MVF:

GREETINGS ……..

I begin by expressing profound gratitude to the **Omnipotent Almighty Father** for the precious gift of life and the privilege of being able to serve the beloved constituents of Matanao. To each of you present at this unforgettable and deeply meaningful celebration, I offer my heartfelt gratefulness for your **steadfast support**. This support is a treasure I shall hold throughout my life, for it does powerfully reflect the enduring strength of the ideals and values we share. These principles continually motivate and inspire my commitment to public service and good governance

Here's the **10-point agenda of my administration**: 10 governance areas:

* Good Governance and Capability Enhancement/Moral Recovery Program
* Peace and Order and Public Safety
* Agricultural & Tourism Development
* Promotion of Technical Education Through Scholarship Programs
* Health, Nutrition, and Sanitation
* Social Welfare and Development
* Employment and Livelihood Programs
* Infrastructure Development
* Environmental Protection and Management
* Funding Assistance to 33 Barangays for Rural Development Projects

Throughout my term, these agendas have guided our approach to governance. We've prioritized an **inclusive and participatory style**, ensuring everyone was consulted on matters concerning our development. I strongly believe that through these consultations, we can achieve a truly comprehensive development for our municipality.

I am honored and proud to share with the citizens of Matanao the comprehensive array of programs and projects diligently completed since I began my term as Municipal Mayor on **June 30, 2016**. This presentation also outlines upcoming programs and projects slated for continuous implementation by the incoming Chief Executive, **Mayor-Elect Irick A. Agbon** in the next calendar year, providing a detailed summary of our collective achievements.

Here's a look at our accomplishments from the past nine years:

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(15 SECOND OPENING)

VO: *One of the primary priorities of the Matanao Local Government Unit is to implement economic policies and initiatives that boost the local economy and promote community development.*

*In recent years, we have witnessed significant economic milestones despite the challenges posed by fluctuating agricultural commodity prices, which directly impact our economy. The rise in the number of business establishments operating within the Municipality of Matanao is a clear signal of a booming local economy.*

***To reinforce our commitment to good governance and the ease of doing business , we have implemented …***

* ***The Creation of the Business Permit and Licensing Office or the BPLO***
* *From only* ***502 registered establishments in 2018****, Matanao now boasted to* ***1,308 business establishments*** *in* ***2024****—an impressive growth of* ***160.56%*** *over a span of six years.*
* *Along with this increase, our local revenue from taxes, fees, and other business-related charges rose from* ***₱5.31 million in 2018*** *to* ***₱9.4 Million in 2024 showing a 77.67% local income growth****.*
* ***Digital innovations and streamlined services with the launch of the Integrated Business Permits and Licensing System (iBPLS)*** *in* ***November 2022*** *a leap toward digitalization and better public service, getting ready for the* ***integration of an online payment system soon.***

*These milestones represent Matanao’s commitment to fostering a resilient and investor-friendly environment. With continuous improvements in systems, transparency, and service delivery, we are paving the way for a stronger and more inclusive local economy.*

*Together, we have built a more prosperous Matanao—****where businesses thrive, and communities grow.****"*

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*Another significant economic milestone for Matanao is the completion of its state-of-the-art public market, built at a cost of* ***P100,000,000.00****, which offers* ***152*** *rental spaces to our business sector at minimal fees that will generate an estimated annual local revenue at P10 Million with maximized utilization.*

*VO:* ***The Office of the Mayor through the Municipal Agriculture Office has actively implemented a range of development programs aimed at boosting the productivity and livelihood of local farmers and fisherfolk. Among these are :***

* ***The Rice Banner Program***
* **Distribution of certified inbred and hybrid seeds**, **provision of organic and inorganic fertilizers**, and **financial assistance** to reduce the burden of production costs to establishment of **demonstration farms** and the continued **extension of technical knowledge** resulting to ***from 235 beneficiaries in 2016 with 4.20 tons rice yield per hectare to 6,820 Rice-Farmer Beneficiaries with 5.78 tons rice yield per hectare in 2024***
* ***The Corn Program***
* ***Through the intervention of the Department of the Agriculture various projects and activities has increased number of*** c**orn farmer-beneficiaries from 100 in 2016 to 578 at the end of 2024**
* **(slide show showing the machineries and equipment distribution list and recipients)**
* ***The Livestock and Poultry Program***
* positive progress in animal health care through the **Vaccination of Dogs and Cats , with insignificant figure in 2016 to almost 3,500 vaccinated of anti-rabies**
* **Vitamins and Deworming for Large and Small Ruminants** such as cows, buffaloes, goats, and sheep with a total of 2,580 recipient-animals as of 2014
* ***The High-Value Crops Development Program***
* made possible through the dedicated leadership of our Municipal Mayor, **Hon. Vincent Fernandez** with the vital support of the **Department of Agriculture,** Various interventions such as:

**Distribution of Assorted Vegetable Seeds - increased** number of walk-in clients from 325 in 2016 to 1395 in 2014, reflecting a growing interest and participation in vegetable farming.

