

# SUNDAY TRIBUNE

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## Successful Community Clean-up Drive for Tupad Beneficiaries in Kawit, Cavite



In a commendable effort to maintain a clean environment and support disadvantaged workers, First District Representative Jolo Revilla, in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPEM), successfully conducted recently a community clean-up drive under the Tulong Pang-hanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program in Kawit, Cavite.

Starting as early as 5:30 in the morning, 100 beneficiaries of the TUPAD program joined forces to clean the esteros and drainage systems of Brgy. Batong Dali, Kawit. This significant event showcased the community's dedication to environmental conservation and the empowerment of displaced, underemployed, and seasonal workers through temporary employment.

TUPAD is a vital community-based safety net initiative that provides short-term jobs to workers in the informal sector. Under this program, beneficiaries are employed for a minimum period of 10 days, not exceeding 30 days, and are paid the minimum wage by DOLE. This initiative not only aids in immediate financial support but also fosters community spirit and involvement in essential environmental activities.

The clean-up drive is part of the broader efforts of the TUPAD program to offer meaningful employment while addressing environmental concerns. Through initiatives like this, the program continues to support the livelihoods of many while promoting sustainable practices within the community. **(OPIO)**

## PCC clears Cavite, SDC deal to develop Sangley airport

The Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) has cleared the Cavite provincial government and SPIA Development Consortium (SDC) deal for the development of the Sangley Point International Airport (SPIA) Project in Cavite.

House of Investments, Inc. (HOI), which is part of SDC, said in a regulatory disclosure on July 23 that it received the PCC resolution on the same day. HOI filed the notification with PCC last March in compliance with the Philippine Competition Act in connection with the proposed joint venture (JV) for the SPIA project.



SPIA Full Development

Other members of SDC include Cavite Holdings Inc., Samsung C&T Corp., MacroAsia Corp., Munich Airport International GmbH, and Ove Arup & Partners Hongkong Ltd. **► PCC CLEARS • 3**

## Choral group from Cavite wins in Italy

GENERAL TRIAS CITY, Cavite - The Coro Regina Coeli, a choral group from Mary Help of Christians Parish of Barangay Tejero here, reaped honors in the 61st International Choral Singing Competition (34th Grand Prix Seghizzi) on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at The Teatro Verdi in Gorizia, Italy.

The 24-member choral group won first prize in Category 2A Choral Performance of Folk and Traditional Songs and Category 2B Choral Elaboration of Spiritual and Gospel songs.

Regina Coeli also bagged third place in Sacred Polyphony from Romanticism to the Modern Period and Category 1D Profane Polyphony from Classicism to the Contemporary period.

The performers from Gen. Trias City also bagged the Best Traditional Costume award and the Best Choreography award for Renalie Dela Cruz Aquino

The Philippines is among the countries that entered the finals along with Hungary, Poland and Germany.

The local government of General Trias, under the leadership of Mayor Luis Ferrer IV, congratulated the choral group and promised to recognize its members when they return. **(DENNIS ABRINA)**

## DOST kicks off Handa Pilipinas in Cebu to advance Visayas resilience



Cebu City, Philippines – The Visayas leg of the Department of Science and Technology's (DOST) "Handa Pilipinas" annual exposition kicked off yesterday at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City, with its agenda focused on enhancing the region's disaster resilience through science, technology, and innovation (STI).

The Handa Pilipinas Visayas Leg will run from July 24 to 26 and will bring together local government units (LGUs), stakeholders, and experts in disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) to share best practices and explore innovative solutions.

The undertaking seeks to serve as a critical platform for **► DOST KICKS • 2**



We immediately delivered our first aid and food to our evacuation areas where some of our countrymen who were affected by the continuous rainfall are temporarily staying. With all our heart and concern, we are also prepared for other emergencies and incidents that may be caused by the bad weather we are experiencing. For our fast #AksyongAngeloAguinaldo, you can message our page or call our emergency hotlines: 09358432745; 440-0722 #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit #MayorAguinaldo

# DTI 4-A launches & orients 2nd batch of CALABARZON KMME-MME mentees this 2024

To continue enhancing the competencies of the micro, small, and medium enterprises in the CALABARZON region, the Department of Trade and Industry Region 4-A, in partnership with the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship (PCE)-Go Negosyo, organized the 2nd batch of 2024 KAPATID Mentor ME-Money and Market Encounter (KMME-MME) Online Multisectoral Launch and Orientation on July 23, 2024 via Zoom.



51 CALABARZON mentees from different industry clusters and sectors such as food service, construction, processed food, gifts, decor, and houseware (GDH), wearables, homestyle, agriculture, health and wellness, high value coco products, trading and services, and processed fruits and nut were selected to participate in the program. After the selection phase, the mentees will undergo four more steps. The second phase is the module session and government forum, then coaching sessions, business improvement plan (BIP) presentation, and eventually graduate from the program.

The KMME-MME Online is designed to integrate the Money Market Encounter (MME) into the regular KMME Program. This aims to provide a platform for

existing and aspiring micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to learn and be inspired by the entrepreneurial journey of mentors online, adapt their business strategies in responding to the challenges of the new normal business environment, be the channel for capacity building on an online platform using the KMME modules and canned lectures via webinar, and provide an avenue for business mentorship of the waitlisted MSMEs across the regions and enhance their resiliency through a crisis.

The KMME-MME online program has ten modules: entrepreneurial mind-setting; marketing mindset; business model canvas; operations management; digitalization; supply and value chain; enterprise accounting/financial

management; human resources/organization management; product development and marketing expansion and internationalization; and good governance & ethics. Webinars on the Digital Shift & The Great Reset will also be presented.



DTI 4-A OIC Assistant Regional Director Revelyn A. Cortez gave the welcome remarks, followed by the opening message of DTI-MSME Development Group Undersecretary Ma. Cristina A. Roque and welcome statement by PCE Go Negosyo Adviser Engr. Merly M. Cruz.

