



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

July 22, 2026

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

CLMD-2026 956

**PARTICIPANTS TO THE CLOSING CEREMONY AND CO-DESIGNS  
WORKSHOP OF THE PROJECT "MITIGATING THE LEARNING  
CRISIS WITH DIGITAL LEARNING FOR CHILDREN IN  
MULTIGRADE SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES"**

To: Schools Division Superintendents { Catbalogan City Division  
{ Eastern Samar Division  
{ Leyte Division  
{ Southern Leyte Division

All Others Concerned

1. With reference to Letter of Dr. Akihiro Fushimi, Chief Education, UNICEF Philippines, this Office, through the Curriculum Learning and Management Division (CLMD), requests participants to the Closing Ceremony and Co-designs Workshop of the Project "Mitigating the Learning Crisis with Digital Learning for Children in Multigrade Schools in the Philippines on August 17-19, 2026 in Tacloban City.
2. The activity aims to formally conclude the project and document its key accomplishments, challenges encountered, lessons learned, and sustainability considerations. It also seeks to co-design possible implementation modalities for the Roving School-in-a-Bag (SIAB) initiative and identify strategies for supporting the implementation of the ARAL Program in multigrade schools through the effective integration of digital learning technologies.
3. The participants in this activity are the CLMD Chief, Regional Multigrade and ARAL Coordinators, Division Multigrade Focal Persons, and selected School Heads from the four (4) identified recipient Schools Division Offices (SDOs) of the School-in-a-Bag (SIAB) Project. The list of participants is attached for reference and appropriate guidance. (see attached lists)
4. All expenses incurred relative to activity shall be charged against Continuing **Multigrade/Local Funds** subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
5. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

  
**SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO III**  
Regional Director

Enclosure: None

Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:  
EDUCATION MULTIGRADE WORKSHOP

CLMD-ACA



Address: Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte  
Telephone No.: (053) 832-5738  
Email Address: region8@deped.gov.ph  
Website: region8.deped.gov.ph



## B. Participants (August 19, 2026)

| District            | Division        | Name of Participant      | Designation         | Schools              |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1.Catbalogan 9      | Catbalogan City | Francisco J. Hechanova   | P-2                 | Basiao ES            |
| 2. Catbalogan 1     | Catbalogan City | Dennis Cortan            | HT 1                | Totoringan ES        |
| 3. Division Office  | Catbalogan City | Florita Lee              | EPS/MG Focal        |                      |
| 4. Arteche          | Eastern samar   | Rudan Lucana             | HT 3                | Bato ES              |
| 5. Arteche          | Eastern samar   | Anthony Calda Operario   | T3/TIC              | Casidman ES          |
| 6. Can Avid         | Eastern samar   | Kelvin G. Dadol          | T3/TIC              | Balagon ES           |
| 6.Can Avid          | Eastern samar   | Nathaniel M. Coles       | T3/TIC              | Jepaco ES            |
| 7.Can Avid          | Eastern Samar   | Honey Mae C. Picardal    | T3/TIC              | Pandol ES            |
| 8.Division Office   | Eastern Samar   | Rhea Coles               | EPS/MG Focal        |                      |
| 9. Burauen East     | Leyte           | Angelo R. Tampol         | T3/TIC              | Dinaayan ES          |
| 10.Calubian North   | Leyte           | Mary Dianne B. Cotiangco | HT 1                | Hacienda Eamiguel ES |
| 11.Dagami North     | Leyte           | Chito J. Lagrimas        | MT 1/TIC            | Camonoan ES          |
| 12.Dulag North      | Leyte           | Norlaine Asis Cerena     | HT 1                | Romualdez ES         |
| 13.Jaro 1           | Leyte           | Norman G. Terrora        | T3/TIC              | San Pedro ES         |
| 14.Javier 1         | Leyte           | Shella Mae Caluban       | T3/TIC              | Manarug ES           |
| 15.Hilongos South   | Leyte           | Devero M. Palo           | HT 1                | San Isidro ES        |
| 16.Division Office  | Leyte           | Crisanto T. Daga         | EPS/MG Focal        |                      |
| 23. Regional Office | CLMD            | Amenia C. Aspa           | EPS/MG Focal Person |                      |
| 24. Regional Office | CLMD            | Jayson Closa             | EPS-ARAL Coord.     |                      |

Enclosure to Regional Memorandum No. 956 s. 2026

List of Participants to the Closing Ceremony and Co-designs Workshop of the Project "Mitigating the Learning Crisis with Digital Learning for Children in Multigrade Schools in the Philippines

