

DENR partners with 5 LGUs to fasttrack land titling in Northern Mindanao □



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) continues to forge partnerships with local government units (LGUs) in Northern Mindanao, particularly Lanao del Norte and Misamis Oriental, to fasttrack land titling in the said provinces.

DENR-Region 10 Executive Director Ruth M. Tawantawan identified the new five LGUs that signed a memorandum of partnership agreement (MOPA) with the regional office to undertake land titling activities to include the municipalities of Lala, Kolambugan, Kauswagan and Tubod, all of Lanao del Norte, and Gitagum town of Misamis Oriental.

Tawantawan told DENR Secretary Ramon J. P. Paje in her report that the new partnerships bring to 15 the number of LGUs that have responded positively to the call of the department for joint effort to bring land services to communities through MOPA.

The LGUs that earlier signed MOPAs with the DENR-Region 10 include five in Bukidnon, namely the towns of Maramag, Don Carlos, Quezon, Sumilao and Impasug-ong; three in Lanao del Norte such as Kapatagan, Linamon and Bacolog; one in Camiguin which is Mambajao and Cagayan de Oro City.

Tawantawan said the signing of the MOPAs was in consonance with DENR Administrative Order No. 2011-06 which seeks to facilitate the implementation of public land titling in partnership with local government.

Under the order, the LGU shall assign necessary officials and personnel required to undertake land titling activities, including a liaison officer between the municipality and the DENR. The DENR, on the other hand, shall provide technical assistance to the LGU personnel, as well as materials, equipment and personnel needed to undertake agreed activities. It is also expected to provide monitoring and quick response-assistance to the municipality in all phases of titling activities.

“We have already conducted a series of orientation on DAO 2011-06, as well as training on land laws and policies, land surveys and disposition, community mobilization and land adjudication which were participated in by personnel of LGUs, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders. But just the same, we mobilize our personnel from the Land Management Service to assist the LGUs so that we both realize the objectives of the program on land disposition,” Tawantawan explained.

She also said that not only the landowners would benefit from the program but also the LGUs in terms of revenue generation.

Also mandated to provide support to the land titling activities are land personnel from the DENR's provincial and community environment and natural resources offices, according to her.