

IVISION OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

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March 27, 2018

DIVISION MEMORANDUM No. 201; s. 2018

GAWAD KALASAG SEARCH

TO

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

SGOD and CID Chief, Education Program Supervisors/Division Coordinators

Section Heads / Education Programs Specialist Public Schools District Supervisors/Districts-In-Charge

Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

District DRRM Coordinators/Alternates/School DRRM Coordinators

- 1. Enclosed is a copy of RDRRMC Unnumbered Memorandum dated 26 February 2018 entitled: "GAWAD KALASAG SEARCH", for information and guidance of all concerned.
- 2. The search promotes the spirit of volunteerism among agencies and individuals and measures the capacity and capability of various stakeholders in identifying risk and vulnerabilities in the community, and addressing challenges on man-made and natural emergencies and disasters.
- 3. All elementary and secondary schools, both public and private are eligible to join and are encouraged to participate in this laudable program, spearheaded by the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management through National Disaster Risk Reeducation and Management.
- 4. In view hereof, all District DRRM Coordinators and Alternates are requested to conduct evaluations of schools in your district and submit one (1) nominee to the Division Office. For school to qualify, it must gamer at least a minimum score of 80%. The District nominee shall submit hardcopy to the Division Office of the relevant evidential documents in chronological order in accordance with the standard checklist appended in this Memorandum and email the softcopy of the documents to joseph.gemina@deped.gov.ph.
- 5. Submission of the District nominee to the Division Office shall not be later than April 12, 2018.
- 6. Attached is the Guidelines and Criteria for your reference. For further information, please contact Mr. Joseph R. Gemina, PDO II - DRRM at 09279651919 or at (035) 225-6180
- 7. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

ANO T. JIMENEZ, CESO VI

OIC - Assistant Regional Director

Concurrent Schools Division Superintendent



Republic of the Philippines REGIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNC

Region VII

Labrador Bldg., N. Bacalso Ave., Brgy. Sambag 1, Cebu City Teffax (032) 410-6451-410-6452 Email Address: civildefense_rc7@yahoo.com

FOR

RDRRMC-7 members:

DILG DEPED DSWD BFP PNP CHED DOH.

CentCom, AFP

FROM

Chairperson, RDRRMC Central Visayas

SUBJECT

GAWAD KALASAG Search

DATE

26 Fahrung 2010

DATE

26 February 2018

Greetings!

Please be informed that the Office of Civil Defense is now accepting entries for the "GAWAD KALASAG (KAlamidad at Sakuna LAbanan, SAriling Galing ang Kaligtasan)": Search for Excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) and Humanitarian Assistance

The annual Gawad KALASAG Search, spearheaded by this office through National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), aims to recognize outstanding performances of those stakeholders who have shown acts of heroism during disasters and emergencies, and continue to render exemplary contribution in promoting and implementing significant Disaser Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) programs and innovations that build community resiliency in the long term.

A Regular Selection Committee meeting was conducted last February 13, 2018 to look for strategies to promote and popularize the GAWAD KALASAG to stakeholders in the region to gain more entries.

From the foregoing, may we respectfully request you to cascade the GAWAD KALASAG in your respective Areas of Responsibility (AOR) and look for prospects that can really join the search.

| AGENCY IN-CHARGE | GAWAD KALASAG CATEGORIES |
|------------------|--|
| DILG | Barengey DRRMC City/Municipality DRRMC |
| | Provincial DRRMC |
| DSWD | → CSO |
| | ▶ Early Learning Center |
| | People's Organization |
| | ▶ Private Organization |
| | ▶ Volunteer Organization |
| BFP, AFP, PNP | ► Government Emergency Response Management (Urban SAR) |
| | ▶ Government Emergency Response Management (Basic SAR) |
| CHED | Higher Education Institution |
| DOH | ▶ Hospital |
| DEPED | > Schools |
| All agencies | Heroic Act (individual and Group) |
| _ | ➤ Special Recognition |

As agreed, the deadline of submission of entries is not later than April 15, 2018.

Should you have any queries; Ms. Tashuaria Alemania-Villaflor, designated planning officer, can be reached at 0917-703-8428 or at (032) 410-6451, 410-6452.

