



## National Greening Program adopts baselining protocol



Part of baselining protocol is the assessment of existing arthropods in an area before tree planting activities.

The baselining protocol for the National Greening Program (NGP) was unveiled in a national training held on February 23-27, 2015 at ERDB.

The protocol is a guide for establishing a sound basis for assessing the overall impact of the NGP.

The data from baselining will be compared with the data to be gathered at the end of the NGP implementation in 2016 using appropriate scientific analysis.

The protocol was first tested in a 350-hectare NGP planting site in Siniloan, Laguna in May 2013 by the ERDB. Its application was expanded to 15 planting sites in late 2013 and additional 32 sites in 2014.

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## ERDB starts celebration of Women's Month 2015



Dr. Henry A. Adornado, ERDB Acting Director leads the Women's Month 2015 Advocacy Walk.

The ERDB through the Gender and Development Focal Point System (GADFPS) joined the nation in celebrating the Women's Month 2015. This year's theme is "Juana, Ang Desisyon Mo ay Mahalaga sa Kinabukasan ng Bawat Isa, Ikaw Na" which pays tribute to all women leaders who passionately advance women's advocacies in leadership, power and decision making.

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## Brgy. Tumana, Marikina City LGUs and ERDB-NCR visit LBES for Lakbay Aral

As part of Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau's (ERDB) promotion of ENR technologies, 29 participants consisting nine staff from the ERDB-NCR, 19 officials and staff from Brgy. Tumana, Marikina, City and a representative from Brgy. Holy Spirit Quezon City participated in the Lakbay Aral at the Los Baños Experiment Station (LBES) and other facilities in Los Baños, Laguna on April 15, 2015.

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Ms. Carmelita Mojica explaining the production of Mycorrhiza.

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**Baselining is not easy. It involves backbreaking physical and mental activities, such as (from left) insect pest and disease identification, avifaunal assessment, socio-economic survey, and water quality assessment**

**National Greening Program..** *from page 1*

The NGP is a nationwide environment program that targets to plant 1.5 billion trees in 1.5 million hectares of public lands from 2011 to 2016.

It aims to create a meaningful impact to poverty reduction, food security, biodiversity conservation, environmental rehabilitation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In November 2014, the protocol was adopted as part of the NGP implementation, and for mainstreaming in other relevant programs and projects of the DENR.

The training was held to provide capability building and technical assistance to field office implementers in the conduct of baselining.

Fifty six (56) personnel from the DENR regional offices, and Forest Management Bureau were trained on the baselining processes.

Participants from regional offices were staff of the ERDB Research Centers, Forest Management Service, and Protected Areas, Wildlife and Coastal Zone Management Service.

The training focused on the four components of baselining—biological, physical, socio-economic and spatial.

Activities involved lectures and discussions on the said four baselining components, and fieldwork on avifaunal, forest, grassland, soil and water qualities assessments. Data collected during fieldwork were processed, analyzed and reported by the trainees.

Bamboo production, mycorrhiza application, and the P1-billion Mangrove and Beach Forest Development project were also tackled in the training. **(By Media Group, NGP-PQPM/ Photos taken during National Training on Baselining Protocol at ERDB, Los Baños, Laguna, February 23-27, 2015)**

**ERDB starts...** *from page 1*

A flag raising ceremony was held on March 2, 2015 at the ERDB grounds led by the members of the ERDB GAD Focal Point System.

On March 6, 2015, the Advocacy Walk was held all around the UP College of Forestry Campus. The organizations joining the parade include the PENRO Laguna, CENRO Laguna, College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR), PCARRD (Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development), ERDS Region IV-A and the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB).

ERDB Director Henry A. Adornado congratulated the GAD focal person, Dr. Marilyn Q. Landicho for organizing many activities during the celebration of the Women’s Month. He also recognized the role of women in our society. He likewise thanked the people from other

offices for joining the day’s activities.

A special number was rendered by Mr. Wency Hintural.

