



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X – NORTHERN MINDANAO
DIVISION OF GINGOOG CITY

SCHOOL SITES PROCESSED CY 2025			
No.	School ID	Name of School	Remarks
Schools with Deed of Donation			
1	128078	Tinulongan Elementary School	<i>With technical description, Deed of Donation is on process</i>
2	128038	Odiongana Central School	<i>On process</i>
3	128071	Mimbuntong Elementary School	<i>On process</i>
4	128037	Maribucan Elementary School	<i>With technical description, Deed of Donation is on process</i>
5	128044	Tagdaging Elementary School	<i>On process</i>
6	128039	Pandadacan Elementary School	<i>With technical description, Deed of Donation is on process</i>
Schools within Ancestral Domain issued with Certificate Ancestral Domain Title (CADT)			
1	500800	Dukdokaan Integrated School	<i>With renewed usufruct with technical description and facilitated by the NCIP- Gingoog City</i>
2	111420	Bayawon Ta Malagwas Elementary School	
3	502461	Mimpakila Integrated School	
4	111092	Sagu-Ilaw Ta Kabuka Elementary School	
5	111420	Bayawon Ta Malagwas Elementary School	

Strategic Push for School Site Titling in 2026

For the Schools Division of Gingoog City, ensuring quality education goes beyond classrooms and curriculum, it begins with the land beneath every school. In a division composed of **97 schools**, only *Eight* currently stand on land officially titled under the Department of Education. The remaining sites, though actively serving learners, still require legal processing, negotiation, and transfer of ownership to secure their status for the future.

Faced with this reality, SDO Gingoog did not approach the challenge in fragments. Instead, it launched a systematic and data-driven School Titling Program, an initiative rooted in clarity, coordination, and long-term vision.

The first step was understanding the full picture. Each school site was carefully assessed and categorized based on land ownership, land classification, and the availability of legal documents. This detailed profiling revealed a diverse landscape: some schools *are situated within Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) areas and timberland zones*, others *lie on Alienable and Disposable (A&D) lands donated by private stakeholders*, while several operate on *properties owned by Local Government Unit*.

This classification was more than an inventory; it became the backbone of the division's strategy. By identifying the legal and technical nuances of each category, SDO Gingoog was able to tailor its approach to the specific requirements of every school site. Schools within ancestral domains, for instance, required respectful engagement with Indigenous Peoples and community elders, while A&D lands demanded thorough documentation and compliance with regulatory standards. LGU-owned sites, on the other hand, called for formal negotiations and transfer agreements.

Recognizing that land titling is a shared responsibility, the division actively fostered collaboration. A series of consultative inter-agency meetings were conducted, bringing together key stakeholders involved in land management and public service. These were complemented by community dialogues and meetings with elders, ensuring that local voices were heard and respected, particularly in areas with cultural and ancestral significance.

To strengthen internal capacity, SDO Gingoog also organized workshops focused on the legal and technical aspects of school site titling. These sessions equipped school heads and personnel with the knowledge needed to navigate documentation, requirements, and processes more efficiently.

Equally critical to the program's success is its emphasis on close monitoring. The division maintains active oversight of ongoing processes, tracking progress, addressing bottlenecks, and ensuring that each school site steadily moves toward ownership under DepEd. This consistent follow-through has helped sustain momentum and accountability across the initiative.

In 2026, SDO Gingoog has taken an even more aggressive stance. Building on the foundations laid in previous years, the division has intensified its efforts by conducting a broader series of activities aimed at accelerating the titling process. There is a renewed sense of urgency and commitment, and that is aiming to move more school sites under DepEd ownership within the year.

School site donated by Private Stakeholders

CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS



SCHOOL TITLING PROGRAM: Strategic Planning, Coordination, and Bottleneck Resolution

Venue: Civoleg Hilltop Resort

Date: October 28, 2025

An activity on Strategic Planning, Coordination, and Bottleneck Resolution related to the School Titling Program was conducted to improve the implementation of school land titling.