Programs Development Associate for KMME Rholan Christian S. Nuqui of PCE Go Negosyo provided the introduction to the program

and the house rules. A question and answer segment was also provided to participants to raise and address their concerns.

A breakout session was then created to group the mentees, select each Team Leader, and note taker for the entire duration of the 12-week program. To conclude, DTI Laguna Provincial Director Christian Ted O. Tungohan, DTI Rizal PD Cleotilde M. Duran, and DTI Batangas PD Leila M.

Cabreros delivered the closing messages.

The KMME-MME Online is a public-private partnership program between the DTI and the PCE-Go Negosyo to provide business coaching and mentorship for entrepreneurs across the country. If you want to be a mentee of the KMME-MME Online, visit your nearest DTI Regional and Provincial Office or Negosyo Center nationwide.



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## DOST kicks... (FROM PAGE 1)

knowledge exchange and collaborative efforts aimed at fortifying the resilience of the Visayas region through cutting-edge science and technology.

In his opening remarks, DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Dr. Sancho Maborang highlighted the integral role of science in DRRM, and emphasized how LGUs act as active collaborators to offer significant insights from their on-ground experiences.

Maborang said the collaboration allows for the sharing of best practices across various LGUs and fosters more resilient and well-prepared communities through the application of technology and innovation.

The keynote address was delivered by DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U.

Solidum Jr., who underscored the pivotal role of STI in disaster risk reduction and management.

"STI is crucial in addressing the challenges in disaster risk reduction and staying ahead of the curve in disaster management. This is why we bring Handa Pilipinas into our communities," said Dr. Solidum.

He likewise elaborated on three key messages: redefining Filipino resilience, understanding hazards and risks, and harnessing appropriate S&T solutions.

Dr. Teodoro Gatchalian, DOST Undersecretary for Special Concerns, delivered a special message spotlighting the indomitable spirit of the Visayans.

He said: "Time and again, the fighting spirit of

the Visayans has shone through, demonstrating unyielding resilience. Yesterday, we gather to once again to strengthen that resilience with the power of innovation, the DOST power."

The event also featured messages of support from key regional leaders, including Dir. Jennifer Bretana of NEDA Region 7, Councilor Alforque of Lapu-Lapu City, and Arch. Arceil Barlam, department head of the Mandaue City

Environment Office.

Day one of the Handa Pilipinas event featured a pre-conference session titled "Unmasking DRRM Hoaxes: The Hunt for Truth Against Social Media Misinformation," along with pre-opening activities and a press conference.

Various activities aligned with DRRM and the DOST's vision of a resilient nation, including technological exhibits accessible to the public, will also be held. (Nelson Santos)



# 300 cancer, kidney patients receive 'ayuda' from Manila LGU

MANILA — The Manila local government unit (LGU) has extended much-needed financial support to around 300 cancer patients and individuals undergoing dialysis treatment.



Manila Mayor Honey Lacuna-Pangan talks to patients who received financial aid from the city during her People's Day program for cancer and kidney patients. (Photo: Jerry Tan)

This cash aid was personally distributed by Manila Mayor Honey Lacuna-Pangan during a special "People's Day" program held on Sunday, July 14, at the Bulwagang Villegas in Manila City Hall. During the event, Mayor Honey, who is also a doctor, took the time to speak with each beneficiary, learn about their medical conditions, and assure them of the city government's commitment to helping alleviate their hospital bills. One grateful patient shared, "I'm so happy

because she helps all the patients. Everyone left the venue with a smile, especially me. Now I have money to buy medicine." The financial assistance was provided to address the high costs associated with treating cancer and kidney diseases, which the mayor described as "very costly." The beneficiaries were recommended by their respective barangays. In addition to the assistance distributed at the event, Mayor Lacuna also made it a point to personally deliver cash incentives to bedridden

elderly residents by visiting them in their homes. She is often accompanied by Manila Vice Mayor John Marvin Yul Servo Nieto during the city's weekly "Kalinga sa Maynila" community outreach program. The mayor's hands-on approach and the provision of this critical financial support underscore the Manila local government's commitment to supporting the city's most vulnerable residents and ensuring they have access to essential healthcare services. **(AVS/PIA-NCR)**

## DOST 1...

(FROM PAGE 8)

consultations and training with the beneficiaries. The goal is to address various community challenges, enhance living standards, and boost efficiency through innovative solutions and strategic planning.

Originally set to develop roadmaps only for four communities, the SSCP for DOST 1, under the visionary leadership of Regional Director Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog, exceeded expectations and instead completed plans for six: the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, the City of Batac, the City of Laoag, the City of Candon, the City of San Fernando, and the City of Alaminos.

Each community embraced the SSCP with enthusiasm, reflecting their commitment to the program's objectives.

For instance, the City of San Fernando in La Union, led by Mayor Hermenigildo Gualberto, presented its roadmap and best practices at the 2024 International Smart City and Communities Exposition & Networking Engagement (ISCENE) in Cauayan City, Isabela. The presentation received positive feedback, paving the way for potential international partnerships.

During the RSTW 2024, Mayor Gualberto highlighted that "our journey towards a smart and sustainable community requires the

collective effort of every resident, sector, and institution. It is crucial that we continue to innovate, collaborate, and ensure that no one is left behind."

The spotlight, though, is not only on San Fernando City. The other five (5) communities — Batac, Laoag, Candon, Alaminos, and Ilocos Norte — are equally integral to this journey. Each city has worked diligently to develop their roadmaps, ensuring that their plans are tailored to their unique needs and aspirations.

These roadmaps are not just documents; they represent the collective vision and efforts of each community to drive sustainable and inclusive growth.

Mayor Gualberto's call to action reflects "the core values of the SSCP and reinforces the commitment of all involved to drive progress and inclusivity in their communities. As these roadmaps are set in

motion, they pave the way for a brighter, more sustainable future for the entire region."

