

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE
NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION

PRINSA

VOLUME 2, 2023

Halika NiA





About the Cover

The cover of Prinsa 2023 issue depicts the irrigation projects of NIA with great tourism potential, encouraging the readers to visit these beautiful NIA systems - Halika NiA.

This magazine features dams and irrigation systems/projects with breathtaking views, captivating sceneries, and amazing structures.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editorial Director: Eden Victoria C. Selva | Editor-in-Chief: Devenecia F. Calalo
Associate Editor: Josias M. Mercado | Managing Editor: Sheen Claudette C. Paz

COPY EDITING AND EDITORIAL STAFF

Frya Camille D. Ballesteros | Jermaine M. Donayre | Maria Elena P. Valenzuela
Angela Micaela P. Matundan

GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT TEAM

Art Director: Ana Cristel K. Untivero
Graphic and Layout Team: Matthew Bert I. Quan | Paul Michael P. Mara |
Rosanna C. Mariano | Allan John O. Zita

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES TEAM

Jennifer S. Colinares | Nicomedes M. Maluya, Jr.
Andrian Christian C. Polinar | Mica Viel S. Urbano | Merlyn P. Orencio
Arnel M. Reyes | Mark V. Daradal | Rex Feljay S. Sagdullas

Table of



1

CHICO RIVER DIVERSION DAM:

A PANORAMA OF NATURE, CULTURE, AND AGRICULTURE



3

DIPALO RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM:

RAW BEAUTY THAT CAN DEFINITELY WIN YOUR HEART



5

PASA DAM: AN ENGINEERING MARVEL



7

TANGILAD DAM: AN IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE TURNS INTO AN ECO-TOURISM ATTRACTION



9

DISCOVER THE HIDDEN OASIS: **BALANAC DAM**



11

REVITALIZING AGRICULTURE: **THE PULA RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM'S** IMPACT ON SUSTAINABLE FARMING IN ORIENTAL MINDORO



13

LAKE BUHI CONTROL STRUCTURE:

BINDING FORCE OF BUHI'S ECONOMY, TOURISM, AND
IRRIGATION



15

BAROTAC VIEJO SRIP: A BLEND OF SUSTAINABLE IRRIGATION AND SPECTACULAR LANDSCAPE IN NORTHERN ILOILO



17

BENLIW DAM: BOHOL'S NEW ZEALAND



19

SUSTAINING AGRICULTURE AND NURTURING DREAMS: **THE SIBUGUEY VALLEY IRRIGATION SYSTEM** IN BAYOG, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR



21

LUMBAYAO DAM: NESTLING COSMOS OF BOUNTY



23

MIRAL SRIS: A GIGANTIC WATER SLIDE FOR CURIOUS TRAVELERS



25

THE MIGHTY LAMRIS: SULTAN KUDARAT'S LIFE-GIVING DAM



27

URIS: YOUR NEW DESTINATION



28

TARLAC DIVERSION DAM: GOING BEYOND IRRIGATION



29

JALAU: FUTURE ECO-CULTURAL TOURISM DESTINATION



31

MAGAT DAM: BRINGING PEOPLE CLOSER TO NATURE



33

PANTABANGAN DAM TAKES SHAPE TO EMBRACE AGRO-TOURISM DEVELOPMENT



Photo Courtesy of
Mr. Chris Gary Ng

CHICO RIVER DIVERSION DAM:

A PANORAMA OF NATURE, CULTURE, AND AGRICULTURE

Mylene I. Malecdan, Public Relations Officer A, NIA CAR

Amidst the legendary Chico River, the most extensive river system in the mountainous Cordilleras, lies a monumental structure that keeps thousands of hectares of ricelands alive, verdant, and productive. Located in Barangay Bado Dangwa in Tabuk City, Kalinga, the diversion dam of the Upper Chico River Irrigation

System (UCRIS) diverts water from the Chico River towards an irrigated area of 15,005 hectares of riceland in the municipalities of Tabuk and Pinukpuk in Kalinga, and Quezon and Mallig, Isabela, benefitting over 10,500 farmers and their families. Completed in 1986, UCRIS is currently the largest of the four National

Irrigation Systems (NISs) in CAR. The UCRIS diversion dam, or commonly known as the Chico River Diversion Dam, with its historical and cultural significance to the indigenous communities, serves another purpose aside from irrigation. It is one of the go-to spots for tourists and locals in the province. With a viewing



area about 20 meters away, when the sun is down, one can sit and view the whole stretch of the diversion dam which runs 785 meters. The whitewater flowing down the ogee structure can be mesmerizing from afar, and when one is lucky with the sunset, the wide river's background is a magnificent orange sky. On the same viewing point, tourists can take another beautifully angled photo with the main diversion canal (and the sunrise when one is early) as the background.

Bikers and tourists travelling from Tabuk City to the famous tattoo artist Apo Whang-od in Barangay Buscalan, Tinglayan, or those bound upstream the Chico River for the whitewater rafting would usually pass by the diversion dam as it is only about 10 kilometers from Barangay Bulanao, the center of the city. Backpackers may have the option to get on a PUV bound for Tinglayan or Bontoc. Meanwhile, the dam is only about three hours away if travelling from Bontoc, Mountain Province, and an hour away from Tuguegarao.

However, caution is given especially to visitors with children and those with fear of heights to avoid going to the operating and maintenance platform (the 'house-like' edifice) as the view from above can be terrifying, and the speedy and vigorous flow of water below can be overwhelming. Nevertheless, even from afar, the Chico River Diversion Dam offers visitors instagrammable panorama, perfect muni-muni moments, and an opportunity to appreciate a dam's vital role in agricultural development and food sufficiency.





DIPALO RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM

*Raw beauty that can
definitely win your Heart*

Arman R. Soriano, Information Officer C, NIA Region I



The Dipalo River Irrigation System (Dipalo RIS), located in Barangay Nangapugan, San Quintin, Pangasinan, is one of the oldest irrigation systems in Pangasinan, having been built on August 18, 1976. The construction took a while, as it was completed in December 1979. The project has a total irrigable area of 1,703 hectares, where 13 Irrigators Associations (IAs) are the beneficiaries from four barangays of San Quintin, namely: Nangapugan, Casantamarian, Gonzalo, and Carayacan, and one barangay from the Municipality of Umingan, which is Amaronan. A total of 1,657 farmers are benefiting from the said irrigation system.



The river that flows from the mountains downstream, the Dipalo River, is the town's upcoming tourist attraction for its cold flowing water. Currently, the local government is eyeing for the improvement of infrastructure and development of surrounding areas for safety and beautification. Hence, for now, visitors expect beauty in its rawest form. Currently, the locals are enjoying the area where they hang out with their families and friends. It is not unusual to find groups enjoying a picnic and a cool swim. The adventure-seeking ones follow the river upstream, where the hike eventually leads to several waterfalls. Since there are no official trails yet, tourists are

advised to coordinate with the local tourism office if planning an excursion in the area.

For interested individuals and commuters that are planning to visit the rawest beauty of Dipalo, you can reach it by taking the bus going to Pangasinan and Dagupan, which will lead you to nearby cities and municipalities like Urdaneta City. Travel time is about three to five hours, if you are from Manila and you want to have a day trip to the river, ride a bus from Cubao to Tayug, Pangasinan (Five Star Bus or Victory). Please check the schedule first, ride a bus plying the route of Dagupan and alight at Carmen (SM Rosales).

If you are riding a bus to Tayug, after you've arrived, you can ask the locals where you can take the ride going to San Quintin, Pangasinan where Dipalo River is located.

For private cars from Manila, you can avail of the Express Way services, NLEX and TPLEX for the fast travel depending on the road and traffic situations.

The Dipalo RIS is at its rawest form and soon to be developed into agro-tourism spots that will lead to opportunities for the LGU, locals, and even the Agency, the system must be conserved to preserve this upcoming tourist attraction.



PASA DAM:

An Engineering Marvel

Richelle Orprecio, Designated Public Relations Officer, Isabela IMO-NIA Region II

The Pasa Small Reservoir Irrigation System (Pasa SRIS) is a remarkable engineering achievement set amidst the stunning landscapes of Barangay Pasa, located in the City of Ilagan, Isabela. This water impounding facility serves multiple purposes, including irrigation, flood control, fisheries, and more. The project commenced in 2013 and reached completion in May 2018, with a total cost of P1.029 billion. It covers a service area of 846 hectares benefitting 653 farmers to date.