The activity was attended by the CO-STO led by Engr. Rajihe H. Sangcopan, together with School Heads, Administrative Officers, City Local Government Operations Officer Mr. Rey Gilbert Capricho, Barangay Captain Maria Cristina Dumaloan and Division Office Personnel led by ASDS Myron Gil D. Talosig, CESE.

WITH LYRICS BEST SONGS

The activity started with a discussion on the importance of the School Titling Program in securing land ownership of public schools. The objectives and expected results of the activity were explained to ensure that all participants had the same understanding of the program.

During the planning session, participants reviewed the status of school titling and identified schools that need immediate action. They also discussed how different offices can work together to complete requirements and speed up the process.

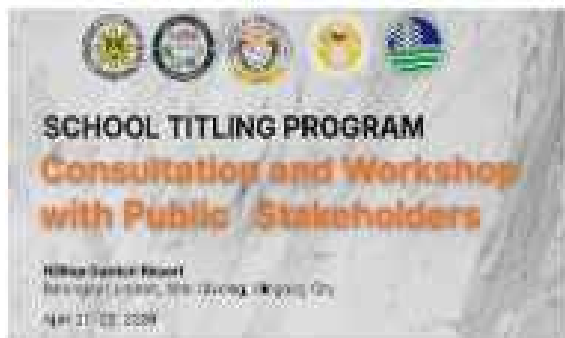


In the bottleneck resolution session, participants shared problems encountered such as missing documents, boundary issues, and delays in processing. These concerns were discussed, and possible solutions were agreed upon, including assigning responsible people, improving coordination, and setting timelines for the completion of tasks.

The activity ended with a commitment from all participants to work together for the successful implementation of the School Titling Program. Action plans were summarized, and duties were clearly assigned.

The activity helped improve coordination among offices and provided solutions to issues affecting school land titling, which will support the faster completion of school titles and ensure secure school sites.

Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting Strengthens School Site Titling Efforts



To address long-standing concerns on school site ownership and titling, a two-day inter-agency consultative meeting on school sites situated on Alienable and Disposable (A&D) lands donated by private entities was successfully conducted on *April 21-22, 2026*.

The activity gathered representatives from key government agencies and education stakeholders tasked with facilitating the legal and technical processes of school site titling. Participating agencies included



the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), represented by Dante C. Velayo and Laina Rose C. Pacalangot; the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), represented by Ms. Marites M. Enerio; and the Assessor's Office, represented by Ms. Maria Corazon Cezar; and Atty.

Glen Dale Rodriguez, Department head of the Registry of Deeds office. Also present during the activity were school heads, Public Schools District Supervisors, the CO-Sites Titling Office headed by Engr. Rajihe Sangcopan, and concerned office personnel headed by SDS Edgardo V. Abanil, CESO V.



The consultative meeting served as a venue for discussing the technical and legal frameworks governing the titling of school sites donated by private entities. During the activity, participating agencies presented their respective mandates, documentary requirements, procedures, and legal bases necessary for the proper processing of school land titles.

Throughout the discussions, school heads and other participants actively raised various concerns and bottlenecks encountered in the titling process. Among the issues discussed were incomplete land documents,



inconsistencies in tax declarations, verification of land classifications, transfer taxes, and compliance with documentary requirements related to donated properties.



The meeting reflected a formal and collaborative government consultation where stakeholders were given the opportunity to openly express concerns and seek clarification from concerned agencies. Representatives from the ROD, BIR, DENR, and Assessor's Office provided technical guidance and addressed queries raised by participants to help resolve pending issues affecting school site titling.



The activity also emphasized the importance of inter-agency coordination in ensuring the protection and legal ownership of public-school properties. Participants recognized that securing school land titles is essential in safeguarding government educational facilities and ensuring uninterrupted delivery of educational services to learners.

