



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN SAMAR
Cataraman, Northern Samar

N O R T E H A N O N : M A R I G - O N , M A I N U S W A G O N , M A L I P A Y O N

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Executive Order No. 25 - 01 - 02
Series of 2025

AN ORDER RECONSTITUTING THE PROVINCIAL GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT FOCAL POINT SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR

WHEREAS, Section 14, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women provides policies and procedures in mainstreaming gender perspectives in local planning and budgeting, local legislation, project development implementation, and monitoring and evaluation;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Magna Carta of Women, the establishment and strengthening of institutional mechanisms is necessary to mainstream gender concerns in development plans, policies and programs;

WHEREAS, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Magna Carta of Women mandates government agencies, LGUs, and other government instrumentalities to create and strengthen their GAD Focal Point System (FPS) to catalyze and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the LGUs;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 49, Series of 2003, otherwise known as the “Gender and Development Code of Northern Samar”, upholds the rights of women and fosters gender sensitivity and mainstreaming at all levels of local government administration;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 18, Series of 2022, otherwise known as the “Northern Samar Gender and Development Code of 2022”, the PGNS shall actively contribute to the establishment of a national economic order based on sustained, equitable growth and balanced ecology, and that any development effort it undertakes should enhance women’s full potential, uplift their status and live to improve their quality of lives, their families and their communities;

WHEREAS, the PGNS deemed the necessity to reconstitute the FPS to ensure the functionality and the capacity of its members to influence and promote gender mainstreaming;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDWIN MARINO C. ONGCHUAN, Governor of the Province of Northern Samar, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Local Government Code of 1991 and other existing laws of the Republic of the Philippines, do hereby issue this Executive Order reconstituting the Provincial Gender and Development Focal Point System (PGAD FPS) and defining its functions, roles, and responsibilities.

Section 1. Provincial Gender and Development Focal Point System. The reconstituted Provincial Gender and Development Focal Point System shall have an Executive Committee (PGAD ExeCom), a Technical Working Group (PGAD TWG), and a Secretariat.

Sec. 2. PGAD ExeCom Composition. The PGAD ExeCom shall be reconstituted, as follows:



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- Chairperson : **Hon. Edwin Marino C. Ongchuan**
Governor
- Vice Chairperson : **Ms. Jenny O. Darish**
Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer
- Members : **Hon. Liza C. Esidera**
Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) Committee on Women
and Family Relations Chairperson
- Hon. Don L. Abalon**
SP Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriations
Chairperson
- Hon. Gary M. Lavin**
League of Municipalities Provincial Federation President
- Dir. Geraldine C. Maquelabit**
Provincial Director
Department of the Interior and Local Government
- PCpt. Nuncia A. Formaran**
Chief, Women and Children Protection Desk
Northern Samar Police Provincial Office
- Mrs. Emelina M. Horcasitas**
Provincial Federation of Senior Citizens President
- Mr. Basilio E. Ogario**
Provincial Federation of Persons with Disabilities
Representative
- Dr. Blenah O. Perez**
Gender and Development Focal Person
University of Eastern Philippines
- Mr. Peter R. Bobiles**
Gender and Development Focal Person
DepEd - Northern Samar
- Ms. Aileen N. Diaz**
Philippine Information Agency
- Mr. Welson L. Ramos**
PLAN Pilipinas
Non-Government Organization Representative
- Ms. Christine P. Jopio**
General Manager
Allen Municipal Officials, Employees and Communities
Multi-Purpose Cooperative (AMOEC) – Coop. rep.



