



STATE OF THE PROVINCE ADDRESS

Provincial Government of Bohol

Gov. Edgar M. Chatto

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Shared Leadership and Connectivity: Achieving BIG LEAPs in Bohol's Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development

I. Introduction

- Vice Governor Concepcion Lim, Honorable Members of this August Body, it is my honor to deliver in your presence the State of the Province Address. This SOPA is rather special for me, because it summarizes the accomplishments of not just one year of our administration, but of the two terms that we have governed together. These accomplishments would not have been possible without you, my dear colleagues of the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan*.
- I would also like to greet the other VIPs and guests in attendance, and everyone in this hall. It is my honor to present these accomplishments to you, the Boholanos whom I serve.
- As I present these accomplishments to you, I acknowledge the partnership and collaboration of our Congressional representatives, Cong. Rene Relampagos, Cong. Aristotle Aumentado, and Cong. Arthur Yap, the City Officials of Tagbilaran led by Mayor John Geesnell Yap II, Vice Mayor Jose Antonio Veloso and the City Council, our partner component LGUs, represented here by our Mayors, Vice Mayors, Councilors, barangay captains and other local officials, the National Government Agencies with their respective heads, the NGOs/CSOs/POs and the rest of civil society, the business sector, the academe, the Church and religious sector, the youth sector, the women's sector, our senior citizens, and representation from our marginalized sectors, such as the Bohol Federation of Disabled Persons.
- We acknowledge the strong support of the national government. And because this is the last year in office of the present administration, we would like to give a resounding round of applause to our President, His Excellency Benigno Aquino III and his administration! National government support is not possible without Congress. Today we are also extremely privileged with the presence of a very good friend of Bohol, Senator Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan.
- We are also grateful for the guidance of the members of the UP Advisory Council, for having generously shared their time and intellect, and even their services, *pro bono*, for the development of the Province of Bohol.
- Finally, I am most inspired to deliver the SOPA in the presence of my wife Pureza, my mother Victoria, and my brother, Dr. Boy.

II. The BIG LEAPs: Term Accomplishment Highlights

- **“The greatest lesson I have learned is that public servants should feel obliged to heed the people’s will always. Public servants are servant leaders. Their mission is to serve and not to be served.”** So were the words of the late Jesse Robredo, former Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). We have lived by that same philosophy. Shared leadership has been the guidepost of our administration from the very start. This is enshrined in our development framework, HEAT-IT Bohol HELPS LIFE towards the BIG LEAP, which values inclusive growth to reach equitable and accelerated prosperity.
- You hold in your hands a brochure of our powerpoint presentation; the details of our accomplishments for the last two terms. In this SOPA, I will emphasize only the major points.
- Our theme for this year’s SOPA is “Shared Leadership and Connectivity: Achieving BIG LEAPs in Bohol’s Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development.” Let me now present to you the BIG LEAPs that we are most proud of, in this year of the Fire Monkey, the year of opportunities.
- Our bi-monthly HEAT-IT Bohol Caravan was a promise we made before we took office. We have kept that promise. The caravan continues to bring to the municipalities a wide array of government and private sector services. To date, the HEAT-IT Bohol Caravan has served a total of 264,824 direct beneficiaries, in activities held in 23 towns covering 571 barangays – more than half of Bohol’s 1,109 barangays. These are just the direct beneficiaries – there is no telling what extent the indirect benefits of the caravan have reached.
- *Ang atong administrasyon ug pamaagi sa pagdumala giila sa pagkaduol sa katawhan. Sukad sa sinugdanan, sa akong pagka-Board Member sa Sanggunian, ngadto sa pagka-Mayor sa Balilihan, sa pagka-Bise Gobernador sa probinsiya, sa pagka-Congressman sa 1st District, ug hangtud sa akong pagka-Gobernador sa nangaging duha ka termino, mao’y atong gipakadak-an ang pagdala sa mga serbisyo sa gobyerno ngadto sa kabarangayan. Mao kana nga wala gayuy puas ang atong HEAT-IT Bohol Caravan ug Purok Power Movement.*
- Our Countryside Development Program-Purok Power Movement (CDP-PPM) has been a parallel program to our caravans. The CDP-PPM has become our direct link to our constituents through the *purok* system, and has become another service delivery mechanism, as well as our means of addressing community issues, in agriculture and fisheries, primary health care, capability building, in the issuance of Land Titles and resolution of land tenure issues, and in peace, order and internal security.

Indicators of Inclusive Growth

- Our most visible indicators of inclusive growth come from livelihood and entrepreneurship, business and investments, tourism, and food security.