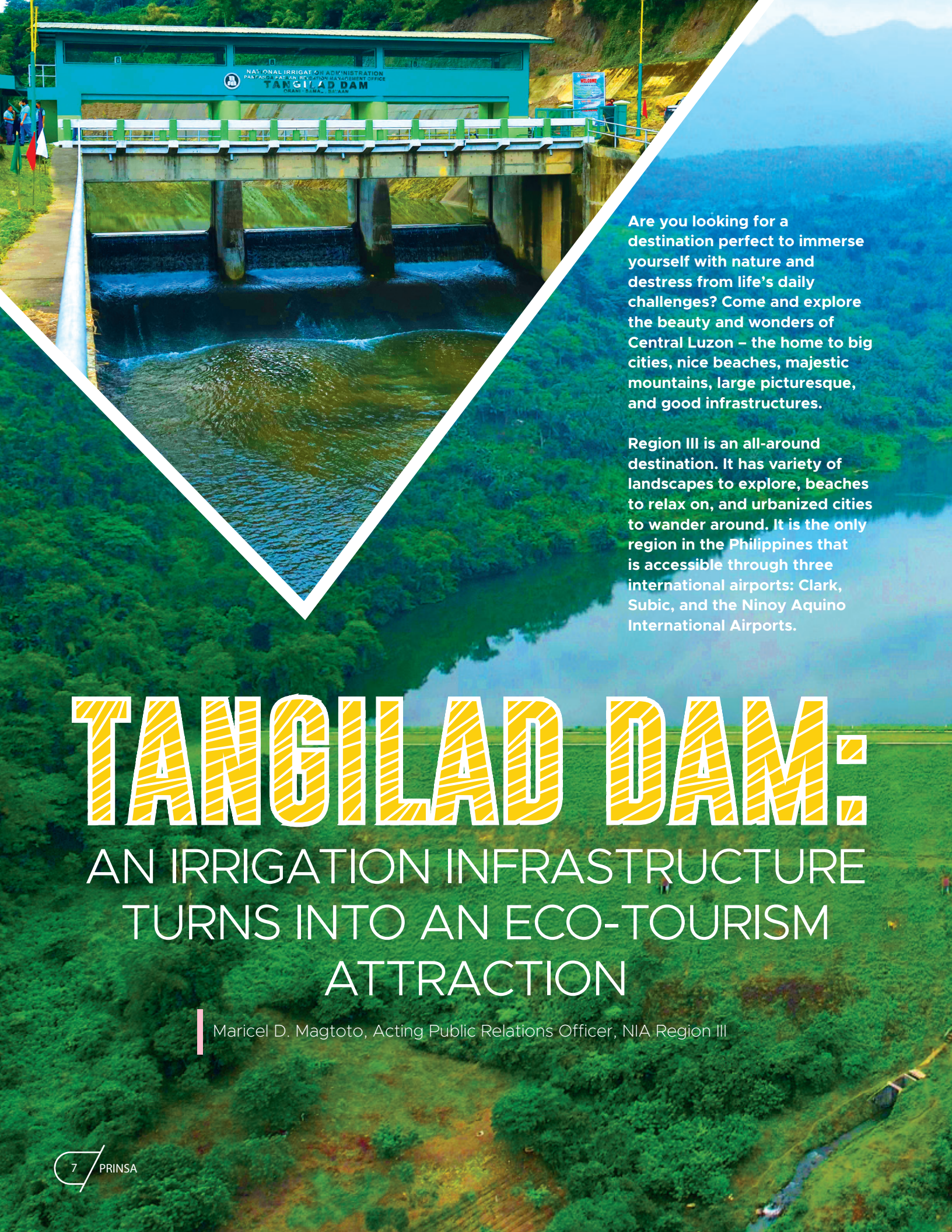
Apart from its utilitarian functions, Pasa Dam has also evolved into an agro-tourism destination, offering a haven of natural beauty and a serene atmosphere for relaxation. Nature enthusiasts will be captivated by the pristine waterfalls within the watershed. During the summer season, the area offers abundant opportunities for birdwatching, providing the chance to observe various avian species such as wild ducks, Philippine jungle

fowls, grass owls, cattle egrets, and, if fortunate, the Philippine hawk-eagle. Moreover, it provides an ideal setting for hiking, fishing (known as 'kattal'), and picnics amidst the rolling hills, providing a perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. Furthermore, educational initiatives, like the On-the-Job Training (OJT) for students, provide insights into dam operation. School field trips complement these programs, highlighting the dam's history, functioning, and ecological importance, emphasizing its impact on the lives of the people in Pasa.

Accessibility to the site is convenient and affordable via various means of land transportation. There are two primary routes to reach the location: one through Marana 1st leading to Santa Victoria and the other through San Isidro to Pasa. For the adventurous, cycling through the hilly terrain provides a thrilling experience, while riding a motorcycle is recommended for those who want to embrace the journey to the fullest.

Accommodation is not a concern, as the City of Ilagan, the capital of the province of Isabela, offers affordable hotels and lodging options near the area. Additionally, there's a tourist spot in the neighboring barangay showcasing the world's largest butaka, a handcrafted chair with an elongated armrest. Visitors can also purchase a regular-sized butaka as a souvenir to commemorate their experience in the City of Ilagan. Furthermore, for those seeking additional knowledge, the Pasa Dam Farmers Irrigators Association (PADAFIA) can provide insights into the production of Banana Vinegar, promoting a healthier lifestyle for all.

Come and immerse yourself in the extraordinary realm of engineering excellence, where nature and innovation harmoniously coexist.



NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION
PANGRASA PANGRASA IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE
TANGILAD DAM
ORANGKONG, TACAYAN

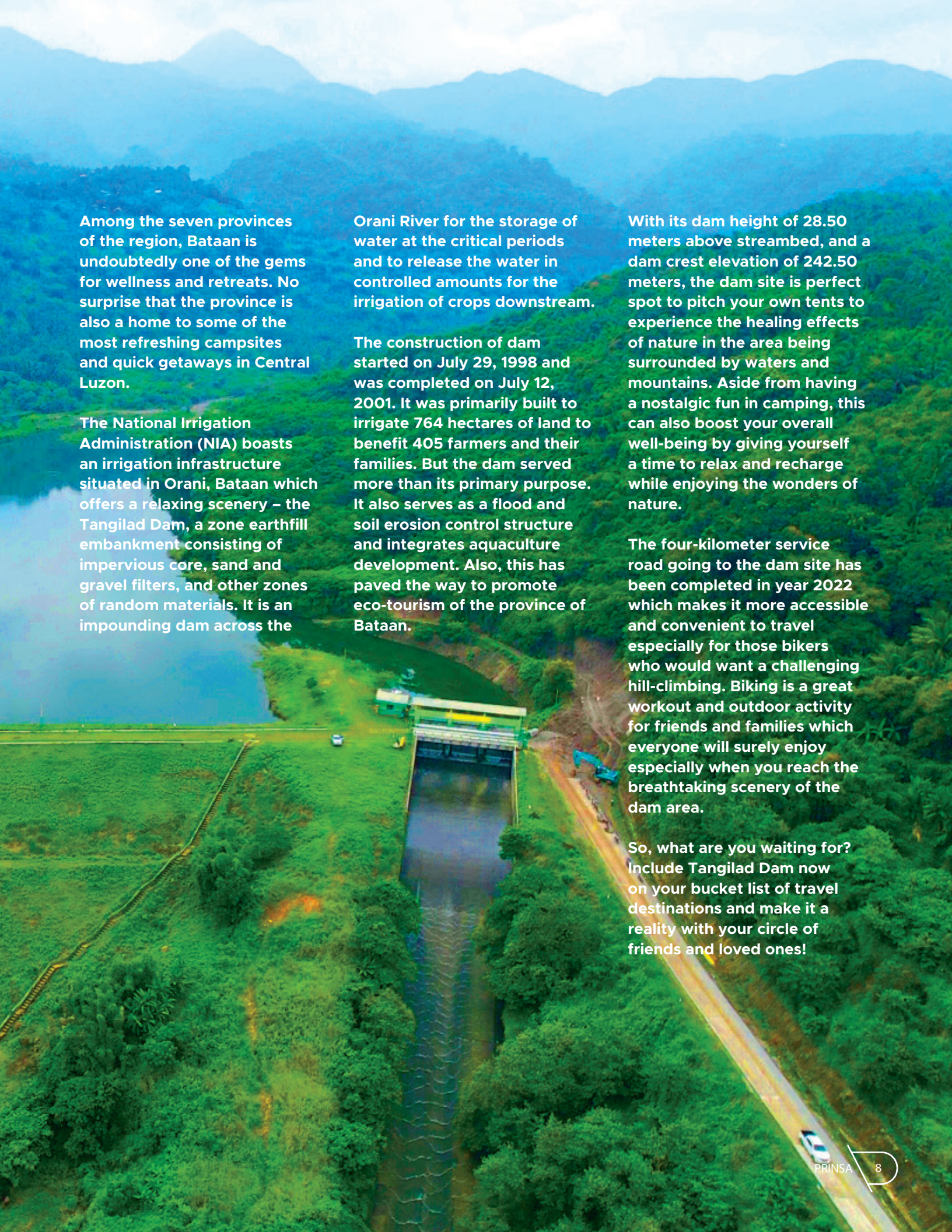
Are you looking for a destination perfect to immerse yourself with nature and destress from life's daily challenges? Come and explore the beauty and wonders of Central Luzon – the home to big cities, nice beaches, majestic mountains, large picturesque, and good infrastructures.

Region III is an all-around destination. It has variety of landscapes to explore, beaches to relax on, and urbanized cities to wander around. It is the only region in the Philippines that is accessible through three international airports: Clark, Subic, and the Ninoy Aquino International Airports.

TANGILAD DAM:

AN IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE TURNS INTO AN ECO-TOURISM ATTRACTION

Maricel D. Magtoto, Acting Public Relations Officer, NIA Region III



Among the seven provinces of the region, Bataan is undoubtedly one of the gems for wellness and retreats. No surprise that the province is also a home to some of the most refreshing campsites and quick getaways in Central Luzon.

The National Irrigation Administration (NIA) boasts an irrigation infrastructure situated in Orani, Bataan which offers a relaxing scenery – the Tangilad Dam, a zone earthfill embankment consisting of impervious core, sand and gravel filters, and other zones of random materials. It is an impounding dam across the

Orani River for the storage of water at the critical periods and to release the water in controlled amounts for the irrigation of crops downstream.

The construction of dam started on July 29, 1998 and was completed on July 12, 2001. It was primarily built to irrigate 764 hectares of land to benefit 405 farmers and their families. But the dam served more than its primary purpose. It also serves as a flood and soil erosion control structure and integrates aquaculture development. Also, this has paved the way to promote eco-tourism of the province of Bataan.

With its dam height of 28.50 meters above streambed, and a dam crest elevation of 242.50 meters, the dam site is perfect spot to pitch your own tents to experience the healing effects of nature in the area being surrounded by waters and mountains. Aside from having a nostalgic fun in camping, this can also boost your overall well-being by giving yourself a time to relax and recharge while enjoying the wonders of nature.

The four-kilometer service road going to the dam site has been completed in year 2022 which makes it more accessible and convenient to travel especially for those bikers who would want a challenging hill-climbing. Biking is a great workout and outdoor activity for friends and families which everyone will surely enjoy especially when you reach the breathtaking scenery of the dam area.

So, what are you waiting for? Include Tangilad Dam now on your bucket list of travel destinations and make it a reality with your circle of friends and loved ones!

Nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of Barangay Munting Ambling in the Municipality of Magdalena, Laguna lies a true gem of nature's engineering marvel – the Balanac Dam. It is not just a structure; it is a lifeline for the rice fields and the farmers it serves. This run-of-the-river ogee-type diversion dam is more than just an engineering masterpiece. It is a place where the local community finds solace and where adventure seekers get their adrenaline fix. Irrigating a vast service area of 1,146 hectares, Balanac River Irrigation System (Balanac RIS) plays a pivotal role in the lives of 924 farmers-beneficiaries across Magdalena, Pagsanjan, Sta. Cruz, and Lumban,

Laguna. Its construction, which commenced in 1965 and concluded in 1966, was the beginning of a transformative journey for these farming communities.

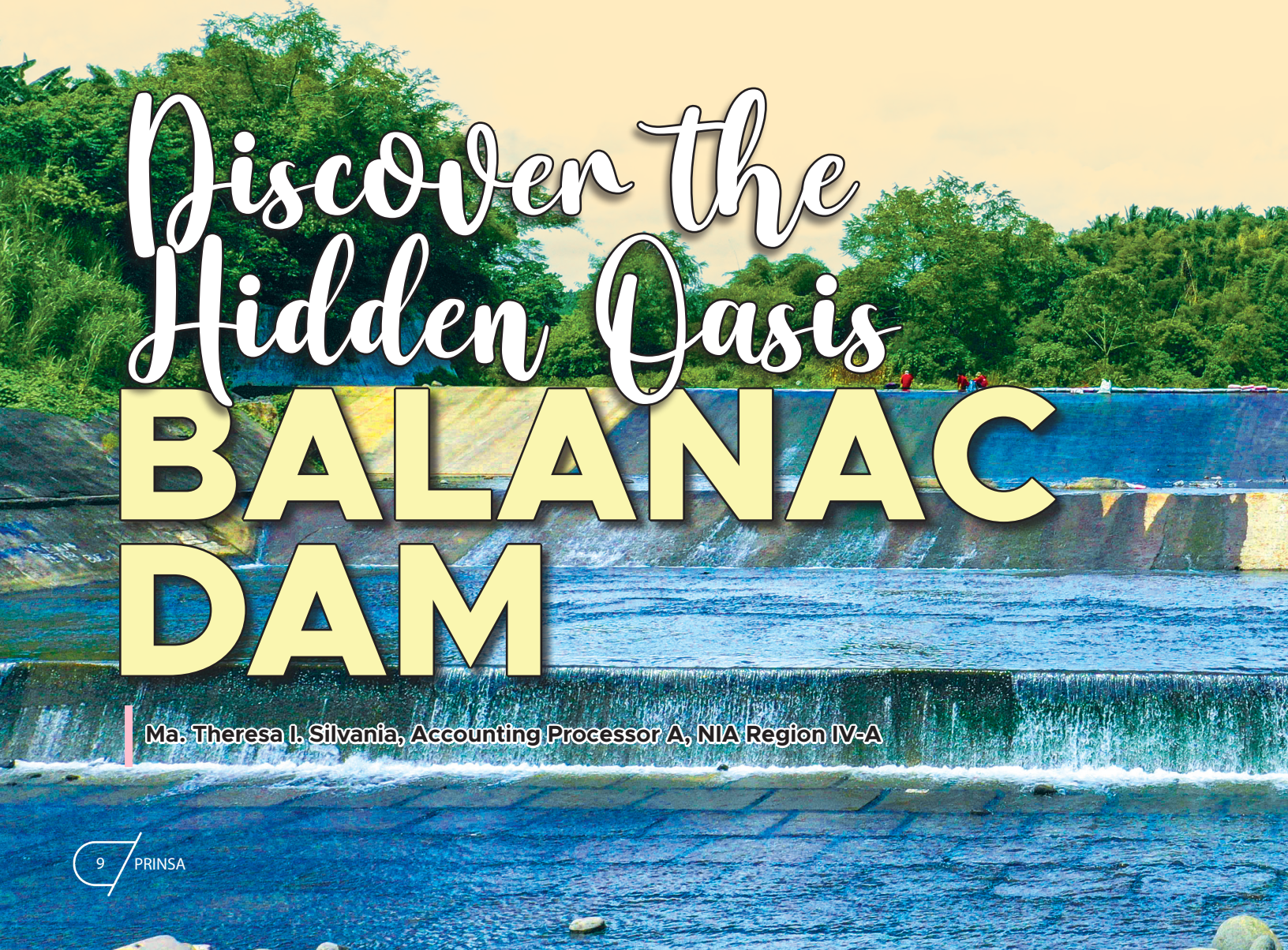
A Green Oasis in the Heart of Magdalena

But Balanac Dam is not just about agriculture, it is a natural haven. When the scorching summer sun blankets the region, the dam's cool, flowing waters become an oasis for locals looking to escape the heat. Set against the backdrop of this magnificent dam, you will find makeshift huts that beckon for picnics by the river, where you can dip your feet into the shallow, soothing currents. It is a slice of paradise right here in Magdalena. For those who crave adventure, Balanac River offers a heart-

pounding, three-kilometer white-water rafting experience. The adrenaline rush is heightened by the stunning scenic views that surround you. As you navigate the river's twists and turns, you will be captivated by the natural beauty that envelops you at every turn. Balanac River is more than a playground for thrill-seekers; it is a living testament to the untamed beauty of nature.

Getting There

Reaching Balanac Dam is a breeze. If you are traveling by private vehicle, simply head south via South Luzon Expressway, exit at Calamba, and make your way through Los Baños, Santa Cruz, and Pagsanjan. When you reach the Sambat Junction, marked by a Jollibee store, take a right turn and drive for just four



Discover the Hidden Oasis **BALANAC DAM**

Ma. Theresa I. Silvanía, Accounting Processor A, NIA Region IV-A

kilometers to arrive at the heart of Magdalena. You know you are near when you arrive at Ricardo A. Pronove Elementary School (RPES), just take a left turn to Burgos Street where you can see signages of the location of Balanac Dam. From RPES, it takes only three to five minutes to arrive at your destination.

For those relying on public transport, you can find buses (DLTB and Jac Liner) heading to Santa Cruz or Pagsanjan, Laguna at the Buendia Bus Terminal in Pasay, City. From Buendia to Pagsanjan, it will take you at least three hours of travel. Alight at the bus terminal and catch a jeepney or tricycle to Magdalena which will take you about 10 minutes until you reach RPES. Jeepney and tricycle drivers are familiar with the location of Balanac Dam, so you don't need to worry if you are not sure about the direction.

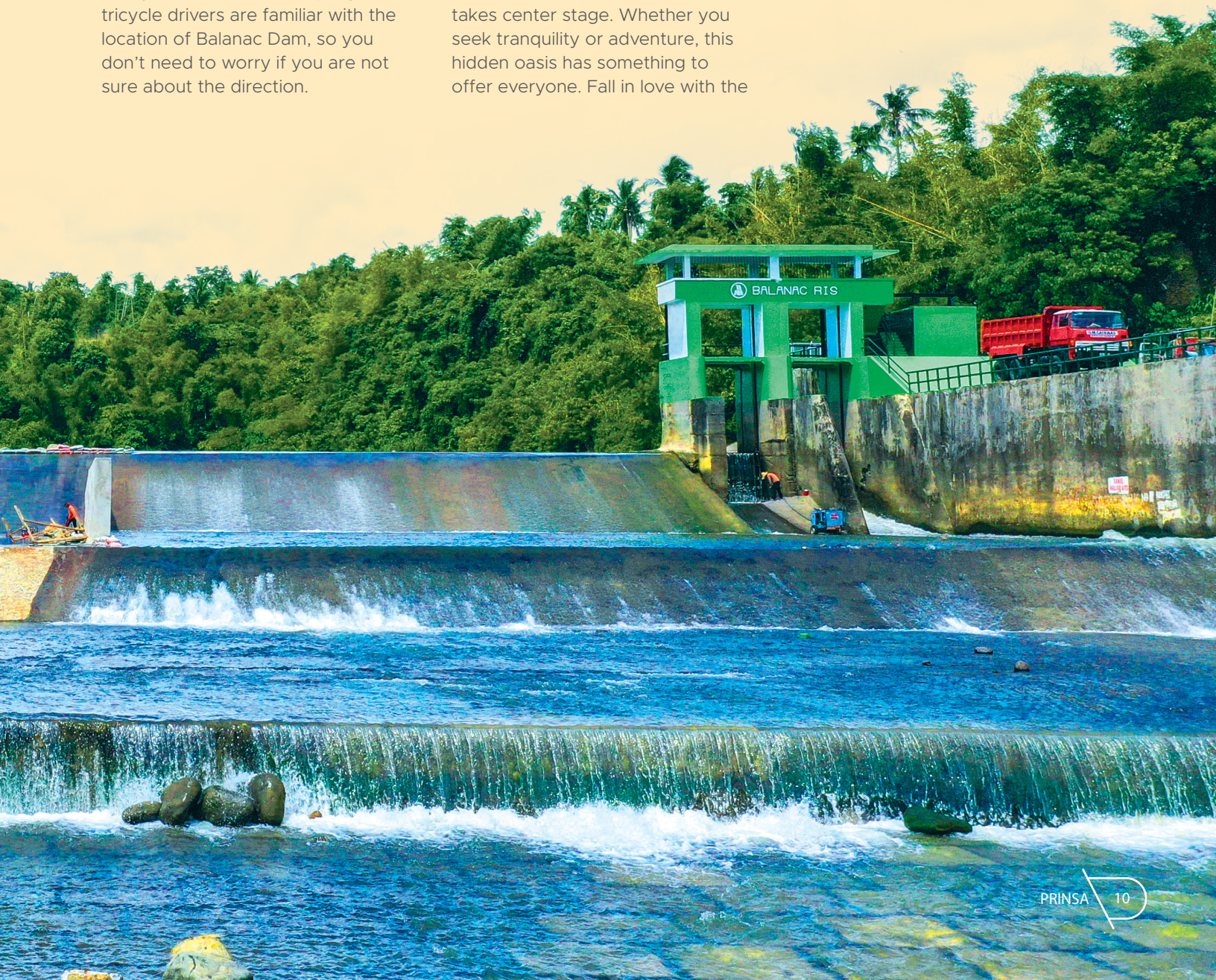
Experiencing Nearby Spots

You can also combine your visit with trips to neighboring towns, each with its unique charm. Pagsanjan beckons with the promise of shooting the rapids at Pagsanjan Falls, while Majayjay offers the tranquil beauty of Bukal Falls and the lush Costales Nature Farm. Venture into Cavinti for the mysterious underground river and caves, home to the Guinness World Record's largest Sambalilo hat. Lumban boasts the serene Lake Caliraya and a thriving Barong Embroidery Industry, while Liliw showcases its tsinelas or footwear-making heritage.