Attached is the checklist for each Gawad KALASAG categories for guidance and reference

Thank you very much and best regards.

DIR. CONCEPCION R. ORNOPIA, MNSA Chairperson, RDRRMC 7



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCI

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

Comprehensive School Safety Checklist Schools Category Gawad KALASAG CY 2017 NDRRMC Department of Education

| School Category, levels and classification: | | |
|---|--|--|
| Urban | | |
| Rural | | |
| | | |

| Name of School: | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | LegIslative District: |
| School ID: | Province: |
| Division: | School District: |
| Region: | Date Visited/Inspected: |
| School Address: | |

| | CRITERIA | YES | NO | Points | Remarks/ Recommendation |
|---|---|-----|----|--------|----------------------------|
| | ENABLING ENVIRONMENT | | | 23 | |
| 1 | Adopted/Adapted/localized at least 3 existing policies relating to DRRM/CCA/EiE in education/school safety | | | 3 | |
| 2 | Formed School DRRM Team, with a focal person and consisting of personnel from different offices; with defined membership and roles and responsibilities/functions | | | 2 | |
| 3 | Has a comprehensive School DRRM Plan, which includes CCA and EiE measures, covering risk assessment, risk reduction, and rehabilitation and recovery | | | 1 | |
| 4 | School budget supports regular DRRM activities | | | 2 | |
| 5 | Conducted student-led school watching and hazard mapping (DO 23 s 2015), and involved students in DRRM planning | | | 2 | |
| 6 | Incorporated results of student-led school watching and hazard mapping in the School DRRM Plan and School | | | 4 | |

| | Improvement Plan (SID) | | · · | |
|----------|---|---------------|-----|---|
| 7 | Improvement Plan (SIP) Data collection and consolidation of | | | |
| ' | 1 | | 2 | |
| | programs and activities on DRRM, covering | | 1 1 | |
| | the 3 Pillars to monitor results and impact | | | |
| <u> </u> | exist | <u> </u> | | |
| 8 | Rapid Assessment of Damages Report | | 3 | |
| | (RADAR) is submitted to Central Office, | | | ļ |
| \ | within 72 hours after the onslaught of a | | | |
| | hazard in the area | | | |
| 9 | 100% completion of DRR related questions | | 2 | } |
| | in the EMIS/EBEIS | | | |
| 10 | School has partnerships that could be | | 2 | |
| l | tapped to support its DRRM programs and | | | |
| | activities, including those during after a | | | |
| <u> </u> | disaster | | | |
| | Dillond, Oofs to a long Political | r | 7. | |
| 1 | Pillar 1: Safe Learning Facilities | | 35 | |
| 1 | School building/classroom components are | | 29 | |
| 1 | according to DepEd and/or National | | | |
| | Building Code approved standard design | | | |
| | and specifications (see criteria and |] | | |
| | checklist for Pillar 1, No. 1, for | | | |
| | corresponding points) | | | |
| 2 | School conducted risk assessment of | | 2 | |
| | buildings, in coordination with the | | | |
| | Education Facilities Division, and with | | | |
| | support of other agencies and partners | | | |
| 3 | School has taken appropriate action with | | 2 | |
| | respect to unsafe school buildings (e.g. | | | |
| | upgraded/retrofitted, non-usage, etc.) | | | |
| 4 | Undertaken regular inspection and repair of | | 1 | |
| | minor classroom (including facilities) | | | |
| <u> </u> | damages | | | |
| 5 | School Heads are clear with the roles and | | 1 | |
| | functions of the school in camp | | | |
| | management vis-à-vis the LGU and DSWD | | | |
| | as per Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, | | | |
| | series of 2013 "Guidelines on Evacuation | | | |
| | Center Coordination and Management" and RA 10821 "Children's Emergency Relief | | | |
| | and Protection Act" and its corresponding | | | |
| | IRR | | | |
| L | IIVIV | | 1 | |
| | Pillar 2: School Disaster Risk | | 30 | |
| | Management | | | |
| 1 | School has a Contingency Plan, i.e. | | 3 | |
| ' | Preparedness Plan turned into response | | | |
| | actions when a disaster strikes | | | |
| 2 | 80% of students and their families have | | 3 | |
| - | accomplished the Family Preparedness | | | |
| | Plan together (family evacuation, | | | |
| L | i lati together (tallilly evacuation, | | | |

