



# PAGSUBAYBAY

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## MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGEMENT

Sa kabila ng mga agam-agam, pangamba, at iba pang pagsubok na mas pinalalala ng mga kontrobersiyang ibinabato sa atin, tayo sa Procurement Service – Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) ay walang tigil sa paglilingkod upang siguruhin ang patuloy nating pagtugon sa sinumpaang tungkulin: ang magbigay at maghatid ng mga kinakailangang common-use supplies and equipment (CSE) sa mga ahensya ng pamahalaan.

Sa pag-usad ng panahon, nananatili tayong may pag-asa na anu't ano man ang mangyari ay lagi tayong handang umayon at umangkop sa mga pagbabago upang mapagtagumpayan lahat ng hamon na ating hinaharap at haharapin pa — lalo sa panahon ng pandemya.

Hindi natin maitatangi na minsan na tayong nadapa, ngunit kailanman, hindi tayo sumuko at hinding-hindi tayo susuko. Napatunayan na natin sa napakaraming pagkakataon na mataas ang kalidad ng ating serbisyo publiko, kaya't walang kahit anong kinasasangkutanang isyu ang titibag sa ating organisasyon at sa mga taong bumubuo nito.

Kaya't IKAW, bilang bahagi ng PS-DBM, ay nararapat lang na kilalanin at ipagmalaki ang sariling dedikasyon, lakas, at tapang dahil patuloy mong kinakatawan ang organisasyon at mga prinsipyo nito.

Nawa'y sa pamamagitan ng PagSubabay, ang opisyal na pahayagang pang-empleado ng PS-DBM, ay maipaalala sa atin na TAYO at lahat ng ating mga ginagawa ay kinikilala, pinahalagahan, at pinasasalamatan. Malaking kontribusyon ang mga ito sa tagumpay ng ating organisasyon.

Ipagdiwang natin lahat ng progreso araw-araw — sa personal man o propesyunal na aspeto — at sama-sama nating patibayin ang pundasyong nagbubuklod sa atin bilang mga kawani ng gobyerno.

Mariin kong hinihikayat ang lahat na manatiling matibay ang loob at patuloy na ipagmalaki ang pagiging bahagi ng PS-DBM.

Maraming salamat sa inyong lahat.

### ATTY. JOLAS E. BRUTAS

Director IV, Operations Group  
OIC-Director, Regional Operations Group  
Adviser, PagSubabay





## Raising the Rainbow Flag:

### LOUD AND PROUD LGBTQ+ MEMBERS OF PS-DBM

By Kevin Joshua G. Rebultan

If only Sheila Marie Rodriguez could talk when she was a baby, she would have spoken her objection. But she could only cry. It did not take long before her constant bawling was finally perceived as her disapproval.

“My parents told me that I would cry and have a fever every time they dress me up as a girl,” Sheila says, “some old folk told them, ‘Your child doesn’t like what she’s wearing.’”

What sounded like an intuition eventually proved to be the real case. Sheila grew up disliking feminine clothes and women’s haircuts. It came as no surprise that she turned out to be a lesbian, and never had to come out.

From when her family first took notice, until it became more apparent, Sheila, now 45, was always accepted and supported. Her preferences were clear from the get go: “What you see is what you get,” she says. It is an open secret even among her friends.

The positive reception of her loved ones on her sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE) must have contributed to her positive disposition in life. This is most manifested in her 17-year commitment with her partner in a long distance relationship.

With trust and respect as the core values of their love affair, Sheila’s partner accepted her wholeheartedly. “I cannot ask for more from God for giving me someone who is very patient and understanding,” she says.

At least within her close circles, Sheila’s individuality is genuinely appreciated. But to some whose judgment of another person is based on misconceptions, Sheila comes across as “*astig*” and “*maangas*.” The way Sheila acts and speaks is

evidently masculine; some misconstrue her professionalism as being serious, even snobbish at times.

“The truth is, I am just shy and a silent type of an individual,” Sheila professes.

Aware that other people’s opinion of her is beyond her control, Sheila continues to be a proud member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) community. Her pride is anchored on the shared experiences with and accomplishments of other LGBTQ+ members in the “facet of politics, sports, beauty pageant, entertainment, and business,” among others.

At work, where her tasks may include hauling of supplies usually assumed to be a man’s job, Sheila proves to be dependable. Her professional efforts as an employee is her expression of gratitude to the Procurement Service – Department of Budget and Management’s (PS-DBM) Baguio Depot, which she considers a safe haven with no demonstration of gender bias against individuals like her.

After all, the PS-DBM sustains a work environment that upholds diversity and embraces change, as indicated in its Careers page. Speaking of which, job postings are administered by the agency’s Human Resource Development Division, where Judy Mark Aquitar—Aqui to his friends and colleagues—works as a training specialist.

“The PS-DBM recognizes the potential of each employee based on their abilities and not on their gender spectrum,” Aqui affirms.

Aqui, 25, identifies as a gay man. Even in his personal life, his SOGIE is not much of an issue. As a child, he knew exactly who he was also by intuition, especially aware that his childhood



days were spent playing more with girls than with boys. Remembering these innocent, wholesome memories makes Aqui realize that he was not attracted to opposite sex since when he was young.

Similar to Sheila, Aqui's coming out story was not a struggle of acceptance. Most of his loved ones, he believes, are supportive of him and his progress in life every step of the way. "I can't recall a time that I got discriminated against or violated because of my gender. My family and friends wholeheartedly accept me for what I am," he says.

Things are going considerably well for Aqui, but he does not look through rose-tinted glasses because he is aware that this is not always the case. He is cognizant of people's stereotypes on gay men, especially in terms of same-sex relationship.