VALUE-ADDING ACTIVITY - conducted various **skills training programs** that benefit our **farmers, fisherfolk, Rural Improvement Clubs (RICs), women, and the youth**. As a result, our beneficiaries have proudly produced a variety of **value-added products**, including:

* **Banana chips**
* **Banana strings**
* **Tableya**
* **Cacao vinegar**
* **Puffed rice**
* Black Rice

These products are not just sources of income — they represent the skill, resourcefulness, and resilience of our local communities.

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* ***Fishery Program, and the Farm Mechanization Program.***

*VO:* ***T****he Mindanao Sustainable Agrarian and Agriculture Development (MinSAAD) Project, a collaborative effort between the Philippine and Japanese governments, has significantly boosted agricultural development and community infrastructure in Mindanao. The LGU of Matanao In partnership with the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), has allocated over* ***₱80 million*** *to key initiatives:*

* ***₱30 million*** *has been invested in* ***agro-enterprise development****. This includes transforming the Pablisa Blaan Association into the* ***Pablisa Farmers Cooperative (PASFACO)****, which now consolidates and markets rice harvests, enhancing farmers' bargaining power and market access. This allocation also supports* ***high-value crop production*** *(mushrooms, rubber, and cacao) and* ***institutional development****.*
* ***₱50 million*** *has been dedicated to* ***infrastructure development****, specifically the construction of a* ***Potable Water System*** *in Barangays Cabasagan and New Katipunan, and a* ***Farm-to-Market Road*** *connecting Sitio Kilong to Sitio Gumitoyom in Barangay Manga and Sitio San Roque in Barangay Bangkal. T****hese interventions have improved logistics, reduced post-harvest losses, and opened better market access for farmers in remote areas.***

*VO: over a decade, the* ***Department of Agriculture (DA)*** *and* ***LGU Matanao*** *have partnered to uplift local farmers, expanding services and introducing new technologies. This collaboration has transformed Matanao's agricultural landscape, benefiting thousands of farmers annually through:*

* ***Technical assistance***
* ***Farm inputs***
* ***Livelihood support***
* ***Disaster response***
* ***Capacity-building programs***

*Since 2016, the DA has invested* ***over ₱500 million*** *in Matanao's agriculture sector. This substantial funding has provided:*

* ***Certified seeds*** *(vegetables, rice, corn)*
* ***Assorted fruit trees*** *(cacao, rubber, coffee) and* ***fertilizers***
* ***Rice financial assistance*** *and* ***fuel subsidies***
* ***Farm machinery and equipment***
* ***Infrastructure*** *like farm-to-market roads, solar dryers, and warehouses*
* ***Capacity-building programs*** *and* ***technical training***

*These sustained efforts have significantly boosted farm productivity, increased crop yields, reduced production costs, and ultimately led to higher incomes for farmers, strengthening the agricultural sector's resilience and competitivenesS****.***

## *Matanao's Agricultural Transformation*

***Through robust capacity-building and skills training, Matanao's farmers and entrepreneurs are innovating and diversifying. They're creating a range of marketable processed products, including Banana Crunch, Cacao Vinegar, Tableya, Soriso, Tocino, and various tilapia-based products like dried tilapia and even tilapia ice cream. These unique items are becoming Matanao's signature agricultural offerings.***

***Beyond processed goods, training also promotes organic farming for crops like rice and dragon fruit, emphasizing sustainable practices. By adding value to raw agricultural products, these initiatives create new income opportunities, boost local entrepreneurship, and enhance Matanao's market competitiveness, fostering a more resilient and diversified local economy.***

***The municipality has launched a Carabao Dairy Box THROUGH the Inyam Pintuan Asbang Multipurpose Cooperative (IPAMCO) in Barangay Asbang. This initiative, part of the Philippine Carabao Center's Community-Based Instructional Network (CBIN) Program, empowers IPAMCO to supply fresh carabao's milk to the Department of Education’s school-based feeding program, boosting local livelihoods and children's nutrition.***

***The LGU Matanao has secured a ₱3.5 million grant for 2025 to establish a Small-Scale Processing Facility with an integrated Training Hub. This initiative aims to boost youth engagement in agriculture and agripreneurship by providing equipment, space for food processing, and hands-on training. The facility will adhere to FDA standards to ensure product quality and market viability, fostering innovation, creating economic opportunities, and building a stronger, more resilient agri-based economy in Matanao.***