| r | | | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------|----------|----------|
| | reunification), as per DO No. 27, series of 2015 | | | |
| 3 | School has established a school personnel | | 2 | <u> </u> |
| | and learners tracking system/protocol in the | 1 1 | | |
| | event of a disaster or emergency | 1 1 | | |
| 4 | Hazard and evacuation maps are located in | | 1 | |
| " | conspicuous places in the school | | • | |
| 5 | School has available, accessible, and | | 1 | |
| ٦ | adequate first aid kit in every instructional | | • | |
| | classroom | | | ı |
| 6 | School has at least 2 necessary and | - | 1 | |
| ١٠ | functioning equipment, in case of a disaster | | • | |
| | | | | |
| | (e.g. fire extinguisher, handheld/base radio, | | 1 | |
| 7 | generator, etc.) School conducted regular hazard-specific | | 3 | |
| ' | | | 3 | |
| | drills (at least 3 hazards) with participation | | į į | |
| | of stakeholders (BFP, Medic, LGUs, NGOs, | | į į | |
| 8 | community, PTA, alumni, and others) | | 2 | |
| 0 | School has established functional early | | 2 | |
| | warning system to inform students and | | | |
| | personnel of hazards and emergencies | | į | |
| 1 | (protocol, warning signs, devices, IEC), | | | |
| ĺ | considering national and LGU warning | | | |
| <u> </u> | systems and protocols | | | |
| 9 | School has trained personnel to administer | | 1 | |
| 40 | first aid to students and personnel | | | |
| 10 | School has pre-identified spaces for putting | | 1 | |
| | up Temporary Learning spaces/Shelters in | | l l | |
| | the aftermath of a disaster or emergency | | | |
| 11 | School has ready resumption strategies | | 2 | |
| | and alternative delivery modes to ensure | | | |
| | education continuity (strategies, materials, | | | |
| | focal persons to implement) | | | |
| 12 | School has psychosocial interventions for | | 1 | |
| 4. | personnel and students | | _ | |
| 13 | School has trained teachers and other | | 1 | |
| | personnel who could provide psychosocial | | | |
| <u> </u> | support to students | | | |
| 14 | School has an evacuation plan and | | 2 | |
| | procedures | | | |
| 15 | School has a student-family reunification | | 2 | |
| | plan that is clearly disseminated to | | ļļ | |
| | students, teachers, and parents | | | |
| 16 | School has conducted awareness and | | 3 | |
| | capacity building for families and learners | | | |
| 17 | School participated in the different | | 1 | |
| L | DRRM/CCA/EiE activities of the LGU | | | |
| | | , | | |
| | Pillar 3: DRR in Education | | 12 | |
| 1 | School has integrated key DRRM/CCA/EiE | | 5 | |
| L | concepts in at least 4 subjects based on | | | |
| | | | | |

| | the national Curriculum Guide | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 2 | More than 75% of students are actively participating in various DRRM/CCA/EiE activities | 1 | |
| 3 | School has a DRRM/CCA/EiE capacity building plan for teachers and personnel | 1 | |
| 4 | School Head and personnel have received at least 3 DRRM/CCA/EiE trainings from division or region or partners | 3 | |
| 5 | At least more than 10 DRRM/CCA/EiE resource materials are available in the school | 1 | |
| 6 | Presence of DRRM corner, with updated IEC materials posted in it, in every classroom | 1 | |

| SUMMARY SHEET | | | |
|---|--------|------------------------|--|
| CRITERIA | POINTS | Remarks/Recommendation | |
| I. Enabling Environment | 23 | | |
| II. Pillar 1: Safe Learning Facilities | 35 | | |
| III. Pillar 2: School Disaster Risk Management | 30 | | |
| IV. Pillar 3: DRR in Education | 12 | | |
| TOTAL | 100 | | |

| RATING SCHEME | | |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| Excellent | 91-100% | |
| Very Good | 81-90% | |
| Good | 71-80% | |
| Needs Improvements | 61-70% | |

| INSPECTED BY: | |
|---------------|--|
| Name: | |
| Position: | |
| Agency: | |
| Date | |
| | |
| Name: | |
| Position: | |
| Agency: | |
| Date | |
| | |
| Name: | |
| Position: | |
| Agency: | |
| Date | |