"Pineperahan/ginagamit ka lang' is the most common misconception I hear. Being gay, others will always jump into a conclusion that a same-sex partner will take advantage of me financially," Aqui says.

Despite this, Aqui lives his truth nonetheless. "I don't want to hide the best parts of my identity. I just want to live unapologetically true to myself every single day... I only accept opinions that really matter to me," he asserts.

And no one is stopping him from doing so. Empowered by other members of the LGBTQ+ community, and surrounded by unprejudiced colleagues at work, Aqui constantly reminds himself that not everyone is afforded with the same privilege.

"This feeds my resolve to encourage the PS-DBM Family to keep an open mind and celebrate love in all forms," he says. To which Sheila agrees, "The key here is respect. Do not treat us as if we belong to a different world. We are all equal."

PS-DBM GAD Committee visits Home of Golden Gays in Pasay to hand over donations of essential supplies on 28 June 2021.



## WIDER QUEER PERSPECTIVES



Discussions on homosexuality continue to be a polarizing topic of debate worldwide. But research have shown that many countries over the years are increasingly becoming more accepting of the LGBTQ+ community.

In a study by Pew Research Center in 2019 published last year, some 38,000 people across 34 countries were asked about their perception of homosexuality. The same study reveals that 73% of Filipinos think "homosexuality should be accepted by society."

While the numbers are promising, Filipino LGBTQ+ and their lived experiences tell a different story—those that speak of abuse, dehumanization, violence, harassment, and discrimination at a societal and institutional level. These are what the SOGIE Equality Bill, also known as the Anti-Discrimination Bill, seeks to abolish. For over two decades, the Bill seems to be languishing in the Philippine Congress after it was first filed in 1998.

The SOGIE Equality Bill is ought to safeguard the rights of everyone in the gender spectrum so they still feel safe while being authentic to who they are.

The PS-DBM knows this very well. Its Gender and Development (GAD) Committee has been consistently creating programs and services to address employees' gender needs and increase awareness on GAD issues on gender equality and sensitivity.

Only recently, in celebration of the Pride Month in June, the PS-DBM GAD Committee conducted an outreach program by donating essential items to the Home of Golden Gays Manila, a non-profit organization which provides support, shelter, and care facilities to elderly members of LGBTQ+ community.

Initiatives like this only prove that the PS-DBM truly commits to upholding diversity and embracing change.

*\* Some quoted statements have been edited for brevity and clarity of thought*



## REMEMBERING INDIGENOUS ROOTS: A CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY IN PS-DBM

By Kevin Joshua G. Rebultan & Gideon A. Betito

According to the United Nations (UN), there are over 476 million indigenous peoples (IPs) across the world as of 2021, and they account for 6.2% of the global population. UN's Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization adds that IPs represent the greater part of the world's cultural diversity. This is supported by the fact that IPs have created the major share of the world's almost 700 spoken languages.

The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is annually observed every August 9th. This year's theme calls for the building and redesigning of a new social contract to ensure that no one is left behind, including IPs. The Procurement Service - Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) responds to this by sustaining a work environment that champions cultural evolution as manifested in its diverse workforce.

In this feature, let us get to know some of our colleagues who are proud members of some of the Philippines' indigenous communities.

### Diadem Joy B. Baliling: A Kalinga PS Main, Manila

Kalinga is known by many as a province in the Cordillera region somewhere in northern Luzon. Living in the mountains of this landlocked territory are people called by the same name. Kalinga is therefore both a place and a tribal group.

This piece of information is a cultural fact that Kalinga tribes wish to raise awareness on, along with other preconceived notions that some people surprisingly believe to be true: from social class prejudices such as Kalinga people are "illiterate," to other trivial and peculiar assumptions like they have "tails" and are still "headhunters" in modern times.

A quick glance at Diadem Baliling, who works in the Office of the Director - Regional Operations Group, easily debunks these misconceptions. In a sea of misinformed people, Diadem is a walking testimony of how erroneous such suppositions are. Cognizant of this, she makes it her personal mission to continue breaking stereotypes.



Diadem in her hometown in Kalinga.

"I take so much pride in our culture and traditions... I promote and talk about them through my social media platforms to let the younger generations appreciate them as well," she says.

With parents from Pinukpuk and Balbalan in Kalinga, Diadem is hopeful to preserve their individuality in simple ways. Whenever she gets the chance, especially during provincial celebrations, she participates in the performance of their native dance called "Tadok" accompanied by the sound of gongs.

At work, Diadem exudes a gleeful vibe that instantly lights up the room. And while her jovial mood is instinctively part of her personality, hospitality is innate to her as a Kalinga, too. Reminiscing, Diadem shares that guests who visit households in Kalinga are always served with a fresh cup of brewed coffee—one of their best local produce.

"Regardless of a family's socio-economic status, we are very welcoming," she adds.

Speaking of products, Kalinga fabrics and textiles also stand out. With relative experience in joining beauty pageants, Diadem wears them with pride and honor in the hope of promoting their local artisans' crafts.

"Pagbabatok," on the other hand, might not need just as much ballyhoo. Whether by word of mouth or media mileage, the traditional process of tattooing among the Kalinga people has undeniably become so popular that local and foreign tourists alike began flocking to the Kalinga mountains to get inked. While this development is deemed part of raising awareness—despite recent circumstances marred by controversies involving Apo Whang-od, the last and oldest "mambabatok"—Diadem wishes to relay its cultural relevance.



"The [tattoo] designs are symbolic of strength and power. For the men of the tribe, tattoos represent courage and the stages of being a Kalinga warrior, while for the women, they symbolize maturity, fertility, and beauty," Diadem explains.