***Other collaborative efforts from the Department of Trade and Industry, the Agricultural Training Institute, and various non-government organizations were also notably evident in support of farmers’ development***

***From seeds to skills, from roads to recipes—Matanao’s agricultural journey is one of growth, resilience, and transformation.***

*VO:* ***Matanao's Economic Surge***

*Matanao's strong local economy is a testament to the collaborative efforts of key LGU offices, Led by the Mayor's Office, the Treasury, Assessor's Office, BPLO, MPDO, Engineering, Health, and Local Enterprise and Economic Management Office have combined efforts to streamlined business activities and fostered a robust economic environment.*

*This synergy has led to an impressive* ***8.81% surge in overall local revenue****. Tax collections have significantly contributed to this growth, with* ***Real Property Tax increasing by 166.12%*** *since 2016, and* ***Business Tax collections soaring by 255.24% in 2025****.*

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*VO: To foster a competitive and active workforce among Matanaoans, our mandated offices have proactively sought international opportunities. This commitment led to a fruitful collaboration with the Korean and Philippine governments through our PESO, resulting in a proposal to send 50 qualified workers to Korea.*

*VO*

*In the field of Tourism, its development is a story of resilience, vision and transformation, FROM TERRORISM TO TOURISM. In the year 2018, guided by the strong belief in transforming Matanao from a landscape once marked by terrorism into a destination for tourism, the Municipal Government formally established the Matanao Tourism Office through the Municipal Ordinance No. 222, Series of 2018. The office began to take definitive shape. Matanao Tourism was successfully positioned and introduced with a clear and strategic direction.*

*In the same year in 2020, our municipality recorded a modest total of* ***60,000 day tour arrivals****. Fast forward to the very next year, amidst the global uncertainty brought by the pandemic, Matanao made a historic leap. With the official launching of our tourism program right at the heart of the mountains in* ***Sitio Talambato, Barangay Asbang****, we achieved a* ***record-breaking 120,000 day tour arrivals****—a staggering* ***100% increase*** *in just one year.*

*This momentous launch was graced by the late Governor* ***Douglas Cagas****, former Mayor* ***Vicente Fernandez****, then Vice Governor* ***Marc Cagas****, and our dedicated local officials. It was a defining moment that marked the beginning of Matanao’s rise as a prime destination in Davao del Sur.*

*From having fewer than ten recognized tourist sites just five years ago, we have now proudly identified and developed over* ***30 tourism destinations****. These include breathtaking* ***eco-tourism sites*** *such as caving systems, trekking trails, and mountain viewpoints, as well as* ***farm tourism destinations****, inland resorts, and culturally and historically significant locations. This growth signifies not only an increase in attractions but also the flourishing of tourism-related enterprises across the municipality.*

***Tourism is now a viable and thriving industry in Matanao****—creating jobs, empowering communities, and driving local development.*

***Matanao Tourism proudly celebrates the transformation of livelihood opportunities for our Blaan cultural communities.****Through our growing tourism industry, we have empowered residents, particularly our indigenous brothers and sisters, to become vital contributors to our eco-tourism efforts. From* ***cave guides****,* ***mountain trekking guides****, and* ***water tubing operators****, to* ***customer service frontliners*** *stationed at Sitio Talambato’s mountain sites and other tourist destinations, our people have become the heart of Matanao’s warm and authentic visitor experience.*

*This transformation is not just about jobs—it is about* ***uplifting communities****, preserving indigenous knowledge, and creating sustainable futures rooted in culture, nature, and pride of place. Under my leadership, we have also given rise to* ***cultural icons*** *who bring honor and recognition to Matanao—both locally and globally. In 2024, we proudly produced our* ***first-ever Miss Philippines Earth****. We celebrated the emergence of our* ***first male Blaan weaver****, preserving and revitalizing the indigenous craft of our ancestral heritage. Moreover, we honor the contributions of our* ***Blaan writer****, who continues to elevate the voice of indigenous peoples and advocate for environmental protection and women’s and children’s rights. Her works have been featured in international literary platforms such as World Literature Today, Words Without Borders, LIT, and Anomaly. In 2022, she was named* ***Woman of the Future for Southeast Asia in Arts and Culture****, a recognition bestowed in Singapore.*

*Our inclusion in the* ***Davao Adventure Challenge 2024*** *further cements our place on the tourism map. We are proud to be the* ***first and only caving site in Davao del Sur*** *officially integrated into the* ***Department of Tourism’s regional eco-adventure program****.*

*All these achievements reflect our core identity: Matanao nga Matahum—a Matanao that is beautiful, culturally rich, and naturally abundant.*