The success of the SSCP lies in its ability to bring together diverse communities with a shared vision.

As each city gears up with new knowledge and support from DOST 1 and its partners, they are united in their quest to become smart, sustainable, resilient, technology-driven, and inclusive.

The launch of the roadmaps is a testament to the power of collaborative effort and innovation. It reflects a collective commitment to improving quality of life and ensuring that the benefits of science and technology reach every corner of the region.

As the journey continues, the six recipient communities are poised to set a benchmark for progress and sustainability, driving forward with a unified purpose and renewed enthusiasm. **(Christian Dominic Casimiro)**



## PCC clears...

(FROM PAGE 1)

SDC and the Cavite provincial government signed on February 6, 2023 a JV and development agreement for the \$11 billion SPIA Project.

The signing clears the way for the consortium to begin preparatory work on the airport project.

On September 14, 2022, the Cavite provincial government officially awarded the contract to SDC, whose members also signed their Consortium Collaboration Agreement during the same event.

The awarding came after no firm challenged the consortium's unsolicited proposal until the August 17, 2022 deadline for the project's

competitive challenge process.

SDC submitted its unsolicited proposal for a joint venture with the Cavite provincial government to develop SPIA in 2021, after the latter declared as failed the second bidding for the project in October 2021.

SPIA is envisioned as a two-runway airport with annual capacity of 80 million passengers, expandable to four runways that can handle as many as 130 million passengers a year.

The airport project aims to provide a premium gateway that will initially serve as an alternative to the Ninoy Aquino

International Airport (NAIA) and is designed to meet an expected increase in demand for air transport in the next 30-40 years.

The project includes the construction of a four-kilometer connector road with provisions for rail connectivity, as well as fully-integrated logistics and aviation support facilities.

With the development of the first runway, SPIA can operate as a satellite runway to immediately relieve the extreme congestion of the runway at NAIA.

The consortium said the SPIA development is expected to create 50,000 jobs and be a catalyst project to bring in foreign direct investment.

## Distribution...

(FROM PAGE 8)

Mayor Advincula and Vice Mayor Saquilayan, along with the city councilors, also expressed their support for the scholarship program, acknowledging the collaborative effort between the local

government and educational institutions to uplift the youth of Imus City and beyond.

This initiative not only underscores the importance of education in personal development but also highlights the

commitment of the Provincial Government to invest in the future leaders of Cavite. The distribution of educational assistance continues to be a beacon of hope, providing opportunities for students to achieve their dreams and contribute to the progress of their communities. **(OPIO)**

## DepEd...

(FROM PAGE 8)

forum, Angara said the move is the administration's response to a long-term clamor in the education sector.

"So, he (President Marcos) has, I believe, approved some form, in principle at least, the career progression of our teachers because that has been a long-term complaint of our teachers," he said.

"We're finalizing that document along with the three other agencies," Angara added, referring to the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

For career progression, teachers can pursue either a teaching or an administration track.

"Sometimes our teachers get pirated for better opportunities because it takes some time for them to be

promoted. So, this one gives them something to look forward to a career track," Angara said.

The education chief also expressed optimism that the implementation of career progression may result in better quality performance among educators.

"It's something which will encourage and incentivize our teachers, and we really expect a growth performance because of these innovations and development which the President has approved," he said.

### Teacher education council

Angara also vowed to maximize the Teacher Education Council (TEC) to capacitate teachers in public schools through necessary training.

"We are also trying to activate a teacher education council.

This is a body created under the law that

Congress passed two years ago which is meant to train our teachers," he said.

Under the TEC, educators are expected to receive training for up-to-date quality teaching methods.

Earlier, the DepEd, under the helm of Vice President and former Education Secretary Sara Duterte, reported that it would conduct various discussions for the "creation, selection process, and appointment of qualified individuals" for the TEC Secretariat.

On June 11, the Office of the DepEd Undersecretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development (OUHROD) received the physical copy of the Notice of Organization, Staffing and Compensation Action (NOSCA) for the TEC, following the DBM's approval of DepEd's proposed organizational structure and staffing pattern for TEC on May 21. **(PNA)**

Exploring...

(FROM PAGE 8)

belief that by accomplishing this, they may not find it necessary to announce the price since GCV would already be widely accepted. I see this as an exciting opportunity for GCV and the ecosystem. The solution lies in partial Pi payment.

In the following discussion, I will explain why accepting full Pi payments during the enclosed mainnet may not work well.

If merchants of high-value products accept full Pi payments, especially when supporting the GCV, pioneers will flock to them and buy up all their products, leaving merchants at risk of bankruptcy. As a result, no high-value product merchants would be willing to make their company or store name and address public, out of fear of going bankrupt.

This full Pi payment with GCV will give speculators the opportunity to trade high-value products from merchants using GCV, and then exchange them for low Pi prices to accumulate Pi. In this way, GCV merchants sacrifice their money and products but don't actually gain strong GCV data. They support GCV because they want GCV's success, so the Pi can be worth \$314, 159. But when they barter out high-value products here, pioneers sell them at low FIAT prices in the market to get cash or barter out in the mall with low Pi prices to create low-price data. This makes

it useless for merchants to sacrifice because some pioneers will disturb the FIAT currency fair market price and create a low Pi price which will hurt GCV merchant's benefit. I mention this because it did happen and merchants and online malls changed their minds not to attend the ecosystem until OM with a fixed price.

It only benefits individual pioneers instead of benefiting all pioneers. Those who are unable to obtain high-value products feel anxious and are complaining. This situation might also discourage merchants from joining the Pi Network. I know many Chinese merchants who have invested a lot in bartering and are experiencing financial difficulties, so they won't participate if full Pi payment is required.