The differing depths of understanding about these issues are expected. But the workplace is an avenue for self-expression of employees based on their unique perspectives, which result in the exploration of such differences.

"May we always practice basic courtesy, and pay special attention to how we can embrace non-discriminatory practices and policies. Matago tako losan [**Translation:** *Mabuhay tayong lahat!*]" Diadem concludes.

## Elizabeth Santillan: *An Igorot* PS Region VII Depot, Cebu

True to the bravery that Igorots of the Mountain Province are known for, Elizabeth Santillan took the arduous journey of moving from her hometown in Negros Occidental to the Queen City of the South. Decades after her departure, she admits to hardly remembering her formative years spent in the pine forest high up in the Cordilleras.

"It's been years since the last time I witnessed my fellow Igorot people doing our tradition. Ever since I came here in Cebu, I have not been able to practice any of our tribe's culture and tradition," Elizabeth says.

While her memory of her tribe is no longer vivid, a quick browse online reveals the distinctiveness of Igorots. They wear as adornments some metalworking in iron and brass. Weaving textiles with intricate patterns is also their expertise. In terms of spirituality, Igorot priests are said to cure illnesses through divination. They also perform celebratory worship for their ancestors.

Despite her vague recollection, Elizabeth, now happily married with eight children, takes conscious effort to remember not only her roots but also her family's. "I try to educate them and tell them some things I still know about our tribe," she says.

This effort is not confined in the household. Fondly known as "Ate Sabeth" at work who is an established mother figure to her co-workers, Elizabeth's twelve-year tenure at PS Cebu Depot is marked by her individuality as an Igorot.

"She often shares with us the tools and outfits they used to have. She is a proud Igorot and we are happy and just as proud to have her around," says Christine Colina, a close colleague.

Her personal commitment to raise awareness aims to combat preconceptions about Igorot people. Echoing what has previously been mentioned, Elizabeth was quick to dismiss the age-old myth about them having tails.

"Our native attires [might] look like tails when we wear them: the wanes for men, and the skirt for women that has a woven belt which extends to the length of the skirt. They look like a tail when observed from a distance," she explains.

Apart from the infamous tail tale, Elizabeth adds that they are assumed to also have huge feet and gnarly toes, an impression that originated from as far back as 1900s during the American colonization.

In this age of technology, access to information is at the fingertips. Correcting disinformation, for Elizabeth, is among the ways to better understand one another in the workplace, which give way to the acceptance of some differences and recognition of similarities in other aspects.

"In this modern time, only a person who has never read a science book can believe the proposition that a man can grow a tail similar to that of a baboon," Elizabeth quips.



Ate Sabeth's relationship with her colleagues has gone beyond their affiliation at work, as they also spend time together outside the office.



## James F. Gabilo: An Ivatan PS Main, Manila

The Philippines as an archipelago is a must-visit destination for many tourists, and this archipelagic province found in its northernmost part is among the top attractors of travellers worldwide. It may be the smallest in terms of population and land area, but it boasts of rich culture, traditions, and values.

Batanes needs no grand introduction. While its beauty is attributed to its hills and mountains, rock formations, and natural bodies of water that overall emanate a quaint island life, just as much credit is due to its peoples—among them is James Gabilo of the Procurement Division I, an Ivatan.

James seems to be right where he is supposed to be: public service. Government employees are constantly reminded that public office is a public trust, and it is never an issue for James because Ivatan people are known to be upright. As if this is not enough attestation, James' great-grandparents are the owners of the famed Honesty Coffee Shop.

Whether at day or at night, with or without other people around, Batanes is a very safe place where doors are said to be kept unlocked most of the time. This sense of security is reflected in the province's almost zero crime rate. This is also reinforced by other practices that further boost their confidence in one another.

"Kapa-Diyos" refers to the typical "pagmamano" as a sign of respect to elders, even those whom they are not personally related to. "Bayanihan," in the Ivatan context, is called "yaru," "payuhuan," or "kamañidungan" which fosters community spirit through organized distribution of work done in good will.

Aside from living up to their values, James keeps a firm grasp on his Ivatan identity despite being a city resident for quite some time now.

How, you ask? Well, carry on reading.

"Mayfirmi ku a chiban u kavidin ku sira u kultura kamu tradisyon a chinarakuhan ku akma su kapanutung su ñihaman a paray an mana yellow rice, luñis, kanu pawpaw. An kavusan nu duminggu am uyud ku ichadmay u kapanngay ku su Laji," writes James in his native language.

**[Translation:** I always make sure to keep the cultures and traditions that I've grown up with, like cooking the traditional yellow rice using the "Hama" (yellow ginger), "Luñis" (Ivatan Adobo), and "pawpaw" or dried "Dibang" (flying fish). On weekends, I like listening and singing the traditional Ivatan song called "Laji."]



James in his hometown in Batanes.

"U kapañirbi su vakul nu mavavakes, kanayi kanu kalugong du mahahakay u asa pa du matudin a kasincharan diyamen. Sirbien saya nu umhakaw kanu mangamung a i-protekta da su karakuhan da du chimuy kan kuhat," he adds.

**[Translation:** We also have the use of headgears, "Vakul" for women and "Kanayi" and "Kalugong" for men. They are used to protect themselves from the heat of the sun and rain when they go farming and fishing.]

James' unwavering determination to preserve Ivatan culture and tradition, similar to Diadem and Elizabeth, is to eradicate misconceptions about his indigenous tribe which he often hears from people who have little to no knowledge about them. He has heard, among others, that Ivatans are purportedly uncivilized, short, dark-skinned, and not capable of speaking and understanding Filipino and English languages.