- Inclusive growth means inclusive business development. Such is our *Negosyo* Center under the Bohol Investment Promotion Center, developed in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), a vehicle for inclusive growth that was launched on September 4, 2015 and graced by Senator Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV. Government has never been the best producer of jobs, because there will never be enough government jobs for everyone. Entrepreneurship is the name of the game. The opening of the *Negosyo* Center manifests the strong commitment of the PGBh to the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), balanced with large investments. For this, we thank the partnership of the business sector, through the Bohol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Provincial Tourism Council, the Bohol Association of Hotels, Resorts and Restaurants, and other organizations.
- Looking at the present state of livelihood and entrepreneurship, and even in large business investments, we can say that our provincial economy is recovering fast from the twin disasters of 2013, the Great Bohol Earthquake and Typhoon Yolanda. Under MSMEs, more than 10,000 new business names have been registered, and more than 24,000 jobs have been generated, adding up to more than P2 Billion in new investments. In big business over the last 3-year period, investments have totalled over P6 Billion for tourism-related investments and P8 Billion for agri-business investments. And because we live by the philosophy of inclusive growth, we look at not just employment, but also community entrepreneurship through cooperatives. We are proud to share that cooperatives in Bohol now stand at 299, operating with a total of P2.54 Billion in assets.
- Our visitor arrivals mark an exciting uptrend in our eco-tourism industry. We saw a 92% increase in tourist arrivals during the 1st quarter of 2015 as against the 1st quarter of 2014, and a 24% increase in total tourist arrivals from 2013-2015. Our eco-tourism industry is well on its way towards full recovery! This is not just an empty boast – direct PAL flights to Korea are now in the works, as our kick-off to international flights. PAL is now officially in discussions with the PGBh, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, and the Bureau of Customs, Immigration and Quarantine, to make these flights a reality as soon as possible, even before the completion of the New Bohol Airport!
- In agriculture, our Crops Productivity Enhancement Program, through which we continue to ensure food sufficiency of our basic commodities, is doing very well. We are happy to report that, despite the *El Niño* phenomenon, our food sufficiency indicators have remained high, the only province in Region VII to have accomplished this feat. Based on data from the Philippine Statistics Authority, our rice production sufficiency is at 106%, corn sufficiency is at 107%, and rootcrops sufficiency is at a whopping 662%. Again, all of these have been accomplished despite *El Niño*. Also, we continue to increase Production, Yield per hectare and Sufficiency Ratio of major food commodities, even as we distribute High Quality Rice Seeds for greater farm productivity.
- Another area of unprecedented success is Dairy Production. We are the first-ever province to have ever produced 1,000 liters of dairy in our annual Dairy Festival. Another example of a livelihood-focused inclusive growth strategy: we get our supply of milk from local dairy farmers, thereby raising their income levels, and it leads to a

whole set of multiplier effects for the rest of the province. We improve nutrition among Boholanos, enhance the supply of milk and cheese for the tourism industry, and raise prestige for our brand of Boholano dairy, known as Chocobao. In fact, I have just signed the Executive Order for the inclusion of Boholano dairy as an official welcome drink for Bohol's resorts and tourism establishments. Our Dairy Development Program is relatively new, and this is in partnership with the Bohol Dairy Producers Association (BoDPA). To expand dairy milk production, BODPA's Bohol Dairy Carabao Processing & Marketing Enterprise proposal amounting to P9.23 M will be supported by the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), funded by the World Bank and implemented in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Philippine Carabao Center and National Dairy Authority. We achieved a 16% increase in milk production from 2013-2014, with a total monetary value of more than P26 million.

- Our Bahay Kubo program for Sustainable Agriculture continues to be a source of pride through its component programs: Food Always in the Home (FAITH), Herbal Organic Plant Enhancement (HOPE), and Chicken Always Ready in the Yard (CHARITY). We also have a new program called the *Modelong Gulayan Sa Paaralan*.
- As I have mentioned, we are well aware of the threat of *El Niño* on agricultural productivity. To ensure that we are not left at the mercy of this climatic phenomenon, we have conducted Cloud Seeding Operations to support the water supply of dams throughout the province of Bohol.

An Inclusive Approach in the Provision of Provincial Government Services

- In the provision of Provincial Government services, we have always made sure to use an inclusive approach, to leave no one behind. In this strategy, we have enlisted the cooperation and partnership of national government agencies under our Convergence Strategy.
- We are particularly excited about our Convergence Strategy. By this, I mean the PGBh-Department of Tourism-Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Convergence for Provincial Roads and Tourism Highways Development. In the next few slides, you will see a list of the first road sections to be funded under this Convergence Strategy. Republic Act 9593, otherwise known as the Chatto-Gordon Tourism Act of 2009, has made it possible for the national government to fund the rehabilitation, improvement and upgrading of provincial roads without having to resort to nationalization of roads. Through it, we are now able to access the substantial resources of the national government for our provincial and other local roads, with the help of another law authored by yours truly, R.A. 9446, declaring the entire Province of Bohol as an Eco-Cultural Tourism Zone. Thus, any road in Bohol is a tourism road, capable of accessing funding from the national government.
- Convergence is also a focal strategy in the implementation of the Bohol Earthquake Assistance (BEA) Fund projects. This is a national government project, led by the DILG through then Sec. Mar Roxas, with our supervision and assistance, implemented by the LGUs provincewide. Of the projects with approved programs of work, 59% have been completed, 29% are ongoing, and 10% are in the bidding process.

