



# **Region XIII: Caraga Development Plan 2004-2010**

---

Philippine Copyright © 2004  
by the National Economic and Development Authority

Printed in Davao City  
ISSN #



# Contents

Messages .....	v-viii
Foreword .....	ix
Preface .....	xi
List of Tables .....	xiii
List of Figures .....	xvi
List of Acronyms .....	xvii
Glossary of Terms .....	xxiii
RDC Resolution Adopting the Caraga Regional Development Plan 2004-2010 .....	xxvii
Executive Summary .....	xxviii

## Chapter 1 Macroeconomic Development Framework

Vision .....	1
Mission .....	1
Goal .....	1
Guiding Policies and Principles .....	2
Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities .....	3
Strategic Framework .....	14
Targets: The Macroeconomy 2004-2010 .....	17

## Chapter 2 Job Creation and Economic Growth

Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities .....	23
Strategies and Targets .....	44
Policy Reforms .....	55
Programs, Activities and Projects .....	56

## Chapter 3 Social Development and Direct Anti-poverty Measures

Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities .....	61
Strategic Framework .....	79
Programs and Projects .....	98

## Chapter 4 Physical Planning and Sustainable Management of the Environment

Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities .....	103
Strategic Framework .....	110

Policy Measures -----	115
Programs and Projects -----	115

## **Chapter 5 Infrastructure Development and Logistics Support**

Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities -----	117
Strategic Framework -----	134
Priority Programs and Projects -----	136

## **Chapter 6 Good Governance**

Regional Development Challenges and Opportunities -----	143
Strategic Framework-----	152
Projects and Programs -----	161

# Message



MALACAÑAN PALACE  
Manila

The basic task of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) for the period 2004-2010 is to fight poverty by building prosperity for the greatest number of Filipinos. The MTPDP is the roadmap through which we shall achieve the 10-Point Legacy/Agenda to create jobs, promote livelihood opportunities, strengthen the educational system, attain fiscal stability, decentralize development, intensify the delivery of public services and achieve national harmony.

As accompanying documents of the MTPDP, the Regional Development Plans (RDPs) spell out the respective regions' contribution to the achievement of the 10-point agenda. The RDPs in line with the MTPDP, contain specific strategies, programs and activities to promote regional productivity that would sustain overall economic growth.

I commend the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) for spearheading the formulation of the RDPs. But beyond the formulation of these Plans lies the more difficult task of securing their successful implementation. Given a clear vision for social and economic transformation, a synergy of efforts at the national and local levels is necessary for the fruits of development to be enjoyed in every nook and corner of our archipelago.

Our RDCs, particularly the LGUs, are in a better position to directly serve the public while encouraging the private sector and stimulating the business community into launching economic activities that bear broad economic and social returns. I ask our local executives through the RDCs to exercise leadership in the fulfillment of our medium-term goals.

The unqualified support of every sector is indispensable. Our victory over poverty rests in the effective implementation of our Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan in all of our regions. With a collective heave of political will, we shall move our country forward to new era of economic progress and political stability. It is our patriotic duty to bequeath this legacy to all Filipinos.

Thank you and God bless us all!

  
**GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

# Message



NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
Pasig City

I commend the officers and members of the Regional Development Council (RDC) for the formulation of the Medium-Term Regional Development Plan, RDP 2004-2010. This RDP serves as accompanying document of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP 2004-2010) and it presents the region's contribution in achieving the 10-point legacy of this Administration.

This plan embodies the RDC's role as prime mover of regional development. This is expected to promote economic growth and create even more jobs than what are currently being generated in the region, particularly from micro, small and medium enterprises and agribusiness. More jobs will also be generated from housing and tourism development which are likewise expected to prosper with vigorous marketing and implementation of infrastructure support.

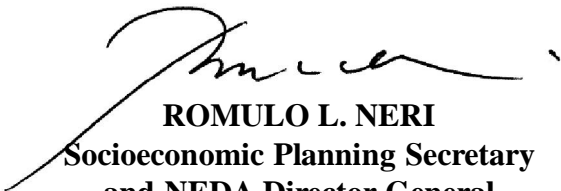
Strategic and critical infrastructure projects identified in the plan are expected to stimulate trade and investments in the region by improving the demand and supply linkages within and outside the region. The objective should be to evolve compatible linkages of production and consumption within and among regions. Linkages of this type will help the regions to grow faster as their products will find larger markets, their capital will have wider opportunities, and they will have further diversified sources for their own supplies.

Wealth creation will flourish by the sustainable use of the region's natural resources through sound investments in mining, oil and gas exploration, and renewable energy sources, especially in regions with still untapped potentials. Given the country's fragile ecosystem, the overall development efforts of the region will be complemented by specific measures to restore its environment.

The basic needs of the people in the region will be ensured through the antipoverty measures that will enhance livelihood activities, provide asset reform, improve accessibility and affordability of essential services, protect the vulnerable groups, and empower the poor.

In all these efforts, the active participation of the local government units and the private sector is deemed vital. LGU resources should be mobilized to complement or even surpass national government efforts toward growth and prosperity. On the other hand, the partnership of the local government with the business community, responsive civil organizations and all major sectors in their localities is of critical importance to create new jobs and community wealth.

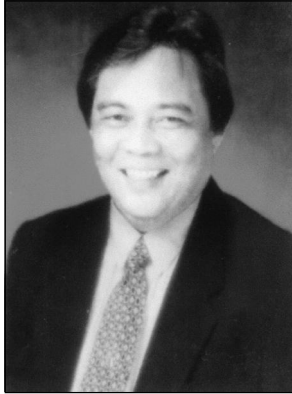
To this end, let us all work together by forging alliances and dynamic partnerships among all these major segments of society in order to ensure the successful implementation of the RDP. The challenge is now with all of us.



**ROMULO L. NERI**  
**Socioeconomic Planning Secretary**  
**and NEDA Director-General**



# Foreword



CARAGA REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
REGION XIII - Butuan City

Greetings!

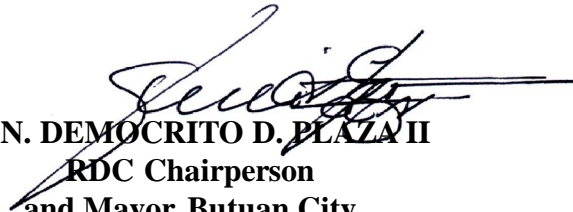
The Caraga Regional Development Plan 2005-2010 is truly a worthwhile and laudable endeavor, one that envisions a more progressive Caraga by 2010. I congratulate all those that are involved with the crafting of this plan, from the Regional Development Council secretariat, NEDA Caraga, the Local Government Units of Caraga, Regional Line Agencies, Civil Society, People's Organizations and the regional stakeholders. Truly, this is a plan all Caragans can be proud of.

It is interesting to note that the plan was finished right at the time when I am about to start performing the duties and responsibilities that comes with being the Regional Development Council Chairperson. I am humbled and challenged by the task at hand: to lead the way in making sure that the Regional Development Plan's targets and goals are achieved. All of us who call Caraga our home have a role to play in making this plan a reality, so I hope that everyone joins me towards making sure that the plan's targets and aims are realized.

President Arroyo's 10-point agenda is the cornerstone of the Caraga Regional Development Plan, which makes our plan in accord with the national priorities of the present administration. With a clear vision as articulated in the 10-point agenda of the President and the unified efforts of all the regions in the country, I am optimistic with the prospects of our country six years from now.

It is only through the combined efforts of everyone that we can make our dream for the region a reality. I hope that with Caraga Regional Development Plan as our blueprint, we can help make Caraga Region the best region in the country.

Thank you.

  
**HON. DEMOCRITO D. PLAZA II**  
**RDC Chairperson**  
**and Mayor, Butuan City**



# Preface




## CARAGA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL REGION XIII -Butuan City

Hewing closely to the directions set by the President in her inaugural address and her recent state-of-the-nation address (SONA), the Caraga Regional Development Council set into motion the region's machinery for the preparation and subsequent adoption of its 2004-2010 Regional Development Plan. Its preparation was facilitated by the dedication, commitment and enthusiasm that the region's stakeholders displayed during the varied and seemingly endless workshops, meetings, dialogues, telephone calls and internet exchanges that were conducted from August to November. Substantive inputs were generated from the local government units, regional line agencies, academe, business groups, non-government organizations, military, and the civil society in general. Without them, the formulation of the plan would not have been made possible.

As a mirror of Caraga's aspirations, the regional plan is composed of six chapters that deal with the macroeconomy, job creation and economic growth, social development, physical planning, infrastructure, and governance. Each chapter outlined the challenges and opportunities facing each sector and the strategic framework that shall be put in place to harness the opportunities and to conquer the challenges each sector faces. A brief listing of specific programs and projects is also provided in the latter part of the chapter, serving as a concrete manifestation of the strategies and measures to be adopted to promote socio-economic development in Caraga.

Our task has just begun. The region's development plan calls for the continuing commitment and active participation of all stakeholders in its implementation to ensure that it becomes a living document, a plan that exemplifies what, where and how the region wants to be six years from now. As the RDC Vice-Chairperson, I look forward to the continuing support and sustained enthusiasm of every Caragan in making our plan a reality.

With the guidance of the Divine Providence, our unified efforts and cooperation will lead us to a better Caraga, a region to reckon with in the forestry, agri-business, mining and eco-tourism sectors by 2010.

  
**CARMENCITA S. COCHINGCO**  
**RDC Vice-Chairperson**  
**and NEDA Caraga Regional Director**

# List of Tables

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>
1.1	Population of the Philippines and Caraga, CYs 1995 and 2000
1.2	Percentage Share to Philippines GNP and Mindanao GRDP, Caraga and other Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003
1.3	Ranking of Regions in Per Capita Gross Regional Domestic Product, All Regions, CYs 2002-2003
1.4	Ranking of Regions in Per Capita Gross Regional Domestic Product, Mindanao Regions, CYs 2002-2003
1.5	Annual Growth Rates in Gross Value Added (GVA) and Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) By Sector, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
1.6	Forestry Sub-sector Gross Value Added, Caraga and other Mindanao Regions, Region 7, Region 2, CYs 2001-2003
1.7	Gross Value Added Actual and Target, Caraga Region, CYs 2001-2003
1.8	Foreign Investment in the Trade and Industry Sector, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
1.9	Exports, Caraga Region, CYs 2001-2002
1.10	Labor and Employment Indicators, Caraga Region, CYs 2001-2003
1.11	Employed persons by sector, Caraga Region, CYs 1997 and 2002
1.12	Poverty Incidence Figures, Caraga Region, CYs 1997-2000
1.13	Family Income and Expenditures, Caraga Region, CYs 1997-2000
1.14	Population Projection, Caraga Region, CYs 2005-2010
1.15	Contribution to 10 million jobs target, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010
1.16	Poverty Incidence Targets, Caraga Region, CYs 2003-2010
1.17	Gross Regional Domestic Product and Gross Value Added Projections, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010
1.18	Projected Growth Rates of Gross Regional Domestic Product and Gross Value Added, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010
1.19	Projected Percentage Share of Sectors/Sub-sectors to the Gross Regional Domestic Product, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010
2.1	Palay Production By Province, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.2	Corn Production By Province, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.3	Major Permanent Crops Production, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.4	Major Temporary Crops Production, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.5	Livestock and Poultry Production By Animal, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.6	Fishery Production By Province, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003
2.7	Status of Irrigation Development in Caraga Region, 2003
2.8	Land Cover, Caraga Region, CY 2003
2.9	Annual Log Requirement in the Wood Industries By Industry, Caraga Region, CYs 2001 to 2003
2.10	Potential Production Forests, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
2.11	Summary of Caraga Region's Initial Contribution to the Administration's 10-point legacy, CYs 2004-2010
3.1	Gross Enrolment Ratio in Early Childhood Development Programmes, By Area, Caraga Region, SY 2003-2004
3.2	Number of Day Care Center, By Province and City, Caraga Region, As of December 2003

# List of Tables

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>
3.3	6-11 Years Old Population Projection, By Division, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.4	Teacher and Classroom Shortage, By Province & City, Caraga Region, SY 2000-2004
3.6	Secondary Education Participation Rate, Cohort Survival Rate and Completion Rate, By Province and City, SY 2000-20001 & 2003-2004
3.7	Higher Education Institutions, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.8	Program Offerings of HEIs, By Discipline, By Sector, Caraga Region, SY 2003-2004
3.9	Enrolment in Baccalaureate Courses, Caraga Region, SY 2003-2004
3.10	Vocational Technology Enrolment and Graduates, By Province, Caraga Region SY 2001-2002 & 2002-2003
3.11	Infant Mortality Rate By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2000 – 2003
3.12	Ten Leading Causes of Infant Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.13	Maternal Mortality Rate, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2000 – 2003
3.14	Ten Leading Causes of Maternal Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.15	Ten Leading Causes of Morbidity, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.16	Ten Leading Causes of Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.17	Nutritional Status of Pre-School Children, By Province and City, Caraga Region CY 2003
3.18	Nutritional Status of School Children, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2003
3.19	Medicare Para sa Masa Enrolment, By Province and City, Caraga Region, October CY 2004
3.20	Occupied Housing Units, Ratio of Households to Occupied Housing Units and Ratio of Household Population to Occupied Housing Units, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2000
3.21	New Units Needed Due to Backlog, By Province and City, Caraga Region, As of CY 2003
3.22	Shelter Needs Projection By Province & City, Caraga Region, CY 2010
3.23	List of Priority Barangays as Showcase for the Revised Peace Process, By Province and Municipality, Caraga Region
3.24	KALAHI-CIDSS:KKB Implementation, Caraga Region, September 2004
3.25	KALAHI-CIDSS: KKB Target Areas, By Province, Caraga Region
3.26	KALAHI Agrarian Reform Zones in Caraga Region, By Province, as of October 2004
4.1	Land Area of Production Land, By Category, Caraga Region, CY 2002
4.2	GVA in Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry, By Region, Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003
4.3	Land Area of Protection Land, By Category, Caraga Region, CY 2002
5.1	Road Density and Road Length, By Type, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003

## List of Tables

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>
5.2	Inventory of National Bridges, By Province, Caraga Region, CY2003
5.3	Air Routes and Flight Frequency, Time By Airline, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.4	Port Statistics, Caraga Region, CYs 2002 and 2003
5.5	Existing Telephone (Land) Lines, Related Indicators By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.6	Subscribed Telephone Distribution by Operators by Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.7	Local Exchange Carriers Interconnection, By City/Capital Town, Caraga Region, CY 2004
5.8	Inventory of Cell Site Facilities, By Carrier, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.9	Other Telecommunication Facilities, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.10	Postal Services, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.11	Annual Power Demand by Utilities/Industries, Caraga Region, CYs 1999-2003
5.12	Energization Coverage, By Province, By Electric Cooperative, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.13	Status of Irrigation Development, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.14	Households with Safe Water Supply Coverage by Province and City, Caraga Region CY 2003
6.1	Local Income Distribution, Caraga LGUs, CY 2003
6.2	Crime Efficiency and Volume of Caraga Region vs. Philippines and Mindanao Regions, CY 2001-2003
6.3	Crimes Per Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2001-2003
6.4	Cases Added versus Cases Disposed, Caraga Region, CY 2001-2004

# List of Figures

<i>Figure</i>	<i>Title</i>
1.1	Gross Regional Domestic Product, Caraga and Other Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003
2.1	Map of Mining Companies in Caraga Region, as of 2004
2.2	Small-Scale Mining Revenue Collection
2.3	Export Values of Mineral Commodities, CYs 1998-2003
2.4	Economic Contribution of Mining Industry, CYs 2000-2003
2.5	Employment Generation in Mining Operations by Industry, CYs 2002-2003
4.1	Polycentric Network Development and Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages
5.1	Paved Road Percentage, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.2	Existing Major Transportation Facilities, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.3	Location of Cellular Mobile Telephone Sites, Caraga Region, CY 2003
5.4	Annual Power Demand, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 1999-2003
5.5	Existing Major Electric Power Components, Caraga Region, CY 2003
6.1	BIR and BOC Collection, Caraga Region, CY 2000-2003
6.2	Local Income Structure, Caraga LGUs, CY 2003
6.3	BIR Collection Targets for 2005-2010



# List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
A & D	- Alienable and Disposable
ADR	- Alternative Dispute Resolution
AFF	- Agriculture Fishery and Forestry Sector
AFMA	- Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act
AFMP	- Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Plan
AFP	- Armed Forces of the Philippines
AMWS	- Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary
ANECO	- Agusan del Norte Electric Cooperative
AO	- Administrative Order
ARC	- Agrarian Reform Communities
ARISP II	- Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project Phase II
ARMM	- Autonomous Region Muslim Mindanao
ASELCO	- Agusan del Sur Electric Cooperative
ATO	- Air Transportation Office
BAS	- Bureau of Agricultural Statistics
BDC	- Barangay Development Council
BDP	- Barangay Development Plan
BFP	- Bureau of Fire Protection
BIBAHILITA	- Bislig, Barobo, Hinatuan, Lingig & Tagbina
BIMP-EAGA	- Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BIR	- Bureau of Internal Revenue
BJMP	- Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
BLES	- Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
BMBE	- Barangay Micro-Business Enterprise
BMOC	- Basic Maternal Obstetric Care
BNR	- Business Name Registration
BOC	- Bureau of Customs
BOT	- Build-Operate-Transfer
BTr	- Bureau of the Treasury
BueNasCar	- Buenavista, Nasipit and Carmen Agusan del Norte
CADC	- Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim
CADT	- Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CARCANMADCARLAN	- Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, Lanuza, Cortes and Tandag
CARP	- Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program
CB	- Capability Building
CBFM	- Community Based Forest Management
CBFMA	- CBFM Agreement

# List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
EMP	- Environmental Management Plan
EO	- Executive Order
EPI	- Expanded Program on Immunization
ETEEAP	- Expanded Tertiary Education, Equivalency and Accreditation Program
FAME	- Fishery, Agri-Forestry, Mineral and Ecotourism
FIDA	- Fiber Industry Development Authority
FIES	- Family Income and Expenditure Survey
FLA	- Fishpond Lease Agreement
FSP	- Forestry Sector Project
GAD	- Gender and Development
G-EPS	- Government E-Procurement Services
GFI	- Government Financing Institution
GIFMIS	- Government-Integrated Financial Management Information System
GMA	- Ginintuang Masaganang Ani
GO	- Government Organization
GRDP	- Gross Regional Domestic Product
GRP	- Gender Responsive Planning
GST	- Gender Sensitivity Training
GVA	- Gross Value Added
HEI	- Higher Education Institution
HGC	- Home Guaranty Corporation
HH	- Households
HIPADA	- Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
HIV/AIDS	- Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HLURB	- Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board
HRD	- Human Resources Development
HUDCC	- Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
HVCC	- High Value Commercial Crops
ICAO	- International Civil Aviation Organization
ICC	- Investment Coordinating Committee
ICC/IP	- Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples
ICT	- Information and Communications Technology
IEC	- Information, Education and Communication
IEE	- Initial Environmental Examination
IMR	- Infant Mortality Rate
INFRES	- Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector
IPC	- Investment Promotions Center
IRA	- Internal Revenue Allotment
IRAPS	- Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning System

## List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
IT	- Information Technology
IUD	- Intra-Uterine Device
JBIC	- Japan's Bank for International Cooperation
KALAHl	- Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan
KALAHl CA	- KALAHl Conflict Areas
KALAHl CIDSS	- KALAHl Comprehensive Integrated Development of Social Services
KALAHl KKB	- KALAHl Kapangyarihan at Kaunlaran sa Barangay
KARZones	- KALAHl Agrarian Reform Zones
kV	- Kilovolt
LADA	- Lower Agusan Development Alliance
LADP-FC	- Lower Agusan Development Project – Flood Control Component
LADP-IC	- Lower Agusan Development Project – Irrigation Component
LAM	- Lactational Amenorrhea Method
LAN	- Local Area Network
LBP	- Land Bank of the Philippines
LCE	- Local Chief Executive
LDPC	- Local Development Plan for Children
LEC	- Local Exchange Carriers
LGU	- Local Government Unit
LMDA	- Lake Mainit Development Alliance
MACASALTABAYAMI	- Marihatag, Cagwait, San Agustin, Lianga, Tago, Bayabas and San Miguel
MBN	- Minimum Basic Needs
MBUSS	- Mindanao Basic Urban Services Sector Project
MDG	- Millennium Development Goals
MDP	- Municipal Development Plan
MFO	- Major Final Output
MGB	- Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau
MinSSAD	- Mindanao Sustainable Settlement Area Development Project
MMR	- Maternal Mortality Rate
MOOE	- Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses
MRDP	- Mindanao Rural Development Program
MRF	- Materials Recovery Facility
MSMEs	- Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
MT	- Metric Tons
MTAP	- Mathematics Teachers Association of the Philippines
MTEF	- Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
MTPDP	- Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan
MVA	- Megavolt-Ampere
MW	- Megawatt

# List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
NAFC	- National Agricultural and Fishery Council
NANIE	- Nasipit Agusan del Norte Industrial Estate
NAPC	- National Anti-Poverty Commission
NCIP	- National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NEAT	- National Elementary Achievement Test
NEDA	- National Economic and Development Authority
NFP	- Natural Family Planning
NGA	- National Government Agency
NGO	- Non-Government Organization
NHA	- National Housing Authority
NHMFC	- National Home Mortgage Financing Corporation
NIA	- National Irrigation Administration
NISEZ	- Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone
NISP	- National Internal Security Plans
NMCIREMP	- Northern Mindanao Community Initiatives and Resource Management Project
NORMISIST	- Northern Mindanao State Institute of Science and Technology
NPA	- New Peoples Army
NPAAD	- Network of Protected Area for Agricultural Development
NPC	- National Power Corporation
NRIMP	- National Road Improvement & Management Project
NSAT	- National Secondary Achievement Test
NSCB	- National Statistical Coordination Board
NSO	- National Statistics Office
NTC	- National Telecommunications Commission
NTC-NEMA	- National Transmission Corporation-North-Eastern Mindanao Area
NTP	- National Telecommunications Program
ODA	- Official Development Assistance
OMA	- Office of Muslim Affairs
OPs	- Older Person
OSCA	- Office of the Senior Citizens Association
PACBRMA	- Protected Area Community Based Resource Management Agreement
PAPs	- Projects, Activities and Programs
PB	- Power Barge
PCA	- Philippine Coconut Authority
PDP	- Provincial Development Plan
PEEDMO	- Provincial Economic Enterprise Development and Management Office
PESO	- Public Employment Service Office

# List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
PHILCat	- Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis
PHILNICO	- Philippine Nickel Corporation
PICOP	- Paper Industry Corporation of the Philippines
PLDT	- Philippine Long Distance Telephone
PNP	- Philippine National Police
PO	- People's Organization
POEA	- Philippine Overseas Employment Administration
POPCOM	- Commission on Population
POPDEV	- Population and Development
PPA	- Philippine Ports Authority
PPE	- Personal Protective Equipment
PPFP	- Provincial Physical Framework Plan
PRA	- Participatory Resource Assessment
PRC	- Professional Regulatory Commission
PROBE	- Project in Basic Education
PWDs	- Persons with Disabilities
QUEDANCOR	- Quedan Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation
R & D	- Research and Development
RA	- Republic Act
RDC	- Regional Development Council
RDC GADCC	- Regional Development Council-Gender and Development Coordinating Council
RDC-TWG	- Regional Development Council – Technical Working Group
RDP	- Regional Development Plan
RGC	- Regional Government Center
RITC	- Regional Information Technology Committee
RITECC	- Regional Information Technology and Electronic Commerce Committee
RKCG	- Regional KALAHI Convergence Group
RLAs	- Regional Line Agencies
RPFP	- Regional Physical Framework Plan
RPM	- Rebolusyonaryong Partidong Manggagawa ng Mindanao
RPT	- Real Property Taxes
RRNDP-III	- Rural Road Network Development Project III
RSALUP	- Regional Sustainable Agricultural Land Use Plan
RSCOPP	- Regional Steering Committee on Caraga Oil Palm Project
RSI	- Rural Sanitary Inspectors
RTC	- Regional Trial Court
S/S	- Sub-station
SAFDZ	- Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zone

## List of Acronyms

<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
SEA-K	- Self Employment Assistance - Kabuhayan
SEZ	- Special Economic Zones
SIPLAS	- Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape
SMED	- Small and Medium Enterprises Development
SNCAT	- Surigao del Norte College of Agriculture and Technology
SOT	- Survey Operation Team
SPADP	- Southern Philippines Airports Development Project
SPOTS	- Solar Power Technology Support
STEP	- Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park
SUCs	- State Colleges and Universities
SUDOPARIM	- Surigaos-Davao Oriental Pacific Rim
SURNECO	- Surigao del Norte Electric Cooperative
SURSECO	- Surigao del Sur Electric Cooperative
TAPCEN	- Tubay Agricultural Processing Center
TB-DOTS	- Tuberculosis - Direct Observed Treatment Supervised Package
TEEP	- Third Elementary Education Program
TESDA	- Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
TVET	- Technical, Vocational and Educational Training
VAT	- Value Added Tax
VAWC	- Violence Against Women and Children

# Glossary of Terms

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Basic or Simple Literacy	- the ability to read and write with understanding simple messages in any language or dialect
Child Mortality Rate (CMR)	- annual number of deaths among children 1-4 of age per 1,000 live births
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	- measures the average changes in the prices of a fixed basket of goods and services usually purchased by households for their consumption
Cooperative	- a duly registered association of at least fifteen (15) persons with a common bond of interest who voluntarily join together to achieve a lawful common social and economic end
Crude Birth Rate	- the number of births per 1,000 population in a given year
Crude Death Rate	- annual number of deaths per 1,000 population
Employed	- includes those who, during the reference period are 15 years old and over and are reported either at work or with a job but not at work
Employment Rate	- proportion in percent of the total number of employed persons to the total number of persons in the labor force
Expenditures	- the sum of benefit payments and operating expenses
Exports	- all goods leaving the country which are properly cleared through the Customs
Family Expenditures	- refer to the expenses or disbursements made by the family purely for personal consumption during the year. They exclude all expenses in relation to the farm or business operation, investment ventures, purchase of real property and other disbursements which do not involve personal consumption
Fertility	- the actual reproductive performance of an individual, a couple, a group or a population
Fertility Rate ( <i>General Fertility Rate</i> )	- the number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years in a given year
Functional Literacy	- represents a significantly higher level literacy which includes not only reading and writing skills but also numeracy skills. The skills must be sufficiently advanced to enable the individual to participate fully and effectively.
Gender	- socially learned behavior and expectations associated with the two sexes. It also refers to the socially differentiated roles and characteristics attributed by a given culture to women and men.

# Glossary of Terms

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Gross Domestic Product	- the value of all goods and services produced domestically; the sum of gross value added of all resident institutional units engaged in production (plus any taxes, minus any subsidies, on products not included in the values of their outputs)
Gross National Product	- the Gross Domestic Product adjusted with the net factor income from the rest of the world. It refers to the aggregate earnings of the factors of production nationals plus indirect taxes (net) and capital consumption allowance.
Gross Regional Domestic Product	- aggregate of the gross value added or income from each industry or economic activity of the regional economy
Gross Value Added	- the difference between gross output and intermediate inputs. Gross outputs of a production units during a given period is equal to the gross value of the goods and services produced during the period and recorded at the moment they are produced, regardless of whether or not there is a change of ownership. Intermediate inputs refer to the value of goods and services used in the production process during the accounting period.
Growth Rate (Population)	- the rate at which a population is increasing (or decreasing) in a given year due to natural increase and net migration, expressed as a percentage of the base population.
Household	- the aggregate of persons, generally but not necessarily bound by ties of kinship, which live together under the same roof and eat together or share in common household food
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)	- annual number of infant deaths under one year of age per 1,000 live births
Investments	- amount of money or other resources measured in terms of money placed on activities or other forms of assets for the purpose of earning profits.
Labor Force	- the population 15 years old and over whether employed or unemployed who contribute to the production of goods and services in the country.
Labor Force Participation Rate	- proportion in percent of the total number of persons in the labor force to the total population 15 years old and over
Maternal Death	- death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of duration and the site of pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes



# Glossary of Terms

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR)	- annual number of women deaths from pregnancy-related cases per 1,000 live births
Morbidity	- any departure, subjective or objective, from a stage of physiological well-being
Per Capita Income	- is obtained by dividing the total family income
Personal Consumption Expenditures	- consist of actual and imputed expenditures of households for the purpose of acquiring individual consumption goods and services
Population	- total number of individuals in a territory or a locality living at a specified moment of time with an agreed definition of residence; all the persons falling within the scope of a census or other inquiry
Poverty Incidence	- proportion of families/population whose annual per capita income falls below the annual per capita poverty threshold to the total number of families/population
Technical Education	- the education process designed at post secondary and lower tertiary levels, officially recognized as non-degree programs aimed at preparing technicians, paraprofessionals and other categories of middle-level workers by providing them with a broad range of general education, theoretical, scientific and technological studies, and related job skills training
Tourist	- temporary visitor staying at least 24 hours in the country visited for a purpose classified as either holiday (recreation, leisure, sports and visit to family, friends or relatives) business, official mission, convention or health reasons.
Underemployed	- include all employed persons who express the desire to have additional hours of work in their present job or an additional job, or to have a new job with longer working hours
Underemployment Rate	- proportion in percent of the total number of underemployed persons to the total number of employed persons
Unemployed	- includes all those 15 years old and over who have no job/business and actively looking for work. Also considered as unemployed are persons without a job or business who are reported not looking for work available, or because of illness/disability, bad weather, pending job application or waiting for job interview.
Unemployment Rate	- proportion in percent of the total number of unemployed persons to the total number of persons in the labor force

# Glossary of Terms

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Visible Underemployment Rate	- proportion in percent of the total number of visibly underemployed persons to the total number of employed persons
Visibly Underemployed	- those who work for less than 40 hours during the reference period and want additional hours of work
Vocational Skills Training	- programs of short duration ranging from three (3) to six (6) months. These are non-diploma programs but the students are given proficiency certificates on the trades they have satisfactorily completed.



Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
Caraga Region XIII  
Nimfa Tiu Building, J. Rosales Avenue, Butuan City  
Tel. Nos. (085) 3425774, 3602055 Fax No. (085) 8150308  
Email: neda13@bayandsl.com

---

**EXCERPTS FROM THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RDC MEETING HELD 17 NOVEMBER  
2004 IN BUTUAN CITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 48, S. of 2004**

**“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CARAGA MEDIUM-TERM REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN (MTRDP) 2004-2010 AND MEDIUM-TERM REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAM (MTRDIP) 2004-2010 AND ENDORSING  
THE SAME TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.”**

---

**WHEREAS**, on 30 June 2004, the President spelled out the 10-Point Legacy of her administration during her State of the Nation Address (SONA);

**WHEREAS**, on 22 July 2004, RDC Secretariat/NEDA Caraga conducted the 10-Point Agenda Workshop with the four (4) provinces, three (3) cities and regional line agencies (RLAs) of the region to flesh out Caraga Region's contribution to the attainment of the 10-Point Legacy of the President;

**WHEREAS**, from the inputs of the regional line agencies (RLAs) and local government units (LGUs), and with the guidelines of the NEDA Central Office, the RDC Secretariat drafted the Caraga Medium-Term Regional Development Plan 2004-2010 and Medium-Term Regional Development Investment Program 2004-2010;

**WHEREAS**, the 1<sup>st</sup> Draft was presented to the RLAs and LGUs for comments and suggestions during the RDP Regional Consultation on 19 October 2004;

**WHEREAS**, the inputs generated in the regional consultations were incorporated in the revised draft and presented again to the LGUs, this time through provincial and city consultations conducted from 09-16 November 2004;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to adopt the Caraga Medium-Term Regional Development Plan 2004-2010 and the Medium-Term Regional Investment Program 2004-2010 and endorse the same to the Office of the President.


**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that copies of this resolution be furnished to all concerned for information and appropriate action.

**Unanimously Approved**

17 November 2004

Butuan City

Certified Correct:

  
**CECILIA R. LOPEZ**  
Secretary

Attested:

  
**CARMENCITA S. COCHINGCO**  
Vice Chairperson

Approved:

  
**MAYOR DEMOCRITO D. PLAZA II**  
Chairperson



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Caraga Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2004-2010 is anchored on the vision of being a region that is equitably wealthy, integrated in the global economy and in full harmony with nature with the goal of becoming the fishery, agri-forestry, mineral and eco-tourism (F.A.M.E) center of the country by 2010. The plan's overarching theme is poverty reduction. The RDP spells out Caraga Region's contribution to the attainment of the 10-point legacy of Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 is in line with the national priorities of the government, and contains specific targets and commitments from various key stakeholders who are ultimately accountable to the plan's intended recipients: the Caragans.

Caragans live in a region that is endowed with rich natural resources. Fertile lands, huge untapped mineral reserves, diverse and attractive ecotourism sites, and a highly literate human resource pool are but some of the resources found in this region. The RDP 2001-2004 has laid down the groundwork for promoting growth and development in the region. The current RDP seeks to capitalize on the progress made in the past plan and take advantage of the strengths of the region, all in the name of promoting socio-economic progress for the benefit of Caragans.

Noteworthy steps have been taken to attract investments in the region, encourage the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Agribusiness ventures and generate more jobs for the region's labor force. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 contains specific and measurable targets in terms of investment generation, encouraging the growth of MSMEs and agribusiness ventures and in job generation. With these targets, Caragans can expect a more vibrant regional economy by 2010.

Among the targets for the region is the full operationalization of the four (4) proclaimed special economic zones: the Nasipit-Agusan del Norte Industrial Estate (NANIE); Tubay Agri-Industrial Processing Center (TAPCEN); Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park (STEP); and the Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone (NISEZ). These zones are expected to host light to heavy industries engaged mostly in agro-industrial and mineral processing. The development of micro and small enterprises will be complemented by strengthening investment promotions activities within and outside the region. A rationalized and competitive investment incentive scheme will be put in place which shall make the region a more attractive investment destination.

The agriculture, fishery and forestry sector was the main growth driver from 2001-2003. This is still the expected scenario from 2004-2010. Significant accomplishments have been made to boost the agriculture and fisheries sector in the region. Efforts made in the previous plan period shall be intensified further. The forestry sector of Caraga has the distinction of being the highest contributor to the national gross value added of the forestry sector. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 shall institute mechanisms and measures to nurture and enhance Caraga's inherent strength in the forestry sector.

Two of the region's significant competitive advantages are the presence of huge amounts of mineral reserves and the numerous diverse ecotourism sites. Although significant steps have been made to promote mining and ecotourism in the region, much needs to be done in order to make these sectors significant contributors to the regional economy. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 contains strategies in encouraging the growth of the mining and ecotourism sectors. By 2010, Caragans can look forward to a region that is well known for its diverse and well developed ecotourism sites and that is home to booming mining industry.

In the past plan period, significant progress has also been made in terms of promoting social welfare and delivering basic social services to the Caragans. These efforts shall be continued and pushed

more in the RDP 2004-2010. Caraga aims to be known as a region that cares for the well being of its citizens, irregardless of sex, age, or creed. Efforts to promote access to basic social services shall be continued, along with intensified steps to improve the quality of education across all levels in the region. Emphasis shall also be made in strengthening the technical and vocational education training in the region. These are necessary in order to improve the competitiveness of the region's human resources, given the expected influx of investors in the region. Cognizant to the main priority of poverty reduction, Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) shall be made as the region's centerpiece in fighting poverty. It is expected that the KALAHI CIDSS shall be replicated in all areas in the region and by 2010, Caragans can hopefully belong to a region where the fight against poverty is gaining headway.

For some, progress is expected to bring forth massive destruction in the environment. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 recognizes the need to promote sustainable development hand in hand with encouraging socio-economic development in the region. This is a vital component of the plan, as it assures every Caragan that there will be sufficient resources for the next generation to come. Also, growth anchored on a rational, logical and economically and environmentally sound use of resources is the one that is more lasting and significant. Thus, Caragans can expect to live in a region that is as progressive as it is ecologically balanced.

Infrastructure is a vital component in promoting economic progress in the region. Much has been done in the previous plan period. Telecommunication facilities are already established. Cellular phone sites are also installed. Likewise, sufficient power supply is provided at relatively low rate. Access to internet connections has been established. The major portions of existing regional road network that needs immediate rehabilitation and improvement is currently addressed by Philippine-Japan Friendship Highway Mindanao Section Rehabilitation Project-Phase I. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 shall address the remaining infrastructure bottlenecks in the region and shall augment the existing infrastructure facilities, all in the name of promoting trade and access to goods and services. Also expected is the active participation of the private sector and local government units in financing, construction and operation of major infrastructure and utilities projects which shall herald milestones in building critical road networks, ports, irrigation, flood control and other infrastructure projects that will further boost the domestic economy. Indeed, Caragans can look forward to a more physically integrated region with better infrastructure facilities in place.

Governance has a key function in encouraging growth and development. An effective and responsive government bureaucracy is ideal in promoting the region's growth potentials. The previous plan has instituted significant steps to encourage good governance in Caraga. The Caraga RDP 2004-2010 seeks to vigorously implement needed and necessary measures to further enhance transparency and accountability in the government service. These measures are important so as to make the region an attractive destination for investors and businessmen. Caragans shall also expect greater participation in governance measures. Government Organization-Non-Government Organizations-Peoples' Organizations (GO-NGO-PO) collaboration on government programs and projects shall be encouraged. Caragans can expect to be in a region where the government is truly responsive to its needs and where their voices are heard.

*Now more than ever, Caraga Region is poised to reclaim its historic role in Asian commerce. Having slowly but steadily carved its niche in the Mindanao Island Economy in particular and the Philippine economy in general, the region is poised to become a major economic powerhouse in the country by 2010...*

*With peace and order on its side and with the strong commitment and closely knit partnership of the region's stakeholder coupled with the support of the Caragans as a whole... Caraga is definitely inching closer to F.A.M.E.!*

# CHAPTER 1

## Macroeconomic Development Framework

### ***Vision***

***With the blessings of Divine Providence, Caraga by the year 2010 will be equitably wealthy, integrated to the global economy and in full harmony with nature.***

Caraga Region is envisioned to be a place where its citizenry enjoys a high quality of life. Caraga Region will be a place where economic development will be felt and where wealth will be equitably distributed.

By 2010, Caraga's integration in the global economy is foreseen. This will be achieved through harnessing the region's competitive advantage in the mining sector where two top mineral reserves such as gold and nickel can be found among other reserves. Moreover, the agriculture, fishery and forestry (AFF) sector will also be tapped as part of Caraga's trade strategy. Ecotourism is expected to contribute significantly to the regional economy.

The region also aims to maintain its environmental integrity while pursuing economic development. A parallel and continuous preservation of the region's ecology for sustainable development in the next generation will be among the government's priorities.

### ***Mission***

To achieve the vision, the government and the private sector shall adhere to and pursue the following mission:

Through effective and efficient networking among the stakeholders in the region, the government, in close and constant coordination with the private sector and civil society, shall become prime movers and advocates of socioeconomic progress. These sectors will see to it that the basic needs are provided; a conducive environment to sustain the socioeconomic development of the region is maintained and nurtured while looking after the welfare of the Caragans and the region's ecology. With these, Caraga shall become an important contributor to the country's progress and its quest to be competitive to be wholly integrated into the global economy.

### ***Goal***

By 2010, the region shall become the Fishery, Agri-forestry, Mineral and Eco-tourism (F.A.M.E) Center of the country.

To achieve the goal set by 2010, following objectives shall be vigorously pursued:

1. To increase productivity, income and efficiency of the agricultural, fishery, forestry, mineral and ecotourism sectors;
2. To utilize vast idle lands in the region for agribusiness;

1. To provide a comprehensive, quality and well-maintained infrastructure network, supporting the region's physical integration, development efforts, economic activity and increasing productivity;
2. To encourage and support vibrant entrepreneurial activity;
3. To advocate and implement effective, efficient and expanded delivery of basic services to Caragans;
4. To develop the region's human resource in terms of skill competencies, global competitiveness, education, social and physical well-being;
5. To develop dedicated, diligent and disciplined local government institutions;
6. To forge strong partnership between and among local government institutions, civil society and the business sector; among and between municipalities, provinces, regions, and the BIMP-EAGA, for the purpose of hastening the region's growth potentials.
7. To develop critical mass of scientists and engineers to undertake research and development activities and provide for research and development undertakings
8. To be recognized as a prominent regional economy (in terms of its agri-forestry, eco-tourism and mining sub-sectors) in the country and in the global arena

### ***Guiding Policies and Principles***

During her inaugural speech on June 30 2004, President Arroyo laid out her vision for the country in the next six years:

*“Our unity as a people will be defined by a strong vision for the nation, built on common values of hard work, shared sacrifice, and love of country. The unity we seek is not one of conformity but unwavering respect for the rules and institutions of democracy; a modern country founded on social justice and enjoying economic prosperity. To achieve a united country, we need to face the deep division of our nation squarely not only the truth but also the solution. The solution must engage all segments of society in a new government of political reform and change.*

*Our Nation must embrace a vision of economic opportunity, social cohesion, and always and ever, democratic faith.”*

The President's vision for the next six years is detailed in the following 10-point legacy:

- Creation of 10 million jobs or 1.7 million jobs per year by tripling the loans for small business (from 1 million to 3 million micro, small, and medium enterprises) and developing 2 million hectares of agribusiness land to generate one(1) job per hectare.
- Education for all by constructing 3000 classrooms every year, providing college/vocational/technical scholarship to qualified poor families, and providing books and computers in every school.
- Balance the budget.
- Decentralization of progress and development through the development of transportation networks/roll-on and roll-off or RORO ferries and digital infrastructure to connect the entire country.
- Provision of clean water to all 45,000 barangays and electricity to 1,500 barangays every year.

- Decongestion of Metro Manila by developing new centers of government, business, and housing in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.
- Development of Subic and Clark as the best international service and logistics center in Asia.
- Automation of the electoral process.
- Just completion of the peace process.
- Just closure to the divisions resulting from EDSA 1, 2 and 3.

The fighting targets of the 10-point legacy are:

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) accelerating to seven to eight percent by the year 2009 and 2010.
- An investment to GDP ratio nearing 28 percent by 2010.
- Exports exceeding US\$ 50 billion by 2006.
- A balanced budget by 2010.
- Annual job creation exceeding 1.7 million by 2009.
- Poverty incidence reduced to below 20 percent by 2009.

The Caraga Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2004-2010 does not only reflect the region's aspirations but also the government's prevailing thrusts in order for the region to be integrated fully into the national agenda.

## **I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Caraga is blessed with abundant resources. Fertile lands, numerous eco-tourism spots, and a highly literate human resource pool are but some of the resources that can be found in this region. Indeed, Caraga has strong potential to prosper. However, it was observed that the region's past performance failed to measure up to its potentials. This chapter provides a discussion of Caraga's macroeconomic performance from 2001-2003 and the strategic framework for the region from 2004-2010, focusing on improving macroeconomic conditions in the region, reducing poverty and generating jobs, which are in line with President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's 10 point legacy. Performance targets for the region shall also be provided in the last part of this chapter.

### **A. Population**

The total population of the region per census in year 2000 was 2,095,367. This represents a 7.86 percent increase over the 1995 population of 1,942,687. Based on the data, the population grew at the rate of 1.63 percent annually between 1995 and 2000, which is low compared to the country's annual average growth rate from 1995-2000 of 2.36 percent. Caraga's contribution to the national population declined in the 1995-2000 period, from 2.83 percent in 1995 to 2.74 percent in 2000. In the 1995 and 2000 census, Caraga is the 2<sup>nd</sup> least populous region in the country.



**Table 1.1 Population of the Philippines and Caraga, CYs 1995 and 2000**

<b>Population</b>	<b>LAND AREA (Sq. Km.)</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Annual Average Growth Rate</b>	<b>Population Density (2000)</b>
<b>Philippines</b>	<b>300,000.00</b>	<b>68,616,536</b>	<b>76,504,077</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>255</b>
Bislig City	405.0	103,668	97,860	(0.99)	242
Butuan City	816.62	247,074	267,279	1.58	327
Surigao City	245.3	104,909	118,534	2.47	483
Agusan del Norte	3637.6	267,411	285,570	1.32	79
Agusan del Sur	8965.5	514,736	559,294	1.67	62
Surigao del Norte	2739.0	442,203	481,416	1.47	176
Surigao del Sur	4552.2	471,263	501,808	1.91	110
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>20710.9</b>	<b>1,942,687</b>	<b>2,095,367</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>101</b>

*Source: National Statistics Office*

Agusan del Sur has the largest population among the four provinces and three cities of the region; it registered 559,294 persons in census 2000. Likewise, it is also the fastest growing province in terms of population in the region posting an annual growth rate of 1.67 percent from 1995-2000.

Agusan del Norte has the smallest population among the provinces and cities of Caraga; in 2000, Agusan Norte's population stood at 285,570 and the province also posted the slowest growth rate of 1.32 percent. As of 2000 census, Surigao City is the most densely populated area with 453.86 persons per square kilometer.

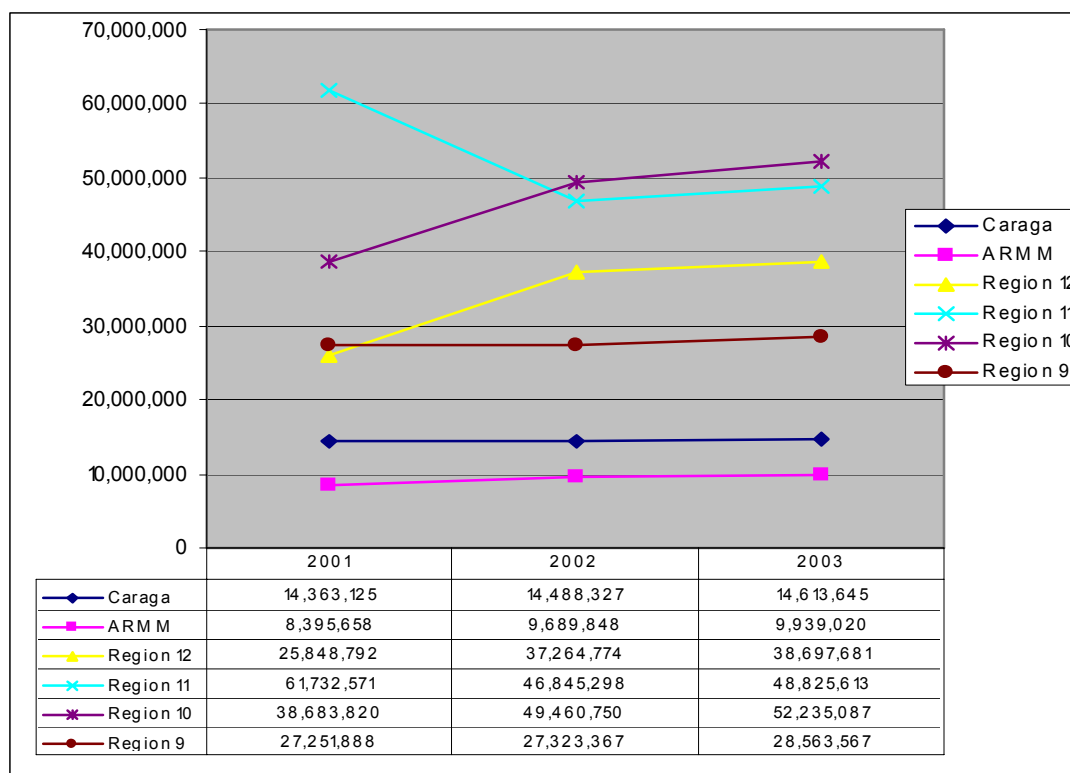
## **B. Regional Economy: 2001-2003**

### **1. Caraga vs. other Mindanao Regions**

From 2001-2003, Caraga Region consistently maintained its performance vis-à-vis other regions in Mindanao. Caraga ranked fifth out of the six regions in Mindanao in terms of the Gross Regional Domestic Product. In terms of growth rates, it is significant to note that Caraga registered the lowest growth rate among the regions during the 2002-2003 period. Caraga posted a 0.9 percent growth rate compared to the 9.5 percent growth rate of Region 12 and the 2.6 percent growth rate of the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). Caraga's growth rate in 2001-2002 and the 2002-2003 period was the same (0.9 percent). This was much less than the growth of the population. This performance was better however than the region's performance in 2000-2001 period, where the region's economy declined by 1.4 percent.

