

The **DOLE** is the primary government agency mandated to promote gainful employment opportunities, develop human resources, protect workers and promote their welfare, and maintain industrial peace.

The **DTI** is the primary government agency with the dual mission of facilitating the creation of a business environment wherein participants could compete, flourish, and succeed and, at the same time, ensuring consumer welfare.

In addition to the PAC, each of the partners, collaborate with the ILO through its Focal teams composed of selected senior technical personnel.



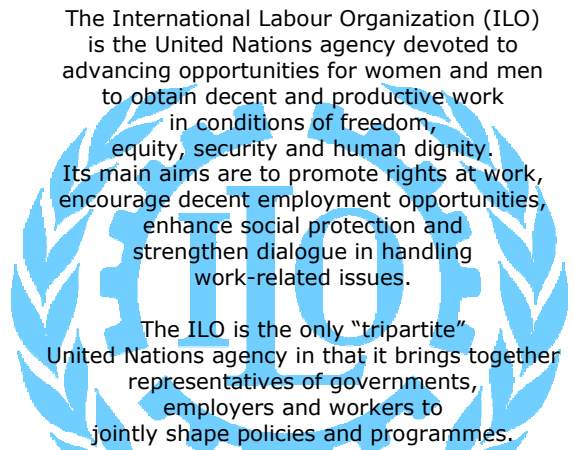
The **MDG Achievement Fund** is a United Nations (UN) resource created in December 2006 that finances and supports national efforts to accelerate progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Its work aims to (a) Positively impact the status of the MDGs and tackle inequality; (b) Increase national ownership and civil society participation; and (c) Improve aid effectiveness by building on the collective strength of the United Nations

Through the thematic window on Environment and Climate Change, the MDG-F seeks to reduce poverty and vulnerability in eligible countries by supporting interventions that improve environmental management and service delivery at the national and local levels.

It works through UN agencies and member-nations in support of national Governments, local authorities and civil society towards:

- (1) Implementing joint programmes that strengthen public policy development and ensure measurable impact on select MDGs
- (2) Engaging in advocacy and mobilization efforts that keep the MDGs high on the political agenda
- (3) Learning through continuous monitoring and evaluation using these to scale up and inform future action.

The MDG-F supports almost 130 joint programmes in the areas of gender equality, youth employment, economic governance, culture and development, conflict prevention, environment child nutrition and private sector.



The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency devoted to advancing opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. Its main aims are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue in handling work-related issues.

The ILO is the only "tripartite" United Nations agency in that it brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers to jointly shape policies and programmes.

The ILO is the global body responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards. Working with its 181 member States, the ILO seeks to ensure that labour standards are respected in practice as well as principle.

"The economic condition of populations at risk, whether in terms of economic assets, capital resources, financial means, etc. is a very important determinant or factor of adaptive capacity to climate change impacts."

For more information, please contact:

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The ILO Collaborates with:



"Climate Resilient Farming Communities in Agusan del Norte Through Innovative Risk Transfer Mechanisms"

Outcome 3: Coping Mechanisms improved through pilot schemes with national up-scaling potential of the "Millennium Development Goals Fund (MDG-F) 1656: Joint Programme on Strengthening the Philippines' Institutional Capacity to Adapt to Climate Change"

Implemented by
The International Labour Organization (ILO)

A specialized United Nations Agency

In collaboration with
**Department of Labor and Employment
Department of Trade and Industry
and the Province of Agusan del Norte**

Background

The economic condition of populations at risk, whether in terms of *economic assets, capital resources or financial means*, is a very important determinant of adaptive capacity to climate change impacts. Poor people are more vulnerable to projected impacts while the wealthy ones are better equipped to deal with the costs of adaptation.

Moreover, access to, and not only availability of resources is also another important determinant which could spell the difference in a population's capacity to adapt to climate change and other related phenomena. These resources include not only financial resources but also productive resources such as *training, markets and technology*. It is recognized that adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities will be greater if social institutions and arrangements governing the allocation of power and access to resources is more equitably distributed.