"Rarahen ku pa u madday diyaten du kapangañib kanu kapachipandidew ta du maychakapenged kanu katatadkan nu kultura ta. Chiban ta sincharan u katatadkan ta as kapay firm ita mangañib as ka di ta mangatatadkan. Adngeyen ta u vahevahey nu asa asa diyaten a maydamnay su pangtuktuan. Makasidung ya diyaten a mapaychakasa niyaten as kanu padidew ta u ka uyud ta siya nisisita u asa asa diyaten," James asserts.

**[Translation:** I am encouraging everyone to please respect and be sensitive to everyone's cultural differences. Let us acknowledge our differences and practice basic courtesy. Let us have an open communication and listen to the insights and views of all. These will help us feel connected and at the same time feel relevant and included.]

Amid our endless pursuit of global modernization that takes people to places, remembering our roots keeps us home.

\* Some quoted statements have been edited for brevity and clarity of thought



# PILIIN NATIN ANG PILIPINAS

By Pam Candice V. Medina &  
Sittie Laila A. Guinomla

Ginugunita tuwing Agosto ang ilang selebrasyong nagpapaalala sa ating kasarinlan at pagka-Pilipino. Bukod sa ating Wikang Pambansa, sa parehong panahon ay ipinagdiriwang din ang **Buwan ng Kasaysayan**. Mula ika-17 hanggang 23 ay ginugunita rin ang **Linggo ng mga Produktong Gawa sa Pilipinas**.

Kaugnay nito, nakikiisa ang Procurement Service ng Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) sa pagdiriwang ng mga komemorasyong

ito—at marahil ang pinakaangkop na pakikisangkot ay ang pagbabahagi ng mga munting kaalaman tungkol sa kasaysayan at mga lokal na produkto ng mga regional depot offices ng PS-DBM.

Sama-sama nating bisitahin ang bawat rehiyon kung saan matatagpuan ang mga regional depots ng ating ahensya. Sa ating paglalakbay, patunayan nating sa lahat ng pagkakataon, lagi't lagi: Pinipili natin ang Pilipinas.

## LUZON

### PS BAGUIO

(CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION)



Tinaguriang “Summer Capital of the Philippines” dahil sa malamig na klima anumang panahon, kilala ang Baguio sa maraming uri ng **coffee beans**. Popular ang mga kapihan hindi lang sa mga turista kundi pati sa mga lokal. Bagay na bagay sa pagkakape ang mga pagkaing pinalamanan ng **ube** o **purple yam** at ng **strawberry jam**. Hindi maikakailang ang pinakatanyag na brand nito sa Baguio ay ang Good Shepherd.

Mula sa sentro ng lungsod kung saan matatagpuan ang makasaysayang Burnham Park, aabot lamang ng tatlo hanggang limang minutong lakaran bago marating ang opisina ng PS Baguio.

### PS LA UNION

(REGION I)



**Vigan Longganisa, Sukang Iloko, bagoong, bagnet, at iba pang putaheng ang karaniwang sangkap ay karne ng baboy**—ilan lamang ito sa mga produktong madalas ipangpasalubong tuwing nagagawi sa Norte. Bukod sa mga pagkain ay iba pang mga produkto tulad ng **Abel** o **Inabel blanket**. Ito'y iba't ibang disenyo ng makukulay na kumot mula sa mabusising paghahabi.

Hindi kalayaan mula sa Baguio ang ibang lugar sa unang rehiyon tulad ng La Union. Mula sa pag-okupa ng ipinaubayang espasyo ng DBM Regional Office I, pormal na itinayo ang PS La Union noong ika-24 ng Agosto, 2006. Sa parehong taon, nadagdagan din ng mga kawani upang pagsilbihan ang lumalaking bilang ng mga kliyente. Hanggang ngayon, patuloy na isinasabuhay ng PS La Union ang mga aral na natutunan nito mula sa payak na pagsisimula: maayos na pakikisama, pagiging marespeto, at pagtatrabaho nang may integridad.

### PS TUGUEGARAO

(REGION II)



**Pancit batil-patong** ang isa sa pinakakilalang putahe mula sa lalawigan ng Tuguegarao. Mula mismo sa pangalan nito, ang naturang pancit ay kinumpleto ng pinatong-patong na iba't ibang sangkap sa ibabaw ng bihon. Sa ibang lugar ng parehong rehiyon ay kilala naman ang **chicharabao**, isang popular na chicharon sa Cagayan na gawa mula sa balat ng kalabaw.

Mula sa pitong kawani nang itayo ito noong ika-2 ng Pebrero, 2005, lumago na ang opisina ng PS Tuguegarao at ngayoy itinuturing na isa sa mga top-performing regional depot offices pagdating sa laki ng kita at benta.

### PS PAMPANGA

(REGION III)



Hindi babansagang “Culinary Capital of the Philippines” ang Pampanga kung wala itong ibinibidang samu't saring pagkain. Isa na rito ang **Ocampo Lansang Turrone de Casoy** ng Ocampo Lansang Delicacies, matamis na kendi na may pangunahing sangkap na casoy. Sino nga naman ang hindi ito sisimot dito kung pati ang balat nito'y nakakain? Lutong Kapampangan din ang **tibuk-tibuk** na madalas ihalintulad sa Maja Blanca. Hango sa salitang “tibok,” ito'y umaangat at tumitibok na tila puso bilang indikasyon na handa na itong ihain at kaninin.