Caraga's percentage contribution to the Gross National Product (GNP) steadily declined from 2001 to 2003. In 2001, the region accounted for 1.45 percent of the country's GNP; this decreased to only 1.35 percent in 2003. The region's contribution to Mindanao's domestic product also decreased, from 8.15 percent in 2001 to 7.58 percent in 2003. In terms of per capita income, Caraga has the second lowest per capita income among Mindanao regions and nationwide

**Figure 1.1 Gross Regional Domestic Product, Caraga and Other Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)



Source: National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), 2003

**Table 1.2 Percentage Share to Philippines GNP and Mindanao GRDP, Caraga and other Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003**  
(In Percent)

Region	Share to GNP and GRDP					
	2001		2002		2003	
	Phil.	Min.	Phil.	Min.	Phil.	Min.
Philippines	100		100		100	
Mindanao	17.80	100	17.92	100	17.83	100
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>8.15</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>7.58</b>
ARMM	0.85	4.76	0.94	5.2	0.92	5.15
Region 12	2.61	14.66	3.61	20.1	3.58	20.06
Region 11	6.24	35.02	4.54	25.3	4.51	25.31
Region 10	3.91	21.95	4.79	26.7	4.83	27.08
Region 9	2.75	15.46	2.65	14.8	2.64	14.81

Source: NSCB, 2004

**Table 1.3 Ranking of Regions in Per Capita Gross Regional Domestic Product, All Regions, CYs 2002-2003**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in pesos)

REGION/ YEAR	2002		2003	
	PC GRDP	RANK	PC GRDP	RANK
PHILIPPINES	12,843		13,139	
NCR	30,077	1	30,970	1
CAR	17,889	2	18,114	2
I	7,153	13	7,284	13
II	7,649	12	7,610	12
III	10,714	10	10,759	10
IV				
IVA	13,518	3	13,590	4
IVB	11,448	7	12,317	6
V	6,060	15	6,273	15
VI	11,406	8	11,915	8
VII	12,116	5	12,409	5
VIII	6,229	14	6,447	14
IX	9,147	11	9,331	11
X	13,375	4	13,782	3
XI	12,080	6	12,286	7
XII	10,963	9	11,110	9
ARMM	4,455	17	4,493	17
<b>XIII</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4,823</b>	<b>16</b>

*Legend: PC GRDP – Per Capita Gross Regional Domestic Product*

*Source: NSCB, 2004*

**Table 1.4 Ranking of Regions in Per Capita Gross Regional Domestic Product, Mindanao Regions, CYs 2002-2003**

REGION / YEAR	2002		2003	
	PC GRDP	RANK	PC GRDP	RANK
IX	9,147	4	9,331	4
X	13,375	1	13,782	1
XI	12,080	2	12,286	2
XII	10,963	3	11,110	3
ARMM	4,455	6	4,493	6
XIII	4,900	5	4,823	5

*Legend: PC GRDP - Per Capita Gross Domestic Product*

*Source: NSCB, 2004*

## 2. Caraga's GRDP: 2001-2003

Caraga's economic performance, in terms of the GVA and the GRDP, was not as robust as expected. Nevertheless, some bright spots in the region's economic sector emerged from 2001-2003 which the region can capitalize to further increase economic growth and maximize social welfare.

From the 1.4 percent decrease in the GRDP in 2000-2001, the GRDP bounced back in 2001-2002 by a 0.9 percent growth. The positive trend was maintained in 2002-2003, with the region's GRDP growing by 0.9 percent, the same growth rate from the previous year. It can be noted from table 1.6 that Caraga's GRDP would have grown by a bigger percentage had the Industry sector performed better.

**Table 1.5 Annual Growth Rates in Gross Value Added (GVA) and Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) By Sector, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)

Indicators	Actual GVA <sup>(a)</sup>			Growth Rates (Rate of Decline) <sup>(b)</sup>		
	2001	2002	2003	00-01	01-02	02-03
I. AGRI., FISHERY, FORESTRY	5,153,209	5,405,188	5,744,650	3.8	4.9	6.3
a. Agriculture and Fishery	4,789,162	5,047,867	5,221,922	9.3	5.4	3.4
b. Forestry	364,047	357,321	522,728	(37.3)	(1.8)	(46.3)
II INDUSTRY	4,375,967	4,083,405	3,591,271	(13.3)	(6.7)	(12.1)
a. Mining and Quarrying	544,749	446,354	426,849	(29.1)	(18.1)	(4.4)
b. Manufacturing	1,332,573	1,357,579	1,478,322	(3.2)	1.9	8.9
c. Construction	2,052,730	1,821,628	1,212,231	(16.6)	(11.3)	(33.5)
d. Electricity and Water	445,915	457,844	473,869	1.7	2.7	3.5
III SERVICES	4,833,949	4,999,734	5,277,724	6.1	3.4	5.6
a. Transport, Comm., Storage	294,205	306,183	331,903	7.4	4.1	8.4
b. Trade	2,450,317	2,611,263	2,777,000	5.6	6.6	6.3
c. Finance	98,698	102,734	107,758	1.4	4.1	4.9
d. O. Dwellings & Real Estate	596,382	605,507	621,118	0.1	1.5	2.6
e. Private Services	353,569	370,063	385,332	3.8	4.7	4.1
f. Government Services	1,040,778	1,003,984	1,054,613	11.8	(3.5)	5
<b>GROSS REGIONAL DOMESTIC PRODUCT</b>	<b>14,363,125</b>	<b>14,488,327</b>	<b>14,613,645</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Source: NSCB, 2003

a - in constant prices

b - in percent

The agriculture, fishery and forestry (AFF) sector is Caraga's banner economic sector, exhibiting an increasing growth trend of 3.8 percent and 6.8 percent growth rates in 2001 and 2003 respectively. Despite the decreasing growth trend of the agriculture and fishery subsectors, the sizeable growth rate of the forestry subsector more than compensated for the decrease. The forestry subsector grew by 36.3 percent in 2003, the highest growth rate for any subsector in the region. It is also important to note that Caraga region has the highest GVA in the forestry subsector among all regions in the Philippines.

**Table 1.6 Forestry Sub-sector Gross Value Added, Caraga and other Mindanao Regions,  
Region 7, Region 2, CYs 2001-2003  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)**

REGION	FORESTRY SUBSECTOR G.V.A		
	2001	2002	2003
Philippines	960,450	697,460	859,023
Caraga	<b>364,047</b>	<b>357,321</b>	<b>522,728</b>
ARMM	10,442	28,546	38,839
XII	134,555	86,966	75,553
XI	111,379	86,777	120,675
X	15,823	87,221	62,460
IX	171,695	155,206	125,283
VII	12,463	14,406	11,202
II	85,158	32,853	30,225

The services sector is also one of the bright spots in the region's economy. After experiencing a decelerated growth rate in 2002 compared to the previous year's 6.1 percent growth rate, the sector bounced back in 2003 with a 5.6 percent growth rate. Moreover, the trade subsector continued to be the dominant subsector posting a 5.6 percent, 6.6 percent and 6.3 percent growth rate in 2001 to 2003 respectively. It is significant to note that all the subsectors posted positive growth rates in 2001 and 2003. The transportation, communication and storage sub-sector posted the highest growth rate of 8.4 percent among the sub-sectors in the services sector.

The industry sector was the worst performing sector of the regional economy with a continuous decline from 2001-2003. Although the sector's slide slightly decelerated in 2002 (-6.7 percent in 2002 from -13.3 percent decline in 2001), it contracted by -12.1 percent in 2003. The construction subsector had the largest decline of 16.6 percent, 11.3 percent and 33.5 percent in 2001, 2002 and 2003 respectively. The mining subsector also posted negative growth rates but the decreasing trend in this subsector decelerated. The manufacturing offset the decrease in the two sub-sectors by growing at 8.9 percent in 2003, making it the biggest contributor to this sector. It should be noted that even with the negative performance of the mining and quarrying sector, Caraga was the second highest producer of metallic minerals, with metallic mineral productions valued at PhP 1.25 billion in 2001 (Philippine Yearbook, 2003).

### **3. Actual GVA, GRDP vs. targets**

Targets were set by the National Statistical Coordination Board, Regional Development Council Technical Working Group (RDC-TWG) and the Caraga Master Plan for the region's GVA the GRDP. These targets covered the plan period 2001-2004. Table 1.7 shows us how the sectors and subsectors fared against that of the targets set by NSCB, RDC-TWG and the Caraga Master Plan.

**Table 1.7 Gross Value Added Actual and Target, Caraga Region, CY's 2001-2003**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)

INDICATORS	Actual			Targets						Missed Targets (%)						Explanation						
	2001	2002	2003	2001			2002			2003			2001				2002			2003		
				L	M	L	L	M	L	M	L	L	M	L	M		L	M	L	M	L	M
I. AGRICULTURE, FISHERY, FORESTRY	5,153,209	5,405,188	5,744,650	5,494,000	5,687,000	5,986,000	5,986,000	6,519,000	6,523,000	7,600,000	6.6	10.4	10.7	20.6	13.5	32.3	not met due to the poor performance of forestry sector					
a. Agriculture and Fishery	4,789,162	5,047,867	5,221,922	4,839,000	5,090,000	5,244,000	5,244,000	5,905,000	5,683,000	6,968,000	1.0	6.3	3.9	17.0	8.8	33.4	targets not met due to El Niño and some projects are not yet in effect, but still a good performance					
b. Forestry	364,047	357,321	522,728	656,000	596,000	742,000	742,000	614,000	840,000	633,000	80.2	63.7	107.7	71.8	60.7	21.1	cancellation of TLAs of NALCO and other companies; indiscriminate cutting of trees without backup supply					
II INDUSTRY SECTOR	4,375,967	4,083,405	3,591,271	5,104,000	4,867,000	5,496,000	5,496,000	4,972,000	5,950,000	5,080,000	16.6	11.2	34.6	21.8	65.7	41.5	targets not met for 2001-2003 due to hefty drop in mining and quarrying and manufacturing					
a. Mining and Quarrying	544,749	446,354	426,849	722,000	722,000	730,000	730,000	729,000	737,000	736,000	32.5	32.5	63.5	63.3	72.7	72.4	targets not met due to decrease in mining activity resulting from closure of firms					
b. Manufacturing	1,332,573	1,357,579	1,478,322	2,189,000	2,189,000	2,223,000	2,223,000	2,224,000	2,258,000	2,260,000	64.3	64.3	63.7	63.8	52.7	52.9	targets not met due to decrease in manufacturing activity primarily caused by a general economic downturn					
c. Construction	2,052,730	1,821,628	1,212,231	1,730,000	1,487,000	2,054,000	2,054,000	1,517,000	2,438,000	1,547,000	15.7	27.6	12.8	16.7	101.1	27.6	targets exceeded in 2001-2002 due to strong demand in the sector; a growth driver of the industry sector					
d. Electricity and Water	445,915	457,844	473,869	463,000	469,000	489,000	489,000	502,000	516,000	537,000	3.8	5.2	6.8	9.6	8.9	13.3	sub-sector grew but targets were not met for both years					
III SERVICE SECTOR	4,833,949	4,999,734	5,277,724	4,679,000	4,659,000	4,837,000	4,837,000	4,806,000	5,002,000	4,974,000	-3.2	-3.6	-3.3	-3.9	-5.2	-5.8	targets were met for 2001-2003; strong performance of trade sub sector					
a. Transport, Comm., Storage	294,205	306,183	331,903	290,000	296,000	307,000	307,000	323,000	325,000	353,000	-1.4	0.6	0.3	5.5	-2.1	6.4	sub-sector grew but targets were not met by minimal %					
b. Trade	2,450,317	2,611,263	2,777,000	2,422,000	2,377,000	2,529,000	2,529,000	2,439,000	2,641,000	2,507,000	1.16	-3.0	-3.2	-6.6	-4.9	-9.7	targets exceeded in both years due to strong business activity in the region; growth driver of this sector					
c. Finance	98,698	102,734	107,758	99,000	100,000	102,000	102,000	103,000	104,000	106,000	0.3	1.3	-0.7	0.3	-3.5	-1.6	targets met in 2002 for low growth scenario, not met in 01 by a minimal %; Sub-sector grew					
d. O. Dwellings & Real Estate	596,382	605,507	621,118	605,000	606,000	615,000	615,000	618,000	625,000	633,000	1.4	1.6	1.6	2.1	0.6	1.9	targets not met by a minimal %. Strong demand for housing seen in the region.					
e. Private Services	353,569	370,063	385,332	353,000	354,000	367,000	367,000	369,000	381,000	387,000	-0.2	0.1	-0.8	-0.3	-1.1	0.4	targets were met in both years. An indicator of strong demand for private services in the region.					
f. Government Services	1,040,778	1,003,984	1,054,613	908,000	925,000	917,000	917,000	954,000	927,000	988,000	12.8	-11.1	-8.7	-5.0	-12.1	-6.3	targets exceeded in 2001-2003.					

Note:

\*A negative figure in the missed targets column indicates that the targets were exceeded by that amount.

\*The High growth scenario targets are only for the GRDP. Sectoral targets are not included.

\*L = Low growth scenario - targets set by the National Statistics Coordination Board

\*M = Medium growth scenario - targets set by the Regional Development Council - Technical Working Group

#### **4. Factors Affecting Performance**

Generally, the Agriculture Fishery and Forestry sector and the Industry sector failed to meet the targets set by NSCB and the RDC-TWG. The targets were set based on the assumptions, among other factors, on the impact of certain projects and programs of the government and the business sector. Some of these projects, mostly those in the AFF sector, cannot be expected to yield the desired results for the year 2001 or 2002 because some of the projects just started in 2001. Most of the projects did not see implementation until 2003, while others are still pipelined due to lack of funds.

Also, there were notable closures or slowdown in operations of companies in the Industry sector which contributed significantly to the unmet targets. Isarog's potential investment in Nasipit Agusan Norte Industrial Estate (NANIE) did not materialize and Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP Resources Incorporated), which was expected to provide substantial employment and increased income and export earnings for the manufacturing sub-sector, temporarily closed their operation in 2001 due to expired Timber Licensing Agreement (TLA). The slowing down of the operations of several wood-based industries in the Region such as PACWOOD, Jaka Equities Corporation and Uniwood all contributed to the decline in the forestry sub-sector.

The mining and quarrying sub-sector's earnings have been steadily decreasing since several mining companies such as the South Seas Natural Resources, Inc., Hinatuan Mining Corporation, Manila Mining Corporation and KROMINCO, Inc. have stopped operation between 2001 and 2002. The El Niño phenomenon have caused the downsizing of the region's agricultural production.

The services sector bucked the trend by exceeding the targets set from 2001-2003. The key assumptions with which the targets were based were all realized during the year 2001 and 2002. Air Philippines cancelled its operations in Butuan City but this did not make a considerable dent on the transportation, communication and storage sub-sector because of Cebu Pacific and Philippine Airline's continuous operation and the increasing air traffic in the region.

A significant development in the sector was the establishment of Gaisano Mall in Butuan City. This boosted the economy by generating employment, increasing income and stimulating economic activity. The government services sub-sector performed poorly, not meeting its targets by the biggest percentage rate. The re-enactment of the budget is a major factor in the poor performance of the government services.

Not all the sub-sectors met the targets but it is encouraging to note that they only missed the targets by a few percentage points. The main growth driver for this sector is the trade sub-sector, which makes up more than half of the Services sector's output. It has consistently exceeded its targets from 2001 to 2003.

#### **C. Exports and Investments**

The amount of exports from the region and investments pouring in the region are concrete indicators of a region's economic dynamism, progress and development. It also serves as an indirect indicator of the business climate in the region and a barometer of investor confidence in the region.

Investments in the region fell by 25.4 percent from PhP 6.3 billion in 2002 to PhP 4.6 billion in 2003. All provinces in the region posted a negative growth rate in investments, with Agusan del Sur posting the biggest year-on-year decline of 62.6 percent for the 2002-2003 period. Agusan del Norte's percentage share on investments increased from 64.8 percent to 79.5 percent despite an 8.5 percent decline. Per DTI Caraga's advise, the data on investments are partial at best and is not reflective of the whole investment level in the region. DTI Caraga's data does not include public investment figures.

Exports decreased by 19.08 percent in the 2000-2001 period and 57.52 percent in 2001-2002. Agusan Norte, Surigao Norte and Surigao Sur posted negative growth rates in the 2000-2001 period, with Surigao Sur posting the biggest decrease in exports (81.31 percent). In 2002, Agusan Norte posted an impressive 741.04 percent increase in exports, a harbinger of increased economic activity in the province. Surigao Norte posted the biggest decrease in exports for 2002 (63.17 percent).

It is of interest to note that Caraga's percentage contribution to Mindanao's exports has been erratic. In 2000, the region contributed 1.87 percent to Mindanao's exports; this expanded to 2.68 percent in 2001 only to decrease to 0.77 percent in 2002.

**Table 1.8 Foreign Investment in the Trade and Industry Sector,  
Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003**

FOREIGN TRADE AND INDUSTRY	2002	2003	Growth Rate/(Rate of Decline)	Percentage Share	
				2002	2003
Investments (In Million Peso)	<b>6,249.580</b>	<b>4,662.61</b>	(25.4)	100.0	100.0
Agusan del Norte	4,050.60	3,704.77	(8.5)	64.8	79.5
Agusan del Sur	775.91	289.98	(62.6)	12.4	6.2
Surigao del Norte	713.60	369.80	(48.2)	11.4	7.9
Surigao del Sur	709.47	298.06	(58.0)	11.4	6.4

*Note: Investment figures cited in the table above are taken from directly impacted investments, which are registered with the Board of Investments and the recorded capitalization data of new business name registrants for the year. In 2003, some provinces have stopped including monitored investments in their reports since no direct intervention can be cited to explain the same. Investment figures cited does not include public investment figures (including those resulting investments from ODA projects).*

*Source: DTI Caraga*

**Table 1.9 Exports, Caraga Region, CYs 2001-2002  
(in thousand U.S. Dollars)**

Area/Year	2000	2001	2002	Growth Rate / (Rate of Decline)	
				2000-2001	2001-2002
Mindanao Total	1,309,113	738,669	1,083,661	(43.57)	46.70
Caraga	24,425	19,764	8,396	(19.08)	(57.52)
Caraga's Share to Mindanao Exports	1.87	2.68	0.77		
Surigao City/Surigao Del Norte	23,512	19,536	7,196	(16.91)	(63.17)
Bislig, Surigao del Sur	503	94	73	(81.31)	(22.34)
Masao, Agusan Norte	410	134	1,127	(67.32)	741.04

*Source: Philippine Statistical Yearbook 2003*



## **D. Labor and Employment**

The poor performance of the region's economy had a considerable dent on the labor and employment situation of the region. Caraga's labor and employment situation deteriorated from 2001-2003. From an employment rate of 92 percent in 2001, the region's employment rate stood at 86.7 percent in 2003. Unemployment rate for 2003 stood at 13.3 percent, a 1.5 percent and 3.8 percent increase from the 2002 and 2001 figures respectively.

The deterioration in the employment figure comes with the increase in the labor force of the region which grew by 10.9 percent for 2002-2003 period. It should be noted that the data for 2003 is partial and that 2002 and 2003 data are based on the July 2004 rounds.

The deterioration in the region's employment rate points to the need for more effort in job generation. Generating more jobs would certainly help in the government's efforts to reduce poverty in the region. As it is in the national level, job generation shall be a priority of Caraga.

It is also interesting to note that while the agriculture fishery and forestry sector still employs more than half of the region's labor force (53 percent in 1997 and 52 percent in 2002), the Services Sector's share of the labor force has been increasing from 36 percent in 1997 to 39 percent in 2002. This is in line with the strong growth of the services sector from 2001-2003. Meanwhile, the number of employed persons in the industry sector compared to the total number of employed persons in the region decreased to 9 percent in 2002 from 11 percent in 1997.

**Table 1.10 Labor and Employment Indicators, Caraga Region, CYs 2001-2003**

<b>Indicators LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>Actual Figures</b>			<b>Growth Rates/(Rate of Decline)</b>	
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003*<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>2001-2002</b>	<b>2002-2003</b>
Employment Status ('000)					
Total Household Population 15 yrs and over	1381	1429	1,483	3.5	3.8
Labor Force	998	974	1,080	(2.4)	10.9
Employment Indicators (%)					
Labor Force Participation Rate	72.3	68.2	72.8	(4.1)	4.6
Employment Rate	92	90.5	86.7	(1.5)	(3.8)
Underemployment Rate	17.7	18.6	NA	0.9	
Unemployment Rate	8	9.5	13.3	1.5	3.8

Sources:: PSY 2003, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Bureau of Labor Employment Statistics (BLES)

\* - Based on July Rounds, 2004

<sup>P</sup> - partial results

NA- Not Available

**Table 1.11 Employed persons by sector, Caraga Region, CYs 1997 and 2002  
(in thousands)**

Sector	1997		2002		Growth Rate/(Rate of Decline)
	Employed Persons	Percentage Share	Employed Persons	Percentage Share	
Agriculture, Fishery & Forestry	451	53%	460	52%	0.33%
Industry	92	11%	80	9%	(0.97%)
Services	309	36%	341	39%	1.66%
	851	100%	881	100%	0.58%

Source: PSY 2003

**E. Poverty Incidence**

Poverty incidence in the region decreased by 1.7 percent from 44.7 percent in 1997 to 42.9 percent in 2000. Another positive development is the increase in the regional annual family income based on the 1997 and 2000 Family Income and Expenditure Survey, which increased by 13.65 percent from PhP 71,7126.00 in 1997 to PhP 81,519.00 in 2000. Regional annual family expenditures also posted a 16.65 percent increase, from PhP 61,815.00 in 1997 to PhP 72,108.00 in 2000. The average annual savings slipped by 5 percent from PhP 9,911.00 to PhP 9,411.00. Poverty incidence data for 2003 is not yet available.

**Table 1.12 Poverty Incidence Figures, Caraga Region, CYs 1997-2000**

Region/Provinces	Annual Per Capita Poverty Threshold (in pesos)			Incidence of Families (%)			Incidence of Population (%)		
	1997	2000	Inc/(Dec) (%)	1997	2000	Inc/(Dec) (%)	1997	2000	Inc/Dec (%)
Caraga	9,231	10,605	14.9	44.7	42.9	(1.7)	51	50.2	(0.8)
Agusan del Norte	9,079	10,575	16.5	41.4	39.9	(1.6)	47.3	45.3	(2)
Agusan del Sur	8,711	10,594	21.6	45.3	50.2	5	53.7	58	4.3
Surigao Del Norte	9,670	10,987	13.6	46.9	42.4	(4.5)	51.8	50.8	(1)
Surigao Del Sur	9,344	10,263	9.8	45.2	38.2	(7)	51.8	45.7	(6.1)

Source: NSCB, 2004

On a national and Mindanao-wide perspective, Caraga Region is one of the most impoverished regions in the country. The region has the fourth highest poverty incidence level of families among all the regions in the country for years 1997 and 2000 while among Mindanao regions, Caraga has the third highest poverty incidence (in terms of incidence of families).

**Table 1.13 Family Income and Expenditures, Caraga Region, CYs 1997-2000**

Province	Total Number of Families		Average Annual Family Income (In Pesos)			Average Annual Family Expense (in Pesos)		
	1997	2000	1997	2000	% Change	1997	2000	% Change
Agusan del Norte	55,236	53,245	60,958	72,761	19.36	53,687	67,399	25.54
Butuan City	50,062	51,969	89,479	111,349	24.44	85,556	98,447	15.07
Agusan del Sur	81,861	114,723	67,810	67,104	(1.04)	56,902	58,751	3.25
Surigao del Norte	107,492	91,506	70,577	80,261	13.72	55,661	70,280	26.26
Surigao del Sur	110,169	97,346	73,089	88,556	21.16	64,759	78,081	20.57
Caraga	404,819	408,790	71,726	81,519	13.65	61,815	72,108	16.65

Source: NSCB, 2004

Recent poverty reduction programs shifted from the dole out method and espoused people empowerment. This is a positive development. Programs such as Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAH-CIDSS) and the other component programs of KALAH are being implemented throughout the region as means to boost people empowerment. The active involvement of non-government organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs) and civil society and other organizations is also a welcome development in the poverty reduction program for Caraga.

The government plays an important role in reducing poverty. Activities such as providing for adequate physical and social infrastructure, ensuring peace and order, helping farmers and fisherfolks, promoting the region as an investment and tourist destination are some of the government activities that can help reduce poverty.

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

Undoubtedly, Caraga is a region that possesses untapped potentials in the field of agriculture, fisheries, forestry, mining and eco-tourism, among other industries. The state of Caraga's human resources is comparable to that of its neighboring regions. Yet, inspite of its abundant natural resources, Caraga is one of the poorest regions in the country. This is the paradox that the region faces, which, by far, is the greatest challenge for the region.

Fully harnessing the potentials of the region would entail the provision of basic services in order to spur socio-economic growth and progress. Supporting infrastructure must be laid out in order to harness the region's competitive advantages. The provision and improvement of the region's road network is vital to ensure that the Caragan traders can engage in trade effectively and efficiently within the region and with other regions. Social infrastructure is also a necessary tool to promote socio-economic development in the region.

Despite its vast natural resources, Caraga's economic performance has not made a significant dent in the national economy. However, the agriculture fisheries and forestry sector helped the economy to grow. This can be attributed to the forestry sub-sector which has the distinction of

contributing to the overall economic performance of the country. The services sector came second in terms of its contribution to the GRDP.

The mining and quarrying sector are continuously declining in terms of its performance, despite the fact that the Region is among the richest source of minerals in the country. However, the manufacturing sector is the highest contributor of the industry sector's GVA and has overtaken the construction sector.

The employment rate has been steadily decreasing while the labor force is increasing. Even if the population is growing at a rate that is less than the national average, it still poses a considerable challenge to the region's resources. It is important that the employment rate in the region must increase to cover the additional dependency burden brought about by the expected population increase.

With a sharp and renewed focus towards reducing poverty incidence in the region and considering the gains and lessons learned from the past planning period, the region's strategic framework for socioeconomic development shall focus on the following:

- Renewing attention to the forestry sub-sector;
- Continuously focusing on improving agriculture and fisheries in the region and developing idle lands in the region for agri-business purposes;
- Implementing a comprehensive approach to help the mining and quarrying industry and the eco-tourism sector in the region;
- Instituting programs and policies to boost micro, small and medium enterprises' presence in the region;
- Strongly advocating and pursuing the development of the region's human resources;
- Initiating and lobbying for more badly needed infrastructure projects for the region
- Actively pursuing the development and marketing of the existing agri-industrial and industrial estates in the region
- Further enhancing measures to promote good governance and to provide Caragans' with quality public service delivered by a cadre of able and committed civil servants
- Advocating people empowerment and Government Organizations-Non-Government Organizations-People's Organizations collaboration on programs and projects of the government

Being the biggest contributor to the GVA in the forestry sector in the country, Caraga should see to it that this advantage is not squandered and that this should not come at the expense of the environment. The region shall also aim to adopt a value-adding strategy to gain additional revenues from the sector. During President Arroyo's inaugural visit in Butuan City, she talked about the plan to make Caraga Region as the Industrial Tree Plantation Corridor of Mindanao and the Philippines. This certainly augurs well for the forestry sector in the region. Encouraging wood based industries is one such example. Industry clustering efforts would certainly help not only the forestry sector but the other sectors as well.

The agriculture and fishery sector is still expected to be a primary contributor to the region's GRDP. If this sector continues to perform better then more jobs is expected to be provided to the people of the region. At present, more than half of the region's labor force is employed by this sector.

This sector is expected to provide more jobs which the region has earmarked as its commitment to President Arroyo's 10-point legacy. The government is expected to help the region by providing for infrastructure, pre and post-harvest needs. Also, the vast tracts of fertile and idle lands in the region shall be utilized for agribusiness purposes which shall contribute significantly to the region's development.

Another competitive advantage of the region is the presence of huge untapped mineral deposits. Although the region that boasts of huge mineral deposits, the mining and quarrying sector declined for three straight years. This trend must be averted by fully tapping the potentials of the mining industry which is expected to get a big boost since the national government has declared mining as a priority sector. The region would advocate responsible mining, to minimize damages wrought to the environment. Moreover, mining companies must have plans for the area after it has been mined for adaptive re-use.

A promising area for the region is ecotourism. The region has a lot of eco-tourism areas such as the surfing areas in Siargao, Agusan Marsh in Agusan Sur, and the beaches in Agusan Norte and Surigao Sur. A welcome development in the tourism industry in the region is the increasing presence of foreigners who opt to retire and who stay for a very long time in the region. To encourage this development, strategies and programs shall be adopted. Caraga could very well be the retirement haven for foreigners in the country.

Caraga advocates the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the region. These MSMEs provide jobs and promote economic activity. Programs and projects aimed at encouraging SMEs shall be intensified and replicated in other parts of the region.

Development of the human resources of the region is always a priority for Caraga. In line with the ten point legacy of the President, the region shall advocate and implement measures to build more classrooms and shall also look into the provision of more books and teachers. The region aims to have a state university before 2010 to service the growing demand for skilled workers and professionals in the region. As such, state colleges in the region shall be assisted with their aim of providing skilled workers and professionals.

The infrastructure facilities in the region have improved in the past planning period but more needs to be done to facilitate rapid growth and progress. As such, provision of infrastructure needs shall be a priority for the region. Infrastructure plays a key role in economic development; without adequate and serviceable infrastructure, the region's efforts to be an agri-industrial hub of Mindanao would certainly be stymied.

The region has existing industrial estates and agri-industrial zones that can be a significant source of new jobs and investments for the region. However, development of these estates and zones have been slow and tepid at best. There is a need then to accelerate efforts towards making these zones and estates a viable investment alternative for the investors to put up businesses in the region. Government support in terms of provision of necessary infrastructure and technical expertise among others are important in spurring the development of these zones and estates in the region. If the region is able to accomplish this, it would have contributed significantly to the President's aim of increasing investments in the Philippines.

The role of government in hastening economic growth and progress is that of a facilitator and coordinator. The government provides the necessary policies and guidelines that govern economic activities, functions as the keeper of the peace and also serves as an arbiter of conflict between differing parties. Through these functions, the government substantially contributes to a business and investment climate that is conducive for businessmen and investors, workers, tourists and all sectors of society. As such, good governance is a necessary and important ingredient to foster economic growth. Part of Caraga's aims is a fair bureaucracy that is responsive to the needs of Caragans.

The task of making Caraga a progressive and developed region does not depend only on the government alone. If it indeed takes a village to raise a child as the African proverb would assert, then it takes the convergence of efforts from the government, non-government and people's organizations and other stakeholders in the region to transform Caraga into a region that will make the Caragans' aspirations a reality.

These strategies will be elaborated further in the chapters to follow

### **III. TARGETS: THE MACROECONOMY 2004-2010**

The targets for the economy of the region from 2004 to 2010 are based on the present economic fundamentals of the region and strategic framework.

#### **A. GRDP and GVA**

For the plan period of 2004-2010, Caraga's regional economy is expected to show resilience and bounce back from its mediocre performance in the past planning period. Contributing to the resurgence of the economy would be the attainment of the targets, goals and objectives, taking off from the strategic framework. The specific targets, for GVA, GRDP and its respective growth rates and percentage shares are elaborated in tables 1.17, 1.18 and 1.19.

The Gross Regional Domestic Product is expected to grow at an average rate of 4.40 percent from 2004-2010. The economy's main growth driver will be the Services Sector, growing at an average of 5.66 percent (with growth rates ranging from 5.3 percent to 6.0 percent) from 2004-2010 with the Trade sub-sector forecasted to contribute significantly. The agriculture fishery and forestry sector is forecasted to grow at an average of 4.13 percent from 2004-2010 with the Forestry sub-sector increasingly becoming a significant contributor to the sector. The AFF sector's growth rate from 2004-2010 will range from 3.9 percent to 4.5 percent. The Industry Sector will pick up and will grow by an average of 2.86 percent with growth rates ranging from 2 percent to 3 percent from 2004 to 2010. The sector's performance will be bolstered by the recovery in Mining and Construction and sustained by the emergence of Manufacturing.

#### **B. Population**

Given the expected growth trend of the region, there is a need for the regional economy to meet the needs of the growing population. Under ideal circumstances, the growth rate of the regional economy should be at least twice than that of its population. Also, with the increasing population of the region, the labor force is expected to increase and there is a need to generate more jobs.

**Table 1.14 Population Projection, Caraga Region, CYs 2005-2010**

PROVINCES /CITIES	2005-2010 Projections						Average Growth Rate
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
Butuan City	302,516	307,764	313,012	318,272	323,520	328,768	1.68
Agusan del Norte	317,994	322,791	327,588	332,397	337,194	341,991	1.47
Surigao City	131,131	133,292	135,452	137,620	139,780	141,941	1.60
Surigao del Norte	393,797	399,130	404,465	409,814	415,149	420,482	1.32
Bislig City	124,433	125,966	127,498	129,036	130,566	132,098	1.20
Surigao del Sur	440,030	446,614	453,195	459,793	466,376	472,961	1.45
Agusan del Sur	739,729	767,697	795,661	823,703	851,667	879,635	3.53
<b>CARAGA</b>	<b>2,449,630</b>	<b>2,503,254</b>	<b>2,556,871</b>	<b>2,610,635</b>	<b>2,664,252</b>	<b>2,717,876</b>	<b>2.10</b>

Source: National Statistics Office

### C. Labor and Employment

Given the emphasis on developing idle lands, supporting SMEs and a renewed attention to poverty reduction, coupled with the region's thrust of becoming the agri forestry, fisheries, eco-tourism and mining center of the country, Caraga's labor and employment situation is expected to improve in 2005-2010 period.

Caraga fully supports the President's agenda of creating 6-10 million jobs by 2010. From the commitments of the regional line agencies and local government units (LGUs) in terms of job creation, the region aims to contribute 453,942 jobs to the national target, or 4.54 percent of the 10 million jobs targeted by 2010. This means that Caraga will contribute 64,858 jobs per year starting in 2005.

**Table 1.15 Contribution to 10 million jobs target, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010**

Indicators /Year	2003 <sup>^</sup>	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*	2008*	2009*	2010*
Labor Force	1,080,000	1,134,000	1,188,000	1,242,000	1,296,000	1,350,000	1,404,000	1,458,000
No. of Employed Persons	936,360	1,001,208	1,066,056	1,130,904	1,195,752	1,260,600	1,325,448	1,390,296
Employment Rate (%)	86.7	88.29	89.74	91.06	92.26	93.38	94.41	95.36

Assumptions:

Caraga's Labor Force will grow by an annual rate of five percent.

For the 10 million jobs target, Caraga will contribute 453,942 jobs or 64,848 jobs per year starting on 2005.

2003 figures are partial figures from DOLE.. 2004 figures were arrived at using the figures generated from the projections.

Legend: <sup>^</sup> - actual figure                      \* - projected

Sources: NSCB, NEDA Internal Projections, DOLE



## D. Investment, Job Creation, MSMEs and Agri-business

Caraga aims to significantly contribute to the aim of the President of increasing investments and exports. The emphasis on investment promotions, development of the industrial estates and agri-industrial zones and a conducive business environment are but some of the strategies that are expected to boost the foreign trade and investment situation in Caraga from 2005-2010.

With the President targeting 3 million MSMEs by 2010, Caraga aims to support the President's target by aiming for the creation of 2,085 micro, small and medium enterprises in the region per year starting in 2005 for a total of 32,396 MSME's by 2010. This is 1.08 percent of the national target. This target was derived from the specific agency commitments of the regional line agencies in the region, most specifically from DTI - Caraga Region.

The investment targets for Caraga from 2005-2010 came from the targets of regional line agencies and local government units in the region. Caraga aims to contribute to the President's investment target by generating a total of Php 27,571,400,000 investment from 2004-2010 or an annual investment figure of Php 4,595,333,333. Investments in the region shall be poured in areas such as infrastructure development, support for MSMEs, agriculture and fisheries support programs among others.

For the conversion of 2 million hectares of idle lands for agribusiness purposes, from the commitments of the stakeholders in the region, Caraga aims to develop 145,808 hectares of land for productive agri-business purposes, which is 7.29 percent of the national target. As a region with vast natural resources and rich fertile land, Caraga is very much suited for agribusiness endeavors.

## E. Poverty Incidence

The President has made it a priority to reduce by half the poverty incidence in the country. For Caraga, this would mean that by 2010, the region's poverty incidence in terms of incidence of families would stand at 19.1 percent. In order to reduce by half the region's incidence of poor families by 2010, poverty incidence would have to go down by 2.7 percent per year starting on 2004.

**Table 1.16 Poverty Incidence Targets, Caraga Region, CYs 2003-2010**

Area /Indicator	Incidence of Families										Ave. Yearly Decrease
	1997	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
A D N	41.4	39.9	35.1	32.6	30.1	27.6	25.1	22.6	20.1	17.6	2.5
A D S	45.3	50.2	45.3	42.1	38.9	35.6	32.4	29.1	25.9	22.7	3.2
S D N	46.9	42.4	37.1	34.5	31.8	29.2	26.5	23.9	21.2	18.6	2.7
S D S	45.2	38.2	34.0	31.6	29.1	26.7	24.3	21.9	19.4	17.0	2.4
Caraga	44.7	42.9	38.2	35.5	32.7	30.0	27.3	24.6	21.8	19.1	2.7

*\*Note: Poverty Incidence figures are computed every three years. Poverty Incidence for 2003 was estimated by subtracting the 2000 poverty incidence rate with the average rate of decrease/increase of poverty incidence from 1991-2000. The target for 2010 was arrived at by dividing the 2003 projection by half. The 2010 target was then divided by 7 (2004-2010) to get the average yearly reduction in poverty incidence necessary to arrive at the 2010 figure.*

*Sources of Data: NSCB, NEDA Caraga Internal Projections*



**Table 1.17 Gross Regional Domestic Product and Gross Value Added Projections, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)

SECTOR	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
I. AGRICULTURE, FISHERY, FORESTRY	5,744,650	5,997,414.60	6,267,298.26	6,549,326.68	6,830,947.73	7,097,354.69	7,367,054.17	7,624,901.06
a. Agriculture and Fishery	5,221,922	5,433,657.63	5,671,904.92	5,914,041.99	6,154,683.90	6,352,132.44	6,578,779.37	6,786,161.94
b. Forestry	522,728	563,756.97	595,393.33	635,284.69	676,263.82	745,222.24	788,274.80	838,739.12
II INDUSTRY SECTOR	3,591,271	3,663,096.42	3,751,010.73	3,859,790.05	3,975,583.75	4,110,753.59	4,246,408.46	4,373,800.72
a. Mining and Quarrying	426,849	439,571.57	453,872.30	470,894.39	488,996.80	513,844.20	535,047.47	555,472.69
b. Manufacturing	1,478,322	1,538,500.50	1,579,175.52	1,632,691.19	1,685,647.51	1,747,070.28	1,808,970.01	1,867,612.91
c. Construction	1,212,231	1,208,821.82	1,230,331.52	1,254,431.76	1,288,089.13	1,327,773.41	1,375,836.34	1,417,111.43
d. Electricity and Water	473,869	476,202.53	487,631.40	501,772.71	512,850.30	522,065.71	526,554.65	533,603.69
III SERVICE SECTOR	5,277,724	5,557,443.37	5,868,660.20	6,197,305.17	6,556,748.87	6,923,926.81	7,318,590.64	7,757,706.08
a. Transport, Comm., Storage	331,903	350,118.93	372,659.92	394,148.61	419,631.93	445,208.49	469,853.52	506,578.21
b. Trade	2,777,000	2,967,674.76	3,176,705.77	3,418,433.53	3,652,764.80	3,900,247.97	4,164,278.07	4,500,245.29
c. Finance	107,758	111,148.87	115,025.74	119,607.99	123,922.55	130,169.82	138,321.36	147,396.42
d. O. Dwellings & Real Estate	621,118	644,663.43	672,548.46	705,253.33	740,912.62	777,556.98	814,559.14	865,760.00
e. Private Services	385,332	400,135.92	416,088.01	435,050.82	452,415.67	472,904.20	494,736.73	518,990.54
f. Government Services	1,054,613	1,083,701.46	1,115,632.30	1,124,810.89	1,167,101.30	1,197,839.34	1,236,841.82	1,218,735.62
<b>GRDP</b>	<b>14,613,645</b>	<b>15,217,954.39</b>	<b>15,886,969.19</b>	<b>16,606,421.90</b>	<b>17,363,280.34</b>	<b>18,132,035.09</b>	<b>18,932,053.26</b>	<b>19,756,407.85</b>

Source: NEDA Central Office, NEDA Caraga

**Table 1.18 Projected Growth Rates of Gross Regional Domestic Product and Gross Value Added, Caraga Region, CYs 2004-2010**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in thousand pesos)

SECTOR	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	Average Growth Rate
<b>I. AGRI., FISHERY, FORESTRY</b>	4.40	4.50	4.50	4.30	3.90	3.80	3.50	4.13
a. Agriculture and Fishery	4.05	4.38	4.27	4.07	3.21	3.57	3.15	3.82
b. Forestry	7.85	5.61	6.70	6.45	10.20	5.78	6.40	7.00
<b>II INDUSTRY SECTOR</b>	2.00	2.40	2.90	3.00	3.40	3.30	3.00	2.86
a. Mining and Quarrying	2.98	3.25	3.75	3.84	5.08	4.13	3.82	3.84
b. Manufacturing	4.07	2.64	3.39	3.24	3.64	3.54	3.24	3.40
c. Construction	-0.28	1.78	1.96	2.68	3.08	3.62	3.00	2.26
d. Electricity and Water	0.49	2.40	2.90	2.21	1.80	0.86	1.34	1.71
<b>III SERVICE SECTOR</b>	5.30	5.60	5.60	5.80	5.60	5.70	6.00	5.66
a. Transport, Comm., Storage	5.49	6.44	5.77	6.47	6.09	5.54	7.82	6.23
b. Trade	6.87	7.04	7.61	6.85	6.78	6.77	8.07	7.14
c. Finance	3.15	3.49	3.98	3.61	5.04	6.26	6.56	4.58
d. O. Dwellings & Real Estate	3.79	4.33	4.86	5.06	4.95	4.76	6.29	4.86
e. Private Services	3.84	3.99	4.56	3.99	4.53	4.62	4.90	4.35
f. Government Services	2.76	2.95	0.82	3.76	2.63	3.26	-1.46	2.10
<b>GRDP</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.40</b>

Source: NEDA Central, NEDA Caraga

**Table 1.19 Projected Percentage Share of Sectors/Sub-sectors to the Gross Regional Domestic Product, Caraga Region,  
CYs 2004-2010**  
(at constant 1985 prices, in percent)

INDICATOR	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
I. AGRI., FISHERY, FORESTRY	39.31	39.41	39.45	39.44	39.34	39.14	38.91	38.59
a. Agriculture and Fishery	35.73	35.71	35.70	35.61	35.45	35.03	34.75	34.35
b. Forestry	3.58	3.70	3.75	3.83	3.89	4.11	4.16	4.25
II INDUSTRY SECTOR	24.57	24.07	23.61	23.24	22.90	22.67	22.43	22.14
a. Mining and Quarrying	2.92	2.89	2.86	2.84	2.82	2.83	2.83	2.81
b. Manufacturing	10.12	10.11	9.94	9.83	9.71	9.64	9.56	9.45
c. Construction	8.30	7.94	7.74	7.55	7.42	7.32	7.27	7.17
d. Electricity and Water	3.24	3.13	3.07	3.02	2.95	2.88	2.78	2.70
III SERVICE SECTOR	36.12	36.52	36.94	37.32	37.76	38.19	38.66	39.27
a. Transport, Comm., Storage	2.27	2.30	2.35	2.37	2.42	2.46	2.48	2.56
b. Trade	19.00	19.50	20.00	20.59	21.04	21.51	22.00	22.78
c. Finance	0.74	0.73	0.72	0.72	0.71	0.72	0.73	0.75
d. O. Dwellings & Real Estate	4.25	4.24	4.23	4.25	4.27	4.29	4.30	4.38
e. Private Services	2.64	2.63	2.62	2.62	2.61	2.61	2.61	2.63
f. Government Services	7.22	7.12	7.02	6.77	6.72	6.61	6.53	6.17
<b>GRDP</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: NEDA Central, NEDA Caraga

## Chapter 2

# Economic Growth and Job Generation

## I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### SITUATIONER

#### A. Economy

Caraga region's economy is predominantly dependent on agriculture, fishery and forestry (AFF). The sector's Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) contribution in 2003 is PhP5.744 Billion or 39 percent of the total GRDP (refer to table 1.5). Its growth rate for the last three years increased from - 3.8 percent in 2001 to 4.9 percent in 2002 and 6.3 percent in 2003. The decreasing growth of the agriculture and fishery was compensated by the upsurge growth rate of the forestry subsector from 1.8 percent in 2002 to 36.3 percent in 2003 contributing the highest growth rate of any subsector and the only double-digit growth in the region. Significance of this growth is the region's posting the highest GVA in the forestry subsector in the Philippines.

The growth was enhanced not only through the continuing implementation of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA) through various programs such as Ginintuang Masaganang Ani (GMA) for Rice, GMA for Corn, GMA for Livestock, GMA for High Value Commercial Crops but also with infrastructure support services like farm to market roads, irrigation systems, and pre and post harvest facilities to increase farm productivity. Provision of production inputs such as certified palay and corn seeds, pesticides, improved planting materials and training on updated and appropriate technologies for farmers boosted the sector's increased performance.

The aggressive implementation of Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects in the region helped a lot in lifting the performance of the sector. Particular citation is given to the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) in extending various support services and technical assistance to the Agrarian Reform Communities through financial assistance for livelihood interventions, irrigation systems implemented by partner agency — National Irrigation Administration (NIA), farm to market roads jointly undertaken by Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), pre and post harvest facilities with Department of Agriculture (DA), and capability building with the farmer beneficiaries have paved the way for a renewed commitment to pursue for higher productivity.