- Vital infrastructure covers not only roads, bridges and public buildings, but also the utilities sub-sector, particularly water and power. One reason to be optimistic is that the Bulk Water Supply Feasibility Study is already in final review, and we are eyeing Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for project implementation.
- In the power industry, the PGBh has pioneered another unique strategy – the Bohol Energy Development Advisory Group (BEDAG), where the Department of Energy and other energy-related agencies, the power utilities, the private sector and the academe work together as one team to plan for Bohol’s power development. In fact, the BEDAG has successfully orchestrated, for the first time, the consolidated purchase of power by our power utilities – BOHECO I and II, giving them better leverage for negotiating cheaper power rates.
- Health infrastructure is another important priority. The Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital Modernization is now under way, with the approval of House Bill No. 5901 sponsored by Cong. Rene Relampagos, to increase the number of its hospital beds from 250 to 500. This bill, already approved in the Committee, is now due for approval in the Senate plenary. This further supports our Hospital Modernization Program, whose details I will share later.
- Our inclusive approach also means reaching out to disadvantaged sectors, the Boholanos who normally do not have a voice in development. We have strongly supported Persons with Disabilities (PWD) since the start of our term. This year, we are proud to announce that our continuing program of assistance to the Bohol Federation of Disabled Persons (BFDP) has enabled them to provide for all the needs of the PWD community, including their own housing project (in partnership with Habitat for Humanity), their own Massage Clinic and office, and even a PWD Center where, with equipment donated by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), they are now making crutches, prosthetics, and other products, under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). This project is not just an example of inclusive governance. It is also income-generating for the PWD community, which allows them to exercise a great degree of self-reliance, which is the whole point of inclusive growth. This is something that we have consistently supported through the years, even as far back as my first term as Vice Governor. Today, the BFDP is a proud participant in our HEAT-IT Bohol Caravans, where they also give their own services to the community, as active participants in Bohol’s development.
- The Expanded Special Program for the Employment of Students (E-SPES) was made possible through R.A. 9547, authored by yours truly, during my 3rd term as representative for the 1st District of Bohol. So far, we have hired 2,777 students for the E-SPES, and we have seen a 16% increase in the number of students hired compared to last year.
- Inclusive governance is also exemplified by the establishment of the Governor’s Satellite Offices in the municipalities of Carmen, Jagna Talibon and Ubay, serving as the focal points for their adjacent towns.

- *Ang pagbaton og usa ka opisina sa Gobernador sa kalungsoran usa ka bag-ong pamaagi. Apan kadtong nakatagamtam sa serbisyong atong gipaambit, mga mayor, opisyaes o yanong katagilungsod, mao gayud mismo ang makasulti kon giunsa sila pagtagad, giunsa sila pagtabang ug pag-ayuda sa atong mga tinugyanan o sa inyong Gobernador mismo.*
- But even with inclusive governance strategies, inclusive growth is not possible without peace and order. Thus, we have maintained close coordination with the PNP through Col. Dennis Agustin, the AFP through Col. Arnulfo Matanguihan and other Law Enforcement Units for Peace, Security and Public Safety. Allow me, for a moment, to stress on its importance. **The Drug Problem is something that the Provincial Government takes very seriously.** Thus, we continue to vigorously campaign against illegal drugs through the joint efforts of the PNP, PDEA, NBI, LGUs and other stakeholders. This means attacking the problem from many angles and using different strategies, such as: Supply reduction; Test-buy, buy-bust, and surveillance operations; Arrest of persons involved in illegal drugs; Confiscation of illegal substances; and the Filing of appropriate cases in court. This also includes Demand reduction, through Drug awareness programs, IECs, and symposia for: Barangay Officials; parents, teachers, high school and college students; household heads; probationers, parolees, and pardonees; Barangay Assemblies, the Liga ng mga barangay; and the Organization of *Barkada Kontra Droga*. **Let it be known that the Provincial Government is serious about fighting illegal drugs. We are doing, and will continue to do what it takes to eliminate this threat to the Boholano community!**
- This cooperation is further cemented with the creation of **Joint Task Force Dagon**, and I have recently signed the Executive Order for its creation. Task Force Dagon is yet another example of convergence, dedicated to watching over our Peace and Order, with the following task groups: TG *Banat* on Anti-Illegal Drugs; TG *Luwas-Kinabuhì* on Disaster Response; TG *Turista* on Tourism Security; TG *Palusot* on Anti-Smuggling; TG *Kinaiyahan* on Environmental Protection; TG *Kalinaw* on Internal Security; TG *Kadalanan* on Traffic; TG *Kadagatan* on Maritime Security; and TG *Kontra-Krimen* on Anti-Criminality.
- These are just the highlights of our extensive list of accomplishments over the last two terms. Let me now make a quick rundown of our **other** accomplishments, under our HEAT-IT Bohol Development Framework. Again, you have the details of these projects in your hands, and feel free to go over them at your leisure.

