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## PMDC advocates for Responsible Mining

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The Philippine Mining Development Corporation (PMDC) spearheaded the Responsible Mining Advocacy Campaign last July 10-15, 2017 in the Diwalwal Mineral Reservation Area (DMRA), Monkayo, Compostela Valley, particularly in Barangays Naboc, Tubo-tubo, Upper Ulip, and Mt. Diwata.



This was undertaken in partnership with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA).

The objective of the activity was to inform, and involve or engage the stakeholders in Diwalwal on PMDC's advocacy for responsible mining and sustainable development for the good of the environment, the host and surrounding communities, the farmers and fisherfolks, and the country's development in general.

Four (4) barangays actively participated during the six (6)-day activity with a total of 1,016 participants – 58 of which came from Barangay Naboc, 334 from Barangay Tubo-tubo, 162 from Barangay Upper Ulip, and 462 from Barangay Mt. Diwata.

The Program serves as an avenue to cater to the queries, concerns, suggestions, and opinions of the attendees, especially those who are considered key players and stakeholders of the mining sector in DMRA.



The activity became much more pressing and relevant as PMDC recently issued a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) directed to immediately put a stop to the processing of ore and to transfer and relocate all mills, processing plants and other mining facilities to Mabatás area with the urgent objective of arresting mercury, cyanide and other toxic substances pollution of the Naboc River, and prevent the further destruction to human and animal life as well as the degradation of the environment.

PMDC maintains that as the state's mining arm, it has the inherent mandate to undertake the task of closely monitoring and overseeing the efficient and effective implementation of the mining and mineral operations of the Diwalwal Mineral Reservation Area (DMRA), as well as to address the environmental, health, social, and economic well-being of the occupants of the DMRA.

While the Advocacy Campaign is continuing in intensity, the residents are encouraged to continuously express and to submit their issues and concerns to their respective Barangay Councils, which have the ensuing responsibility to communicate and to discuss it with the PMDC Management.