#### B. Trade and Investments

Investment figures presented in this section are taken from directly impacted investments which are registered with the Board of Investments (BOI) and the recorded capitalization data of new business name registrants for the year. Though there was an attempt to also report monitored data in the previous years, e.g. bank releases for project/business loans, and major public investments from government, the resulting total figure does not capture the whole investment level in the region.

The region's investments as reported by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Caraga Region, fell by 25.4 percent from Php6.3 billion in 2002 to P4.6 Billion in 2003. All four provinces in the region posted negative growth rates with Agusan del Sur posting the biggest reduction of 62.6 percent. Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte likewise recorded significant cutback of 58.0 percent, and 48.4 percent, respectively. Agusan del Norte, on the other hand, posted a minimal 8.5 percent reduction in investments. However, the biggest increase in percentage share of investment was generated in Agusan del Norte and in Butuan City.

Exports recorded an increase of 2.9 percent in the 2002-2003 period comprising nickel silicate ore, chrome ore, coconut oil, banana chips and plywood. While enjoying a 30 percent increase in exports on the same period, Agusan del Norte was able to sustain its positive growth since 2001. The provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur posted a decline in exports by 10.6 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively. Agusan del Norte accounted the biggest share in exports by 41.4 percent in 2003, a slight increase of 3 percent from the 2002 figure.

Meanwhile, overall Business Name Registration (BNR) posted a positive growth of 9.95 percent from the 2002 figure of 1,728. Most of these BNRs or around 66 percent were accounted for by the province of Agusan del Sur. Though the two provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur registered negative growth of 18.23 percent and 1.43 percent, respectively, these, however, did not bring down the total over-all figure in 2003.

The presence of the Small and Medium Enterprise Development (SMED) Centers in the provinces and cities of Caraga have facilitated the increasing trend of the flourishing of micro, small and medium enterprises in the area. The SMED Centers extend assistance for the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) through technology, market, financing, human resource development (HRD) and business regulation services. For the past two years, the DTI in coordination with the local chambers, LGUs and concerned agencies was able to facilitate the conduct of training and trade exposures in the region. These include regional provincial and national trade fairs, SME development and resource generation, business counseling, investment promotion program, among others.

Financing assistance has been extended by government financing institutions like Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP). LBP has a funding window for the SMEs like the SULONG Program, Easy Pongong Pang-asenso Para Sa Maliliit Na Negosyante, among others. For Caraga Region, the LBP had extended a total loan of Php35.3 million from January to March 2003. DBP, on the other hand, extends assistance through their Sustainable Logistics Development Program to improve the movement of goods and people by providing financial assistance to the infrastructure and industrial facilities.

## **A. Agri-Business**

### **1. Cereal Production**

#### **1.1 Rice**

Palay production for 2003 was registered at 344,706 metric ton as compared to the previous year at 327,070 MT or an increase of 5.39 percent. Irrigated and rainfed areas showed an incremental increase at the rate of 4.98 percent and 6.51 percent, respectively. Although Agusan del Sur contributes 37 percent of the total production it failed to post a positive growth both at irrigated and rain-fed areas. What is surprising is the surge in terms of growth in Surigao areas: Surigao Sur posted

a 20.16 percent growth while Surigao Norte has 14.47 percent increase. The increase was attributed to an increased area and improved irrigation systems, application of appropriate technologies and the use of high yielding variety coupled with the provision of farm inputs subsidized by the government.

DA Regional Field Unit XIII facilitated the planting of estimated 42,237 hectares of rice land under GMA Program for Rice that produced 153, 536 MT, or 44 percent of the total production output, with an average yield of 3.83 MT per hectare. To produce this output, the Department distributed about 31,320 bags of certified seeds of the high yielding variety. Though the yield is high in areas with DA direct interventions through GMA for Rice yet the remaining 56 percent of the total production output pulled back to peg the average production yield at 3.03 MT per hectare. This production figure falls short by 0.09 MT to reach the 2003 target which was 3.12 MT per hectare.

**Table 2.1 Palay Production By Province, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003**  
(in metric tons)

Production (MT)	CY 2002	CY 2003	% Change
<b>CARAGA</b>	<b>327,070</b>	<b>344,706</b>	<b>5.39</b>
Agusan del Norte	77,692	74,647	-3.92
Agusan del Sur	127,725	127,556	-0.13
Surigao del Norte	64,584	73,927	14.47
Surigao del Sur	57,069	68,576	20.16
<b>Irrigated - Caraga</b>	<b>238,430</b>	<b>250,296</b>	<b>4.98</b>
ADN	56,377	54,258	-3.76
ADS	87,470	90,540	3.51
SDN	50,553	53,035	4.91
SDS	44,030	52,463	19.15
<b>Rainfed - Caraga</b>	<b>88,640</b>	<b>94,410</b>	<b>6.51</b>
ADN	21,315	20,389	-4.34
ADS	40,255	37,016	-8.05
SDN	14,031	20,892	48.9
SDS	13,039	16,113	23.58
<b>Area Harvested (has.)</b>	<b>118,034</b>	<b>113,926</b>	<b>-3.48</b>
AND	22,785	22,110	-2.96
ADS	45,550	41,300	-9.33
SDN	27,405	27,546	0.51
SDS	22,294	22,970	3.03
<b>Average Yield</b>	<b>2.77</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>9.39</b>

Source: BAS, Caraga Region

## 1.1 Corn

Corn production in 2003 posted nearly 10 percent increase from the previous year at 74,545 MT. While white corn registered nearly 5 percent growth, yellow corn posted an astronomical growth of 37.54 percent making way for Agusan del Sur's 83 percent contribution in the yellow corn production. Agusan del Norte led in the white corn production contributing nearly 64 percent of the total output. The 90 percent total production share of corn contributed by Agusan del Norte

was attributed to favorable weather, i.e. long dry months and short intermittent rainy days, and the inputs assistance from GMA for Corn Program of the government. The decrease in growth of Agusan del Sur's corn production was due to the shift to other high value commodities such as watermelon, peanuts, and other legumes instead of corn. Unpredictable weather condition in some parts of the province, as most part have still verdant forest cover, discouraged some farmers from achieving the projected corn production as means to earn a living.

**Table 2.2 Corn Production By Province, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003  
(in metric tons)**

<b>PRODUCTION (MT)</b>	<b>CY 2002</b>	<b>CY 2003</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>CARAGA</b>	<b>68,040</b>	<b>74,545</b>	<b>9.56</b>
Agusan del Norte	7,542	14,334	90.06
Agusan del Sur	52,810	50,707	-3.98
Surigao del Norte	506	432	-14.62
Surigao del Sur	7185	9,072	26.26
<b>White - Caraga</b>	<b>58,298</b>	<b>61,142</b>	<b>4.88</b>
ADN	7,542	12,344	63.67
ADS	43,340	39,529	-8.79
SDN	237,185	197	-14.72
SDS		9,072	26.26
<b>Yellow - Caraga</b>	<b>9,745</b>	<b>13,403</b>	<b>37.54</b>
ADN	-	1,990	-
ADS	9,470	11,178	18.04
SDN	275	235	-14.55
SDS	-	-	-
Area Harvested (hectares)			
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>51,357</b>	<b>49,839</b>	<b>-2.96</b>
Agusan Norte	7,160	9,879	37.97
Agusan Sur	37,412	33,030	-11.71
Surigao Norte	0.74	0.97	31.08
Surigao Sur	6,100	6,435	5.49

Source : BAS Caraga Region

## **2. Major Permanent and Temporary Crops**

Major permanent and temporary crops showed an insignificant growth from the previous year's production. As reflected in Table 2.4 below, only lanzones and pineapple production suffered a negative growth. The general increase was attributed to the increase in number of bearing trees in most of the permanent crops. Favorable weather, lower pest infestations, adoption of high yielding variety and other factors such as technology improvement/adoption also contributed to the growth in production.

## **2.1 Abaca**

Fiber Industry Development Authority (FIDA) in the region facilitated the expansion of 614 hectares of land for abaca production with Agusan del Sur contributing 241.82 hectares or 39 percent, Surigao del Sur with 188.61 hectares or 30 percent, Agusan del Norte with 178.57 hectares or 29 percent, and Surigao del Norte with 5 hectares or 2 percent. Aside from expansion, a total of 210 hectares involving 180 farmers were rehabilitated during the year. Abaca plantations cover an area of 5,924 hectares, a productivity rate of 0.75 to 1.20 MT per hectare and sustains about 3,439 actual abaca tillers. The industry has four groups of players: abaca producers/tillers, fiber strippers or the so-called biradors, local abaca traders and the growing fibercraft processors who convert their produce into high value “tinaak” and “sinamay” woven products. The region has an additional potential area of 11,500 hectares for the next ten years. Abaca is a superior material for the pulp and specialty paper industries such as cigarettes paper, tea bags, bank notes, floral tape, stencil paper, meat and sausage castings, filters and a lot more industrial uses.

## **2.2 Coconut**

In coconut production, the provinces of Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Agusan del Sur have planted 19,965 local seedlings with 229 farmer-beneficiaries despite the absence of local seed garden in the region. The Northern Mindanao State Institute of Science and Technology (NORMISIST), the Constituency Office of Hon. Leovigildo B. Banaag, and the DA, pooled resources together to develop portion of the school campus for seed garden establishment. The consortium was able to plant a synthetic variety in the 15-hectare lot.

Within the campus are LGU commitments to put up provincial seed garden at 50-hectares each in San Miguel of Surigao del Sur, Las Nieves of Agusan del Norte and yet undetermined municipalities of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Norte. A Presidential Decree No. 1768 issued on January 12, 1981 established agro-forest reserves within the Agusan Valley for the implementation of the nationwide coconut replanting program. The area covers the municipalities of Trento, Bunawan, Rosario, San Francisco, Prosperidad, Bayugan, Esperanza and San Luis of Agusan del Sur; municipalities of Marihatag, San Agustin and Lianga of Surigao del Sur and municipality of Las Nieves in Agusan del Norte.

An area of 268,529 hectares is currently planted to coconut throughout the region that sustains an estimated 112,250 coco farmers. The total number of standing coconut trees as of December 2003 was estimated at 27.735 million. PCA projected an additional area of 181,666 hectares for the planning period aside from the 15,000 old plantation for rehabilitation and fertilizer application.

## **2.3 Banana**

While banana is widely grown, either planted as a component of farming system or as a main crop in large plantations, the region's production is insufficient to meet the needs of the local banana processing firms such as Celebes Banana Chips, Basic Fruits Corporations and others. As the leading fruit crop in terms of area, volume and value of production in the country, the 202,711 MT production of the region needs to be increased seven times to supply the international demand for Philippine bananas in Japan and the European countries. Banana plantation increased by 1,349.40 hectares in 2003 or a total of 28,337.40 from the 2002 figure of 26,988 hectares. Agusan del Sur has 13,702.5 hectares; Agusan del Norte, 9,033.15 hectares; Surigao del Sur, 4,353.3 hectares; and Surigao del Norte has the least area with only 1,248.45 hectares. Two banana chip factories are located in Butuan City with a combined capacity of about 5.0 metric tons of processed banana chips.



**2.2 Oil Palm**

Oil palm production in the region increased by 5 percent or 9,233.4 MT from the previous year's output. An additional 3,134.74 hectares non-bearing oil palm have been added to the industry. The country oil palm industry is in shortfall of 42.5 percent of its palm oil requirement and 10 percent of its palm kernel oil requirement. The average annual production of Palm oil is only 54,333 MT of the 94,400 MT average annual usage; while palm kernel oil average annual production is 6,544 MT of the 7,277 MT average annual usage. This shortfall alone will entail US\$14.83M or P845.31 Million worth of importation.

Considered a boost to the oil palm industry, the Regional Steering Committee of the Caraga Oil Palm Project (RSCCOPP) was organized in the region to steer the industry's development. The committee is composed of PCA, and members from DA, NADC, LGUs, Quedan Rural Guarantee Corporation, Land Bank of the Philippines, DAR, NCOP and FPPI with PCA as chairperson. The first project to be undertaken is the establishment of an oil palm nursery to be sourced out from the DA-National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC).

A total of 14,299 hectares are presently planted to African oil palm with a productivity rate of 23 tons per hectare (peak yield) and sustains an average of one farmer per three hectare plantation or 4,766 farmers. The region still has another potential area of 9,900 hectares which may be developed between 2005-2010. Two of the three oil palm mills in Southern Mindanao are located in Caraga, namely: Filipinas Palmoil Plantations Inc., in Rosario, Agusan del Sur with a 40 tons FFB/hr. capacity and the Agusan Plantations Inc., in Manat, Trento, Agusan del Sur with 20 tons FFB/hr capacity.

**Table 2.3 Major Permanent Crops Production,  
Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003 (in MT)**

<b>CROPS</b>	<b>CY 2002</b>	<b>CY 2003</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Abaca	5,332.54	5,402.29	1.31
Banana	197,912.45	202,710.98	2.42
Cacao	354.12	356.52	0.68
Calamansi	4,282.34	4,485.05	4.73
Cashew	36.22	42.36	16.92
Coconut	887,722.32	929,556.15	4.71
Coffee	4,280.61	4,291.04	0.24
Durian	1,114.06	1,120.63	0.59
Lanzones	853.47	847.08	-0.75
Mango	12,163.55	12,864.88	5.77
Papaya	2,114.67	2,148.97	1.62
Rambutan	169.52	176.39	4.05
Pineapple	4,028.08	3,993.13	-0.87
Rubber	16,957.88	17,247.10	1.71
Oil Palm*	184,668.00	193,901.40	5

Source : BAS Caraga Region

\* raw production without processing

## Major Temporary Crops

Major temporary crops production showed modest performance in 2003. Except for gabi which posted the sole negative growth of 1.3 percent, all other temporary crops had positive growth. Reasons for the positive growth were favorable weather for crop production, effective pest and disease management and the extension services and counterpart provided by the LGUs in production and marketing aspects.

**Table 2.4 Major Temporary Crops Production, Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003**

CROPS	CY 2002	CY 2003	% Change
Ampalaya	296.66	312.11	0.21
Cabbage	269.17	280.72	4.29
Camote	50,730.89	51,530.87	2.21
Cassava	42,910.20	44,083.02	2.73
Chayote	288.47	306.82	6.36
Eggplant	1,806.67	1,865.41	3.25
Gabi	8,057.11	7,950.23	-1.33
Ginger	430	460.58	7.11
Gourd	432.97	449.46	3.81
Mongo	136.55	142.42	4.3
Okra	557.53	570.09	2.25
Peanut	282.91	299.55	5.88
Pepper	126.18	130.73	3.61
Tomato	271.44	278.43	2.58

Source: BAS Caraga

## High Value Commercial Crops

### 4.1 Mango

Of the 3,376.8 hectares planted to mango, Agusan del Norte has the largest area planted, 3,071.25 hectares. The remaining areas are in Surigao del Sur, 118.65 hectares; Agusan del Sur, 113.4 hectares and Surigao del Norte with 73.50 hectares.

### 4.2 Durian

Durian plantations abound in Agusan del Sur with an aggregate area of 1,270.5 hectares out of the 1,714.65 hectares total area in the region planted to durian. Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Norte have 411.6 and 31.5 hectares, respectively.

### 4.3 Coffee

More than half of the 4,966.50 hectares planted to coffee in the region belongs to Surigao del Sur, a total of 2,816.1 hectares. Agusan del Sur follows with 1,785 hectares. Agusan del Norte and Surigao del Norte have the least hectareage of 333.9 hectares and 31.5 hectares, respectively.

#### **4.1 Rubber**

Rubber plantations in the region are spread in three provinces. Of the 5,835.9 hectares, Agusan del Sur has 5,775 hectares of productive rubber trees. The rest of the area are in Agusan del Norte with 45.15 hectares and Surigao del Sur with 15.75 hectares.

#### **4.2 Pineapple**

Only a few hectareage in the region is devoted to pineapple production. Agusan del Norte has 236.25 hectares out of the regional total of 531.30 hectares. Agusan del Sur has 173.25 hectares, Surigao del Sur, 88.2 hectares and Surigao del Norte with 33.6 hectares in pineapple production

### **5. Livestock and Poultry**

Livestock inventory posted positive growth of 4.21 percent but was quite alarming since production of both large and small animals decreased significantly. Chicken and duck production posted positive growth of 7.57 percent and 3.07 percent, respectively. Main reasons for the decrease in production are the increased number of animal slaughtered and reported cases of surra disease in the carabao population.

**Table 2.5 Livestock and Poultry Production By Animal,  
Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003**

<b>ANIMAL TYPE</b>	<b>CY 2002</b>	<b>CY 2003</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,979,235</b>	<b>3,104,532</b>	<b>4.21</b>
Cattle	13,676	13,529	-1.07
Carabao	111,045	100,490	-9.51
Swine	430,836	410,813	-4.65
Goat	106,271	98,492	-7.32
Chicken	2,059,482	2,215,376	7.57
Duck	257,925	265,832	3.07

Source: BAS Caraga

### **6. Fishery**

Although the Province of Surigao del Sur posted a positive growth of 3.79 percent in terms of commercial fishing, it only contributed 22 percent to the total production in this category. Surigao del Norte accounted for 78 percent of the production share even if its production declined by nearly 1 percent. Municipal fishing has sustained its positive growth by nearly 7 percent increase. All of the provinces posted positive growth with Surigao del Sur taking the lead with 9.3 percent growth. Aquaculture posted a two-digit figure decline in production with Surigao del Sur having the biggest decline of 98.37 percent. Agusan del Sur's production covered up for the decline in Surigao del Sur's production.

In 2003, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) had extended assistance to the fisherfolks, in collaboration with the LGUs through the conduct of the following trainings: tilapia culture, mudcrab culture, siganid culture, fish handling, seaweed farming, lobster culture, quality control and value adding, and related trainings to increase fisherfolks productivity.

**Table 2.6 Fishery Production By Province,  
Caraga Region, CYs 2002-2003  
(in metric tons)**

<b>PRODUCTION (MT)</b>	<b>CY 2002</b>	<b>CY 2003</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Commercial</b>			
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>4,669</b>	<b>4,677</b>	<b>0.17</b>
Agusan del Norte	0	0	0
Agusan del Sur	0	0	0
Surigao del Norte	3,667	3,637	-0.82
Surigao del Sur	1,002	1,040	3.79
<b>Municipal</b>			
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>66,171</b>	<b>6.86</b>
Agusan del Norte	6,820	7,417	8.75
Agusan del Sur	1,036	1,122	8.3
Surigao del Norte	42,900	45,426	5.89
Surigao del Sur	11,167	12,206	9.3
<b>Aquaculture</b>			
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>27,821</b>	<b>22,638</b>	<b>-18.63</b>
Agusan del Norte	2,258	3,603	59.57
Agusan del Sur	213	3,730	1,651.17
Surigao del Norte	8,074	15,023	86.07
Surigao del Sur	17,276	282	-98.37

Source: BAS Caraga

## 7. Irrigation

Table 2.7 shows the level of irrigation development in the region. Agusan del Sur accounted for the largest area of 17,091 hectares out of the 94,923 hectares potential irrigable area.

**Table 2.7 Status of Irrigation Development in Caraga Region, 2003**

PROVINCE	POTENTIAL IRRIGABLE AREA (has)	TOTAL AREA IRRIGATED (has)	LEVEL OF IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT, %	REMAINING AREA FOR DEVELOPMENT, (has)
1. AGUSAN DEL NORTE				
District I	19,150.00	6,984.00	36.47	12,166.00
District II	18,005.00	5,111.00	28.39	12,894.00
<i>SUB-TOTAL</i>	<b>37,155.00</b>	<b>12,095.00</b>	<b>32.55</b>	<b>25,060.00</b>
2. AGUSAN DEL SUR	<b>94,923.00</b>	<b>17,091.00</b>	<b>18.01</b>	<b>77,832.00</b>
3. SURIGAO DEL NORTE				
District I	3,506.00	1,525.00	43.5	1,981.00
District II	11,029.00	4,857.00	44.04	6,172.00
<i>SUB-TOTAL</i>	<b>14,535.00</b>	<b>6,382.00</b>	<b>43.91</b>	<b>8,153.00</b>
4. SURIGAO DEL SUR				
District I	22,238.00	10455	47.01	11,783.00
District II	4,163.00	918	22.05	3,245.00
<i>SUB-TOTAL</i>	<b>26,401.00</b>	<b>11,373.00</b>	<b>43.08</b>	<b>15,028.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>173,014.00</b>	<b>46,941.00</b>	<b>27.13</b>	<b>126,073</b>

*SOURCE: NIA Caraga*

## **D. Labor and Employment**

The agriculture sector employs more than half of the region's labor force. In 1997, it employed 53 percent or 451,000 persons of the 851,000 employed persons. It dipped a bit in 2002 to 52 percent or 460,000 persons of the 881,000 employed population. Major causes of the drop are conversion of agricultural land into other uses and the unoperational irrigation facilities that rendered many agricultural workers unemployed (refer to Tables 1.10 and 1.11).

### **1. Labor Productivity**

Agriculture contributed 37.31 percent of the total GRDP output of the region in 2002. About 52 percent of the total employed generate their income from this sector. Thus, the annual per capita labor productivity in agriculture is only PhP11,750.00. Industry sector which contributed 28.18 percent of the GRDP has a slightly higher per capita productivity of PhP17,525.00; while services sector which generated the highest at an equivalent per capita productivity of PhP26,595.00 had the lowest employment absorption rate of 21.34 percent.

## E. Environment and Natural Resources

Caraga has a vast land area totaling to 1,913,842 hectares, of which 30.4 percent or 582,351 hectares is classified as alienable and disposable (A & D) land, and the remaining 69.6 percent or 1,331,491 hectares is classified as forestland. Out of this forestland area, protection forest comprised 25.5 percent or 339,963 hectares while production forest comprised 74.5 percent or 991,528 hectares.

Protected areas constitute 370,307.89 hectares of which 2 areas were already proclaimed, viz; Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary (AMWS) and Siargao Islands Protected Landscape & Seascape (SIPLAS). The protected areas include watersheds, wildlife sanctuaries, seascapes and landscapes, and natural parks. There are other 13 watershed areas with a total of 72, 384.89 hectares proposed for proclamation. There are 36 ecotourism sites which include falls, caves, mountains, springs, lakes, beaches, and islands. Most of these ecotourism sites are undeveloped. Caves totaled to 91 sites with only 10 caves assessed and 81 caves remain unexplored. Watershed areas have an aggregate area of 1,163,755.83 hectares within 27 different areas. Overall shoreline of coastal areas total to 2,324.99 kilometers. Mangrove areas totaled to 26,795 hectares of which only 3,284.38 hectares have been rehabilitated.

**Table 2.8 Land Cover, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

Land Cover	1987	2003	% Increase/ (Decrease)
CARAGA	1,684,104	1,287,237	(23.57)
Mossy Forest	3,060	-	-
Closed Canopy Forest	276,469	6,836	(97.53)
Open Canopy Forest	692,151	627,266	(9.37)
A and D	42,377	26,405	(37.69)
Timberland	649,774	600,861	(7.53)
Mangrove	20,273	25,869	27.6

*Source: DENR Caraga*

Forest cover decreased by 23.7 percent or 1,684,104 hectares from year 1987 to 1,287,237 hectares in year 2003. Mossy forest completely disappeared, close canopy reduced by 97.53 percent, and open canopy by 9.37 percent. However, mangrove forest increased by 27.60 percent.

### 1. Industrial Tree Plantation

Industrial tree production in the region significantly increased as the registered total log production in the second semester of 2003 reached a high 657,723.17 cu.m. or an increase of 456,288.23 cu.m from 2002 figure. The impact of the re-operationalization of PICOP Resources Incorporated, in Bislig City, Surigao del Sur has increased production outputs of the forestry subsector.

**Table 2.9 Annual Log Requirement in the Wood Industries By Industry, Caraga Region, CYs 2001 to 2003**

PARTICULARS	NO.	ANNUAL LOG REQUIREMENT (Cu.m.)
<b>A. SAWMILL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>177,804.66</b>
Agusan del Norte	2	47,421.66
Agusan del Sur	1	16,337.00
Surigao del Sur	3	114,046.00
<b>B. MINI-SAWMILL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>120,607.00</b>
Agusan del Norte	29	83,633.00
Agusan del Sur	4	19,994.00
Surigao del Sur	2	16,980.00
<b>C. RE-SAWMILL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14,716.00</b>
Agusan del Norte	1	5,660.00
Agusan del Sur	1	5,660.00
Surigao del Sur	1	3,396.00
<b>D. VENEER/PLYWOOD PLANT</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>424,781.45</b>
Agusan del Norte	8	366,261.45
Agusan del Sur	1	29,120.00
Surigao del Sur	2	29,400.00
<b>E. MATCH SPLINT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17,531</b>
Agusan del Norte	1	3,578.00
Agusan del Sur	1	13,953.00
<b>F. PULP AND PAPER MILLS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56,163.00</b>
Surigao del Sur	2	56,163.00
<b>G. TREATING PLANT</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16,332.00</b>
Agusan del Norte	3	16,332.00
<b>H. FIBER BOARD</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4,680.00*</b>
Agusan del Norte	1	4,680.00
<b>I. INTEGRATED FOREST MGT AGREEMENT</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>173,688.00</b>
Agusan del Norte	2	3,712.00
Agusan del Sur	10	110,905.00
Surigao del Sur	4	58,871.00
<b>J. SOCIALIZED INTEGRATED INDUSTRIAL FOREST MGT AGREEMENT</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>500</b>
Agusan del Sur	1	500

Source: DENR Caraga

\* - in terms of tons/year of milling waste

**Sawmil** - a wood processing plant that use the conversion of logs/timber into lumber which includes band and circular resawn with carriage that are operated as independent units for resawing/ripping of lumbers, slabs, and other wood waste into desired dimension and forms and are not accessories to the headrig.

**Mini-sawmill** - portable sawmill with daily rated capacity not more than 18 cubic meters. Authorized to saw plantation species only.

**Re-sawmill** - a wood processing plant that use to convert semi-finish wood products into smaller dimensions.

**Veneer Plant** - wood processing plant that produced thin sheets of wood with uniform thickness, rotary cut, sliced and sawn for use in the manufactured plywood.

For the past six years, a total of 3,753,111.64 cubic meters of log was extracted from Caraga region. As reported by DENR Caraga, the total log production within Caraga region in 2003 totalled 884,435.75 cubic meters. The report was taken from the statistical report submitted by the provincial environment and natural resources office/community environment and natural resources office (PENRO/CENRO) and the Caraga Federation of Tree Farmers and Developers, Inc for the following permittees:

1. timber license agreement holders (6)
2. integrated forest management agreement holders (7)
3. private farm development agreement
4. private land timber permit
5. community-based forest management agreement
6. water resource project
7. certificate of ancestral domain certificate
8. certificate of verification, special cutting permit, private tree plantation ownership certificate, self monitoring form
9. confiscated logs
10. imported logs

Forestlands located in areas with slopes below 50 percent are allowed to be used for production purposes. The region has 929, 053 hectares potential for production areas which are categorized as residual forest, plantation forest, cultivated occupied, production watershed and other projects.

**Table 2.10 Potential Production Forests, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

Province	Area (hectares)	% Distribution
Agusan del Norte	148,778	16.01
Agusan del Sur	485,838	52.3
Surigao del Norte	none	-
Surigao del Sur	294,437	31.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>929,053</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: DENR Caraga

## 2. Mining

Caraga Region has a total land area of 1,913,842 hectares. Mining industries spur in the area, which are guided by Executive Order No. 270-A amending EO No. 270, series of 2004, otherwise known as “*National Policy Agenda on Revitalizing Mining in the Philippines*”.

The region is fortunate in having a wide, relatively continuous exposure of ophiolitic suite of rocks which is within the declared Surigao Mineral Reservation. As known worldwide, ophiolites, particularly the ultramafic member, are economically significant hosting two major metallic mineral resources namely podiform or Alpine-type chromite and nickeliferous laterites. Chromite in the region are characteristically of metallurgical grade. Two types of deposits are being mined: Primary chromite locally termed as “lumpy ore” and secondary chromite or “sandy ore”. For nickeliferous laterites, two zones are important: the limonite or oxide zone with nickel plus ancillary cobalt; and the saprolite or silicate zone with higher nickel concentration. Both are now being shipped to Japan and Australia and active exploration to increase the resource base is now being undertaken by several domestic and foreign mining corporations.



There are at least 14 identified mineral prospects within the province of Surigao del Norte. These are:

1. Boyongan Gold Copper prospect – Tubod, Surigao del Norte
2. Tapan Gold prospect – Mainit, Surigao del Norte
3. Mat-i Gold prospect – Surigao City
4. Cagdianao Nickel deposit – Claver, Surigao del Norte
5. Motherlode Gold prospect – Mabuhay, Sison, Surigao del Norte
6. Masapelid Gold prospect – Masapelid Island, Placer, Surigao del Norte
7. Siana Gold Mines – Siana, Mainit, Surigao del Norte
8. Masgad Gold Prospect – Malimono, Surigao del Norte
9. Gacepan Copper Prospect – Sison, Surigao del Norte
10. Loreto Chromite Deposit (KROMINCO) – Loreto, Surigao del Norte
11. Loreto Chromite Deposit (CRAU/ACOJE) – Loreto, Surigao del Norte
12. Libjo Chromite Deposit (VELORE) – Libjo, Surigao del Norte
13. Hinatuan Nickel Deposit – Hinatuan Island, Taganaan, Surigao del Norte and;
14. Nonoc Island Nickel Deposit (PHILNICO) – Nonoc Island, Surigao del Norte.

In Surigao del Sur, the following are identified potential mineral sites:

1. Tambis Gold Prospect – Barobo, Surigao del Sur
2. Umalag Gold Copper prospect – San Miguel, Surigao del Sur
3. Bolhoon Gold prospect – San Miguel, Surigao del Sur
4. Cortes Copper Pyrite prospect – Cortes, Surigao del Sur
5. Lanuza Copper-Pyrite prospect – Lanuza, Surigao del Sur
6. Aries Nickel prospect – Cantilan-Madrid, Surigao del Sur
7. Adlay Nickel deposit – Dahican Peninsula, Cantilan, Surigao del Sur

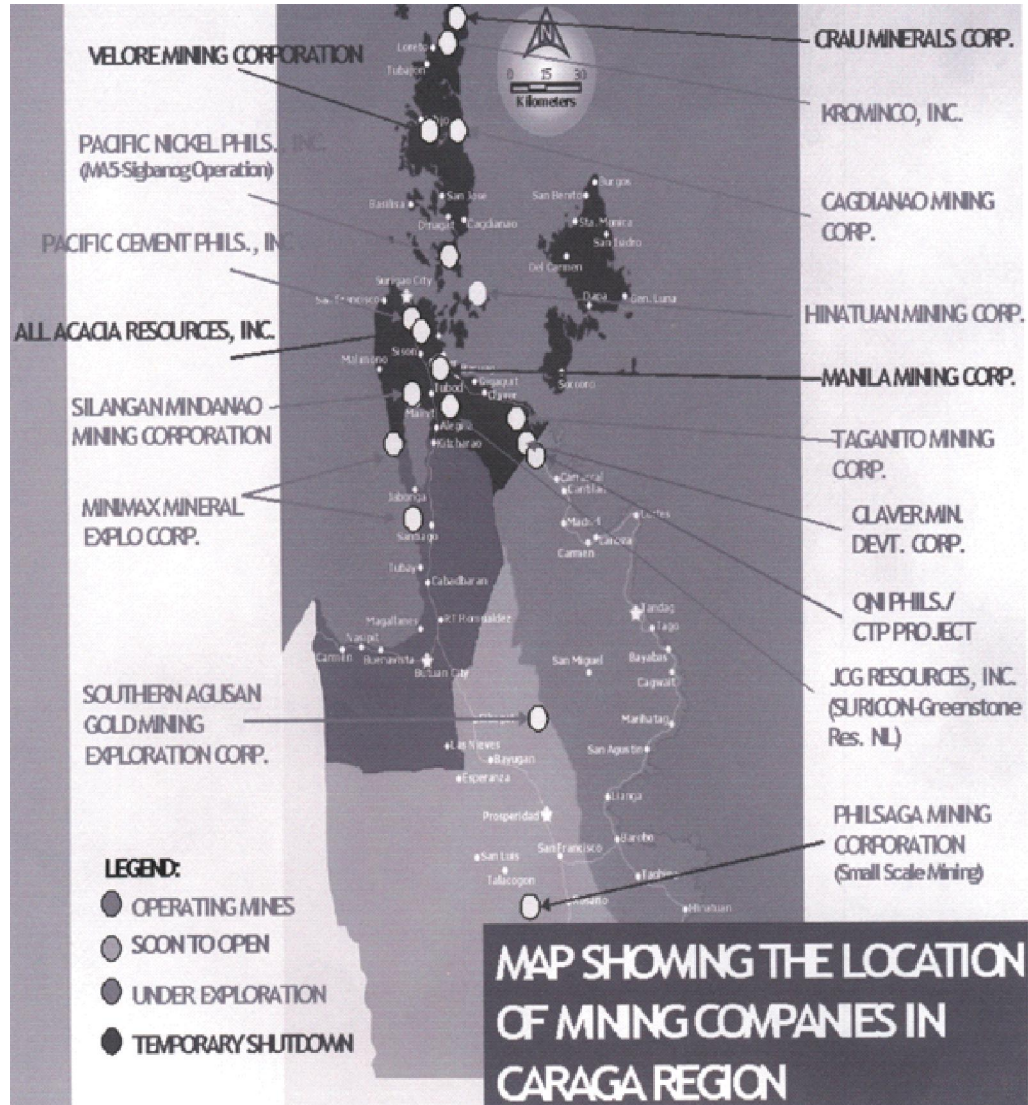
In Agusan del Norte, there are also four identified potential mineral sites. These are:

1. Pirada Gold – Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte
2. Agata Gold Copper – Brgy. E. Morgado, Santiago, Agusan del Norte
3. Asiga Gold Copper – Santiago, Agusan del Norte
4. Spandonis Copper – Old Lepanto, Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte

And in Agusan del Sur, four had been identified as potential mineral sites. These are:

1. COO Gold – Bunawan, Agusan del Sur
2. Mt. Bulawan Gold – San Juan, Bayugan, Agusan del Sur
3. Camarin Gold – San Andres, Bunawan, Agusan del Sur
4. Manhulayan/Costan Gold Copper– Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur

Figure 2.1 Map of Mining Companies in Caraga Region, as of 2004



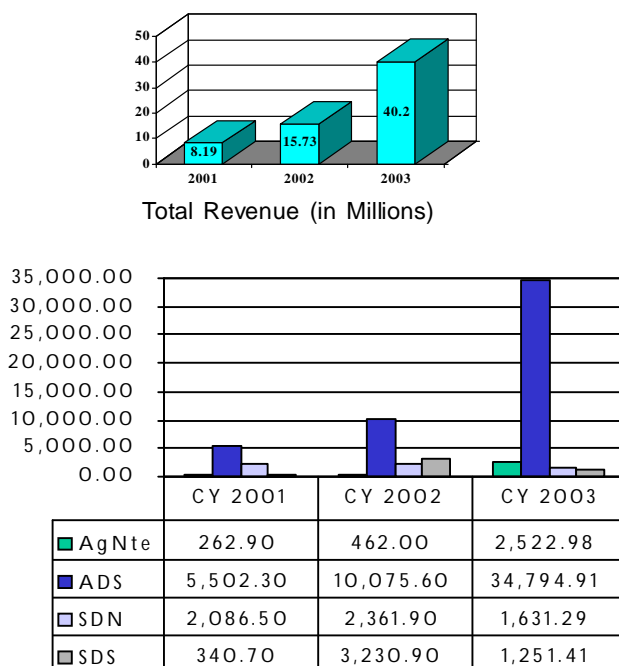
Source: MGB Caraga

Within Caraga region are 12 medium and large scale mines. Of these 12 mines, 11 are located within Surigao del Norte and one in Agusan del Sur, the Philsaga Mining Corporation (PMC) which is operating as small scale mining. The region is currently witnessing the revitalization of the mineral resources development industry due to the operation of Pacific Nickel Philippines (formerly PhilNiCo), Sigbanog Nickel Project, which has an operating agreement with Hinatuan Mining Corporation, the resumption of operation of Hinatuan Mining Corporation to mine its Limonite ores in Hinatuan Island, Taganaan, Surigao del Norte and the soon-to-open ACT Nickel Project of Surigao Integrated Resources Corp., Pacific Cement Philippines, Inc., and KROMINCO, Inc. which resumed their chromite operation in Loreto, Dinagat Island, Surigao del Norte.

Some of the temporarily shutdown mines are also currently re-evaluating their potential mineral resources such as All-Acacia Resources, Inc. and JCG Resources Corporation. High market price on various minerals trigger the increase in production and proliferation of mining firms in the region. Applications for medium and large scale mining rights are still coming in, with Surigao del Norte getting the bulk since it has the biggest mineral reservation area among the four provinces.

As of this writing, the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) has approved a total of 30 mineral production sharing agreement applications, of which 21 are located in Surigao del Norte. Seven exploration permits have also been approved within the region. A total of 79 Mineral Production Sharing Agreement Applications within the region have been filed. The bulk of the applications are within Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur. Likewise, 37 exploration permit applications have also been filed to date. For sand and gravel, small-scale mines and quarry, however, Agusan del Norte tops the list and followed by Agusan del Sur.

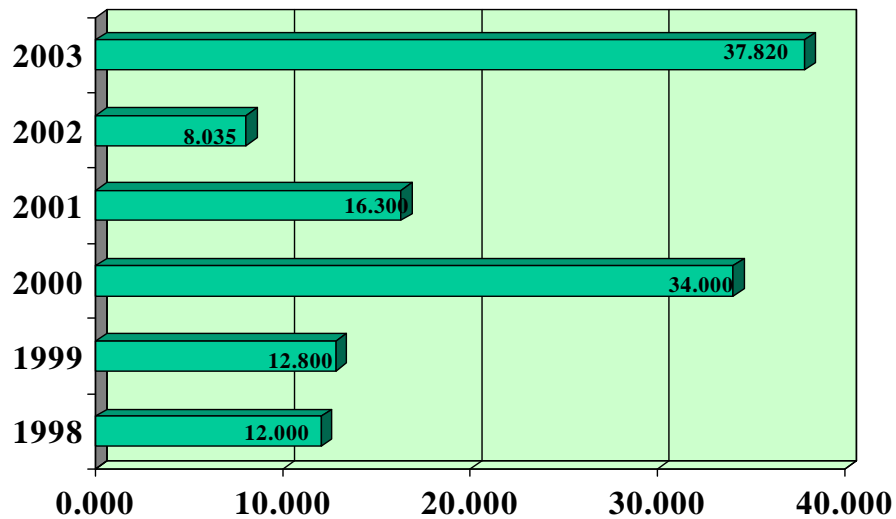
**Figure 2.2 Small-Scale Mining Revenue Collection**



Source: MGB XIII

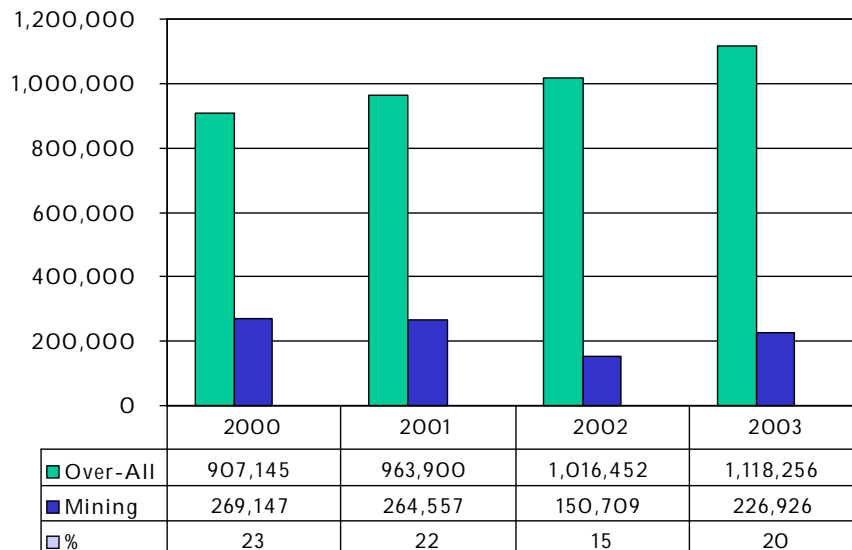
Revenue collection from the small scale mining Industry has been continuously growing from a mere PhP 8.10 Million in 2001 to PhP 40.2 Million in 2003. This can also be attributed to high metal prices. The year 2003 was a boon to the mining industry with the highest total value of mineral commodities amounting to US\$ 37.82 million and still increasing even in the early part of 2004.

**Figure 2.3. Export Values of Mineral Commodities, CYs 1998-2003**



Source: BIR, MGB XIII

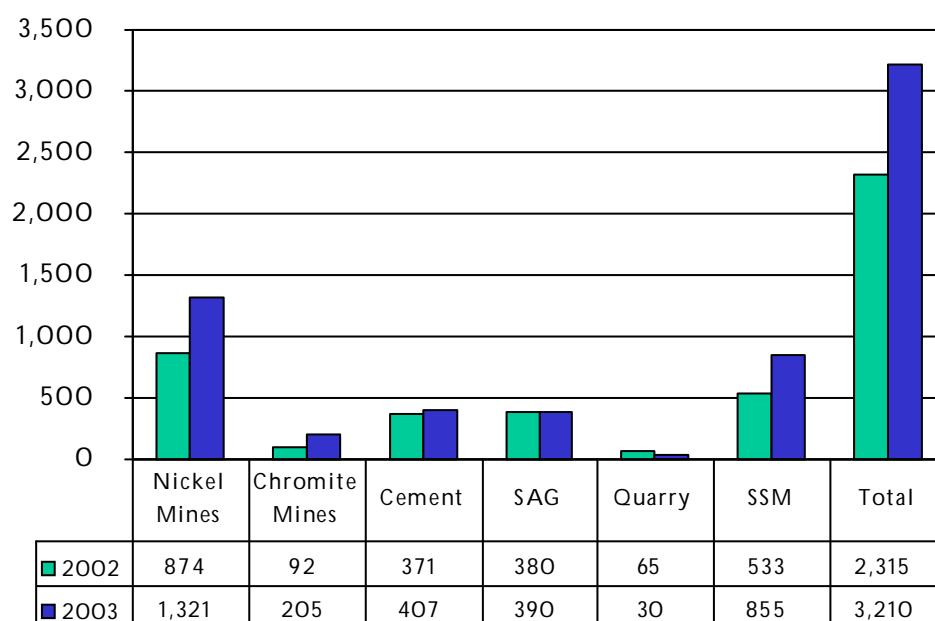
**Figure 2.4. Economic Contribution of Mining Industry, CYs 2000-2003**



Source: BIR, MGB XIII

Of the total revenues of PhP 1,118,256 million generated from the different industry sectors of the region in the year 2003, 20 percent or PhP 236,926 million came from mining.

**Figure 2.5 Employment Generation in Mining Operations  
by Industry, CYs 2002-2003**



Source: MGB XIII

From 2003 until recently, notwithstanding the full operation of Philnico Iron Fines project, the industry has already employed a total of 2,310 individuals. Despite mining operations, large portions of both large and small scale mining areas are still unexplored, specially those in Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur. There are likewise mining permits that have been dormant. Existing mining industries which are basically extractive and exploitation have been noted in some areas.

## **F. Tourism**

Tourism is now recognized as an important sector of any country's economy. Caraga is envisioned to be the next major eco-tourism destination; an investment haven; a show window of culture and history, where people are empowered and socioeconomically sound; and the ecosystem is protected, sustainable and accessible.

To achieve this vision, the role of eco-tourism must be enhanced. It is also important to pursue environmental, cultural and social awareness for peace and international cooperation and to recognize its ability to alleviate poverty through the creation of small and medium sized tourism businesses and the creation of new jobs.

Caraga, being considered as a Gold Country has natural and manmade attractions that have the potential to become the first class eco-tourism destination in the country. Its jewels lies in the region's archeological destination, forest-bound, marine-bound or historical destination. Most exciting adventure one can find in the region range from surfing, mountain biking, shooting, archeological studies, bird watching, island hopping, historical sites visits, spelunking, trekking, snorkeling, scuba diving, kayaking, swimming, dancing, singing and eating with the natives. In year 2003, overall tourist arrival was recorded at 285,068 tourists, where 8,955 were foreign and 276,113 were local tourists. This is 2.8 percent higher than 2002 figure of 277,302 tourist arrivals.

## **CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **A. Development of the Four Proclaimed IEs & SEZs**

The four proclaimed industrial estates (IEs) and special economic zones (SEZs) of the region, which are considered as the main generator of investments and exports for Caraga, have not been fully developed. The Nasipit Agusan Norte Industrial Estates (NANIE), intended for light and heavy industry locators, will significantly increase foreign trade and investment through exports; The Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone (NISEZ) focuses on the promotion of metallic mineral development; The Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park (STEP) for wood-based, and the Tubay Agricultural Processing Center or TAPCEN for agriculture products development.



### **B. Implementation of the BMBE Law**

Through the passage of the Barangay Micro Business Enterprise (BMBE) Law or Republic Act 9178, the region directs its efforts in strengthening local micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) by providing micro entrepreneurs the appropriate incentives and benefits, and technology and market assistance from the Government Financing Institutions (GFIs) and concerned government institutions. Micro enterprises account for more than 80 percent of the local business enterprises in the region. These enterprises are mostly labor-intensive thus, considered a potent force in generating significant employment in the region. The sound development of this sector will help alleviate poverty and consequently contribute to a more equitable distribution of wealth and income among the poor which are estimated to be more than 50 percent of the region's population. The success in its implementation will be a great challenge by the LGUs which are primary providers of incentives and benefits at the local level.

### **C. Accessing Financial Assistance**

One major constraint encountered by small business enterprises is the lack of capital to improve and expand their business. The notion that the credit available in the government financing institutions is the most attractive credit facility offered to the SMEs is no longer applicable. This facility has not been enjoyed by the majority of the SMEs given the following reasons: a) most SMEs have no record as to when the business started; b) only few SMEs in the region are considered bankable; c) high "collateral" by most financing institutions inhibits SMEs to borrow funds, and d) financing being offered is intended only for short-term while most SMEs projects are considered long-term. Aside from the financial constraint, the SMEs also encountered insufficient background in basic business management and technical operations; unmarketable standards, quality and technical design; and inability to contact appropriate market channels;

Another constraint is the inadequate and unstable budgets for the major infrastructure projects that could accelerate regional economic growth, namely: irrigation, secondary and arterial roads and farm to market roads that link the production and trading centers in the rural areas. Corollary to the meager budget, the fragmented and overlapping functions and activities of various government institutions contribute significantly to the low performance of the government as a whole.

**D. Sustainable Development of Natural Resources**

The increasing population poses more pressure to natural resources. This means that demand for the use of these resources will increase as the population increases. Without enough planning for the proper management, development and utilization, the sustainability of these finite resources will be compromised. The problem can be mitigated if environmental laws and other related ordinances are strictly enforced.