Indeed, Balanac Dam is a place where time slows down, and nature takes center stage. Whether you seek tranquility or adventure, this hidden oasis has something to offer everyone. Fall in love with the

simplicity and innocence of Balanac Dam, and let it become your refuge from the daily grind. Experience the extraordinary in Magdalena, where nature's beauty meets human ingenuity.

Disclaimer: As of writing, Balanac Dam is undergoing multiple repairs and maintenance activities. Consequently, authorities are issuing a reminder to the public to exercise caution and refrain from swimming in the area due to safety concerns.



REVITALIZING AGRICULTURE:

THE PULA RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM'S IMPACT ON SUSTAINABLE FARMING IN ORIENTAL MINDORO

Hannah Rose Ann M. Gardoce, Public Relations Officer C, NIA MIMAROPA





In the heart of Oriental Mindoro lies the Pula River Irrigation System (Pula RIS), a lifeline for local farmers who depend on its waters to cultivate their fields. Managed by the National Irrigation Administration Mindoro-Oriental-Marinduque-Romblon Irrigation Management Office (NIA MOMARO IMO), this vital infrastructure covers a sprawling 3,141 hectares across Pinamalanay, Pola, and Socorro.

Here at Pula RIS, farmers now enjoy a reliable water supply, resulting in a domino effect of positive outcomes for the entire region. The increased water availability has led to improved agricultural production, shielding farmers from the ravages of drought, and bolstering their income through better yields.

One integral component of this success story is the service road project, a 1,244-meter-long pathway spearheaded by the NIA MOMARO IMO. Designed to benefit 183

farmers, this road plays a pivotal role in transforming the agricultural landscape. Not only does it facilitate seamless transportation for farmers, but it also expedites access to their fields and provides a conduit for the swift delivery of equipment and transportation of produce. The service road is not merely a stretch of concrete. It symbolizes progress, efficiency, and the empowerment of local farmers.

Another essential element in the efficient utilization of water resources is the trapezoid canal. This vital conduit ensures the smooth flow of water, and its maintenance is a shared responsibility among the members of the Irrigators Association (IA). Their dedication to cleaning and preserving the canal reflects a strong sense of community and environmental stewardship, contributing to the long-term sustainability of the irrigation system.

The transformative journey of Pula RIS, from a damaged dam to a symbol of agricultural prosperity, deserves recognition and appreciation. The collective efforts of the NIA MOMARO IMO, local farmers, and the community at large have not only preserved a crucial infrastructure but have also paved the way for a more sustainable and resilient future.

As travelers seek meaningful experiences that celebrate local triumphs and community spirit, Pula RIS stands as a testament to the indomitable human spirit and the positive impact that restoration projects can have on both livelihoods and landscapes. Visitors are invited to witness the thriving fields, explore the well-kept service roads, and appreciate the harmony between man and nature that defines this remarkable corner of Oriental Mindoro.

LAKE BUHI CONTROL STRUCTURE:

BINDING FORCE OF BUHI'S ECONOMY, TOURISM, AND IRRIGATION

Kris Valeen Saberón, Public Relations Assistant A, NIA Region V





Under the management of National Irrigation Administration - Camarines Sur Irrigation Management Office - Rinconada Integrated Irrigation System (NIA CSIMO RIIS) of Lower LALO & RIDA RIS, the Lake Buhi Control Structure is among the eight (8) National Irrigation Systems (NISs) of NIA Region V. Established on November 28, 1979 with a Firm-Up Service Area (FUSA) of 3, 842.3414 hectares and a designed area of 4,333.00 ha as well as a potential area of 4,333.00 ha, the control structure is ongoing rehabilitation and renovation amounting to P28,828,660.15 since 2022.

With its working functions, the control structure has been a big help in controlling Lake Buhi's flowing water especially during heavy rain and typhoons. Moreover, the control structure also helped in taking control of Lake Buhi's water quality and distribution which plays a vital role in boosting the town's tourism and promotion. Other than being known for its pristine fresh water and the habitat of Sinarapan (*Mystichtis luzonensis*), the world's smallest commercial edible fish, Lake

Buhi is also home to numerous nature-loving tourists spots such as the Buhi Magindara Resort.

The Buhi Magindara Resort, managed and operated by the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Buhi, is located nearby the Lake Buhi Control Structure.

Established in 1990 to 1991, the resort aims to boost the municipality's tourism as well as to be an income-generating project of the LGU. Proven to be a family-friendly resort, guests of all ages will surely enjoy their educational tours or quality time with families and friends. While overlooking the scenic view of Lake Buhi, guests may stroll around and enjoy their meals on the picnic sheds and cottages within the resort. Apart from these activities, the Buhi Magindara Resort also caters as event's venue to gatherings such as birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and seminars through its Pavilion's function hall. Although the resort is still in its ongoing development, many local and tourist guests were captivated by its charming beauty and simplicity. For guests who wish to visit

the place, the Buhi Magindara Resort charges an entrance fee of P7.00 for adults and P3.00 for students on an educational tour. As for one-day rental and usage of their facilities, the resort charges per unit: Duplex cottage costs P350.00, Pavilion or Function Hall rental fee of P550.00, and P40.00 rental fee for their picnic sheds. The resort also has parking fees, wherein vehicles such as the Mini Bus or Jeepneys costs P25.00, Tricycle parking costs P12.00, P7.00 parking fee for motorcycle, and P20.00 for other vehicles. To access the Buhi Magindara Resort through public transportation, tourists may take a van trip from Naga City going to Buhi Proper with P135.00 fare. Upon reaching the Buhi Proper, tourists may take a single tricycle ride (P15.00) going to Barangay Salvacion to reach the destination.

With the stunning Lake Buhi surrounded by verdant mountains and hills, the town will surely captivate travelers looking for a nature trip as a quick escape from the busy life in the metro.



BAROTAC VIEJO SRIP:

A BLEND OF SUSTAINABLE IRRIGATION AND SPECTACULAR LANDSCAPE IN NORTHERN ILOILO

Danielle P. Pijuan, Public Relations Officer A, NIA Region VI

The Barotac Viejo Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (BVS RIP) in Brgy. Nueva Invention, Barotac Viejo, Iloilo, was designed not only to provide sustainable irrigation water to 2,050 hectares of farmland cultivated by 1,035 farmers but also to promote the development of the area as a potential site for agri-eco tourism.

The National Irrigation Administration (NIA) has initiated a plan to establish agri-eco tourism at the Barotac Viejo

SRIP through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the Conduct of a Study and Formulation of Development Plans for the Establishment of Agri-Eco Tourism in BVS RIP, signed on April 16, 2019. The MOU involved the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Tourism (DOT), and the Local Government Units (LGUs). The vision of this initiative includes

economic development, environmental conservation, community engagement, and educational programs.

Recently, BFAR has released 50,000 Tilapia fingerlings into the reservoir as a second release through their Balik Sigla sa Ilog at Lawa (BASIL) Program. This activity aims to improve the ecosystem of local rivers and lakes and support the livelihood and food of the local communities. On August 12, 2023, BFAR released 50,000 tilapia

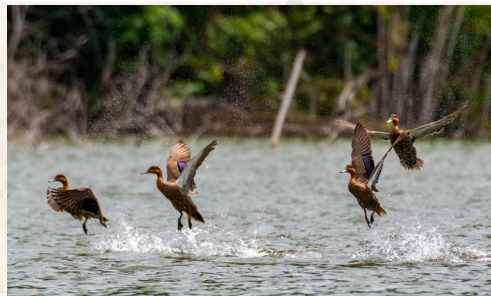


Photo Credit: Joie T. Sandoy - Engineering Assistant A

fingerlings in the reservoir during their first dispersal.

Resting against the majestic landscape of Barotac Viejo mountains, the reservoir offers a refreshing sight: a vast blue lake against the green backdrop. BVS RIP has become a popular stop for cyclists, riders, and tourists. In fact, it has become a popular venue for pre-nuptial photoshoot of couples. The reservoir has also become a nesting ground of wild birds and ducks, making it a favorite

spot for bird watchers and photographers: proof that the project has supported environmental protection and development.

When planning a day trip or a side trip to the Barotac Viejo Small River Irrigation Project (BVS RIP) consider renting a motorcycle in Barotac Viejo or a van if traveling with a group for a more adventurous and flexible experience. After enjoying the scenery, taking an exhilarating walk on top of the dam, and

taking hundreds of photos, have lunch at Jay's Talabahan and Sugbahan in Barangay Sto. Domingo, located 13 kilometers from BVS RIP. This humble restaurant by the roadside offers sumptuous fresh and grilled seafood, which will never fail to satisfy your gastronomic cravings. Since BVS RIP is in the mountains, there are no overnight stays within the area, thus, a day trip or side trip is best when you are on your way to the white sand beaches and islands of Northern Iloilo.

BENLIW DAM: BOHOL'S NEW ZEALAND

Zarline S. Sambas, Public Relations Officer, NIA Region VII

Benliw Dam, nestled in the picturesque Municipality of Ubay, stands as a vital water resource for the local agricultural community in the Rice Granary of Central Visayas, the Province of Bohol. Inaugurated in May 2021, this infrastructure marvel has been a beacon of support for approximately 600 farmers, cultivating crops across 423 hectares of fertile land in Barangay Imelda, Biabas, Cagting, Sinandigan, and Benliw.