*Perhaps the most symbolic transformation of all is how we turned* ***terrorism into tourism****. The launch of our* ***Peace Memorial*** *stands as a testament to the peace we have achieved after years of conflict and insurgency. It is a beacon of hope, a monument to the unity and perseverance of our people, and a foundation upon which we continue to build our future. Indeed, our lungib festival commences last 2022 (Municipal Ordinance Series of 2022.*

*Matanao is no longer just a dot on the map—it is a destination, a cultural hub, and a beacon of progress.*

*VO: Tourism in Matanao faced considerable hurdles during the pandemic, primarily due to the mandated closure of many resorts, establishments, and existing tourism sites. Yet, this challenging period also presented a unique opportunity, leading to the exciting discovery and validation of* ***new, promising tourism destinations*** *within the municipality.*

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*INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT*

*VO: The Municipality of Matanao has significantly enhanced its service delivery by extending its reach to far-flung barangays and puroks. This has been made possible by allocating over 391 million pesos from the 20% Development Fund, which has been strategically invested in the continued development of all 33 barangays.*

*VO: DURING THE INCUMBENCY OF MAYOR VINCENT FAMOR FERNANDEZ SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT WERE IMPLEMENTED:*

1. *CONSTRUCTED AND IMPROVED 70 KILOMETERS. LOCAL ROAD NETWORKS AND BRIDGES FROM INTERIOR AND TOURISM AREAS IN 33 BARANGAYS*
2. *CONSTRUCTED 3 CEMETERIES INCLUDING ITS IMPROVEMENTS IN BRGYS.NEW MURCIA, SINARAGAN AND BURI*
3. *CONSTRUCTED PUBLIC MARKET WITH 4 BUILDINGS IN BRGY.POBLACION*
4. *IMPROVED WET AND DRY SECTION OF POBLACION PUBLIC MARKET*
5. *CONSTRUCTED BARANGAY HEALTH STATIONS IN 19 BARANGAYS*
6. *CONSTRUCTED EVACUATION CENTERS IN 5 BARANGAYS*
7. *IMPROVED THE POBLACION PARKS AND PLAZAS*
8. *CONSTRUCTED MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY IN SUPPORT OF THE SANITARY LANDFILL*
9. *INSTALLED 50 UNITS OF STREETLIGHTS PER BARANGAY IN BARANGAYS NEW VISAYAS, KAPOC, BAGUMBAYAN, MANGA, TAMLANGON, POBLACION AND BUAS*
10. *CONSTRUCTED 7 POTABLE WATER SYSTEMS IN 6 BARANGAYS*
11. *MAINTAINED MUNICIPAL AND BARANGAY ROADS*
12. *CONSTRUCTED 2 STOREY MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING SERVING AS EXECUTIVE OFFICES*
13. *CONSTRUCTED 2-STOREY MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING SERVING AS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE*
14. *CONSTRUCTED 75 SHELTER FACILITIES TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS*
15. *REHABILITATED 8 BARANGAY HEALTH STATIONS DAMAGED DURING 2019 EARTHQUAKE*
16. *CONSTRUCTED TEMPORARY LEARNING SPACES IN 6 SCHOOLS*
17. *REHABILITATED 12 SCHOOL BUILDINGS*

***All projects have been completed and have fully served their intended purpose.*** *This achievement stands as a powerful testament to the idea that* ***unity fosters hope for the implementation of even more diverse projects in our locality.***

*VO: ENVIRONMENT*

*VO: The leadership of Mayor Vincent Fernandez made significant strides towards environmental sustainability. To ensure a clean and garbage-free community, including the approval of the enacted* ***Municipal Ordinance No. 308, Series of 2023, prohibiting single-use plastics*** *implemented by the MENRO in partnership with various stakeholders; and the ongoing establishment of a* ***combined Eco-Park and Sanitary Landfill Facility***

*VO: The environment sector is intrinsically linked with the welfare of our Indigenous People. The Municipality of Matanao is dedicated to fostering strong relationships and ongoing collaboration with the Matanaoan IP communities. Our sustained support for IP leaders and their annual tribal festivals reflects our commitment to empowering and preserving the rich cultural heritage of our Indigenous Peoples.*

*VO:*

## *Matanao's Resilient Rise: From Devastation to Empowered Renewal*

*On December 15, 2019, a powerful 6.9 magnitude earthquake crippled Matanao, Davao del Sur, leaving its infrastructure in ruins. Yet, from this devastation, a* ***"New Matanao"*** *has emerged, showcasing remarkable resilience and strategic development under the visionary leadership of* ***Mayor Vincent F. Fernandez****.*

*Mayor Fernandez's administration prioritized an ambitious rebuilding effort. It wasn't just about repairing what was lost; it was about creating a more resilient, modern, and accessible municipality. This included revitalizing key public facilities like the Municipal Hall, upgrading vital road networks, and investing in essential services to uplift the quality of life for all residents.*