As the consultation concluded, participating offices reaffirmed their commitment to continue working collaboratively in streamlining processes and providing technical assistance to schools with pending site titling concerns.



The activity ended with renewed optimism that stronger coordination among agencies and stakeholders will help accelerate the resolution of school site ownership issues for the benefit of present and future generations.



SIGNING OF DEED OF DONATION

The Heirs formally executed the donation, witnessed by community leaders and Division officials. Messages of support emphasized the importance of this donation in enabling the school to plan for future improvements without legal concerns.



The activity concluded with expressions of gratitude to the donors and participants. The successful signing of the Deed of Donation marks a historic milestone for Pandadacan Elementary School, strengthening the partnership between the school, local government, and the Department of Education.

School Sites Within CADT- Covered and Timberland Areas

CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS



A consultative meeting was held on **January 14–15, 2026** to discuss issues and concerns affecting *Indigenous Peoples Education (IPEd)* school sites located within timberland areas. The activity was jointly organized by the *Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)*, the *National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)*, and the *Department of Education (DepEd)*.



The meeting was led by representatives from DENR, headed by *CENRO Jamel A. Tiburon*; the NCIP Extension Office, represented by *Mrs. Kenjie Baduco*; and the DepEd Central Office–School Titling Unit, led by *Engr. Rajhe Sangcopan*. Participants also included school heads, Administrative Officer II personnel, and DepEd Division Office personnel.

Discussions focused on clarifying the legal and administrative status of school sites situated in timberland areas, particularly those implementing the *IPED* program. The agencies reviewed existing policies, identified overlapping mandates, and examined procedural requirements for site validation, titling, and recognition of ancestral and educational rights. Challenges encountered by schools—such as tenure insecurity, documentation gaps, and coordination concerns—were also presented and deliberated upon.



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The meeting concluded with a shared commitment among the participating agencies to strengthen inter-agency collaboration and pursue coordinated actions to resolve identified issues. It was agreed that sustained communication and joint efforts would be essential in ensuring the protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights while facilitating the lawful establishment and continued operation of *IPED* school sites in timberland areas.





The Department of Education successfully conducted the Seminar and Workshop on the Legal and Technical Processes for the Titling of IPED Implementing School Sites within CADT-Covered and Timberland Areas on April 7-8, 2026 at Hilltop Garden and Resort. The two-day activity gathered School Heads and Administrative Officers II from all IPED implementing schools to strengthen understanding and coordination on the legal and technical requirements for the titling of school sites situated within ancestral domain and timberland areas.

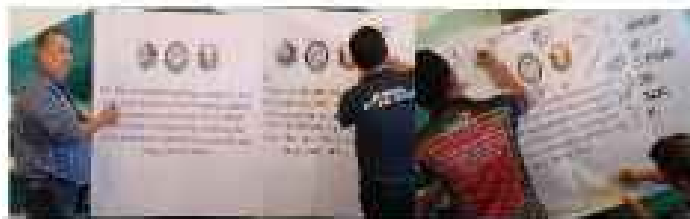
The activity was graced by representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), highlighting the agencies shared commitment toward the protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights and the advancement of accessible and secure learning environments for IP learners.



Leading the DENR delegation were Assistant Regional Director Ronald D. Gadot Sr., Atty. Mariane M. Bulasa, and CENRO Jamel Tiburon, while the NCIP was represented by Mrs. Kenjie R. Baduco. During the workshop, ARD Gadot Sr. expressed the DENR's full support for the initiative and engaged in meaningful discussions with NCIP representatives to further strengthen inter-agency collaboration in addressing issues concerning school site titling within CADT-covered and timberland areas.