The guest speaker was Ms. Milet Panaligan, CENRO of Real, Quezon. Ms. Panaligan challenged everyone to stand up to help save the



**Ms. Milet Panaligan, CENRO of Real, Quezon gives the inspirational message during the program held on March 6, 2015 in ERDB.**

environment. She narrated her experiences in the field while protecting the Sierra Madre mountains. She ended her speech by saying “Tayong mga kababaihan ay hindi dapat matakot sa paglilingkod para sa kalikasan.” **Marla V. Cambay, TDD**

## ERDB staff joins “Walk for A Cause” in Los Baños

In line with the National Women’s Month Celebration with the theme “Juana, Ang Desisyon Mo ay Mahalaga sa Kinabukasan ng Bawat Isa, Ikaw Na”, the ERDB joined the “Walk For A Cause” held on March 8, 2015 in Los Baños. The local theme was “Sama Ka! Ibangon at Tulungan ang mga Kababaihan, Biktima ng Kanser” and “Los Baños is Rising –One Billion Rising through Strike/Dance/Rise” campaign program.

Twenty-six (26) ERDB employees participated in the said activity. The different barangays of the Los Baños, government and non-government agencies and organizations also joined the parade. The parade started at 6 o’clock in the morning from Olivarez Town Mall to the Ecological Park of Los Baños.



ERDB joins the parade for “Walk for A Cause” in line with Women’s Month Celebration in Los Baños held on 08 March 2015.

society. He also provided information on the statistics of cases on violence against women in the town which is at a decreasing rate. He also launched the campaign to organize women brigade composed of more than 500 women coming from different barangays and institutions.

An intermission number was presented through dances of the school children of the VEA School Los Baños and the Los Baños National High School. A special number was also presented by the CCP Ballet dancers.

As a closing ceremony, there was a call to “End the Violence Against Women (VAW)”.

Finally, the mayor

During the program, Honorable Mayor Caesar P. Perez gave the opening remarks and message. He emphasized that the women play important roles in the

participants of the different agencies and local people of the Los Baños community in joining this activity and providing their cash donation for health development and services. **Aurora S. Jose, FERD**

### Brgy. Tumana, Marikina City LGUs... *from page 1*



The participants and organizers of Lakbay Aral at the Los Baños Experiment Station. Photos by M. Frias

In his opening remarks, Dr. Antonio Daño, ERDB Assistant Director, welcomed the participants and reiterated that the Lakbay Aral is not the end but rather just a start of a productive partnership between ERDB and the barangay.

The participants commenced the Lakbay Aral by visiting the mycorrhizal facilities of ERDB where Ms. Carmelita Mojica explained what mycorrhiza is all about and demonstrated its proper application. Afterwards, the

group visited the bamboo and rattan gallery at the ERDB building where variety of bamboo and rattan products from different Southeast Asian countries are displayed.

The group also toured the LBES where different species of bamboo and other plants can be observed. Proper bamboo propagation was also demonstrated. As an addition to their itinerary, the participants decided to visit the well-known Mudspring in Mount Makiling to deepen their appreciation of the rich natural resources.

Before heading home, the participants answered the Technology Needs Survey (TNS) to assess other possible technologies that will most likely meet their needs. Spearheaded by Councillor Jimmây Ceguerra and Brgy. Capt. Zif Ancheta, they expressed their gratitude to ERDB for being chosen as participants of Lakbay Aral and shared their insights about their experiences as well as their hopes for future partnership with ERDB.

Dr. Marilyn Landicho concluded the Lakbay Aral by thanking the participants with a promise of a future venture for livelihood and environmental programs for the residents of Barangay Tumana, Marikina City. **Melanie Ojeda, TTD**

## ERDB and NCR group visits the charcoal technology project in Marikina City



The TDD group of ERDB and NCR conduct the interview with the Barangay officials of Barangay Tumana, Marikina, City headed by Brgy. Chair Zip Ancheta (rightmost).

The ERDB and NCR group headed by Ms. Veronica O. Sinohin and Ms. Esmeralda Andres, respectively and Mr. Juan B. Ebor, project leader of the project "Post-Evaluation of Transferred ENR Technologies" visited the charcoal briquetting project in Brgy. Tumana, Marikina City to gather information for the preparation of questionnaire on the said project.