### *Unwavering Disaster Resiliency, Amidst a Pandemic*

*What truly sets Matanao apart is its* ***unwavering commitment to disaster resiliency****, which proved crucial even during the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The lessons learned from the 2019 earthquake profoundly strengthened the municipality's* ***Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM)*** *mechanisms. They effectively maintained early warning systems, refined evacuation plans, and seamlessly integrated relief efforts with critical pandemic health measures.*

*Under the leadership of* ***MVF****, the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) ensures the safety of Matanao through its exceptional responsiveness to various emergencies. Their proactive collaboration with other agencies has been critical during challenging times, including the rainy season, the COVID-19 pandemic, and past seismic events. This collaborative approach has enabled the effective delivery of essential mitigation and preparedness efforts across the municipality.*

*Recognizing the MDRRMO's effectiveness in reaching every barangay, and to further empower their vital work, Mayor Fernandez provided* ***twenty new rescue vehicles*** *to barangays with the greatest need. This significant investment has dramatically boosted the municipality's overall emergency response capabilities, ensuring swifter and more effective aid when it matters most.*

*Matanao's journey is a powerful story of profound growth. Despite immense challenges, the municipality has not only rebuilt its physical structures but has also fortified its community and institutional resilience. With strategic development and an unyielding spirit, Matanao stands as a testament to rising stronger, more prepared, and truly ready for a brighter future.*

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*VO: SOCIAL SECTOR*

*VO: The scope of Social Development Governance is defined by various interconnected priorities, such as* ***health, social welfare, protective services, sports, local civil registry, and education****.*

*VO: As the country transitioned into the COVID-19 post-recovery stage during 2022 and 2023, the Local Government Unit of Matanao (LGU Matanao) demonstrated its commitment to public health. Having previously established a Temporary Treatment Facility (TTMF) located in Brgy. Poblacion for suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases, the LGU thru the leadership of MVF remains dedicated to its ongoing mission.*

*VO: The Municipal Health Office (MHO) of Matanao has demonstrated exceptional dedication and diligence, earning numerous accolades and significantly advancing public health services in the municipality from 2016 to the present.*

***Key Achievements and Recognitions (2016-2025):***

* ***2016-2025:*** *Maintained leadership as the* ***President of the D'MABAMAS ILHZ*** *(Digos, Magsaysay, Bansalan, Matanao, Sta. Cruz), showcasing continuous influence and collaboration in inter-LGU health initiatives.*
* ***2018:*** *Achieved crucial* ***PhilHealth Accreditations****, ensuring accessible and quality healthcare services for residents:*
  + ***TB DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course) Facility Accredited***
  + ***Primary Care Benefit Facility Accredited***
  + ***Birthing Home Facility Accredited***
* ***2019:*** *Received the* ***Regional Harmonized Health Award*** *for outstanding participation in the* ***Sabayang Patak Kontra Polio*** *campaign, highlighting effective public health program implementation.*
* ***2021:*** *Demonstrated proactive response during the COVID-19 pandemic with the timely* ***Establishment of the Municipal Isolation Unit****.*
* ***2021:*** *Recognized as an* ***Outstanding Municipality in the Promotion of Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donation****, underscoring community engagement and life-saving contributions.*
* ***2023:*** *Certified as an* ***Adolescent Friendly Health Facility Compliant to Level 1****, ensuring specialized and supportive health services for the youth.*
* ***2024:*** *Continued to be a leader in public health:*
  + ***Recognized as a TB DOTS Facility*** *during the 2024 Commemoration of Lung Month, reaffirming its commitment to tuberculosis control.*
  + ***Awarded as a Functional Epidemiology Surveillance Unit****, vital for disease prevention, monitoring, and rapid response.*
  + *Commenced* ***Operation of the Animal Bite Treatment Center (ABTC)****, providing critical services for animal bite victims.*
* ***2025:*** *Achieved* ***Primary Care E-Konsulta Accreditation from PhilHealth****, embracing digital health solutions to provide more convenient and efficient primary care consultations.*

*These awards and operational milestones underscore the Matanao Municipal Health Office's unwavering dedication to providing comprehensive, accessible, and high-quality healthcare services to all Matanawenyos, continuously adapting to evolving health needs and national standards.*

*VO:* ***Matanao's Civil Registry: Dedicated Service and Community Outreach*** *Under the leadership of* ***the LCE****, the Office of the Civil Registry in Matanao remains steadfast in its commitment to the effective and efficient implementation of civil registry plans and programs. Beyond its foundational duties, the office takes immense pride in its consistent advocacy efforts, which continue to garner significant community support year after year.*