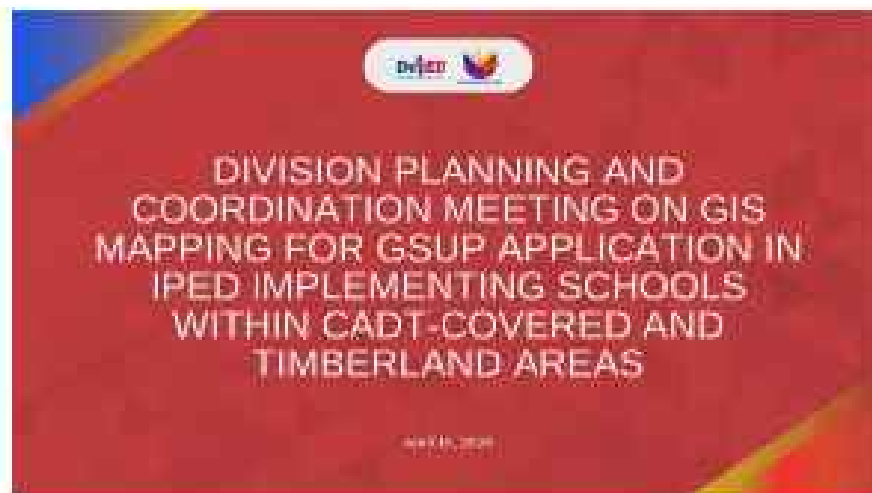


One of the significant highlights of the activity was the in-depth discussion on the crucial technical processes involving the metes and bounds of ancestral domains and timberland areas. The participants were oriented on the proper legal procedures, mapping requirements, and technical documentation necessary in facilitating the titling of school sites, particularly those located within Indigenous Peoples' communities.



As an output of the activity, the concerned agencies agreed to immediately schedule the conduct of GIS Mapping for all affected IPED implementing schools to support the identification, delineation, and documentation of school properties. This initiative is expected to expedite the processing of school site titling and strengthen land tenure security for educational institutions serving Indigenous Peoples.

Both the NCIP and DENR conveyed their full support and commitment to continuous collaboration with the Department of Education in ensuring that all IP learners are provided with safe, secure, and legally established school environments conducive to quality education.



On April 15, 2026, a Division Planning and Coordination Meeting on the conduct of Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping for the GSUP application was successfully convened to strengthen preparations and ensure effective implementation of the activity across identified school sites, particularly in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas.

The consultative meeting gathered school heads, Public Schools District Supervisors, and non-teaching personnel to discuss the operational plans, coordination mechanisms, and potential risks associated with the GIS mapping activity. The activity aimed at aligning all stakeholders with the objectives and procedures necessary for the successful conduct of GIS mapping in support of the GSUP application.

During the meeting, PSDS Landy V. Mandahinog discussed the overall objectives and operational framework of the activity. Emphasis was given to the proper setup and designation of key personnel from each school who will take part in the mapping process. He further highlighted the importance of establishing effective communication and collaboration with the IPED communities to ensure cultural sensitivity, cooperation, and smooth implementation in the target areas.



PSDS Mandahinog also underscored the significance of proper coordination among all involved personnel, considering that many of the identified school sites are categorized as last-mile schools. Challenges related to accessibility, transportation, communication, and safety were carefully considered as part of the planning process.



As part of the participatory and consultative approach of the meeting, participants were grouped according to their respective roles to identify and discuss possible risks that may arise during the conduct of the activity. Each group presented their insights and recommendations before the body to promote shared understanding, collaborative problem-solving, and collective learning among the participants.



The coordination meeting was presided over by Assistant Schools Division Superintendent Myron Gil D. Talosig, who ensured that all necessary preparations and considerations were thoroughly discussed.



In his message, ASDS Talosig emphasized the critical role of GIS mapping in the successful implementation of the GSUP application and reminded all participants of the importance of accuracy, coordination, and accountability in carrying out their assigned tasks.

The meeting concluded with a unified commitment from all participants to work collaboratively and uphold efficient coordination to ensure the successful and safe conduct of the GIS mapping activity in all identified schools and communities.