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

Comprehensive School Safety Guidance Notes Schools Category Gawad KALASAG CY 2017

| CR | ITERIA | GUIDANCE FOR POINTS |
|----|---|---|
| | Enabling Environment | 23 |
| 1 | Adopted/Adapted/localized at least 3 existing policies relating to DRRM/CCA/EiE in education/school safety | 3 or more policies adapted/localized = 3 1-2 policies adapted/localized = 1 |
| 2 | Formed School DRRM Team, with a focal person and consisting of personnel from different offices; with defined membership and roles and responsibilities/functions | Presence of all component in the criteria = 2 Absence of even 1 component in the criteria = 0 |
| 3 | Has a comprehensive School DRRM Plan, which includes CCA and EiE measures, covering risk assessment, risk reduction, and rehabilitation and recovery | Presence of all component in the criteria = 1 Absence of even 1 component in the criteria = 0 |
| 4 | School budget supports regular DRRM activities | Presence of budget allocated for DRRM activities = 2 Absence of budget allocation for DRRM activities = 0 |
| 5 | Conducted student-led school watching and hazard mapping (DO 23 s 2015), and involved students in DRRM planning | Students involved in both = 2 Students involved in either the student-led school watching and hazard mapping or DRRM planning = 0 |
| 6 | Incorporated results of student-led school watching and hazard mapping in the School DRRM Plan and SIP | Incorporated in both the DRRM Plan and SIP = 4 Incorporated only in the DRRM Plan = 1 |
| 7 | Data collection and consolidation on programs and activities on DRRM, covering the 3 Pillars to monitor results and impact exist | Presence = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 8 | Rapid Assessment of Damages Report (RADAR) is submitted to Central Office, within 72 hours after the onslaught of a hazard in the area | Submission within 72 hours after onslaught of hazard, either through SMS or other means of communication = 3 Submission beyond 72 hours after onslaught of hazard, either through SMS or other means of communication = 1 |

| 9 | 100% completion of DRR related questions in the EMIS/EBEIS | 100% completion = 2 Less than a 100% completion = 0 |
|-----|--|---|
| 10 | School has partnerships that could be tapped to support its DRRM programs and activities, including those during after a disaster | Presence of current partnerships = 2 Absence of partnership = 0 |
| | Pillar 1: Safe Learning Facilities | 35 |
| 1 | School building/classroom components are according to DepEd and/or National Building Code approved standard design and specifications (see criteria and checklist for Pillar 1, No. 1, for scoring) | See Guidance on DepEd Minimum Standards for points (29 POINTS) |
| 2 | School conducted risk assessment of buildings, in coordination with the Education Facilities Division, and with support of other agencies and partners | Presence as per the criteria = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 3 | School has taken appropriate action with respect to unsafe school buildings (e.g. upgraded/retrofitted, non-usage, etc.) | Undertaken appropriate action = 2 Absence of any appropriate action = 0 |
| 4 | Undertaken regular inspection and repair of minor classroom (including facilities) damages | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 5 | School Heads are clear with the roles and functions of the school in camp management vis-à-vis the LGU and DSWD as per Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2013 "Guidelines on Evacuation Center Coordination and Management" and RA 10821 "Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act" and its corresponding IRR | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| Pil | lar 2: School Disaster Risk Management | 30 |
| 1 | School has a Contingency Plan, i.e. Preparedness Plan turned into response actions when a disaster strikes | Presence = 3 Absence = 0 |
| 2 | 80% of students and their families have accomplished the Family Preparedness Plan together (family evacuation, reunification), as per DO No. 27, series of 2015 | 80% of students accomplished as per criteria = 3 Less than 80% of students accomplished as per criteria = 1 |
| 3 | School has established a school personnel and learners tracking system/protocol in the event of a disaster | Presence of both = 2 Absence of 1 or both = 0 |