*The Civil Registry diligently carries out its core responsibilities, ensuring meticulous compliance with vital laws such as* ***RA 3753 (Civil Registry Law), RA 9048, and RA 10172****. It adeptly addresses a wide array of civil registry concerns for every client, upholding legal integrity and delivering dedicated public service. This unwavering commitment highlights the office's crucial role in the lives of all Matanaoans.*

*Furthermore, the office actively extends its services through key community outreach initiatives:*

* ***"Kasalan ng Bayan"****: \_\_\_ couples availed*
* ***Mobile Registration****: \_\_\_\_ unregistered individuals availed*

*VO:* Matanao's Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office: Responding to Evolving Needs with Excellence

The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Matanao tirelessly commits to addressing the needs of our most vulnerable citizens. Guided by a profound understanding of new national mandates, the MSWDO, under the dedicated leadership of **Ms. Leizel Dalumatan**, has consistently sustained its momentum in delivering vital social welfare services.

Recent national legislation has significantly expanded the scope of social welfare, presenting both challenges and opportunities for local agencies. These crucial laws include:

* **Republic Act No. 11642 (signed January 6, 2022):** Simplifies the process of adoption, aiming to provide permanent homes for thousands of children.
* **Republic Act No. 11650 (signed March 11, 2022):** Mandates free basic education and related services for learners with disabilities in schools nationwide.
* **Republic Act No. 11861 (lapsed into law June 4, 2022):** Amends the Solo Parents Welfare Act of 2000 (RA No. 8972), granting expanded benefits to single parents.
* **Republic Act No. 11930 (lapsed into law July 30, 2022):** Amends the Anti-Pornography Act (RA No. 9775) and requires internet intermediaries to actively combat online sexual exploitation of minors.

These legislative changes underscore the critical role of social welfare agencies. The Matanao MSWDO has not only embraced these challenges but has excelled in performing its mandated functions, adhering strictly to implementing rules and regulations. The office gratefully acknowledges the strong support from the Local Government Unit, under the leadership of **Municipal Mayor Hon. Vincent Famor-Fernandez**. This leadership has consistently encouraged and facilitated the MSWDO's engagement in inter-agency trainings, meetings, and seminars, both locally and externally, ensuring our team members remain highly competent and well-informed. Our shared responsibilities and the unwavering support among team members have been pivotal in achieving the MSWDO's vision, mission, and goals.

### Nurturing Matanao's Future: Early Childhood Care and Supplemental Feeding

For **Early Childhood Education**, the MSWDO provides crucial technical assistance, supervision, and program materials to **37 Day Care Workers** across the municipality. This support is integral to the delivery of quality Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) services at our Child Development Centers.

Our **Supplemental Feeding Program (SFP)** is meticulously managed. The designated Focal Person for SFP has received comprehensive training and orientation. To ensure accurate reporting of children's nutritional status, knowledge transfer sessions have been regularly conducted with all Child Development Workers (CDWs). Furthermore, intensified school visits and mentoring for CDWs have ensured timely and correct submission of all required documentation.

**Awards and Recognitions for the MSWDO (2022-2025):**

* **2022:**
  + **Recognition for successful implementation of the 11th Cycle Supplementary Feeding Program** amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
  + **Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA) Conferee** for successfully passing the 2022 audit.
* **2023:**
  + Achieved **Ideal Level Functionality Assessment** for the City/Municipality Council for the Protection of Children.
  + **Recognition for successfully implementing the 12th Cycle Supplementary Feeding Program** (SY 2022-2023).
  + Received the **Agency Partner Award** from the National Commission of Senior Citizens.
* **2024:**
  + **2024 Most Outstanding Council for the Protection of Children** with 100% and an Ideal rating in the Functionality Assessment.
  + Again achieved **Ideal Level Functionality Assessment** for the City/Municipality Council for the Protection of Children.
  + Ranked as **TOP 3 LGU** in Fund Distribution for the Senior Citizens' Social Pension Program (1st Semester of 2024).
  + **Certificate of Recognition** for unwavering support in implementing Social Protection Programs and Services and for Championing the Social Welfare Initiatives of the Department (November 8, 2024).
  + **Recognition of Prompt and Consistent Compliance** with the DSWD-DILG JMC 2022-001 Monitoring Tool.
  + **Recognition for Unwavering Support** in the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.
  + **Recognition of the Successful Completion and Submission** of the City/Municipal Action Plan.
  + **PANATA KO SA BAYAN AWARDS – DSWD Recognition** for unwavering commitment to quality service and valuing the 2022-2023 Service Delivery Capacity Assessment to provide quality Social Welfare Development Programs and Services.
* **2025:**
  + **Recognition for successfully implementing the 13th Cycle Supplementary Feeding Program** (SY 2023-2024).