### PS LEGAZPI

(REGION V)



Kung Bicol Region lang din ang pag-uusapan, mga **maaanghang** na putahe o kaya nama'y **ginataan** ang agad na mababanggit. Garanti-sadong swak sa panlasang Pinoy, siguradong mapapa-extra rice ang sinumang makatitikim ng authentic na mga ulam nilang **Bicol Express**, **laing**, at **sinantolan**. Kailangan ng pampatanggal-umay? **Pili nuts** at **sili-flavored ice cream** ay ilan lang sa pwede ninyong panghimagas.

## VISAYAS

### PS CEBU

(REGION VII)



Kilala man ang lechon bilang isa sa pinaka-popular na lutong Pinoy, marami nang nagpatotoo na nanatiling ang lasa ng **Cebu lechon**. Sa maraming okasyon sa Pilipinas, laging handog ang lechon sa mga pagtitipon ng mga pamilyang Pilipino. Patunay sa kasikatan nito ang unti-unting pagkilala sa “**Zubuchon**” brand na ngayoy nagkakaroon na rin ng branches sa Maynila.

Matapos lantakan ang lechon ay masarap kumain ng **mangga**. Ang mga mangga sa Cebu ay laging sariwa, matamis, malaman, at makatas. Madalas pinoproseso ang mga ito upang makagawa ng ibang produkto tulad ng **dried mangoes**.

### PS TACLOBAN

(REGION VIII)



Ang dahon ng tikog ay nagsisilbing pangunahing materyal kung saan gawa ang mga banig na kilala sa Tacloban. Mapa-banig na pwedeng higaan, disenyo't palamuti sa sahig ng mga tahanan, o kaya'y iyong pwedeng gawing “bag” o sukbitan—matatagpuan ang mga iyan sa Tacloban. Kasama rin dito ang mga **Abaca** products pati na rin ang mga itak na kung tawagin doon ay “sundang.” Para sa mga mahilig sa “pottery,” maraming matatagpuang **ceramic** o **clay products** sa Mariripi, Biliran Province.

Hindi lang sa lokal na produkto mayaman ang Tacloban. Maging ang kasaysayan ng PS-DBM dito ay hitik sa makabuluhang kwento ng kasaysayan. Nagsimula sa pagbebenta ng walang ibang items bukod sa computer units para sa proyektong “PC ng Bayan” noong 2005, ang PS Tacloban ay noo'y napasailalim sa DBM dahil sa kawalan ng sariling mga empleyado. Sa DBM din ito noon pansamantalang umokupa ng pwesto. Matapos ang dalawang taon, Enero ng 2007, mas nabuo ito bilang organisasyon at tuluyang nagkaroon ng sariling gusali noong ika-24 ng Setyembre, 2009. Upang ipakilala ang ahensya sa lalawigan, pinangunahan ng PS Tacloban ang PS Caravan na ginanap sa Ormoc City Hall kung saan ito nakapagbenta ng common-use supplies and equipment sa mga government agencies. Tuloy-tuloy na ang naging operasyon nito mula noon.

\*Ang mga impormasyon tungkol sa kasaysayan at mga lokal na produkto ng mga regional offices ay mula sa pananaliksik at pakikipag-ugnayan ng aming Team sa mga depot representatives ng bawat opisina. Ang kawalan o pagkakaroon ng impormasyon ay base sa mga ibinahagi nilang detalye.

Images courtesy of: [www.ph.phonebooky.com](http://www.ph.phonebooky.com), [www.finalunay.wordpress.com](http://www.finalunay.wordpress.com), [www.ilovetansyong.com](http://www.ilovetansyong.com), [www.libertytreecollectors.com](http://www.libertytreecollectors.com), [www.foxyfolksy.com](http://www.foxyfolksy.com), [www.mycebu.ph](http://www.mycebu.ph)

## MINDANAO

### PS CAGAYAN DE ORO

(REGION X)



Ilan sa mga hilig ipangpasalubong ng mga dumarayo sa Misamis Oriental, Cagayan de Oro ay **Vjandep Pastel** at **Tomarong Kasoy**. Ang Vjandep Pastel ay mistulang pan de sal na pinalamanan ng animo'y yema sa tamis. Ibang lasa naman ang hatid ng Tomarong Kasoy na sinasabing mas malinamnam kapag pinatusta sa kawali.

Itinatag ang PS CDO noong ika-17 ng Setyembre, 2004.

### PS DAVAO

(REGION XI)



**Durian-flavored coffee, mangosteen spread, marang pastillas**, at **guyabano candy** ay ilan lamang sa mga karaniwang panghimagas ng mga Dabawenyo mula sa mga itinuturing na exotic fruits sa lalawigan. Tunay ngang “Fruit Basket of the Philippines” ang Region XI dahil sa masaganang ani ng mga prutas tulad nito.

Ideklarang Cacao Capital of the Philippines din ang buong Davao Region dahil sa mga **cacao**, **tablea**, at **tsokolate** na purong Davao-made at siguradong world-class ang quality.

### PS KORONADAL

(REGION XII)



Isa sa mga pinakatanyag na destinasyon sa “Land of the Dreamweavers” ay ang Lake Sebu kung saan ibinibida ng mga kapatid nating T'boli ang kamangha-manghang paghabi ng **T'nalak**. Sariwang **tilapia** mula rito, **tuna** mula naman sa General Santos, at **pastil** mula sa Cotabato ang ilan sa mga sikat na pagkain sa Region XII. Ang pastil ay gawa sa hinimay na manok na pinatong sa malagkit na kanin at binalot sa dahon ng saging.