**E. Inefficient Use of the Region's Resources**

With the region's total land area of 1.913 million hectares, about 1.546 million hectares are devoted for production, specifically, 419,000 hectares are dedicated for agriculture, 188,000 hectares for mining and the remaining areas are utilized for tourism development and industrial uses. Because of the conflicting uses of physical resource, the failure to optimize the potentials of the land has been associated with low productivity. The issues in low production and productivity are manifestation of inefficient use of land resource.

**F. Development option whether to go for conservation, protection or production and utilization**

The conflicting development options on the region's resources has hindered the development of our potential resources to provide maximum productivity. Some of the region's land resources are primarily categorized into protection and production uses of which any developmental activities that will pose conflict with its use will not be allowed. The development and utilization of some of these areas should be rationalized or subjected to sustainable development criteria.

**G. Underdeveloped Transport Infrastructures and Telecommunication Facilities**

Butuan City, Surigao City and the urban centers of major towns are connected by a relatively developed road infrastructure. The major road network in the coastal areas, however, is still underdeveloped with few lateral roads linking the western-eastern portions of the region. Commercial air passenger traffic is serviced by three secondary airports, Butuan City, Surigao City and Tandag. Most of the telecommunications facilities are concentrated in Butuan City and, to a lesser extent in Surigao City. Regional networks are currently being put in place by the different telecommunications companies franchised for the purpose. A few urban centers (Mangagoy, Bislig and Tandag, Surigao del Sur) have communication facilities for international access. All municipalities, however, are linked through the PNP-based communication system

**H. Cultural Preservation in the Midst of Development**

Acculturation and technological improvements are the primary factors threatening the preservation of traditional cultures. The Indigenous Peoples have slowly assimilated into their traditional culture some of the lifestyles and practices of the lowland immigrants. This is exacerbated by the growing lack of appreciation of traditional culture and local history and exacerbated further by the greater emphasis put on science and technology in curricular offerings. The forested areas and hinterlands used to be the traditional domain of the indigenous groups. The unmitigated natural resource exploitation in these areas which characterized Caraga's past, persist in the present times resulting in the disruption of indigenous lifestyles. Together with the sporadic clashes between the military and the insurgents, the tribal groups either moved higher into the mountains or were resettled to the more populated lowland areas. For the tourism industry, the loss of skills and oral tradition associated with traditional cultures would thus become a disincentive for tourism intervention.

**I.      Anxieties about Caraga's peace and order situation**

As a downstream effect of the peace process, Caraga today is relatively peaceful. Yet, it still suffers from the negative impact of the sporadic clashes between the military and the insurgents in the recent past. Anxieties on the peace and order situation still prevail. Unless finally resolved, the unstable peace and order situation could militate against drives for faster tourism growth

**J.      Fast rate of developing tourism assets and high level of interest to pursue tourism activities**

The fast growth of Caraga's tourism industry is indicative of the emerging attractiveness of the region as a destination. This could spur wanton development of tourism assets for short term commercial profits without due regard to their long term sustainability. The declaration as Protected Area of Caraga's two important nature-based assets, the Siargao Island Protected Land and Seascape and the Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary are positive indications. The management plans for these areas, however, still need to be finalized as basis for guiding sustainable development activities. Thus plans to put up more tourist facilities in Siargao Island need to be considered very carefully. By year 2011, over 760,000 hectares of Timber Land Agreement areas would have expired, rendering these as open access. These areas contain some of the tourism assets and are habitat to some of Caraga's exotic wildlife. These are additional attractions for visitors. Unless protected, the tourism value of these resources will diminish. Another area which is vulnerable to rapid tourism development is the role and welfare of women and children. Women are positively and negatively affected by tourism; positively in the sense of opening opportunities for women to participate in beneficial activities like livelihood, social promotion and education; negatively in the sense of being exposed to exploitation and sexual abuse. This problem which is well documented in the Philippines and other countries shall be recognized in Caraga as well and shall warrant a cautious planning of Gender and Development in the Caraga tourism areas.

**K.      Mindanao as food basket of the country and major exporter of agriculture and fishery products**

Aside from vast areas for other agricultural crops, there are more than 173,000 hectares potential irrigable area suitable for rice production for Caraga region of which the province of Agusan del Sur has been designated as the food basket of the region given the vast and potential irrigable area of 94,000 hectares.

**L.      Caraga as the forest plantation corridor of the south**

About 684,503 hectares have been identified for forest plantation corridor per DENR Administrative Order No. 99-13 issued in May 3, 1999. These lands shall be developed for industrial forest plantations.

**M.      Rich natural resource endowments for tourism-related activities**

Caraga region is endowed with world-class white sand beaches, lagoons, waterfalls and complex of caves. It has also extensive forest cover (natural and commercial) including the presence of other industrial crop plantations, mountain peaks and ranges and extensive valleys of rich biodiversity for eco-tourism. Diverse historical accounts gained public importance due to the discovery of relics of the balanghai boats and other artifacts in Butuan City and other parts of the region.



The recognition of Butuan City by the Vatican as the seat of the First Mass in Mindanao and the biggest naval battle in the Philippines during the Second World War occurred in the Surigao Strait are just a few of these historical accounts.

**N. The “Gateway to Luzon and Visayas’ and strategic location within the context of the emerging Mindanao pacific rim growth corridor**

The region is strategically located along the Maharlika Highway which connects Mindanao and Luzon via roll-on roll-off ferry plying between Surigao City and Tacloban City. It fringes the Mindanao Pacific Rim Growth Corridor, an emerging growth center for regional cooperation with its outlying Pacific neighbors, particularly Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Northern Mindanao on one hand, and Australia and New Zealand, on the other. Strategic development actions are ongoing to operationalize such initiative

**O. Strong national and local partnership for tourism development**

Existence of tourism councils at the provincial, city and municipal levels are actively participating in the promotion of tourism-related activities. Their efforts was manifested by the annual conduct of tourism-related activity such as Balanghay Festival, Bonok-Bonok, Kaliguan, Naliyagan, and Kahimunan Festival, among others. However, the most notably recognized is the conduct of the Caraga Goes to Intramuros-Best of the Regions, the flagship program of the Department of Tourism (DOT).

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

**A. Trade and Investments**

The contribution of the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to the region’s socio-economic goals such as job creation, export market development, global competitiveness, foreign exchange earnings generation, human resource development has been very positive and encouraging. Focus on the MSMEs development shall be sustained and expanded towards a borderless economy. The competitiveness of the MSMEs sector has been hindered by inadequate support in terms of financing, inadequate infrastructure support, weak product development, lack of quality improvements and institutional assistance. To respond to these challenges, the MSMEs sector should be provided with adequate support from the government. An aggressive and focused promotion for the development of the MSMEs as primary provider of employment at the local level should be promoted.

**1. Development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)**

**Targets:** Assist and maintain 30,000 MSMEs in the region

Caraga Region	Employment	62,779
	New Entrepreneurs	10,112
	Old Entrepreneurs	19,888*
Agusan del Norte	Employment	18,000
	New Entrepreneurs	5,452
Agusan del Sur	Employment	4,642
	New Entrepreneurs	692
Surigao del Norte	Employment	20,000
	New Entrepreneurs	450
Surigao del Sur	Employment	20,137
	New Entrepreneurs	3,518

\* shall be distributed as provincial/city targets

2. Identification of investment promotion areas
3. Provision of poverty Alleviation Fund/Micro Credit Fund

**Targets:**

New Investment : P1, 636 Million  
New Job : 8,016  
New Entrepreneurs : 1,636

4. Development and administration of investment promotion program
5. Promotion of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-based skills
6. Formulation and adoption of incentives and benefits packages for MSMEs
7. Promotion of quality standards and global competitiveness
8. Promotion of industry clustering strategy
9. Sustain the operation of a “One Stop Business Shop” per province and city
10. Product development and packaging facilitation
11. Promotion of business matching, trade fairs and missions
12. Improvement in the product quality, design and production technology
13. Embarking on information and education campaign to improve productivity and competitiveness for MSMEs
14. Exploration of emerging markets and business opportunities

**Targets:**

Identification of Industry Champions for:

1. 8 priority industry clusters (banana, oil palm, coconut, abaca, wood/industrial tree plantation, aquamarine/seaweed, tourism, and arts & crafts/furniture;
2. 4 emerging industry clusters, namely: cassava/corn, vegetable/high value crops, manpower services and fruits

15. Participation to local and national business conferences
16. Human resource development for MSMEs

**Targets:**

Job Created : 1,100 jobs\*  
New Investment : P24 M\*

*\*DOST Skills/Technology Development/Enhancement Program*

**B. Agri-Business**

As an agriculture-based economy, the region's pace of rural development has not been sufficient to create significant growth in the agriculture and fishery sector. Farming systems are not diversified as manifested by low production and low income of farmers. Despite the vast and rich agricultural lands, the region's output had not made substantial contribution to the Mindanao island economy as the region placed second from the bottom in terms of economic performance. Nonetheless, it is a consolation that for the past four (4) years, growth performance of the agriculture, fishery and forestry sector made the biggest contributor to the region's economy and the upsurge of the region's forestry subsector performance, gained the distinction of being the highest contributor to the national output of the forestry subsector. The region is expected to raise its GRDP growth from 0.9 percent to 4 percent in the next two years. Second to agriculture, the services sector shall consistently grow stronger to close the gap with the distressed and low performer industry sector.

Although the employment participation rate as well as the employment rate improved a bit, from 9.5 percent to 9.3 percent, employed person by industry group showed that total number of employed person in agriculture sector dropped from 56.40 percent in 1996 to only 52.21 percent in 2002. While agriculture is the highest contributor to employment, the annual per capita labor productivity is lowest at only P11, 750.00 as compared to industry sector with P17, 525.00 and service sector with P26,595.00.

With the present situation, the development direction of the region for the next six years, 2004-2010, shall adopt the national development agenda, particularly the agenda that embraced economic growth and job creation strategies. The focus on socio-economic development shall be on:

**1. Food Security and Food Sufficiency**

- 1.1 Strengthen linkage between the LGUs and Department of Agriculture to prioritize and support the activities identified in the Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones (SAFDZs)
- 1.2 Encourage the expansion of the production areas for staple crops and industrial crops, where there is competitive edge of the region, by providing them appropriate support mechanisms, such as irrigation water, quality planting materials, technology, farm to market roads, pre and post harvest facilities and market infrastructure

**Target:** Hybrid Corn expansion and Rice Commercialization Program  
Area covered : 207,800 hectares  
New investment : PhP 416 Million  
New Job : 2,080

- 1.3 Encourage the expansion of the production areas for inland and marine fisheries by providing appropriate technology, quality stock and market infrastructure

**Targets:**

Project	Target	Cost (PhP)	New Jobs Generated
<b>1. Fish Cage Establishment</b>			
Marine/Sea	27 cages	6.75M	270
Brackishwater	63 cages	10.08M	630
Freshwater	45 cages	6.75M	450
<b>2. Fishponds Development</b>			
Assistance Brackishwater	60 has.	1.802M	1,620
Freshwater	16.5 has.	14.319M	34,680
<b>3. Fish Pen Establishment</b>			
Grouper	33 pens	6.93M	330
Siganid	21 pens	3.15M	210
Lobster	21 pens	3.15M	210
<b>4. Seaweeds Culture</b>			
Nursery Development	18.75 has.	3.75M	1,500
Grow-out Area	105 has.		8,400
<b>5. Provision of Capability Building Activities</b>	301 trainings		375
<b>6. Other Livelihood Projects</b>			
Provision of Small Seacraft	27 projects	2.70M	27
Distribution of Small Gears	1,875 gears	9.375M	1,875
	33 projects	3.30M	66
	375 units	2.625M	375
	21 projects	1.05M	42
	27 projects	2.16M	54
	21 projects	5.25M	63

*₱1,644.09 = 1 job created for fisheries*

1.4 Control the conversion of prime agricultural land to other uses

**Targets:** Establishment of coco/oil palm seed garden and nursery (PCA)  
 Area available : 173 hectares  
 New Jobs : 173

1.5 Concentrate investments in areas where quick returns on investment are expected

**2. Increasing Infrastructure and Logistics Support System**

2.1 Link the key production areas to trading centers and markets through the construction of farm to market roads.

**Targets:** Construction/Rehabilitation of FMR  
 Area covered : 149 kilometers  
 New Jobs : 1,490

- 2.2 Link the infrastructure support and improvements measures for post harvest facilities to the key production areas

**Targets:** NEDA-CFSP: Construction of 5 Farm Level Grains Center

New Investment : 149 kilometers

New Jobs : 1,100

- 2.3 Maximizing agricultural and fishery production and income through the promotion of community-based crop and fishery production intensification and diversification

**Targets:** NMCIREMP Provision of Poverty Alleviation/Micro Credit Fund

New Investment : PhP1, 636 Million

New Job : 8,016

New Entrepreneurs : 1,636

- 3. Developing 250,522 hectares of land for agribusiness with approximately P10.830 Billion new investment and creating 505,080 jobs as contribution to the job creation effort of the Administration**

- 3.1 Identification/Prioritization/Transformation of unutilized/unproductive public and private lands into agribusiness enterprises (DA, DAR and DENR)

**Targets:**

Project	Scope, hectares	(a) Target			
		Units	Cost (PhP)	(b) New Investment (PhP)	New Jobs Generated
1. Palay Production	4,228	-	516.4 M	839.519 M	22,777
2. Abaca Production, Rehabilitation & Expansion Program	11,500	-	253 M	120 M	9,580
3. Oil palm Expansion Program	9,950	-	523 M	-	9,950
4. Coconut Planting/Replanting	222,344	-	685 M	-	222,344
5. CIP/Farming Techno Transfer	1,150	-	184 M	115.5 M	3,850
6. Oil Palm Prod'n/industrial Tree Farming/Investment and marketing Assistance	1,350	-	6.9 M	62.5 M	1,867
7. UCPB-CIIF Livelihood Fund	-	-	-	13.3 M	300
8. Private Investment Promotion & Credit Financing	-	-	-	537 M	2,525
9. Public Investment to LGU	-	-	-	1.099 B	5,491
10. Livelihood Fund	-	-	-	5.766 B	229,744
11. CBRMP Various Projects	-	-	-		2,177

## C. Environment and Natural Resources

Adopting community-based approach in the development of upland resources shall be pursued to harmonize and offer complementation in the sustainable resource development and management of the region. This also calls for the multi-sectoral strategies or alliances with the objective of promoting upland sustainable development and management of the common resources. The strategy of complementing and sharing local resources will enhance the implementation of projects. The government shall lead in the adoption and operation of this strategy. The rehabilitation and improvement project for the watershed areas shall be enhanced to ensure that supply of water for household and industrial uses can be sustained.

Mining development shall be pursued in accordance with the existing environmental laws and regulations. Sustainable mining shall be pursued wherein social and environmental considerations should be given priority in the development of the mining sector.

### 1. Lands

#### 1.1 Proclamation of Barangays within timberland of Agusan del Sur.

**Targets:** 69 barangays with complete and approved survey within Agusan del Sur

#### 1.2 Delineation of forest boundary

**Targets:** 2,940.89 km forest boundary  
 Cost : PhP35.89 Million  
 Employment : 354  
 Cost : PhP35.89 Million  
 Employment : 354

#### 1.3 Issuance of patent on CARP and regular patent

**Targets:** 58,022 hectares  
 Cost : PhP29.127 Million  
 Employment : 354

#### 1.4 Identification of potential sites for socialized housing.

**Targets:** 44 hectares for socialized housing

#### 1.5 Issuance of special patents on potential school sites.

**Targets:** 31 special patents

#### 1.6 Processing and issuance of foreshore lease applications

**Targets:** 478 lease applications covering 14,028 hectares

- 1.7 Identification/development of model PAs for eco-tourism, and package eco-tourism plan

**Targets:** 28 sites for development  
Cost : PhP1.4 Million  
Employment : 60

- 1.8 Issuance of patent on CARP and regular patent

**Targets:** 58,022 hectares  
Cost : PhP29.127 Million

- 1.9 Inventory and assessment of coastal and marine resources in every municipality

**Targets:** 27 municipalities

- 1.10 Establishment of demo areas for biodiversity conservation.

**Targets:** 2 demo areas  
Employment : 15

- 1.11 Provision of lands for school sites

**Targets:** 3 classrooms, 4 day care centers, 216 scholars, 20 college students  
Cost : PhP3.104 Billion  
Construction of 12 schools costing PhP 480,600,000 and provision of scholarships to 20 students costing PhP 360,000,000

## **2. Forestry**

- 2.1 Conduct of Survey Mapping and Planning (SMP) to identify feasible areas for tree and agri- forestry development.

**Targets:** 616,019 hectares production forest with tenurial instruments  
375,509 hectares production forest without tenurial instruments

- 2.2 Profiling of watersheds areas

**Targets:** 11 watershed areas covering 81,157 hectares of protection forest

- 2.3 Rehabilitation of watershed

**Targets:** 6,608 hectares of protection forest within watershed

- 2.4 Approval of Watershed Management Plan

**Targets:** approval of 3 watershed management plans

2.5 Development of open area for Agro-forestry or tree plantation

**Targets:** 21,986 hectares  
 Cost : PhP5.04 Million  
 Employment : 87,941  
 Investment : PhP197.871

2.6 Park and roadside planting.

**Targets:** 13 sites  
 Employment : 30

2.7 Increase production of high quality planting stocks for the industrial tree

**Targets:** 90 seedlings  
 Cost : PhP0.450 Million

2.8 Establishment of demo-areas/pilot plantations in Butuan City, Dapa, San Francisco, and Bayugan.

**Targets:** 4 demo areas

2.9 Collection of forest charges on products harvested within Timber License Agreement (TLA) areas, Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA) areas, and Rattan permittees.

**Targets:** PhP1.039 Billion Collection for Forest Charges on TLAs  
 PhP159.386 Million Collection for IFMA  
 PhP35.763 Million for rattan

**3. Mining**

3.1 Identification of potential sites for socialized housing.

**Targets:** 44 hectares for socialized housing

3.2 Characterization and revegetation of mined-out areas in Surigao del Norte

**Targets:** 5 mined-out areas

3.3 Establishment and maintainance of a mineral resources database that is readily available to clients

**Targets:** 10 data bases  
 Cost : PhP10.50Million  
 Employment : 50



- 3.4 Disestablishment of portions of mineral reservation areas.

**Targets:** 15,730 hectares disestablished  
Cost : PhP750 Million

- 3.5 Development of Adlay Project in Surigao del Norte.

**Targets:**  
Investment : PhP840 Million  
Employment : 1,400

- 3.6 Development of mineral exploration projects

**Targets:** 5 exploration projects  
Investment Cost : PhP700 Million  
Employment : 250

- 3.7 Promotion of small scale mining for both metallics and non-metallics other than gold.

**Targets:** 10 small-scale mining  
Cost : PhP5.0 Million  
Employment : 167

- 3.8 Identification and provision of alternative livelihood for hazardous small scale mining projects in Agusan del Sur.

**Targets:** 10 small-scale mining  
Cost : PhP780 Million  
Employment : 15,600

#### **4. Solid Waste Management**

- 4.1 Identify Municipal Recovery Facility (MRF)/Composting Facility (CF)

**Targets:**  
Cost : PhP2.331 Million  
Employment : 3,100

- 4.2 Survey of markets

**Targets:** 30 markets surveyed  
Cost : PhP0.150 Million  
Employment : 180

- 4.3 Conversion of open dumpsites to Controlled/Sanitary landfill

**Targets:** 30 dump sites converted  
Cost : PhP1.712 Million  
Employment : 120

- 4.4 Encourage Private Sector Investment on ESWM
- Targets:** 12 private investors  
Investment : PhP0.685 Million  
Employment : 120
- Targets:** 30 activities  
Cost : PhP0.666 Million  
Employment : 24
- 4.5 Identification of CDM Projects with Potential Carbon Reduction for CDM
- Targets:** 6 CDM projects and 18 activities  
Cost : PhP0.369 Million  
Employment : 390
- 4.6 Provide areas for infrastructure; roads, ports, radar area, telecom sites, etc.
- Targets:** 6 areas for infra development  
Cost : PhP384 Million  
Employment : 7,680
- 5. Protected Area**
- 5.1 Implementation of Biodiversity Monitoring System on 2 PAs (AMWS & SIPLAS)
- Targets:** 2 monitoring system  
Cost : PhP0.3 Million
- 5.2 Issuance of PACBRMA to register Private Organization (PO)
- Targets:** 4 POs
- 5.3 Assessment and classification of caves
- Targets:** 23 caves  
Cost : PhP736, 000
- 5.4 Development of mangrove areas through LGU community partnership.
- Targets:** 190 hectares of mangrove  
Cost : PhP3.8 Million  
Employment : 18

## **D. Tourism**

The development of the region's tourism industry draws strength from and is favored by the abundance and quality of its natural and man-made resources, habitat of exotic wildlife, rich cultural and historical past and strong local initiatives to develop the sector. Its development, however, requires various imperatives such as careful balancing of the need to maximize the value-adding character of the region's natural resources upon which most, if not all, tourism activities are based and of the need to preserve their natural quality for long-term sustained yield. The following activities shall be undertaken:

1. Development of the transport infrastructure

This calls for the improvement of the coastal road access linking the growth and service centers and jump-off points for identified priority tourist destinations in Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur and improvement of lateral roads linking the eastern and western segments of the region. Major infrastructure facilities like the Surigao Airport to accommodate higher capacity commercial flights and increasing the number of commercial air traffic in accordance with the projected demands.

2. Expansion of accommodation and other support facilities and services

Improvement and expansion of the present accommodation facilities and to install additional telecommunications facilities

3. Sustainable development of tourism assets

Development of site-specific tourist destinations should be pursued within the context of sustainable development

4. Investment incentives and promotions

Promotion of public-private-community partnership or joint ventures for investments in tourism-related development activities

5. Integrated institutional mechanism for sustainable tourism development

Strengthening of the various organizational hierarchies for a unified tourism development efforts at all level and defining the roles of various local government units in tourism development, and manpower development for the various needs of tourism-related activities are necessary for sustainable tourism

5.1 Increasing tourist arrival and expenditures

**Targets:** 420 tourists

Cost : PhP450,000 of products

Cost of Tour Packages : PhP 450,000

Come-on Activities Cost : PhP1.05 Million

5.2 Aggressive Investment Promotion

**Targets:**

Cost : PhP2.1 Million

5.3 Alternative Livelihood Training (Homestay)

**Targets:** 180 Training

Cost : PhP1.4 Million

5.4 Tour Packages in Nautical Highway

**Targets:** 180 Training

Cost : PhP1.3 Million

### **III. POLICY REFORMS**

#### **A. Trade and Investments**

1. Ensure implementation of the BMBE law by providing appropriate incentives and benefits to MSMEs
2. Promotion of infrastructure support to sustain supply of raw materials for the processing sector
3. Promotion of long-term loan to MSMEs
4. Sustain role of government as policy provider and not business competitor
5. Enhance tripartite complementation through provision of infrastructure support and facilities
6. Institutionalize the trade and industry development plan for the region
7. Strengthen Caraga region's participation to national/ international trade fairs and missions
8. Intensify the adoption of the industry clustering approach to development

#### **B. Agri-Business**

1. Full devolution of agricultural extension works where budget from national government for agricultural modernization and agribusiness be channeled to the provincial government.
2. Immediate passage of the National Land Use Act to prevent unrestrained land conversion and secure agricultural lands, especially NPAAD, for region's food requirements.
3. Allocate funds to state colleges for research and development to improve technology and productivity.
4. Advocate for the passage of National Land Use Act and Farmland as Collateral Bill to avert agrarian land ownership reconsolidation
5. Institutionalization of the Sustainable Agricultural Land Use Plan in each LGU
6. Impose productivity of agriculture and fishery within ecological limits
7. Ensure optimal utilization of the offshore and deep sea resources
8. Strengthen mandate of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (FARMC) in the region

**C. Environment and Natural Resources**

1. Complete delineation of forestland and its boundaries in Caraga thereby distributing the public and alienable lands by 2007 to open up additional areas for production and job generation.
2. Proper pricing of leased public lands and regulate the pricing of private lands as well if used for production, to ensure maximum utilization
3. Strengthen the adoption of the “Co-Management Strategy”
4. Promote the adoption of the watershed management planning approach
5. Enhance the provision of accurate and systematic information on land status
6. Strengthen mandate of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB)
7. Ensure funding support for the ecosystem research and development
8. Strengthen the promotion dissemination of new package of technology

## **IV. PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

Environmental, seasonal and supply constraints have taken a toll on the region’s economy resulting in an inability of the region to participate in the growth of jobs, wage and personal income realized in the metropolitan and urban areas of the country.

Economic forecasts predict that the regional growth will continue to lag behind the urban areas of the country, suggesting the need to invest in projects and activities which lead to economic diversification, job growth and improved community services.

The following set of programs and projects will operationalize the strategies provided for in the Caraga Regional Development Plan, for the possible attainment of the regional goals and objectives that focuses on the increase and creation of jobs through economic growth and community development opportunities with emphasis on developing quality communities throughout the region.

These programs and projects for implementation are consistent with the MTPDP priorities. Funding for these projects are derived from the national government, local government units and foreign donor agencies. The proponent/implementing agency is responsible in undertaking the fund sourcing activities.

**A. Trade and Investments**

1. Local Investment Promotion Program
2. MSME Development program
3. SULONG Program

4. Sustainable Logistics Development Program
5. Human Resource Development Program for MSMEs
6. Buklod Yaman sa Kooperatiba Program
7. Productivity Orientation for Microbusiness Enterprises
8. DOLE Livelihood Development Program
9. Nonoc Nickel Rehabilitation Project
10. Mini Oil Mill
11. Advocating Trade and Investment Liberalization
12. Industry pollution Control Project II
13. Credit Line for SMEs
14. Industrial Support Services Program II
15. Third Rural Finance Project

**B. Agri-Business**

1. GMA CARES - Income Augmentation and Livelihood Program
2. Construction of Fish Port Complex in Surigao City and Tandag, Surigao del Sur
3. Farm Income Diversification and Market Development Program
4. Aquaculture Production Intensification Program
5. Hybrid Corn Expansion and Rice Commercialization Program
6. Genetic Resource Improvement Program
7. Construction and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Projects
8. Caraga Food Sufficiency Program
9. Northern Mindanao Community Initiative and Resource Management Project-IFAD
10. Community-Based Resource Management Project
11. Abaca Production and Expansion Program
12. Oil Palm Expansion Program
13. Coconut Planting/Replanting Program
14. Communal Irrigation Project
15. Sustainable Agribusiness and Rural Enterprise Development Program
16. Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program
17. Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project II
18. Pump Irrigation Development Project
19. MINSSAD
20. SET-UP, Techno-transfer, CAPE, MPEX, STEVPP
21. Farmers Information Technology Services
22. MITC, MCT, Computer Literacy Program

## ***Economic Growth and Job Creation***

---

- 23 Growth With Equity in Mindanao 2 Program
- 24 Integrated Agro-Forestry and Dairy Stock Farm Project
- 25 Vegetable Production Intensification Program
- 26 DOST S and T Scholarship Program
- 27 Bio-Fertilizer Production
- 28 Establishment of R &D Center
- 29 Fisheries Resource Management Project
- 30 Enhancing Agri-Productivity Through Radiation Technology
- 31 Abattoir Development Assistance Program
- 32 Solar Power Technology Support Project
- 33 Mindanao Rural Development Program
- 34 Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector Project
- 35 Cattle Production Through Artificial Insemination

### **C. Environment and Natural Resources**

- 1. Adlay Mining Project Development
- 2. Gold Mining Projects of Siana, Surigao, Mabuhay and Agata
- 3. Small Scale Mining Project
- 4. Mineral Land Administration
- 5. Social Management Development Program
- 6. Industrial Tree Plantation
- 7. Biodiversity Conservation Program
- 8. Coastal and Marine Resource Management
- 9. Urban Greening Project
- 10. Establishment of Macro-Somatic Clonal Nursery
- 11. Rehabilitation of Mined-Out Areas
- 12. Material Recovery Facility Project
- 13. Solid Waste Management Project
- 14. Mangrove Reforestation and Lake Grass Rehab. Project
- 15. CBFM Special Projects  
Mangrove Reforestation and River Stabilization Protection Project

**D. Tourism**

1. New Products Creation
2. Tour Packages
3. Surfing Events
4. Production of Collateral Materials
5. Media Invitationals
6. Investment forum cum Business Matching
7. Homestay Program Training
8. Basic Tourism Service Training
9. Tour Guiding Program
10. Pacific Excapade Tour Package
11. Caraga Goes To Intramuros



**Table 2.11 Summary of Caraga Region's Initial Contribution to the Administration's 10-Point Legacy**

	<b>Job Creation (No.)</b>	<b>New Investments (PhP Million)</b>	<b>Entrepreneurs (MSMEs) (No.)</b>	<b>Available Lands (Hectares)</b>
Caraga Contribution	453,942	27,571.40	32,396	145,808
National Target	10 Million		3 Million	2 Million
Percent to National Target	<b>4.54</b>		<b>1.03</b>	<b>7.29</b>





## **Chapter 3**

# **Social Development and Direct Anti-Poverty Measures**

### **I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **A. The Population and Poverty Incidence in the Region**

The population in Caraga in CY 2000 was 2,095,367 with Agusan del Sur sharing the biggest percentage at almost twenty-seven percent and Bislig City sharing the lowest percentage at about 6.7 percent. From the actual population, the actual number of families reached 393,866. By 2010, the regional population is expected to increase to 2,717,876 (National Statistics Office) with 510,879 families.

The Region's population growth at an average of 1.63 percent per annum appears to be a favorable trend as this is lower than the national rate of 2.3 percent. However, considering that the region is an out-migration area, the 1.63 percent growth rate may not be a good indicator of effective population and development management arrangement. In fact, the reasons for its population flight indicate that the Region is hard pressed in the fight against poverty. It continues to grapple with schemes to provide effective and efficient services to its populace to enable them to satisfy basic needs.

The magnitude of poor families in the region has been decreasing overtime at a rate of 14.35 percent from 58.96 percent in 1991 to 44.61 percent in 2000. With the trend, Caraga had a projected number of 172,760 poor families in 2003 and 97,552 in 2010. Consistent with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger is at the forefront. The 2010 target is an estimated fifty percent reduction of the incidence of poor families using an average yearly decrease of 2.73 from 2003.

With the aim of reducing poverty incidence, sectoral development efforts are strengthened to ensure effective and efficient delivery of services to increase the poor's access to such services. This Chapter, specifically aims to pursue the following:

1. To reengineer the systems and structures in the education sector to raise the learning outcomes of pupils and students,
2. To reduce resource gaps in the education sector,
3. To improve maternal and child health,
4. To combat Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), water borne and mosquito borne diseases
5. To provide access to potable water,
6. To increase access of the poor and marginalized sector to affordable housing program,
7. To address the proliferation of slum dwellers in key cities and urban municipalities, and
8. To manage the size and growth of the population within the framework of responsible parenthood

**B. Education**

**1. Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD)**

Based on the Department of Education data, four to five years age group population reached 124,269. A little over fifty-seven percent (57.10 percent) or 70,957 of them experience preschool education. From the total number of children with preschool education, more are female with 59.83 percent and majority of them are in the rural areas.

**Table 3.1 Gross Enrolment Ratio in Early Childhood Development Programmes, By Area, Caraga Region, SY 2003-2004**

Region/ Areas	Sex	Enrolment			Official Age Group Population (4-5 yrs.)	Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)
		Total	Preschools	Day Care		
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>70,957</b>	<b>16,893</b>	<b>54,064</b>	<b>124,269</b>	<b>57.10</b>
	Male	34,777	8,506	26,271	63,793	54.52
	Female	36,180	8,387	27,793	60,476	59.83
<b>Urban Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>14,686</b>	<b>4,714</b>	<b>9,972</b>	<b>27,636</b>	<b>53.14</b>
	Male	7,157	2,390	4,767	14,249	50.23
	Female	7,529	2,324	5,205	13,387	56.24
<b>Rural Areas</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>56,271</b>	<b>12,179</b>	<b>44,092</b>	<b>96,633</b>	<b>58.23</b>
	Male	27,620	6,116	21,504	49,544	55.75
	Female	28,651	6,063	22,588	47,089	60.85

Source : DepEd-Caraga MTEDP 2005-2010

The 2003 data of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) showed that there are 1,204 barangays with Day Care Centers (DCCs).

**Table 3.2 Number of Day Care Centers  
By Province and City, Caraga Region, As of December 2003**

Province/City	No. of Barangays	Barangays With DCCs	Total Existing DCCS
Agusan del Norte	163	160	212
Agusan del Sur	314	269	440
Surigao del Norte	381	342	399
Surigao del Sur	286	284	436
Butuan City	86	78	107
Bislig City	24	19	55
Surigao City	54	52	72
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>1,721</b>

Source : DSWD Regional Office

It should be noted that there are more DCCs as compared to the number of barangays. This indicates that certain barangays have more than one (1) DCC. In the effort of providing one DCC per barangay, the Government has yet to establish one hundred seven (107) additional DCCs to respond to the needs of the barangays without such facility.

The continuing challenge in the ECCD is increasing the Gross Enrolment Rate by two percent (2%) annually from 2005 to 2010, both, in the private and public schools.

## 2. Elementary

Basic literacy rate in 2003 remained at 95.73 percent while the functional literacy rate was still 81.61percent.

It was projected that the population of the elementary pupils in 2003 reached 377,921. From the total, almost fifty-one percent (51%) were male and the rest were female.

**Table 3.3 6-11 Years Old Population Projection  
By Division, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

DIVISION	Total	Male	Female
Agusan del Norte	50,347	25,831	24,516
Agusan del Sur	107,384	54,629	52,755
Surigao del Norte	46,066	23,384	22,682
Surigao del Sur	74,431	37,633	36,798
Siargao	15,958	8,101	7,857
Butuan City	45,512	23,176	22,336
Bislig City	18,033	9,118	8,915
Surigao City	20,190	10,249	9,941
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>377,921</b>	<b>192,121</b>	<b>185,800</b>

*Source : DepEd, Based on 1995 NSO Survey*

Based on the population projections, participation rate for SY 2003-2004 in the public elementary was 76.10 percent, a drastic fall from the SY 2000-2001 data which was 87.09 percent. Participation rate in the private elementary likewise fell from 2.36 percent to 2.05 percent. Cohort Survival and Completion Rates of public elementary school children on the other hand improved slightly from 58.01 percent and 55.95 percent in 2000-2001 to 60.56 percent and 57.71 percent in 2003-2004, respectively.

More teachers were hired and more classrooms were constructed. Desk shortage more than doubled with 20,858 units in 2000-2001 to 43,723 in 2003-2004. Textbook to pupil ratio remained 1:2 and classroom and teacher to pupil ratio are both 1:34.

**Table 3.4 Teacher and Classroom Shortage, By Province & City, Caraga Region, SY 2000-2004**

Area	Teacher Shortage				Classroom Shortage			
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
AGUSAN DEL NORTE	296	308	51	22	218	287	20	61
AGUSAN DEL SUR	859	929	236	226	1,007	1,078	128	100
BISLIG CITY				11				22
BUTUAN CITY	230	236	32	17	286	267	93	86
SIARGAO	61	65	16	0	48	38	1	1
SURIGAO CITY	63	72	20	2	310	64	7	5
SURIGAO DEL NORTE	255	262	12	11	252	255	24	13
SURIGAO DEL SUR	599	666	156	111	560	649	79	68
<b>CARAGA</b>	<b>2,363</b>	<b>2,538</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2,681</b>	<b>2,638</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>356</b>

*Note : Teacher and Classroom Shortage SY 2002-2003 and SY 2003-2004 are based on BEIs, DepEd*

### 3. Secondary

For secondary student population, the 12-15 years old population was projected to reach 231,565 in 2003. The male population is a little over fifty percent or 50.75 percent.

**Table 3.5 12-15 Years Old Population Projection, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

DIVISION	Total	Male	Female
Agusan del Norte	31,288	16,078	15,210
Agusan del Sur	63,959	32,601	31,358
Surigao del Norte	28,807	14,565	14,242
Surigao del Sur	45,456	23,016	22,440
Siargao	9,979	5,046	4,933
Butuan City	28,438	14,244	14,194
Bislig City	11,013	5,576	5,437
Surigao City	12,625	6,384	6,241
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>231,565</b>	<b>117,510</b>	<b>114,055</b>

*Source : DepEd Caraga, Based on 1995 NSO Survey*

Indicators in the secondary education showed decreases by performance. Participation, Cohort Survival and Completion Rates, the two latter based in Year 1, showed decreasing trends from SY 2000-2001 to SY 2003-2004.

Apart from attaining the MDG target of achieving universal access to primary education by 2015, the most urgent and pressing challenge in education is to improve the over-all quality and efficiency of basic education service delivery. Specifically, the challenges include: raising the learning outcomes of pupils and students especially in English, Science and Mathematics, reducing resource gaps in critical education resources (classrooms, teachers, desks/armchairs, textbooks, school MOOE), and reengineering the systems and procedures to improve internal efficiency of DepEd.

**Table 3.6 Secondary Education Participation Rate, Cohort Survival Rate and Completion Rate, By Province and City, Caraga Region, SY 2000-20001 & 2003-2004**

AREA	Participation Rate		Cohort-Survival Rate (Based in Year 1)		Completion Rate (Based in Year 1)	
	2000-01	2003-04	2000-01	2003-04	2000-01	2003-04
Agusan del Norte	33.49	34.02	66.53	58.40	61.30	54.04
Agusan del Sur	38.46	40.12	58.79	71.03	57.78	66.47
Surigao del Norte	63.91	57.86	69.78	75.62	68.42	72.79
Surigao del Sur	42.86	40.72	95.17	59.05	90.46	55.55
Butuan City	49.94	49.34	66.14	70.69	63.31	67.46
Surigao City	22.47	28.51	85.12	90.15	79.90	85.18
Siargao	52.40	52.29	67.39	68.71	63.17	64.95
Bislig City		37.65		72.93		71.82
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>43.11</b>	<b>42.53</b>	<b>71.38</b>	<b>67.90</b>	<b>68.43</b>	<b>64.22</b>

Source : DepEd Caraga

#### 4. Higher Education

There are now fifty-one (51) higher educational institutions (HEIs) existing in the region. Thirteen (13) are government HEIs and thirty-eight (38) are private. Both sectors are high in Education and Teacher Training Program offering. The private HEIs are likewise high in Business Administration and Related Programs, General Education, Mathematics and Information Technology Programs. The government HEIs are more technology and resource based with more program offerings on Engineering, Vocational Technology, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery.

Enrolment in baccalaureate courses in 2003-2004 reached 35,441. A little over fifty-four percent (54.3%) or 19,259 are female. Considering the number of existing private schools, more are enrolled in private schools with 22,930 to 12,511. Majority of the enrolled are in Bachelor in Elementary Education, Commerce and in Criminology.

As can be gleaned in the education data, teacher shortage has been decreasing in the past several years for the elementary level while it is increasing in the secondary level. The preference of the higher education population must have an influence with the growing enrollees in elementary education courses rather than the secondary. Likewise, the rationalization of course offerings and the specialization on specific fields by HEIs, both, government and private, will bring about more competent workforce in the future. This is seen to influence the employment and unemployment rates as schools will look into the needs of the major sectors and existing industries in the region.

As a development challenge, the higher education institutions will strive to improve access of poor and deserving students to higher and technical education. Likewise, to respond to current needs on information technology skills and capabilities, greater access to information and communication technology (ICT) in education shall be pushed.

**Table 3.7 Higher Education Institutions, By Province and City,  
Caraga Region, CY 2003**

PROVINCE	PRIVATE		GOVERNMENT			TOTAL
	Non-Sectarian	Sectarian	State University/ Satellite Campus	State College/ Satellite Campus	State Colleges	
Agusan del Norte	3	1		1		5
Agusan del Sur	5	1	1		1	8
Surigao del Norte	3			2		5
Surigao del Sur	2	1		5	1	9
Butuan City	12	1			1	14
Bislig City	2	2				4
Surigao City	4	1			1	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>51</b>

Source : CHED Statistical Bulletin 2003

**Table 3.8 Program Offerings of HEIs, By Discipline,  
By Sector, Caraga Region, SY 2003-2004**

PROVINCE	PRIVATE			GOVERNMENT				GRAND TOTAL
	Non-Sectarian	Sectarian	TOTAL	State University Satellite Campus	State College Satellite Campus	State Colleges	TOTAL	
General Education	26	31	57			8	8	<b>65</b>
Education & Teacher Training	94	45	139	19	39	54	112	<b>251</b>
Business Adm. & Related	76	40	116		6	5	11	<b>127</b>
Law and Jurisprudence		1	1					<b>1</b>
Natural Science	1		1		2	3	5	<b>6</b>
Math & IT	33	21	54		10	10	20	<b>74</b>
Medical and Allied	19	8	27					<b>27</b>
Engineering and Technology	18	5	23		24	14	38	<b>61</b>
Architecture & Town Planning	2		2					<b>2</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery					16	10	26	<b>26</b>
Service Trade	1		1					<b>1</b>
Mass Comm. & Docu.	1		1					<b>1</b>
Maritime	6		6		1		1	<b>7</b>
Other Disciplines	6	1	7			2	2	<b>9</b>
Voc Tech	42	18	60		9	21	30	<b>90</b>

Source : CHED Statistical Bulletin 2003

Source : CHED Statistical Bulletin 2003



## 5. Technical Education and Skills Development

To promote and develop middle-level manpower, improve technical education and skills development programs, the sector is continually challenged to ensure quality technical vocational and education training (TVET) programs, intensify enterprise-based trainings, provide more job opportunities for the populace by capacitating them according to manpower requirements of the local industries.

While there are enrollees in vocational and technical courses in the state colleges, the bulk are in the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Administered and Supervised Schools. TVET programs are generally categorized as school and non-school based. School based programs are either regular programs, short term and extension or outreach. The non-school based programs are either those which are done in the training centers, through the apprenticeship or learnership, Dual Training School (DTS) or Dualized Training Program (DTP) and the community-based trainings. The long term courses are those which will last from one to two years while the short term courses are as short as number of hours to six (6) months. Efforts are geared at improving TVET in the areas of agri-fishery, information communication and technology (ICT), tourism, health and maritime. Other priority sectors include automotive repair and maintenance, building construction, electronics, processed food and beverages, garment making, heating, ventilation, refrigeration and air-conditioning, metal and engineering.

**Table 3.10 Vocational Technology Enrolment and Graduates,  
By Province, Caraga Region SY 2001-2002 & 2002-2003**

Province/City		ENROLMENT									GRADUATES			
		SY 2001-2002			SY 2002-2003			SY 2003-2004			SY 2001-2002		SY 2002-2003	
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	M	F
Agusan del Norte (including Butuan City)	Public	249	54	303	176	59	235	0	0	0	86	25	65	19
	Private	918	853	1771	898	781	1679	1173	1322	2495	302	309	241	367
	TESDA	60	83	143	110	115	225	150	144	294	22	33	9	19
Agusan del Sur	Public													
	Private	352	406	758	327	423	750	486	475	961	81	54	163	15
	TESDA	436	50	486	542	82	624	618	133	751	133	26	159	309
Surigao del Norte (including Surigao City)	Public	603	86	689	626	98	724	824	129	953	203	8	222	42
	Private	510	603	1113	441	535	976	409	521	930	211	247	183	248
	TESDA	225	166	391	257	145	402	332	207	539	76	71	75	49
Surigao del Sur	Public	607	342	949	395	272	667	488	296	784	108	86	105	93
	Private	345	243	588	379	288	667	534	467	1001	91	51	116	103
	TESDA													
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4305</b>	<b>2886</b>	<b>7191</b>	<b>4151</b>	<b>2798</b>	<b>6949</b>	<b>5014</b>	<b>3694</b>	<b>8708</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>1338</b>	<b>1264</b>

Source : TESDA-Caraga

### C. Health and Nutrition

Health indicators should show a picture of healthy population to ensure that development has taken root where it should have. To do this, services and facilities must be improved in the existing facilities in the region. Currently, there are two (2) retained hospitals, namely : the Caraga Regional Hospital in Surigao City and the Adela Serra Ty Memorial Medical Center in Tandag, Surigao del Sur in the region which cater to the health needs not only of the people in the region but also of those from neighboring areas. There are four (4) Provincial Health Offices, three (3) City Health Offices, seventy-nine (79) rural health units/municipal health units and five hundred twenty-eight (528) barangay health stations. While these facilities need much improvement and rehabilitation to be able to deliver better service, it is noteworthy to mention that even with the devolution of functions to the local levels and the limited resources for health, the LGUs and Department of Health-Center for Health Development (DOH-CHD) are able to bring positive results in maintaining health for the Caragans.

In comparison to the 2000 national figures, Regional Crude Birth Rate (CBR) was 14.68 percent lower, Crude Death Rate (CDR) 12 percent lower and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) 22 percent lower. From 2000 to 2003, IMR reduced from 11.14 percent to 9.59 percent per 1,000 live births and the MMR from 1.72 percent to 1.43 percent per 1,000 live births. The leading cause for IMR, however, remained to be pneumonia and post-partum hemorrhage for MMR.

**Table 3.11 Infant Mortality Rate\***  
**By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2000 – 2003**

Province/City	Rate			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
Agusan del Norte	9.5	5.8	5.3	3.2
Agusan del Sur	9.9	10.0	8.9	9.1
Surigao del Norte	8.0	9.4	11.7	8.7
Surigao del Sur	10.2	14.8	10.6	13.0
Bislig City	5.5	3.4	6.6	6.8
Butuan City	22.8	19.2	16.9	16.2
Surigao City	14.9	12.5	6.4	10.2
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>11.14</b>	<b>11.50</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>9.59</b>

Note : \*- Per 1,000 live births

Source: DOH-CHD, Caraga

**Table 3.12 Ten Leading Causes of Infant Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

CAUSES	CY 2003		5 yr Ave (1998-2002) per 1,000 live births	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Pneumonia	86	2.16	134	3.72
Diarrhea	47	1.18	43	0.97
Prematurity	40	1.00	49	1.19
Sepsis/Septicemia	33	0.83	35	1.47
Congenital Defects	33	0.83	53	1.36
Accidents all forms	30	0.75	44	1.22
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	11	0.28	4	0.89
Malnutrition	11	0.28	6	0.17
Meningitis	7	0.20	5	0.11
Neonatal Tetanus	7	0.20	5	0.14

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga Annual Accomplishment Report 2003

**Table 3.13 Maternal Mortality Rate\*  
By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2000 – 2003**

Province/City	Rate			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
Agusan del Norte	0.70	0.40	0.90	00.0
Agusan del Sur	2.10	2.00	1.70	2.70
Surigao del Norte	1.30	2.10	1.50	0.40
Surigao del Sur	1.90	2.10	1.70	1.43
Bislig City	0.40	0.50	2.70	1.70
Butuan City	3.70	2.20	1.10	1.80
Surigao City	0.00	2.00	2.00	1.20
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.38</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>1.43</b>

Note: \*- Per 1,000 live births

Source: DOH-CHD, Caraga

**Table 3.14 Ten Leading Causes of Maternal Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

CAUSES	CY 2003		5 yr Ave (1998-2002) per 100,000 live births	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Post Partum Hemorrhage (unspecified)	22	0.54	21	0.58
Eclampsia	17	0.42	3	0.08
Retained Placenta	8	0.19	9	0.25
Post Partum Sepsis	2	0.05	5	0.14
Post Partum Thrombo Embolism	1	0.05	1	0.03
Uterine Inversion	1	0.05	1	0.03
Ruptured Uterus	1	0.05	1	0.03
Post Partum Wound Dehiscence	1	0.05	1	0.03
Post Partum Cardiomyopathy	1	0.05	1	0.03
Abruptio Placenta	1	0.05	1	0.03

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga Annual Accomplishment Report 2003

For the general public, the leading cause of morbidity continues to be acute respiratory infection or upper respiratory tract infection with bronchitis and pneumonia as the leading cause for mortality.

