

CFO Conducts M&D Mainstreaming in the Province of Aklan



As part of its advocacy in mainstreaming migration and development at the local level, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas in partnership with the National Economic and Development Authority Region VI and Western Visayas League of Local Planning and Development Coordinators, conducted a three day capacity building on M&D mainstreaming in select LGUs in the Province of Aklan. Data from the CFO shows that the top three municipalities with the most number of permanent migrants came from the municipalities of Kalibo, Banga and Numancia.



The training and strategic planning is part of the series of activities under the Migration and Development Initiative-Western Visayas, a project which is funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation and currently being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme, NEDA VI, and CFO under the able leadership of Secretary Imelda M. Nicolas. It aims to capacitate key LGU officers (Planning and development coordinators, and social welfare, public employment service, investment, tourism, and GAD officers), local practitioners and stakeholders in institutionalizing M&D initiatives in their respective localities.

The officers from the CFO Marie Apattad, Andrea Anolin and Frenzel Tingga led the training with a series of lectures and workshops covering M&D 101, the Local Guide to Mainstreaming M&D, Problem Tree / Fishbone Analysis on the Major Issues and Challenges in Mainstreaming M&D, M&D Stakeholder Analysis, Best Practices of LGUs in the Philippines with M&D Initiatives, Development of M&D Local

Organizational Structure and Responsive Programs and Services, Resource Mobilization, and Managing Migration Resource Centers or Migrant Help Desk.



The participating LGUs came from the Provincial Government of Aklan, Municipal governments of Kalibo, Numancia, Lezo, Batan, Altavas, and Ibajay. Other local partners who joined the activity include representatives from TESDA, DTI, DepEd, and the Provincial Hospital.

The activity was a good mapping exercise in identifying the existing programs and services of the LGUs in their respective localities, and surfacing issues and challenges faced by the LGUs in mainstreaming M&D such as lack of or unmined data of households with migrant family members at the local level, lack of funding support in some LGUs, and lack of full awareness on the issues and opportunities brought about by migration, among others. It was also a good opportunity for the LGUs and stakeholders to network with one another.



Among the seven LGUs which participated, only Aklan and Kalibo have so far instituted an Executive Order in the creation of M&D Technical Working Group. The other LGUs committed that they will also champion M&D for the benefit of their migrant constituents. Other partners, particularly DepEd,

promised that they would assist in data gathering since they could monitor students who belong to families of migrants.

The CFO officers also got the chance to visit the future venue of the migrants desk that will soon be established in the Provincial Government of Aklan.



After the successful conduct of the activity, a Financial Literacy Training for the LGUs and migrant stakeholders to be conducted by the CFO is slated this coming April 2016.