| | or emergency | |
|----|--|--|
| 4 | Hazard and evacuation maps are located in conspicuous places in the school | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 5 | School has available, accessible, and adequate first aid kit in every instructional classroom | Presence and accessibility with basic content = 1 Basic Content: alcohol, cotton, scissor, medicine for emergencies, bandages, ammonia, gauze/band-aid, plasters, thermometer, triangular bandage, first aid book, gloves Absence of any of the criteria = 0 |
| 6 | School has at least 2 necessary and functioning equipment, in case of a disaster (e.g. fire extinguisher, handheld/base radio, generator, etc.) | Presence of at least 2 equipment as per criteria = 1 (if fire extinguisher is one of them, should follow BFP minimum standards; otherwise, it is not considered) Less than 2 = 0 |
| 7 | School conducted regular hazard-specific drills (at least 3 hazards) with participation of stakeholders (BFP, Medic, LGUs, NGOs, community, PTA, alumni, and others) | If drills dealt with at least 3 hazards in total (each drill being hazard-specific), and as per criteria = 3 If drills dealt with 1-2 hazards in total (each drill being hazard-specific) and as per criteria = 1 |
| 8 | School has established functional early warning system to inform students and personnel of hazards and emergencies (protocol, warning signs, devices, IEC), considering national and LGU warning systems and protocols | Presence = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 9 | School has trained personnel to administer first aid to students and personnel | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 10 | School has pre-identified spaces for putting up Temporary Learning spaces/Shelters in the aftermath of a disaster or emergency | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 11 | School has ready resumption strategies and alternative delivery modes to ensure education continuity (strategies, materials, focal persons to implement) | Presence = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 12 | School has psychosocial interventions for personnel and students | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 13 | School has trained teachers and other personnel who could provide psychosocial support to students | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |
| 14 | School has an evacuation plan and procedures | Presence = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 15 | School has a student-family reunification plan that is clearly disseminated to students, teachers, and parents | Presence = 2 Absence = 0 |
| 16 | School has conducted awareness and capacity building for families and learners | Four or more = 3 Less than 4 = 1 |
| 17 | School participated in the different DRRM/CCA/EiE activities of the LGU | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 |

| Pil | lar 3: DRR in Education | 12 POINTS | |
|-----|---|--|----|
| 1 | School has integrated key DRRM/CCA/EiE concepts in at least 4 subjects based on the national Curriculum Guide | Integrated in 4 or more subjects = 5 Integrated in 2-3 subjects = 3 | |
| 2 | More than 75% of students are actively participating in various DRRM/CCA/EiE activities | More than 75% of students = 1 Less than 75% of students = 0 | |
| 3 | School has a DRRM/CCA/EiE capacity building plan for teachers and personnel | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 | |
| 4 | School Head and personnel have received at least 3 DRRM/CCA/EiE trainings from division or region or partners | At least 3 DRRM/CCA/EiE trainings as per criteria = 3 Less than 3 = 1 | |
| 5 | At least more than 10 DRRM/CCA/EiE resource materials are available in the school | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 | |
| 6 | Presence of DRRM comer, with updated IEC materials posted in it, in every classroom | Presence = 1 Absence = 0 | |
| | TOTAL POINTS | 10 | 90 |

Approved and Adopted by the Joint NSC/RSCs on 08 December 2016.

Noted:

Edgardo J. Pilet, MNSA
Project Officer, Gawad KALASAG

CONFORME:

USEC. RICARDO B. JALAD Executive Officer, NDRRMC/ Administrator, OCD

"Gawad KALASAG" (KAlamidad at Sakuna LAbanan, SAriling Galing ang Kaligtasan)

HISTORY

Kalasag is the Filipino term for "shield" used by early Filipinos as a means of protection from attacks of enemies or harmful animals. Relatedly, Gawad KALASAG was conceived to encourage participation of various stakeholders in crafting and implementing Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) programs aimed at protecting or shielding high risk communities against hazards.

It is the mechanism in obtaining sustained commitment and support by recognizing exceptional contributions of DRRM practitioners in strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacities of nations and communities to disaster risks. The *Gawad* KALASAG also endeavors to promote the spirit of volunteerism among agencies and individuals in providing the much needed help during the response phase of DRRM.