### PS BUTUAN

(REGION XIII)



Huli man sa listahan ay tiyak na 'di pahuhuli, lalo na't kung mahilig ka sa mga **kakanin** tulad ng **nilupak**, **nilambiran**, **palagsing**, at **puto pao** na pawang mga Butuanon native delicacies. Ang mga ito'y gawa sa malagkit mula sa katas at laman ng niyog. Malakas ang bentahan ng mga kakaning ito sa Langihan Market, lalo na tuwing Linggo ng umaga habang sariwa't mainit-init pa. Marami mang pagkakatulad ang mga kakaning ito sa ibang lalawigan sa bansa, may sariling pakulo ang Butuan upang tangkilikin ang kanila.



# BIYAHENG BICOL

Contributed by: Michael Jhon Ajero

Pili, laing, santol na may gata  
Mga produktong patok sa madla  
Animo'y langgam na aligaga  
Iyon pala'y mga taong namamangha

Oh! Bicolandia ganda mo'y mahiwaga  
Mga tanawing kay ganda  
At may makulay na historya  
Mga produktong tiyak na kilala

Sa Timog-Luzon, Bicolandia, iyong makikita  
Bubungad ang pinya sa arkong entrada  
Ito'y Camarines Norte, ang unang probinsya  
Pinyasan Festival—tara na at bumisita

Sa pag-usad, tahanan naman ng reyna,  
Camarines Sur, ikalawang probinsya  
Pili kanyang kabisera, pili nuts din ay mabenta  
May matamis, crispy at iba pa  
Anuman ang mapili'y panalo sa lasa

Sa gawing kanan may isa pang probinsya  
Sorsogon tahanan ni Heart Evangelista  
May dagat na kay ganda, puno ng grasya  
Alimango, hipon, at talaba

Dumako tayo sa probinsyang Albay, oragon na!  
Kilala sa maanghang na panimpla  
Laing, pili, maging ice cream pa  
Masasabi mong "Oh! Sili pa!"

Sa ikalimang probinsya  
Catanduanes at maliit nitong isla  
Hanap mo ba'y abaca, sugbo o lasa?  
Tara, bili na!

Sa huli't ikaanim na probinsya  
Masbate, pagbungad sa umaga  
Kapeng Buffalo, Arabica  
Carmelado at Molido, perpektong kapareha

Marahil may kulang pa sa aking tula  
Kaya tara na't maghanda  
Tuklasin ang sarap at saya  
Bicolandia may ibubuga pa!



Images courtesy of:  
[www.quora.lk](http://www.quora.lk), [www.news.jevtonline.org](http://www.news.jevtonline.org),  
[www.facebook.com/SweetgrassHandicrafts](http://www.facebook.com/SweetgrassHandicrafts)



## POSTSCRIPT

**A rundown and recap of the latest news in PS-DBM.**  
*Manatiling nakasubaybay.*



### PS-DBM WELCOMES NEW HEAD OF AGENCY

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) designated Atty. Jasonmer L. Uayan as the new Officer-in-Charge – Executive Director of the Procurement Service (PS) on 31 May 2021. In an interview, Atty. Uayan said that his leadership would focus on resolving Audit Observation Memorandums (AOM), restocking of common-use supplies and equipment, and pushing for the security of tenure of PS employees.

*Read "PS-Express Vol. I Issue No. 2" emailed by PS-DBM Communications on 21 June 2021*



### PS LEADS VACCINATION OF DBM EMPLOYEES

Majority of the employees of the Department of Budget and Management Main Office—including its attached agencies Procurement Service (PS) and Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) in Manila—are now vaccinated against COVID-19 after the successful facilitation of the vaccination program led and initiated by PS. The PS-DBM Quick Response Team (QRT) conducted its second wave of vaccine rollout on August 11 and September 8, for the first and second dose, respectively. Per its latest notice, the QRT reported that PS-DBM has over 200 COVID-19 cases.

*Read "PS-Express Vol. I Issue No. 2" emailed by PS-DBM Communications on 29 June 2021*



### PS-DBM MAXIMIZES USE OF DIGITAL PLATFORMS IN THE 'NEW NORMAL'

In compliance with the quarantine guidelines that limit physical transactions, PS-DBM takes full advantage of the virtual space to sustain its operational resilience. The full implementation of the Virtual Store (VS) for the PS-DBM Main clientele has recently been imposed, disallowing manual submission of agency procurement requests beginning August 2021. In relation, the Marketing and Sales Division continues to conduct its webinar series titled Virtual Client Connection to help agencies transition to digital transformation.

For merchants and suppliers, PS-DBM has started publishing bidding information and other critical procurement details not only in the website but also on its social media accounts since July, in view of GPPB Resolution No. 04-2021.

*Read "Transacting with PS-DBM in the new normal" published in the website on 5 August 2021*





## PS-DBM THRU ITRP KEEPS EMPLOYEES UPDATED WITH ICT TRENDS

Aside from the efforts to digitize transactions involving client-agencies, PS-DBM also equips its workforce with theoretical and practical knowledge on information and communications technology (ICT). Initiated by the Information Technology Research and Planning Division (ITRPD), employees are constantly updated with new technologies and trends in the industry, as well as cyber security threats and solutions. ITRPD said that these ICT updates aim to protect not only the employees' personal information but also the office's IT infrastructure.

*Read previous issuances (1-10) emailed by ITRPD with the subject "ICT Updates"*



## PS-DBM EMPLOYEES ELECT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Following the successful virtual election conducted on 28 July 2021 through Google Forms, the employee representatives and alternates were determined for the following PS-DBM committees: Human Resource Merit Promotion and Selection Board (HRMPSD); Personnel Development Committee (PDC); Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC); Committee on Decorum Investigation (CODI); Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Committee; and Performance Management Team (PMT). Representatives for the youth sector of the Senior Citizens, Persons with Disability, and Youth Committee were also named.