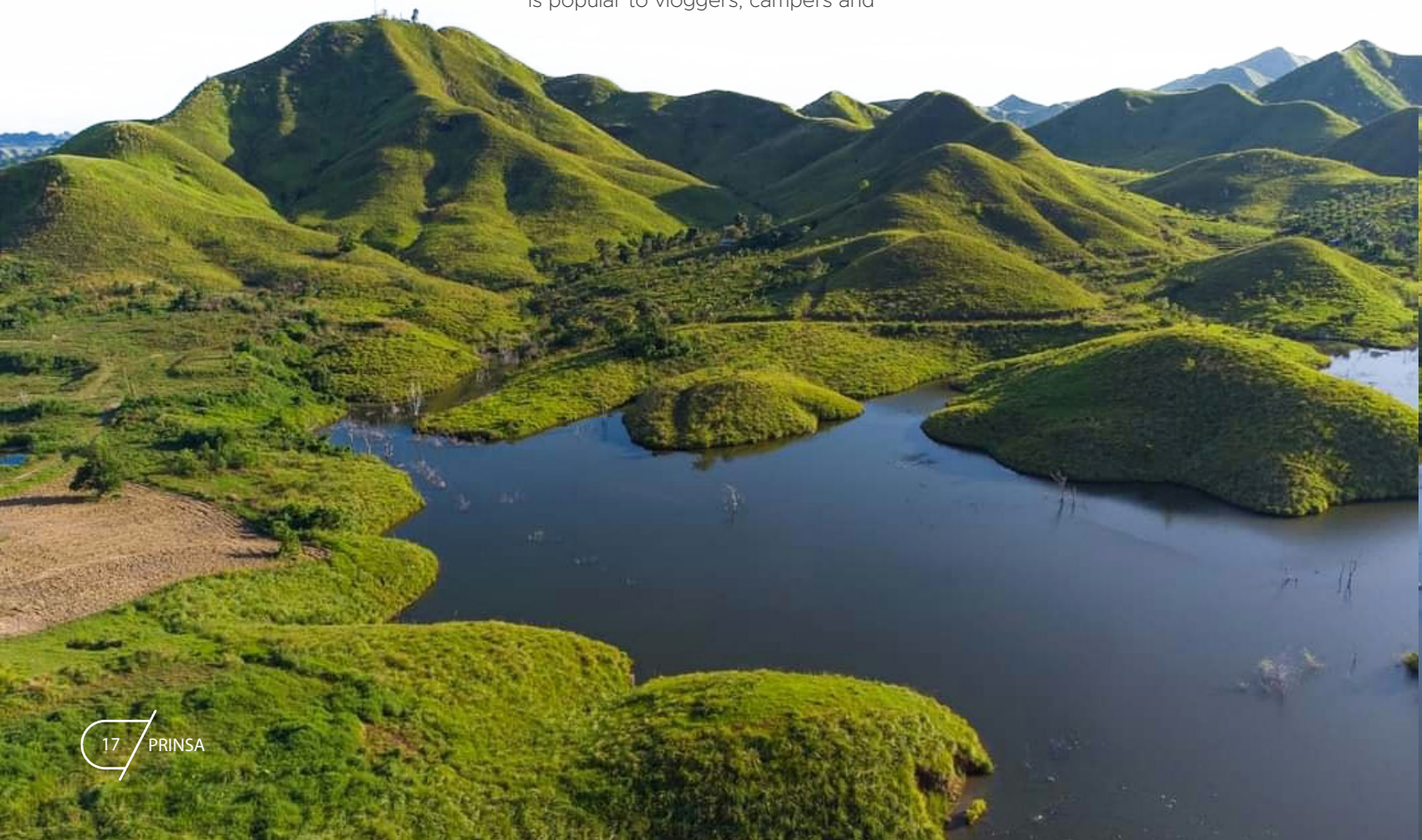
Benliw Small Reservoir Irrigation Project (Benliw SRIP) has a trapezoidal reservoir with a

catchment area of 5.60 square kilometers that can store 2.86 million cubic meters of water.

Benliw Dam's significance goes beyond mere construction. It has a pivotal role for the agricultural growth in the region, providing essential irrigation for the farmers while blessing people with a truly majestic site to behold.

Benliw Dam is surrounded by lush greenery and hills, comparable of New Zealand's, making it an attractive destination for nature lovers. This serene and picturesque environment is popular to vloggers, campers and

bikers seeking for an adventurous terrain or just a peaceful getaway. The dam also provides opportunities for water-based activities such as boating and fishing which attract tourists looking for recreational experiences. Benliw Dam can be used as an educational resource for schools and organizations seeking to learn about its operation, irrigation infrastructure features, or agriculture in general. The dam's surroundings also offer opportunities for camping and picnicking too, providing a chance for families and outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy the natural beauty of the area.



The best way to reach Ubay, Bohol may involve taking a flight to Bohol or using ferry services from other islands. It is 132-kilometer away from Tagbilaran City which may take two to three hours if you take the best route via Balilihan-Sierra Bullones. Upon arrival to Ubay, you may navigate with Waze or Google Maps and set your destination to Benliw Dam or take the turn on the Philippine Coconut Authority signage straight to Benliw Barangay Hall. You may also hire a local motorcycle called habal-habal for a more localized travel experience.

Visiting Benliw Dam, can be a rewarding adventure, but it is important to be prepared to ensure a smooth and enjoyable trip. Check the weather forecast, as it can impact your visit, especially if you plan outdoor activities. Carry essentials like water, sunscreen, insect repellent, and comfortable clothing for outdoor activities. If you plan on participating in water activities, do so at your own risk. Do not forget a camera to capture the scenic beauty. When visiting the dam, be mindful of the environment. Avoid littering and respect off-limit areas such as the



intake gate house. Ubay offers a range of accommodation options to choose from so consider booking your accommodation in advance, especially if you plan to stay overnight to catch the mesmerizing sunrise or sunset. Buying Ubay local products, such as Carabao's milk, ice cream, and pastries, are some snacks you should not miss in case you do not find food options at the dam itself.

Benliw Dam is a paradise waiting to be discovered. With its breathtaking scenery, lush greenery, and a vibrant agricultural landscape, this

destination offers a perfect blend of nature and culture, making it an ideal spot for an unforgettable agro-tourism experience. Benliw Dam is not just a destination; it's an experience waiting for you to create wonderful memories. Whether you are passionate about nature, culture, or simply seeking a tranquil escape, Benliw Dam has something for everyone. Join us in exploring the wonders of Benliw Dam, where nature's beauty meets traditional charm. We cannot wait to welcome you to this breathtaking part of Bohol. See you soon!



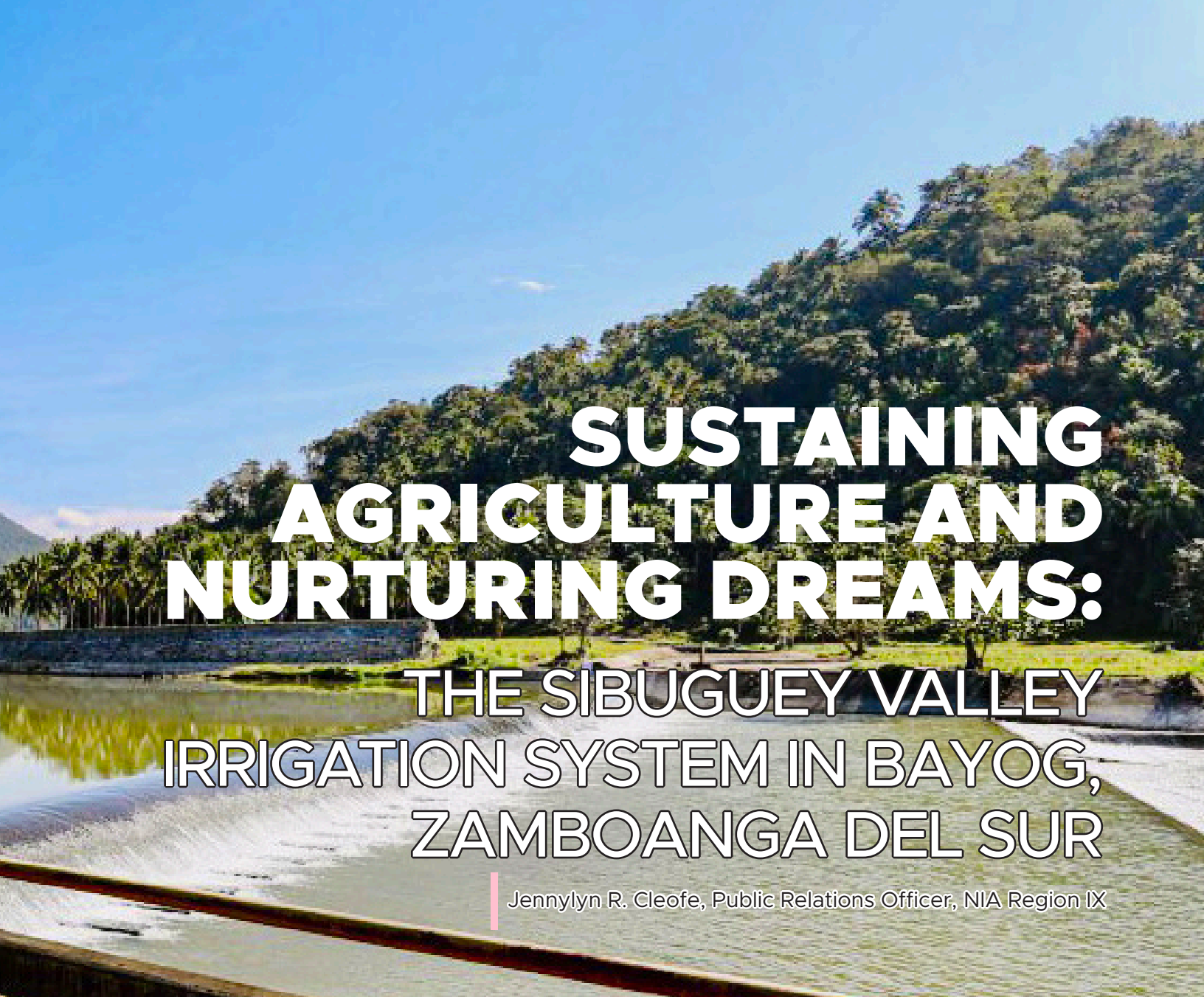


The Sibuguey Valley Irrigation System (SVIS) has a rich history that dates several years back. The construction of the system began in January 1978 by the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) with the assistance of the Australian Government. It was funded under the Philippine-Australian Development Assistance Program (PADAP) and became operational in June 1984. Originally conceived as a solution to the scarcity of irrigation water, it has since evolved into a lifeline for farmers, fueling the growth of agriculture in Bayog and nearby areas.