**Table 3.15 Ten Leading Causes of Morbidity, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

CAUSES	CY 2003		5 yr Ave (1998-2002) per 100,000 pop'n.	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Acute Respiratory Infection/ Upper Respiratory Tract Infection with Bronchitis	115,698	5,239	65,466	3,273
Diarrhea	19,867	900	17,069	853
Pneumonia	19,245	871	18,907	945
Influenza	19,167	868	15,950	798
Hypertensive Cardio Vascular Disease	12,546	568	8,310	416
Accidents/Injuries all forms	11,256	510	5,682	284
Skin Diseases	8,975	406	5,482	274
Tuberculosis	5,891	268	3,830	192
Anemia	5,779	262	1,814	91
Schistosomiasis	5,217	236	3,815	192

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga Annual Accomplishment Report 2003

**Table 3.16 Ten Leading Causes of Mortality, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

CAUSES	CY 2003		5 Year Ave (1998- 2002) per 100,000 pop'n	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Hypertensive Cardio Vascular Diseases	2,217	100	1,764	88
Accidents & Injuries (all forms)	885	40	719	36
Pneumonia	838	34	802	40
Cancer (all types)	671	30	570	29
Tuberculosis (all forms)	470	21	639	32
Renal diseases	386	17	198	10
Septicemia	209	9	148	7
Liver & Gall Bladder Disease	187	8	157	8
Diarrhea	166	8	63	3
Bleeding Peptic Ulcer Disease	159	7	110	6

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga Annual Accomplishment Report 2003

The nutrition indicators of pre-school and school age children in the region show positive indicators. A check on the nutritional status of 345,506 pre-school children in 2003, showed that 70.63 percent of them were normal while the 26.31 percent were below normal and the rest above normal. Data on the school age children showed a higher percentage of normal children with 72.67 percent and 25.56 percent below normal. This implies that the region is on track in attaining the MDG target on the proportion of underweight children. Despite a lower incidence of below and even above normal nutritional status, the region continues to see this as a challenge as it affects school participation and performance of the children.

**Table 3.17 Nutritional Status of Pre-School Children,  
By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

PROVINCE/ CITY	TOTAL POPULATION	CHILDREN WEIGHED	% COVERAGE	BELOW NORMAL		ABOVE NORMAL		NORMAL	
				No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agusan del Norte	53,858	41,906	77.81	12,179	29.06	1,399	3.34	28,407	67.78
Agusan del Sur	123,692	109,566	88.58	29,829	27.22	2,768	2.53	76,969	70.25
Surigao del Norte	73,058	59,776	81.82	16,311	27.29	2,620	4.38	39,629	66.30
Surigao del Sur	83,166	63,085	75.85	20,913	33.15	1,561	2.47	40,611	64.38
Bislig City	11,108	11,108	100.0	2,391	21.52	179	1.61	8,538	76.86
Butuan City	49,028	44,482	90.73	6,203	13.94	731	1.64	37,548	84.41
Surigao City	22,226	15,583	70.11	3,074	19.73	162	1.04	12,347	79.23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>416,136</b>	<b>345,506</b>	<b>83.03</b>	<b>90,900</b>	<b>26.31</b>	<b>9,420</b>	<b>2.73</b>	<b>244,049</b>	<b>70.63</b>

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga

**Table 3.18 Nutritional Status of School Children,  
By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

PROVINCE /CITY	TOTAL POPULATION	CHILDREN WEIGHED	% COVERAGE	BELOW NORMAL		ABOVE NORMAL		NORMAL	
				No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agusan del Norte	51,084	50,983	99.80	15,090	29.60	1,556	3.05	34,337	67.35
Agusan del Sur	100,653	93,575	92.97	23,545	25.16	922	0.98	69,108	73.85
Surigao del Norte	56,248	52,241	92.88	9,927	19.00	1,522	2.91	40,792	78.08
Surigao del Sur	70,799	67,706	95.63	18,528	27.36	427	0.63	48,889	72.20
Bislig City	17,136	15,214	88.78	6,663	43.80	592	3.89	7,959	52.31
Butuan City	43,382	40,736	93.90	9,957	24.44	714	1.75	30,065	73.80
Surigao City	18,677	18,643	99.82	2,957	15.86	413	2.21	15,273	81.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>357,979</b>	<b>339,098</b>	<b>94.73</b>	<b>86,667</b>	<b>25.56</b>	<b>6,146</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>246,423</b>	<b>72.67</b>

Source: DOH-CHD Caraga

On water supply and sanitation, only eighty percent (80%) of total households in the region have access to safe water supply (Please refer to data shown under the Infrastructure Chapter). Among seventy-three (73) municipalities and cities in the region, only fifty-nine (59) have access to Level III water system, the rest are either Levels I and II or have doubtful water sources. Different stakeholders especially the DOH-CHD will continue to focus on the concern to reach a one hundred percent coverage of potable water supply for all households.

The sector's concern does not only cover the delivery of health and nutrition services and provision of water. It is also concerned with mechanisms to increase people's access to better health services and facilities. In line with the Government's Medicare Para sa Masa, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) registered a total of 272,758 families and 175,320 individuals who are either employed, self-employed or retirees under the program.

**Table 3.19 Medicare Para sa Masa Enrolment, By Province and City, Caraga Region, As of October 2004**

AREA	Number of Enrolled/Registered		
	Sponsored Program By Families	Individual(Employed, self-employed, retirees)	TOTAL
Agusan del Norte	37,491	24,711	62,202
Agusan del Sur	75,595	32,704	108,299
Surigao del Norte	53,749	17,802	71,551
Surigao del Sur	55,008	20,059	75,067
Butuan City	26,630	56,050	82,680
Bislig City	10,088	12,827	22,915
Surigao City	14,197	11,167	25,364
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>272,758</b>	<b>175,320</b>	<b>448,078</b>

Source : PhilHealth-Caraga

While indicators show improvement of the health and nutritional status of the people, the sector is continuously faced with varying challenges. Among these are the continuing cases of mosquito borne diseases like dengue, malaria and filariasis. In July 2004, there was an outbreak of dengue in Bislig City and LGUs initiate intensive advocacy to prevent such incident in other areas. In addition, there are still reported water borne diseases like schistosomiasis but no confirmed HIV AIDS case as of December 2003. The LGUs and DOH-CHD continue to be vigilant and are extensively conducting varying disease control and prevention activities. There is the need to construct more barangay health stations and improve existing health stations to strengthen government mechanisms for people in the communities to have better access to health services through the local government units.

Health care delivery system shall be strengthened with the collaborative efforts of the national government, agencies concerned, local government units and non-government organizations.

## **D. Population Management**

In 2003, there were a total of 146,571 users and 32,970 new acceptors of the different family planning methods to include natural family planning (NFP), condom, injectable, IUD, LAM, male or female sterilization and pills.

Population size is growing at 1.63 percent annually. In the region, the actual number of children which is 4.7 per couple is much higher than the desired fertility rate of 2.8 percent. Vis-à-vis the concern, the society is likewise bombarded with the change in the values of young adults as evidenced in the increasing incidence of premarital sex, teenage pregnancies and other teenage reproductive health concerns.

## **E. Housing and Resettlement**

The region has a total of 386,283 occupied housing units in 2000 with 393,362 total number of households. The ratio of the number of households to occupied housing units was 1.02 which means that there are single dwelling units shared by two or more households. The region's doubled-up households has reached 7,079.

**Table 3.20 Occupied Housing Units, Ratio of Households to Occupied Housing Units and Ratio of Household Population to Occupied Housing Units, By Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 20**

Province	Occupied Housing Units	Ratio	
		Household to Occupied Housing Units	Household Population to Occupied Housing Units
Agusan Del Norte	51,881	1.02	5.4
Agusan Del Sur	101,926	1.02	5.39
Surigao Del Norte	69,100	1.02	5.19
Surigao Del Sur	74,726	1.02	5.33
Bislig City	17,849	1.02	5.36
Butuan City	48,843	1.03	5.3
Surigao City	21,958	1.03	5.26
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>386,283</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>5.32</b>

*Source: Population and Housing Census 2000*

Huge housing backlog confronts the housing sector. In 2003, housing backlog reached 118,339 due to informal settlers, displaced families and doubled-up households. The informal settlers or the landless accounts for 42 percent of the housing backlog. These consist of families occupying private and public lands, followed by displaced families due to the infrastructure projects of the government which comprise 11 percent. It also includes families occupying danger and blighted areas in *esteros*, along the riverbanks, under the bridges, road sides, parks and open spaces. Making significant improvement in the lives of slum dwellers in Caraga means contributing to the achievement of MDG target in ensuring environmental sustainability.

Among LGUs in the region, Agusan Del Sur has the most number of informal settlers with about 21,209, which comprises 43 percent of the total informal settlers in the region followed by Butuan City with 10,886 informal settlers which can be found along its urbanizable areas. Among the three cities, Bislig City has the least number of informal settlers. An alarming number of homeless people reaching to 4,289 were recorded in 2003. Although Bislig has the least number of informal settlers, it has the highest number of homeless reaching 3,253 families.

**Table 3.21 New Units Needed Due to Backlog, By Province and City, Caraga Region, As of CY 2003**

Province/ City	Due to Population (2000-2003)	Double-Up Households	Landless/ Informal Settlers	Displaced	Homeless	Total
Agusan Del Norte	4,170	898	2,113	321	451	7953
Agusan Del Sur	24,743	1,711	21,209	3,393	222	48278
Surigao Del Norte	3,716	1,004	4,481	492	48	9741
Surigao Del Sur	4,108	1,033	5,791	2,005	-	12973
Bislig City	4,259	420	2,183	160	3,253	10275
Butuan City	4,519	1,430	10,886	6,378	315	23528
Surigao City	1,417	583	3,220	371	-	5591
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>46,932</b>	<b>7,079</b>	<b>49,883</b>	<b>13,120</b>	<b>4,289</b>	<b>118,339</b>

Sources: NHA, LGUs and NSO

Security of land tenure is also an issue. In 2000, only 51 percent of the housing units were constructed in lands which the household either owned or amortized and the rest were occupied with or without the consent of the owner. Moreover, as there are housing units which were not built using strong materials, upgrading the existing housing units is also a must to ensure decent living among the population.

The problem on housing is mainly due to poverty, population growth, limited opportunities for gainful employment especially in the rural areas and economic slow-down limiting the funds for the provision of shelter. The provision of relocation or resettlement sites for the informal settlers is also beset with resistance among the target beneficiaries as they refuse to be relocated in areas which are not within the town centers or their present residence due to the perceived absence of livelihood opportunities in the relocation or resettlement areas.

The LGUs in the region together with the National Housing Authority (NHA) Caraga and other key shelter agencies have taken a firm stance in resolving the housing problems through shelter development and servicing of housing related requirements of poorest families. From 1994 – 2003, a total of 70 housing projects with 27,635 beneficiaries were implemented in the entire region which benefited the urban poor, families in dangers areas, those who were affected due to government infrastructure projects and man-made and natural calamities. The DSWD had extended core shelter to the victims of these calamities.



Moreover, the LGUs have entered into partnership with Non-Government Organizations and private sector in shelter development to provide clearer directions in addressing squatting and homelessness. Consolidated and integrated efforts through multi-sectoral partnership had contributed positive results in resolving these problems. The Butuan Habitat for Humanity and Gawad Kalinga are among the active NGO partners of the local government units to ensure that every Caragan can be provided with decent housing. Private developers of low cost housing also proliferate especially in urban areas specifically Butuan City.

**Table 3.22 Shelter Needs Projection By Province & City, Caraga Region, CY 2010**

Province/City	Backlog (as of 2003)	Population Growth (2003-2010)	Total Housing Needs
Agusan Del Norte	7,953	6,436	14,389
Agusan Del Sur	48,278	35,471	83,749
Surigao Del Norte	9,741	7,111	16,852
Surigao Del Norte	12,973	8,865	21,838
Bislig City	10,275	2,176	12,451
Butuan City	23,528	7,039	30,567
Surigao City	5,591	2,983	85,74
<b>Caraga</b>	<b>118,339</b>	<b>70,081</b>	<b>188,420</b>

Source: LGUs and NHA

Basic Assumptions :

Population in 2000	2,095,367	HH per Dwelling Unit	1.02
Annual Population Growth	1.63%	Displaced Units	13,120
Household Size	5.32	Landless/Informal	49,883
Homeless	4,289		

By 2010, the housing needs in the region will reach 188,420 units. Sustained efforts in increasing the access of the poor and marginalized sector to affordable housing programs and projects confront the region. Thus, it is important that housing packages be affordable and that capacity of the target market to pay shall be considered.

## **F. Social Welfare and Development**

The focus of social welfare and development is the protection and the promotion of the welfare of the vulnerable groups which include the children and youth, women, indigenous peoples (IPs), persons with disabilities and the older persons.

### **1. Children and Youth**

Total children population which is within the zero to seventeen (0-17) years old in 2000 reached 998,274. It was 47.64 percent of the 2000 total regional population of 2,095,367 (NSCB). Based on the DepEd data, only six (6) out of ten (10) who enrolled in Grade 1 will actually finish and complete Sixth Grade.

There are reports of increasing number of children and youth becoming victims of abuse and trafficking, teenage pregnancies and involvement in drugs. Prevalence of street children especially in urbanized areas is likewise observed. However, reliable data are still to be collected and validated.

Poverty is heavily felt by children as evidenced by the incidence of child labor to raise family income and the eventual inability of these children to go to school or much more finish education.

## **2. Women**

Comprising 48.88 percent of the total population of the region in 2000 (NSCB), the women sector continues to face the challenge of integrating its concerns in all of the development processes. In Caraga, the women's cause is continuously advanced in the region at the regional and lower levels through the gender and development (GAD) mechanisms and structures. At the regional level, the prime mover for GAD initiatives is the Regional Development Council Gender and Development Coordinating Council (RDC GADCC), the Caraga GAD Advocates at the LGU levels and the GAD Teams at the institution or agency level.

Concerns for the women and GAD bodies' concerns include the protection of women from abuse, trafficking, health hazards and unjust persecution. Some of the challenges that the women sector has been fighting for include the institutionalization of the 5 percent GAD Budget to ensure programs and projects to improve the lives of women, access to more income and livelihood opportunities and the women's access to decision-making.

## **3. Older Persons (OPs)**

Based on the NSCB 2000 survey, the sixty (60) and above population totaled 124,283. The number of female older persons which was 50.89 percent was slightly more than the male population. The DSWD, in close coordination with the local government units and the Office of Senior Citizens' Associations (OSCA), will continue to facilitate the assistance for members of OSCAs through the issuance of OSCA Identification Cards (IDs). In 2002, a total of 7,482 senior citizens were issued OSCA IDs.

Among the concerns confronting the group are – inadequate mechanisms and facilities to provide foster care to abandoned and neglected older persons and to provide them education; lack of profiling system; absence of geriatric wards/health facilities for the elderly; and, the lack or weak enforcement of Republic Act 9257 or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003 especially discounts/privileges in transport utilities and purchase of medicines.

## **4. Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)**

As of the 2000 Census, the region posted a total of 30,482 disability cases. It is about 1.45 percent of the region's total population. Majority of disability was on low vision which accounted for 41.49 percent.

The PWDs over the years have been facing the same issues and concerns: lack of mechanism on the prevention, early detection and intervention of disabling condition of children (0-6 years old), lack of schools/special education center for PWDs both for children and adult PWDs. Very critical in addressing the vulnerable group's concerns is the role of the LGUs in planning and budgeting for their concerns. There have been mechanisms and structures installed through Republic Act (RA) 7277 or the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons and BP 344 or the Accessibility Law, however, there is a greater need to strengthen both at the agency level and the LGUs. Vis-à-vis the varying levels' appropriate planning, is the proper utilization of the results/data of Philippine Registration of PWDs in correctly identifying and prioritizing programs for the sector.

## **5. Indigenous Peoples (IPs)**

Caraga is thickly inhabited by pure blood indigenous peoples (IPs) which have five (5) major tribal groups, the Manobo, Higa-onon, Banwaon, Mamanwa and Talaandig, also known as Kamayo. NSO Survey in 1997 showed a total population of 766,904 indigenous cultural communities (ICCs), the only available data on IPs or ICCs. The 1997 figure was about 36.60 percent of the 2000 regional population.

For lack or absence of basic education, health and other basic social services, absence of employment and livelihood opportunities and discrimination from the mainstream of society, the IPs become the easy targets of insurgency recruitment and they tend to be adulterated, manipulated and exploited. To top it all, the absence of a more updated disaggregated population data of the IPs or ICCs makes it difficult for government to respond to more current realities. Challenges include the conflicts on land tenure security and the strong and appropriate implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA).

# **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

## **A. KALAHI as a Framework for Fighting Poverty**

As a development framework, agencies, LGUs, the private sector, NGOs and POs and other stakeholders shall converge efforts and initiatives through the Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAH) Program. The KALAH is the government's overarching program for a focused, accelerated, convergent, expanded and strategic effort to reduce poverty. Given the limited resources of government, a focused and integrated approach maximizes the impact of programs and projects in reducing poverty incidence and in attaining social development. Implementation efforts in the delivery of programs and services are directed toward attaining convergence in all levels of governance with the end view of developing the capacities of local government units in sustaining the convergent approach in poverty reduction.

KALAH aims to pursue the following:

1. reduced poverty,
2. improved governance, and,
3. empowered communities.

These are seen possible through accelerated asset reform, improved access to human development services, provision of employment and livelihood opportunities, security from violence and social protection including safety nets for vulnerable sectors, and institutionalized and strengthened participation of the basic sectors in governance. Environment protection shall be a cross-cutting concern.

At the regional level, the program is operationalized through the multi-stakeholder membership of the Regional KALAH I Convergence Group (RKCG). In its effort to ease poverty in target areas, members make resources available to effectively respond to needs of priority areas. More specifically, specific concerns are addressed through the different clusters of the RKCG: the Asset Reform, Human Development Services and Social Protection, and Livelihood and Employment.

The human development service cluster is focused on the improvement of the delivery of basic services to the people for their basic needs such as water, electricity, food and shelter. Livelihood and employment cluster provides livelihood programs like microfinance, enterprise development and also livelihood trainings. The asset reform cluster is biased on addressing the needs of the indigenous people in the region. Granting of ancestral lands and development of agrarian reform areas are among the basic goals of asset reform.

While assistance and interventions in target poor communities are done through the convergence of efforts at the regional level, there are several projects which were initially funded by the National Government through the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) as the lead convenor for KALAH I implementation at the national level. Poorest barangays were likewise prioritized as convergence areas where efforts of government and non-government interventions shall be focused on.

Different KALAH I modes implemented in the region are KALAH I Rural, KALAH I in Conflict Areas, National Internal Security Plan (NISP) Projects under the Special Fund, KALAH I CIDSS and KALAH I ARZones (KARZones).

#### **1. KALAH I Rural and CA**

Ranked as those among the poorest, the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) identified five (5) priority barangays where target beneficiaries are indigenous communities under the KALAH I Rural Projects. Total cost for all projects reached PhP 3,227,500.00. Project releases were made late of 2002 for small infrastructure and livelihood projects are now in its final stages.

Likewise, ten (10) barangays are classified as priority under the KALAH I in Conflict Areas (KALAH I CA). Since these areas are internally threatened, these areas were prioritized by NAPC, in close coordination with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Interventions cover small infrastructure and livelihood projects. Total funding for KALAH I CA reached PhP 3,000,000.00. For both kinds of projects, areas were granted an initial PhP 300,000.00 by NAPC but agencies and LGUs provided other assistance in kind.

The RKCG monitors the implementation of the projects. As the priority areas are far-flung barangays, monitoring and even implementation of projects by concerned local government units pose challenges to the successful implementation.

## **2. KALAH National Internal Security Plan (NISP)**

In addition to the above areas, the RKCG identified other priority convergence areas under the NISP which used to be internally threatened areas but have been cleared by the AFP through the Survey Operation Teams (SOT). The AFP calls these areas as SOTized areas. These areas are those where the communities are already freed from the clutches of the New People's Army (NPA) or other leftist groups. Government agencies and LGUs then can pour in interventions according to what the communities need. Currently, there are 66 SOTized barangays, 24 on going SOT operations and 19 prioritized barangays for SOT operations in Caraga. Among areas, there are ten (10) topmost priority barangays where interventions from the different line agencies and LGUs shall be poured in. These are barangays which have been visited by some member agencies of the RKCG and where consultations were already made to validate their priority needs. These barangays are : Barangays Mabini, Silop and Quezon of Surigao City; Anislagan of Placer, Tagbayani and Biyabid of Sison, Camp Edward and Alipao of Alegria, all of Surigao del Norte and Mahayahay and Bangayan of Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte. More areas were identified in Surigao del Norte as these areas belong to the priority Front 16 of the 401<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the AFP.

Other areas are likewise prioritized by the Office of the Presidential Adviser for the Peace Process. These are areas which are likewise internally threatened not just by the NPA but likewise, by the Rebolusyonaryong Partidong Manggagawa ng Mindanao (RPMM). Table 3.23 lists the priorities in the medium term:

## **3. KALAH Special Fund**

An additional funding of PhP 16.8 Million was released to Caraga through the Office of the Deputy Presidential Assistant-Caraga Concerns (ODPA) for more anti-poverty initiatives. Each provincial and city local government unit was allotted PhP 2 Million each for poverty reduction projects. Initial releases have already been made to all LGUs and projects are on-going to more than fifty (50) barangays regionwide.

## **4. KALAH CIDSS**

The KALAH - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Service: Kapangyarihan at Kaunlaran sa Barangay (KALAH-CIDSS: KKB) is the contribution of the DSWD to the poverty alleviation program of the government. It is a revitalized strategy based on the strength and success of the existing CIDSS project. Under the project, all the provinces of the region were identified as priority areas being among those of the forty-four (44) poorest provinces nationwide. The KALAH CIDSS targets the poorest one-fourth of all municipalities of a target province and includes all barangays of the target municipalities. Funds come from the World Bank financing. As of September 2004, funds received by the region totals PhP 15,545,930.55 for areas under Phases 1 and 2. The breakdown is provided in table 3.24.

**Table 3.23 List of Priority Barangays as Showcase for the Revised Peace Process, By Province and Municipality, Caraga Region, As of December 2004**

	Province	Municipality	Barangay
1	AGUSAN DEL NORTE	KITCHARAO	Bangayan
2			Hinimbangan
3			Jaliobong
4			Mahayahay
5			Sangay
6	AGUSAN DEL SUR	ESPERANZA	Taganahaw
7			New Gingoog
8			Remedios
9			Maasin
10			Kinamaybay
11			Salug
12			Sinakungan
13			Tandang Sora
14			Piglawigan
15			Valentina
16		LA PAZ	Valentina
17		LORETO	Violanta
18			Magaud
19		SAN LUIS	Poblacion
20			Doña Maxima
21			Doña Flavia
22		STA. JOSEFA	Pagasa
23			Poblacion
24		TRENTO	Kapatagan
25			Langkilaan
26			New Visayas
27			Pulang-Lupa
28		VERUELA	Del Monte
29			Sampaguita
30		PROSPERIDAD	Aurora
31			San Rafael
32		TALACOGON	San Isidro
33			San Nicolas
34			Labnig
35			Zillovia
36			Kauswagan
37		BUNAWAN	Libertad
38			Mambalili
39			San Teodoro
40			Nueva Era
41		ROSARIO	Bayugan 3
42	SURIGAO DEL NORTE	GIGAQUIT	Mahanub
43			Lahi
44			Sico-sico

**Table 3.24 KALAH-CIDSS:KKB Implementation,  
Caraga Region, September 2004**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Grant Requested (PhP)</b>	<b>Fund Received (PhP)</b>
Jabonga, Agusan del Norte	4,500,000.00	4,500,000.00
Carmen, Agusan del Norte	2,400,000.00	2,400,000.00
Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte	5,999,371.73	5,861,165.84
La Paz, Agusan del Sur	4,500,000.00	2,784,764.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,399,371.73</b>	<b>15,545,930.55</b>

*Source : DSWD-Caraga*

There are other areas of the two provinces which are targeted under Phases 3 and 4.  
The prioritized areas are:

**Table 3.25 KALAH-CIDSS: KKB Target Areas, By Province,  
Caraga Region, As of 2004**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>	<b>Phase III Target</b>		<b>Phase IV Target</b>
			<b>1st Batch</b>	<b>2nd Batch</b>	
Agusan del Norte	Jabonga	Carmen			
		Las Nieves			
		La Paz			
Agusan del Sur			Esperanza	Loreto	
			San Luis		
Surigao del Norte			Del Carmen		San Isidro
					San Benito
					Pilar
					Socorro
					Alegria
Surigao del Sur			San Miguel		Marihatag
					Bayabas
					Lingig

*Source : DSWD-Caraga*

## 5. KALAHI Agrarian Reform Zones (ARZones)

The issuance of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Memorandum Circular No. 04, series of 2003, operationalized the development of the KALAHI ARZones. It is a program spearheaded by DAR in convergence with other agencies and LGUs and the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) IAs. The program is aimed at addressing food security through improved farm productivity; social equity where farmers are given equal access to improved way of life utilizing awarded land and maximizing use of technology-based, labor employing, value added driven production and agri-business systems; and empowerment through active participation in local governance and planning, implementation and management of development projects. An ARZone is a sub-provincial area comprising of one or more municipalities with critical mass of agrarian reform beneficiaries and farming households by which Agrarian Reform Communities (ARCs) and adjacent areas may be linked to form an integrated economic unit. It may include CARP-able and CARP covered lands within the municipality or municipalities in a province. At the moment, DAR is initiating the drafting and finalization of Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) in target areas.

**Table 3.26 KALAHI Agrarian Reform Zones, Caraga Region, as of October 2004**

Province	KARZones	Municipalities Covered	No. of ARCs Covered	No. of Brgys. Covered	Total Development Cost (PhP)	Status
Agusan del Norte	ADN KARZone	Tubay, Santiago, Jabonga, Kitcharao	6	45	352,002,460.00	Finalized Integrated Development Plan already submitted to DARCO
Agusan del Sur	VETREBUNS KARZone	Veruela, Trento, Bunawan, Sta. Josefa	6	45	2,372,757,154.18	Integrated Development Plan not yet finalized.
Surigao del Norte	CLAGIBAPLA KARZone	Claver, Gigaquit, Bacuag, Placer	4	56	1,600,000,000.00	Integrated Development Plan not yet submitted to DARCO. Not yet Launched
Surigao del Sur	BATA KARZone	Barobo and Tagbina	4	46	748,519,180.00	Finalized Integrated Development Plan already submitted to DARCO
						Launched last November 27, 2003
	CARCAN KARZone	Carrascal and Cantilan	3	31	884,189,906.00	Finalized Integrated Development Plan already submitted to DARCO
						Launched last June 23, 2004



## **6. Waterless Communities**

Through the KALAHI Waterless Communities, the national government will be releasing funds to finance water system projects in the top 200 waterless municipalities in the country. Caraga region has four (4) waterless municipalities included in the priority list. It will cover all the barangays of the four municipalities of Talacogon, La Paz, Veruela and Trento. Preliminary preparations will be done by the RKCG to facilitate the realization of the project.

In a more specific note, the sectors will have corresponding strategies with programs, projects and activities on specific concerns.

## **B. Education**

### **1. Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD)**

The absence of pre-elementary education in children will diminish their opportunity to if not prevent them from acquiring elementary education. It is therefore imperative that Day Care Centers (DCCs) are made available especially to children in the rural and hard-to-reach barangays through the following:

#### **1.1 Establishment and standardization of Day Care Centers in every barangay**

- 1.1.1 Construct Day Care Centers in 107 barangays without DCCs,
- 1.1.2 Accreditation or standardization of five hundred (500) Day Care Centers per year until all are accredited and standardized
- 1.1.3 Standardize the Day Care Instructions or Preschool Curriculum

#### **1.2 Expand ECCD programs in the eight divisions**

- 1.2.1 Formulate Standard School Readiness Test,
- 1.2.2 Conduct School Readiness Assessment to determine the readiness of 5-year old in day care for admission to Grade I
- 1.2.3 Survey of preschool children in every barangay,
- 1.2.4 Advocacy on ECCD programs, and
- 1.2.5 Preschool/Service Contracting Scheme

### **2. Elementary and Secondary**

#### **2.1 Institutionalize a more focused values formation program among pupils and students**

- 2.1.1 Integrate values education in preschool curriculum
- 2.1.2 Offer optional religious instruction in public schools.
- 2.1.3 Enhance the participation of parents and community in the values formation of learners
- 2.1.4 Train pre-school, elementary and secondary teachers on the “ revised values education modules

**2.2 Enhance the reading skills of pupils through IEC intervention, logistic support and teacher training**

- 2.2.1 90 percent of pupils and students reading skills improved through the intensive implementation of Project CURE (Catering to the Underdeveloped Reading Effectiveness),
- 2.2.2 Reproduction of vocabulary development manual for teachers, short stories, poems, and other materials for the pupils,
- 2.2.3 In-service trainings for teachers on Teaching Reading
- 2.2.4 Diagnostic Oral Reading Test at the beginning of the school year or Oral Reading Audit at the end of the school year.
- 2.2.5 Establishment of functional reading corners/libraries in every classroom/school,

**2.3 Increase students' achievement in Science, Math and English**

- 2.3.1 Hasten the impact of PROBE (HIP) through
  - trainings of teachers on different strategies for teaching of the three (3) core subjects
  - training of school administrators for monitoring and evaluation
  - training of trainers for pupil assessment and values integration across curriculum
- 2.3.2 MTAP (Saturday Math Program)
  - Advocacy of the program to parents, students and the community
  - Organize Saturday Math class/year level in schools
- 2.3.3 Project MUST (Mindanao Upgrading for Science Teachers – elementary)
- 2.3.4 Project RISE (Rescue Initiatives for Science Education – secondary)
  - Screening of participants
  - Training of teachers in Science and Math

**2.4 Continue the implementation of the optional Bridge Program**

- 2.4.1 Intensive information dissemination on the advantages of the program
- 2.4.2 Conduct High School Readiness Test annually

**2.5 Upgrade Basic Education Curriculum (BEC)**

- 2.5.1 Review and continue revising the BEC to include foundation skills
- 2.5.2 Upgrade Math, Science and English teaching and learning
- 2.5.3 Procure textbooks and other instructional materials to facilitate teaching-learning process
- 2.5.4 Utilize existing good practices/ models from the experiences and learning from the gains of completed projects such as PROBE, Child Friendly School System and others
- 2.5.5 Procure of basic science equipment and other devices

**2.6 Promote Research-Based Projects**

- 2.6.1 Intel Philippine Science Fair
- Selection of Science Investigatory projects in the school/division/regional / national

**2.7 Sustain awareness and interest in population issues and concerns and promote Philippine History and Cultural Heritage**

- 2.7.1 Pop Quiz
- Conduct school, division and regional contest on population development
- 2.7.2 Paligsahan Sa Kasaysayan At Kultura Sa Pilipinas (PSKKP)
- Conduct school, division and regional contest
  - Identify participants in the National PSKKP
- 2.7.3 Conduct of cultural shows and presentations, and choral and musical presentations

**2.8 Strengthen the Madrasah System of education**

- 2.8.1 Implement the standard curriculum for Madaris
- 2.8.2 Reproduce instructional materials to support the implementation of standard curriculum.

**2.9 Strengthen indigenous peoples education**

- 2.9.1 Identify and evaluate documents of tribal areas for the establishment of elementary schools and open elementary schools in qualified areas
- 2.9.2 Develop Indigenous curriculum that will preserve the cultural heritage of the indigenous people/ communities
- Conduct workshops for the development of indigenous curriculum
  - Validate IP Curriculum core messages
  - Reproduce and distribute IP Curriculum to NFE facilitators and learners
- 2.9.3 Produce instructional materials
- 2.9.4 Conduct trainings for IP/ICC teachers on the use of indigenous curriculum.
- 2.9.5 Include IP/ICC materials/documents in public school libraries
- 2.9.6 Accommodate ICC/IP students in all programs for children/students

**2.10 Provide venue for pupils/students to develop leadership potentials, entrepreneurship and cooperativism in secondary schools**

- 2.10.1 STEP (Student Technologists and Entrepreneurship of the Philippines)
- Advocacy
  - Identify training needs
  - Training on STEP for TLE teachers and vocational education supervisors
  - Application of strategies learned from the training in the classroom

2.10.2 YECS (Youth Entrepreneurship and Cooperativism in Schools)

- Conduct orientation of YECS applicants for membership (all secondary teachers)
- Selection of organizational matters and business planning
- Conduct training on basic foundation of cooperativism to secondary students and teachers
- Conduct forum/symposium focusing on achievement of local operators

**2.11 Close resource gaps through construction or rehabilitation, procurement and distribution of facilities**

2.11.1 Teachers

*\* New Teacher Items*

- Deploy new teaching positions to priority schools

*\* Vacant Position*

- Transfer/redeploy teaching positions from schools with excess teachers to schools with teachers shortage

2.11.2 New Non-Teaching Positions

- Deploy new non-teaching positions to identified schools entitled/qualified for such position

2.11.3 Classroom Construction

- Construct 1,634 classrooms in the 8 divisions
- Abide with Instructional Rooms and School Furniture Analysis in the preparation of the priority listing for new construction and repair/ rehabilitation of classrooms

2.11.4 Classroom Repair and Rehabilitation

- Repair 2,587 elementary and secondary classrooms

2.11.5 Laboratory and workshop buildings

- Construct 57 laboratory and workshop buildings in priority schools

2.11.6 School Furniture/ Equipment

- Procure and distribute of 129,452 armchairs to priority schools,
- Procure and distribute of 1,859 computer units (at least one for every secondary school and central/pilot and big elementary schools)

**2.11.7 Textbooks and Teachers' Manual**

- Procure textbooks and teachers' manuals for the five basic subject areas: English, Science, Math, Filipino and Makabayan to target 1:1 ratio
- Monitor textbooks distribution and relocate if necessary

**2.12 Establish elementary schools in school-less barangays**

Open 14 elementary schools in Surigao del Sur Division

**2.13 Reduce the number of incomplete schools**

Complete 5 incomplete primary, 2 incomplete elementary and 1 incomplete secondary every year.

**2.14 Health and Nutrition Service Delivery**

Continue the implementation of health, medical, dental, nursing and nutrition services to teachers, pupils and student.

**2.15 Apply the principles of children and schools as zones of peace and adopt Child Friendly Movement – Child Friendly School System**

**2.16 Institutionalize Alternative Learning Systems (ALS)**

2.16.1 Advocacy/Orientation, screen learners, prepare individual learning plan and conduct learning sessions through the Balik Paaralan for Out-Of-School Adult (BP OSA) and Accreditation and Equivalency (A & E).

2.16.2 Continue the Philippine Education Placement Test (PEPT), various mobile programs, in-service trainings for non-formal education (NFE) facilitators or instructional managers (IMs) and monitoring and evaluation

**2.17 Continue the implementation of the Strong Republic Schools (SRS)**

2.17.1 Advocacy and Social Mobilization in the 29 pre-identified SRS barangays;

2.17.2 Training of IMs on the use of A & E modules and other materials.

**2.18 Promote the physical education and fitness of pupils and students**

2.18.1 Undertake anthropometric measurement, physical fitness testing and analysis of results,

2.18.2 Conduct of district, unit, division and regional meets

2.18.3 Conduct seminar-workshops in teaching health, refresher course in PE, sports coaching and officiating,

2.18.4 Evaluate physical fitness park and school sports facilities

### **3. Higher Education**

To address the concerns in higher education, the following strategies and activities shall be pursued:

#### **3.1 Rationalization of course offerings**

- 3.1.1 Consultation session with HEIs
- 3.1.2 Advocacy in the SUC Board of Directors for the study of course offerings in SUC concerned
- 3.1.3 Advocacy in HEI Presidents' Organization
- 3.1.4 Surveys

#### **3.2 Increase scholarship grants and financial assistance to poor and deserving students especially on the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries**

- 3.2.1 Private Education Student Financial Assistance Program (PESFA)
- 3.2.2 Selected Ethnic Group Educational Assistance Program (SEGEAP)
- 3.2.3 National Integration Study Program (NISGP)
- 3.2.4 State Scholarship Program (SSP)
- 3.2.5 Study Now-Pay-Later Plan (SNPLP)
- 3.2.6 CHED Special Study Grant Program for Congressional Districts (CSSG-CDs)
- 3.2.7 New Scholarship Program for SUCs
- 3.2.8 Scholarship Programs for the IPs

### **4. Vocational Technology**

Greatest challenge in the technical education and skills development is the efficient job-skill matching, not just for the local demand, as well as the national and international demands. Likewise, TVET shall give attention to intensifying training activities which are enterprise-based. The challenges shall be met through the following strategies and activities:

#### **4.1 SEEK+FIND+TRAIN = MATCH Efficient Job-Skill Matching**

- 4.1.1 Mapping of employment opportunities
- 4.1.2 Conduct of employers survey and related researches
- 4.1.3 Updating of Manpower Registry
- 4.1.4 Training programs to develop required skills; resource-based training programs

#### **4.2 Expanded Apprenticeship/Kasanayan sa Hanapbuhay Program** Orientation on the Expanded Apprenticeship/Kasanayan sa Hanapbuhay Program

#### **4.3 Intensification of the Dual Training Program (DTP) Advocacy on the DTP**

**4.4 Scholarship grants and financial assistance**

- 4.4.1 Private Education Student Financial Assistance Program (PESFA)
- 4.4.2 ADB-TESDP
- 4.4.3 Iskolar ng Mahirap na Pamilya
- 4.4.4 LGU and Private Sector funded scholarships

**4.5 Continuous compliance audit and review of courses and mandatory competency assessment**

- 4.5.1 Irrelevant programs phased-out and priority program offerings identified
- 4.5.2 Development of entrepreneurship module
- 4.5.3 Integration of entrepreneurship module in TVET curricula
- 4.5.4 Consultations with TESDA-supervised schools

**4.6 Mapping of micro-credit facilities**

- 4.6.1 Inventory of micro-credit facilities
- 4.6.2 Making available by linking TVET graduates to micro-credit facilities

**4.7 Integration of TVET in local development investment plans**

- 4.7.1 Technical assistance to local government units
- 4.7.2 Strengthen coordination and partnership with local government units
- 4.7.3 Advocacy of TVET programs

**C. Health and Nutrition**

- 1. The health sector aims at reducing the IMR by five percent per year, consistent with the MDG target of reducing the IMR by two thirds in 2015. To do this, the DOH-CHD, in partnership with the LGUs and local level health units, shall pursue the following strategies with the corresponding activities:**

**1.1 Capacity building**

- 1.1.1 Orientation/Advocacy/Implementation of Born Screening
- 1.1.2 Integrated Management of Children's Illnesses (IMCI) plus other major diseases and emerging concerns
- 1.1.3 BRIGHT Child concept
- 1.1.4 Continuing implementation of Garantisadong Pambata (GP) and salt iodization practices

**1.2 Provision of logistics and supplies**

- 1.2.1 Establishment/Continuing functionality of Health Nutrition Posts
- 1.2.2 Reproduction and Distribution of GP supplies
- 1.2.3 Provision of 100% Vitamin A supplementation to 6-72 months
- 1.2.4 Continuing Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI) activities

- 2. To prevent the incidence of HIV AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, the following shall be pursued:**
  - 2.1 Networking and IEC/Advocacy/Social mobilization on Reproductive Health(RH) to the teenage population/young adults**
    - 2.1.1 Series of symposium among youth as early as first year high school
    - 2.1.2 Coordinate with DepEd to include RH in high school curricula
    - 2.1.3 Collaboration with partner agencies for information dissemination
    - 2.1.4 Organize youth organizations and popular education
    - 2.1.5 Mobilize Sangguniang Kabataan
    - 2.1.6 Health Info Caravan and focus group discussions on RH
- 3. Improvement of maternal health by reducing MMR at 1.00 percent per 1,000 live births per year, thereby paving the way for the attainment of the two thirds reduction of MMR by 2015 (MDG), shall be done through:**
  - 3.1 Facilities upgrading**
    - 3.1.1 Establishment and operationalization of the Women's Resource Center
    - 3.1.2 Development of Birthing Clinics in at least 50 percent of all strategically located barangays
    - 3.1.3 Replication of Basic Maternal Obstetric Care (BMOC)/Comprehensive Emergency MOC (CeMOC) facilities in selected areas
  - 3.2 Capacity building**

Orientation/Training on Maternal Death Review, Parthograph, Emergency Maternal Obstetric Care (EMOC), Prevention and Management of Abortion and its Complications and Family Planning (FP).
  - 3.3 Social mobilization**
    - 3.3.1 Door to door approach to Family Planning Methods – Informed Choice
    - 3.3.2 Coordinate with DepEd on female functional literacy program for non-formal education
    - 3.3.3 IEC on RH and Responsible Parenthood among couples
    - 3.3.4 Re-activation of male motivators
    - 3.3.5 Organize FP Happy Users Club
- 4. On providing access to safe drinking water, the Plan hopes to bring clean water to one hundred percent of the people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation surpassing the MDG target of halving the population without access to safe drinking water by 2015. This can be attained by:**



**4.1 Capacity building**

Training/Orientation of Rural Sanitary Inspector (RSI) on proper waste management disposal to the public, on collection/disposal of pathological and hazardous wastes and on the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and handling with HIV AIDS and other blood-borne diseases to funeral parlor owners and embalmers

**4.2 Logistic support and technical assistance**

4.2.1 Provision of chlorine granules to areas with doubtful water sources and facilitate water analysis

4.2.2 Concrete toilet bowl molding

**4.3 Multi-sectoral collaboration**

Construction of sanitary toilets in collaboration with LGUs

**4.4 Research and development**

Conduct Waterbeds Research within mining areas and or from waste generating plants and establishments

**5. To improve the access of the people to more and better health care services and facilities, the Medicare Para sa Masa shall be strengthened through the following strategies:**

**5.1 Fast-track accreditation of 80 percent of RHUs as TB-DOTS centers, free-standing dialysis clinics and maternity clinics**

5.1.1 Coordinate with DOH-CHD and Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis (Philcat)

5.1.2 Promotion/Advocacy on the advantages of an RHU that is Maternity Care Package accredited and partnership with LGUs

**5.2 Review of the primary care package for the GMA Program**

5.2.1 Conduct researches and provide recommendations unique to the region

5.2.2 Develop one (1) menu type benefit package suitable to members

**5.3 Advocacy and partnership with stakeholders**

5.3.1 Step up tri-media campaign on punishable crimes committed by members in the use of cards

5.3.2 Persecute members committing crimes

**5.4 Strengthening tie-up with organized groups to continuously expand membership**

5.4.1 Market, lobby and coordinate with organized groups like the Drivers Associations, Farmer Groups and Vendors Association for their membership to PhilHealth

- 5.4 Strengthening tie-up with organized groups to continuously expand membership**
  - 5.4.1 Market, lobby and coordinate with organized groups like the Drivers Associations, Farmer Groups and Vendors Association for their membership to PhilHealth
  - 5.4.2 Tri-media activities to promote and expand partnerships
- 5.5 Strengthening partnership with LGUs to ensure budget allocation for Sponsored Program**

Market, lobby and coordinate with LGUs and DOH to ensure annual budget allocation
- 5.6 Expand partnerships for additional sponsors for the Indigent Program**

Advocacy to private organizations, government agencies, foreign organizations and other potential sponsors for indigents
- 5.7 Persecution of those committing crime against PhilHealth, its members and PhilHealth accredited hospitals**
  - 5.7.1 Step-up tri-media campaign on punishable crimes that may be committed by PhilHealth members, PhilHealth accredited hospitals and erring employees,
  - 5.7.2 Strong coordination with local government units and concerned agencies and non-government organizations in the persecution processes

#### **D. Population Management**

Population management initiatives shall be geared at addressing concerns through the following strategies:

- 1. Integrate population variables into the development policies, plans and programs at all levels**
  - Advocate greater appreciation of population and development (POPDEV) integration and mainstream POPDEV interrelationship in various planning processes
- 2. Assist couples/parents to achieve desired family size within the context of responsible parenthood**
  - Strengthen market segmentation for reproductive health/family planning (RH/FP) services

**3. Intensive promotion of the Adolescent Health and Youth Development (AHYD) Program**

- 3.1 Information dissemination, education and counseling services on population and reproductive health with focus on the adolescents,
- 3.2 Collaboration with youth centers, the health offices, local health boards and local government units in the advocacy activities,
- 3.3 Mobilization/Strengthening of youth organizations as prime movers for the AHYD Program,
- 3.4 Mobilization of more organizations and stakeholders in the monitoring of AHYD activities

**E. Housing**

In order to address the challenges that beset the housing and resettlement sector and to ensure that housing needs as well as the basic social services and economic needs of the community can be met the following strategies, programs and projects shall be undertaken:

**1. Intensify community-based housing programs and projects, which involve the mobilization of community resources in the resolution of land tenure issues, site development and unit consolidation.**

**1.1 Land Tenurial Assistance**

- Land Tenurial Program (LTAP)
- Community Mortgage Program (CMP)
- Community Land Acquisition Support Program (CLASP)
- Cooperative Pabahay Program
- Community Based Tenurial Assistance Program
- Group Land Acquisition Program (GLAD)

**1.2 Technical Assistance to the LGUs and private developers**

**1.3 Extension of technical assistance to organized people's organizations, cooperatives aiming for security of land tenure**

**2. Establish partnership to promote participation and involvement of the private sector and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of low-cost and socialized housing programs for the poor and marginalized sector in the society (Maximum multi-sectoral partnership in shelter development) coupled with a holistic, comprehensive and sustainable community development approach.**

**2.1 Joint venture program,**

**2.2 Establishment of Gawad Kalinga Sites with in urban and urbanizable areas in the provinces and cities in the Region with functional programs on shelter, health, education, livelihood and community development,**

- 2.3 Implementation of the Habitat for Humanity Project,
- 2.4 Provision of basic services and the necessary support infrastructure facilities especially in the resettlement and relocation sites for socialized and low-cost housing
- 2.5 Creation of livelihood opportunities within the identified sites to prevent the relocatees from coming back to town centers to seek employment,
- 2.6 Provision of socialized or low-cost housing which takes into consideration the affordability of the housing package based on the economic capacity of the target market/beneficiaries;

**3. Enhance capacity of the LGUs in the delivery of housing services.**

- 3.1 Comprehensive Land Use Planning Project
- 3.2 Real State Management Project
- 3.3 Preparation of City/Municipal Shelter Plan
- 3.4 Extension of technical assistance by the key shelter agencies in shelter planning

**4. Encourage LGUs to provide relocation and resettlement sites for those in danger areas and in sites earmarked for government infrastructure projects.**

- 4.1 Identification and development of relocation or resettlement sites in every municipality for informal settlers/slum dwellers and those who will be affected by government infrastructure projects,
- 4.2 Sites and Services Development Project

**5. Re-organize the housing sub-committee under the Social Development Committee of the Regional Development Council (SDC-RDC) to be at the forefront in addressing issues and concerns relating to housing and spearhead regional activities to further strengthen the capacity of the LGUs in the delivery of housing services**

**F. Social Welfare and Development**

To ensure that concerns of the different vulnerable groups are being addressed, the following strategies and activities shall be pursued:

- 1. Promote the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC)**
  - 1.1 Formulate and operationalize Local Development Plans for Children (LDPCs) and Local Investment Plans for Children (LIPC),
  - 1.2 Enact and enforce Local Codes for Children
  - 1.3 Ensure the functionality of the Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPC)
  - 1.4 Institutionalize the State of the Children's Report

**2. Establish and improve of social welfare facilities**

- 2.1 Construct Women Centers in 25 percent of the total number of municipalities in the region,
- 2.2 Establish one (1) Regional Haven for Women
- 2.3 Establish four (4) Special Drug Education Centers (SDEC), locating one center for each province
- 2.4 Improve and maintain existing social welfare facilities to make them more responsive to emerging need of vulnerable/marginalized groups
- 2.5 Licensing of five (5) NGO-run institutions per year,
- 2.6 Upgrade the existing Home for the Girls in Bonbon, Butuan City and the Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth in Agusan del Sur,

**3. Community-Based Protective Services**

- 3.1 Crisis intervention/emergency assistance to individuals in crisis situations and families affected by calamities,
- 3.2 Protective and rehabilitative services for individuals in especially difficult circumstances

**4. Strengthen the regional and lower level GAD structures and mechanisms**

- 4.1 Mobilization of the GAD Focal Persons in GAD initiatives
- 4.2 Strengthening coordination with lower level structures to ensure the intensification of advocacy work
- 4.3 Source-out funding for GAD initiatives
- 4.4 Technical assistance
- 4.5 Strengthen feed backing mechanism and monitor GAD implementations

**5. Empower the communities through localized decision-making and participation and community-based programs and projects**

- 5.1 Implementation of direct poverty reduction projects and people empowerment strategies
- 5.2 Covering twenty-five percent of the total number of municipalities in the region with all barangays per municipality benefiting or participating in the KALAHI-CIDSS Kapangyarihan and Kaunlaran sa Barangay (KALAHI-CIDSS KKB),
- 5.3 Providing nine hundred (900) families per year capital seed fund and capability building of micro-enterprise development and management under the Self-Employment Assistance Para sa Kaunlaran (SEA-K).