GIS MAPS

GIS Map Turnover Becomes a Story of Partnership and Purpose



What was meant to be a simple ceremonial turnover of GIS maps turned into a meaningful gathering of shared experiences, collaboration, and community spirit at Hilltop Garden Resort on April 22, 2026.

Led by IPED Coordinator PSDS Landy V. Mandahinog, the activity brought together Public School District Supervisors, school heads, Administrative Officer II, and administrative assistants from IPED-implementing schools. They were joined by Division Office personnel headed by SDS Edgardo V. Abanil,



representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources including Engr. Josephine Tejero and Mrs. Marites Enerio, and the GIS mapping team led by Bill Gil Canada.



While the turnover of GIS maps marked the highlight of the event, what truly stood out was the exchange of stories behind the data. Participants openly shared the challenges they encountered during mapping activities, from navigating difficult terrain to ensuring accurate and respectful documentation of ancestral domains. More importantly, they spoke about how these challenges were addressed through teamwork, patience, and coordination.

A key factor in the success of the mapping process was the effort to connect with tribal communities and stakeholders even before the actual survey began. Conversations held a day prior to the mapping activities helped build trust and understanding, allowing the teams to work more smoothly and respectfully within the communities.



symbolized the relationships built and the shared commitment to serve indigenous learners better.

The atmosphere during the event was not just formal, but warm and reflective. It became a space where participants listened, learned, and appreciated each other's roles in the process. The GIS maps, in this sense, represented more than geographical data, they

The successful turnover was made possible through the strong partnership among DENR, DepEd, and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). Their collaboration highlighted how collective effort can lead to meaningful outcomes for communities.

In the end, the event was not just about handing over maps, it was about recognizing the journey behind them and the people who made it possible.

Conduct of Relocation Survey and Signing of Deed of Usufruct



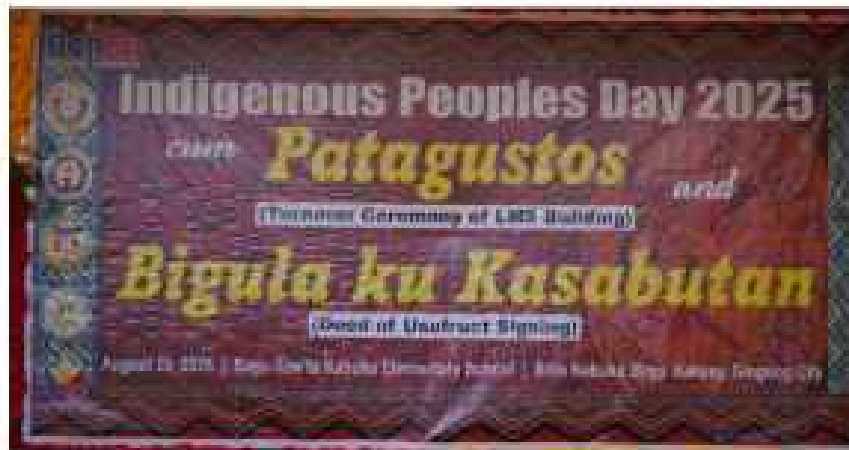
Kabuka Elementary School stands as a symbol of hope and commitment to accessible education in Sitio Kabuka, Barangay Kalipay, Gingoog City. Recognized as one of the schools under the Last Mile Schools Program, it was established to address the educational needs of learners in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas.



The journey toward the realization of Kabuka Elementary School began with careful planning and coordination among stakeholders. One of the earliest significant activities was the *conduct of a comprehensive school site survey* which was conducted last **April 16, 2025**. This activity ensured that the chosen location was suitable for the construction of school facilities and accessible to the learners it intended to serve. The survey also guided subsequent development efforts, particularly in ensuring safety, sustainability, and proper land use.

Following the site survey, the *establishment of a perimeter fence* was undertaken. This marked a critical step in securing the school grounds and delineating the area intended for educational purposes. The construction of the fence symbolized the formal beginning of the school's physical presence in the community and reflected the shared responsibility of local leaders, residents, and education authorities in protecting and nurturing the institution.





