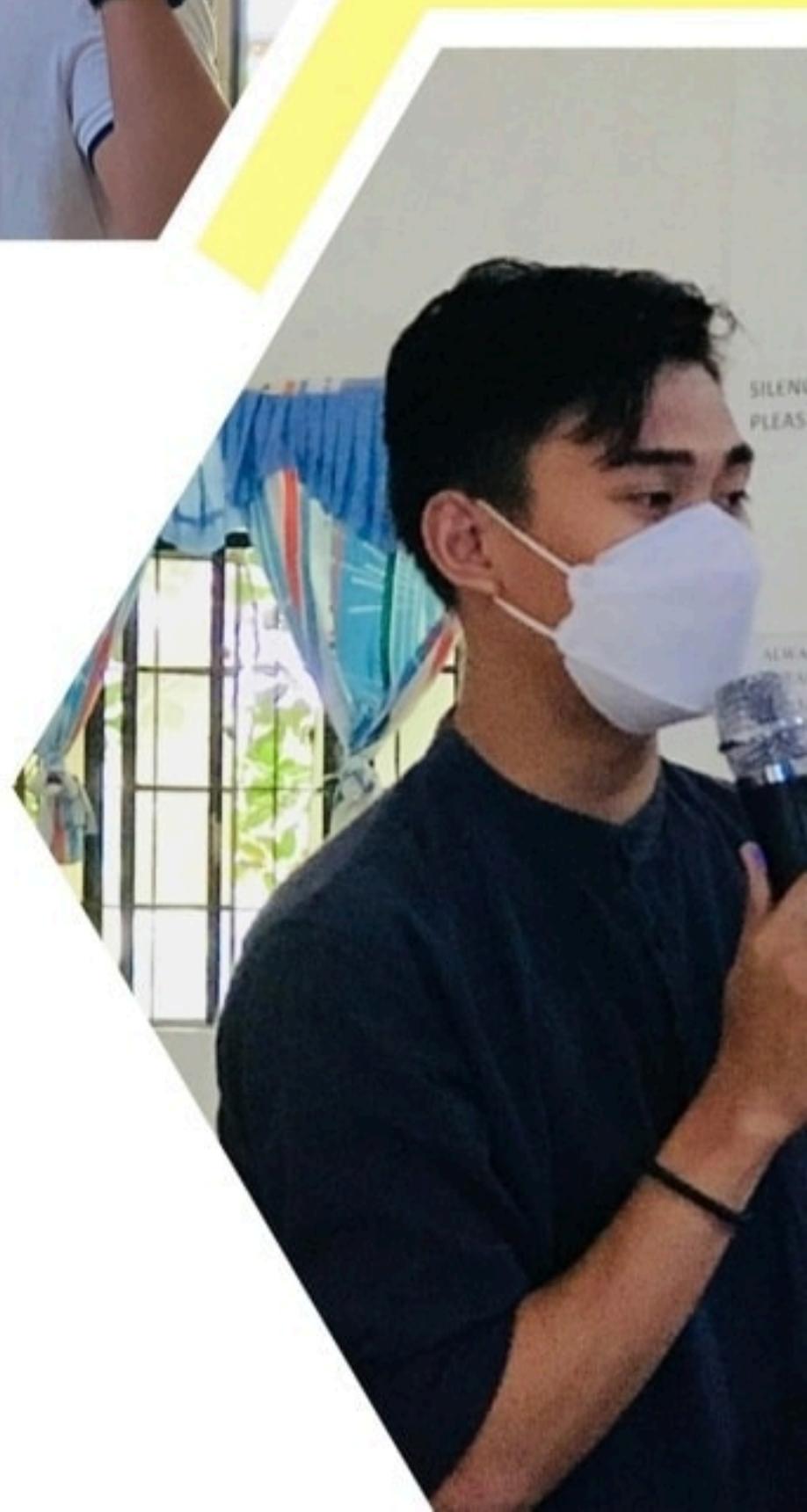


CONSULTATION REPORT

Based on the Consultation In Aid of Legislation with the Youth in Lanao del Sur



ABOUT

This is a Consultation Report on the issues, concerns and recommendations for the youth in Lanao del Sur conducted by the Office of Member of Parliament Atty. Maisara C. Dandamun-Latiph held on 29th day of June 2021 at MSU-IPDM, Marawi City.

BTA Atty. Maisara C. Dandamun-Latiph



I. SUMMARY

This briefing synthesizes the results of the public consultation with youth and youth advocates conducted by the Office of Atty. Maisara C. Dandamun-Latiph on June 29, 2021.