At present, the SVIS serves irrigation water to several agricultural lands including those isolated small farms. It has a total service area of 3,143 hectares covering the barangays of Salawagan, Kahayagan, Poblacion Bayog, Balangao, Sampoli-A, Sampoli-B, Paradise, Pilar, Buyogan, Balagon, Balingasan, and Maniha, serving a total of 1,558 farmer-beneficiaries and their families.

The SVIS is more than just an infrastructure project; it is a symbol of community empowerment. The success

of this system is attributable to the active involvement of its Irrigators Associations (IAs). Their participation and commitment have strengthened the sense of ownership, making the systems more efficient and sustainable. The IAs have embraced modern agricultural techniques, diversified their crops, and become stewards of sustainable farming practices. With better access to markets and financial opportunities, they can plan the future with greater confidence.



SUSTAINING AGRICULTURE AND NURTURING DREAMS: THE SIBUGUEY VALLEY IRRIGATION SYSTEM IN BAYOG, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

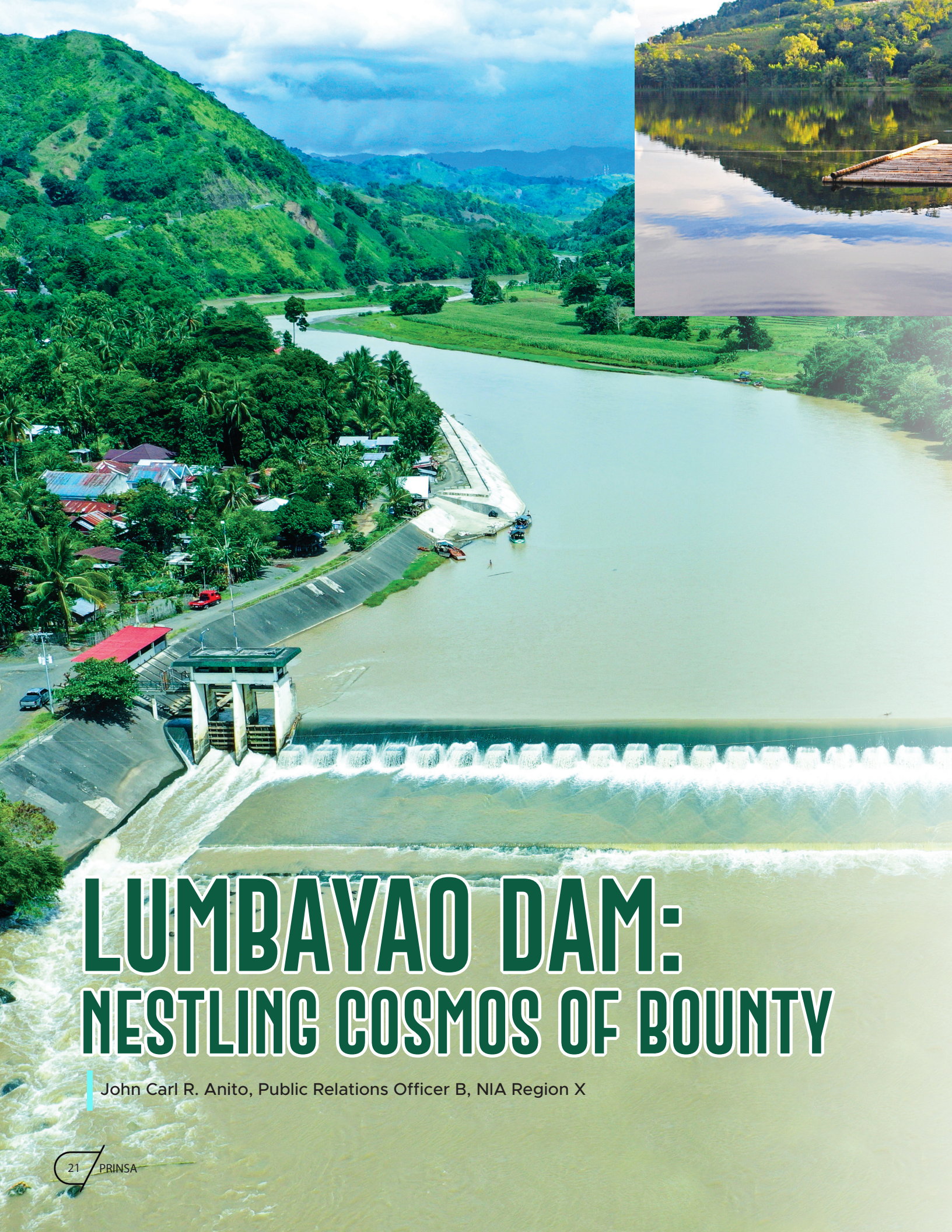
Jennylyn R. Cleofe, Public Relations Officer, NIA Region IX

The success of SVIS has attracted attention beyond just agriculture. With lush, green landscapes, pristine reservoir, and picturesque surroundings, the area is increasingly seen as having potential for agro-tourism. Visitors have started to explore the beauty of SVIS taking part in farm tours. This not only creates additional income for the community but also introduces outsiders to the rich culture and traditions of Bayog.

For those who wants to visit Bayog, the easiest way to get there is by air. Visitors coming from Luzon and

Visayas can fly to Pagadian City Airport, which is the nearest airport to Bayog. From there, you can hire a private car or ride public utility vehicles to reach your destination. Public transportation in Bayog is also limited, so it is advisable to rent a car or a motorcycle to explore the area. Bayog is a small town with limited accommodations options. It is recommended to book your stay in advance especially during peak travel seasons. Some of the popular accommodation choices include Ato Belen's Farm and Resort and Peaks and Valleys Resort.

SVIS is a testament to the power of agriculture in transforming lives and communities. Its success serves as inspiration to the rest of the region, emphasizing the vital role that irrigation systems play in the economic growth in agriculture. As it continues to nurture dreams of the local farmers and opens doors to agro-tourism, this invaluable infrastructure remains a shining example of sustainable development and community empowerment not only in Zamboanga del Sur, but in the entire Region IX.



LUMBAYAO DAM: NESTLING COSMOS OF BOUNTY

John Carl R. Anito, Public Relations Officer B, NIA Region X



As mandated, the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) constructs dams to provide water for farming. Irrigation dams can likewise divert rivers into canals or pipelines to irrigate lands many miles away. Dams are also used when the river flows at a lower elevation than the land to be irrigated.

Completed in 1983, the Pulangui River Irrigation System (Lumbayao Dam) is strategically located in the Province of Bukidnon, dubbed as Mindanao's food basket. Bukidnon, as a major producer of rice, maize, and sugarcane critically needs irrigation. The said dam serves the towns of Valencia, Malaybalay, and Quezon with a total Firmed-Up Service Area (FUSA) of 10,985.25 hectares. Pulangui caters to around 46 Irrigators Associations (IAs) aiding 6,235 farmers and landowners. The dam's water source comes from the rivers of Pulangui, Maapag, Laligan, Kulaman, and Buyog with a watershed area of 134,000 hectares. With an estimated project cost of P199 million, this system includes 91.47 kilometers of main canal and 152.83 kilometers of lateral canals.

Apart from serving its purpose of boosting crop production and contributing to agricultural productivity, Lumbayao Dam is projected to be a potential tourism destination, showcasing its picturesque landscape.

Nirvana on the Outskirts of Valencia

Nestled amidst the quaint backcloths, Pulangui River is a potential tourism destination like no other. It winds its way through, offering a mesmerizing tapestry of experiences for travellers seeking the perfect blend of nature and culture. Pulangui boasts stunning natural beauty, with crystal-clear waters that mirror the ever-changing skies. As you wander its banks, you will be greeted by lush forests, vibrant wildflowers, and towering cliffs that create a dramatic backdrop. Enjoy a leisurely cruise along the river and take in the breathtaking vistas from bank to bank. Potential outdoor camping, photo shoots, or even simply a stroll are just a few of the project's countless possibilities.

Getting There

Barangay Lumbayao is around 25 kilometers away from the city proper of Valencia, which is accessible via public and private transportation. A drop-off in the city, visitors may hire motorcycles known as habal-habal to reach the barangay.

Where to Stay

While there might not be accommodations directly at Lumbayao Dam itself, there are several options in Valencia City that provide easy access to the dam. Look for resorts or hotels in Valencia City that offer transportation services or tours to the dam. There could be local guesthouses or homestays in

Valencia City that offer comfortable accommodations and that provide arrangements or guidance for visiting the dam. Consider renting a place through platforms like Airbnb. Some homeowners in Valencia might offer rooms or houses for rent.

Quick Side-Trips

A travel itinerary can be customized upon reaching the Lumbayao Dam; side trips enjoy its uniqueness and charm. Valencia City sits atop the Bukidnon plateau. Most of the city's land area is considered rural, full of lush forests and fertile agricultural areas.