Now is an opportune time to advocate for the re-engagement of merchants in utilizing Partial Pi Payment. The rationale behind this assertion is the substantial backing from pioneers for GCV. A critical development is the widespread understanding, following two years of education, that we are actively engaged in establishing the Pi Price. Nevertheless, the protracted period of the enclosed mainnet has limited most merchants' capacity to fully support Pi payments. As pioneers, it is incumbent upon us to aid merchants in resolving this cash flow

challenge. Each pioneer routinely expends a substantial amount of FIAT on essential items such as groceries, apparel, footwear, accessories, furniture, appliances, mobile devices, televisions, and various other goods. Our collective purchasing power is considerable with 6 million wallets holding 1.2 billion available Pi. Leveraging this power internally stands to benefit pioneers immensely. Today's actions with GCV affirm that the OM price stands at GCV \$314,159.

If we choose to do nothing but wait, first, we cannot save Fiat for 5-11 months of household spending. Second, the GCV price cannot be guaranteed. And the most important thing, if during the 5-11 months, we don't build up a real ecosystem, there are no users, and there is no unified price. This will put OM at risk of failure. I believe today CT can give us a deadline by the next Pi2day because they can see GCV has been created. However, things will change if we do nothing.

I can see the Partial Pi payment proposal getting a lot of support from some countries' communities. I have noticed that China GCV CT and Philippine GCV CT have published their proposal for Partial Pi Payments to merchants. Many merchants are very pleased with this proposal and eager to support GCV partial Pi and partial FIAT. The payment rate is flexible, ranging from 10% to 90% of the payment in Pi. Merchants will benefit from being exposed to 10 million pioneers worldwide, enhancing their reputation and increasing sales. But we must remind all merchants and service providers to list the original FIAT price and this price should be competitive. And then list partial FIAT and partial Pi price.

By accepting partial Pi payments, merchants will have enough FIAT to restock and cover expenses such as taxes, wages, and rent. This will help their inventory move quickly and maintain cash flow. Merchants do this to keep some of their profits as Pi, which they can then use to pay their suppliers or convert to FIAT after OM. Hence, they are not exposed to significant risks except for Pi prices. Nonetheless, if concerted global efforts are dedicated

to GCV, merchants will be shielded from risks because GCV will be OM fixed price.

Merchants can establish a loyal customer base on one of the world's most advantageous public blockchains by participating in the Pi Network. This approach aims to attract Pi community pioneers who are merchants and draw in merchants and businesses from outside the community. Establishing a complete industry chain is crucial for Pi to be recognized as a fully functional currency after OM. Now we are building the foundation for post-OM.

Merchants who are pioneers but have not yet completed KYC can use the eco wallet. Alternatively, non-pioneer merchants can apply to become pioneers. If merchants have not yet passed KYC or activated a wallet, they can also use the eco wallet. Once they have their own wallet, they can transfer Pi to their personal wallet or make payments to suppliers from their eco wallet. Transferring Pi to an individual wallet is not advisable if the merchant is a corporation. This is due to the fact that the profits are the property of the corporation rather than that of the individual. Notwithstanding the representation of the profit as Pi, it is the rightful possession of the corporation. Therefore they should use the corporation's name to open an eco wallet.

As pioneers, it's important to understand that our role extends beyond simply KYCed and migrating Pi to our wallets. We also have a responsibility to contribute to creating Pi's value and supporting ecosystem development. This means actively participating in ecosystem development, sharing information, and engaging in barter to generate GCV data. These activities can help pioneers save money and contribute to the overall development of the ecosystem.

I've noticed that recently many pioneers are solely focused on the KYC process. While paying attention to this is important, it's essential to understand that KYC is not yet open to everyone. Therefore, it's crucial not to panic if you're unable to complete KYC. Instead, you can just wait your turn. If it is not open to you, your clock won't start. So no worry about it. And we should shift our attention to ecosystem development. The logic is straightforward: if we want KYC and migration processes to be faster, we need a robust ecosystem with a stable GCV price. By actively contributing to ecosystem development, we can expedite the overall process. If we remain passive, the process will likely be more conservative. It's important to realize that without a vibrant ecosystem, the rapid migration of Pi poses a high risk of black market activity.

By prioritizing ecosystem development, all pioneers will benefit from a faster

GCV314159 Campaign Philippines



Grace Cabansag cafe #201 Lacson Street Tondo Manila Cp# 09293398739

Grace Cabansag Cafe offers a refreshing selection of milkshakes, milk tea, fruit shakes, and burgers, ensuring a satisfying treat for every craving



50% Pi & 50% fiat

lumari

migration process and ensure its success. Ms. Lumari, Global GCV Ambassador from the Philippines has demonstrated great leadership by organizing nearly 30 provincial-level GCV Ambassadors for ecosystem development. It is crucial for all local GCV Ambassadors to operate at the local level, as they will be more familiar with local offline businesses. Every community has its unique tactics and strategies. I see community leaders from Indonesia's Ms. Nonny, Malaysia's Mr. Patrick, and China's Mr. Danny are very active in this strategy, and there are more community leaders who did very well whom I haven't mentioned. I am very appreciative of all your hard work and efforts.

As long as we can motivate various merchants and service providers to join in, we are on track to successfully develop the ecosystem. We should be aware that the OM might be launched by the end of this year or the next before Pi2Day. While the CT might have multiple factors to

consider when making decisions, I am confident that ecosystem development will be an important factor. Therefore earlier or later OM has a direct relationship with our pioneers.

I will post the Chinese and Philippine GCV CT announcement "The call to action to merchants for partial GCV Pi payments" in my next post. If there are any Chinese merchants who are interested in participating, please contact Mr. Shi Liang, the Global GCV Ambassador from China. I'm confident that Ms. Lumari, the Global GCV Ambassador from the Philippines, is already doing an excellent job taking care of the Filipino community.