**6. Creation of employment opportunities to 80 percent of the total number of PWDs in the region**

- 6.1 Skills training
- 6.2 Livelihood (micro-credit assistance)
- 6.3 Market assistance

- 7. Capacity building for and empowerment of the indigenous peoples (IPs)/indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)**
  - 7.1 Enforcement and enhancement of the cultural heritage of the IPs,
  - 7.2 Study on the Mamanwa IP Knowledge System, research and documentation,
  - 7.3 Support to the school of the living tradition,
  - 7.4 IP Consultative Body and fair representation,
  - 7.5 Constitution of IP Consultative Body,
  - 7.6 Consultation meetings with ICCs,
  - 7.7 Livelihood activities for the ICCs,
  - 7.8 Organize communities through social mobilization,
  - 7.9 Small livelihood projects thru the Regional KALAH I Convergence Group (RKCG)

### **III. PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

In order to ensure social development in the region and alleviate poverty, programs and projects which promote multi-sectoral involvement are at the forefront. In addressing the poverty situation in the region, the Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAH I) will continue to be implemented in various priority areas. This shall serve as the overarching anti poverty program in the region. Through KALAH I, convergence of efforts among various stakeholders will be strengthened in combating poverty especially in rural areas.

Quality education can be delivered by closing resource gaps through the School Facilities Development Program, procurement of instructional materials and addressing human resource needs of the academe. Various scholarship programs sponsored by RLAs and LGUs will be granted to deserving students in order to improve access of the poor to education. Skills Development and Training Programs will also be undertaken to further capacitate our human resources. Research and development program will also be intensified. Establishment of training and resource centers in the state colleges in the Region to facilitate learning and excellence in the academic field is a priority program in the region. Provision of quality technical and vocational education through community and center-based programs of TVIs will be further strengthened with special consideration on the current industry needs to ensure employment of the graduates.

In health and nutrition, continuous direct delivery of basic health services will be implemented by the LGUs with assistance coming from the Department of Health – Center for Health Development Caraga. Maternal and child health programs and the improvement of the delivery of basic health services through upgrading of health facilities and equipment and capability building for health providers will be implemented continually in the region. Nutrition-related programs such as supplemental feeding and micronutrient supplementation are aimed at improving children’s health. Provision of affordable medicines shall be facilitated through the Botika sa Barangay and other local initiatives. Reproductive health and family planning program in the context of responsible parenthood are the banner programs in population management in order to achieve the desired fertility rate of couples. Expansion of health insurance and existing health packages under the GMA Program will be attained through forging of partnership between the LGUs, PhilHealth and private sectors.

In the housing and resettlement sector, community based housing programs are the key interventions in resolving land tenurial issues. Resettlement programs and socialized housing programs will also be implemented by the LGUs in partnership with the NHA. Implementation of low cost housing projects in partnership with NGOs will help in addressing the huge housing backlog.

Community-based protective services, upgrading of DSWD-run centers (RRCY and Home for Girls) and establishment of Crisis Center for Women and Children are the priority projects in order to extend assistance to women or children in especially difficult circumstances. Establishment/Construction of social welfare facilities such as the Regional Haven for Women, Youth Centers, Center for Abandoned and Neglected Children and licensing of NGO-run institutions shall be pursued to complement the existing social welfare facilities. Livelihood programs through the implementation of Self-Employment Assistance Program – Kabuhayan (SEA-K) will also augment the income of the target beneficiaries.

**Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan**

1. KALAHI Rural
2. KALAHI CA
3. KALAHI Special Fund

**EDUCATION**

4. Construction of DCCs in all barangays
5. School Facilities Development Program
6. Literacy Program – Adopt-A-Barangay
7. Procure armchairs/desks and distribute to priority schools
8. Procure Computers and distribute to priority schools
9. Private Education Student Financial Assistance Program (PESFA)
10. Selected Ethnic Group Educational Assistance Program (SEGEAP)
11. National Integration Study Program (NISGP)
12. National Integration Study Program (NISGP)
13. Study Now-Pay-Later Plan (SNPLP)
14. CHED Special Study Grant Program for Congressional Districts (CSSG-CDs)
15. New Scholarship Program for SUCs
16. Educational Assistance Program
17. City Scholarship Program
18. Mayor's Special Scholarship Grant
19. Provincial Scholarship
20. Special Scholarship Program for IP/Vulnerable Groups
21. Establishment of Science and Technology Training Center
22. Construction of Laboratory Building
23. Construction of IT Laboratory
24. Establishment of a Provincial/City Database
25. Establishment of Regional Training Center
26. SDS Multi-Media & Technology Resource Center
27. Establishment of Surigao Del Sur Aqua-Marine Learning Center
28. Construction of Provincial Training Center
29. Establishment of Information Center
30. Upgrade Library, Laboratory and Infrastructure Facilities
31. Research, Development and Extension Services



32. On-The-Job Training Program
33. Technology Transfer thru Extension
34. Collaborative Networking Program on S&T
35. Training program for communities and LGUs
36. Skills Development Training Program
37. Information Technology Applications
38. Human Resource Development Program
39. Special Program for the Employment of Students
40. Institutional Development
41. Agricultural curricular offerings
42. Information Technology

## **HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION MANAGEMENT**

43. Caraga Health Services Infrastructure Program (Culion Foundation, Inc.)
44. Strengthening of Health Care Delivery Through Facility and Human Resource Development in Caraga Region
45. Health facilities upgrading and provision of supplies and medicines
46. Maternal Care and Child Health Program
47. Women's Health and Development Program
48. Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project II
49. Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses
50. Family Planning and Reproductive Health
51. Strengthening Reproductive Health Approach and Gender Mainstreaming to Primary Health Care
52. Enhancing Rural Productivity Thru RH/FP Outreach
53. Management of Migration and Urbanization in Caraga
54. Community-Based Adolescent Health and Youth Development Center in Urban Areas
55. Emerging Diseases Center of Caraga
56. Maternity Care Package, Normal Spontaneous Delivery Package, Surgical Family Planning Package
57. Use of the Philippine Drug Formulary and Generics Law Rule in the Availment of Benefits for Drugs and Medicines
58. Advocacy on Parallel Drug importation, Adherence to the Generics Law, Drug Price Index
59. PhilHealth Organized Group Interface (POGI)
60. Sponsored Program
61. Market Sponsored Program
62. Tuberculosis-Direct Observed Treatment Supervised Package (TB-DOTS)
63. Implementation of Pharma 50 thru Parallel Drug Importation
64. Fraud Prevention and Detection Program
65. Indigency Program
66. Medicines for Indigents
67. Medicare Para sa Masa
68. Botika sa Barangay
69. Medical Assistance and ISDAP Indigents
70. Health Insurance for Indigents
71. Primary Health Care



## ***Social Development and Direct Anti-Poverty Measures***

---

72. GMA (Gamot na Mabisa at Abot Kaya) 50
73. Nutrition (Pre-Schoolers) and Maintenance of NNS Network
74. Feeding Program for Malnourished
75. Micronutrient Supplementation
76. Supplemental Feeding Program
77. Nutrition Program (Garantisadong Pambata & Food Fortification Project)
78. Expanded Program on Immunization
79. Medical and Dental Services
80. Field Health Outreach/Medical Mission
81. Control on Acute Respiratory Infection
82. Cardio-Vascular Diseases Control
83. Free Monthly Diabetes Screening
84. Mass Treatment of Schistosomiasis Cases
85. FAMUSCY Project
86. Health Education Program
87. Water and Sanitation Program

## **HOUSING AND RESETTLEMENT**

88. Real Estate Management Program
89. Comprehensive Land Use Planning Project
90. Sites and Services Development Program
91. Resettlement Assistance Program for LGUs
92. Coop Pabahay Program
93. Community-Based Tenurial Assistance Program
94. Socialized Housing Projects
95. Gawad Kalinga and Habitat for Humanity Partnership
96. Direct Payment Scheme Acquisition of Residential Lots
97. City Government Lot Acquisition Scheme (CIGLA)
98. Group Land Acquisition Program (GLAD)
99. Balangayan Butuan
100. Housing and Resettlement Program

## **SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT**

101. Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHATI – CIDSS)
102. Self-Employment Assistance Para sa Kaunlaran (SEA-K)
103. 32. Conduct of 6 months-short term program designed for employment opportunities
104. Construction of Women Center
105. Establishment of Regional Haven for Women
106. Licensing of NGO-run institutions
107. Upgrading of the Home for Girls in Bonbon, Butuan City and the Regional Rehab Center for Youth in Agusan Del Sur
108. Community-based Protective Services
109. Center for Abandoned and Neglected Children
110. Construction of new PNP station

111. Center for the Protection of Women and Children
112. Establishment of New Public Cemetery
113. Social Welfare and Development Program
114. Establishment of Crisis Center for Women and Children
115. Butuan Drug Rehabilitation Center
116. Construction of Youth Centers
117. Child Labor Protection Project
118. Ancestral Domain and Land Management Programs
119. Micro-credit, technology and marketing Assistance to SMEs
120. Cultural Enhancement Program
121. ICC empowerment and self-determination Program
122. Constitution of IP Consultative body
123. Information and education campaign on RA 8371
124. ICC Infrastructure Development Program
125. Ancestral Domain Development Program
126. Census for IPs
127. Socio-Economic and Cultural Development of the Muslims in Caraga
128. Construction of Two-Storey Regional Multi-Purpose Tribal Hall
129. Establishment of Mamanwa Ecological Village



# Chapter 4

## Physical Planning and Sustainable Management of the Environment

### I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The primary challenge facing the region at present is to realize the development vision given its limited physical and economic resources and increasing demands from a population that continues to grow. Given the existing situation and future demands, the region needs to maintain an economic growth and address the gaps in services and infrastructure. Consequently, more pressure will be put to our physical resources while responding to the social and economic needs of the increasing population. It is imperative for the region to also identify measures to arrest and reverse the subsequent environmental degradation. While the region expects to address the foregoing needs, it has to respond to the following specific challenges:



- Improving efficiency in the utilization of the region's resources
- Sustaining physical and economic integration
- Activating/operationalizing the industrial estates and special economic zones
- Enabling socio-cultural integration, equity and justice
- Enhancing economic integration in response to globalization
- Increasing urban population, density and demand for urban services
- Expanding unplanned settlement areas
- Enabling sustainability of the agricultural land uses
- Establishing final forest boundaries
- Sustaining convergence approach to sustain rural development

#### A. CHALLENGES

##### 1. Improving Efficiency in the Utilization of the Region's Resource

Caraga region is endowed with vast lands and other physical resources. Of the region's total land area of 1.913 million hectares, about 1.546 million hectares are devoted for production land uses (Table 4.1). Of this production area, around 929,000 hectares are identified for production forest; an estimated 419,000 hectares for agriculture, 188,000 hectares for mining and the remaining areas are utilized for tourism development and industrial area. These, however, are not efficiently utilized as manifested by the region's low Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture, forestry and fishery of Php5.4 billion in 2002. The current performance of the sector is even far below that of the other

regions in Mindanao where GVA ranges between PhP12 to PhP16 billion on the same period (Table 4.2). The low performance can be accounted for by inadequate support of necessary facilities as well as the failure to optimize the potentials of the land through application of appropriate and sustainable practices and technology. Other issues affecting the decline in production and productivity include land conversion, land security, proposed land re-classification, settlements encroachment, conflict among the different production activities and uses, territorial and physical limitations.

Caraga Region also has vast areas categorized as protection area. As of 2002, about 1,341,668 hectares are considered protected areas with corresponding presidential proclamation. There are other areas which are considered as protected areas; however, these are not specifically delineated. Thus, the total protected area reflected in table 4.3 is considered partial.

**Table 4.1 Land Area of Production Land,  
By Category, Caraga Region, CY 2002**

Uses	Area in hectares
Agricultural Area	419,666
Production Forest Area	929,053
Mining & Quarrying Area	188,162
Industrial Development Area	6,411
Tourism Development Area	3,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,546,643</b>

*Source: BAS, DENR, DOT, MGB, LGUs*

**Table 4.2 GVA in Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry,  
By Region, Mindanao Regions, CYs 2001-2003  
(in Thousand Pesos at Constant Prices)**

Mindanao Regions	2001	2002	2003
IX Zamboanga	14,527,408	13,993,479	14,527,500
X Northern Mindanao	10,235,583	15,373,040	16,035,173
XI Davao Region	21,735,268	12,857,882	13,545,636
XII SOCCSKSARGEN	9,215,564	16,014,005	16,597,359
ARMM Muslim Mindanao	4,850,887	5,652,559	5,702,080
XIII Caraga	5,153,209	5,405,188	5,744,650

*Source: NSCB*

**Table 4.3 Land Area of Protection Land, By Category,  
Caraga Region, CY 2002 (initial)**

DESCRIPTION	AREA (HECTARES)
Siargao Island Landscape and Seascape	278,914
Watershed	676,996.94
Forest	339,963
Agusan Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary	19,000
Mangrove Area	26,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,341,668.94</b>

Source: DENR, NFPP

Inefficiency in utilization of land is also evident in the declining trend of upland forest resources, production in mining, as well as areas devoted to tourism activities. The unequal distribution and development of areas for industrial growth apparently caused primarily by the absence of Land Use Plan of LGU. The capability of LGU to efficiently utilize their resources has been restricted to some degree because of this situation. Presently, updating of the CLUPs of the LGUs has been given focus by the Housing Land Use and Regulatory Board (HLURB). Other issues and problems encountered by the sector which affect inefficiency include environmental abuse, lack of enforcement of existing laws and regulation, lack of investments, inadequate support facilities and other infrastructure, lack of land tenure or security, peace and order, among others.

Inefficiency of most LGUs in the utilization of land was also brought by the partial devolution of the management of the environment and natural resources. This, however, was addressed to some extent through the implementation of the “Co-Management Strategy” employed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Recognizing the benefits that would be derived from this strategy, significant number of LGUs has entered into agreement with DENR for the past two years. Notably, Butuan City, Bislig City, Sta. Josefa of Agusan del Sur and the province of Agusan del Norte are now pursuing the scheme.

The efficient utilization of the region’s resources will impact primarily on the lives of the farmer-producers in particular and the LGU in general. It shall also promote sustainability of the limited resources of the region

## **2. Sustaining Physical and Economic Integration**

Physical integration through the development of both physical and social infrastructure is a key contributor in enabling economic processes, supporting and guiding urban and rural development. The promotion of appropriate mode of transportation systems in the region will facilitate the smooth transfer of people and goods from one point to other designated transfer points and eventually to their destination.

The problem of poor access to basic social services and other development amenities has triggered the low productivity of the farming subsector resulting to increased poverty in the rural areas. Farmers tend not to produce enough agricultural commodities as they would always encounter problems in bringing their goods to the urban areas in which most of the time, incurred losses due to the delay.

In terms of road density, the region has existing 0.43 km per square km. which is much lower compared to the Philippines average of 0.597. Moreover, only 27 percent of the potential irrigable area has been served by irrigation facilities, depriving majority of the farming sector. For safe and potable water supply, about 80 percent of the total households are covered in the region. Most of the remote barangays of the region are still deprived of this facility. An estimated 59 municipalities have been supplied with safe water under level III category. This implies that 14 municipalities are still not covered with this basic utility. This concern can be resolved if the concerned development agencies will prioritize and implement infrastructure projects based on the demand of the community. The implementation of a farm-to-market project will, in most cases, allow the people to improve their mobility while catering to the productive sector and other industries located in the area.

Local production and market linkages can be enhanced with the implementation of rural infrastructure and other facilities that will support food security and agrarian reform objectives

### **3.     **Activating/operationalizing the Industrial Estates and Special Economic Zones****

- a) Nasipit Agusan del Norte Industrial Estates (NANIE). This is an LGU-led initiative which was conceived to harness the locational strength and competitive advantages of the area along local and international trade. NANIE is a 296-hectare industrial estate closely packaged along the entire cove nestling the port that leads into and out of the busy town of Nasipit, Agusan del Norte and the rest of Mindanao. Sixty-two (62) hectares of this area is a Special economic Zone. The site has been categorized to host light and medium industries engaged mostly in agro-industrial processing.

Aside from the initiatives undertaken by the Local Government of Nasipit and the province of Agusan del Norte which led to the construction of the PMO administrative building, there was no major development undertaken in the area. Recently, two locators have shown desire to locate in the area and are now conducting the feasibility studies and the availability of raw materials that will be needed in their operation. With the financial constraints experienced by both local and national government in providing site development, the region should identify operational and workable strategies to accommodate these locators;

- b) Tubay Agricultural Processing Center (TAPCEN). The TAPCEN is a private initiated processing center designed to cater to the needs of the agricultural sub-sector in Tubay, Agusan del Norte. The center, covering more than 200 hectares is owned and managed principally by the AMS Group of Companies. The center was not able to jump-start due to delay in the approval of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) by the DENR Secretary.

- a) Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone (NISEZ) in Surigao City. The site is the home of the Philippine Nickel Corporation or PhilNICO covering more than of 105 hectares. The LGU supported the re-operationalization of the industry as it will contribute significant benefits to the locality. At present, the proposal for the re-opening has been submitted to the BOI for possible tying up with interested investors of the industry; and
- b) Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park (STEP) in Agusan del Sur. The STEP covering a total area of 258 hectares was declared as Special Economic Zone through Presidential Proclamation No. 17 dated March 12, 2001. This industry will specialize on the processing of wood-based products for local and foreign markets. The operation has been suspended due to some technical problems.

#### **4. Enabling Socio-cultural Integration, Equity and Justice**

Peace and development can be achieved through government's commitment to pursue political and socio-economic, stability as well as cultural harmony in the region.

The respect for ethnic traditions with emphasis on the promotion of justice shall guide peace and development efforts in the region. Social justice calls for the promotion of equal access to services and facilities and development opportunities while at the same time strengthening social and cultural structures and relations between and among the cultural groups. With the region's multi-ethnic society, peace and development efforts shall be founded on stronger social and cultural harmony and the respect for constitutional rights and liberties for each group.

Equitable access to productive resources and services will be enforced by the issuance of ancestral domain titles to indigenous peoples. Appropriate interventions that uplift social and economic well-being shall consider the uniqueness of each culture and the preservation of cultural heritage. A response to the accommodation of ethnic traditions shall be institutionalized.

One milestone in the effort of mainstreaming socio-cultural, equity and justice is the recognition of our brother indigenous peoples (IPs) as partners in the development of the region. Indeed, the implementation of some projects in the uplands has been participated by IPs. The Community-Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP), the Northern Mindanao Community Initiatives and Resource Management Project (NMCIREMP), the Forestry Sector Project (FSP) and other Local Government projects have been participated by this vulnerable group in our society.

#### **5. Enhancing Economic Integration in Response to Globalization**

The recognition of the global trend of borderless economy has facilitated the formation of sub-regional economic clusters responding to the call of complementation. The Philippines, particularly the island of Mindanao became part of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) in 1994. The region is faced with the challenge of responding to this opportunity for global cooperation. To facilitate this concern, the region's comparative advantages must be harnessed to better respond to the trend of establishing linkages among the regions in Mindanao.

One strategy being pursued by BIMP-EAGA is the positioning of each member country as its comparative niche and intra-regional links. The Philippines has been designated as the center for human resources development considering its diverse manpower skills. Recently, the Caraga Region was able to host the BIMP-EAGA Human Resource Development Congress.



## **6. Increasing Urban Population, Density and Demand for Urban Services**

The continuous increase in the region's population has directly been affecting urban centers as more people are moving into existing urban areas because of the presence of basic and social services thus causing the transformation of rural into urban settlements.

This situation is evident with the increasing demand of basic social services and facilities in their respective localities. The demand for water, power, and other utilities has been increasing and this strains the government specifically the LGUs to provide adequate services because of limited funding and financial support. For example, safe water supply has only served 80 percent of the total households in the region. Many remote barangays are not yet served with safe water supply of water.

Of the 73 municipalities including 3 cities, only 59 were provided with safe level III water supply. This means that 14 municipalities are not yet covered with this facility. The problem can be addressed by intensifying the provision and dispersal of the services and utilities in strategic locations. Given the limitations of the government resources, the participation of the private sector in the provision of services and utilities is likewise imperative.

## **7. Expanding Unplanned Settlement Areas**

Although there is an increasing trend in population growth and movement to urban areas, these are still within the carrying and managing capacity of the LGUs. However, there is a need to anticipate future impacts on land uses of the LGUs.

This, however, has been addressed with the completion of the updating of the Comprehensive Land use Plan (CLUP) of the LGUs in Caraga Region. At present, only 11 LGUs have not completed their updating of the CLUPs. Most probable dates for completion is in early 2005.

The marginal, idle and low productive agricultural lands have been identified as best candidates for conversion to urban uses subject to the conditions of existing laws and ordinances.

## **8. Enabling Sustainability of the Agricultural Land Uses**

This rationalizes the optimization of agricultural growth in the region under the principle of sustainable development and equal growth opportunities through proper conservation of land resources and better administration and allocation of public investment and resources.



In the implementation of the Agrarian Reform Law, the region recorded a total approved conversion 94.52 hectares for the period 1996-2003 or approximately 11.866 hectares per year.

The formulation of sustainable agricultural land use plan will facilitate the conservation and preservation of agricultural land areas devoted for production of staple food and other prime commodities. This will serve as guide for the DA and LGU in improving crop production, conserving land resources, and protecting prime lands from conversion as well as efficient allocation of the limited financial resources.

## **9. Establishing Final Forest Boundaries**

The DENR Caraga is planning to complete the lands re-classification of the region the soonest possible time. The activity has been affected and was delayed for a significant period because of lack of funding support. The DENR has a lean yearly budget for the establishment of the Final Forest Line and being the sole source of financing, the activity will not be completed as targeted.

The conduct of the activity has undergone a rigorous process including consultation and field surveys as well as maps over-laying. The long process entails significant expenses from the government.

The challenge for the region is the adoption and effectivity of the results.

## **10. Convergence Approach for Sustainable Resource Development and Management**

Convergence approach to rural development shall be pursued to harmonize and offer complementation in the sustainable resource development and management of the region. This calls for the creation of inter-LGUs strategy or alliances with the objective of promoting sustainable development and management of their common resources. The strategy of complementing and sharing local resources will enhance the implementation of projects.

The convergence approach through the implementation of the sustainable agriculture development has been adopted in early 1990s by DA, DAR and DENR in responding their respective mandates.

The creation of inter-LGU alliances has facilitated the harnessing of the LGUs resources including manpower in the implementation of their priority programs and projects affecting their municipalities. This development effort has been actively supported by some of these alliances, namely: Lake Mainit Development Alliance (LMDA), Agusan Marsh Development Alliance (AMDA), BIBAHILITA, HIPADA, DIISusDev and SIPLAS Development Alliance.

## **B. OPPORTUNITIES**

The foregoing challenges can be met through the operationalization of the following economic and spatial opportunities:

### **1. Mindanao as food basket of the country and major exporter of agriculture and fishery products.**

For Caraga Region, the province of Agusan del Sur has been designated as the food basket of the region given the vast and potential irrigable area of 94,000 hectares, while the provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur have been designated as fishery center of the region. Workable mechanism and strategy to sustainably develop and manage these resources should be put in place to realize Caraga's vision of becoming FAME center.

### **3. Caraga as the Forest Plantation Corridor of the South.**



With this distinction, the region identified about 684,503 hectares per DENR Administrative Order No. 99-13 signed by Secretary Cerilles. These lands will be developed for industrial forest plantations. These figures are broken down as follows: Agusan del Norte-130,181 hectares; Agusan del Sur-414,793 hectares; Surigao del Norte- 25,105 hectares, and Surigao del Sur-114,424 hectares.

### **4. Industrial and Special Economic Zones (SEZs).**

These areas include the Nasipit Agusan Norte Industrial Estate (NANIE) which covers more than 296 hectares, the Tubay Agricultural Processing Center (TAPCEN) covering more than 600 hectares, the Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone (NISEZ) covering an aggregate area of 590 hectares and the Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park (STEP)) which covers significant hectares of land.

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

### **Polycentric Network Development and Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages**

Polycentric development is an important concept in the spatial plan for Caraga region. this means connecting a number of urban and rural growth centers so that they form a strong competitive network that can sustain and grow businesses, services and facilities. Polycentric development offers an alternative to monocentric development in which one city dominates all the others.

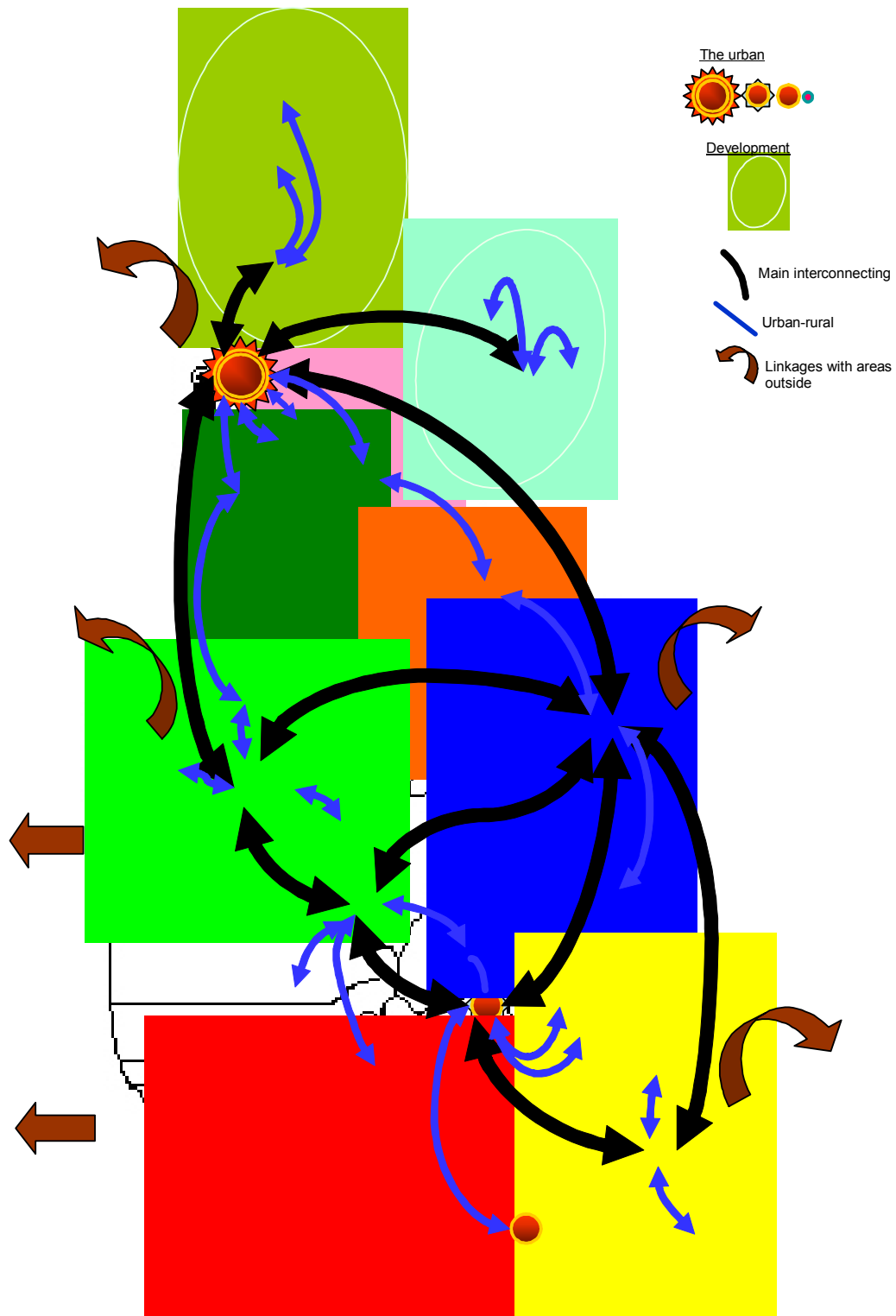
The concept of polycentric development shall be pursued by the region, for three reasons:

- to avoid excessive economic and demographic concentration in the urban areas of the region, e.g. Butuan City and Surigao City
- to effectively utilize the economic potential of all provinces and cities; and
- to encourage greater complementarity between Caraga's urban and rural growth areas.

Through polycentric development, a number of strategic places/zones in the region will be connected or linked together forming a network. The links in the network shall include improved transport channels, virtual connections using information technology, inter-local alliances or focused, active cooperation.

At the regional scale, polycentricity will take the form of a regional spatial organization based on a balanced network of provinces/cities or local government alliances. These local network systems are the building blocks (basic elements) of the region's polycentric development.

**Figure 4.1 POLYCENTRIC NETWORK DEVELOPMENT & STRENGTHENING URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES**



**A. Strategic Economic Development Zones (SEDZ).** These are areas in the region that are endowed with natural resources that will hasten economic activity.

**1. Strategic Production Area**

- a) Forest/Agri-Forest Zones within the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte.
- b) Strategic Agricultural and Fishery Development Zones in Butuan City and within the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte.
- c) Mineral Products Development Zones which include the provinces of Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur.

**2. Strategic Processing Centers**

- a) Nasipit Agusan del Norte Industrial Estate (NANIE) located in Nasipit, Agusan del Norte for light and medium industries specifically, wood-based and agricultural-based processing;
- b) Tubay Agricultural Processing Center (TAPCEN) in Tubay, Agusan del Norte is designed for agricultural products processing;
- c) Nonoc Island Special Economic Zone (NISEZ) in Surigao City for metallic production and processing; and
- d) Shannalyne Technological and Environmental Park (STEP) in Agusan del Sur for wood-based production and processing.

**B. Strategic Tourism Development Zones** are networks of tourist destinations/attractions located in geographically contiguous areas.

a) ***Butuan-Agusan Norte Tourism Zone*** is composed of the city of Butuan and the municipalities of Agusan del Norte *except* Jabonga, Kitcharao, Tubay and Santiago.

b) ***Surigao Norte Mainland and City Tourism Zone***

- Lake Mainit Eco-Tourism Sub-Zone covers the municipalities of Jabonga, Kitcharao, Tubay and Santiago, Agusan del Norte and the southern municipalities of Surigao del Norte
- Surigao North Mainland Tourism Sub-Zone covers the rest of Surigao del Norte mainland municipalities

c) ***Surigao Islands Tourism Zone***

- Siargao Island Tourism Sub-Zone covers all municipalities in Siargao Island
- Dinagat Island Sub-Zone is the whole island of Dinagat

*d) South Caraga Tourism Zone*

- Agusan Marsh Eco-Tourism Sub-Zone covers the province of Agusan del Sur
- Southeastern Tourism Sub-Zone is composed of the southern municipalities of Surigao del Sur from Marihatag to Lingig

*e) Northeastern Tourism Zone* covers the coastal towns of Surigao del Sur from Carrascal to Cagwait

**C. Intra-regional Government Alliances**

These are existing aggrupations of LGUs in the regions which are formed mainly to improve and uplift the economic conditions of the local communities in the region.

- **Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance (HIPADA)** – Placer, Claver, Bacuag, Gigaquit, Malimono and San Francisco of Surigao del Norte
- **MACASALTABAYAMI Development Alliance** – Marihatag, Cagwait, San Agustin, Lianga, Tago, Bayabas and San Miguel of Surigao del Sur
- **BIBAHILITA Development Alliance** – Bislig, Barobo, Hinatuan, Lingig and Tagbina of Surigao del Sur
- **CARCANMADCARLANCORTAN Development Alliance** – Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, Lanuza, Cortes, and Tandag of Surigao del Sur
- **Agusan Marsh Development Alliance** – Bunawan, La Paz, Loreto, Sta. Josefa, Veruela, San Francisco, Talacogon and Rosario of Agusan del Sur
- **Lake Mainit Development Alliance (LMDA)** – Kircharao, Jabonga, Santiago and Tubay of Agusan del Norte; Alegria, Tubod, Mainit & Sison of Surigao del Norte
- **Lower Agusan Development Alliance (LADA)** – Butuan City, Magallanes and Las Nieves of Agusan del Norte; San Luis and Esperanza of Agusan del Sur
- **Agusan del Sur Growth Diamond** – Bayugan, San Francisco, Talacogon and Trento of Agusan del Sur
- **Cabadbaran-Tubay-RTR-Magallanes Alliance** – Cabadbaran, Tubay, RTR and Magallanes of Agusan del Norte
- **SIPLAS Development Alliance** – Dapa, Socorro, General Luna, Del Carmen, San Benito, Pilar, Sta. Monica, Burgos and San Isidro of Surigao del Norte
- **Dinagat Island Initiative for Sustainable Development Alliance** - San Jose, Cagdianao, Dinagat, Basilisa, Libjo, Tubajon and Loreto

**D. Inter-regional Development Strategy**

- **SUDOPARIM** or Surigaos-Davao Oriental Pacific Rim which covers the provinces of Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Davao Oriental. This strategy was created to spearhead the development of the area in the Pacific Rim.

**E. Functional Roles of LGUs**

To support the region's spatial strategy, each of the three cities and the provinces shall also pursue functional roles as their contribution to the achievement of the vision.

Butuan City	:	The regional center and the major trading, processing, commercial and service center of Caraga. Show window of history and culture in Mindanao.
Surigao City	:	The commercial and trading center in the Pacific Rim of the region. Special zone for mineral-based industries.
Bislig City	:	The agri-forestry and aquamarine processing center and agri-industrial center.
Agusan del Norte	:	The agri-processing zone and site of industrial estates and agri-processing centers
Agusan del Sur	:	The agri-forest processing zone and the food basket of the region
Surigao del Norte	:	The mineral industry, fishery center and major eco-tourism destination of the region
Surigao del Sur	:	The agri-industrial zone for agricultural, forestry and fishery products

## **II. POLICY MEASURES**

- Ensuring promotion of adequate employment opportunities for resettlement of urban and rural dwellers
- Adoption of the new reclassified land area as bases for the resolution of land boundary conflicts. An on-going survey to re-classify lands is conducted by DENR in coordination with the concerned LGUs and other stakeholders. The pressing problem that will be encountered by the region relative to this, can only be resolved through the act of congress.
- Institutionalization of the Regional Sustainable Agriculture Land Use Plan (RSALUP). This will provide security and protection for those agricultural areas devoted for production of staple foods and major commodities to address and assure supply of the increasing population as well as the needs of the existing industries.
- Rationalization of development activities in critical watersheds. The DENR and LGUs should lead in rationalizing the activities within the critical watershed considering the importance of this limited resource. Periodic monitoring should be facilitated by the concerned party to immediately contain the presence of conflicting activity.
- Regulate population growth rate and movement in order to achieve a level and distribution conducive to the attainment of a decent quality of life and welfare for individuals and families. Implementation of the family planning and reproductive health programs must be pursued by the LGU and related activities be incorporated in their delivery of services to rural areas.
- Strengthen policy measures on regenerating natural resources, arresting environmental degradation and achieving ecological balance and environmental integrity
- Resolution on the conflicting uses within protection and production land areas. Uses of lands have been categorized under production and protection areas. Production areas are areas dedicated for agricultural, forest, mining, industrial and tourism activities. Protection land uses are areas which are covered under NIPAS and Non-NIPAS and critical or hazardous areas. With this definition, the conflicting use of each can be easily mitigated

## **III. PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS\***

In order to achieve the long term goal of the region, the following programs, activities and projects must be pursued:

- Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) Updating
- Completion of the Provincial Physical Framework Plans (PPFPs) and the Regional Physical Framework Plan (RPFP)
- Establishment of the Final Forest Line of the Caraga Region
- Institutionalization of the Regional Sustainable Agriculture Land Use Plan
- Ancestral Domain and Land Management Program



- Community-Based Resource Management Project Phase 2
- Community-Based Forest Management
- Caraga Food Sufficiency Program Phase 2
- Watershed Development Program for Surigao del Norte
- Siargao Island Eco-Tourism Development Project
- Community-Based Integrated Coastal Resource Management Program
- Fisheries Resource Management Project Phase 2
- Agusan Marsh Development and Management Program
- Agusan River Basin Integrated Area Development Project
- Butuan City Industrial Estate
- Lake Mainit Development Alliance Management Project
- Dinagat Island Integrated Agricultural Development Project

\* Identified in other chapters

# **Chapter 5**

## **Infrastructure Development and Logistics Support**

Infrastructure sector plays an important role in the country's economic development. It provides power, water, telecommunications, roads, air and sea transport facilities, and other physical support facilities and utilities. Infrastructure is a key to building and maintaining a community, therefore, we believe the quality of our infrastructure is directly related to the quality of life for our populace. It is also an important factor in attracting and retaining businesses for the regional economy. Infrastructure development is, therefore, a significant part of the planning process for regional development.

The infrastructure requirements of the region remain large, including those that provide vital links to agriculture, industries and major tourism areas. The perennial problem of meager resources and delayed releases of funds still beset the infrastructure program of the region.

### **I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **A. Situationer**

##### **1. Transportation**

##### **1.1 Land Transportation**

Due to its strategic location, the region serves as a major transit point to and from the major urban centers in Northeastern Mindanao and even the Visayas island. Being a region composed of both inland and island municipalities, the principal modes of transportation are road, water and air.

In 2003, the region had a total road length of 8,222.32 kilometers for all types of road categorized into national, provincial, city, municipal and barangay roads. This translates to a total road density of 0.43 km per square km of land area which is much lower compared to the Philippines average road density of 0.597.

Among the provinces, Agusan del Sur has the lowest road density of 0.333 which is mainly due to its large land area. Comparatively, Surigao del Norte has the highest road density of 0.704 given that the road density of its component city (Surigao City) is just 0.007 off from the 1 kilometer per 1 square kilometer road density standard.

At the provincial level, Agusan del Sur has the longest road network (2,762.70 kms.), which is about 33.50 percent of the total regional road network. Agusan del Norte has the shortest (981.23 kms.) or 11.9 percent of the total.

**Table 5.1 Road Density and Road Length, By Type, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**  
(density in km/sqkm,; length in kms)

PROVINCES	LAND AREA (sq.km)	ROADS (Kilometer)					ROAD DENSITY km /sqkm	Paved Ratio %
		Concrete	Asphalt	Gravel	Earth	TOTAL		
<b>ADN</b>	2,216.45	156.94	12.9	683.4	127.99	981.23	0.443	17.31
-National		101.77	-	29.6	-	131.37		
-Local		55.16	12.9	653.8	127.99	849.86		
<b>ADS</b>	8,297.19	200.84	3.44	1,378.29	1,180.13	2,762.70	0.333	7.4
-National		146.85	0.21	243.00	0	390.05		
-Local		54	3.23	1,135.29	1,180.13	2,372.64		
<b>SDN</b>	2,819.15	435.62	0.70	933.1	616.23	1,985.64	0.704	21.98
-National		147.71	0.70	243.73	-	392.14		
-Local		287.91	-	689.37	616.23	1,593.51		
<b>* Surigao City</b>	261.17	135.67	0.70	102.04	20.94	259.35	0.993	52.58
-National		46.68	0.70	9.46	-	56.85		
-Local		88.98	0.00	92.57	20.94	202.50		
<b>SDS</b>	5,137.70	250.5	-	1,835.02	25.00	2,110.52	0.406	12.01
-National		142.87	-	226.52	-	369.39		
-Local		107.63	-	1,608.50	25.00	1,741.13		
<b>* Bislig City</b>	422.64	33.22	-	42.00	25.00	100.22	0.237	33.15
-National		19.00	-	19.00	-	38.00		
-Local		14.22	-	23.00	25.00	62.22		
<b>Butuan City</b>	667.93	114.02	5.35	287.85	-	407.23	0.61	29.31
-National		45.62	5.35	39.47	-	90.44		
-Local		68.4	-	248.39	-	316.79		
<b>Subtotal</b>								
-National		584.82	6.26	782.32	0	1,373.39		
-Local		573.1	16.13	4,335.35	1,924.35	6,848.93		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,138.42</b>	<b>1,157.92</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>5,117.67</b>	<b>1,924.35</b>	<b>8,222.32</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>14.31</b>

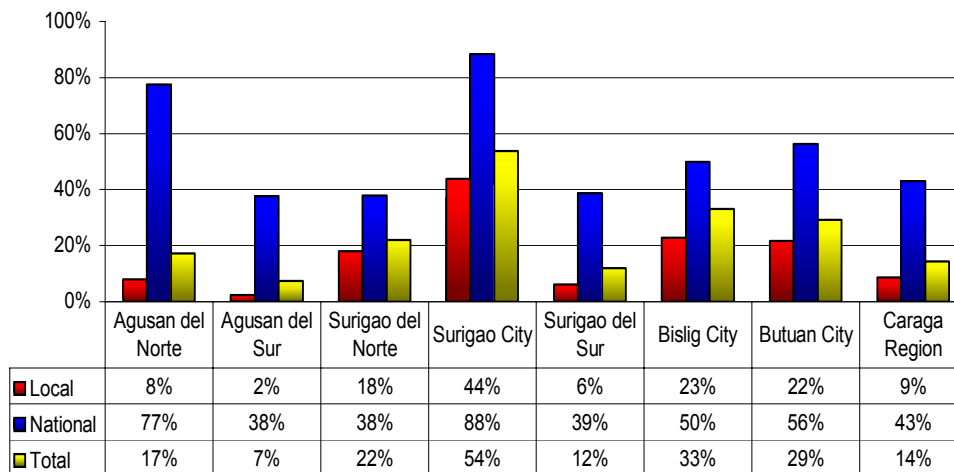
Sources: DPWH-R13 and LGUs

\* Component City

In terms of road surface types, concrete accounts for only 14.04 percent (1,157.92 km) of the total road length of all surface types in the region. National and local paved road percentages are only forty-three (43) percent and nine (9) percent, respectively. Gravel is still the most dominant type accounting for 62.05 percent (5,117.65 km). This is lower than the 21 percent national share of concrete pavement to total road length of all surface types in the country. National road share of the region is lower than the country's average share of national roads.

The region has a combined length of 15,716 linear meters for national bridges comprising 262 (57%) permanent and 203 (43%) temporary bridges. All national bridges in Agusan del Norte and 75% in Agusan del Sur are permanent but majority of bridges in the provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur are still made of temporary (wooden) materials.

**Figure 5.1 Paved Road Percentage, By Province and City,  
Caraga Region, CY 2003**



**Table 5.2 Inventory of National Bridges, By Province, Caraga Region, CY2003**

PROVINCE/ CITY	BRIDGES (lineal meter)					
	PERMANENT		TEMPORARY		TOTAL	
	LENGTH	NO.	LENGTH	NO.	LENGTH	NO.
Agusan del Norte	1,740.00	38	0.00	0	1,740.00	38
Agusan del Sur	3,143.10	71	276.00	15	3,419.00	94
Surigao del Norte	2,029.80	55	1,560.00	95	3,589.00	138
Surigao del Sur	3,913.30	78	2,115.00	92	6,028.00	169
Butuan City	920.00	20	20.00	1	940.00	21
<b>TOTAL (national)</b>	<b>11,475.20</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>3,808.10</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>15,716.00</b>	<b>460</b>

Source: DPWH-R13

## 1.2 Air Transportation

The region has five (5) airports with four (4) secondary airports: Butuan, Surigao, Tandag and Bislig, and one (1) feeder airport (Sayak, Siargao Island). The airports in Butuan City and Surigao City function as the major airports in the region. At present, the Bancasi Airport in Butuan City is servicing daily direct flights to and from Manila and Cebu, while Surigao City is catering flights to and from Cebu City three times a week. Butuan City and Surigao City airports are served by two (2) local commercial airlines (PAL and Cebu Pacific) and one (1) local commercial airline (Asian Spirit), respectively. Table 5.3 shows the detailed airline flights schedule in the airports of Butuan, Surigao, Tandag and Siargao. Bislig airport has been un-operational since CY 2000.

