

Mr. Marc Gil P. Calang from Philippines



Greetings from the Philippines, Mabuhay! My name is Marc Gil P. Calang, and I am the Civil Defense Assistant and Training Officer for the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) in the Department of National Defense (DND), the executive arm and secretariat of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

OCD's vision is to become the center of excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) by 2020, and it is pursuing that mission by providing leadership in the administration of a comprehensive national civil defense and DRRM program in the Philippines.

Presently, I am assigned to the OCD Caraga Regional Office located in Butuan City. The Caraga Region is comprised of five provinces, one highly urbanized city, five component cities, 67 municipalities, and 1,310 barangays.

In my nine years of government service since 2008, I have gained disaster knowledge and awareness through experiences, trainings, workshops, conferences, and deployments to actual events and incidents. I have been designated the Regional Training Officer under the Plans and Program Section and the Capability Building Section, and I am a National/ Regional Course Monitor in the conduct of the All Laddered Courses of Incident Command System. As such, I work closely with the Local DRRM Councils, NDRRMC member-agencies, and other partners in the implementation of DRRM capacity-building activities and training programs. One of my tasks is to serve as a facilitator/resource person in providing technical assistance to various stakeholders in the conduct of DRRM capacity-development activities and training programs, and in the formulation of DRRM-related plans in the region.

I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to the ADRC and the government of Japan for the opportunity to learn and experience best practices and state of the art Japanese technology in the field of disaster risk reduction (DRR).

My research here will be of great help to the agency where I work, as well as to the Filipino citizens in making the nation more resilient to disaster and better equipped to strive for safer and more sustainable development.