Global pioneers, let's unite to educate and promote the partial Fiat and Pi payment system. Together, we can fortify the Pi Network ecosystem and bring about the successful launch of OM with GCV at an earlier time. (Doris Yin)

Advertisement for Yunnan Junbiao Pu'er Tea. Text: 本公司承若雲南普洱茶葉價格交易一律按照 GCV1pi=314, 159\$價格, 50%的人民幣, 50%的pi幣計算支付。國內客戶免費快遞到家。國外客戶運費自理。 The company undertakes the price transaction of yunnan pu'er tea leaves according to all GCV1pi=314,159\$price, 50% RMB, 50% PI COINS are paid. Domestic customers are home by express. Foreign customers take care of their own freight.

Advertisement for Yunnan Junbiao Pu'er Tea products. Includes images of tea packaging and a testimonial from Liang Shi: Yunnan Junbiao Pu'er Tea accepts pi payment at the price of GCV1pi = US\$ 314,159 (50% legal tender and 50%pi coin).

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# Building a Real Ecosystem: A Ground-Up Approach

When Ms. Doris Yin called on us to develop a real ecosystem, I immediately began strategizing. As the founder of the GCV campaign in the Philippines, I understand the importance of creating a solid foundation for sustainable growth. With 40 local GCV ambassadors across 12 regions, our approach must be robust and inclusive to ensure success.



## Embracing Partial Fiat Payments

Ms. Doris Yin's proposal of partial fiat payments is a pivotal strategy. This approach is designed to alleviate the fears of merchants who might worry about potential financial instability from accepting Pi payments alone. By offering a balanced solution, we encourage merchants to embrace Pi payments

without the risk of financial loss while we are still developing our ecosystem and are on the enclosed mainnet.

### Strategic Implementation

1. Engaging Local Ambassadors - Our GCV ambassadors play a crucial role in this strategy. Their local knowledge and connections are vital in reaching out to merchants and explaining the benefits of our proposed strategy. By empowering our ambassadors, we ensure that they can effectively communicate and implement our strategy.

2. Merchant Education - Regularly educating participating merchants is essential. We provide them with articles by Ms. Doris Yin explaining the need for partial fiat payments and the benefits, such as gaining

customers and clients and earning profit after the open mainnet launch.

3. Building Trust and Confidence - Trust is a significant factor in convincing merchants to adopt partial payment and showcasing regular bartering testimonials from other regions where this strategy has been implemented, we can build confidence in our approach. Transparency in our processes and results will further solidify trust.

4. Community Engagement - Our community of Pi pioneers is an invaluable asset. By encouraging them to support merchants, we create a symbiotic relationship where both merchants and customers benefit. This mutual support will drive the growth and sustainability of our ecosystem.

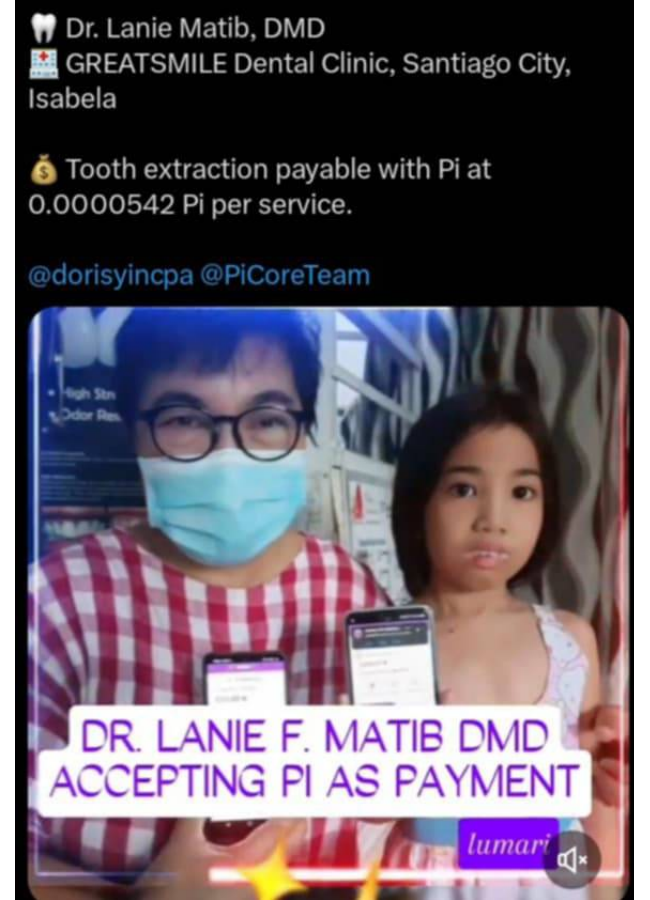
Pioneers have an advantage as customers because the goods they purchase are 50% cheaper compared to the market. In reality, the prices are 50% lower when patrons support these merchants.

### Initial Goal for Phase 2

Our initial goal for Phase 2 is to have all regions register 100 merchants to the Pi Network and eventually encourage them to accept partial Pi payments, thereby integrating them into our ecosystem. This ambitious target aims to bring in 1,200 real merchants embracing Pi payments, significantly expanding our network and solidifying our presence in the market.

### Benefits of the Strategy

1. Risk Mitigation for



Merchants - Merchants are more likely to participate in our ecosystem knowing that they won't face financial instability. The partial fiat provides a safety net, making the transition to accepting Pi payments smoother and less daunting.

2. Increased Customer Base - By accepting partial fiat payments, merchants open their doors to a broader customer base, including Pi pioneers who are eager to support businesses within the ecosystem. This increased patronage can lead to higher sales and business growth.

3. Exposure and Promotion - Merchants who accept partial fiat

payments will gain significant exposure. With many of us promoting their businesses, they will have a distinct advantage, attracting more customers and increasing their market reach.

4. Strengthening the Ecosystem - A strong, interconnected ecosystem benefits everyone involved. As more merchants and customers participate, the network effect amplifies, leading to greater acceptance and usage of Pi payments. This, in turn, drives further adoption and integration.

