



CHED CARAGA IN ACTION: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 3RD QUARTER 2024

CHEDRO Caraga Provides Services, Welcomes CHED Chairman Dr. J Prospero E. De Vera III During The Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat Program in Agusan Del Norte

CHED Chairperson Dr. J. Prospero “Popoy” E. De Vera III visited Agusan Del Norte to represent President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. at the Handog ng Pangulo: Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat Program held at Panaytayon Elementary School, RTR, Agusan Del Norte on September 13, 2024.

The program, which was launched on President Marcos’s birthday, aimed to make government services more accessible to the public through a simultaneous distribution of government assistance by national line agencies across the country, as well as through the introduction of starter programs, training, and assistance.

CHED Caraga also provided services to the public through a Higher Education Booth during the event where personnel responded to inquiries regarding scholarship and grants-in-aid programs.

During Chairman De Vera’s keynote speech he announced the directive of President Marcos to award additional 200 Tulong Dunong Program slots for higher education students in the Agusan Del Norte province, an announcement that was met with thunderous applause.

A ceremonial awarding of various government assistance programs was also conducted, including the awarding of a ceremonial check to the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) grantees of Northern Mindanao Colleges, Inc. amounting to PHP 3,211,800.00. The chairman was joined in awarding these benefits by Agusan Del Norte Provincial Governor Hon. Maria Angelica Rosedell M. Amante, Vice Governor, Hon. Enrico R. Corvera, the Agusan Del Norte Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members, Municipal Mayor Hon. Richard Daquipil, Municipal Vice Mayor Hon. Eleuterio D. Enriquez, and members of the Sangguniang Bayan of RTR.

Also joining the chairman in this event were the Presidents of four (4) State Universities and Colleges of Caraga Region: Dr. Joy C. Capistrano, President of Agusan Del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT), Dr. Rolyn C. Daguil, President of Caraga State University (CSU); Dr. Nemesio G. Loayon, President of North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU); and Dr. Alma S. Patron, OIC President of Surigao Del Norte State University (SNSU) and OIC Regional Director of CHED Caraga.

Earlier in the morning the chairman was welcomed upon his arrival by Dr. Patron and the Caraga Higher Education Institutions' Association of Presidents and Heads (CHEIAPH) at Bancasi Airport.



Application for ACEF-GIAHEP for AY 2024-2025 Opened

Applications for the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund - Grants-In-Aid for Higher Education Programs (ACEF-GIAHEP) for AY 2024-2025 were opened on July 2024. Interested applicants were directed to apply through the CHED Caraga Scholarship Portal via this website:

This grants-in-aid program is open to qualified and deserving undergraduate students who will enroll or are currently enrolled in any CHED recognized higher education institution in the areas of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, veterinary medicine education, and related agricultural education programs. There were 37 slots allocated for the Caraga region for ACEF-GIAHEP grantees.

The full guidelines for eligibility and the requirements needed to apply can be found in the application portal through the link provided above.

The application period was open from July 9, 2024 until August 15, 2024 only. For more information, please send us an email at chedcaragastufaps@ched.gov.ph or contact us at 0912-089-2045 (mobile) / (085) 815-3698 (landline).

CHED Caraga Participates in the Accessibility Audit in Celebration of the National Disability Rights Week 2024

On July 12, 2024, the Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) voluntarily participated in an Accessibility Audit conducted by the Department of Social Welfare And Development - Caraga Regional Office (DSWD Caraga), the Department of Public Works and Highways - Caraga Regional Office (DPWH Caraga), and the DPWH Butuan City District Engineering Office (DPWH BCDEO) as one of the activities held in celebration of the National Disability Rights Week 2024.

CHED Caraga is committed in welcoming the recommendations of the partner agencies as its guide towards improving the accessibility of the Office facilities and services to Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in compliance with the Batas Pambansa Blg. 344 or the Accessibility Law.

The Office expresses its thanks and appreciation to the DSWD Caraga, DPWH Caraga, DPWH BCDEO, and the Caraga Regional Council on Disability Affairs (RCDA) for making this audit possible.







ACEF - GIAHEP

“Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund
Grants-In-Aid For Higher Education Program”

ONLINE APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN 37 SLOTS ONLY

APPLICATION PERIOD: JULY 9, 2024 - AUGUST 15, 2024

Visit chedcaraga.ph and
click **ACEF-GIAHEP** under the **ONLINE SERVICES TAB** to apply

 0912-089-2045
  (0850) 815-3698
  chedcaragastufaps@ched.gov.ph





CHED Caraga Attends Mindanao Cluster Reorientation on the Scholarship for Coconut Farmers and Their Families

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) successfully conducted a cluster reorientation on the Scholarship Program for Coconut Farmers and Their Families (CoScho) last August 9, 2024. Held at the Farm at Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City, South Cotabato, the event aimed to refresh the stakeholders' understanding of the program's guidelines and address implementation challenges.

