

PRESS RELEASE

PSA BILIRAN PRESENTS 2024 CBMS HIGHLIGHTS TO LGU NAVAL

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Photo taken during the presentation of CBMS Highlights in the Municipality of Naval with PSA officials and LGU department heads on 22 July.

22 July 2025 – Naval, Biliran. As part of the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) ongoing efforts to deliver localized development data, the 2024 Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) preliminary results were formally presented to the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Naval in a data session that opened discussions on population trends, service delivery gaps, and the municipality's long-term vision.

Held at the Municipal Conference Hall and presided over by PSA Biliran Chief Statistical Specialist Renavil V. Cueva, the activity drew together LGU officials and sector representatives. More than just a data briefing, the session offered a deeper look into how community-level statistics can drive responsive governance.

Mayor Gretchen Stephanie M. Espina, addressing the room early in the program, contextualized the importance of the CBMS in relation to Naval's pursuit of cityhood—a goal hinging on population, income, and land area





requirements. While two of these are progressing, the population remains a critical target. She also highlighted the challenge posed by unregistered settlers, especially in times of disaster response and resource allocation.

As the presentation moved into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), indicators such as access to basic electricity, sanitation, safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, financial inclusion, and employment were discussed. The CBMS dataset aligns with 10 out of 17 SDGs, offering granular insights at the barangay level.

However, several data points drew scrutiny during the open forum. Municipal Health Officer Ralph D. Bueno, MD raised questions about the reported drinking water access in Barangay Capiñahan and Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator Leonardo Madeja Jr. also raised concerns over low sanitation. PSA representatives acknowledged the concerns and reiterated that the results remain preliminary until all documentation is finalized and validated.

The session closed with identified action points: data rechecks for specific barangays, provision of requested resources, and the submission of remaining turnover requirements from LGU Naval. Attendees concluded with a photo opportunity—a shared reminder that data is not just for reports, but for decision-making, direction-setting, and accountability.

For further information, you may contact the Biliran Provincial Statistical Office at (053) 507-8122 and email address at biliran@psa.gov.ph.

Approved for release:

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