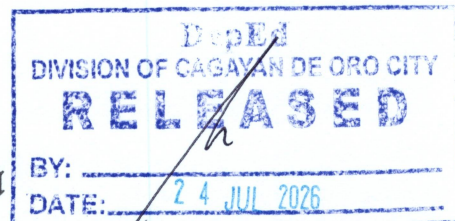




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X
DIVISION OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY



Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

24 July 2026

DIVISION ORDER
No. 02 s.2026

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL SHELTER BELT AND GREEN
CORRIDOR PROGRAM (SSBGCP) IN THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF CAGAYAN
DE ORO CITY**

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chiefs, CID and SGOD
All Curriculum Implementation Division Personnel
All School Governance and Operations Division Personnel
All Office of the Schools Division Superintendent Personnel
All Elementary and Secondary Public School Heads and Principals
This Division

1. Consistent with the Department of Education's thrust on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and management, environmental sustainability, and learner well-being, this Office hereby institutionalizes the School Shelter Belt and Green Corridor Program (SSBGCP) to strengthen ecological resilience and enhance the physical learning environment of schools.

2. Anchored on the Division's tagline, "Nindot nga Tulonghaan alang sa Nindot nga Cagayan," the program aims to establish green infrastructures that mitigate heat stress, conserve water, improve biodiversity, and provide outdoor learning spaces for learners and communities.

3. Funds for the implementation of this Order may be charged against school MOOE, Special Education Fund, Brigada Eskwela contributions, local government support, donations, and other available funds, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

1. Enclosed in this Order is the project brief that outlines the division initiative's core details.

2. In adherence to the Equal Opportunity Policy (EOP), inclusive and fair treatment is accorded to all regardless of age, gender and sexual orientation, disability, religion, and ethnicity.

3. This Office directs immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum.

ROY ANGELO E. GAZO
Schools Division Superintendent

Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City
Telephone: (0917)140-8777, (088) 328-2142
Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@depd.gov.ph
Website: <https://depdcdco.net/>



Doc. Ref. Code	SDO-OSDS-F004	Rev	00
Effectivity	11.03.25	Page	1 of 10

Encl: As stated

Reference: None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

DIVISION INITIATIVES
SCHOOLS
SCHOOL HEADS

Competence
Diligence
Outstanding Integrity



Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City
Telephone: (0917)140-8777, (088) 328-2142
Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://depedcdo.net/>

Doc. Ref. Code	SDO-OSDS-F004	Rev	00
Effectivity	11.03.25	Page	2 of 10

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL SHELTER BELT AND GREEN CORRIDOR PROGRAM (SSBGCP) IN THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

I. RATIONALE

In response to the increasing impacts of climate change and the anticipated occurrence of El Niño characterized by prolonged dry spells, elevated temperatures, water scarcity, and heightened risks of heat stress, the Schools Division of Cagayan de Oro City recognizes the need to adopt nature-based and climate-resilient strategies that promote safe, healthy, and sustainable learning environments.

Consistent with the Department of Education's thrust on climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and management, environmental sustainability, and learner well-being, this Office hereby institutionalizes the School Shelter Belt and Green Corridor Program (SSBGCP) to strengthen ecological resilience and enhance the physical learning environment of schools.

Anchored on the Division's tagline, "Nindot nga Tulonghaan alang sa Nindot nga Cagayan," the program aims to establish green infrastructures that mitigate heat stress, conserve water, improve biodiversity, and provide outdoor learning spaces for learners and communities.

II. SCOPE

This Order shall apply to all public elementary, integrated, junior high schools, senior high schools, and learning centers under the Schools Division of Cagayan de Oro City.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

The Schools Division of Cagayan de Oro City shall establish and sustain School Shelter Belts and Green Corridors in all schools as a climate adaptation and disaster resilience strategy to mitigate the effects of El Niño, urban heat, strong winds, intense rainfall, and environmental degradation while promoting learner well-being and environmental stewardship.

IV. OBJECTIVES

This program aims to:

1. Reduce the impacts of extreme heat and drought conditions associated with El Niño;
2. Improve thermal comfort and air quality within school campuses;
3. Promote biodiversity and increase tree canopy cover;
4. Strengthen disaster preparedness and climate resilience;
5. Encourage sustainable water management practices;
6. Integrate environmental education into school programs and curriculum;
7. Mobilize stakeholders in creating greener and healthier schools.



Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City
Telephone: (0917)140-8777, (088) 328-2142
Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://depedcdo.net/>

Doc. Ref. Code	SDO-OSDS-F004	Rev	00
Effectivity	11.03.25	Page	3 of 10

V. PROGRAM COMPONENTS

A. School Shelter Belt

Strategic planting of native and climate-resilient trees and shrubs along school perimeters, open spaces, and vulnerable areas to provide:

- * Wind protection;
- * Shade and cooling effects;
- * Dust reduction;
- * Soil and water conservation;
- * Ecological habitats.

B. Green Corridors

Development of interconnected green spaces including:

- * Tree-lined pathways;
- * Pocket forests and mini parks;
- * Butterfly and pollinator gardens;
- * Rain gardens and bioswales;
- * Outdoor learning spaces.

C. Climate-Smart and El Niño-Responsive Landscaping

Schools shall adopt:

- * Drought-tolerant species;
- * Rainwater harvesting systems;
- * Water-efficient irrigation practices;
- * Mulching and composting;
- * Reuse of gray water whenever feasible.

D. Integration with Existing Programs

The SSBGCP shall complement:

- * Gulayan sa Paaralan Program;
- * School DRRM Program;
- * Brigada Eskwela;
- * School-Based Management;
- * STAR Classroom Program;
- * RDR Garden Program;
- * School Improvement Plan and Annual Implementation Plan.

VI. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

A. School Shelter Belt Development

All schools shall:

1. Conduct an inventory of existing trees and green spaces;
2. Identify suitable areas for shelter belts and green corridors;
3. Prioritize native and drought-resistant species;
4. Integrate the program into their SIP and AIP;

5. Maintain a minimum of one functional green corridor or equivalent green infrastructure.

B. Recommended Species

Priority species include:

- * Narra
- * Banaba
- * Molave
- * Ipil
- * Bamboo
- * Fire Tree
- * Balayong
- * Duhat
- * Guyabano
- * Calamansi
- * Malunggay

Subject to site suitability and local environmental conditions.

C. School-Based Implementation Team

Every school shall constitute a School Green Resilience Team composed of:

- * School Head – Chairperson
- * School DRRM Coordinator – Vice Chairperson
- * Gulayan Coordinator
- * Science Coordinator
- * YES-O Adviser
- * Supreme Learner Government Representative
- * PTA Representative * Barangay Representative
- * Community Stakeholder Representative

VII. DIVISION GREEN RESILIENCE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

A Division Green Resilience Technical Working Group (DGRTWG) is hereby created, composed of:

Chairperson: Schools Division Superintendent

Co-Chairpersons: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

Members:

Chief Education Supervisors

Education Program Supervisors for:

- * Science
- * SGOD

Medical Officer III

Youth Formation Coordinator

Division Engineer

Division DRRM Coordinator

Division Gulayan Coordinator

Representative from CLENRO

Representative from DENR

Address: Fr. William F. Masterson Ave., Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City

Telephone: (0917)140-8777, (088) 328-2142

Email Address: cagayandeoro.city@depd.gov.ph

Website: <https://depdcdo.net/>



Doc. Ref. Code	SDO-OSDS-F004	Rev	00
Effectivity	11.03.25	Page	5 of 10

The DGRTWG shall provide policy direction, technical assistance, monitoring, and evaluation.

VIII. RECOGNITION AND INCENTIVES

Schools shall be recognized annually under the Green Resilience Recognition System:

 One Leaf – Developing Green School
Demonstrates initial compliance with minimum standards.

 Two Leaves – Emerging Green School
Maintains functional and expanding green infrastructures with active stakeholder participation.

 Three Leaves – Green Resilience Champion School

Exhibits exemplary implementation, innovation, sustainability, and integration into instruction and disaster preparedness.

Recognition may be integrated into the STAR Classroom and Division Award Systems.

IX. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The SGOD, in coordination with the DGRTWG, shall conduct annual monitoring and validation using a School Green Resilience Assessment Tool.

Progress reports shall be submitted every end of the school year and shall serve as basis for technical assistance and recognition.