III. Major Accomplishments under our HEAT-IT Bohol Development Pillars

Health, Sanitation and Social Welfare

- These are our major accomplishments in the area of Health, Sanitation and Social Welfare:
 - ✓ Our Hospital Modernization Program has not only improved hospital services to our constituents, but has also increased our locally-generated revenue to P131 million as of 2015, increased bed occupancy rates, and built additional hospital buildings. Teodoro Galagar District Hospital in Jagna has a new 3-storey building. It is the first government hospital in the province to have elevator service in

addition to its ramps, in full compliance with the Accessibility Law. The hospital has passed the Stage 1 Audit for Quality Management System under ISO 9001:2008. In the following slides are improvements we have undertaken for other hospitals: Cong. Simeon G. Toribio Memorial Hospital in Carmen; Candijay Community Hospital; Clarin Community Hospital; Maribojoc Community Hospital; Francisco Dagohoy Municipal Hospital in Inabanga; and Pres. Carlos P. Garcia Municipal Hospital. Once we get an MGB Clearance on a new lot, construction of a modern hospital in Loon to replace the existing one will be under way.

- ✓ Operation of the Bohol Provincial Drug Testing Laboratory, aligned with our commitment to wage war against drug abuse, which has performed drug analysis for 1, 154 clients as of December 2015, with 100% accuracy – all our positive results in those tests were confirmed positive by the National Reference Laboratory in Manila. Government and private offices alike have accessed the services of the lab to determine who among their employees are worthy of being valued by their organization, and who should leave. The Provincial Capitol has not been spared. Those employees who tested positive have been dismissed, subjected to disciplinary measures, or have been dealt with appropriately in accordance with law.
- ✓ Enhancement of PhilHealth Program, under our Universal PhilHealth Enrolment for indigents, and expanding the Point of Care Program under full cost sponsorship of the PGBh.
- ✓ Medical Outreach Missions: 96 Medical-Dental Outreach Missions with more than 26,000 beneficiaries served, plus those undertaken by other institutions with international affiliations, such as the Gift of Life Foundation headed by Ma'am Fancy Baluyot, Bukas Loob sa Diyos of Cora Simsiman, Operation Giving Back to Bohol of Dr. Rene Rivera of South Illinois, and other partner institutions, which you can see onscreen.
- ✓ Maternal, New Born and Child Health and Nutrition Program, which uniformly reduced mortality rates in infants, maternal mortality rates, neonatal deaths, and even under-nutrition in children from 0-5.
- ✓ We continue to provide a wide range of other health services through our Dental Health Program, Mobile Clinic, Environmental Sanitation Program, and Water Laboratory Services.
- ✓ Our *Galing Pook* Award-winning Rabies Prevention and Eradication Program continues to maintain the standard of zero **confirmed** cases for death from human rabies, and to conduct surveillance activities.
- ✓ Our regular health programs include: Responsible Parenthood; HIV/AIDS Program; Provincial Eyesight Program; Leprosy Control Program; Tuberculosis Control Program; Dengue Control Program; and Schistosomiasis Prevention and Control Program.
- ✓ Mosquito-borne diseases are special areas of concern in Bohol. Our Provincial Epidemiological Surveillance and Response Unit has conducted curtain and

mosquito net impregnation activities for the prevention and control of dengue and chickungunya outbreaks, and has conducted investigations on reported disease cases.

- ✓ Still other regular health, sanitation and social welfare programs: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support; Health Emergency Management System; Healthy Lifestyle Program; Adolescent Youth Health and Development Program; National Voluntary Blood Service Program; Program on Persons With Disability; Renal Disease Control Program; and the POPCOM Program.
- ✓ Continuation of Capacity Development for Health Extension Workers, including Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, and others.
- Indeed, we are doing the best we can to address all aspects of the health, sanitation and social welfare of the Boholano!

Education and Skills Development

- In the area of Education and Skills Development, we are proud to have accomplished the following:
 - ✓ School Building Construction Program, under which we have constructed Provincial Government school buildings in partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), aside from the DepEd-DPWH regularly-funded school building program.
 - ✓ Under our School Buildings Rehabilitation in the Schools Division of Bohol, as of December 2015, the total number of classrooms completed is 485 or 84.34%, the rest are still on-going. Since education continues to be a national government mandate, we also have DepEd Implemented Classroom Repair, and Classroom Rehabilitation by DPWH.
 - ✓ School/Classroom Library Development Program, under which we have distributed 26,500 volumes of donated books to public elementary and secondary schools, as well as municipal libraries.
 - ✓ Pres. Carlos P. Garcia Scholarship Program, where we have increased the number of college recipients from 160 in 2013 to 180 in 2015, with tuition fee assistance per semester, monthly allowance and book allowance per school year.
 - ✓ Bohol Educational Subsidy Program, where we have released financial assistance to 3,600 qualified college students from 2013-2015.
 - ✓ Teacher Reinforcement Program, under which we have hired 155 province-paid public secondary school teachers in 2013, until their appointment to being DepEd regular teachers.
 - ✓ Student Recognition Program, where we have annually distributed medals and Certificates of Academic Excellence and Leadership Awards for outstanding graduating students in our 1,062 private and public elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities.

