initiatives of GIZ in the Davao region, specifically in MANP. Promotion of ADRs is important in the context of improving access to justice, as this provides community members with more venues where they can escalate complaints.

The 6-day training, which ran from April 22nd to April 27th, marked the first phase of the activity, with the second phase aiming to capacitate local complaint bodies including the indigenous political structure (IPS) with integrated community ADR, providing more needs-based and context-specific training on conflict resolution.

RoLMin, DOJ-OADR and DENR-LMB joint courtesy visit to LGU Davao City

On 23 April 2024, RoLMin Principal Advisor Christina Rentzmann, DOJ-OADR OIC Director, Training, Accreditation, and Promotion Service (TAPS) Director Reinalyne Vidallon-Varias and DENR-LMB Director, Atty. Talabis had a courtesy meeting with Davao City Acting City Administrator/City Legal Officer Atty. Francis Mark H. Layog. The team explained about the Comprehensive Course on Mediation and Conciliation participated by national government agencies (DENR, NCIP, DILG, DOJ and LGUs) conducted in Davao City. RoLMin gave an update on the different capacity development interventions carried out, particularly those involving Barangays Daliaon Plantation and Sibulan, Davao City. The meeting aimed to strengthen the partnership with LGU Davao City and explore possible activities for collaboration.





RoLMin supports multi stakeholders review of the enhanced FPIC guidelines



“*Sa lahat ng ginagawa nating ito, sa IP tayo (core to all of what we are doing, we are for the IPs)*”

-NCIP Commissioner George Largado, Regions 6,7, & 4B

Indeed, a good reminder that all of the policy consultations and discussions of development agendas and investments in the ancestral domains should always be done with and for the indigenous peoples.

Around 200 participants coming from the development sector, government, academe, civil society organizations, mining industry and energy sector engaged in the consultative review of the enhanced Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines. Held in Camelot Hotel in Quezon City, last 14 May, each sector was eager to put forward their inputs to enhance the current FPIC guidelines, central to which is the preservation and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands and cultural heritage.

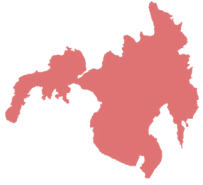
More than a decade after, the last review of the guidelines was in 2012. The realities on the ground affecting the 6 million indigenous peoples and their ancestral domains and the emerging development trends call for the need to revisit the policy. The consultation aimed at deepening the understanding on the enhanced policy, identifying facilitating and hindering factors in the implementation based on distinct experiences and perspectives and, crafting key suggestions for the enhanced FPIC guidelines.

The enhanced guidelines included provisions for timelines, certification, documentary requirements and processes, roles and responsibilities of NCIP personnel, ICCs/IPs proponent, decision making, grievance and monitoring mechanisms, reports submission templates, negotiation and MOA, and parallel review and remedies on the pending issuance of certificate of preconditions (CP) and sanctions.

The inclusion of the role of women and youth in the FPIC processes was highlighted in the enhanced version of the FPIC guidelines.

The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) announced that the final draft of the enhanced guidelines will be completed by June 2024. All NCIP Commissioners were present, headed by its Chair Commissioner Pinky Sibuglas-Lao.

Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC), recognizes indigenous peoples' rights to their lands and resources, and stipulates that an equal and respectful relationship, based on the principle of consent, shall be observed when third parties – companies, government or individuals – enter into indigenous peoples' lands.



Barangay Based Complaint Bodies in Mt. Apo Learn Basics in Responsible Resolution of Land Disputes

The Promotion of The Rule Law in Mindanao (RoLMin) Project of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), NCIP, DOJ, DILG, and CHR, launched a roll-out training for members of Lupong Tagapamayapa and Barangay Human Rights Action Center on just and responsible handling of complaints and resolution of local disputes related to Land in the initial eight (8) selected barangays within Mt. Apo Natural Park in the Davao region.

The training aims to strengthen the capacities of Punong Barangay, Barangay Council members, Lupong Tagapamayapa, and Barangay Human Rights Action Team members to appreciate and articulate their roles, understand the rules and procedures, and recognize the effects of their barangay justice system. Additionally, the training seeks to help participants better understand and apply mechanisms to assist affected communities in upholding human rights and accessing justice through conflict resolution platforms.

The two-day training sessions covered topics such as Identity and Perception, Basics of Peace and Conflict, Conflict Analysis, Conflict Resolution Skills, Land Conflict Simulation, and Land Conflict Resolution Action Planning. Reflection, briefing, and debriefing sessions were also included. Participants completed pre-tests and post-tests to assess their learning.

A total of eighty-nine (89) participants from Barangay Sibulan and Daliaon Plantation in Davao City, Sinoron and Sibulan in Sta. Cruz, and Managa in Bansalan, Davao del Sur, attended the training series from April 16 to April 30, 2024.



UPCOMING EVENT

**15-19 July 2024:
INTEGRATED COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
RESOLUTION**

This is a 40-hour training for the beneficiary barangays and IP communities, aiming to develop more harmonious procedure and processes in resolving conflicts, focusing on ADR concepts, principles, and mechanisms, as well as other customary dispute resolution systems of these communities. The pilot run of the program intends to develop the prototype training design for community ADR, highlighting the interface between indigenous ADR practices and those provided under the Katarungang Pambarangay (KP) Law.