



MABALACAT CITY COLLEGE

INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

February 12, 2024


To: Michelle Aguilar-Ong, DPA
College President, MCC

Dear Ma'am,

The *Institute of Arts and Sciences* in Mabalacat City College started the restoration project in June of this year, led by Dean Marilyn S. Arcilla and BS Biology Program Head, Glen S. Nolasco. The project aims to restore the Sapang Balen River, augmenting the water quality, improving the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem of the river, and spreading awareness among the residents of Mabalacat City through the *Sapang Balen River Restoration* campaign.

Undoubtedly, CENRO has shown full support starting from the launching up to the current phase of the project. Seeing how promising the project is and how involved your office is in the activity, we want to extend our gratitude for your unending support and look forward to a continuing partnership with your department.

Thus, we would like to invite you to a Commitment Ceremony between *CENRO* and the MCC - *Institute of Arts and Sciences* headed by Ms. Marilyn S. Arcilla, the Institute Dean and project head coordinator. The Commitment Ceremony will be on February 13, 2024, 10:00 AM, at the Main Campus Cultural Hall.


The Commitment contract will officially seal our partnership in the project and empower us in our drive to meet one goal - that is to protect and restore Mabalacat City Sapang Balen.

We look forward to your positive response. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Glen Nolasco
Asst. Dean, IAS

Noted by:


Marilyn S. Arcilla, RN, MAN
IAS Dean, OIC VPAA



OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

This project targets the restoration of Sapang Balen, in terms of the quality and quantity of the flora and fauna.



SOP#1

What are the current status of Sapang Balen in terms of;
A. Physical;
B. Chemical; and
C. Biological?



SOP#2

What are the identified species of flora and fauna in Sapang Balen?



SOP#3

Are there significant differences in the results of assays/tests conducted in the Sapang Balen namely;
A. Physicochemical parameters;
B. Potability;
C. Trace of Microplastic; and
D. Trace of Heavy metals?



SOP#4

What are the intervention strategies to be applied in Sapang Balen to alleviate the quality and quantity of the freshwater ecosystems?
A. Phytoremediation using Aquatic Macrophytes;
B. Application of Activated Carbon generated from Balakat Tree;
C. Charcoal briquettes derived from Water Hyacinth;
D. Installation of Modified filter revetment; and
E. Application of Plant-based flocculants.



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WHEREAS, both parties recognize the importance of stream restoration in promoting environmental sustainability, biodiversity, and community engagement that includes:

- a. MCC and CENRO collaboration on a stream restoration project aimed at restoring and preserving the Sapang Balen.
- b. MCC and CENRO focusing on ecological restoration, water quality improvement, and community participation of the Sapang Balen.

WHEREAS, CENRO approved the project proposal and has the necessary funds to support the project;

WHEREAS, both parties acknowledge each duty and responsibility as associate partners of the project.

THEREFORE, both parties commit to be an official partner in restoring, improving, and maintaining the Sapang Balen River as the main objectives of the project.

Handwritten signature of Marilyn S. Arcilla in black ink.

MARILYN S. ARCILLA, RN, LPT, MAN
OIC-VPAA/IAS Dean

Handwritten signature of Engr. Jesusa M. Santiago in black ink.

ENGR. JESUSA M. SANTIAGO
Department Head

Signed in the presence of:

Handwritten signature of Engr. Anne Jerni Peña in black ink.

ENGR. ANNE JERNI PEÑA
Witness

Handwritten signature of Raymond John D. Vergara in black ink.

RAYMOND JOHN D. VERGARA, MPR
Witness



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WHEREAS, the above parties agree to commit themselves in an accord for the Sapang Balen River Restoration Project.

WHEREAS, CENRO a duly recognized Department of LGU, protects the environment through strict enforcement of existing laws relative to the ecosystem, thereby balancing the bionetwork for sustainable resources and development.

WHEREAS, MCC, one of the recognized community college fosters quality education and skills development through community-based research.

WHEREAS, the CENRO, will institute a stream restoration program for Sapang Balen under the City's jurisdiction as a department commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable practices of local land and water areas;

WHEREAS, MCC has formulated a project proposal entitled "**River Restoration: Alleviating the Quality and Quantity of Life on Freshwater Ecosystem**" under the direct supervision of Marilyn S. Arcilla, the Project Leader;

WHEREAS, CENRO with its responsibility for the preservation and development of the natural resources within Mabalacat City, agree to provide support to the stakeholders of MCC in the form of funding, training, and other operations and latest developments in the restoration project; and

WHEREAS, MCC will involve its faculty researchers to coordinate and collaborate with government agencies, non-government organizations, private institutions, and other entities that may assist in the implementation of various research projects;



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IAS-CENRO COMMITMENT AGREEMENT

Rationale:

Around 60% of the human body is made up of water, and humans can only last three to five days without water consumption. Thus, water is not only used for sanitation, but also for basic human need. Although the importance of water is very much known to everyone, few are aware that we lack access to clean, potable water. One of the reasons for this issue is water pollution, primarily caused by human activities.

Hence, the Institute of Arts and Sciences, headed by the project coordinator Marilyn S. Arcilla and BS Biology program head Glen S. Nolasco spearheaded a project focusing on restoring a major river in Mabalacat City, Pampanga specifically the Sapang Balen river. The project was launched in June 2023 and have already conducted campaigns and two clean-up drives for its rehabilitation.

Project Objectives:

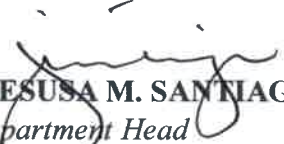
The aim of the project is to restore the Mabalacat City Sapang Balen river thereby alleviating the water quality and enhancing the quality and quantity of flora and fauna on the freshwater ecosystem.

To make the project sustainable, MCC and CENRO hereby *agree to a commitment of continuing the activities geared towards the total ecological rehabilitation of Mabalacat City Sapang Balen.*

This COMMITMENT AGREEMENT, dated on this 19th of January 2024 is entered into by and between the following parties:


MARILYN S. ARCILLA, RN, LPT, MAN
OIC-VPAA/IAS Dean

Mabalacat City College, Rizal St.
Dolores Mabalacat City, Pampanga


ENGR. JESUSA M. SANTIAGO
Department Head

City Environment and Natural Resources Office
Xevera City Hall, Mabalacat City, Pampanga