A milestone in the history of the school was reached on **August 29, 2025**, with the **signing of the Deed of Usufruct**. This legal agreement granted the school the right to use the land for educational purposes, thereby ensuring stability and continuity of operations.

The signing of the Deed of Usufruct affirmed the strong partnership between the landowners, the local government, and the Department of Education, highlighting a collective commitment to providing quality education for children in the area.



(Left Photo: School Head Mr. Dario Siningan, SDS Edgardo V. Abanil, CESO V, City Councilor Rodrigando Mole, City Mayor Eric G. Cañosa and PTA Officers; Right Photo: ASDS Myron Gil D. Talosig)

Through these foundational activities—the site survey, the establishment of the perimeter fence, and the signing of the Deed of Usufruct—Kabuka Elementary School was firmly rooted in the community. Its establishment represents more than the creation of a learning space; it embodies the aspiration of Sitio Kabuka for progress and opportunity. As a Last Mile school, Kabuka Elementary School continues to serve as a beacon of learning, bringing education closer to the children of Barangay Kalipay and reinforcing the belief that no learner should be left behind, regardless of distance or circumstance.



The 1st Special Conference on the land titling issues and concerns of **Minpakiki Integrated School** was conducted on **April 15, 2025**, with the participation of school officials, IP elders, and leaders of CADT 118. The activity focused on discussing the legal status of the school site and identifying solutions through stakeholder collaboration.

(Left to right: SDO Chairman "Datu Pigsangian" Ruel Pinasindang, "Bae Pistudan" Lita Manianuhog, Ma'am Teresa Pinagawa, Brgy. Kag. Zamina Israel, Brgy. Kag. DeFrank Benhayon, "Datu Pantuglawi" Miling Pinasindang, Datu Plotante Manianuhog, Datu Dodong Laginia, Amba Pina-apol)

On **August 18, 2025**, a **School Site Survey** was conducted with IP elders, CADT 118 leaders, and the Idulsa Engineering Team to establish the actual boundaries of the school site and provide technical basis for legal documentation.



(Left to right: Sch. Head Joey Suniel, Amba Fred Salingsing, Ronald Embag, Amba Diego Montao, SDO Chairman "Datu Pigsangian" Ruel Pinasindang, Richer Salingsing, Joven Embag, 2 from Idulsa Engineering Team, and AO II Eden John Mercado)



A *Stakeholders' Meeting* was held on *September 9, 2025*, to finalize the Deed of Usufruct with IP elders and CADT 118 leaders. The terms and conditions of the agreement were reviewed and mutually agreed upon.

(Present: Datu Flotante Manlanuhog, "Datu Halandonon" Jose Pinasindang, "Bae Nay-akoman" Virginia Pinasindang, "Datu Panugawit" Ailing Pinasindang, "Datu Markagawayan" Alfredo Salingsing, Amba Fred Salingsing, Ronald Embag)



On September 23, 2025, safety boundary lines were established through perimeter fencing to define and secure the school premises.



Finally, on *October 6-7, 2025*, the *Deed of Usufruct (Bigula Ku Kasabutan daw Kasulatan)* was formally signed, marking the resolution of the land issue and ensuring the continued use of the school site while recognizing ancestral domain rights.



(Present: DepEd SDO Gingoog City: EPS-SGOD Mario Endrina, PSDS-ND\$ Landy Mandahinog, EPS-MAPEH Jocel Bermados, and team; CADD 116: 1st Party: Bae Benhawon Migduyan, Bae Gemma Sulaygay, Datu Flotante Marianuhog, Datu Halandonon Jose Pinasindang, Brgy. Officials: Kag. DeFrank Benhayon, NCIP Gingoog; 28rd IB Philippine Army)





On **May 14, 2025**, a school site survey was successfully conducted at ***Balay Ha Tagnauwan Ta Bayungon Elementary School***. The activity aimed to assess the physical condition and location of the school site in preparation for future development projects. Key areas of the school compound were inspected, and necessary measurements and observations were documented to guide upcoming infrastructure improvements.