**Table 5.3 Air Routes and Flight Frequency, Time By Airline, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

CARRIER	ROUTE	FREQUENCY	TIME OF DEPARTURE	TIME OF ARRIVAL
<b>PAL</b>	Manila-Butuan	Daily	10:45AM	12:15PM
	Butuan-Manila	Daily	1:15PM	2:40PM
<b>CEBU-PACIFIC</b>	Manila-Butuan (direct)	T,Th,F,Sun	9:00AM	10:20AM
	(via Cebu)	M,W,Sat	9:00AM	11:40AM
	Butuan-Manila (direct)	T,Th,F,Sun	11:15AM	12:40PM
	(via Cebu)	M,W,Sat	9:00AM	11:40AM
<b>SEAIR</b>	Cebu-Siargao	T	10:00AM	11:40AM
		Sat	11:30AM	12:20PM
	Siargao-Cebu	T	13:15PM	14:05AM
		Sat	12:40PM	14:20PM
	Cebu-Tandag	T	11:15AM	12:15PM
		Sat	11:30AM	13:00PM
		T	11:20AM	12:50PM
		Sat	13:20PM	14:20PM
	Siargao-Tandag	Sat	12:40PM	13:00PM
	Tandag-Siargao	T	12:35PM	12:55PM
	Manila-Surigao	MWFSun	1:30PM	3:15PM
	Surigao-Manila	MWFSun	3:45PM	5:30PM

Source: ATO-Butuan City and Surigao City

### 1.3 Sea Transportation

There are 11 existing major seaports in the region out of a total of 114 ports under the PPA Port System throughout the country. These ports are separately managed under the Port Management Offices (PMO) of Nasipit and Surigao.

#### **Nasipit-PMO covers:**

- Nasipit Baseport (Nasipit, Agusan del Norte)
- Butuan Port Terminal (Butuan City)
- Masao Port Terminal (Butuan City)

#### **Surigao-PMO covers:**

- Surigao Baseport (Surigao City)
- San Jose Port (San Jose, Surigao del Norte)
- Doña Helen Port (Socorro, Surigao del Norte)
- Lipata Ferry Terminal (Surigao City)
- Dapa Port Terminal (Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte)
- Tandag Port Terminal (Surigao del Sur)
- Aras-asan (Cagwait, Surigao del Sur)
- Cantilan Port (Surigao del Sur)

The region's ports may be broken down into 38 government and 14 private ports. Of the total government ports, 11 are classified as national and 27 as municipal. National ports are the ports of entry for coastal, national and/ or international trade, while municipal ports cater to small motorized bancas and outriggers. Most of the ports in the region, especially the national ports need improvement and upgrading to meet the growing passenger and cargo traffic. In terms of provincial distribution of ports, the Surigao areas account for 74 percent of the total ports in the region.

Port statistics have shown that the total foreign and domestic vessels that anchored in the region's designated ports dipped by 4.5 percent in year 2003 compared to year 2002. The decrease in domestic and foreign shipcalls was attributed to the poor economic situation and decline in log importation. Passenger traffic increased by 8.9% due to additional port calls at the port of Nasipit, particularly M/V Butuan Bay 1 that added 3 trips to Cebu City and 1 trip to Jagna, Bohol every week. The operation of Butuan Ferry Terminal that started last June 2003, serving passengers to Magallanes and Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte, adds up to the increase of passenger traffic. Total volume of cargoes, on the other hand, decreased by 31.5 percent. This is attributed to the decline in shipment of other general cargo at government ports.

**Table 5.4 Port Statistics, Caraga Region, CYs 2002 and 2003**

PARTICULARS		CY 2002	CY 2003	% Decrease /Increase
<b>Shipcalls</b>	a. Nasipit	1,194	1,284	8.38
	b. Surigao City	8,808	8,270	(61.10)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,002</b>	<b>9,554</b>	<b>(4.50)</b>
<b>Cargo Throughput (m.t.)</b>	a. Nasipit	1,183,383	1,227,653	3.74
	b. Surigao City	2,136,518	1,046,357	(51.02)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,319,901</b>	<b>2,274,010</b>	<b>(31.50)</b>
<b>Passenger Traffic</b>	a. Nasipit	406,478	546,481	34.44
	b. Surigao City	1,532,002	1,564,598	2.13
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,938,480</b>	<b>2,111,079</b>	<b>8.90</b>
<b>Container Traffic (T.E.U.)</b>	a. Nasipit	25,532	28,456	11.45
	b. Surigao City	5,624	5,970	6.15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,156</b>	<b>34,426</b>	<b>10.50</b>

Source: PPA Nasipit and Surigao City

Figure 5.2 Existing Major Transportation Facilities,  
Caraga Region, CY 2003



Sources: DPWH-R13, ATO, PPA

## 2. Communications

The communications subsector covers the telecommunications and postal services. Telecommunications include services on local exchange carrier, cellular mobile telephone, public calling station and other value-added services. The postal services include regular post offices, postal stations, barangay post offices and private mailing centers.

### 2.1 Telecommunications

The deregulation, liberalization and modernization of the telecommunication industry have enhanced the region's access to local and global information. As of 2003, the region has already a total of 69,272 equipped telephone lines, with 30,250 subscribed telephone lines. This translates to a telephone density of 3.36 lines per 100 population, which is relatively lower compared to the country's teledensity of 9.12.

**Table 5.5 Existing Telephone (Land) Lines, Related Indicators,  
By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

PROVINCE	EQUIPPED TEL. LINES (a)		% Change / (Decline)	SUBSCRIBED TEL. LINES (b)		% Change / (Decline)
	Q4, 2002	Q4, 2003		Q4, 2002	Q4, 2003	
Agusan del Norte	38,374	38,415	0.11	20,502	17,789	(13.23)
Agusan del Sur	17,699	16,890	(4.57)	5,993	4,886	(18.47)
Surigao del Norte	8,705	8,417	(3.31)	4,955	4,354	(12.13)
Surigao del Sur	5,630	5,550	(1.42)	3,542	3,221	(9.06)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,408</b>	<b>69,272</b>	<b>(1.61)</b>	<b>34,992</b>	<b>30,250</b>	<b>(13.55)</b>
Tel. Density / 100	3.42c	3.36c				

Source: NTC R13

Telephone service in the region is available in major urban centers. In some municipalities, public calling offices in the municipal centers are available for long distance calls to any point in country and outside the country.

The telephone service system in the region is operated by both government and private companies. Private telephone companies like the Bayantel, Cruztelco and Philcom dominate in the urban centers as well as in the rural areas. The government (Telof)-operated National Telephone Program (NTP) is also servicing the entire region.



**Table 5.6 Subscribed Telephone Distribution by Operators by Province**

AREA	LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS						
	Bayantel	Cruztelco	Philcom	Telof <sup>a</sup>	Trento Tel. Sys.	PLDT	TTS/TETCO
Agusan del Norte <sup>b</sup>	10,397	2,682	4,263	447			
Agusan del Sur	739	952	2,484	12	295		
Surigao del Norte <sup>c</sup>		1,715	2,513	126			
Surigao del Sur <sup>d</sup>			2,184			183	854

Source: NTC-XIII

<sup>a</sup> Government-operated

<sup>b</sup> includes Butuan City

<sup>c</sup> including Surigao

<sup>d</sup> including Bislig City

The major local exchange carriers or telephone service operators are already interconnected to the major urban centers in region, namely in Butuan City, Surigao City and the capital town of Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte.

**Table 5.7 Local Exchange Carriers Interconnection, By City/Capital Town, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

BUTUAN CITY	Cruztelco	Philcom	Telof	Bayantel
Bayantel	✓	✓	✓	
Cruztelco		✓	✓	✓
Philcom	✓		✓	✓
Telof	✓	✓		✓

SURIGAO CITY	Cruztelco	Philcom	Telof	-
Cruztelco		✓	✓	
Philcom	✓		✓	
Telof	✓	✓		

CABADBARAN	Cruztelco	Philcom	Bayantel	-
Bayantel	✓	✓		
Cruztelco		✓	✓	
Philcom	✓		✓	

Source: NTC-13

The region has a total of 233 public calling offices. These are composed of 70, 45, 72, and 46 stations from the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, and Surigao del Sur, respectively.

The cellular mobile telephone system (CMTS) has been steadily growing in the region for the past 4 years. Smart and Globe mobile phone companies are leading the way in this technology with 39 and 18 cell site facilities, respectively.

**Table 5.8 Inventory of Cell Site Facilities, By Carrier,  
By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

	<b>Agusan del Norte</b>	<b>Agusan del Sur</b>	<b>Surigao del Norte</b>	<b>Surigao del Sur</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>GLOBE</b>	6	5	4	3	<b>18</b>
<b>SMART</b>	11	8	13	7	<b>39</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	17	13	17	10	<b>57</b>

Source: NTC-R13

The region's internet activity also boomed in pace with the other regions in the country since the service was deregulated in 1999. There are now four (4) internet service providers (ISPs) in Caraga. The presence of regional networks of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation and GMA Network, Inc. in Butuan City enhanced the relay of vital information and entertainment in the local, national and international scene.

**Table 5.9 Other Telecommunication Facilities,  
By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

<b>FACILITIES</b>	<b>Agusan del Norte</b>	<b>Agusan del Sur</b>	<b>Surigao del Norte</b>	<b>Surigao del Sur</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
No. of TV Stations	6	1	2	2	<b>11</b>
No. of Cable TV Stations	7	3	3	2	<b>15</b>
No. of Radio Stations					
• AM	9	3	3	3	<b>18</b>
• FM	13	1	1	2	<b>17</b>
No. of Internet Service Providers	<b>3</b>	-	<b>1</b>	-	<b>4</b>

Source: NTC-R13

## 2.2 Postal Communication

As experienced in some major areas of the country, the government-owned Philippine Postal Corporation (Philpost) has to contend with private commercial couriers, e.g. LBC, DHL, etc. As of 2003, the region has a total of 79 government post offices and 19 private mailing centers.

**Table 5.10 Postal Services, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

SERVICING STATIONS	No. of Facilities			
	ADN	ADS	SDN	SDS
Post Office	14	15	29	21
Private Mailing Centers (Accredited by Philpost)	4	1	5	9

**Figure 5.3 Location of Cellular Mobile Telephone Sites, Caraga Region, CY 2003**



Source: NTC-R13

### 3. Energy

Power in the region is dependent on two energy sources, namely: hydro and diesel. The region's energy situation continues to be stable with a steady supply from the hydro—powered Agus Grid in Iligan City. This is distributed by six (6) power utilities, namely: Agusan del Norte Electric Cooperative (ANECO), Agusan del Sur Electric Cooperative (ASELCO), Surigao del Norte Electric Cooperative (SURNECO), Siargao Island Electric Cooperative (SIARELCO), Surigao del Sur I Electric Cooperative (SURSECO I) and Surigao del Sur II Electric Cooperative (SURSECO II).

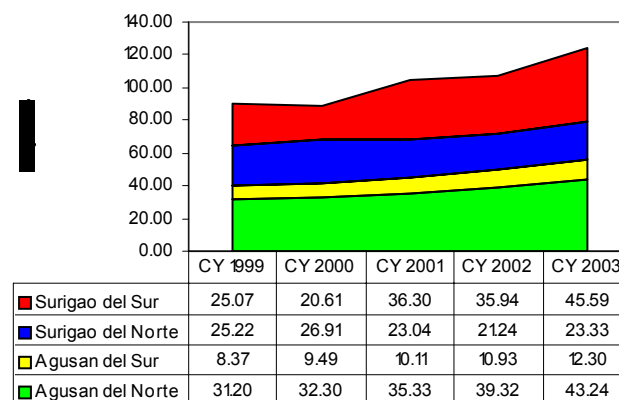
Industries which are major energy consumers in the region are the Pacific Cement Company (PACEMCO), Manila Mining Corporation (MMC) and Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP). As of 2003, the overall total energy demand of Caraga is 124.46 Megawatts.

**Table 5.11 Annual Power Demand by Utilities/Industries,  
Caraga Region, CYs 1999-2003**

Power Distributor	CY 1999	CY 2000	CY 2001	CY 2002	CY 2003
ANECO	30.76	31.72	34.52	38.77	42.14
ASELCO	8.37	9.49	10.11	10.93	12.30
SURNECO	11.28	11.42	11.67	13.17	14.64
SURSECO II	5.17	5.38	5.98	6.48	7.49
PACEMCO	4.75	5.08	6.28	6.38	6.67
SIARELCO	1.19	1.30	1.47	1.59	1.95
MMC	8.00	9.11	3.62	0.10	0.08
SURSECO I	6.47	6.80	6.78	7.24	8.42
PICOP	13.43	8.43	23.54	22.22	29.69
NIA	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.35	0.51
NALCO	0.44	0.39	0.16	0.00	0.00
ITC	0.00	0.19	0.36	0.20	0.59
<b>TOTAL (Caraga)</b>	<b>89.86</b>	<b>89.31</b>	<b>104.78</b>	<b>107.43</b>	<b>124.46</b>

Source: NTC-NEMA

**Figure 5.4 Annual Power Demand, By Province,  
Caraga Region, CY 1999-2003**



The region is host to a standby power facility which is the 100MW diesel-powered Power Barge 117 of the National Power Corporation, located at Nasipit, Agusan del Norte. This was installed in the region sometime in June 1994 in response to the power crisis in the 1990s and also in anticipation of the growing demand for electrical power in the region.

### 3.1 Electrification

All municipalities in the region are already energized, however, only 89% of the 1,310 barangays are served with electricity. Actual residential, commercial and institutional connections reached 76% of 379,934 potential connections.

**Table 5.12 Energization Coverage,  
By Province, By Electric Cooperative, Caraga Region, CY 2003**

LOCATION	Distribution Utilities	Number of Barangays		Connections	
		Coverage	% Served	Potential	% Energized
Agusan del Norte	ANECO	250	100%	102,801	89%
Agusan del Sur	ASELCO	315	81%	95,188	59%
Surigao del Norte	SURNECO	205	85%	48,925	80%
	SIARELCO	131	97%	13,966	77%
	DIELCO	100	53%	18,850	18%
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>81,741</b>	<b>65%</b>
Surigao del Sur	SURSECO I	138	100%	56,000	98%
	SURSECO II	171	96%	44,204	76%
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>100,204</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Caraga Region</b>		<b>1,310</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>379,934</b>	<b>76%</b>

*Sources: Distribution Utilities*

## 4. Water Resources

### 4.1 Irrigation Systems

As of 2003, out of 173,014 hectares potential irrigable area, 46,941 hectares are already serviced with irrigation. This translates to a 27.13 percent level of irrigation development. This posted an increase in irrigation development by only 2.9 percent compared to last year's 45,619 hectares.

Table 5.13 shows the irrigation development status by province as of December 2003. Agusan del Sur has the widest served service area of 17,091 hectares but it accounts for only 18.01 percent of the province's potential irrigable area while Surigao del Norte recorded the highest served with 43.91 percent.

Figure 5.5 Existing Major Electric Power Components, Caraga Region, CY 2003

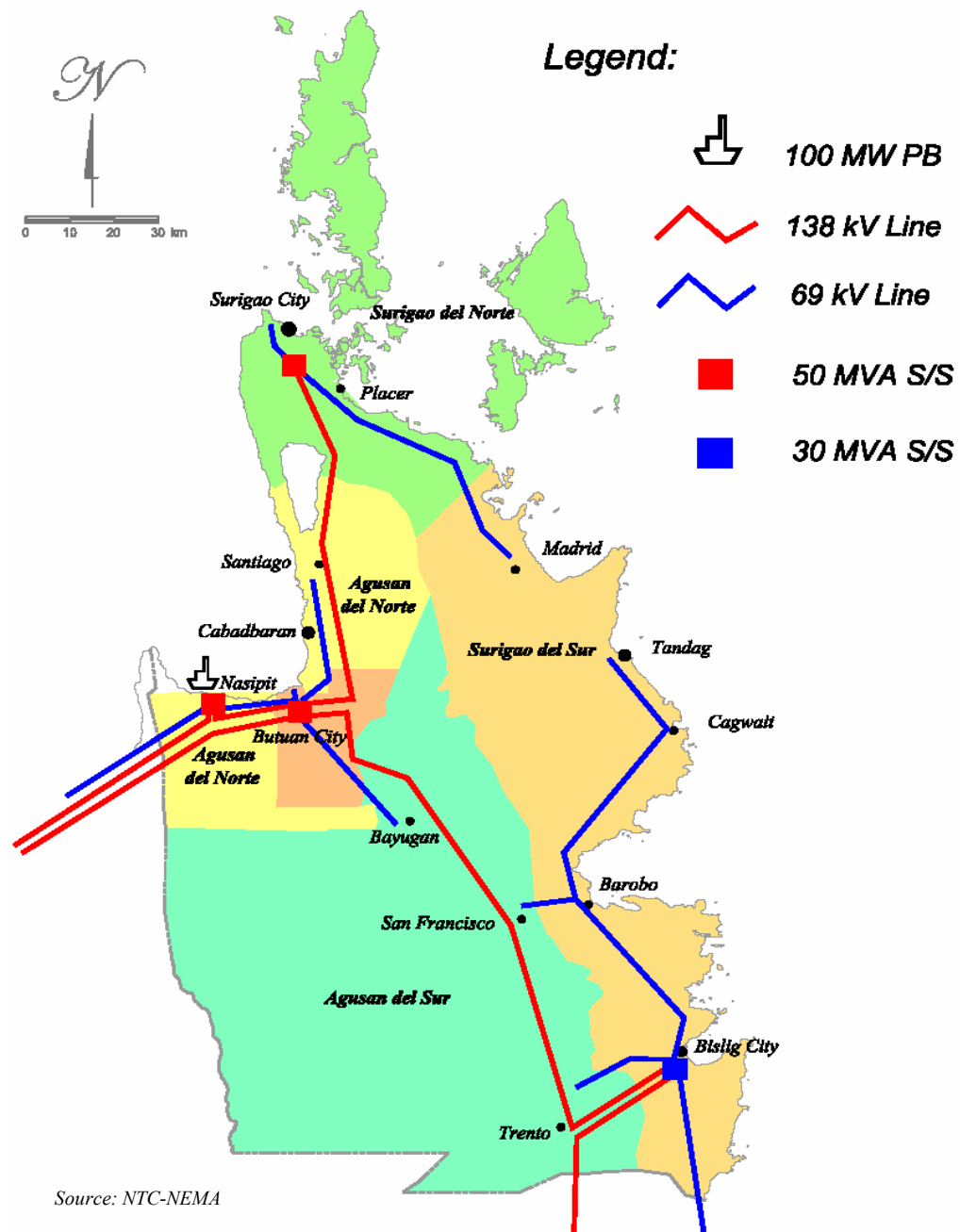


Table 5.13 Status of Irrigation Development, By Province, Caraga Region, CY 2003

PROVINCE	POTENTIAL IRRIGABLE AREA (ha.)	SERVICE AREA (ha.)											PERCENT LEVEL OF IRRIGATION DEVT	REMAINING AREA FOR DEVT.
		NIA-ASSISTED			OTHER GOV'T. AGENCIES		PRIVATE		PUMP IRRIGATION SYSTEM		TOTAL AREA IRRIGATED			
		NATIONAL		COMMUNAL		NO.	AREA		NO.	AREA				
		NO.	AREA	NO.	AREA		NO.	AREA						
Agusan del Norte														
District I	19,150.00	1	4,671	7	933	12	840	7	420	2	120			12,166
District II	18,005.00	1	1,447	19	2,181	24	963	3	220	10	300			12,894
sub-total	37,155.00	2	6,118	26	3,114	36	1,803	10	640	12	420			25,060
Agusan del Sur	94,923.00	3	9,844	20	3,615	41	1,925	43	1,676	8	31			77,832
Surigao del Norte														
District I	3,506.00	0	0	12	658	18	691	5	116	20	60			1,981
District II	11,029.00	0	0	23	2,907	47	1,701	6	192	19	57			6,172
sub-total	14,535.00	0	0	35	3,565	65	2,392	11	308	39	117			8,153
Surigao del Sur														
District I	22,238.00	2	5,501	22	3,483	8	691	9	530	1	250			11,783
District II	4,163.00	0	0	2	210	4	248	3	460	0	0			3,245
sub-total	26,401.00	2	5,501	24	3,693	12	939	12	990	1	250			15,028
TOTAL	173,014.00	7	21,463	105	13,987	154	7,059	76	3,614	60	818			126,073

Source: NIA-R13

## 4.2 Water Supply

Eighty (80) percent of the region's total households now have access to safe water supply. Among all the provinces in the region, Surigao del Norte registered the highest level with 96% of safe water supply covered.

Table 5.13 shows the number of household connections by province and city according to type of water level system. Of the region's 398,106 households, 93,113 households are equipped with metered connection while 97,289 households are served by level II system. Other households which constitutes 52.17% of the total household are drawing their water source from shallow wells, springs and river.

**Table 5.14 Households with Safe Water Supply Coverage,  
By Province and City, Caraga Region CY 2003**

LOCATION	Level I	Level II	Level III	Doubtful
Agusan del Norte	20,322	19,098	8,752	4,607
Agusan del Sur	37,949	24,544	9,574	31,570
Surigao del Norte	23,937	34,359	31,067	3,642
Surigao City	4,933	5,911	9,365	2,332
Surigao del Sur	26,979	16,868	22,564	33,950
Butuan City	17,364	2,420	21,156	5,052
<b>Caraga Region</b>	<b>126,551</b>	<b>97,289</b>	<b>93,113</b>	<b>81,153</b>

*Sources: LGUs*

## B. Major Challenges

### 1. Road network deficiencies

Generally, road network should provide vehicle access to every barangay and to virtually every economically productive area. The road network deficiencies in Caraga region are the sub-standard condition of existing roads, inaccessibility, insufficient development of east-west lateral links, inefficient transport network between and among regional activity centers, poor road maintenance system, traffic capacity problems and disaster-prone road sections.

Caraga region's road network is still scarce and many areas still remain inaccessible and isolated. Although most of these are mountainous areas, it is known that these areas have high potential for agro-forestry development. There are five main areas in the region where the road networks are deficient in terms of accessibility. These areas comprise a major portion of the region, where earth tracks are predominant and are, therefore, relatively inaccessible by any conventional mode of transportation. These are:

- Eastern Caraga: This covers areas in Surigao del Sur especially in the municipalities of San Miguel, Tandag and its neighbouring municipalities.
- Southeastern Caraga: These are areas at the southernmost of Surigao del Sur covering the city of Bislig and the municipalities of Lingig, Hinatuan and



- Tagbina. This also covers remote barangays in Agusan del Sur in the municipalities of Rosario, San Francisco and Prosperidad.
- Southern Caraga: These are interior areas at the southern part of Agusan del Sur, specifically in the municipalities of Trento, Sta. Josefa, Veruela and La Paz.
- Southwestern Caraga: This covers the interior areas of the municipalities of Talacogon, San Luis, Esperanza of Agusan del Sur, and the Las Nieves of Agusan del Norte.
- Central Caraga: Mainly interior barangays of the municipalities of Bayugan and Sibagat, all of Agusan del Sur.

Although the major regional growth centers are provided with road access, several road links are already in bad/very bad conditions. This constrained the socio-economic linkage of these growth centers and eventually hampers the needed economic growth for the region.

Caraga region critically lies along the Philippine Fault Line. Unfortunately, a major section of its main arterial highway are directly along this fault line. This is the Agusan del Sur section of the Philippine-Japan Friendship Highway which connects the region to Region XI. There are no alternative routes, thus, this road network must be properly treated and reliable road network should be achieved.

Maintenance of road networks has become an overwhelming problem in the region. While government is pouring funds on new road constructions, majority of existing road networks in the region have no proper road maintenance, such as: a) portions of the national arterial road along Butuan-Surigao, Bislig-Tandag and Surigao City-Tandag, and b) farm-to-market roads in all municipalities. Deferred maintenance leads to destruction of road pavements and to escalating transport costs. These unmaintained roads shall eventually result in the loss of capital invested in the regional road network.

## **2. Inadequate port facilities**

The current capacity of Nasipit and Surigao Port can no longer sustain the increasing demand for traffic volume. Based on the Philippine Ports Authority strategic master plan, the capacity of these ports have already been overstretched with berths over worked, leading to pre berthing delays and damage to wharf structures. These capacity shortages include that of berthing structure, transit/cargo shed area for non-containerized cargo, container yard area for containerized cargo and passenger terminal building area.

In 2000, a feasibility study was conducted and corresponding Port Master Plans were formulated for the Ports of Butuan, Masao, Nasipit and Surigao. However, recent soil investigation uncovered very deep unsuitable soil strata at proposed expansion area and other constraints to further develop the port of Nasipit. This gives opportunity for the Masao Port to be developed.

There is no baseport located in Surigao del Sur. Presently, there are only two (2) baseports in the region located at Nasipit, Agusan del Norte and Surigao City.

### **3. Inadequate airport facilities**

The airport system of Caraga is not adequate for the needs of the region for it to become a competitive destination for tourists and international business development.

The Butuan and Surigao City airports which serve as the major airports in the region need to be upgraded to permit nighttime operations and/or the accommodation of B737-300 aircraft. In addition, the airports in Caraga has no air cargo terminal with cold storage facilities for perishable commodities.

Siargao Island has already carved its niche as the surfing capital of the country. For this, there is a need to upgrade the facilities of Siargao Island's Sayak airport. This would make travel to Siargao Island more convenient vis-à-vis the usual sea transport system to the island.

### **4. Inadequate communication/telecommunication facilities**

While the major local exchange carriers (LECs) or telephone service operators are already interconnected in the major urban centers in the region, namely in Butuan City, Surigao City and Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte, other growth centers are still not yet fully served by telephone system service.

In addition, the cellular mobile telephone system (CMTS) still need additional cell sites for each provider (SMART and GLOBE) to achieve 100% coverage along major highways and corridors connecting provincial capitals and cities.

### **5. Lack of reliable and dependable power supply.**

For 2003, power demand of Caraga is 124.46 megawatts (MW). These electricity requirements are supplied from the Mindanao Grid at Iligan City. However, given the nature of hydro-power operation, energy supply from the Mindanao grid is vulnerable to changing weather conditions, e.g. drought or the El Niño phenomenon. During this period or on any emergency situation, when the region becomes isolated from the Mindanao Grid, Caraga can operate in Island Mode with the region's Power Barge 117 as the only power supply. All municipalities and 1,166 (89 percent) of 1,310 barangays in the entire region now have electricity. With the increasing demand from households and industries, power demand is expected to grow at an average rate of 8.65 percent per year.

Except for Power Barge 117, Caraga does not have its own energy source. During Island Mode operation, Power Barge 117 could only reliably dispatch eighty-five percent (85 percent) of its combine capacity of 100 MW. This means that only 68.29 percent of 124.46 MW energy demand of Caraga can be served by Power Barge 117.

Frequent power breakdown occurs in some parts of the region particularly in the province of Agusan del Sur due to absence of sub-station. On the other hand, the islands of Dinagat and Loreto (all of Surigao del Norte) do not have adequate power to supply its energy requirements.

**6. Undeveloped potentials for power development**

The region has an available hydropower resources for power generation. These are:

- \* Hinubasan MHP (0.4MW) – Surigao del Norte
- \* Taguibo MHP (7.0MW) – Butuan City
- \* Lake Mainit HEP (22.0 MW) – Agusan del Norte
- \* Pugu HEP (20.0 MW) – Agusan del Norte

Potential wind energy is also found in Surigao, especially in Cantilan, Siargao and Dinagat Islands.

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

**A. Major Goals of the Infrastructure and Utilities Sector:**

The goals of infrastructure development in the region are:

1. Provide the public services and facilities necessary to maintain or enhance the quality of life for the people in Caraga;
2. Promote a healthful and attractive environment for all present and future residents of the region; and
3. Improve the infrastructure necessary to attract commercial and industrial development that will enhance the regional economy.

**B. Objectives of the Infrastructure Development Sector**

The objectives that underscore the major development goals and provide a foundation for accountability are as follows:

1. Pursuing safe infrastructure development and providing accessibility to needed services and utilities for everyone;
2. Pursuing activities that bring infrastructure and services to the disadvantaged, thus, encouraging economic growth while reducing poverty;
3. Creating an enabling environment for sustained development while ensuring regulatory process that guarantees fair prices without corruption, effective revenue management, and transparent public administration;
4. Working in cooperation with other Government departments, agencies, local administrations and communities to ensure efficient delivery of services;
5. Utilizing private sector to maximum extent possible in cost effective delivery of projects, programs and services, and supporting and promoting development of the private sector in this role;

6. Promoting possible equity between provinces, cities, and between urban and rural communities; and
7. Ensuring protection of natural and man-made environment, safety from natural disasters, and protection of human life.

## **C. Sectoral Strategies**

### **1. Transportation**

#### **1.1 Land Transportation**

- 1.1.1 Increase the region's total road density from 0.448 to 0.5;
- 1.1.2 Provide direct inter-provincial and inter-regional linkages; and
- 1.1.3 Increase paved road ratio of national and local roads from 14 percent to 20 percent.

#### **1.2 Sea Transportation**

- 1.2.1 Pursue the implementation of projects identified in the PPA master plan for the entire region;
- 1.2.2 Develop Lawigan Port in Bislig City into a baseport.

#### **1.3 Air Transportation**

- 1.3.1 Pursue the implementation of the proposed Southern Philippines Airports Development Project (SPADP), which covers Butuan City airport ;
- 1.3.2 Regionalization of Air Transportation Office (ATO) in Butuan City ; and
- 1.3.3 Improvement of Tandag, Siargao and Surigao City airports.

### **2. Communications**

- 2.1 Develop the local telephone network and extend local exchange telephone service interconnection to at least 80 percent of all municipalities;
- 2.2 Provide high-speed broadband transmission services in all cities and identified growth centers and priority areas;
- 2.3 Make available cellular mobile telephone service to 100 percent coverage of major highways and corridors connecting provincial capitals and cities;
- 2.4 Increase telephone density to 6.70 to meet the growing demand for telephone and other value-added services.

**3. Energy**

- 3.1 Based on the National Power Corporation (NPC) study, Caraga has a potential to generate 283 MW of power supply. Prospective investors and power producers shall be invited and encouraged to develop these natural potentials ;
- 3.2 Fully interconnect the 69 kV transmission lines from Tandag to Madrid (all of Surigao del Sur) and from Bayugan to San Francisco (all of Agusan del Sur) ;
- 3.3 Expand power coverage in the region to cover 100 percent of all barangays in the region by 2008;
- 3.4 Construct a 50 MVA sub-station in Agusan del Sur;
- 3.5 Installation of additional power barge; and
- 3.6 Develop power plants in Dinagat Island, Surigao del Norte.

**4. Irrigation**

- 4.1 Increase level of irrigation development to 30 percent
- 4.2 Pursue speedy completion of on-going and proposed projects during the plan period;and
- 4.3 Rehabilitate damaged irrigation facilities to improve the current level of utilization;

**5. Safe Water supply**

- 5.1 Increase safe water supply coverage from 80 percent to 100 percent of all households in the region; and
- 5.2 Increase number of municipalities/cities with Level III from 59 to 73.

**6. Flood Control**

- Ensure completion of major on-going flood control projects during the plan period.

### **III. PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

The list of major programs and projects identified shall provide stakeholders and investors with information on pipelined, committed and on-going infrastructure developments in Caraga. These are initiatives that support and encourage economic development in the region as well as make possible for the local populace to access basic social services.

In addition to the traditional method where project is built entirely at the public sector's cost and risk, the infrastructure development for the region recognizes the changes which are occurring in the way that infrastructure is built and operated, with the private sector playing an increasingly important role in infrastructure financing and delivery.

**1. Transportation**

**1.1 Land Transportation**

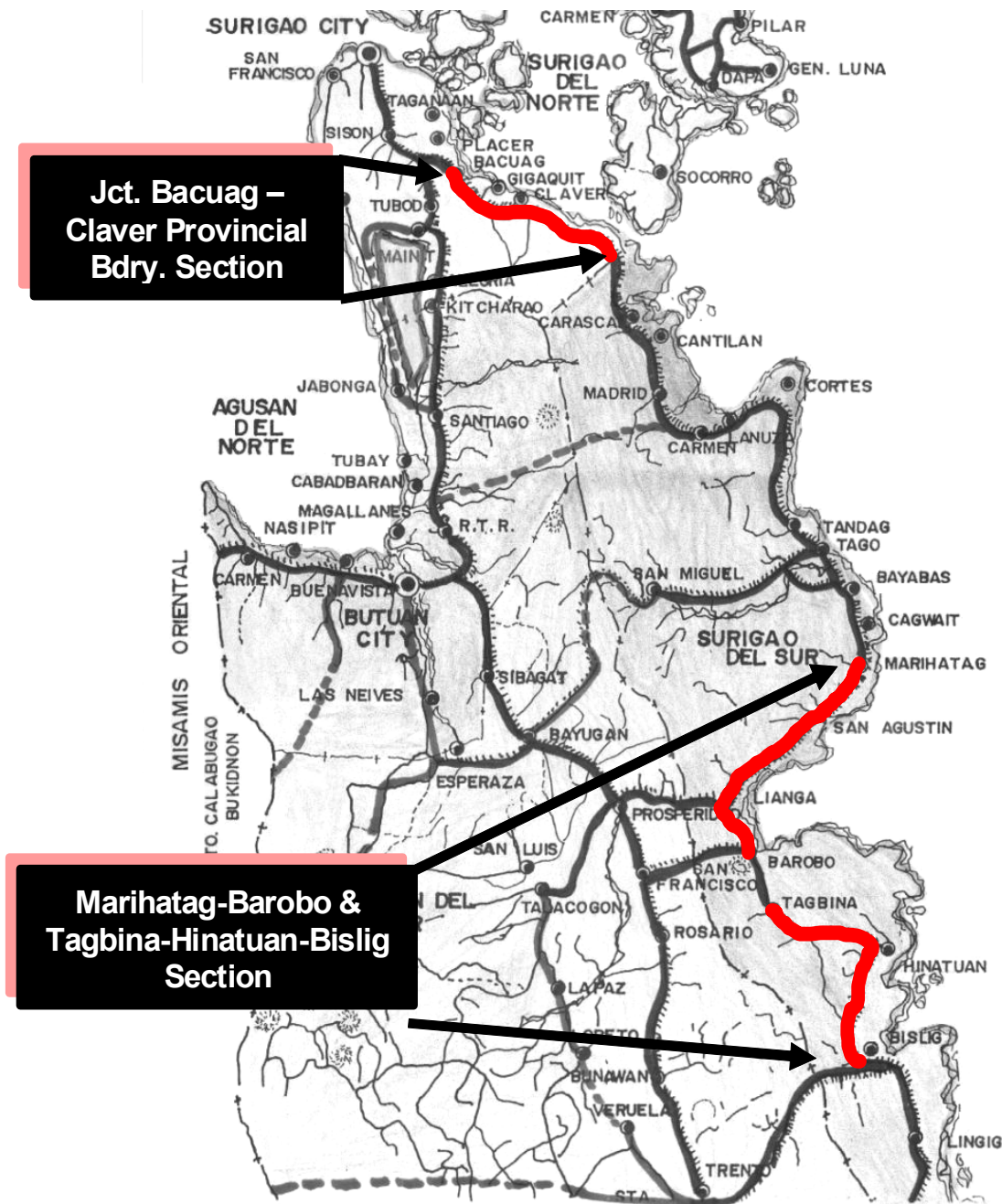
- 1.1.1 Second Magsaysay Bridge and Butuan City Bypass Road Project- The project involves construction of 300 m steel cable-stayed bridge, a total of 522 m approach viaducts and new two-lane bypass road (13 kms).



- 1.1.2 Philippine-Japan Friendship Highway, Mindanao Section Rehabilitation Project, Phase I and II (Surigao-Agusan-Davao Road) – Improvement/Rehabilitation of Bayugan-Awa-San Francisco Road Section, Alegria-Santiago Road Section, and San Francisco-Rosario-Bunawan Road Section



1.1.3 National Road Improvement & Management Project (NRIMP) - Improvement of 105.25 km Surigao-Davao Coastal Road



- 1.1.4 Rural Road Network Development Project III (RRNDP-III) – The project involves rehabilitation, improvement and/or new construction of 66 kms of secondary national roads and other roads with strategic importance





- 1.1.5 Bridge Construction Replacement Project (Austrian-Assisted)
- 1.1.6 National Roads Bridge Replacement Project (UK) – Involves replacement of temporary and weakened bridges using steel beam and truss technology
- 1.1.7 Bislig City – Trento - San Fernando, Bukidnon Highway (Mindanao East-West Lateral Road)
- 1.1.7 Butuan City-Agusan del Norte-Misamis Oriental Road
- 1.1.8 Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Projects (ARISP) II
- 1.1.9 Mindanao Rural Development Project – FMR and Bridge Component
- 1.1.10 Agusan del Sur Circumferential Road
- 1.1.11 Lake Mainit Circumferential Road
- 1.1.12 President’s Bridge Program – Involves construction of twenty five (25) local bridges into modular steel-type bridge.
- 1.1.13 Siargao Island Circumferential Road
- 1.1.14 Improvement of Butuan City-Pianing Tandag Road (Taguibo-Pianing Section)
- 1.1.15 Improvement of Butuan City-Masao Port Road (Suatan Section)
- 1.1.16 Dinagat-Loreto Road (Tag-abaca-Diegas Section, Wilson-Doña Helene Section, San Jose Magsaysay Section, Dinagat-Magsaysay Section and Sta. Cruz-Wilson Section)
- 1.1.17 Surigao-San Juan-Lipata Road (Sabang III-Banahaw Section)
- 1.1.18 Waloe Bridge along La Paz-Loreto Road
- 1.1.19 Bislig Bridge along Surigao-Davao Coastal Road

## **1.2 Sea Transportation**

- 1.2.1 Nasipit Port Expansion
- 1.2.2 Masao Port Expansion
- 1.2.3 Surigao City Port Expansion
- 1.2.4 Surigao City-Liloan Southern Leyte RORO Port
- 1.2.5 Development of Lawigan Port

## **1.3 Air Transportation**

- 1.3.1 Southern Philippines Airport Development Project (SPADP) – Involves basic improvements Butuan Airport in order to comply with International civil Aviation (ICAO) standards. Major components include right-of-way acquisition, selection and engagement of consulting services, construction of civil works, procurement and installation of navigational aids and equipment, and procurement and distribution of crash, fire and rescue vehicles.

- 1.3.2 New Communications, Navigation Surveillance/Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) Systems Project - VSAT remote station for Butuan Aripport

## **2. Energy**

- 2.1 Complete feasibility study of proposed power plants in Caraga
- 2.2 Expansion of electric power coverage by distribution utilities.
- 2.3 Implementation of Prosperidad sub-station
- 2.4 Dinagat Diesel Power Plant Expansion and Hydro Power Plant Development
- 2.5 Solar Power Technology Support (SPOTS)
- 2.6 69 kV Transmission Projects – 60 km along Tandag-Madrid route, 20 km Anislagan-Surigao City route, and 28 km Bayugan-Talacogon route.

## **3. Communications**

- 3.1 Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Providers Expansion Program
- 3.2 Philippine Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) Company Fiber-Optic Cable Expansion Program
- 3.3 Local Exchange Carriers (LEC) Public Calling Offices Expansion

## **4. Irrigation**

- 4.1 Lower Agusan Development Project, Irrigation Component – The project aims to irrigate existing communal irrigation systems covering 840 hectares and extend irrigation benefits to 7,152 hectares of new area for a total of 7,992 hectares through construction of two pumping stations, irrigation canals and their related pumping structures, on-farm development, and project facilities.
- 4.2 Southern Philippines Irrigation Sector Project

## **5. Safe Water Supply**

- 5.1 Provincial Cities Water Supply Project III – Butuan City Water Supply Expansion Project
- 5.2 Provincial Cities Water Supply Project V – Surigao City Water Supply Expansion Project
- 5.3 Small Towns Water Supply Sector and Sanitation Project

**6. Flood Control**

- Lower Agusan Development Project, Flood Control Component, Stage I, Phase II – The project involves the construction of levee embankment including related structures, Magsaysay viaduct, improvement of Banza River and ninety hectares spoil bankyard, dredging of Agusan River, improvement of Masao River, east bank drainage, provision of housing units, and land improvement.

**7. Multi-Component Projects**

- 7.1 Mindanao Basic Urban Services Sector Project (MBUSS) – Components include water supply, roads and bridges, drainage and flood control, sanitation and sewerage, solid waste management, public market improvement, and other public facilities.
- 7.2 Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector (INFRES) – The project aims to increase rural incomes in areas with agricultural potential by providing a complementary package of infrastructure and capacity building support to targeted farm communities.
- 7.3 Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project, Phase II (ARISP II) – The project aims to reduce poverty incidence by providing basic infrastructure (farm-to-market roads and communal irrigation projects), establishing farmer's organization and strengthening LGUs in Agrarian Reform Communities.
- 7.4 Mindanao Sustainable Settlement Area Development Project (MinSSAD) – The project involves a tripartite approach to the development of eight settlement areas in collaboration among implementing agencies and LGUs. The components include: a) Construction/rehabilitation of rural infrastructure such as irrigation facilities, farm-to-market roads, post harvest facilities, school buildings, multi-purpose buildings and health stations; b) Construction/rehabilitation of potable water supply, development of irrigator's associations/farmer organizations in the settlement areas, establishment of nurseries and demonstration farms and provision of appropriate trainings to ARB organizations.
- 7.5 Northern Mindanao Community Resource Initiatives Management Project (NMCRIMP) – The project involves the provision of basic infra and support services within the selected target areas following an extensive process of local consultations based on set criteria – mainly poverty situation, minimum basic needs measures, resource endowment, cost effectiveness and commitment to participate in the project.
- 7.6 Mindanao Rural Development Program (MRDP) – The Project aims to: a) Enhance the capability of LGUs and rural communities; b) Ensure food security through sustained agricultural productivity; c) Improve mobility of goods services and people; d) Facilitate institution building; and e) Promote conservation and protection of environment. Its main components are rural infrastructure; community funds for agricultural development; institutional development and implementation support for LGUs; and coastal and marine bio-diversity conservation.

# Chapter 6

## Good Governance

Caraga Region supports the present administration in its efforts in Good Governance by addressing current weaknesses, enhancing existing strengths and exploring new areas for improving productivity and efficiency in governance, peace and development, administration of justice, gender and development, e-government, moral recovery and values formation and electoral reforms within the region.

The Good Governance chapter of the Caraga Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2004-2010 focuses on impact areas at the regional and local levels that directly or indirectly contribute to the attainment of the objectives spelled out in the governance chapter of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) 2004-2010 which focused mainly on responsive foreign policy, bureaucratic, constitutional and defense reforms and anti-graft and corruption.

### **I. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

The issues impeding the regional government machinery from fully performing its functions are the following:

#### **A. Regional Government Machinery**

##### **1. Full Implementation of RA 7901 Creating the Caraga Region**

There are still critical national government offices such as the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) and Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) that have not been established in the Caraga Region. In the absence of an NSCB Unit, the region continues to experience difficulty in accessing information and statistics and in coming up with a more accurate estimation of Gross Value Added (GVA) and the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) of the region.

In the same light, the absence of a POEA and a DFA unit in the region puts Caraga residents at a disadvantage. The high transport cost to Cagayan de Oro City and Davao City for the processing of overseas travel and employment documents discourage qualified persons in the labor force from exploring overseas employment opportunities.

##### **2. Personnel Complementation**

The current level of personnel complementation in the Regional Line Agencies (RLAs) is still less than half of the ideal personnel complementation. This has a negative effect on the performance of the agencies and could sacrifice the effective and efficient delivery of services to the populace. Furthermore, Section 2 of Administrative Order (AO) 103 directing the continued adoption of

austerity measures in the government prohibits filling up of positions. This would further weaken the agencies in the region which are operating with skeletal organizational structures.

Aside from the full personnel complementation of the Caraga RLAs, the provision of capability building activities to the Caraga RLA manpower is crucial in meeting the overwhelming needs of the bureaucracy with only half of the manpower needed.

### **3. Regional Government Center**

Already nine years since the creation of the Region, most of the RLAs are still leasing office space, incurring between P50,000 to P200,000 rental expenses per agency per year. This uses up a large portion of the agencies' Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) every year.

Presidential Proclamation No. 250 dated 29 February 2000 declared a 38-hectare lot located at Tiniwisan, Butuan City as the Gov. Democrito O. Plaza Regional Government Center (RGC). Various government agencies have signified their intention to build their respective buildings in the RGC. However, since very minimal physical development has been done in the area and due to non-availability of funds to construct regional office buildings, no government agency has relocated to the center.

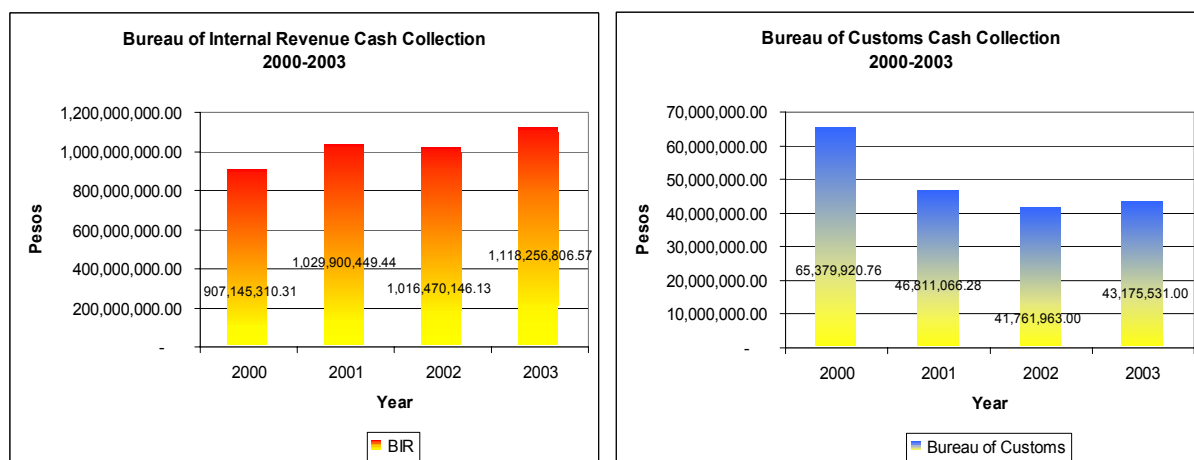
### **4. Regional Development Financing**

The sources of financing for the projects, activities and programs (PAPs) of the Caraga RDP are the following:

#### **4.1 National government funds**

The key government agencies that are responsible for generating national government funds are the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Bureau of Customs (BOC) and the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr). The Regional Office of the BIR posted a 13.53 percent increase in its collection for 2001 with tax collections amounting to PhP 1,029,900,449.44. For 2002, the collection efficiency rate of BIR decreased by 1.30 percent to PhP1,016,470,146.13. However, BIR's tax collections increased in 2003 by 10.01 percent, amounting to PhP1,118,256,806.57. (See Figure 6.1)

**Figure 6.1 BIR and BOC Collection, Caraga Region, CY 2000-2003**



Source: BIR and BOC

The BIR imposed the following measures that helped increase the tax collection: strict monitoring and compliance of withholding tax regulations, compliance monitoring of tax laws on income and business taxpayers, tax compliance verification drive, imposition of Value Added Tax (VAT) on professionals and banking institutions and other enforcement and enhancement program. Moreover, the Voluntary Assessment and Compromise Settlement Programs also helped BIR perform better.

The BOC, on the other hand, wasn't able to generate revenue as well as the BIR. In 2001, BOC's total revenue amounted to only Php46,811,066.28 which was 28.40 percent lower than the 2000 revenue. The revenue collection of BOC for 2002 decreased further at 10.79 percent amounting to Php41,761,963.00.