A. August 17-18, 2026 Participants

| District                    | Division       | Name of Participant | Designation      | Schools       |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Anahawan                 | Southern Leyte | Emma P. Macion      | TIC              | Manigawong ES |
| 2. Bontoc 2                 | Southern Leyte | Isabel Rusaban      | TIC              | Bunga ES      |
| 3. Hinunangan 2             | Southern Leyte | Elias Buctot        | P1               | Senda ES      |
| 4. Hinunangan 1             | Southern Leyte | Marilou Bugais      | TIC              | San Pablo ES  |
| 5. Liloan                   | Southern Leyte | Elmer Pomento       | TIC              | Caligangan ES |
| 6. Macrohon                 | Southern Leyte | Erlina Rosello      | TIC              | Cambaro ES    |
| 7. Malitbog                 | Southern Leyte | Marilyn Cadavos     | TIC              | Aurora ES     |
| 8. Pintuyan                 | Southern Leyte | Ruel Ruiz           | HT3              | Manglit ES    |
| 9. San Francisco            | Southern Leyte | UM Pumaloy          | HT               | Sudmon ES     |
| 10. San Juan                | Southern Leyte | Efren C. Estemera   | HT               | Garsavic ES   |
| 11. Hinundayan              | Southern Leyte | Vervie Bingalog     | TIC              | Ambao ES      |
| 12. Sogod 1                 | Southern Leyte | Bhryle Ann Terante  | HT1              | Hindangan ES  |
| 13. Sogod 2                 | Southern Leyte | Shelalyn Bungot     | TIC              | SF Mabuhay PS |
| 14. Tomas Oppus             | Southern Leyte | Meljun S. Pomento   | TIC              | Hinagtican ES |
| 15. Saint Bernard 2         | Southern Leyte | Marlyn Beja         | P1               | Carnaga ES    |
| 16. Saint Bernard 2         | Southern Leyte | Teresita Madridano  | TIC              | Atuyan ES     |
| 17. Division Office         | Southern Leyte | Ruth G. Poblete     | EPS              |               |
| 18. Division Office         | Southern Leyte | Victor D. Dumaguit  | EPS              |               |
| 19. Division Office         | Southern Leyte | Salvador Artigo.    | EPS/ARAL<br>Coor |               |
| 20. Regional Office         | CLMD           | Amenia C. Aspa      | EPS/MG Coor.     |               |
| 21. Regional Office         | CLMD           | Jayson Closa        | EPS/ARAL<br>Coor |               |
| 22. Southern Leyte Division | Southern Leyte | Dr. Isidro Catubig  | ASDS             |               |



17 July 2026

Ref: MALO 2026 - 606

**Salustiano T. Jimenez, CESO III**

Regional Director

Department of Education - Region VIII

**Subject: Invitation to the Closing Ceremony and Co-design Workshops for Digital Learning in Multigrade Schools**

Dear RD Jimenez,

Greetings from UNICEF Philippines!

UNICEF, in partnership with the Department of Education, respectfully seeks the support of DepEd Region VIII and the Schools Division Office of Southern Leyte for the conduct of the closing ceremony and co-design workshops under the project *"Mitigating the Learning Crisis with Digital Learning for Children in Multigrade Schools in the Philippines."*

This partnership has supported the continued integration of digital technology in multigrade education, with the aim of strengthening learners' foundational skills, particularly in remote and disadvantaged multigrade schools. In 2025, capacity-building activities were implemented for multigrade teachers and school heads in the Division of Southern Leyte. Furthermore, The School-in-a-Bag (SIAB), portable digital classroom package designed to support schools, especially those in last-mile areas, with essential technology, connectivity, multimedia content, and instructional support. Each package includes one backpack, one teacher laptop, ten student tablets, one USB memory drive, one pocket Wi-Fi device with starter load, and one Oyayi Teacher Guide with USB. In partnership with DepEd, ninety-seven (97) SIAB packages were formally turned over on 13–14 May 2026 to support the continued implementation of digital learning in multigrade schools.

As the current phase of the project concludes, UNICEF proposes convening a set of activities to:

1. formally **close the project and document** key achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and sustainability considerations;
2. co-design the possible implementation modality for **Roving SIAB**, where SIAB packages may rotate across selected multigrade schools rather than remain in one school; and
3. co-design approaches for supporting the implementation of **ARAL in multigrade schools using digital technology**.

The proposed activities are as follows and kindly see [Annex 1] for the agenda:

- **17 Aug 2026** – Closing Ceremony of the project *"Mitigating the Learning Crisis with Digital Learning for Children in Multigrade Schools in the Philippines"*
- **18 Aug 2026** – Co-design Workshop on **ARAL in Multigrade Schools Using Digital Technology**
- **19 Aug 2026** – Co-design Workshop on **Roving SIAB**

In this regard, UNICEF respectfully requests the participation of the following officials and representatives detailed in [Annex 2].

We would be grateful for DepEd Region VIII's support in identifying and inviting the relevant participants, as well as in coordinating with SDO Southern Leyte and the selected schools to ensure meaningful participation in the sessions. UNICEF remains committed to working closely with DepEd to strengthen scalable, sustainable, and context-responsive approaches to digital learning for multigrade education.

We are currently finalizing the procurement process for the event and will inform your office of the specific venue once the bidding is completed.

We look forward to your favorable response. For any clarifications, kindly contact Nicholas Tenazas ([ntenazas@unicef.org](mailto:ntenazas@unicef.org)), Jieun Yoon ([jiyoon@unicef.org](mailto:jiyoon@unicef.org)) or Susan Cristie Belmonte ([susancristie72@outlook.com](mailto:susancristie72@outlook.com)).

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,



**Akihiro Fushimi, Ed.D**  
Chief of Education  
UNICEF Philippines