Our journey to build a real ecosystem is just beginning. By adopting Ms. Doris Yin's proposal and working closely with our local GCV ambassadors, we are laying the groundwork for a thriving community. This approach ensures that merchants feel secure and motivated to join us, while our customers continue to support and grow the network. Together, we are building a resilient and prosperous ecosystem that benefits all participants. When the open mainnet arrives, we will have a strong and solid GCV community with a robust ecosystem. This is where we will be spending our Pi, so it's crucial that we build a strong and solid foundation today. After all, it's all of us who will benefit. Let's reach out to all kinds of merchants in our locality, offering them the opportunity and become part of our growing community. (Lumari)



Summary of GCV 314159 Campaign Philippines data, including regional breakdowns for NCR Muntinlupa and Quezon City, and a list of participating merchants like Hannebie's Tshirt and Emelinda P. Fernandez.

# Proud and strong PH team in Paris opening ceremony – POC chief

Boxers Nesthy Petecio and Carlo Paalam, the 2020 Tokyo Olympics silver medalists, will carry the Philippine flag in the unique opening ceremony of the Paris Olympics on Friday.

"We'll be a proud and hopeful 16-strong Team Philippines in the opening ceremony," Philippine Olympic Committee president Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino said on Wednesday. He will sit in the Olympic Family section on a bank along the Seine River.

Joining Petecio and Paalam are fellow boxers Aira Villegas and Hergie Bacayan, hurdlers Lauren Hoffman and John Cabang Tolentino, swimmers Kayla Sanchez and Jarrod Hatch, gymnast Aleah Finnegan, and fencer Samantha Catantan.

Chef de Mission Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Remulla and sports officials Michael Angelo Vargas (swimming), Marcus Manalo (boxing), Cynthia Carrion Norton (gymnastics), Patrick Gregorio (rowing), and Agapito "Terry" Capistrano

(athletics) will also be on the boat assigned for the Philippines in the spectacular ceremony that starts at 7:30 p.m. (1:30 a.m. in Manila).

Tolentino said boxer Eumir Felix Marcial, gymnast Carlos Yulo, and rower Joanie Delgado will not join the parade as their competitions start on Saturday. Pole vaulter Ernest John "EJ" Obiena, on the other hand, has pre-Games preparations in Normandy.

Weightlifters Vanessa Sarno, John Febuar Ceniza, and Erleen Ann Ando are still training in Metz and will check in at the Olympic Village on Aug. 6.

"The schedule of our Olympian athletes have been meticulously crafted by their coaches so there won't be hitches as they approach their competition days," said

Tolentino, who met former multiple pro boxing champion Gennadiy Gennadyevich Golovkin who is with the Kazakhstan boxing team, while doing the rounds at the Athlete Village.

The other members of Team Philippines are gymnasts Emma Malabuyo and Levi Ruivivar, golfers Bianca Pagdangan and Dottie Ardina, and judoka Kiyomi Watanabe.

The Paris Games organizers described the opening ceremony as "bold, original and unique" as for the first time in Olympic history, the opening will not take place in a stadium.

The traditional parade of athletes will cover 6 km. on the Seine River with boats assigned to each delegation and equipped with cameras, passing the most iconic Paris landmarks. (PNA)



(Paris Olympics photo courtesy of Anadolu)

## Ajido, Jacinto triumph in Speedo sprint meet

MANILA – Jamesray Mishael Ajido and Jerard Dominic Jacinto showed their brilliant forms to earn the Most Outstanding Swimmer awards in the Speedo Sprint Meet at the Teofilo Yldefonso pool inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (RMSC) in Malate, Manila on Sunday.



TRIUMPHANT. Jamesray Mishael Ajido competes in the boys' 15 years old 100m Individual Medley event in the Speedo Sprint Meet at the Teofilo Yldefonso pool inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (RMSC) in Malate, Manila on Sunday (July 21, 2024). He won the gold medal in 59.74 seconds. (Contributed photo)

Ajido grabbed three gold medals in the boys' 15 years old category while Jacinto pocketed two gold medals in the boys' 17 years old and above category in the tournament organized by Speedo and sanctioned by the Philippine Aquatics, Inc. (PAI) with support from the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).

Ajido, a Grade 9 student at La Salle Greenhills, clocked 59.74 seconds to prevail over John Felipe of Wave Warriors (1:07.57) and Sean Quides of Atlantean (1:20.00) in the 100m Individual Medley.

The FTW Royal Swim Club member also

dominated the 50m backstroke with a time of 27.73, beating Reis Heaven Dumadag of Black Marlin (31.71s) and Felipe (32.71s).

In the 50m butterfly event, Ajido clocked 25.10s to conquer Jeff Galvealban of Legend Swim (28.99) and Felipe (29.29).

"I thank the Lord because my shoulder injury is fully healed. I'm back in training and I'm in good condition. I'm preparing for the national tryouts next month," Ajido, a gold medalist at the Asian Age Group Championship last February.

The national trials, set on Aug. 15-18 (long course) and Aug. 20-23

(short course), will select the representatives for the 46th Southeast Asian Age Group Swimming Championships in December, and the 55th Singapore National Age Group, 6th Malaysian Open Swimming and the World Aquatics short course series next year.

Jacinto, a SEA Games multi-medalist, topped the 50m backstroke in 25.45s and the 50m butterfly in 24.82s.

Other winners were Sebastian Liberato, Paul Casas, Ace Faustino, Calvin Poblete, Keane Payuran, Ethan Elimos, Franz Macalinao, Kade Baluyot, Athena Del Rosario, and Jamie Sy. (PNA)

## Negros U16 softball team wins Pony World Series title

BACOLOD CITY – The Philippines, represented by the softball team of Negros Occidental, clinched the championship in the 2024 PONY Girls Under-16 International World Series held in McAllen, Texas, in the United States on Monday (PH time).