### Empowering Youth, Persons with Disabilities, and Senior Citizens

The MSWDO is also a strong advocate for **youth development**. A significant number of young individuals have received vital **assistance and scholarships such as Educational Assistance**. The LGU has initiated and funded various programs and activities for the youth, including yearly celebration of youth festival, Skills Training (Balloon MAking, Seminar on enhance population awareness and family, and powder soap making.

For **Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)**, the LGU provided assistance to PWDs at 50% of 1% annual budget since 2016 among these were:

distribution of assistive devices

screening and consultation (cleft palate, clubfoot, hernia and orthopedic deformities)

22 patients underwent surgical procedures

facilitated skills training to PWD federation (soap making, VCO)

Supported the Annual Celebration of National Disability Rights Week (NDRW)

Enacted Ordinance No. 193 Series of 2014 on the Provision of Burial Assistance to Señior Citizen and PWDs

This aligns with the mandates of **RA 7277 and RA 9442 (Magna Carta for Disabled Persons)**.

The **Senior Citizens Affairs Office** records show a total of **6,905 registered senior citizens** in the municipality. All registered seniors are provided with official OSCA Identification Cards and purchase booklets for medicines and commodities, distributed across all 33 barangays. The office also provides various other programs for our senior citizens, such as **Food, Financial, medical and burial assistance.**

**The LGU, under the leadership of MVF, provided direct social work intervention and case management to abandoned and neglect Senior Cit.**

**Facilitated 1 SC for family re-integration from residential care**

**Supported the Annual Celebration of ELDERLY Filipino Week with approximately 500 SC participating in every Celebration**

### Championing Women's Welfare

The **Women's Welfare Program** is a cornerstone of the MSWDO's regular initiatives. It aims to empower disadvantaged women by preventing and eradicating all forms of exploitation, while simultaneously promoting skills for employment and self-actualization. During this period, the MSWDO has proactively stepped forward, consistently taking innovative initiatives to advance the welfare of women in Matanao.

*VO: FOR THE EDUCATION SECTOR, THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD WORKS IN HARMONY WITH THE MUNICIPAL AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS. THE SUPPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF MATANAO GOES BEYOND THE TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AND ASSISTANCE TO VARIOUS ACTIVITIES BY DEPED MATANAO I AND MATANAO II DISTRICTS.*

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*VO: LOCAL GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND ORDER AND SECURITY*

*VO: Mayor Vincent F. Fernandez's three terms at the helm of Matanao were characterized by both extraordinary challenges and inspiring triumphs. Through strategic leadership and collaborative efforts across various offices, he skillfully navigated the municipality, steering local governance towards significant achievements and a profound transformation.*

### *Overcoming Adversity: The Path to Lasting Peace*

*Matanao once faced profound security challenges, notably a terrorist attack on* ***March 10, 2014****. At approximately 4:30 AM, about 100 CPP-NPA-NDF rebels assaulted the Matanao Police Station, resulting in a fierce gun battle that tragically claimed the lives of SPO3 Manolo Booc and SPO3 Danny Mualang. Later that morning, a landmine attack in Sitio Lahak, Barangay Asbang, targeting soldiers pursuing the rebels, killed seven military personnel: Sergeant Porras, Corporal Pacionela, Corporal Jihani, Pfc. Palma, Pfc. Tanjilul, Private Dayaday, and Second Lieutenant Alejo, with eight others wounded. Government forces neutralized two suspected NPA rebels during these encounters.*

*Despite these grim events, Matanao embarked on a determined journey toward peace and stability. This commitment culminated in the* ***official declaration of Matanao as an Insurgency-Free Municipality on June 14, 2022****, formalized by MPOC Resolution No. 02, series of 2022. This declaration signifies a profound transformation for the community.*

*To honor sacrifices and symbolize this transition, the* ***Peace Memorial Project*** *broke ground on August 18, 2023. A significant milestone in Matanao's journey towards lasting peace was marked on* ***September 30, 2024****, with the unveiling and wreath-laying ceremony of the* ***Peace Memorial at Sitio Lahak, Barangay Asbang****. This LGU-funded project, initiated in June 2023, solemnly honors the brave heroes of Matanao who paid the ultimate price for peace. It also stands as a powerful reminder of Barangay Asbang's history as a former Communist Terrorist Group stronghold, a period marked by tragic incidents like the 2014 ambush. Dedicated to those who worked and sacrificed for peace, the memorial embodies unity, healing, and remembrance, and is expected to boost the local economy through "Peace Tourism," showcasing Matanao's transformation into a peaceful and resilient community.*