The consultation had the following objectives:

- To know more about the various issues and concerns of our youth in Lanao del Sur and Marawi City;
- To gather ideas from our youth to generate in legislation;
- To gather ideas concerning the programs and projects needed by our youth that will address the issues and challenges;

- To know more about the concerns of youth in Lanao del Sur and Marawi City about sustainable projects;
- To improve planning and development of related policies and establish a reliable and accessible information base to report related programs and policies;
- To formulate recommendations for programs which will be transmitted to our implementing agencies of the Bangsamoro Government;



II. INTRODUCTION

Youth is best understood as a period of transition from the dependence of childhood to adulthood's independence. That is why, as a category, youth is more fluid than other fixed age-groups. Youth are among the other sector eager for witnessing change and development of the country. One of the affected sector during disasters and problems are youth. A youth advocate additionally, not only ensures that youth maintain their human rights, but also that their perspective and feelings about services or systems are heard. It aims to prevent youth from experiencing diminished self-esteem while interacting with adults who hold professional authoritative roles in their life. According to the data of BYC, BARMM youth aged 15-30 is almost 1,103,762.

YOUTH RIGHTS



One of the most challenging issues that we face today is the armed conflict and terrorism. Because of these, our communities especially the youth become prisoners by the culture of violence. The siege of Marawi in 2017 has produced disastrous consequences for its population. At least 124, 432 individuals, mostly young people, were displaced, having to seek refuge in the same province or outside of it.

Two years after the conflict, some 76,719 people returned to Marawi, while about 47, 715 individuals remained in South Lanao or migrated to other provinces or regions. In terms of education, only 37% of the school-age populations is in school, while the rest, mostly young, are either out of the system, or of working age but unemployed.



Photo taken during the consultation with the youth in Lanao del Sur

Meanwhile, the COVID 19 global health emergency and its economic and social impacts have disrupted nearly all aspects of life for all groups in society. For young people, and especially for vulnerable youth, the COVID 19 crisis poses considerable risks in the fields of education, employment, mental health and disposable income. To avoid exacerbating intergenerational inequalities and to involve young people in building social resilience, governments need to anticipate the impact of mitigation and recovery measures across different age groups, by applying effective governance mechanisms.

In conclusion, the role of the youth in the nation building is crucial. They are problem solvers, have a positive influence on other young people and the nation, and are extremely ambitious. They have the ability to create an identity for themselves and move the nation forward.

III. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Under the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), Article IX-Basic Rights, Section 13-Rights of the Youth-The Bangsamoro Government shall recognize the vital role of the youth in nation-building, promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual and nationalism, encourage involvement in public and civic affairs, and promote mental and physical fitness through sports. The Parliament shall create by law a commission on youth affairs and shall define its powers, functions, and compositions.



Photo taken during the consultation with the youth in Lanao del Sur

The Bangsamoro Youth Commission is the focal agency of the Bangsamoro Government mandated to implement programs, projects and activities affecting the youth. It is by virtue of Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 10- "An act creating and establishing the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, defining its powers, functions and responsibilities, appropriating funds therefor, and for other purposes".

Under the programs of the BYC is the formulation of the Bangsamoro Youth Transition Priority Agenda(BYTPA) by the help of different stakeholders and various organizations.

TO WIT, THE 5 PRIORITY AGENDA ARE:

Health

For the BARMM Youth to participate in multi-sectoral and inclusive programs, projects and activities as well as services in health and in financial risk protection through Universal Health Care.



Education

For the BARMM Youth to participate in accessible, quality and relevant formal and non-formal education and training to be responsive to regional and national needs.



Peace Building and Security

For the BARMM Youth to promote human security, inclusive disengagement and reintegration program, prevention from association in armed groups, including participation in safety efforts, peace building, conflict prevention and management initiatives.

Peace



Governance

For the BARMM Youth to participate through their involvement in local and regional politics and the government bureaucracy through programs, projects and activities in the region.

Governance



Active Citizenship

In community development and nation building through active, meaningful, sustainable, productive and patriotic engagement in civil society, social mobilization, volunteerism and values formation to improve the plight of the youth.

Citizenship



IV. STAKEHOLDER VIEWS

All of the observations laid down in this brief have been collected primarily from the June 29, 2021 consultation conducted by the Office of MP Atty. Maisara C. Dandamun-Latiph, and supplemented by other sources as otherwise stated.

Issues and challenges of youth:

RE Peace and Security

There were concerns and issues raised by one of the participant about the response or actions of the government in addressing the issues about the loss of some girls; and with this kind of situation, what are the agencies to directly report that may help in addressing the problems related to peace and security.