The following names are present during the activity: Gabriel Pinaaling-School Head, Surveyor Team- Engr. Tanasas, Datu Gabriel A. Salamangka-Land Claimant CADT 248, Bae Jolana Salamangka-Egway-Land Claimant CADT 248, Datu Buung Salamangka-Land Claimant Elder CADT 248, Datu Lumiliwan Ramil Ansihagan-CADT 248 representative, Datu Salahid Ansihagan-Barangay Representative/CADT 228 representative, Rida A. Tinaghanao-Teacher, Regina S. Dagangon-Teacher, Danny Ansihagan-CADT 248, Mantinguwan Salamangka-Salamangka Clan Elder, and Mansalchayan Salamangka-Elder



Following the site survey, the ***establishment of the school perimeter fence*** was undertaken on **August 19, 2025**. This project was implemented to enhance the safety and security of learners, teachers, and school property. The construction of the fence clearly defined the school boundaries and contributed to creating a more secure and organized learning environment.



Subsequently, on *June 14, 2026*, the signing of the Deed of Usufruct was formally conducted at *Dukdokaan Integrated School*. This legal undertaking ensured the proper authorization for the use of the school site and strengthened the institutional partnership among stakeholders. The signing marked an important milestone in

securing the school's legal occupancy and supporting its long-term operational stability.

These activities demonstrate the continuous efforts of school officials and stakeholders to improve school facilities, ensure legal compliance, and provide a safe and conducive learning environment for learners.



The Deed of Usufruct Signing for **Bayawon ta Malagwas Elementary School** is a historic milestone for the Indigenous People (IP) community of Sitio Malagwas, Barangay Kalipay. Held on *December 11, 2025*, at the *Kalipay National High School* covered court, the event symbolized the community's unified commitment to secure a permanent and culturally respected school site within their ancestral domain. This initiative aligns with the mandate of Republic Act 8371 (Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act) in ensuring that any utilization of ancestral lands is grounded on formal consent, mutual respect, and recognition of Indigenous governance structures.



The activity brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, each playing a significant role in ensuring the legitimacy and success of the initiative. These included:

First Party – The Damitan Clan

- *Datu Litumbagan Rodario Damitan*
- *Datu Bugabunan Fernando Damitan*
- *Yamay Damitan*
- *Datu Tugam-a Ruben Damitan*
-

Second Party – Department of Education, Gingoog City SDO

- *SDS Edgardo V. Abanul, CESO V* represented by *Mario J. Endrina, EPS-SGOD*

Other Stakeholders Present

- **Gingoog City LGU**
 - *City Mayor Erick G. Cañosa* represented by *Councilor Evelyn G. Cañosa*
 - *Rosemarie M. Abutan, City IP Coordinator*
- **IP Leaders & Barangay Officials**
 - *Datu Manlindahay Fidelino S. Mandahinog Sr.*
 - *Datu Sinangonan Estoriano S. Mandahinog*
 - *Datu Bernabe Sin-ingan*
 - *Datu Dalisayan Dario M. Sin-ingan*
 - *Brgy. Captain Ruel P. Mantantuan*

- *Brgy. Kagawad Namie O. Temple*
- *Brgy. Kagawad Nelson Q. Mandahinog*
- *Brgy. Kagawad Defrank Benhayon*
- *Brgy. Kagawad Engeland S. Zabala*
- *Brgy. Kagawad Fidelino D. Mandahinog Jr.*
- *IPEd Focal Person Landy Mandahinog*
- NCIP Gingoog Service Center: *Mrs. Erenita Bacala*
- DPWH-MOFDEO: *Engr. Ricky G. Anajao and Engr. Iphraim V. Baranggan*
- DepED Gingoog SDO
 - *PSDS Landy V. Mandahinog, Division IPed Focal Person*
 - *EPS Jocel D. Bernados*
 - *Rodel K. Quitat*
 - *Julius Lagumbay*
 - *Marlon E. Balansag*
 - *Jolly M. Hospital*
 - *Elvie P. Mantantuan*
- Parents, teachers, learners, and community members of Sitio Malagwas
- City Government Representative: Councilor Evelyn Canosa, representing the City Mayor