The BOC collection increased slightly in 2003 by 3.38 percent, amounting to Php43,175,531.00. The District Port of Surigao City and the Sub-port of Bislig surpassed its targets for 2003, causing the BOC to surpass its target for 2003 by 7.94 percent.

The reasons cited for the declining performance of the BOC were the lack of importation activity and the implementation of the zero tariff rate regimes which reduced the BOC's source of income to only VAT Taxes.

Given the current fiscal problems of the nation, the need to increase revenue collections of the BIR, BOC and BTr is a development imperative in all regions and Local Government Units (LGUs).

#### **4.2 Local government funds**

Majority of the LGUs are dependent on the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) thus limiting their fiscal capacity to finance the development of their respective locality. There is a need for LGUs to be creative in coming up with innovative tax collection schemes as well as the development of local enterprises and other income-generating initiatives within the locality to boost their financial resources.

#### **4.3 Grants and loans from foreign financial institutions in the form of official development assistance (ODA)**

The increasing flow of ODA projects to the Caraga Region necessitates further strengthening of the region's capacity to handle ODA investments. During the 25<sup>th</sup> Consultative Group Meeting in Mactan, Cebu, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) commented that there should be improvement in the implementation of on-going projects in Mindanao. The Government should ensure that sufficient counterpart resources are available for implementation of existing projects. The need to strengthen local capacity to implement projects and to create a safer environment is imperative so that project teams can effectively work in the area.

With the numerous ODA projects coming to Caraga Region, the absorptive capacity of the LGUs has to be sustained to ensure the successful implementation of these projects.

#### **4.4 Development fund of legislators**

The Caraga Congressional Representatives constitute the Advisory Committee of the Regional Development Council (RDC). There is an on-going effort to include the Congressmen as regular members of the RDC. This initiative is deemed crucial in strengthening the Congressmen's commitment to provide funds to the RDC-endorsed projects through the Countrywide Development Fund (CDF) and Congressional Initiative Allocation (CIA).

#### **4.5 Private sector capital.**

The existing financial constraints and the currently instituted austerity measures have aggravated the LGUs inability to provide adequate economic infrastructure, such as farm-to-market roads, ports and public utilities, necessary to encourage economic growth and offer public welfare. Thus, a stronger private sector participation in public investments has been the focus of advocacy campaigns. One modality for this is the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) scheme. Through BOT, LGUs can better manage their resources for more urgent yet inadequately supported poverty reduction programs/projects.

Moreover, maintained public order and safety is crucial for the continued entry of investors in the region. The presence of lawless elements and revolutionary groups wreaking havoc in the countryside pose threats to investors. This has resulted to our local investors taking their capital and investing outside the Caraga Region.

### **B. Local Governance**

#### **1. Decentralized Capability Building**

The Caraga LGUs are challenged by their lack of capability to address their own capability building needs. The lack of technical capacity of newly-elected local leaders and staff in managing LGU affairs coupled with inadequate administrative facilities impede the attainment of an effective and efficient delivery of public service.

#### **2. Local Development Planning**

Planning activities at the local level have been conducted by able and experienced planners. Also, proper consultations among the stakeholders in the provinces and cities are being conducted in order to come up with Provincial and City Development Plans (P/CDP) which captures the situation of their constituents. A growing concern however, in this area is that the P/CDP is known to have no strong influence on the local budget and investment decisions and follow up project implementation. It is considered a technical document on the development direction of the locality but it is rarely used as basis for political decisions of the local chief executives (LCEs).

Also, the linkage of the RDP and the PDP should be further strengthened.

In addition, the PDP is seldom used as the main basis of project identification and prioritization for the Annual Investment Plan (AIP). Since AIP projects are the ones that get funded and implemented, the PDP has, in reality little impact on the development of the province. The PDP-AIP linkage therefore, has to be strengthened.

At the Barangay level, the Barangay Development Councils' (BDCs) involvement in the planning process is very important in fleshing out the issues and concerns in the grassroots level to be addressed by the municipal/provincial level. However, very few BDCs have been institutionalized, thus, there has been little involvement of the BDCs in local planning.

### 3. Local Finance

Only the Province of Surigao del Norte and Surigao City have managed to keep the percentage of their IRA to their total financial resources below 60 percent. However, this is still below the ideal 70 percent Other Resources to 30 percent IRA considered by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) as the ideal local income mix for fiscal independence of the LGUs in addressing their development requirements. (see Figure 6.2)

Figure 6.2 Local Income Structure, Caraga LGUs, CY 2003

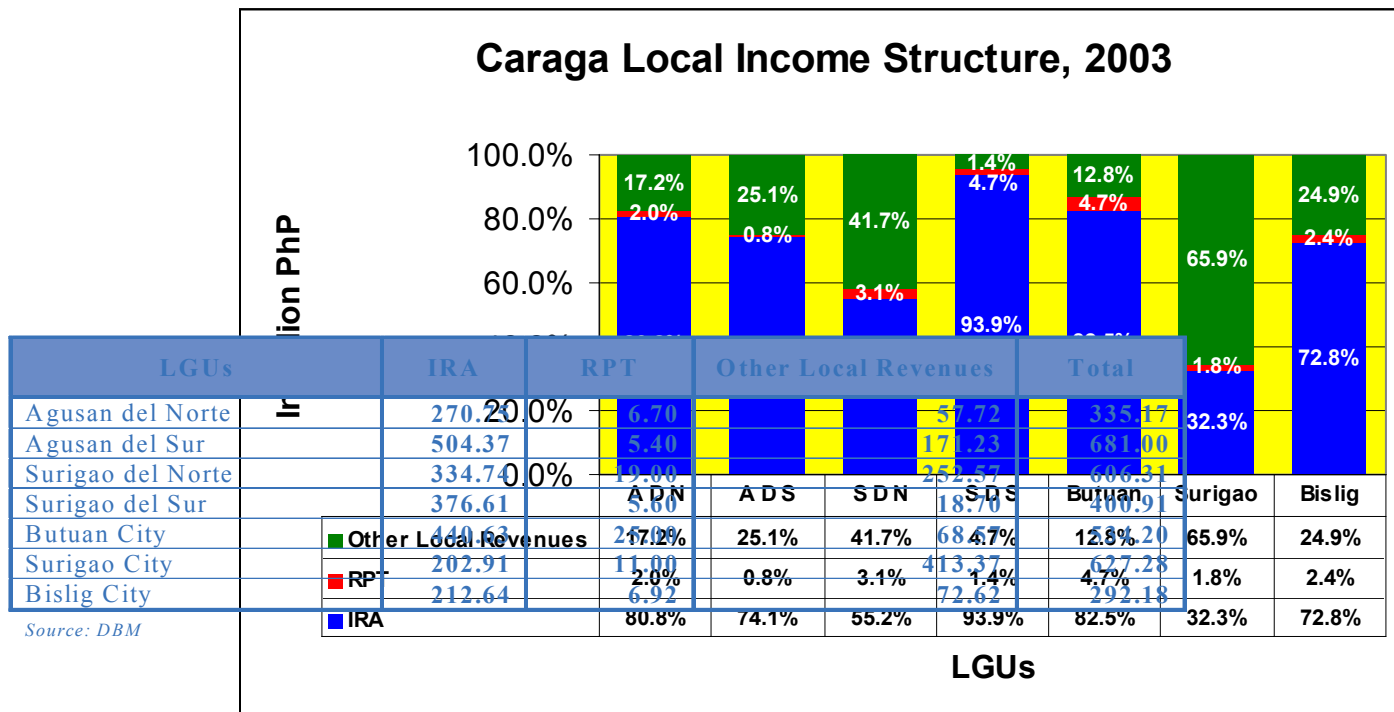


Table 6.1 Local Income Distributions, Caraga LGUs, CY 2003



Though it is good to note that the IRA dependency ratio of the region is decreasing, it is still a long way from the target. Therefore, there is a need for the LGUs to further strengthen its revenue generating activities and develop innovative programs and schemes that can contribute to the increase in revenue collection. Furthermore, LGUs need to undertake austerity measures and finance more of their development projects from other financial sources rather than relying on the national government through the IRA.

The LGUs of Surigao del Norte and Surigao City were able to generate PhP252.57M and PhP413M from sources other than IRA for 2003. The other LGUs need to decrease their dependency on the IRA. (*see Table 6.1*)

#### **4. Resource Management**

The region's vast agriculture, fishery, ecotourism and mining resources along with its human resources are the key in fueling the region's economy towards the attainment of the goal. The LGUs should take into consideration that the concern for optimum utilization of these limited resources is vital to the sustainable development of the region.

#### **5. Disaster Preparedness**

The continuous heavy rain that hit Caraga Region sometime in December 2003 resulted in flood and landslide that displaced large number of families and caused damages to infrastructure, and agriculture. The calamity called out for improved disaster preparedness in the region as well as additional manpower and financial assistance to carry out disaster preparedness activities and initiatives.

#### **6. Local Legislation**

Issues raised in local legislation from the stakeholders included the lack of ordinances to address local needs and the added sanctions regarding the implementation of the zoning ordinances, tax collection measures and other income generating issuances for strict compliance and increased LGU financial resources.

The LGU officials and staff need to be equipped with the basic tools in preparing a legislative agenda, particularly in identifying, analyzing and formulating solutions to problems and issues requiring public policy action which will also help them appreciate better their roles and functions as legislators to strengthen their participation in committees, and to make the legislative process more open, efficient, meaningful and responsive to the needs of the community.

### **C. Peace and Development**

The crime statistics of Caraga Region show that in 2001 crime solution efficiency was lower only to those of Regions XII and ARMM for the Mindanao Regions, although it was higher than that of the national figure. By 2002, it was only lower to ARMM. The 2003 figures put us back up over Regions XII and ARMM in crime solution efficiency but still lower than the national figures. Relatively, the lowest crime solution efficiency was in 2002 while the highest was in 2001.

**Table 6.2 Crime Efficiency and Volume of  
Caraga Region vs. Philippines and Mindanao Regions, CY 2001-2003**

Area	2001		Eff.	2002		Eff.	2003		Eff.
	Vol.	Solved		Vol.	Solved		Vol.	Solved	
<i>Philippines</i>	76997	69978	90.88%	85776	76546	89.24%	83704	76246	91.09%
Region IX	3625	3397	93.71%	3228	2965	91.85%	2400	2271	94.63%
Region X	3032	2875	94.82%	4187	3904	93.24%	3655	3386	92.64%
Region XI	2652	2549	96.12%	2455	2302	93.77%	2643	2454	92.85%
Region XII	2919	2656	90.99%	2844	2567	90.26%	2605	2392	91.82%
ARMM	536	469	87.50%	686	571	83.24%	1086	911	83.89%
<b>Caraga Region</b>	<b>1104</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>91.76%</b>	<b>1169</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>88.62%</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>90.55%</b>

Source: PNP Regional Office XIII

**Table 6.3 Crimes per Province and City, Caraga Region, CY 2001-2003**

Provinces	2001	%	2002	%	2003	%
Agusan del Sur	310	28%	279	24%	200	20%
Butuan City	210	19%	215	18%	219	22%
Surigao del Norte	209	19%	276	23%	233	23%
Agusan del Norte	202	18%	224	19%	212	21%
Surigao del Sur	173	16%	186	16%	149	15%

Source: PNP Regional Office XIII

With the available data for 2001, Agusan del Sur has the highest crime incidents at 310, followed by Butuan City at 210, Surigao del Norte, 209 and Agusan del Norte, 202. Surigao del Sur has the least crime incidents with 173 incidents registered.

In 2002, Agusan del Sur still has the highest crime incidents with 279 or 24 percent; followed by Surigao del Norte with 276 or 23 percent, Agusan del Norte with 224 or 19 percent and Butuan City with 215 or 18 percent. Surigao del Sur has the least volume of 186 or 16 percent crime incidents.

In 2003, Surigao del Norte registered the highest crime incidents of 233 or 23 percent, followed by Butuan City with 219 or 21 percent. Next is Agusan del Norte with 212 or 21 percent and Agusan del Sur with 200 or 20 percent. Surigao del Sur still remains to have the least number of crime incidents in the region with only 149 or 15 percent.

Generally, Agusan del Sur's crime rate in the three-year period significantly decreased such that in 2003, it was overtaken by Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Norte and Butuan City from the Province with the most crime incidents. All the provinces' crime rate in 2002 increased except for Agusan del Sur and although Butuan City's crime rate was the only one which increased in 2003, still Surigao del Norte has the highest crime rates among the provinces for that year.

## D. Administration of Justice

There are 6 Regional Trial Courts (RTCs) in Caraga Region.

Table 6.4 presents the cases added versus cases disposed per sala per year. Branch 1 is designated as the Family Court. It handles criminal cases where one or more of the accused is below 18 years of age but not less than 9 years of age, or where one or more of the victims is a minor at the time of the commission of the offense. Moreover, it also handles cases of domestic violence against women and cases against children which include commission of all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, violence and discrimination and all other conditions prejudicial to their development. For cases related to VAW or cases against Republic Act 9172 and 9262, only one case has been filed so far which eventually led to an amicable settlement. (see Table 6.4)

Since in the entire region, there is only one family court, Branch 1 singly handles all cases related to the above matters thus, it faces the challenge of expediting the resolution of cases.

**Table 6.4 Cases Added versus Cases Disposed, Caraga Region, CY 2001-2004**

Branch		2001	CD	2002	CD	2003	CD	2004	CD
		CA		CA		CA		CA	
1	Total	129	94	157	122	189	164	161	131
	Average	10.75	7.83	13.08	10.17	17.18	14.91	17.89	14.56
2	Total	159	166	no data	no data	138	108	133	133
	Average	13.25	13.83	-	-	15.33	12.00	16.63	16.63
3	Total	134	144	197	199	203	221	97	73
	Average	11.17	12.00	16.42	16.58	16.92	18.42	12.13	9.13
4	Total	119	161	125	99	254	150	160	96
	Average	9.92	13.42	10.42	8.25	21.17	12.50	17.78	10.67
5	Total	160	157	228	210	209	212	149	139
	Average	14.55	14.27	19.00	17.50	17.42	17.67	18.63	17.38
33	Total	156	162	160	164	122	135	64	60
	Average	13.00	13.50	13.33	13.67	10.17	11.25	7.11	6.67

Source: Monthly Report of the RTCs \*CA – Cases Added, CD – Cases Disposed

## E. Gender and Development

There has been minimal monitoring of the gender situation in the region. From the limited information drawn, only general statements can be generated with the efforts to mainstream gender and development (GAD). Among the issues and concerns being faced by the RLAs and the LGUs along this line are the following:

### 1. Regional Line Agencies

- 1.1 GAD Budget allocation and expenditure is less than 5 percent;
- 1.2 Agencies' GAD budget is taken only from the MOOE;
- 1.3 Central Office mandate is an advantage in the implementation of GAD in a regional office; and
- 1.4 There are still a number of agencies that do not have permanent and alternate GAD focal persons

## **2. Local Government Units**

- 2.1 Lack of GAD Teams and permanent GAD focal persons;
- 2.2 GAD Budget allocation and expenditure is less than 5 percent;
- 2.3 Total GAD budget indicated is a consolidation of budget spent for regular programs, projects and activities which are women-related;
- 2.4 If GAD PAPs outside of the regular PAPs are initiated, allocation usually comes from the SP Chairperson on Women budget;
- 2.5 There is a need to strengthen the involvement of stakeholders in the preparation of plans where gender gaps and issues become the bases for GAD interventions with corresponding budget request;
- 2.6 There is a need to consider violence against women and children (VAWC) issues and structures to prevent and control incidents;
- 2.7 There is a need to strengthen databases and the sex disaggregation of data; and
- 2.8 There is a need to activate or encourage women and women's groups' representation in Local Development Councils (LDCs).

## **F. E-Government**

### **1. ICT in Regional Line Agencies**

In a Survey conducted by RITECC in 2001, 61 percent of RLAs that responded to the survey owned more than 10 computer units in their offices. 91 percent uses Pentium II computers and 96 percent Windows 98 as operating system. Of the respondents, 65 percent have already established their Local Area Networks (LANs). Also noted in the survey is that a number of personnel share in the use of a single computer unit. Thus, the speed of transactions is affected by the sharing of computer units.

Likewise, the absence of customized software and low utilization of existing agency-specific software, and the inadequacy and inappropriateness of skills also affects the processing time.

Aside from the factors mentioned, the following are other issues that should be addressed at the national level. The resolution of these issues would make the region's ICT sector competitive at all levels:

- 1.1 Lack of management support;
- 1.2 Lack of ICT direction;
- 1.3 Lack of fund allocation for ICT;
- 1.4 Lack of IT personnel;
- 1.5 Absence of IT Unit;
- 1.6 Low ICT literacy; and
- 1.7 Absence of ICT policy

### **2. ICT in Local Government Units**

The LGUs of Caraga have already complied with RA 8792 on the Electronic Commerce Law. In fact, seventy LGUS have their UN-ASPA (United Nations - American Society of Public Administration) Stage-I (static) websites and seven of the municipalities have Stage 3 (Interactive) websites.

In 2003, 41 LGUs that responded to a survey conducted by the NCC owned a total of 708 computer units. Nine out of the 19 respondents have existing Local Area Networks (LANs). Most of those without LANs which include around six LGUs, intend to set up LANs in 2003 while four would do so in 2004 and beyond.

Caraga LGUs have started to make headway in embracing ICT. However, compared to the other regions in the country, some areas in this region lagged in terms of ICT infrastructure. The E-commerce Law stated that LGUs should have web presence, but most of the constructed websites of the Caraga LGUs are updated regularly thus, the internet being on of the most effective medium for LGU promotion on investments, tourism and source of vital information about the locality is not utilized. Moreover, various challenges that hinder LGUs from pursuing ICT development include:

- 2.1 The absence of adequate telecommunication infrastructure;
- 2.2 Lack of ISP;
- 2.3 High cost of IT solutions packages available in the market;
- 2.4 Lack of funds to finance ICT projects; and
- 2.5 Lack of skilled IT personnel to develop and maintain Information Systems, databases and websites

#### **G. Moral Recovery and Values Formation**

The anti-graft and corruption measures of both the public and private sector need to be intensified to produce results in the region. Lifestyle checks, personal use of office vehicles (text CSC), intensified monitoring of government procurement process, strict tax administration by the BIR, and enforcement of anti-smuggling laws of the BOC are among the measures that require more purposive action.

#### **H. Electoral Reform**

The 10 Point Legacy pushes for automated elections. Since the issue is national, the contribution of the regional office is the Voter's Validation System that has been partially implemented and data capture machines have been distributed in line with one of the 10-point legacy of the President.

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

### **A. Regional Government Machinery**

#### **1. Strategy**

##### **Continue the Institution Building and Organizational Development of the Caraga Government Offices**

Both the regional and local governments shall focus efforts on its vital/core services and undertake rationalization efforts within the existing capability and resources of the departments/agencies which would lead to efficiency improvements and simplification of business processes and reduction of red tape.

The regional government through the RDC shall push and advocate for the passage of the Public Sector Institutional Strengthening Bill to expedite comprehensive reorganization of government and allow practicable, sectoral agency reengineering. The RDC shall pursue proactive measures for the approval of full personnel complementation for the Caraga regional offices, push and lobby for Caraga's exemption to Section 2 of Administrative Order 103 or the austerity measures of the government and follow up the agencies with their respective central offices for the transfer of positions to the Caraga Offices.

The RDC shall further pursue the transfer of the central offices of key government agencies in the Caraga Region such as the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Quedan Rural Credit and Guarantee Corporation (QUEDANCOR), and the Department of Agriculture for the region's large forest cover, vast agricultural lands, mining areas and to provide a conducive environment for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in line with the administration's 10 point legacy.

In staff development, RLAs and LGUs shall review qualification of personnel, depoliticize appointments, instead, develop and implement a compensation and incentive framework that is market-driven and performance-based and improve a merit-based and performance based recruitment.

Infrastructure systems shall support the institution building and organizational development of the government offices through the construction of office buildings of the majority of RLAs in the Gov. Democrito O. Plaza Regional Government Center in Tiniwisan, Butuan City.

The LGUs should be able to address their own capability building needs and lessen its dependence on outside sources by creating a pool of experts to train and capacitate LGU staff. The LGUs shall also modernize local facilities to achieve the efficiency that new technological solutions offer, as well as acquire technical know-how for the optimum utilization of the facilities.

## **2. Targets**

- 2.1 Established the regional offices of the NSCB, DFA, POEA and PRC in Caraga
- 2.2 Re-operationalization of the HGC, NHMFC and HUDCC offices to Caraga
- 2.3 Transfer of the MGB, DENR, QUEDANCOR and DA to Caraga Region
- 2.4 Improved capability of LGUs to supply its own capability building needs by 2010
- 2.5 Improved efficiency in government service delivery
- 2.6 Full Personnel Complementation of the Caraga RLAs and LGUs by 2010
- 2.7 Construction of Office Buildings of all Caraga Regional Line Agencies (RLAs) in the Gov. Democrito O. Plaza Regional Center in Amazon, Butuan City
- 2.8 Improved facilities with matching technical skills of LGUs by 2010

## **B. Development Financing**

### **1. Strategies**

#### **1.1 Improve revenue collection/generation of both regional and local governments**

The BIR shall conduct computerization/automation of operating systems, enhancement of audit programs, intensified enforcement procedures and taxpayer compliance verification drives. The BOC shall modernize information systems, strengthen its anti-smuggling powers and internal audit service and purchase container x-rays for the ports of Nasipit, Agusan del Norte Surigao City and Bislig City. The BTr shall facilitate the immediate deposit of all national wealth collections to the Accredited Government Development Banks, minimize expenditures and posting Fidelity Bonds to all accountable officials and employees of the government.

LGUs shall focus on Local Enterprises and other income-generating activities to lessen IRA dependency (e.g. public market, slaughterhouses, overland terminals, commercial buildings and beach resorts) through conduct of trainings and provision of technical assistance on investment promotion and resource mobilization, promotion of innovative tax collection schemes, institution of systematic and organized systems of tax recording through the development of Information Technology solutions for efficient tax administration.

LGUs should also formulate ordinances and enabling laws (local revenue code) for strict imposition of tax laws, allocate additional funds to intensify tax information campaign, comprehensive tax mapping, enactment of local tax codes and ordinances, full implementation of real property tax assessment, comprehensive computerization program, financial capability building programs in feasibility studies and fund-sourcing caravan/investment promotion and generation initiatives.

#### **1.2 Strengthen the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF)**

There shall be advocacy and capacity building to support the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) in order to strengthen public financial accountability through the pursuit of auditing and accounting reforms.

#### **1.3 Strengthen the linkage between RDP and Agency Budgets**

In the RDC budget review process for CYs 2005-2010, the RDC Secretariat (NEDA Caraga) shall gather the agency budget proposals every year and together with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), a series of consultations with the concerned agencies will be conducted and assessed according to the following criteria:

- 1.3.1 In line with the agency Major Final Outputs (MFOs);
- 1.3.2 In support to the 10-Point Legacy;
- 1.3.3 In support to the Regional Development Plan (RDP);
- 1.3.4 Within the agency budget ceiling; and
- 1.3.4 Other criteria to be set by the DBM and NEDA/RDC Secretariat.



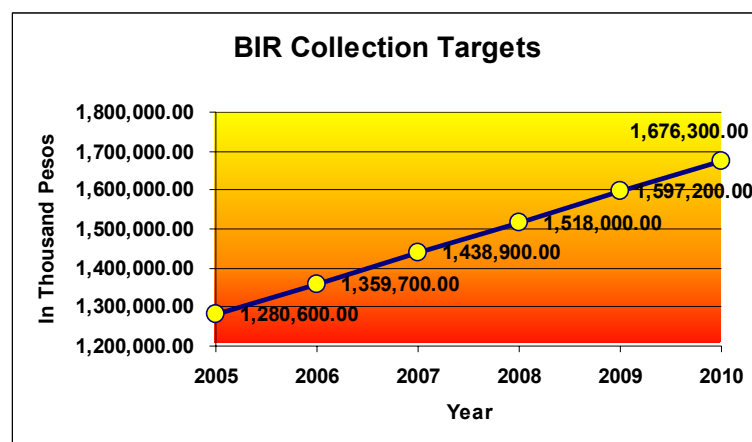
The agency proposals, along with the comments/recommendations of the RDC Secretariat and the DBM Staff shall be presented to the RDC Full Council during the RDC Annual Budget Hearing for endorsement to the President, DBM Secretary, concerned Committees in Congress and the Central Offices of the agencies.

The DBM shall lengthen the time frame between the release of the Budget Call and the deadline for the submission of the RDC endorsements.

## 2. Targets

- 2.1 95% tax collection every year for LGUs;
- 2.2 Improved capability of LGUs in fund-sourcing, investment promotion and generation
- 2.3 Continued decrease of LGU dependency to IRA through a constant increase in local income from RPT and other sources by 10% or more per year up to 2010
- 2.4 BIR Caraga Region Targets for CY 2005-2010 (*see Figure 6.4*)

**Figure 6.4 BIR Collection Targets, Caraga Region, CY 2005-2010**



Source: BIR Caraga

## C. Local Development Planning

### 1. Strategy

#### Strengthen planning capabilities of the LGUs

In order for local development plans to better address the issues of the population from the grassroots, LGUs shall strengthen the utilization of planning tools like Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) Survey, Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning System (IRAPS) and Participatory Resource Assessment (PRA) tools. More importantly, LGUs should strengthen Barangay Development Councils' (BDCs) role in formulating the Municipal/City/Provincial Development Plans through the Barangay Development Plans (BDPs). The institutionalization of BDCs in every Barangays by 2010 is imperative.



Among the alternatives to ensure that the PAPs in the PDP are being funded is by (1) mandating that the main source of project ideas for the AIP should be the PDP; (2) educating/reorienting key officials and political players on the importance of medium term provincial planning; (3) having the Provincial Development Investment Plan (PDIP) approved as a multi-year appropriation ordinance; and (4) the use of performance based incentives for provinces which are able to establish linkage between PDP and AIP (*Source: Preparatory Study on Strengthening Provincial Planning*).

**2. Targets**

- 2.1 100 percent of Municipal Development Plans (MDPs) formulated by 2005
- 2.2 BDCs institutionalized in every Barangay by 2010

**D. Local Legislation****1. Strategies**

Local legislation should be enhanced through improved coordination among Executive/Legislative bodies in formulating and implementing ordinances that address local problems and conduct of training/workshop on codification of ordinances and resolutions to technical persons concerned. The LGU Legislative Agenda should be formulated based on the local development plan.

**2. Targets**

- 2.1 Formulation and strict implementation of ordinances that address local problems
- 2.2 Complete comprehensive codification of ordinances and resolutions formulated by 2010
- 2.3 Legislative Agenda formulated for each LGU along with the Executive Agenda by 2010

**E. Peace and Development****1. Strategies**

At the community level, the LGUs and RLAs especially the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), PNP and AFP shall promote good governance and citizens' participation in local peace initiatives, push for political reforms and services to pursue personal and community growth to eliminate roots of insurgency, encourage active community participation in the prevention and speedy solution of all forms of crimes and destruction, and conduct socio-economic programs, information education campaign and civic action activities involving the services of LGUs, NGOs/CSOs and religious sectors.

To achieve an improved and more effective PNP and AFP the government should professionalize and modernize the police and military, increase salaries and their mobility.

For the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), LGUs and RLAs should pursue the strict implementation of PD 1185 otherwise known as Fire Code of the Philippines, and there shall be regular ocular inspection of project sites, e.g. business establishment, public buildings, etc.

For the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), to increase safety and assure preparedness, detainees must have court order upon acceptance and release from BJMP custody.

## **2. Targets**

- 2.1 Attain a police to population ratio of 1:500
- 2.2 Increased crime solution efficiency every year
- 2.3 Constant decrease of crime incidence throughout the region
- 2.4 Upgraded AFP and PNP human resource capabilities e.g. intelligence gathering, investigation, etc.

## **F. Administration of Justice**

### **1. Strategies**

The administration of justice must be delivered down to the Barangay level by reinvigorating the Barangay Justice System to implement expeditious and decentralized resolution of cases and increased public access to justice especially by the marginalized sectors.

The main institutional development and capability building strategies in the administration of justice is to improve the judicial systems and procedures, strengthen judicial education, strengthen judicial career development, hire and appoint additional judges and staff, increase judiciary staff salaries, and endorsement of PDC to RDC and the latter to the Supreme Court for the qualified applicants.

### **2. Targets**

- 2.1 Implement Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Act
- 2.2 Development of community feedback mechanisms to address delays
- 2.3 Streamlined rules of court
- 2.4 Strengthened Barangay Justice System and the Sha'ria Court System by 2010

## **G. Gender and Development**

### **1. Strategy**

**Support all GAD-related initiative/activities of the GADCC**

#### **1.1 Issue: Institutionalization of GAD**

##### **1.1.1 Activities**

Conduct of Gender Sensitivity Training (GST) orientation and Gender Responsive Planning (GRP) for higher level management (agencies), newly elected LCEs (provincial and city levels), GAD focal persons, planning officers, judges, prosecutors and budget officers and more advocacy activities and materials produced on GAD to increase awareness among people.

**Targets**

- Increased number of Directors aware on the policies of the 5 percent GAD budget utilization
- Increased number of LCEs aware on the policies of the 5% GAD Budget
- Increased number of agencies with sensitized and trained GAD focal persons/team
- Increased number of LGUs and agencies with appropriately implemented GAD plans
- Increased number of people having the basic knowledge on GAD
- Increased number of tri-media outfit allotting a print space/airtime for GAD

**1.2 Issue: Women and Poverty**

**1.2.1 Activities**

Conduct entrepreneurial/practical skills training to women's groups and establish linkages for fund sourcing and marketing

**Targets**

- Increased number of women trained in entrepreneurial and/or practical skills
- Increased number of women engaged in gainful livelihood activities
- More women are able to operate their own businesses
- More business opportunities offered for women entrepreneurs

**1.3 Issue: Violence against women and children**

**1.3.1 Activities**

Conduct orientation programs on Violence against Women and Children (VAWC) and strengthen mechanism of support for victims and survivors.

**Targets**

- Increased number of women and men are oriented on basic rights, sexual harassment, etc.
- Increased number of LGUs participate in the VAWC program
- Increased number of organized groups assisting victims and survivors
- Increased number of crisis centers are established
- Increased number of assisted victims and survivors
- Increased number of women cases handled appropriately
- Increased efficiency in reporting mechanism
- Increased number of "pink rooms" established in DOH-supervised and devolved hospitals

#### **1.4 Issue: Women and Health**

##### **1.4.1 Activities**

Conduct advocacy activities on health concerns and studies and researches on environmental problems, risks and its effect on women in particular.

##### **Targets**

- Increased number of women are oriented on reproductive health
- Increased number of women have the knowledge and the capability to do first aid
- Increased number of researches/study conducted
- A comprehensive study on the impact of environment problems and risks to women

#### **1.5 Issue: Women and politics**

##### **1.5.1 Activities**

Conduct of advocacy programs for newly elected officials to advocate for GAD, awarding of citations to GAD Champions (LGUs or individual) and capacitate LCEs, and women's groups in increasing their awareness and consciousness about politics as a means to address women's basic concerns and issues, and in identifying issues and problems in relationships between women NGO/activities and women in political parties and in taking active role in government efforts.

##### **Targets**

- Increased number of elected officials oriented and sensitized on GAD
- Increased instances of GAD discussion sessions with women-elected officials
- More meaningful participation of women-elected officials in government decision-making processes
- Increased number of nominees
- Increased number of awardees
- Increased number of GST, orientation programs and trainings conducted
- Increased number of women and men participants in GST, orientation and other trainings conducted
- Formulated directory of women's organizations
- Strong linkage among and between women's groups through membership and active participation to the GADCC activities and meetings

### **H. E-Government**

#### **1. Strategies**

Strengthen the RITECC by expanding membership to LGUs and encourage active participation of private/business sector representatives, and strengthen the formulation of an ICT Strategic Plan to map the direction for ICT development of the region focusing on the establishment of functional and regularly-updated government websites, and expansion of ICT infra to remote areas.

**2. Targets**

The outputs and targets are based on the activities presented. The planned targets are set to be accomplished by the end of the plan period 2010 with the 2003 levels as the reference point, include the following:

- 2.1 LGUs of the four provinces and the three cities are represented in the RITECC by CY 2005;
- 2.2 E1 connections between the four provinces and RLAs are established through PREGINET by CY 2006;
- 2.3 All government agencies have DSL Internet connections by 2007;
- 2.4 All government agencies and LGUs uses Open Source technologies by 2010;
- 2.5 All existing government websites are interactive, dynamic and transactional (stage 4 websites) by 2008;
- 2.6 Improved utilization of hardware resources with 100 percent matching of skills, software and machine capabilities with actual use by 2010;
- 2.7 Higher percentage of offices using customizable and flexible information systems with all offices using an information system by 2010;
- 2.8 Higher percentage of transactions processed electronically with 75 percent of the total volume processed electronically by 2008;
- 2.9 Lower staff to PC ratio with a 1:1 staff to PC ratio by CY 2010 for revenue generating, planning and data generating agencies excluding those positions not required to use a computer; and
- 2.10 At least four IT plantilla positions per agency reclassified by 2010.

**I. Moral Recovery and Values Formation****1. Strategies**

- 1.1 Strengthen capacities of key government institutions in promoting transparent and accountable practices, improving public awareness and developing a culture of ethics; and
- 1.2 Mobilize Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Media, academe and the private sector in pushing for the anti-corruption agenda
- 1.3 Improved legal and institutional framework for public procurement
- 1.4 Continue the development of a Government-Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS)
- 1.5 The Caraga RDC to encourage CSOs to acquire training in monitoring of procurement at all levels

**2. Targets**

- 2.1 Improved transparency and strengthened accountabilities by 2010
- 2.2 Assistance to ten agencies in the formulation of Anti-corruption Plans
- 2.3 Participation of more than 60 percent from government agencies on the G-EPS for the purchase of common goods/supplies/materials.
- 2.4 Fully operationalize the G-EPS in Caraga

## **J. Electoral Reform**

### **1. Strategies**

To attain automated, peaceful and honest elections the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall pursue to modernize the electoral system, reform campaign finance, institute constitutional reforms and streamlined and flexible Data Capture Process.

### **2. Targets**

- 2.1 Clean, complete, permanent and updated voter's list
- 2.2 Automated elections by 2010

## **III. PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS**

### **A. National Government**

- 1. Establishment of Family Courts
- 2. Halfway Home/Rehab Center for Parolees, Pardonees and Probationers
- 3. Statistical Planning and Coordination Program
- 4. Delineation of Political Boundaries
- 5. Statistical Planning and Software Development for Housing Administration
- 6. Establishment of community assistance Centers and purchase of Patrol Cars
- 7. Cash/Technology assistance
- 8. Regular Pulong-pulong Dialogue with the community
- 9. Additional PNP/NUP recruits
- 10. Aligning/reviewing the MOOE
- 11. ISO/Anti Criminality Program/Seminars
- 12. PNP Modernization Act
- 13. National Crime Information System
- 14. PNP Kababayan Project
- 15. Provision of CB to LGUs in the formulation of Poverty Reduction Plan
- 16. Establishment of Simplified Civil System (Anti-Red Tape Program for LGUs)
- 17. Module Development for CB on Resource Mobilization and Technical Assistance in the formulation of Revenue Code
- 18. Reorganization of Local Tourism Councils
- 19. Reorganization of SMED Council
- 20. Strengthening of Gabay sa Mamamayan Action Center
- 21. Emergency Network Philippines
- 22. Effective Taxpayer Compliance Systems
- 23. Effective Detection Elimination of Revenue Leakages
- 24. Intensified Enforcement of Audit Program
- 25. BIR Private Sector Good and Honest Governance Program
- 26. Localized Peace Talks
- 27. AFP Modernization Program

## **Good Governance**

---

- 28 Intensification Program against transnational crimes
- 29 Human Resource Development Program
- 30 Moral Recovery Program
- 31 Depoliticize Appointments
- 32 Regional Development Financing Programs
- 33 Establishment/ Construction of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
- 34 Improvement of the Bureau of Fire Protection Office
- 35 Computerization of the election process

### **B. Region's Own**

- 36 Caraga Network Information Sharing
- 37 Establishment of an information system on land use changes of all LGUs of Caraga Region
- 38 Multi-Purpose Community Telecenter in the Barangays of Caraga Region
- 39 Gender and Development
- 40 Information and Communications Technology Programs

### **C. Local Government Units**

- 41 Creation of more cooperative small lending association
- 42 Regular Seminar, Information dissemination/ seminars on anti criminality/ISO campaign
- 43 Establishment of Caraga Regional Government Center

## **CRAFTERS OF THE CARAGA MEDIUM-TERM REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2004-2010**

RDC Chairperson:  
RDC Co-Chairperson:  
RDC Vice-Chairperson:  
RDC Secretary:

Mayor Democrito D. Plaza II  
Engr. Leonel T. Santos  
Ms. Carmencita S. Cochingco  
Ms. Cecilia R. Lopez

### **MEMBERS**

#### **Local Government Units**

Hon. Erlpe John M. Amante - Governor,  
Agusan del Norte  
Hon. Adolph Edward G. Plaza - Governor,  
Agusan del Sur  
Hon. Robert Lyndon S. Barbers – Governor,  
Surigao Norte  
Hon. Vicente T. Pimentel - Governor,  
Surigao Sur  
Hon. Alberto M. Tan - Mayor,  
Bislig City

Hon. Alfonso S. Cassura - Mayor,  
Surigao City  
Hon. Fidel E. Garcia Jr. - President, League  
of Municipal Mayors, Agusan Norte  
Hon. Romeo O. Dela Torre - President,  
League of Municipal Mayors, Agusan Sur  
Hon. Manuel O. Alameda - President,  
League of Municipal Mayors, Surigao Sur  
Hon. Guillermo G. Romarate, Jr. -  
President, League of Municipal Mayors,  
Surigao Norte  
Hon. Nestor L. Corvera - Mayor,  
Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur  
Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel - Mayor,  
Tandag, Surigao del Sur

#### **Special Non-Voting Members**

Mr. Lauro S. Ignacio, LBP  
Engr. Hernan Agpawa, Quedancor  
SAVP Edgar N. Seronay, DBP

#### **Regional Line Agencies**

Mr. Ponciano M. Ligutom, DOLE  
Mr. Carlos T. Derecho, DILG  
Mr. Brielgo O. Pagan, DTI  
Mr. Joecel F. Obenza, DBM  
Engr. Romeo S. Momo, DENR  
Engr. Nestor W. Rodriguez, DA  
Engr. Felix B. Aguhob, DAR  
Forester Benjamin T. Tumaliuan, DENR  
Mr. Angelito C. Alolod, Ph.D., DOST  
Ms. Dorothy Jean B. Pabayo, CESO III,  
DOT  
Atty. Alim D. Pangandaman, DOTC  
Mr. Celedonio L. Layon, Jr., Ph.D., DEPED  
Ms. Brenda B.A. Lopez, MD, MHA, DOH  
Atty. Araceli F. Solamillo, DSWD  
Mr. Orlando Naag, TESDA  
Ms. Ma. Tita P. Rodriguez, PMS  
Ms. Joanna B. Cuenca, Ph.D., CHED  
Mr. Adolfo A. Llagas, BLGF  
Ms. Erlinda D. Patanao, PIA  
Mr. Camilo S. Pangan, POPCOM

#### **Private Sector Representatives**

Mr. Alfredo L. Baluyut, Jr.  
Mr. Greggo B. Uriarte  
Mr. Radigundo E. Rivas  
Mr. Roberto A. Dormendo  
Mr. Epimaco M. Galero Jr.  
Mr. Ludivico L. Viajar  
Ms. Edna S. Hontiveros  
Fr. Pio M. Eugenio, SVD



# CRAFTERS OF THE CARAGA MEDIUM-TERM REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2004-2010

## SECTORAL COMMITTEES

### DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mr. Camilo S. Pangan, POPCOM  
Co-Chairperson: Mr. Ponciano M. Ligutom, DOLE

#### MEMBERS

BI	CHR	LRA
NBI	PPA	RSPO
PAO	CSC	COA
DILG	DOLE	NCMB
NLRC	OWWA	RTWPB
PIA	NSO	COMELEC
GSIS	NEDA	BSP
BoC	BIR	BLGF
BTr	DBM	BFP
BJMP	NAPOLCOM	OCD
PNP	AFP	NICA

LGU Representatives  
Bureau of Broadcast

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Gov. Adolph Edward G. Plaza, Agusan Sur  
Co-Chairperson: Mr. Brielgo O. Pagarán, DTI

#### MEMBERS

BAS	BFAR	BSWM
DA	FPA	FIDA
PCA	MGB	DENR
EMB	DAR	CDA
DOLE	DOT	NFA
NMIC	DOST	PAGASA
LBP		

LGU Representatives

### INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Engr. Romeo S. Momo, DPWH  
Co-Chairperson: Engr. Edgardo T. Sanchez, PICE

#### MEMBERS

ATO	PPA – Nasipit	
DOTC	PPA – Surigao	
NIA	NTC	LWUA
TRANSCO	NPC	

LGU Representatives

### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mayor Alfonso S. Cassurra, Surigao City  
Co-Chairperson: Mr. Celedonio L. Layon, Jr. DepEd

#### MEMBERS

CHED	CHR	POPCOM
DOH	DSWD	GSIS
HDMF	HLURB	NCIP
NHA	DA-NNC	OMA
PHILHEALTH	TESDA	SSS
ASSCAT	NORMISIST	SSPSC
SURSTACT	PIA	DOLE
DILG		

LGU Representatives

### REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

Chairperson: Atty. Araceli F. Solamillo, DSWD  
Co-Chairperson: Mr. Ponciano M. Ligutom, DOLE

#### MEMBERS

DepEd	DILG	DA- NNC
DOLE	Balay Silonganan	NCIP
PNP	WorldVision	NSO
NEDA	CHR	RSPO

LGU Representatives  
Child Representatives  
TESDA

### GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Edna S. Hontiveros, FORWARD FILIPINA  
Co-Chairperson: Ms. Marilyn M. Pintor, CHR

#### MEMBERS

ATO	BSP	BAS
Bureau of Broadcast		BoC
BFP	BFAR	BIR
BJMP	BoI	BLGF
BSWM	BTr	CSC
COA	COMELEC	CHED
POPCOM	CDA	DAR
DA	DBM	DEPED
DENR	DOH	DOLE
DOST	DOT	DILG
DTI	DPWH	DSWD
EMB	DOTC	FIDA
HDMF	GSIS	HLURB
LRA	LGSP	MGB
NCMB	NCIP	NBI
NHA	NFA	NEDA
NAPOLCOM	NLRC	NIA
TRANSCO	NSO	OCD
OMA	OWWA	PPA
PAGASA	PCA	PHILHEALTH
PIA	PNP	PPA -Nasipit
PPA – Surigao	PPC	PAO
RSPO	RTWPB	SSS
TESDA		

LGU Representatives

### REGIONAL KALAHI CONVERGENCE GROUP

Chairperson: Hon. Jose Rufino S. Aquino  
Co-Chairperson: Engr. Romeo S. Momo

#### MEMBERS

401 <sup>st</sup> Brigade	402 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade	BFAR
BLGF	CHR	CHED
CDA	DSWD	DepEd
DPWH	DOH	DILG
DOST	DA	DTI
DENR	DOLE	DAR
DOTC	DBP	DBM
LGSP	GSIS	FIDA
LANDBANK	MGB	NCIP
NEDA	NFA	NHA
NIA	NSO	NBI
OMA	OWWA	PCSO
PNP	PIA	PHILHEALTH
PAO-DOJ	POPCOM	PPA
PAG-IBIG	PCUP	PCA
QUEDANCOR	SSS	TESDA
PVB		

Senior Citizens Sector  
Indigenous People Sector  
Person with Disabilities Sector  
Workers in the Informal Sector  
Urban Poor Sector  
NAPC WIS  
LGU Representatives

## Critical Events of the RDP Formulation

- 1) State of the Nation Address - June 30 2004  
During the State of the Nation Address, Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo outlined her vision for the country in the next six years. The vision for the Philippines from 2004-2010 is outlined in the 10-point legacy of the President.
- 2) 10 Point Agenda Workshop - July 22 2004  
Representatives from LGUs, RLAs, NGOs and SUCs gave their respective commitments in support to the 10-point legacy of the President.
- 3) Drafting of the RDP Chapters (NEDA Caraga) - August-December  
Incorporating the outputs from the 10-point agenda workshop, NEDA Caraga's technical staff began drafting the six chapters of the Caraga Regional Development Plan 2004-2010. Informal consultations with stakeholders was done during the process of drafting the RDP Chapters.
- 4) RDP Consultation with RLAs, LGUs, SUCs, NGOs - October 19, 2004  
The first draft of the Caraga Regional Development Plan was presented during this workshop which was well-attended by the various stakeholders of the region. Comments on the draft were consolidated and commitments to the 10-point legacy of the President were firmed up during this workshop.
- 5) Revision of Drafts - October 20 - November 08, 2004  
Incorporating the comments generated from the consultation, NEDA Caraga's technical staff revised the first draft of the Caraga Regional Development Plan.
- 6) Submission of revised RDP draft to the Development Information Staff (DIS) and the Regional Development Coordination Staff (RDCS).
- 7) Provincial Consultations - November 09 – November 23, 2004  
With the intention of enriching the situational analysis and firming up the strategic direction spelled out in the RDP, a series of provincial consultations were held from November 09 to November 23, 2004 which yielded invaluable inputs on the development imperatives of the Caraga Region.
- 8) Presentation to the RDC Full Council - November 17, 2004  
The Caraga Regional Development Plan 2004-2010 was presented to the RDC Full Council on December 17, 2004. RDC Resolution No. 48, S. of 2004 adopting the Caraga Medium-Term Regional Development Plan (MTRDP) 2004-2010 and Medium-Term Regional Development Investment Program (MTRDIP) 2004-2010 and endorsing the same to the office of the President was passed.
- 9) Revision of Drafts - November 24 – December 16, 2004  
The draft Caraga Regional Development Plan was further revised incorporating the inputs generated from the provincial consultations and the comments from RDCS and DIS.

<b>Editor-in-Chief</b>	<b>: Regional Director Carmencita S. Cochingco</b>		
<b>Managing Editor</b>	<b>: Assistant Regional Director Cecilia R. Lopez</b>		
<b>Pool of Writers</b>	<b>:</b>		
<b>Chapter 1</b>	<i>Erwin L. Lagura</i> <i>Fides Joy A. Caduyac</i>	<b>Chapter 4</b>	<i>Emmanuel Z. Gidacan</i>
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<i>Francisco Romulus C. Villanueva</i> <i>Jose Precioso E. Quimno</i> <i>Naomi T. Mission</i>	<b>Chapter 5</b>	<i>Imelda P. Plaza</i> <i>Glenn B. Batincila</i>  <i>Ann B. Jaquilmac</i>
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<i>Johnny T. Lim</i> <i>Jazmin D. Berido</i> <i>Esther A. Oser</i> <i>Michelle S. Palacay</i>	<b>Chapter 6</b>	<i>Gemima R. Asis</i> <i>Paris Raymond S. Gaballo</i>
		<b>Lay-out Artist</b>	<b>: Edgardo Angelo T. Tidalgo</b>