X. FUNDING

Funds for the implementation of this Order may be charged against school MOOE, Special Education Fund, Brigada Eskwela contributions, local government support, donations, and other available funds, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

XI. EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect immediately upon issuance and shall remain in force until amended, repealed, or superseded by subsequent issuances.

ANNEX 1

SCHOOL GREEN RESILIENCE STANDARDS

Green Resilience Recognition System (GRRS)

ONE LEAF – DEVELOPING GREEN SCHOOL (Minimum Compliance)

Schools have initiated the establishment of green infrastructure and have:

1. Organized a School Green Resilience Team.
2. Conducted inventory of existing trees and green spaces.
3. Identified and designated areas for shelter belts and green corridors.
4. Established at least one greening project.
5. Integrated the program into SIP and AIP.
6. Engaged stakeholders in planting activities.

TWO LEAVES – EMERGING GREEN SCHOOL (Functional Compliance)

Schools have:

1. Maintained functional shelter belts and green corridors.
2. Established edible gardens and pollinator gardens.
3. Adopted water conservation practices.
4. Integrated environmental concepts in learning activities.
5. Mobilized learners, parents, and partners.
6. Maintained at least 70% survival rate of planted species.

THREE LEAVES – GREEN RESILIENCE CHAMPION SCHOOL (Exemplary Practice)

Schools have:

1. Fully operational green infrastructure systems.
2. Outdoor learning spaces and biodiversity zones.
3. Rainwater harvesting and composting systems.
4. Climate-smart and El Niño-responsive landscaping.
5. Strong community partnerships.
6. At least 85% survival rate of planted species.
7. Innovations and best practices documented and shared.

ANNEX 2

TECHNICAL DESIGN STANDARDS

A. School Shelter Belt

Large Schools

- * Width: 5–10 meters
- * Layers:
 - * Tall trees
 - * Medium trees
 - * Shrubs
 - * Ground cover plants

Small and Urban Schools

- * Tree-lined perimeters
- * Pocket forests
- * Vertical gardens
- * Container gardens
- * Pergolas and shaded walkways

B. Green Corridors

Recommended Components:

- ✓ Tree-lined pathways
- ✓ Butterfly and pollinator gardens
- ✓ Rain gardens
- ✓ Native plant zones
- ✓ Mini forests
- ✓ Herbal gardens
- ✓ Outdoor classrooms

C. Water Conservation Facilities

- * Rainwater harvesting tanks
- * Mulching systems
- * Compost pits
- * Gray-water reuse systems
- * Drip irrigation

D. Climate-Smart Landscaping

Priority shall be given to:

- * Native species;
- * Drought-resistant species;
- * Heat-tolerant plants;
- * Biodiversity-enhancing vegetation.

ANNEX 3

RECOMMENDED TREE SPECIES FOR NORTHERN MINDANAO

Priority species include:

- * Narra
- * Banaba
- * Molave
- * Ipil
- * Bamboo
- * Fire Tree
- * Balayong
- * Duhat
- * Guyabano
- * Calamansi
- * Malunggay

Subject to site suitability and local environmental conditions.

ANNEX 4

FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP

2026–2030

Phase I – Foundation (2026)

Objectives:

- * Policy institutionalization
- * Inventory and mapping
- * School Green Resilience Teams organized
- * Initial planting activities

Target:

100% of schools with approved School Green Resilience Plans.

Phase II – Expansion (2027)

Objectives:

- * Development of shelter belts
- * Establishment of pollinator gardens
- * Water conservation systems

Target:

80% of schools attaining One Leaf recognition.

Phase III – Strengthening (2028)

Objectives:

- * Integration into curriculum
- * Expansion of biodiversity areas
- * Strengthening partnerships

Target:

60% of schools attaining Two Leaves recognition.

Phase IV – Sustainability (2029)

Objectives:

- * Innovation and research
- * Outdoor learning spaces
- * Best practice documentation

Target:

40% of schools attaining Three Leaves recognition.

Phase V – Institutional Excellence (2030)

Objectives:

- * Full sustainability
- * Division-wide replication of best practices
- * Establishment of Green Model Schools

Target:

All schools maintaining functional green infrastructure systems.