- ✓ Madrasah Teachers' Support Program, which has provided financial assistance to Madrasah (Muslim) teachers in public elementary schools of Tagbilaran City.
- ✓ The Dynamic Learning Program (DLP) is a truly remarkable program we are proud to have helped replicate throughout the province, has decreased drop-out rates **from 4.56%** in SY 2011-2012 **to 2.85%** in SY 2013-2014 **to 0.41%** in SY 2014-2015, and decreased failure rates **from 5.70%** in SY 2012-2013 **to 2.13%** in SY 2013-2014 **to 1.35%** in SY 2014-2015. The DLP has also helped to increase the number of students qualified for scholarship programs in different institutions: DOST, UC, UPCAT, MAAP, CHED, La Salle University, and Ateneo University.
- ✓ Another example of our Convergence Strategy with the national government may be found in the Bohol Model of Partnership among the Provincial Government, Department of Education & other Stakeholders. This has been exemplified in the Tourism Senior High School Facility in Lourdes National High School in Lourdes, Panglao, and in the Proposed Bohol Agricultural Training and Research Center in San Pascual National Agricultural High School, Ubay. Both schools, by the way, have received technical assistance from the Coalitions for Change Program under the Australian Embassy and The Asia Foundation Partnership in the Philippines.
- ✓ Other Major Accomplishments are: the Bohol Education Convergence Summit on April 23, 2014, and other activities in support of education.

Agriculture and Food Security

- Agriculture and Food Security is a top priority for the Provincial Government. We are delighted to report to you the following accomplishments:
 - ✓ Our focus on Organic Agriculture continues, most notably through the Farmers Field School on Community-Based Organic Rice Development Project in support to the Organic Agriculture and Climate Change Program. Also, our Organically Grown Vegetables Production has been consistently increasing from 2013-2015.
 - ✓ Our Coconut Development Program is exemplified by our Bohol Coconut Based Agro-Industrial Hub in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), which is a model in agri-based infrastructure, job creation, entrepreneurship, and livelihood development utilizing the coconut sector.
 - ✓ Our Fisheries Productivity Enhancement Program is exemplified by the Bilar Freshwater Fish Hatchery Facility, with total fish fry production and dispersal also consistently increasing.
 - ✓ Our Development of Agri-livestock Commodity Champions is through Genetic Improvement and Herd Building, with 100% of 32 targeted municipalities with 3,385 beneficiaries covered. This program has provided farmers with additional income due to improved livestock productivity and production, and helped increase food sufficiency in the province. There has been a total of 17,812 offspring produced, with a monetary value of P94.1 Million.

- ✓ In Livestock and Poultry Sufficiency, we are also looking at a consistently increasing sufficiency level of all livestock and poultry meat, including eggs.
- ✓ In our proudly Boholano Native Chicken Development Program, 100% of the targeted 25 Municipal-based & 1 barangay-based Native Chicken Production Centers are now operational. And we are even more pleased to announce that a 75% pedigreed Boholano Native chicken will come out in April 2016.
- ✓ Of course, since rabies prevention consists of both human and canine elements, the Canine Rabies Prevention and Eradication component is being sustained, with an estimated 82% of total dog population of the province now having been vaccinated, and with additional vaccinations ongoing.

Tourism and Livelihood

- In the area of Tourism and Livelihood, there are many new and exciting developments, all with a vision towards enabling our eco-tourism industry to fully recover and grow to much greater heights than before:
 - ✓ We have launched New Tourism Sites and Attractions, most notably 13 NEW eco cultural tour packages, including the *Visita Iglesia de Bohol*.
 - ✓ The Bohol Tourism Recovery Program has been our strategy to entice visitors and tourists back to Bohol, and as you have seen from our consistently increasing tourist arrivals, we are on the right track, together with our regular Tourism Promotions activities in various media.
 - ✓ We continue to assist in Tourism Product Planning and Development, as well as in Enabling Business in Tourism. As you can see from the slide, the total number of available rooms in Bohol has increased by from 4,954 in 2013 to 6,370 in 2015.
 - ✓ We believe that Making Business means Creating Jobs. We have taken note of the positive statistics in this area, seeing that the year-on-year increase in Annual Distribution of Total Number of Customers Served by the Business One-Stop Shop under the BIPC, also developed with assistance from DTI, has generated a corresponding increase in Annual Jobs Generated.
 - ✓ In the local scene, we promote Trade Events and Exhibits, such as the Sandugo Festival - Fusion Nights 2015, which garnered over P720,000 pesos in gross sales over its 5-night span, and attracted an estimated visitor traffic of over a thousand diners and buyers nightly.
 - ✓ Other livelihood programs that we have been implementing to enhance job generation for Boholanos are the following: our Employment and Placement Program; our Local and Overseas Job Fair and Special Recruitment Activities; and our Bohol Skills Registry System and Phil-Jobnet Registration.