RE Employment

One of the participants raised, is how the Bangsamoro Youth Commission will address the problems in employment for the youth given that due to pandemic, there were many youths whom are unemployed and affected by the reducing of employee to some agencies. Also, the call to the government to stop the internal arrangement in terms of job vacancy and hiring must be removed especially in moral governance.



RE Education

In Lanao, there is the existence of ALS connected to DepEd but if it is to evaluate, they don't have pupils, also the teachers don't go to remote areas to execute their work but the budget given for the ALS were always downloaded. This is one of the problems that needs to address for the benefits of the students. Also, another concern is the hiring of the MBHTE where many of these applicants were youth and it must be processed in as soon as possible ways to address unemployment for the youth.

RE Out of School Youth

What will be the strategies and ways of the government to engage the out of school youth to participate in such activities and what are the project and activities that we can provide them for them to use their knowledge and skills.

RE Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture through Dr. William launched a 100k to 500k grant exclusive for the agriculture graduate but after the launching of the event, there is no public updates and information regarding the grant.

There is the need to support the youth led organizations whom are in need of assistance regarding seeds to be used in the implementation. Marawi Seeds is a project being focused by one of our youth organizations in Lanao.

The needs for breaking the stigma on the wrong perception about agriculture must be done. We must promote agriculture on its importance, and advantage through engaging the youth on training about backyard gardening and others.

RE Technical Skills and Training

According to the Philippine Statistical Authority, the highest rate of unemployment in the BARRM Region is among the youth. In line of this, what can be done to improve the economic situation of the youth.

Some of the participants raised their answer on how they deal with the issue. Some says they engaged their out of school youth co-members in technical skills and training. Other were participating with the project grant and lobby their proposed project to start their livelihood programs for the OSY. Also, provision of livelihood package to the OSY is one of their initiative to sustain their needs.



V. NEXT STEPS/WAYS FORWARD

The following are the summarized recommendations of the participants in the given specific areas:

a) Livelihood and Technical Skills

- We need to incorporate youth social entrepreneurship in our programs
- The need to support local and small business
- TESDA must include their offering program the about technical skills on weaving

b) Out of School Youth

- Conduct a community consultation in the field concerning the out of school youth of Lanao del Sur and Marawi
- Refer them to some agencies that will mold their skills and must provide capital on it

c) Bangsamoro Government

- The BARMM Government must support the ideas and activities of the youth
- Must focus and help our youth with their psychological, educational and political aspect
- BARMM should have certain agency, programs or project for the youth
- Bangsamoro Government must have connections with the MSU System and must help them in corporate world or endorse our graduates

- Bangsamoro Government must give funds to the livelihood assistance for the youth for sustainable projects
- The Bangsamoro Government or the BYC must create a program that becomes a bridge for the Toril and Madrasa graduates that has potentials to be involved in private business, work or organizations
- Must conduct a symposium or training about M'ranaw social enterprise that involves a lectures on how to sustain an enterprise or a product
- Must give action to the problem of the youth by appointing a special agency to focus on the resolving the problem of the youth and to screen/monitor the government employee
- The Bangsamoro government must help in preserving the culture through promoting local weavers and products



Photo taken during the consultation with the youth in Lanao del Sur

- The Bangsamoro government must create a central signage or public signage to eliminate/remove those who didn't do or prioritize their work (Acc. to one participant)
- Bangsamoro government should invest more on youth summit or a digital summit and a quarterly assessment that will evaluate the issues if it has been addressed
- MBHTE must double time the process in choosing the best applicant who will perform the duty

d) Agriculture

- It must be introduced to the young learners and must be included in the curricula.
- Must put importance to the agriculture by giving high rate or profit for our farmers
- Promote our agriculture on its advantage, benefits and opportunities be given to those who pursue a career on agriculture
- Provide basic background about the functions and responsibility of individuals who have this kind of career and an importance of agriculture in terms of development of a certain community
- Must create a policy that support our farmers & fishermen and establish a standard on it

- The Philippine government must promote our agriculture and support it by improving the image of our agricultural system; promote our agriculture in social media by creating a channel. Example is "Agri-tayo dito"
- Government must engage more on giving scholarships to the children of farmers that will serve as their capital

e) Youth Volunteerism and Advocacy Works

- Our local government must support the advocacy works of the community and not as a rival
- Our government agencies and NGO must not use the advocacy work of the youth as a personal interest
- Must conduct team building to address internal issues of the organizations/ group



Photo taken during the consultation with the youth in Lanao del Sur