*See the list emailed by the Human Resource Development Division on 3 August 2021 with the subject "RESULT OF 2021 PS-DBM ELECTION FOR EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES"*



## NEW PS LEGAZPI DEPOT BUILDING TO RISE SOON

Employees and client-agencies of the PS Legazpi Depot will soon enjoy a work space conducive to increased productivity in light of the proposal to establish a 2,420 sqm. two-storey building with a mezzanine office at the DBM Legazpi Compound. PS Regional Operations Group OIC-Director Atty. Jolas E. Brutas met with DBM Region V officials in his visit to Legazpi City, Albay from June 14 to 18, 2021 to conduct ocular inspection of the proposed site and discuss the preparation of the detailed engineering plans with architects and engineers of the Department of Public Works and Highways Region V.



# WORK AND (LOVE) LIFE BALANCE

By Sittie Laila A. Guinomla

Christy Renz Moral, a darling of the Marketing and Sales Division (MSD), is officially off the market.

Cheng, as called by her friends and colleagues, had the biggest surprise of her life when her high school sweetheart, Ray Mart, proposed to her at the Procurement Service - Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) Main Office on 2 July 2021—their 13th anniversary as a couple.

“Wala talaga akong idea. Pagdating ko sa office, wala namang kakaiba. At ang alam ko, nasa Laguna siya,” Cheng recalls, looking back at how she thought it was a regular Friday at work. She was just wearing a red polo shirt, jeans, and sneakers, her nail polish even faded.

That it came as a complete shock proves that it was a success. How could it go wrong? Even her immediate supervisor, MSD OIC-Chief Leah Valdez, was an accomplice. With the instruction to view an audio-visual presentation (AVP) to prepare for the generation of data needed in reports—a task that she specializes in—Cheng modestly proceeded as directed.

Only a few seconds into the video, Cheng could be heard uttering words of confusion, repeatedly asking, “Ano ‘to?” What she expected to be an AVP on statistics and figures turned out to be a video compilation of her and Ray’s memories together. “Pagka-check ko, puro mukha naming dalawa.”

Some moments later, her male colleagues in MSD handed her stems of roses one by one. “Ano ‘to? Debut ko?” she asked, yet in her subconscious, she was starting to grasp where this romantic stunt would lead to. She was escorted to the Retail Store—an office space that for some time that day was suspiciously closed to prevent her from seeing the rose petals and red balloons scattered on the floor.

The usual office sound of people’s monotonous murmurs slowly turned into high-pitched squeals. Yet all these are nothing but a background noise to the symphony of Train’s Marry Me. Just in time for the lyrics to go, “*forever can never be long enough for me*,” there was Ray, one knee on the floor and a wedding ring on his hand, before a crowd of screaming officemates and Cheng’s family who witnessed it all via live stream.



Cheng receives a bouquet of flowers from Ray as soon as she said “Yes!”

When Ray popped the million dollar question, Cheng was evidently flabbergasted. “Nanginginig ako. Parang hindi ko narinig ‘yung tanong,” she says. As if in a movie, when people’s uproar subsided, and their movement slow-moed, her answer was quick, loud, and clear: “Siyempre!”

## BEHIND AND BEYOND THE SCENE

In a busy office as PS-DBM, it took a lot of meticulous planning, logistical preparations, and approval from the management. The triumphant marriage proposal would not have been pulled off if not for the help of several colleagues.

“Sobrang thankful ako. Ang supportive nila, magaling magtago at maaasahan talaga. Although hindi nila nakilala (si Ray), virtual lang, tumulong talaga sila,” Cheng says as expression of gratitude to officemates Aira Mira Salem, Hannah Mae Bigtas, Reygie Nacario, Magie Mendoza, and all those who helped her fiance plan and organize the proposal.

Asked if they would gladly talk about it over time with family, friends, and even with their future children, Cheng answers without hesitation: “Oo, kasi hindi ko ine-expect na dito sa office... Hindi siya mahilig sa attention kaya nagulat ako. Sabi ko pa, ‘Ang tapang mo naman!’”

Maybe that’s what love does to people, especially between those who have stood the test of time—in their case—from being high school classmates, to attending the same church, and now soon to be husband and wife.

As for preparations, Cheng and Ray have decided to plan an intimate civil wedding in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. “Next year... vow renewal. Kasama na namin buong pamilya and friends,” she adds.

Congratulations, Cheng and Ray!

*\* Some quoted statements have been edited for brevity and clarity of thought*



*Yamang ang kwento ay tungkol sa pag-ibig, pag-usapan na rin natin ang isa sa mga paraan upang ipabatid ang pagmamahal natin sa iba. Wala na marahil ang mas malinaw na paglalahad ng pag-ibig higit sa pagsambit ng maikli ngunit malamang pangungusap na ito: Mahal kita, o sa Ingles, I love you.*

*Ang Buwan ng Wika ay ipinagdiriwang tuwing Agosto, at bilang pakikiisa ng PS-DBM sa selebrasyong ito, alamin natin ang iba pang bersyon ng nasabing pangungusap gamit ang ibang wika sa ating bansa.*

*Alinsunod sa temang itinakda ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino, "Filipino at mga Wikang Katutubo sa Dekolonisasyon ng Pag-lisip ng mga Pilipino," ang mga sumusunod ay pagsasalin ng "Mahal kita" o "I love you" sa wikang ginagamit sa mga rehiyon kung saan matatagpuan ang mga regional depots ng PS-DBM:*



Sabay-sabay nating itugon: sana all

## LUZON

PS BAGUIO | CAR

PS LA UNION | REGION I

PS TUGUEGARAO | REGION II

PS PAMPANGA | REGION III

PS LEGAZPI | REGION V

Pipiyatan Taka (Ibaloi)