Chairperson Zip Ancheta and a Barangay councilor welcomed the group. They said that during the initial stage of the charcoal briquetting project, the people were hesitant since it was something new to them.

When it comes to competitiveness, they said the charcoal from the briquettes produced more heat than the ordinary charcoal because it is more compact.

Common problems that they encountered were the presence of molds and the smoke emitted during the carbonization process. They cited that there was an

instance when carbonization of 6 drums loaded with wastes were done simultaneously which was caught on the CCTV camera of the municipality. The fire brigade quickly responded because they thought it was a big fire. They resolved the problem by putting up only one drum for carbonization.

In the case of Brgy. Tumana, the wastes from the coconuts were used as material for charcoal briquetting since the coconuts were the main source of income of their residents.

When it comes to quality, they said the smaller briquettes were preferred but difficult to produce because the workers have to exert more effort in making briquettes.

According to the workers, 7-8 sacks of buko husk can produce 25 kilos charcoal briquettes. Captain Ancheta was even proud to hear this information from their workers. **Marla V. Cambay, TDD**

## On-the-Spot Painting Contest held on Women's Month Celebration 2015

In line with the celebration of Women's Month 2015, the ERDB GAD Focal Point System conducted the "On-the-Spot Painting Contest" on March 10, 2015 at the ERDB Auditorium. The contest is part of the gender advocacy program of the ERDB which aims to uncover the students' perception of the environment and determine their level of awareness and knowledge of gender roles in water conservation.

The theme for the painting contest is "Likas Kayang Paggamit ng Tubig ni Juan at Juana" focusing on the

sustainable use and conservation of water resources in natural environment like rivers and lakes.

There were 11 participants composed of 7, 8 and 9th grade and 4th year students who joined the contest representing the seven schools in Los Baños and Calauan, Laguna. The schools were Liceo de Calauan, Church Among the Palms, Christian School International, Morning Star Montessori School Inc., Liceo de Los Baños, Los Baños Community High

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(left photo) Ms. Lucillo educates the women of Los Baños on how local hazards are formed and how to prevent their harmful effects.



## Women as partners on disaster preparedness

Climate change has caused a great effect on the occurrence of natural disasters. It is on this context why the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) Gender and Development Focal Point System (GAD-FPS) is constantly concerned with helping the vulnerable sector of society particularly women. To attend to this, another seminar on disaster preparedness was conducted on March 17, 2015. This was attended by 55 female participants, mostly housewives who are residents of Los Baños, Laguna.

Ms. Bernadette T. Lucillo, Weather Specialist of PAG-ASA, UPLB Station, served as the lecture provider of

the activity. She discussed the natural hazards that commonly occur in CALABARZON like thunderstorms and tropical cyclones. She also shared things to do before, during, and after a disaster such as buying supplies and materials, evacuating children to a secure place, and cleaning the house.

Practical tips to prevent serious effect of natural disasters on humans were also provided. These include: a) doing the squat position with heels touching each other while hands covering ears to prevent fatal

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### On-the-Spot Painting... *from page 4*



The ERDB GAD focal point, Dr. Marlyn Landicho (leftmost) together with the judges, coaches and the three winners of the on-the-spot painting contest: 1st place - Patricia Ann Arañes (center) of the Morning Star Montessori Los Baños; 2nd place - Joshua Gillaco (rightmost) UP Rural High School; and 3rd place- Edgar Sandaga (leftmost) of the Los Baños National High School.

School, Laguna State Polytechnic University and the UP Rural High School. Each participant was given 5 minutes to present his/her artwork. The participants

were allotted with 4 hours to finish their artworks.

There were three judges in the contest. The first judge is Ms. Dianne Joy D. Diadoco of the UP Painters' Club. The second judge is Mr. Marvin Angelo R. Oloris, founder and current President of Makasining, a professional art group based in Los Baños, Laguna. The other judge is Ms. Merlyn Carmelita N. Rivera, a retired Supervising Research Specialist of ERDB and a painting enthusiast and hobbyist.

The first place winner was Patricia Ann Arañes of the Morning Star Montessori. The 2nd place went to Joshua Gillaco of the UP Rural High School while the 3rd prize winner was Edgar Sandaga of the Los Baños National High School.

