


*SOARING High*

## DBM RO XIII LAUNCHES HISGOT-BANSAY; RECOGNIZES S.O.A.R.ING AGENCIES

By: Catherine G. Brizo



In support of the ongoing implementation of Project S.O.A.R. (Strengthening Operating Units through Accurate Reporting), an initiative launched in 2019 to enhance knowledge on budgeting and facilitate timely submission of accurate reports, the Department of Budget and Management Regional Office (DBM RO) XIII has launched Hisgot-Bansay. A combination of "Hisgot" (discussion) and "Bansay" (training), this latest initiative from the DBM RO XIII aims to provide better, more effective, and efficient technical assistance to the operating units of the Department of Education (DepEd) by providing not only in-depth lectures on budgeting guidelines but also work samples to enable application of learning.

### ***Capacitating DepEd Finance Personnel through "Hisgot-Bansay" Initiative***

Over the years, DBM RO XIII has established a strong coordination and partnership with DepEd Caraga through regular conduct of Full-Time Delivery Unit (FDU) meetings and technical assistance such as through Project S.O.A.R.. Said project has been instrumental in ensuring proper utilization of government funds as well as timely, prompt and accurate submission of budget execution

documents and accountability reports considering DepEd's massive organizational set-up, from the regional and divisional offices all the way down to the various secondary high school implementing units spread across the region.

The creation and deployment of various non-teaching positions tasked with bookkeeping and budgeting functions for the past two years prompted the need to capacitate DepEd Finance personnel. As part of its efforts to reach client agencies, the DBM RO XIII held its first Hisgot-Bansay: Capability Building Course on Budgeting for DepEd budget officers, accountants, and bookkeepers. The course was conducted in partnership with the 12 School Division Offices of DepEd in the Caraga Region. It was held in five batches, from June 16, 2022 to August 5, 2022.

The course tackled budgeting guidelines and trained participants, through work samples, on the reconciliation of budgetary accounts and the preparation and submission of reports. The FY 2022 Hisgot-Bansay covered the following items:

- a) Discussion on the guidelines on the release of funds pursuant to National Budget Circular No. 587 dated January 3, 2022 with emphasis on frontloading, modification, and common fund system;
- b) Discussion on the guidelines on various Personnel Services items specifically the following:
  - 1) Terminal Leave Benefits and Monetization of Leave Credits;
  - 2) Clothing/Uniform Allowance;
  - 3) Mid-year Bonus; and
  - 4) Year-end Bonus and Cash Gift.
- c) Walk through on the various DBM systems such URS, ADRS and ePSIPOP;
- d) Workshop on the reconciliation process on budgetary accounts e.g., allotments, obligations and disbursements; and
- e) Reiteration on the deadline of submission of reports and the documentary requirements of DBM key processes.







The DBM RO XIII personnel provided technical assistance through real time guidance and responses during the workshops and open forum.

### ***Recognizing S.O.A.R.ing Operating Units***

The activity also highlighted the “Pasidungog 2021,” a Recognition Program for S.O.A.R.ing Agencies, specifically DepEd operating units, which are able to submit complete, accurate, reliable, and timely budget execution documents (BEDs) and budget and accountability reports (BFARs) in FY 2021. The program confers three levels of awards, to wit:

- (1) **Certificate of Appreciation** is presented to Operating Units (OUs) that have consistently submitted the complete sets of BEDs and BFARs for the year.
- (2) **Certificate of Recognition** is presented to OUs that have consistently submitted the complete sets of BEDs and BFARs for the year on or before the prescribed deadlines.
- (3) **Certificate of Commendation** is presented to OUs that have consistently submitted the complete sets of BEDs and BFARs for the year on or before the prescribed deadlines, and which are accurate and reliable, as evaluated.



OIC-CBMS Elvin Chatto of Technical Division C during the awarding of Certificates to the Division of Butuan City Superintendent Marilou Dedumo, Assistant Superintendent Corazon Roa and DepEd Regional Office Chief Administrative Officer for Finance Division Ms. Fe Alegado

Sixty-four (64) of the 140 DepEd OUs in the Caraga Region met the requirements to qualify in the Recognition Program. Twelve (12) of those units received Certificates of Commendation, two received Certificates of Recognition, and 50 received Certificates of Appreciation.

The entire event garnered positive feedback from the participants. Ms. Anna Sharon Rosales, a newly hired Bookkeeper of Prosperidad National High School, said that the activity was very educational and beneficial to her work. Meanwhile, Mr. Jhon Excell Sano, a newly designated Budget Officer of Las Nieves National High School, shared that the activity helped him better understand government budgeting which will in turn help improve his job performance.

Participants also expressed their hopes and excitement for other initiatives similar to the "Hisgot-Bansay."



# About the Writer



Ms. Catherine G. Brizo is a Budget and Management Analyst at DBM RO XIII. She is a proud Dinagatnon who initiated the conduct of the donation drive to her hometown province, Dinagat Islands, during the height of Typhoon Odette. Aside from her spirit of volunteerism, she also gets excited on new adventures and travels, and adores cats and dogs a lot.



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