Information and Technology

- Bohol is a new entrant into Information and Communications Technology (ICT). At this early stage, we have been able to accomplish these milestones:

- ✓ As revealed in the latest ICT updates presented by PLDT, the fiber optic network in Bohol is complete and ready, with the Bohol DFON capacity at 30 gigabytes per second, with links to Cebu and Cagayan De Oro. This also serves as a resiliency backup of DFON Loop 5. It serves as the alternate route of Mindanao traffic going to Luzon and Visayas. Therefore, the total resiliency capacity that passes through Bohol is a very impressive 180 gigabytes per second.
- ✓ Ensuring Bohol's Competiveness has gained for Tagbilaran City the recognition as an Emerging Destination in the Next Wave Cities in 2013, and for Bohol being connected to the national fiber optic highway.
- ✓ We continue to strengthen the Bohol ICT Council, to improve its capability to plan for the next steps in ICT development in Bohol.
- ✓ On the part of the PGBh, we have Developed and Maintained Information Systems, enhanced our Information Technology Facilities and Services, and even enhanced the look and user-friendly features of the PGBh websites. Certainly, we continue to undertake Capacity Development Activities for our ICT personnel.

IV. Support Mechanisms through the PGBh Clusters

We have innovated governance in the PGBh to be more pro-active and effective through our Governance Clusters: our Development Administration Cluster; our Social, Economic and Environment Management (SEEM) Cluster; our Infrastructure Cluster; and our Finance Cluster. There are so many initiatives under each cluster. Allow me to just mention each one briefly while you go over the details in your brochures.

- **Development Administration Cluster**

- ✓ Aid to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS)
- ✓ PGBh-Funded PhilHealth Point of Care in District Hospitals
- ✓ We are also maintaining our close coordination with the PNP, AFP and other Law Enforcement Units for Peace, Security and Public Safety
- ✓ We also have the Comprehensive Local Integration Program (CLIP), for the social reintegration of former rebels
- ✓ TARSIER 117
- ✓ Information Dissemination Thru Print/ Broadcast Media
- ✓ Inmates Welfare and Development Program
- ✓ Youth and Sports Development Program
- ✓ Formulation, Updating and Review of Development Plans and Policies
- ✓ Formulation of Post-Disaster Reports and Rehabilitation Plans
- ✓ Technical assistance to LGUs, NGAs, CSOs, and development partners
- ✓ PGBh Partnerships in the Implementation of Official Development Assistance (ODA)/ Special Programs
- ✓ Operation of Local Special Bodies and Councils with strong participation of the CSOs, the business sector and other stakeholders
- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Programs and Projects thru the Provincial Monitoring and Evaluation Information System (ProMEIS)
- ✓ Implementation of the Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS)
- ✓ Human Resource Management and Development
- ✓ Legal services to Local Government Units in Court Action and Review of Legal Documents

- ✓ And a very important priority throughout the country, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management as well as Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM-CCA). We are now updating the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) to mainstream DRRM and CCA.
- **Social, Economic and Environmental Management (SEEM) Cluster**
 - ✓ Institutionalization of Social Protection Programs
 - ✓ Enhancement of Systems for the Effective Delivery of Services to Clients in Crisis Situations
 - ✓ Bohol Crisis Intervention Center (BCIC)
 - ✓ Bohol Stimulation & Therapeutic Activities And Services (BOHOL STAC)
 - ✓ Provision of shelter for the Earthquake Victims, in Partnership with NGAs, LGUs, International and Local Groups, CSOs, Business Sector & Volunteers
 - ✓ Relocation Of Displaced Families Including Schools & Hospitals In No-Build Zones
 - ✓ Disaster Preparedness & Response Capabilities Enhancement for DRRM-CCA in the Provincial, Municipal and Barangay Levels
 - ✓ Comprehensive Program For Badjaos
 - ✓ Bohol Cultural Preservation And Revitalization Program
 - ✓ HEAT – IT Bohol Culture and Arts Caravan
 - ✓ Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of National Historical Institute (NHI)-declared historical sites and churches through the National National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) and the National Museum, in Partnership with the Dioceses of Tagbilaran and Talibon
 - ✓ Strengthened collaboration with the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) through the PGBH – CSO Partnership covenant
 - ✓ Intensified Campaign for LGUs to Establish Pocket Forests
 - ✓ Institutionalized Coastal Law Enforcement
 - ✓ Environmental Management System, With ISO 14001:2004 Certification
 - ✓ Forest Resource Management
 - ✓ Ecological Solid Waste Management
 - ✓ Mineral Resource Management
 - ✓ And the Integrated Natural Resources Environmental Management Project (INREMP), implemented in partnership with the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).
- **Infrastructure Cluster**
 - ✓ Under the Provincial Government’s own funds, provincial roads, and municipal and barangay roads, as requested by various LGUs, have been maintained, improved and upgraded, amounting to a total of P382 Million.
 - ✓ PGBh Partnership with the Australian Government in the implementation of the Provincial Road Management Facility (PRMF). The facility ended in 2015, and spent a total of P464 Million in road maintenance projects. On top of this was the Bohol Emergency Road Repair and Rehabilitation Projects (BERRRP), which brought the total amount of road projects extended by the PRMF to P606 Million. In the following slides are a few pictures highlighting the improvement of vital road sections following the earthquake.
 - ✓ There is also the currently ongoing PGBh-World Bank-Department of Agriculture Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), which has just started. Among its many projects, the PGBh-PRDP partnership is now undertaking Danajon Bank

Double Barrier Reef Development Initiatives, with the end in view of developing our seaweeds industry to make it even more competitive.