Ay-ayaten ka (Ilocano)

Id-iddutan ta ka (Ibanag)

Kaluguran daka (Kapampangan)

Namumutan taka (Bikolano)

## VISAYAS

PS CEBU | REGION VII

PS TACLOBAN | REGION VIII

Gihigugma tika (Cebuano)

Gihigugma ko ikaw (Waray-waray)

## MINDANAO

PS CDO | REGION X

PS DAVAO | REGION XI

PS KORONADAL | REGION XII

PS BUTUAN | REGION XIII

Gihigugma taka (Bisaya)

Gihigugma tika (Bisaya)

Palangga taka (Hiligaynon/Ilonggo)

Gihigugma tika (Bisaya)



## MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE GROWING PS-DBM FAMILY

The Procurement Service - Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) continues to develop its human capital as the country's leading procurement and supply chain professionals. In an effort to sustain the provision of smart and innovative procurement solutions to its stakeholders, PS-DBM welcomes the addition of highly-skilled professionals to take the agency even further.

Get to know the names and faces of these newly hired employees of PS-DBM as they share their insights about working for the Government's central procuring arm!



## WHAT ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT WORKING IN THE PROCUREMENT SERVICE?



"Dealing with different types of people and doing things beyond what I know I can do make me excited working in PS-DBM."

**MARIAN BRIGETTE M. BALIN**  
*Procurement Division I*



"Working with awesome colleagues, and supporting and facilitating the procurement activities especially for big ticket projects."

**ALEC REYES**  
*Procurement Division IV*



"I am excited about adapting to the new work environment, meeting a lot of people across various platforms, and enhancing my capabilities more."

**CZARINA CHRISTINE A. PELAYO**  
*Procurement Division IV*



"I am excited and eager about knowing how things are being done in PS-DBM in terms of handling projects. Also looking forward to what I can contribute as a graduate of education."

**NICOLE SOLEIL B. SILVA**  
*Procurement Division VI*



"This is my first time working for a government agency. I am looking forward to gaining more knowledge about government procurement."

**JHOANNA MARIE R. CABANAYAN**  
*Procurement Division VI*



"I am excited to work with the country's procurement experts who are well versed in R.A. 9184. I hope that my experience in the Procurement Group will improve my knowledge in government procurement to help the agency in ensuring that all the goods/infrastructures that we procure will be responsive to the needs of the stakeholders and advantageous to the Philippine government."

**NOEL A. MIRALLOSA**  
*Procurement Division VII*





"From when I started last July 19, 2021 until today, I continue to learn a lot about the PS-DBM such, how the procurement processes work and who are the ones behind such processes. Also, [I'm excited about] the growth in career that I will be getting by attending various trainings."

**FELIZE ANNE MARIE O. TREYES**  
*Procurement Division VII*



"I am looking forward to public service thru accountable, responsible, and honest procurement."

**ANTHONY PEREZ**  
*Procurement Division VIII*



"I am excited and looking forward to doing all the tasks and projects that will be assigned to me; applying all the lessons that our mentors taught us in order to do the job right and effectively."

**ROMMEL S. PATRIARCA**  
*Procurement Division IX*



"From being oriented in a construction industry, I look forward to working in an office environment."

**CHRISTIAN JUDE SALCEDO**  
*Procurement Division IX*



"Been working for over a decade now, but it is my first time to join government service. I found it as my sacred duty to serve my country and my Creator. It is a source of pride so to speak. This alone inspires me to do the right thing and to exceed my previous best, everyday!"

**LADY LOU A. GIMENO**  
*Comptroller Division*



"I have been working with a private company for more than a decade, but my dream when I was a kid was to work with the government as my mother. Early last year, I spent some time researching the Civil Service Commission website but I remember having no guts in submitting my applications because of the many requirements listed on the website. So I continued to be a visitor on the website for several months. Until I decided to apply to few government agencies sometime in the third quarter of last year, one of which is PS-DBM. It also took several months for them to contact me, but that's okay. As I always say, "If it's God's will, then it will happen." PS-DBM has a work environment that upholds diversity, embraces change, and provides many opportunities to every team member. I know I am in good hands."

**IMELDA C. ESTACIO**  
*Comptroller Division*



"PS-DBM is an avenue for democrat people like me, who like to provide service to the people and act in public interest. It is an agency driven by quality of service rather than profit. I look forward to acquiring new skills and opportunities in my stay here."

**DIANA VANESSA C. LASAM**  
*Comptroller Division*



## WE KNOW YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHARE, TOO!

We believe that your skills go beyond your professional competencies.  
Get creative with us!

All PS-DBM employees at the Main Office in Paco, Manila and at the regional depot offices nationwide are encouraged to contribute.

Subject to our editorial guidelines, and in line with specific themes, you may contribute by submitting written pieces like **news and feature stories, essays, poems, or artistic works** such as digital (or copy of) **paintings and drawings, photographs, comic strips, and other illustrations.**

Please await email from **communications@ps-philgeps.gov.ph** for more details.  
For comments and suggestions, you may email the same.

We look forward to putting the spotlight on your work!

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“

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5 11 9 T

11 5 6 16

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W 4 19

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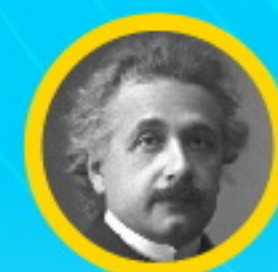
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Albert Einstein



Travel around the Philippines as you answer this game.  
There are fifteen (15) differences in the pictures. Spot them!