Hosted by the CHED Region 12 Office, the reorientation brought together representatives from the CHED Regional Offices in Mindanao and their partner Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). All eight (8) participating HEIs from CHED Caraga - Saint Vincent de Paul Diocesan College (SVPDC), Saint Michael College of Caraga (SMCC), Caraga State University Main and Cabadbaran City campuses (CSU), North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU) Main and Lianga campuses, Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT), and Surigao del Norte State University Main Campus (SNSU Main) - were present.

The event aligned with Republic Act 7722, or the Higher Education Act of 1994, and Republic Act 11524, or the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act, as well as the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP). Ms. Cynthia Q. Hernandez, OIC Chief Education Program Specialist of the Office of Student Development and Services (OSDS), provided a comprehensive overview of the CoScho program's implementing guidelines. An open forum followed to clarify concerns on coconut farmers' qualifications, documentary requirements, and eligibility criteria.

With the successful conduct of this reorientation, CHED and its partners reaffirm their commitment to empowering coconut farmers and their families through accessible and quality higher education. By addressing challenges, the CoScho Program is a vital step towards a more prosperous and sustainable coconut industry.

CHED Caraga extends its sincerest gratitude to CHEDRO XII for their warm hospitality and to the eight (8) HEIs from Caraga for their support and active participation in this endeavor.



CHED Caraga Conducts Mid-Year Assessment and Planning for Fiscal Year 2024

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) embarked on a two-day Mid-Year Assessment and Planning activity for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 on August 6 and 7, 2024 at the Watergate Hotel Convention Hall C, Butuan City.

The activity was organized with the active participation of the top management of the office, headed by OIC Regional Director Dr. Alma S. Patron, as well as the heads and focal persons of the various CHED Caraga units. An assessment and review of the office's performance report for the first semester of the fiscal year was conducted, followed by a workshop to identify areas for improvement and strategic action plans to be implemented for the remainder of the fiscal year. The workshop outputs were presented by each focal person for review and additional comments of the body.

CHED Caraga Participates in the 2nd Caraga Coconut Festival Kick-Off

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) joined the kick-off of the week-long 2nd Caraga Coconut Festival on August 12, 2024 at Robinsons Place, Butuan City. The festival, organized by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Caraga Regional Office, in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and other Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) implementing agencies, aims to boost the region's coconut industry through product demonstrations and selling fairs.

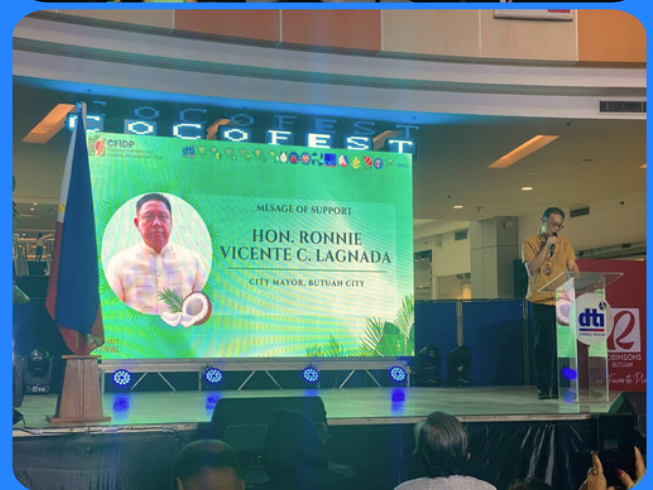
Among the event participants of the 2nd Caraga Coconut Festival included the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), and Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), among others. Representing CHED Caraga were Dr. Alma S. Patron, Phd, RSW, OIC of the Office of the Director IV; Ms. Noeme Rose D. Mani, CPA, MM, Supervising Education Program Specialist; and Ms. Kate Russel B. Militante, Support Staff for the Scholarship for Coconut Farmers and Their Families (CoScho).

DTI Caraga Regional Director Gay Tidalgo, CESO IV, extended a warm welcome to the attendees and delivered an inspiring message. She emphasized the coconut industry's significance as a vital source of livelihood for many Caraganon families, empowering them to improve their lives. Emphasizing the coconut tree's versatility, she explained that every part, from its roots to its leaves, can be beneficial with the right tools and skills.

The Regional Manager of PCA Caraga, Mr. Joel B. Oclarit, gave his message of support by announcing plans to plant dwarf coconut trees, which offer a faster growth cycle. Several prominent figures, including Hon. Ronnie Vicente C. Lagnada, Mayor of Butuan City, represented by Hon. Joseph Omar O. Andaya, City Counselor of LGU Butuan; Hon. Ma. Angelica Rosedell M. Amante, Governor of Agusan del Norte, represented by Provincial Administrator Elizabeth Marie R. Calo; and Samuel Roculas, Chairperson of the Coconut Farmer Federation in Caraga, also conveyed their support for the implementing agencies of the CFIDP and their efforts to assist the industry.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the CFIDP solidarity group photo is a product demonstration and presentation that highlighted a diverse array of offerings from several provinces, including Surigao del Sur and the Dinagat Islands.