"Adaptation is vital in order to reduce impacts of climate change that are happening now and to increase resilience to future impacts"

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Objectives

The Project aims to showcase these determinants at work by providing target vulnerable farming populations with access to both financial and productive resources for purposes of not only helping them cope in the event of climate change-triggered disasters but also of improving their socio-economic lot, especially through diversified livelihoods schemes. The Project will also demonstrate that risk transfer mechanisms such as innovative insurance schemes and flexible financial mechanisms such as revolving funds help reduce risk exposure of farmers and provide opportunities to diversify livelihood base and as such are helpful in developing resiliency.

The Project's specific objectives are two-folds:

- (1) To develop and test financial safety nets for vulnerable populations, especially women; and
- (2) To develop the capacities of vulnerable populations to participate and avail of the benefits under economic diversification and a democratized governance system.

Expected Outputs

Implemented under Outcome 3 of the Joint Programme on "Strengthening the Philippines' Institutional Capacity to Adapt to Climate Change", the Project is expected to contribute towards strengthening adaptive capacity of vulnerable groups to climate change through increased access to financial resources and economic diversification opportunities. At the end of the three years, it is expected that a revolving fund for alternative livelihood and insurance scheme for farmers is operational.

Specifically, the Project's SMART Outputs are:

- (1) Guidelines for the Innovative Financing;
- (2) Agreement with a Financing Institution to implement the Financing scheme;
- (3) Climate Change Adaptation Insurance Fund; and
- (4) Knowledge Management products & Policy Paper on possible up-scaling/replication

The Province of Agusan del Norte and the Target Vulnerable Farming Communities

Agusan del Norte is one of the five provinces of the Caraga region (Northeastern Mindanao). It has a land area of 273,024 hectares. It comprises 1 city, 10 municipalities and 167 barangays surrounded by mountains on the northwestern and southeastern fronts. As of 2007 census, Agusan del Norte has a total population of 314,027, with 153,873 women (49%). Approximately 31,913 (55.6%) households are below the poverty line [more than twice higher than the national average of 24.4%].

Primarily an agricultural province, Agusan del Norte is the region's leading rice producer. Other major crops are coconut, corn, bananas, mango, vegetable, prawns and the emerging crop: abaca. The province continues to be a major timber producer, with plywood plants operating in Butuan City, Buenavista and Magallanes.

On the basis of the results of the Baseline Study of Agusan del Norte Farming Communities conducted by the Project in August-December 2009 and on the set of criteria agreed upon by all implementers, four LGUs have been selected as priority sites in the province. These are: Jabonga, RTR, Buenavista and Las Nieves.

The criteria includes:

1. *Agricultural production*
2. *General environmental condition and climatic risk exposure*
3. *Availability and access to support institutions*
4. *Availability and access to financing institutions*
5. *Availability and access to insurance schemes and other risk transfer mechanisms*
6. *Level of pertinent knowledge and skills for agri-business, environment and resource management, climate/disaster risk reduction*
7. *Existence of GO, LGU, NGO/PO and/or collaborative initiatives*
8. *Poverty incidence*
9. *Peace and order issues and concerns*

"The four LGUs, as shown by the baseline study, contribute significantly to the provincial agricultural production. At the same time, they possess unique environmental and locational characteristics affecting exposure to extreme events, access to pertinent productive and financial resources needed by the farming populations."

The Implementers

The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** is the **United Nations (UN)** agency responsible for the implementation of this Pilot Adaptation Project.

In implementing this Project, the ILO partners with the **Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)**, the **Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)** as well as the **Provincial Government of Agusan del Norte (AdN)**. A coordination mechanism created to facilitate this partnership at the regional level is the **Project Advisory Committee (PAC)**.

The PAC is envisioned to be a multi-agency, multi-sectoral body that will provide the ILO guidance and advise pertaining to regional/provincial policies and mandates as they are relevant to the project as well as ensure institutional support. Institutional support is deemed crucial as the project requires the cooperation and understanding of a good number of agencies, independent local government units and non-government sector, each having distinct interests in the Project.

The core members of the PAC are the three partners. Other groups will be identified and may be invited to the PAC through the course of the Project.