WORLD CHAMPS. The softball team from Negros Occidental, composed mostly of players from Sagay City, wins the championship in the 2024 Pony Girls Under-16 International World Series in McAllen, Texas, USA on Monday (July 22, 2024) (PH time). The Negrenses went 8-0 in the tournament. (Photo courtesy of Sagay City Information and Tourism Office)

The Filipino squad, composed mostly of players from Sagay City, beat the local Bambinas, 5-2.

"Congratulates to the team for a job well done. We are beaming with so much pride," Mayor Narciso Javelosa Jr. and Vice Mayor Leo Rafael Cueva said in a joint statement on Tuesday.

The Negrense softbellees ended the tournament

undefeated in eight matches.

They also won against Mexico, San Antonio-Texas, Texas Selection, Texas Ball Club, Mayhem-Texas and Culiacan-Mexico.

In the semifinals, they conquered Mexico anew, 4-1, to set up the championship match against the Bambinas.

The Philippines' pitcher, Nadine Pajotal, was awarded Most Valuable

Player.

The team was coached by Rey Fuentes, Marciano Sta. Maria Jr., Rodgen Dolorito and Nelsa Delagente.

Cueva underscored the importance of grassroots sports program.

"We applaud the athletes for their determination. We should continue inspiring youth athletes to discover their sports competency," he said. (PNA)

# Bataan-Cavite mega bridge construction to start early or mid-2025

CAPAS, Tarlac – The construction of the 32-kilometer Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge is likely to start early or mid 2025, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) said Thursday.

With an initial cost of PHP219 billion, the Bataan-Cavite mega bridge is set to be the “biggest and the single most expensive project” of the DPWH, Public Works Undersecretary Maria Catalina Cabral said during the Build Better More Infrastructure Forum at New Clark City in this town.

The bridge, once completed, will reduce the travel time between Bataan and Cavite from five hours to 45 minutes bypassing Metro Manila by crossing Manila Bay.

The detailed engineering design of the mega bridge project has been completed, while the bidding of the initial contract package was held last week, Cabral said.

“Hopefully, it will be started either by early part of next year or middle of next year,” she said.

The project will be funded through an official development assistance (ODA).

ODA loans support developing countries by providing low-interest, long-term and concessional funds to finance



PHOTO: DPWH

development projects.

The construction of the Bataan-Cavite bridge project was supposed to start late 2024.

Asked what caused the delay, Cabral explained that the government took its time in looking for the “best financing package” available.

“Sourcing the funding has been really the problem. We’re trying to get the best financing package for this biggest project of the DPWH and finally we are able to do so,” Cabral said.

“I think last week we just

held the bidding for the first contract packages,” she added.

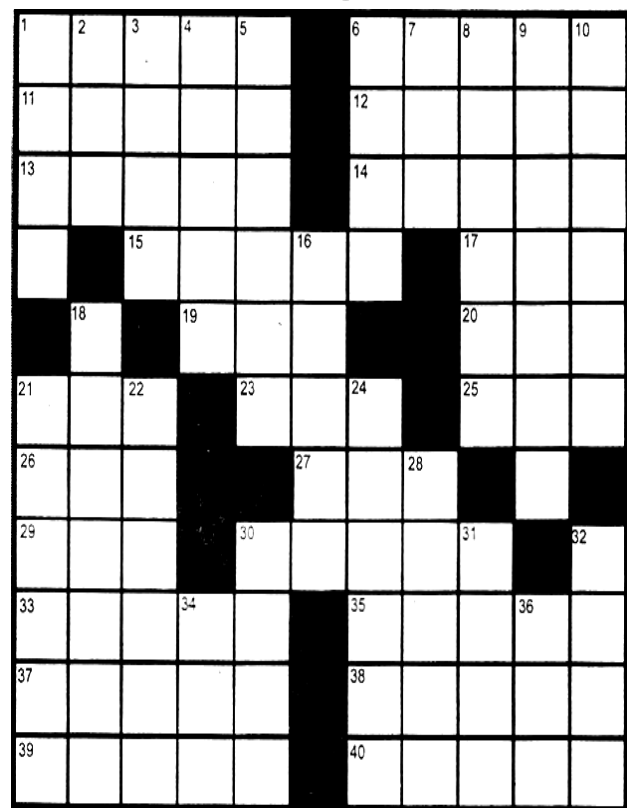
Infra program forum Spearheaded by the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), the Build Better More Infrastructure forum is the third leg of the PCO’s pioneering initiative, the Bagong Pilipinas Media Engagement and Workshop Series of 2024, following the successful culmination of the Food Security Cluster Communications Workshop and National Security Cluster

Communications Workshop in March and April 2024, respectively.

It seeks to provide a platform to allow government agencies to engage and collaborate with the media and government communicators to enhance the quality and value of public discourse on the Build Better More Infrastructure Program – the flagship infrastructure development agenda of the Marcos administration.

The program includes 187 infrastructure flagship projects. (PNA)

## PALAI SIPAN



### PAHALANG

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- 6 Uhaw
- 11 Paghahabol sa kaso
- 12 Kinawawa
- 13 Hilig
- 14 Suwerte
- 15 Sawata
- 17 Tiyahin
- 19 Inang
- 20 Kasalanan: Ingles
- 21 Alyas
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- 26 Pilipino: daglat
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- 29 Gapas
- 30 Banoy
- 33 Kaibigan ng ahas
- 35 Marka
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### 40 Nguya

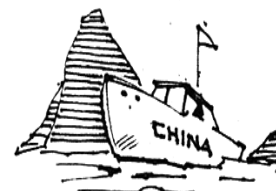
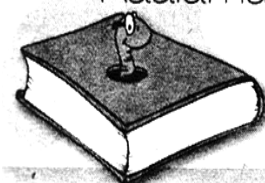
- PABABA**
- 1 Sulsi
- 2 Tulyapis
- 3 Pawid
- 4 Idugtong
- 5 Panghalina
- 6 Sikad
- 7 Ms. Roces
- 8 Pagsuksok ng baraha
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- 22 Libangan
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- 28 Disyerto
- 30 Hawak sa kamay
- 31 Masamang lasa ng mantika
- 32 Mangha
- 34 Habag
- 36 Period