Typically, along the way to the dam, people adore the rolling hills, mountain ranges, and caves. One of those that can be appreciated is the Lake Apo. This serene lake has a beautiful backdrop of hills, mountains, and greenery. Found in the crater of an extinct volcano, it has been recognized as the cleanest lake in the region. Swimming, kayaking, horseback riding, fishing, and camping are some of the activities offered at the said lake. A perfect moment can also be experienced by the visitors through reservation of one of its floating cottages. Verdant hills surround the body of water, completing the area's lovely countryside view. This is a fantastic place for individuals who are soul-searching or simply wishing to enjoy the calm and pleasant environment with its cool air; the lovely backdrop, and the still surroundings.



MIRAL SRIS: A GIGANTIC WATER SLIDE FOR CURIOUS TRAVELERS

April Pearl Q. Naguita, Public Relations Officer, NIA Region XI

In a cacophony of cascading waters and teeming wildlife sits a lone engineering structure rigidly built on the hilly terrain of Barangay Managa, Bansalan, Davao del Sur. Referred to by locals and tourists as NIA Dam, is actually the Miral Small Reservoir Irrigation System (Miral SRIS) named after its rich water source, the Miral River. The system took a total of P42.6 million to build, including the 26-meter waterslide that is the dam's spillway, the famous structure that attracts tourists and is making the rounds in local media and online. Miral SRIS was designed to provide irrigation water to about 1,500 hectares. Currently, it services 847 hectares of agricultural land with at

least 800 farmer-beneficiaries that are organized into seven Irrigators Associations (IAs).

As Agro-Tourism Potential long before the pandemic, locals had been frequenting the place to relax and take a dip in the cool water, while the adventure seekers took the dare-devil slide. With the risk of injuries and drowning, NIA through the Davao del Sur Irrigation Management Office has strongly prohibited going down the slide and swimming in the river through warning signs. However, visitors would simply ignore the warnings, while others would go as far as destroying the signages. The LGU has also prohibited children and tourists from going down the slide.

With the potential for agrotourism, the Local Government of Bansalan has always been so supportive of developing the place. According to Tourism Officer Mr. Ike Madrazo, the LGU through their office has deployed a caretaker to keep the area clean and, at times, the police, depending on the number of tourists present. Even more so during the time of the pandemic, the LGU has seen a rise in the number of visitors as people come to unwind. Concreting of the road was through the initiative of both provincial and municipal LGUs. The Miral Dam site is also included in the Tourism Development Plan to install solar-powered lights in the area, and, in coordination with the National



Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), replica houses of Bansalan's 7 indigenous tribes will be erected in the area.

Travel Tips

So how to get there? From Davao City going to Bansalan, a visitor can take a bus ride at the Ecoland Bus Terminal which is an almost two-hour trip for a fare of P170.00. Upon arrival in Bansalan, visitors can take a motorcycle or tricycle going to the dam site for another 10 to 15 minutes. Fare is anywhere from P150.00 to P200.00 per passenger. From the main highway, a concrete road to the left leads to a lush of trees with a neat clearing in the middle. Along

the sides are railings where one opening ushers visitors down to multiple flights of stairs etched on a hill. The only way to appreciate the giant water slide is to look at it from below, which means tourists have to take the stairs down. At its foot is the Miral River, and along the banks are mini temporary cottages and tables for visitors to relax. Small merchants are there to meet your immediate needs for water and snacks. But if you intend to eat a full meal, visitors can buy food from the town on the way to Miral SRIS. Indeed, the whole area has everything to lure tourists and curious travelers alike.

Invitation to all Potential Tourist

While Miral SRIS for the Davao del Sur province is a lifeline for its agricultural production and economy, its dam and major structures unexpectedly and perfectly complement its surroundings turning it into an agro-tourism spot. The surreal water slide with the roaring waters, the sound of birds, and the ever-blooming trees are all enough to take your breath away and forget your busy life for a while. If you long to be this close to nature, this place is for you. And don't forget, we - at NIA- strongly prohibit any water sliding and swimming activities.

THE MIGHTY LAMRIS: SULTAN KUDARAT'S LIFE-GIVING DAM

Revee E. Llemit, Information Officer C, NIA Region XII

The Lambayong River Irrigation System (LAMRIS) Dam is a barrage type of dam situated in Barangay Kapingkong, Lambayong Sultan Kudarat. It consists of 14 large gates that can be opened or closed to control the amount of water to be released. LAMRIS Dam was constructed in 1989 and it was completed in 1990. Furthermore, the total cost of the project was \$36,918,000.00. To date, the project has a service area of 16,548.78 hectares with 5,959 farmer-beneficiaries.

In 2010, the LAMRIS was rehabilitated under the National Irrigation System Rehabilitation Improvement Project (NISRIP) under Japanese International Cooperating Agency (JICA). The project has two components: the hard component and the soft component. The hard

component is the rehabilitation of irrigation canals and structures while the soft component is the Institutional Development Program and construction of Irrigators Association (IA) office and support facilities. There was also provisions of farm machinery and trainings on Rice Production with Farmer Field School (FFS) from the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice).

LAMRIS Dam is a 15-minute ride from the Municipality of Isulan or Tacurong City. For those commuting from Isulan or Tacurong City, take a ride on a bus or in a multicab going to Barrio Dos. Then, tell the driver to drop at crossing Barrio Dos. Another landmark is the Sultan Kudarat State University. The fare is P25.00 from Tacurong and P15.00 from Isulan. From crossing Barrio Dos to LAMRIS Dam is P15.00 and the available

means of transportation are tricycle and a single motor. For private vehicles, from Tacurong or Isulan drive all the way to Barrio Dos turn right and look for the signage to NIA. When you are coming from Isulan turn left in crossing Barrio Dos and the LAMRIS Dam is about five-minute ride.

Visiting LAMRIS Dam is free of charge. The place is very refreshing and has a mini eco park. You may bring food and drinks but let us maintain cleanliness and observe health and environment protocols. This place offers a refreshing stroll where you can walk or drive along the embankment to feel the size of a dam. Whether you are a nature enthusiast or simply looking for a peaceful getaway, LAMRIS Dam eco park has something for everyone.





NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION
LAMBAYONG RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM

URIS: YOUR NEW DESTINATION

Jane B. Huqueriza, Public Relations Officer A, NIA Caraga

Over the past few years, farmers in some parts of Agusan del Sur have faced difficulties in their farming. They solely use rainwater for farming; therefore, when it does not rain, the farmers are left with little choice but to borrow money from others. In addition to their farming challenges, transporting their production will also add to their costs, as they will pay extra money per sack, and this additional cost will reduce their income.

The farmers thought that they would not be provided with the project, and continued to rely on the rain and their traditional farming practices until the National Irrigation Administration Caraga (NIA Caraga) implemented the Umayam River Irrigation System (URIS), which is regarded as a major undertaking in the area.

The system is situated in Barangay Waloe, Municipality of Loreto, Agusan del Sur, which draws water from the Umayam River. It started its construction in January 2012

and was completed in October 2021. With a total length of 24 kilometers (main canal), the system traverses two municipalities, namely Loreto and La Paz, Agusan del Sur. URIS serves 4,314.06 hectares of agricultural land and has 1,345 farmer-beneficiaries. Additionally, the project offers a service road to help farmers transport their goods to markets.

With the construction of the irrigation system, farmers have doubled their income and increased their production with the use of an irrigation system, decreasing poverty in the community. This enables them to create a better life for their family as well as a brighter future in agriculture.

Due to the area's growing ecotourism industry, the URIS construction also brings in extra income for the locals, as the dam site has become an eco-tourism site in the area where the "Wafalls" (Waloe Falls), known by the locals, have grown to become

one of the town's most popular destinations due to its cool water and picturesque surroundings. The additional floating houses will offer guests a place to unwind and create memories with their families and friends.

Depending on your location, there are several ways to get to the URIS dam. You can take a bus or van from Davao or Butuan City, or you can fly from Manila or Cebu to Butuan City or Davao City. The road distance between Butuan and La Paz will be 112 km and 284.7 km from Davao, respectively. Although there are no hotels in the neighborhood, you can stay at one of the comfortable inns or lodging homes to relax and feel at home.

As a result of this agro-tourism project/initiative, different forms of tourism are attracting an increasing number of visitors, which leads to the emergence of new prospective tourist demographics.





TARLAC DIVERSION DAM: GOING BEYOND IRRIGATION

Edgar L. Ubaldo, Public Relations Officer A, NIA BBMP-II

03 01 2023

The construction of Tarlac Diversion Dam (TDD) started on January 6, 1994 and completed on July 2, 1996 with a total cost of P173,473,239.00. Implemented under Balog-Balog Multipurpose Project (BBMP) Phase I, the project is located in Barangay Tibagan, City of Tarlac, approximately 12 kilometers away from NIA BBMP Office and is accessible through tricycle for P100.00 per trip, regardless of the number of passengers. It was turned over to NIA Provincial Irrigation Management Office (NIA PIMO) in 1998.

In August 2013, TDD was damaged due to hydraulic piping induced by series of typhoons, resulting in the collapse of Ogee No. 2 and part of the broad crested weir. In August 2016, repair and upgrading of TDD was pursued but in 2017, construction works were affected by the heavy rains and high river flows, damaging part of Ogee

No. 2, retaining wall and the remaining broad crested weir that prolonged the completion of dam.

In December 2019, construction of dam once again started with a new scheme of plans to fortify the structure. After eight years of being non-operational,

the dam was completed in June 12, 2019 with a total cost of P151,029,159.74, covering a service area of 7,367.63 hectares and benefitting 4,672 farmers.

TDD is likewise a potential for tourism for nearby barangays, as people often visit the place for picture taking, sightseeing, and fitness activities.



JALAU:

Future Eco-Cultural Tourism Destination

Flordalie P. Padillo, Information Officer A, NIA JRMP-II



The Jalaur River Multi-Purpose Project – Stage II (JRMP-II) is a unique irrigation development project in the Province of Iloilo with multipurpose utilization, including eco-cultural tourism. This multi-billion project is aiming to maximize the full potential of the Jalaur River to irrigate farmlands in the province, supply bulk water and provide hydroelectric power to Ilonggos. It is expected to be completed by September 2024 and benefit around 25,000 Ilonggo farmers thus raising agricultural productivity which is key to the transformation of the agriculture sector.