- ✓ Another example of convergence is the newly-launched National and Provincial Government Convergence thru the Konkreto at Ayos na Lansangan at Daan Tungo sa Pangkalahatang Kaunlaran (KALSADA) Program. **Let me emphasize that this program was borne out of the Bohol Experience under PRMF. The counterparting strategy that we implemented was the inspiration for the KALSADA program, which is now an adopted national policy, and allocated P6.5 Billion in the 2016 General Appropriations Act.**
 - ✓ New Bohol Airport Construction and Sustainable Environment Protection Project – the project is undergoing civil work construction already. Thanks to Project Manager Tadashi Aoi, who assured completion of the project by December 2017.
 - ✓ Alburquerque Sanitary Landfill Project Funded by the Department of Tourism – Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA). As of the latest update, under TIEZA’s time schedule, the management team for the landfill is currently undergoing training.
 - ✓ Malinao Dam Improvement Project
 - ✓ Small Reservoir Impounding Projects implemented by NIA
 - ✓ Of course, there is continued infrastructure support to the other sectors, especially the social and economic development sectors.
- **Sangguniang Panlalawigan Accomplishments**
 - ✓ Esteemed members of the August Body that is the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan*, we note with pride that, as our partners in inclusive governance, you have shown Dynamism in crafting legislative measures in support to our development framework. Records show that you have passed a total of 56 Ordinances and 1,805 Resolutions in this term alone, supporting initiatives for health, education, agriculture, tourism information technology, infrastructure, environmental management, social services and development administration, peace and order, among others.
 - **Finance Cluster**
 - ✓ We are, once again, proud to have secured the Seal of Good Financial Housekeeping, awarded by the DILG. Even as we maximize our efforts to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of our service delivery programs, we have also maintained sound fiscal management in the PGBh. Sound fiscal management is further assured by our institutionalization of the Provincial Internal Audit Office (PIAO), one of very few provinces in the country to have done so.
 - ✓ For greater transparency and accountability, we continue to enhance our procurement system.
 - ✓ I can confidently say that we are at a level of transparent and accountable governance where we craft local guidelines and policies for sound financial management, on top of national government requirements, with the advice of the Local Finance Committee, the PIAO, and the Commission on Audit.

V. Validation of Our Shared Leadership Initiatives

- What we do, we do for our beloved Boholanos. Awards are but the icing on the cake. These are not part of our objectives, to win awards and recognition. But these

are validations of our shared leadership initiatives. Nonetheless, we are proud and thankful to have garnered, together, the following awards during our last two terms:

- ✓ Highest Ranking Province in the DILG's Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) in 2010 and 2011.
 - ✓ Seal of Good Housekeeping of the DILG in 2011, 2012 and 2013
 - ✓ Gawad Pamana ng Lahi Award in 2011 and 2012
 - ✓ Seal of Good Financial Housekeeping in 2014
 - ✓ Galing Pook Award for Outstanding Local Government Program, through the Bohol Rabies Prevention and Eradication Program (BRPEP) in 2011
 - ✓ Gawad Paglilingkod ng Sambayanan (GAPAS) Award in 2013
 - ✓ Best Province and Public Employment Service Office Partner in Anti-Illegal Recruitment (PAIR) by the POEA in 2012
 - ✓ Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Affiliated Reserve Unit of the Year in 2014
 - ✓ Environmental Management System (EMS): PGBh Certification to ISO 14001: 2004 International Standard in 2014
 - ✓ Tourism Award of the Rotary Club of Manila for Government Tourism in 2014
 - ✓ Dangal ng Bayan Award of the Civil Service Commission (as Governor of Bohol, in 2011)
 - ✓ The Outstanding Philippines Organic Agriculturist (TOPOA) in 2012
 - ✓ Gawad Bayanihan Award of the AFP in 2011
 - ✓ National Kabalikat Award of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) – LGU Category in 2011
 - ✓ 2nd Placer – Most Outstanding Provincial Library in the Philippines in 2012
 - ✓ Outstanding Province in the Region – Provincial Nutrition Council in 2011
 - ✓ Good Nutrition Projects/ Practices (Region 7) for the Purok System Nutrition Initiative in 2014
 - ✓ District Jail of the Year 2014 (Bohol District Jail) and District Jail Warden of the Year 2014 by the BJMP Regional Office 7
 - ✓ Seal of Child Friendly Local Governance (SCFLG) in 2015
- All of these awards, taken together in one sitting at this point of our 2nd term, are overwhelming. But these are awards given to the Provincial Government and its stakeholders, and we have all done our part in earning them. Again, our philosophy of shared leadership is something that is truly built in to our style of governance. **For this reason, I would like to make special mention of, and give a nod of appreciation to, all our department heads, chiefs of attached agencies, chiefs of hospitals, and all employees of the Provincial Government of Bohol. I express the same fervent gratitude to our local officials and the different leagues of our local governments. Thank you very much for all your hard work!**
 - *Ang mga naghatag ning maong mga ganti dili tiaw nga mga institusyon, sama sa DILG. Dili na usab ingon kaniadto nga tropiyo lamang ang madawat. Pananglitan, aduna na'y minilyon nga kantidad, dili alang sa atong personal nga interes, kon dili, alang sa mga proyekto sa atong local nga kagamhanan. Kana maoy ganti o pagdasig sa atong malampusong panagtambayayong.*

