



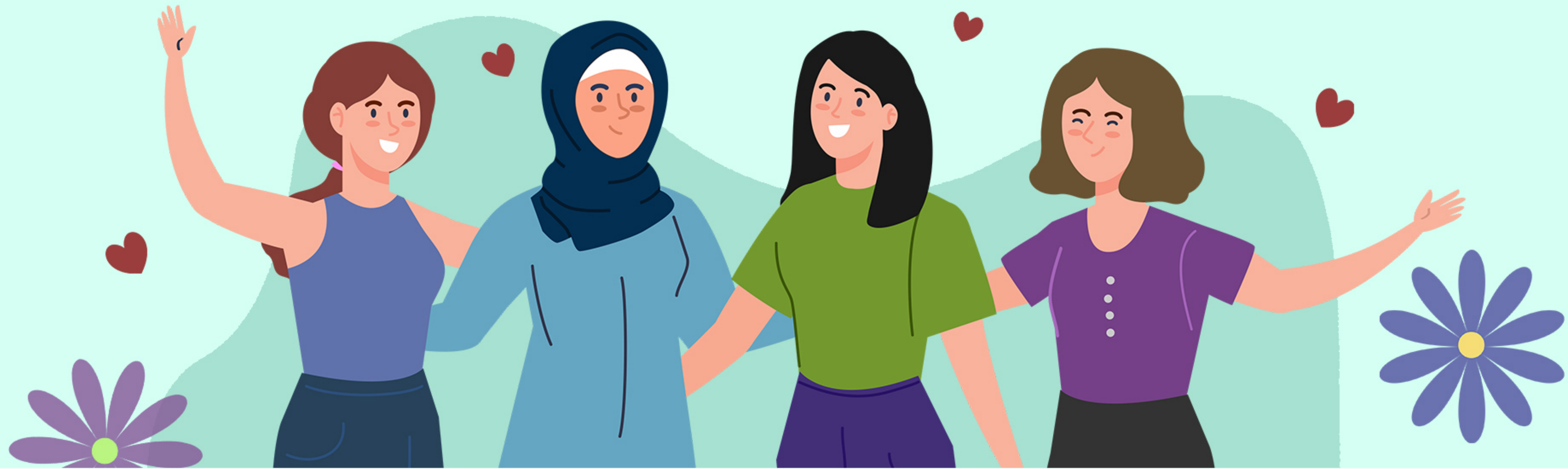
# Gender and Development BULLETIN

VOLUME 18 NO. 9  
MARCH 2022

2022

The Official Publication of Public Affairs and Communication Service on Gender and Development (GAD)

## DILG Celebrating Wins for all “Juanas”



Observing the National Women’s Month Celebration (NWMC) has always been an annual event in the DILG, but this year is extra special as we culminate the six-year theme *“WE Make CHANGE Work for Women.”* Moreover, we are seeing a positive light as the country sees an improvement in the overall pandemic situation.

On the road to recovery, women have made significant contributions to the country, and this is also true in the Department.

*“Ang ating mga Juana dito sa DILG ay ang naging katangi-tanging tauhan natin [in this pandemic]: for their selflessness, hard work, and commitment as they went beyond the call of duty to help put an end to this crisis, revive our economy, and bring a greater sense of normalcy in the lives of our people,”* DILG Assistant Secretary for Human Resource and Development Florida Dijan said in her message during the 2022 NWMC Culminating Activity & Awards Ceremony held last March 28, 2022.

DILG Undersecretary for Operations Epimaco Densing shared similar sentiments. *“Tunay nga pong ang mga kababaihan ay hindi lang inspirasyon at mga ilaw ng tahanan. Sila po ay kasama... Kasama natin sa pakikipaglaban para mapaganda ang ating bayan,”* he said, ending his opening remarks with a serenade of the song from Gary Granada’s “Kasama” that expressed his support for women empowerment.

### NWMC Winners

This year, the DILG Central Office Gender and Development Focal Point System Technical Working Group under the leadership of Undersecretary Marjorie N. Jalosjos spearheaded the Department’s 2022 NWMC with the sub-theme *“Agenda ng Kababaihan Tungo sa Kaunlaran.”*

The group organized a series of activities that advanced GAD and Women Empowerment towards a more inclusive initiative: Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI). Other activities included advocacy music, social media postings, exciting contests, and other side events throughout the month of March.

The winners awarded in the ceremony are the following:

#### Video Contest on Best Experience/s during COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to the 2022 NWMC theme

- **1st Place** - DILG Region XII
- **2nd Place** - Office of Project Development Services – Project Monitoring and Evaluation Division (OPDS-PMED)
- **3rd Place** - Bureau of Local Government Development – Local Fiscal Resource Development Division (BLGD-LFRDD)

#### Sumayaw, Sumunod sa Tugtugin ni Juana

- **1st Place** - DILG Region VII
- **2nd Place** - DILG Region XII
- **3rd Place** - DILG NCR

Unique COVID-19 experiences of female employees were shared through the video contest while the dance contest showcased the employees’ amazing talent in grooving to the beat of the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)’s advocacy songs.

With the month-long event’s success, Asec. Dijan said that she’s *“sure that next year, our organizers will struggle to come up with a more successful celebration.”* She also expressed her gratitude to the DILG Central and Regional employees who joined the contests and other NWMC activities.

### Towards Normalcy of Equality

However, our advocacy in promoting gender equality and women empowerment is still far from being “successful” as more concrete changes need to happen.

Usec. Densing stressed the importance of providing greater access to women *“to the many aspects of our daily life such as education. [They should also get] equal treatment in terms of employment, business, governance, and health.”*

*“Hopefully, women’s month or women’s day will eventually be something that we no longer celebrate in the future. Because if we no longer celebrate it, it means we have already achieved our objective; that is, to create equality amongst men and women,”* he said.

Indeed, the 2022 NWMC culmination is not the ending; rather, it is a continuation of our step-by-step journey towards equality for all. ■

Arianne Q. Zurbanon

### DILG-CO Quality Policy

We, the DILG-Central Office, imbued with the core values of Integrity, Commitment, Teamwork and Responsiveness, commit to formulate sound policies on strengthening local government capacities, performing oversight function over LGUs, and providing rewards and incentives. We pledge to provide effective technical and administrative services to promote excellence in local governance and enhance the service delivery of our Regional and Field Offices for the LGUs to become transparent, resilient, socially-protective and competitive, where people in the community live happily.

We commit to continually improve the effectiveness of our Quality Management System compliant with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements and international standards gearing towards organizational efficiency in pursuing our mandate and achieving our client’s satisfaction.

We commit to consistently demonstrate a **“Matino, Mahusay at Maasahang Kagawaran Para sa Mapagkalinga at Maunlad na Pamahalaang Lokal”**.

Layout by: Ghie D. Tinawin