## SAGOT SA NAKARAAN



**Bringing Smiles and Health: Medical and Dental Mission in Dasmariñas City.** On July 11, 2024, the PGC’s medical and dental mission, held at the covered court of Brgy. San Antonio de Padua 1 in the City of Dasmariñas, was a resounding success, delivering essential health services to 356 residents. Medical and dental professionals from GEAMH generously offered their expertise and knowledge, ensuring residents received top-notch care. Services provided included basic medical check-ups, dental consultations, extraction, and treatments. Furthermore, maintenance medicines and multivitamins were distributed to enhance recovery and boost overall health. The event’s success was achieved through the combined efforts of local officials, especially Barangay Chairman Carter P. Manzano, dedicated medical professionals, and committed staff. Their teamwork and coordination ensured the mission’s smooth execution, leading to a beneficial outcome for the community. (OPIO)

Dagdag  
Kaalaman



Ang Spratly ay ipinangalan kay Richard Spratly, isang British sea Captain.

# EXPLORING THE BENEFITS OF PARTIAL PI PAYMENT DURING ENCLOSED MAINNET

Today, let's discuss how partial Pi payments can benefit the ecosystem during the enclosed mainnet.

I first raised this concern two years ago, and at that time, many pioneers were against it. They argued that Pi is a currency and questioned the need to pay partial fiat for bartering. Some even accused me of earning fiat from the merchants who used partial fiat.

As an accountant, I base my ideas on practicality and feasibility. I have the following reasons for suggesting partial Pi payments:

Our goal is to establish Pi as a currency, but we're not there yet. We are creating Pi as a currency in the community now. Only pioneers view it as a currency. What about parties outside of the Pi community, such as the government collecting taxes, or merchants paying



**MS. DORIS YIN**  
Grand Global GCV  
Ambassador

rent, employee wages, utilities, and materials? All of these require fiat payments.

As the current enclosed mainnet has been for two and a half years, it is not feasible for merchants to accept full Pi payments without fiat for such an extended period. The earliest OM may not be accessible for another five months, potentially taking up to 11 months. During this period, fewer merchants may be willing to join the Pi Network and accept full Pi payments for the long term. There may also be a lack of high-value products available for barter, except for some merchants who offer limited products and aim to accumulate Pi. This is why I have observed that many Chinese merchants and online malls are waiting for the open market. They will only accept full Pi payments after the OM is available. However, if we fail to develop a real ecosystem during the current enclosed mainnet phase when more pioneers receive Pi from their wallets, they may lose hope and decide to sell Pi. Without a robust ecosystem in place, the price may significantly drop after the open market, as many pioneers may be looking to sell. Therefore, building a strong ecosystem during the current close-to-OM phase is crucial.

??We submitted a petition for OM on Pi2Day because we have observed that most pioneers, community leaders, or merchants of the GCV community are using up their resources for barter for small items with full Pi payment after 6-10 months. Pi2Day represents a significant milestone as we have successfully established the price for the recent 3-4 months of active GCV data almost covers 90% of the blockchain record. If CT announced OM on that day, it needs CT to announce GCV as the price for the entire ecosystem. This would greatly accelerate the development of the ecosystem, as everyone would be using GCV for full Pi payment after OM. However, CT may be more conservative in this approach. I believe they want pioneers to build the ecosystem using the GCV price ourselves. It's my personal **► EXPLORING • 4**

## DepEd: Talks with 3 agencies underway for teachers' career growth

Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara on Wednesday confirmed talks with other government agencies to realize the career progression of public school teachers in line with the directives of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

Marcos, during his third State of the Nation Address (SONA) last Monday, vowed that teachers no longer need to retire as Teacher I due to lack of promotion opportunities.

In a hybrid post-SONA **► DEPED • 3**



**CAREER PROGRESSION.** Teachers of President Corazon C. Aquino Elementary School in Quezon City gather on the first day of classes on Aug. 29, 2023. During the hybrid post-State of the Nation Address (SONA) forum on Wednesday (July 24, 2024), Education Secretary Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara said the Department of Education is now coordinating with three other government agencies to realize the career progression of public school teachers in the country. (PNA file photos by Joan Bondoc)

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## Distribution of Educ. Assistance

On July 10, 2024, Cavite provincial government held a significant event at the CvSU Imus Campus Gymnasium, as Governor Jonvic C. Remulla led the distribution of educational assistance to 3,093 beneficiaries under the Provincial Scholarship Program. This momentous occasion was attended by key officials, including the campus administrator, Dr. Jenny Beb F. Espineli, Imus City Mayor Alex "AA" L. Advincula, Vice Mayor Homer Saquilayan, Imus City Councilors, and Third District Board Member Ony Cantimbulan.



Governor Remulla delivered an inspirational message that resonated with the students, emphasizing the value of perseverance, hard work, and the transformative power of education. In his speech, he shared personal anecdotes and encouraged students to make the most of the opportunities presented to them. He highlighted the role of education in achieving one's dreams and the collective progress it brings to the community. His message was met with enthusiastic applause and left a lasting impression on all attendees. **► DISTRIBUTION • 3**

## DOST 1 sets smart vision to reality with SSCP roadmaps launching

THE Department of Science and Technology - Region 1 (DOST 1) recently launched the roadmaps for its Smart and Sustainable Communities Program (SSCP), an initiative that marks a pivotal moment for six communities in the region to showcase their commitment to becoming smart, sustainable, and technology-driven.



The regional development milestone happened during the 2024 Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTW) held at the Plaza Del Norte Hotel & Convention in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte.

The SSCP is one of the four (4) major focus areas for the DOST's regional operations, which is led by DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho A. Maborrang. It aims to



foster growth in communities by integrating smart procedures, and Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) interventions. The program is a collaborative effort which involves extensive **► DOST 1 • 3**