The 2nd Caraga Coconut Festival once again reaffirmed its commitment to promoting the coconut industry, fostering opportunities, and driving innovation that benefit the region and the country.



DBM Secretary Amenah F. Pangandaman Meets With Caraga SUC Presidents

On August 30, 2024 the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah F. Pangandaman was welcomed and greeted by the Presidents of the four (4) State Universities and Colleges in Caraga Region during a courtesy meeting conducted at the DBM Caraga Regional Office, Butuan City.

Sec. Pangandaman and the Undersecretaries of DBM met with Agusan Del Sur State College (ASSCAT) President Dr. Joy Capistrano, Caraga State University (CSU) President Dr. Rolyn Daguil, North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU) President Dr. Nemesio Loayon, and Surigao Del Norte State University (SNSU) OIC President Dr. Alma Patron, who is also the OIC Regional Director of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Caraga.

The DBM Secretary visited Butuan City to speak during the OGPinas! Nationwide Advocacy Campaign, a multi-agency initiative by DBM in collaboration with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Caraga.

Photo credits: DBM Facebook Page



CHED Caraga Engages Youth at OportYOUTHnidad Caravan During Linggo ng Kabataan Celebration 2024

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Caraga Regional Office participated in the OportYOUTHnidad Caravan held at Robinsons Place Butuan City on August 23, 2024. Conducted as part of the celebration of the Linggo ng Kabataan, this event brought together various national government agencies through the creation of a platform that offers a wide range of services aimed at empowering and supporting the youth.

The caravan provided a valuable opportunity to connect directly with the higher education community. At the CHED Caraga booth, representatives were able to offer essential information on the various scholarship programs of CHED, the grants-in-aid programs of the Unified Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education Act (UniFAST), and diverse academic pathways to the inquiring public. The objective in providing services through the CHED Caraga booth was to equip the youth with the knowledge necessary to pursue higher education and achieve their dreams through the various programs and services offered by CHED and its attached agencies.





CHED Caraga Conducts Joint Monitoring of SUCs LUDIP with DBM Caraga

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) joined the Department of Budget and Management Caraga Regional Office (DBM Caraga) in the conduct of a series of joint monitoring activities of ongoing infrastructure projects of the four (4) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the Caraga region according to the SUCs' approved Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan (LUDIP). The onsite monitoring activities were conducted from September 18 to 25, 2024 and were held onsite at the campuses of the SUCs.

The following four (4) SUCs monitored: Caraga State University (CSU) on September 18, 2024, Surigao Del Norte State University (SNSU) on September 20, 2024, Agusan Del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT) on September 23, 2024, and North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU) on September 24-25, 2024. The monitoring team was led by its respective agency heads, DBM Caraga Regional Director Dr. Maria Fe D. Jagna, CESO III and OIC CHED Caraga Regional Director Dr. Alma S. Patron, PhD, RSW.



- The objectives for the monitoring were as follows:
- Thorough inspections of ongoing infrastructure projects to monitor compliance with timelines and budget allocations;
 - Validate the completion status of infrastructure projects to confirm that they have been executed according to the approved specifications and within the allocated budget, and assess its functionality and usability to ensure they meet the intended objectives and serve the needs of students and staff effectively;
 - Review and assess the proposed priority projects for the upcoming budget years to ensure they align with the LUDIP of the SUCs and provide recommendations based on current and completed project evaluations to guide the prioritization and allocation of funds for future infrastructure developments; and
 - Establish a work-in-progress compendium that consolidates information on all infrastructure projects within the SUC.



CHED Caraga Conducts Orientation on Transnational Higher Education in the Context of Tourism and Hospitality Education

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga), in cooperation with the Caraga Council of Tourism Deans and Educators (CCTDE), conducted an orientation on the Transnational Higher Education in the Context of Tourism and Hospitality Education on September 26, 2024 at Balanghai Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City.

The seminar was attended by the deans and educators of various tourism and hospitality programs of 16 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the region, all of which were acknowledged and recognized by CCTDE President Dr. Celso E. Felipe Jr. and welcomed by CHED Caraga Chief Education Program Specialist Dr. Julia Felisa C. Martinez.

The orientation proper was delivered by Project Technical Staff III for Internationalization Ms. Kershey Reign E. Dueñas, who discussed the salient provisions of the Republic Act. No. 11448 or the Transnational Higher Education (TNHE) Law, and other related issuances and programs. Representing the Regional Focal Person for Internationalization, Education Supervisor II Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, she also discussed the Philippine Internationalization Roadmap and the Ways Forward for Caraga HEIs with tourism and hospitality programs.

Dr. Gloria Baken Wong Siy, President Emeritus and National Lead Trainer for the Association of Administrators in the Hospitality, Hotel and Restaurant Management Educational Institutions (AAHRMEI), served as the guest speaker for the activity. She discussed the Perspectives on Internationalization in the Context of Tourism and Hospitality Education as a seasoned expert in the tourism education sector.

The Regional Office through its TNHE unit extends its gratitude to the CCTDE for its support and coordination in the conduct of the activity.