Forthcoming Projects

- We do not leave it at that. As always, we Boholanos are forward-looking, always envisioning the next milestone. Thus, we reiterate the forthcoming big-ticket projects that we intend to accomplish within the next term, if God wills it:
 - ✓ Restoration and Conversion of Old Provincial Capitol to Bohol National Museum and Improvement of Plaza Rizal
 - ✓ New Bohol Provincial Capitol Building Construction Project
 - ✓ Continuing Improvement and Modernization Of District Hospitals, including the acquisition of CT Scan equipment for Talibon Hospital, and the construction of new dialysis rooms in the hospitals of Talibon, Carmen and Jagna
 - ✓ Another vital program for infrastructure is the PGBh – Department of Agrarian Reform – Department of Public Works and Highways Bridge Project, whose locations you can see onscreen
 - ✓ Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRRMC) Command Center
 - ✓ Establishment of the TARSIER 117 Satellite Office In Ubay, and the continuing expansion of TARSIER 117, including rescue ambulances for all district hospitals
 - ✓ Feasibility Studies for the New Major Bridges to Panglao Island
 - ✓ As Chairman of the Regional Development Council, we are in a strategic position to facilitate greater connectivity among the provinces of Region VII. What we previously thought was a long-shot dream is now being pursued! Under the RDC's Spatial Development Plan for One Visayas Connectivity, the groundwork is being laid for the realization of inter-island bridges connecting Regions 6, 7, 8, and the Negros Island Region, including the proposed Bohol-Cebu Multi-Use Bridge, for connectivity in power, communications, and other utilities and services. Another proposed bridge is the CPG to Maasin Bridge, to ensure the island's connectivity to the rest of the Visayas. Feasibility studies will be undertaken by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Eximbank of Korea, and the DPWH.
 - ✓ Bohol Heroes Park at Mt. Banat-I
 - ✓ Bohol Youth Center for Children in Conflict with the Law
 - ✓ Our Memorandum of Agreement with DepEd for the Training Center for PWDs, which will also serve as the Display Center for their products.
 - ✓ Also forthcoming is the Convergence Planning for Tagbilaran City and Panglao Island, made possible through the expansion of our Panglao Island Executive Committee to include Tagbilaran City, known as the Panglao Island and Tagbilaran Executive Committee, with technical assistance from the Strengthening Urban Growth and Resiliency (SURGE) Project of the USAID.

VI. Dismissal of the Joint Venture Case by the Sandiganbayan

- Finally, the one issue that has challenged our integrity in public service, the Joint Venture Case, has been dismissed by the Sandiganbayan. We have gone through the wringer, but our victory today shows that political will and leadership are necessary to improve services – in this case, the water and power utilities for the public. You can see onscreen and in your brochures the reiteration of the benefits of the Joint Venture Project. But let me not belabor the point. **We are thankful to God that this repeatedly-revived political issue has been resolved by the RTC, the Court of Appeals, the Ombudsman, and now the Sandiganbayan, proving that we did the right thing.** The DILG's **Seal of Good Local Governance**, our latest governance

award, should further drive home the point that our leadership has always worked towards what is best for Bohol and our beloved Boholanos.

- *Tukma gayud ang higayon karon tungod kay kagahapong adlaw atong gisaulog ang anibersaryo sa EDSA Revolution nga nagbalik sa atong mga demokratikahong katungod ug kagawasan. Sumala sa gisulti sa Psalmo 37, “the Lord frustrates the plans of the wicked,” ang atong Ginoo magpakyas sa laraw sa mga dautan. Segun sa kasaysayan, ang EDSA Revolution nahimong malinawon ug kini miusab sa dagway sa atong nasud ug mibalik sa mga tawhanong katungod ug ang mga batan-on kaniadto sama kanamo naaghat pagsalmot sa serbisyo publiko aron pagsilbi sa atong katawhan. Indeed, our Lord works in wondrous ways!*

VII. Conclusion

- Thus, in conclusion, I reiterate an oft-repeated message, but which holds even more true now that we are on the cusp of greater programs and projects towards a greater Bohol. We reassure every Boholano that we will always remain true, against all odds, to our commitment, to our dear Bohol and her people. “Inclusive growth demands inclusive governance.” To these words I add my own, **“Leadership is a gift from God for man to develop and share with others.”** LET US ALL BE LEADERS FOR THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BELOVED BOHOL!
- Thank you, good morning, and may I now invite everyone to get your own bottle of Chocobao, and together let us cheer, *“Padayon Bohol!”*

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