DRRM practitioners include the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Coouncils (LDRRMCs) at the provincial, city, municipal and barangay levels. LDRRMCs serve as the frontliners in reducing disaster risks by mitigating, preparing, responding, and recovering from any type of disaster. Together with LDRRMCs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private and volunteer organizations, government emergency responders and other service providers are the prime contributors and major stakeholders/partners in the implementation of DRRM and humanitarian response programs.

Over the past years, our country has gained momentum in the area of disaster risk reduction. Numerous projects and activities have been undertaken by various Philippine stakeholders and agencies in DRRM. Sustaining and scaling up these activities to ripple positive changes in the lives of the people, however, have been constant challenges. It is still a fact that threats remain and disasters and its risks are still present and ever increasing.

In 2005, the international community signed a 10-year Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategy called the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan. The HFA sets out three strategic goals, namely: (a) integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning; (b) development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience against hazards; and (c) systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programs.

The HFA, moreover, outlines five priorities for action which cover the main areas of DRR. These are as follows: (a) ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation; (b) identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning; (c) use knowledge, innovation, and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels; (d) reduce the underlying risk factors; and (e) strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels. The HFA likewise suggests important areas for intervention within each theme.

The Philippine Government as a signatory to the HFA, through the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) [formerly known as the National Disaster

Coordinating Council (NDCC)], has adopted the above-mentioned strategic goals by developing and enhancing current plans, programs and activities on DRR. As a result, the Partnership for Disaster Reduction in the South East Asia Phase 4 Project (PDRSEA 4) was initiated in June 2007 with the formulation of the Philippine National Strategic Plan on community based disaster risk management (CBDRM). This plan identified activities which laid the foundation in establishing an effective system to promote CBDRM for building resilience of communities to natural disasters.

On May 27, 2010, Republic Act 10121 or the Philippine DRRM Act was passed into law. It paved the way for the need to "adopt a disaster risk reduction and management approach that is holistic, comprehensive, integrated, and proactive in lessening the socio-economic and environmental impacts of disasters including climate change, and promote the involvement and participation of all sectors and all stakeholders concerned, at all levels, especially the local community."

This Act mandates the following: development of policies and plans; implementation of actions and measures pertaining to all aspects of disaster risk reduction and management; the institutionalization of good governance; risk assessment and early warning; knowledge building and awareness raising; reduction of underlying risk factors; and preparedness for effective response and early recovery.

RA 10121 likewise mandates the formulation of a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework (NDRRMF) that was approved on June 16, 2011. The NDRRMF provides a common understanding of the different aspects of DRRM and related elements and/or factors which are to be considered in developing national and local plans and programs.

The law also mandates the development of a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan (NDRRMP) which was signed on February 7, 2012 and launched on October 10, 2012. This plan serves as the national guide on how sustainable development can be achieved through: inclusive growth; building the adaptive capacities of communities; increasing the resilience of vulnerable sectors; and optimizing disaster mitigation opportunities. It has the end in view of promoting the people's welfare and security towards a gender-responsive and a rights-based sustainable development.

Given the NDRRMF, and the NDRRMP, it is envisioned that the country will have "safer, adaptive, and disaster resilient Filipino communities towards sustainable development". This will be achieved through the four distinct yet mutually reinforcing priority areas: (a) Disaster Prevention and Mitigation; (b) Disaster Preparedness; (c) Disaster Response; and (d) Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation. Each priority area has its respective long term goal. When put together, these long term goals will lead to the attainment of our country's overall goal/vision in DRRM.

As Gawad KALASAG moves towards another year in celebrating the best practices of stakeholders in DRRM, it shall continue to incorporate the lessons learned and the innovations carried out in the past to advance the DRRM-Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) agenda under the DRRM Act of 2010. Gawad KALASAG shall forge to improve its mechanism in providing the measure and standard of excellence in DRRM and in humanitarian assistance. It shall press on to promote the people's awareness and eventual expansion of Community-Based DRRM program in the country. It shall expand further its current recognition scheme to include award categories which will encourage wider participation in promoting DRRM and CCA as indispensable requirements toward sustainable development.