The activity aimed to formally secure and document the shared agreement granting Bayawon ta Malagwas Elementary School the right to use a portion of the ancestral land through a duly recognized Deed of Usufruct. This ensures:

- Compliance with RA 8371 (IPRA Law)
- Respect for Higaunon culture, traditions, and decision-making processes
- Strengthening of long-term access to quality, culturally responsive education for the Higaunon children
- Establishment of a legally protected school site for future infrastructure development



The program began with a solemn *Singampu*, a traditional Higaunon prayer, led by Datu Manlindahay Mandahinog and Datu Alfredo Salingsing. This ritual set the tone for the entire activity, invoking guidance, peace, and unity among all participants. Following the ritual, the opening program commenced with Mr. Denver Hapsay, a teacher of Kalipay NHS serving as the program host. The event proceeded smoothly as he introduced the purpose and significance of the gathering. During the Statement of Purpose, EPS Jocel Bernados provided clarity on the importance of securing a Deed of Usufruct, especially within ancestral domains where legal documentation is essential in honoring both tradition and national laws. His message helped the audience appreciate the gravity of the process being undertaken.



A series of messages of support followed by various leaders and partner agencies:

- Brgy. Captain Mantantuan highlighted the community's unity and long-awaited desire for secure education infrastructure.
- Former City IPMR Datu Sinangonan Mandahinog emphasized the cultural and historical significance of the land.
- DPWH, represented by Engr. Ricky Anajao, reaffirmed the agency's readiness to assist once the legal groundwork was secured.
- Councilor Evelyn Cañosa, delivered an inspiring message stressing that securing school land means securing the future of the young Higaonon learners.
- EPS Mario Endrina expressed deep gratitude to the Damitan clan and commended the Sitio Malagwas community for their unwavering support to education. He highlighted the remarkable generosity of the clan for offering *Four (4) hectares of land for educational development*.



After the messages, Mrs. Erenita Bacala of NCIP read the drafted Deed of Usufruct. She carefully explained each section to ensure that all terms were consistent with the Higaonon culture, legal standards, and the specific intentions of the clan. The reading allowed the entire audience to fully understand the agreement before its finalization. Upon confirming that all terms were acceptable, the Damitan clan, along with the Sitio Malagwas

community, unanimously approved the document. This led to the signing of the Deed

of Usufruct, marking a historic moment of unity and cooperation among the stakeholders.

The Deed of Usufruct was officially signed and notarized, serving as a concrete legal proof of the IP community's consent to allocate a parcel of their ancestral land for educational use. The IP community expressed overwhelming joy, recognizing the forthcoming construction of a new school building as a major victory for their children. The Damitan clan's donation of 4 hectares of ancestral land demonstrated extraordinary generosity and commitment to the future of the youth. DepEd's continuous efforts through the IP Education Program reaffirmed its mission of providing inclusive and culturally grounded education to Higaonon learners. The collaboration among NCIP, DPWH, LGU, DepEd, and the IP community showcased strong inter-agency partnership supporting educational development.



The signing of the Deed of Usufruct marks a profound milestone in the educational journey of Bayawon Ta Malagwas Elementary School. More than a legal document, it is a symbol of trust, unity, and shared aspiration between the Higaonon community and the Department of Education. With the land now formally secured, the path is clear for building facilities that will nurture the dreams of the next generation. This event stands as a testament to the power of community collaboration, cultural respect, and unwavering commitment to quality education.