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Ms. Maria Teresita R. Gacusan
Provincial GAD Focal Person

Dr. Maria Aurora D. Vicencio
Provincial Health Officer

Atty. Mary Grace S. Royo
Provincial Accountant

Sec. 3. PGAD ExeCom Functions, Roles and Responsibilities. The PGAD ExeCom shall have the following functions, roles, and responsibilities:

1. Generally, take a lead role in direction-setting, advocacy, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and technical advisory on mainstreaming gender and development perspectives in the programs, projects, activities, and processes of the PGNS. Specifically, it shall lead the assessment as to the gender-responsiveness of policies, strategies, programs, activities and projects of the province;
2. Provide support in the identification of GAD strategies, PPAs, and targets based on gender assessment and gender analysis results, taking into account the development thrusts and priorities of the province;
3. Lead in setting up appropriate systems and mechanisms to ensure the generation, processing, review, and updating of sex-disaggregated data or GAD database to serve as basis in gender-responsive planning;
4. Coordinate efforts of different offices of the PGNS and advocate for the integration of GAD perspectives in all their systems and processes;
5. Lead in monitoring the effective implementation of the GAD Code and any other GAD-related policies, as well as ensure the sound utilization of the GAD budget;
6. Promote the participation of women and gender advocates, other civil society groups, and private organizations in the various stages of development planning cycle;
7. Ensure that all personnel of the PGNS are capacitated on GAD;
8. Strengthen partnership with stakeholders toward establishing a gender-responsive community; and
9. Ensure and sustain GAD consciousness among the constituents of the province.

Sec. 4. Meetings. The PGAD ExeCom shall meet once every quarter. Special meetings may be held as the need arises.

Sec. 5. PGAD TWG Composition. The Provincial Gender and Development Technical Working Group (PGAD TWG) shall be reconstituted as follows:

Chairperson	Ms. Maria Teresita R. Gacusan Provincial GAD Focal Person Provincial Human Resource Management & Development Office
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Vice Chairperson	Ms. Amelita C. Noroña Provincial Administrator’s Office
Members	Ms. Arlyn C. Tepace Provincial Information office
	Ms. Lilia B. Varela Provincial Planning and Development Office
	Mr. Arnel A. Estigoy Provincial Accounting Office
	Ms. Naomi L. Mercader Provincial Health Office
	Ms. Jecylle Alnie A. Horcasitas Provincial Population Office
	Atty. Krista Niña Faryl T. Retuya Provincial Legal Office
	Ms. Janette B. Borac Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office

Sec. 6. Roles, Functions and Responsibilities of the PGAD TWG. The PGAD TWG shall:

1. Facilitate the gender mainstreaming efforts of the provincial government through the GAD planning and budgeting process;
2. Assist in the preparation of the Annual GAD Plan and Budget of the provincial government which must be responsive to gender gaps and issues;
3. Assist in the development and implementation of capacity-building programs on gender and development for members of the PGAD FPS, including the PGNS personnel and staff;
4. Oversee the implementation of GAD policies in the provincial government and recommend enhancements, if necessary;
5. Lead the conduct of GAD advocacy activities and the development of related information, education, and communication (IEC) materials;
6. Prepare Accomplishment Report and other GAD-related reports; and
7. Provide updates and recommendations to the Governor or the PGAD ExeCom on PGAD FPS activities and the progress of the province in gender mainstreaming efforts.

Sec. 7. Establishment of the PGAD Office. The Provincial Government shall establish a Provincial GAD Office that will support and coordinate all GAD-related PPAs and concerns of the province. The Chairperson of the PGAD TWG shall be appointed as the GAD Focal Person with the assistance of the TWG and Secretariat for the management of the PGAD Office.



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Sec. 8. PGAD FPS Secretariat. There shall be a PGAD FPS Secretariat who shall assist the PGAD ExeCom and the TWG in the performance of their roles and responsibilities, particularly the provision of administrative and logistical services, preparation of meeting agenda, and documentation of PGAD FPS meetings and other activities. The Secretariat shall be created in a separate memo.


Sec. 9. Membership. The membership of the Provincial Gender and Development Focal Point System is based on appointment, or designation as head of these respective offices. Should a member cease to hold his or her office, he or she automatically cease to be a member of PGAD FPS and shall be replaced by his/her successor.

Sec. 10. Funds. Operational management and personnel and administrative support expenses of the PGAD Office shall be charged to the GAD Budget.

Sec. 11. Repeal. All issuances, orders, guidelines, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 12. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Done this JAN 14 2025 in Catarman, Northern Samar.


EDWIN MARINO C. ONGCHUAN
Governor 