With its dams located in the hinterlands of Calinog which is culturally and ecologically rich locale, JRMP-II is expected to open tourism opportunities with roads constructed and improved making the area accessible to both domestic and foreign tourists. Moreover, the

construction of Jalaur High Dam which is a reservoir dam and the preservation of its watershed will definitely be a game-changer to the tourism industry of the town.

The Municipality of Calinog, home of the Panay Bukidnon Indigenous Peoples community, offers a variety of unique cultural practices which can be directly experienced by tourists. They have Panubok, a traditional embroidery with patterns and designs reflecting objects and shapes in the environment. It showcases the creativity of the Panay Bukidnon reflected in their traditional clothing and accessories. On the other hand, Binanog, their traditional dance, offers a unique entertainment to tourists as they get to understand and immerse themselves to the practices and traditions of the Panay Bukidnon.

On the other hand, the potentials of the Jalaur River and its tributaries, including its watershed area, are definitely natural tourist attractions. The mountains of Calinog have numerous waterfalls and rich ecosystem perfect for trekking, eco parks, agro-tourism, and various river activities. These potentials are yet to be discovered and is made possible because of the implementation of the JRMP-II.

Calinog town is around 50 kilometers away from the City of Iloilo and accessible via public and private transportation. Upon reaching the town proper, visitors may hire motorcycles known as habal-habal to reach its mountainous areas. For now, transportation may be a little challenging but the future development of the area providing its potentials will make it an eco-cultural tourism hotspot.



The Magat Dam is among the largest dams in the Philippines at present. It is situated between the provinces of Isabela and Ifugao. It is owned and managed by the National Irrigation Administration (NIA).

The construction of Magat Dam was authorized by Presidential Decree 693, signed by President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Sr. in 1975, and was funded by the Philippine government and a loan grant from the World Bank. It was the most daring project of the government and the first large multipurpose dam in Southeast Asia.

The Magat Dam and Reservoir is a favorite get-away for locals and the public and a favorite stop for visitors and tourists, alike. Its landscape offers a relaxing and scenic escape. It has a perfect vantage point of the Magat River, and with its majestic mountains, bird watching is a pleasure, and watching the changing colors of the sky during sunset is breathtaking.

Additional to nature's gift to man is the man-made floating solar project of SN Aboitiz Power at the reservoir. With regulated fish cages, the reservoir also provides navigation and fishing grounds for our fishing community. Magat Dam and Reservoir is more or less 360 kilometers from Manila. The most ideal mode of transportation in going to the dam is having your own transport. Travel time lasts for around seven to eight hours, passing through North Luzon Expressway and Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway.

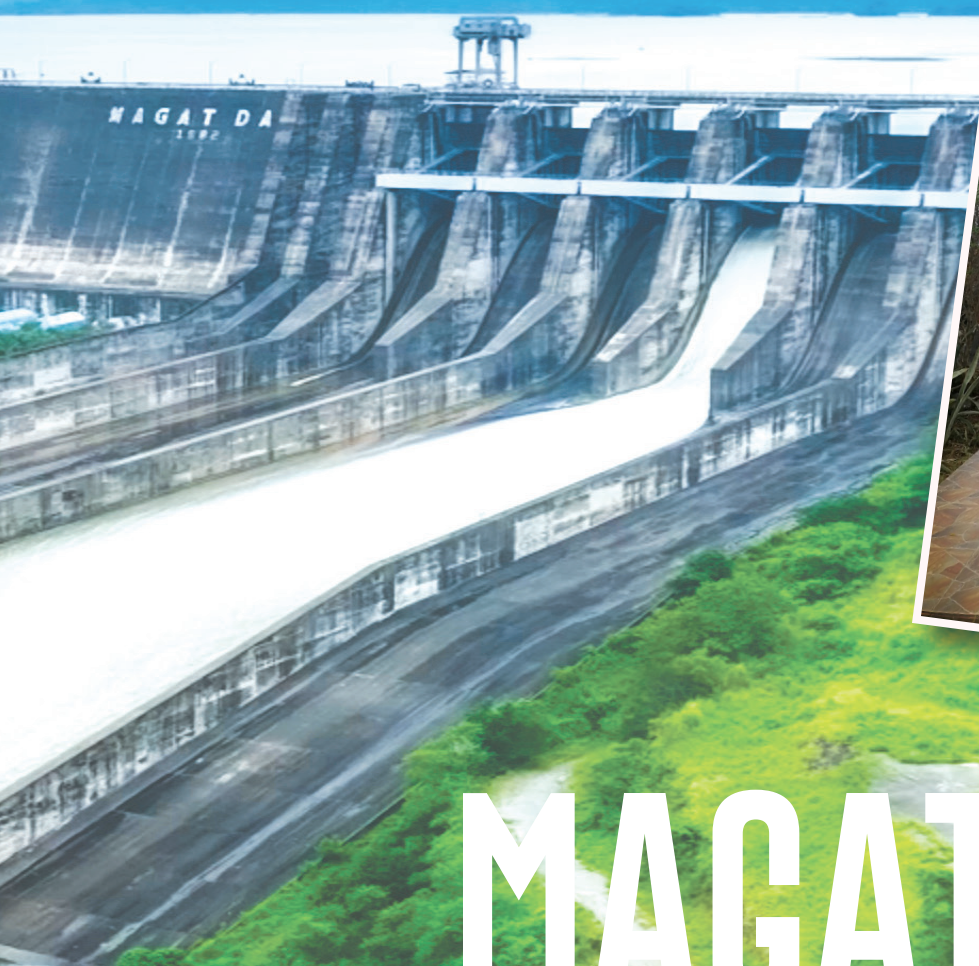
There are bus rides and airline flights available too, which will bring you closer but not exactly to the Dam, with a fare ranging from P592.00 and higher depending on the bus class, as the Dam's location is not along the AH 26 or the Pan-Philippine/Maharlika Highway. Taking a bus ride takes nine to ten hours of travel time, with additional time for ride transfers in either Santiago City or Ramon. From Burgos junction, charter a tricycle for P25.00 each or P125.00 for one-way going to Magat Dam.

The nearest airport to Magat Dam is the Class 2 Cauayan Airport in Cauayan City, Isabela, where Cebu Pacific lands and departs. It is more or less 40 kilometers away from Magat Dam. Take a bus or van via Ramon or Santiago City and be dropped off at Burgos Junction and charter a tricycle going to Magat Dam.

For accommodation, private villas and resorts like Gethsemane and Garden Resort, 3S Resort, and La Cresta Private Resort, offer a home away from home for tourists. The Magat Dam and Reservoir is a unique spot to visit. Imagine being in two provinces at the same time, where a part of your body can be in the province of Ifugao, and the other half, in the province of Isabela. Isn't that amazing?

There are other tourist and adventure spots near the Magat Dam that are worth visiting, too. You may visit the Bird watching (Sto. Domingo, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao), IK steps (Sto. Domingo, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao), Camp Vizcarra (Gen. Aguinaldo, Ramon), and Rolling Hills of Ramon (Planas, Ramon).





MAGAT DAM: BRINGING PEOPLE CLOSER TO NATURE

Desiree C. Cacal, Public Relations Officer A, NIA MARIIS

PANTABANGAN DAM TAKES SHAPE TO EMBRACE AGRO-TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Ma. Elizabeth N. Lopez, Public Relations Officer A, NIA UPRIS





History-wise, the vast reservoir of Pantabangan Dam has a rich record of historical accounts. From the time it was built in 1971, it was considered as the first single largest infrastructure ever to be accomplished by the Philippine government. It already has set its engineering marvel that made people want to witness and see for themselves the wonders of the Dam.

The Pantabangan Dam functions as a multipurpose dam mainly used for hydroelectric power generation and primary source of irrigation to about 147,664.08 hectares of rice field in Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac, and Nueva Vizcaya. It also has a great potential for aquaculture production. It has set forward on aquaculture development with the Local Government Unit (LGU), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), and other government agencies to help increase fish production in the region. This could also create a living out of fishing in the reservoir for nearby communities.

Moreover, the perfect location giving a picturesque view and beautiful nature sceneries for selfies and memories to keep make Pantabangan Dam a must-see tourist attraction in Luzon. Already a tourist destination for its water tourism potential, the waters of Pantabangan has been rented out by the Highland Bali for its operation of water sports activities offering the most visited attractions of the resort.

According to the Pantabangan-LGU, it offers two routes to reach Pantabangan, the Guimba-San Jose City-Rizal Road and the Cabanatuan-Rizal Road. From SCTEX to Cabanatuan-NLEX to Clark Logistics Interchange, turn right to Tarlac, and then choose the SCTEX Exit in Amucao, Tarlac City. From there, turn right to La Paz Tarlac then go straight to Sta. Rosa. Upon reaching Sta. Rosa, make a left turn and choose the road leading to Cabanatuan City. Take the Talavera route and turn right to Rizal, Nueva Ecija, and the road will lead you towards Pantabangan.

As one of the rising attractions and tourist destinations in the Philippines for the beauty of this earth-fill embankment dam on the Pampanga River located in the province of Nueva Ecija, the guests are assured of a home in the Agency's first owned hotel located atop the mountain overlooking the nature of the Pantabangan Dam. The NIA Pantabangan Lake Resort Hotel is managed by the NIA Upper Pampanga River Integrated Irrigation Systems (NIA UPRIS).

This hotel has 17 standard rooms, a Manager's Suite, and Administrator's Suite, made available in affordable rates. Guests may enjoy the night sky in its view deck. It also has a Restaurant offering delicious foods, and Swimming Pool to dive into. In addition, there are various other tourist attractions not far from the NIA PL Hotel that you can also visit.

True enough, one will experience a different kind of home in the highlands.



Produced by the
Public Affairs and Information Staff
National Irrigation Administration
EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City
www.nia.gov.ph