The winners received a cash prize of P6,000, P4,000 and P2,000, respectively.

The artworks were judged based on the relevance to the theme (40%), creativity and presentation (40%) and originality (20%). All the entries will be included in the ERDB Calendar for 2016. **Marla V. Cambay, TDD**

## ERDB staff attend SMPS Workshop

**D**r. Aurora S. Jose, new OIC Planning and Management Service Unit and Ms. Marilou C. Arcillas, OIC, Human Resources Development attended the workshop on the implementation of the Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS) at Widus Hotel, Clarkfield, Pampanga from April 10-11, 2015. The workshop aimed to discuss the Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS) implementation and level off with all DENR participants (regions, bureaus and attached agencies) on the preparation of Office Performance Commitment Review (OPCR), Division Performance Commitment Review (DPCR) and Individual Performance Commitment Review (IPCR).

Regional Director of R-3, Francisco E. Milla, Jr. gave the welcome remarks. He acknowledged all the officials of the DENR and the participants. In his message, he said that we must learn all the parameters in gauging our personnel in the organization in which there are potential staff who are considered as "threat" while the outstanding staff can be looked upon as the standing staff or "Patayu-tayo Lang".

An inspirational message was delivered by USEC Manuel D. Gerochi. He mentioned that the workshop is the 4th time that was conducted by the DENR on SPMS where a huge amount was invested in order to successfully implement the system in the DENR. It is the absorptive capacity to learn and gain knowledge about the system. He stressed that the findings of the submitted OPCR and DPCR were rated wrong or incorrect by just putting 5 or 4 as scores in the commitment works of an individual. He said that the SPMS is simple and the computation of the performance rating is easy. He claimed that the mistake comes from the supervisors that the SPMS learning

was not cascaded or it remained idle or stagnant for not sharing. He explained that the SPMS is a tool and basis for rewarding every individual for incentives, promotion, and training for scholarship.

Assistant Secretary for Administration and Finance, Corazon C. Davis, in her message stressed that education is a diploma put in the wall that is useless if not applied or delivered into action. We should translate the learning or knowledge to real learning. We should also share the knowledge gained to others or propagate it. A hidden knowledge is useless if not propagated to other people.

USEC Davis explained that the expected output of this workshop is to review and make a final draft of the OPCR on the 4th quarter of 2014. The expected output of the workshop was transformed into schedule of activities and timetable for submission.

Director Ric Enriquez of the Human Resources Development gave the course overview and background on SPMS. He said that the SPMS entailed the OPCR preparation that serves as basis for performance target and measures to be prepared in the DPCR. Likewise, the DPCR is the basis for the IPCR for ranking the 1st and 2nd level of employees relative to the Performance-Based Incentive System (PBIS).


Director Victoria Esber, Civil Service Commission was the learning service provider. She gave the orientation on the SPMS process including the standards and rating scale. It was observed that the SPMS learning was not cascaded to other employees in the DENR offices.

The workshop proper was conducted in which the learner participants were divided into five groups. Presentation of outputs and critiquing were done. **Aurora S. Jose, PMISU and Marilou C. Arcillas, HRD-FASD**

### Women as partners...*from page 5*

electrocution when hit by a lightning, b) wearing foot wear when handling electrical appliances, and c) keeping electrical appliances plugged off when not in use.

The roles of women in disaster reduction and management were also mentioned during the lecture by citing women who have done exemplary works on this venture. Ms. Lucillo encouraged the housewives that they should not be an evacuee in the event of a disaster. She emphasized that women should be partners of men in the preparation, decision making, and facing disasters. Women can participate in the listing of evacuees, distribution of relief goods, relaying information about relief operation, and helping to find out what happened to other people. **Rowena C. Payuan, UFERD**



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<b>Executive Advisers</b>	:	<b>Henry A. Adornado</b> <b>Antonio M. Daño</b>
<b>Editorial Adviser</b>	:	<b>Veronica O. Sinohin</b>
<b>Managing Editor</b>	:	<b>Marla V. Cambay</b>
<b>Layout</b>	:	<b>Liberato A. Bacod</b>
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