*Further reinforcing peace and order, the Municipality of Matanao officially declared a* ***"Drug-Cleared" Municipality in December 2023****. This significant milestone affirms its unwavering commitment to combating illegal drugs and fostering a safer community. The journey to becoming drug-cleared involved a multi-faceted approach, including intensified anti-drug operations, robust community-based drug rehabilitation programs (with DSWD providing social and psychological support, TESDA offering skills development, and DTI supporting entrepreneurial endeavors), active monitoring of drug personalities, and extensive information and educational campaigns. This holistic strategy, overseen by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and the Regional Oversight Committee on Barangay Drug Clearing (ROCBDC), ensured compliance with Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) regulations across all 33 barangays, signifying the absence of drug personalities, dens, and activities. Matanao is committed to continuously implementing programs to sustain this achievement and promote a drug-free lifestyle.*

### *Upholding Good Governance and Empowering Communities*

*Under Mayor Fernandez's leadership, and with the dynamic partnership of the* ***Municipal Local Government Operations Office headed by MLGOO Mary Grace Santos****, Matanao has consistently demonstrated its dedication to transparent and effective local governance.*

*The* ***Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG)****, a prestigious national recognition, has become a hallmark of Matanao's performance. The SGLG acknowledges commitment to financial transparency, disaster preparedness, sensitivity to vulnerable sectors, public health and safety, investment promotion, environmental protection, and accountability. Matanao first earned this coveted award in* ***2019****, and then proudly received it again in* ***2022, 2023, and 2024****, making the municipality a* ***Hall of Famer****. This remarkable achievement solidifies Matanao's reputation for* ***tapat at mahusay na pamahalaang lokal*** *(transparent and effective local governance).*

*This commitment to good governance extends to the grassroots level through the* ***Seal of Good Local Governance for Barangays (SGLGB)****. This system assesses and recognizes barangays for outstanding performance across various governance areas. We are proud that* ***Barangay Ceboza*** *was recognized as one of only 549 national passers and one of 1,344 pilot-tested barangays in the* ***2021 SGLGB Pilot Testing****, showcasing exemplary performance. In* ***2024****,* ***seven (7) additional barangays*** *also received the Seal of Good Local Governance for Barangays, further demonstrating widespread good governance.*

*The municipality actively leveraged national programs to foster local development and community empowerment. The* ***Support to Barangay Development Program (SBDP)****, part of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), provided crucial funding for priority projects in conflict-affected barangays, ensuring the delivery of basic services and social development. This program, funded through the Local Government Support Fund (LGSF), included provisions for third-party monitoring to ensure transparency and accountability.*

***Key SBDP-funded projects in FY 2022 included:***

* ***Construction of Potable Water Supply Systems (PWSS)*** *in Sitio Admol, Asbang Gutna, and Upper Cabasagan, Brgy. Asinan (Php 4,000,000.00)*
* ***Concreting of Farm-to-Market Road*** *(200mm thick, 1.5m shouldering) at Brgy. Bangkal (Php 4,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of One Unit Day Care Center*** *at Brgy. Kabasagan (Php 2,500,000.00)*
* ***Rural Electrification*** *at Brgy. Kabasagan (Php 1,500,000.00)*
* ***Rehabilitation/Improvement of Level II Potable Water Supply System*** *(New Ground Reservoir and piping) at Brgy. Donganpekong (Php 1,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of Level II PWSS*** *at Sitio Sultana, Brgy. Dongan-pekong (Php 3,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of One Unit Health Center*** *at Brgy. Kapoc (Php 2,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of One Unit Day Care Center*** *at Brgy. Kapok (Php 2,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of Level III Potable Water Supply System*** *(Pipe Laying) at Brgy. Saub (Php 4,000,000.00)*
* ***Construction of Level II Potable Water System*** *(Ground Reservoir, intake box, transmission/distribution line, public faucet) at Brgy. Savoy (Php 4,000,000.00)*

*Further demonstrating a "whole-of-nation approach" (as per Presidential Executive Order No. 70, s. 2018), the Municipality of Matanao enacted* ***Municipal Ordinance No. 233, series of 2019****, establishing the* ***"UGNAYAN NG GOBYERNO AT MAMAMAYAN PARA SA ADBOKASIYANG PANGKAUNLARAN +++" or UGMAD+++****. This initiative brings government programs and services closer to the people, aligning with the Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC) and Municipal Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (MTF-ELCAC). UGMAD+++ began its operations with a medical mission in Brgy. Asbang on* ***June 18, 2023****, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Bansalan, Digos, South Digos, Digos-Calinan, and CRIADOS*

*VO: THE LOCAL SANGGUNIAN*

*VO: Matanao's Legislative Excellence: A Digitalized Sangguniang Bayan Paving the Way for Progress*

*Under the dynamic leadership of* ***Vice Mayor Irick Agbon****, the 20th Sangguniang Bayan of Matanao has achieved remarkable legislative milestones from* ***July 2022 to the present****. This period reflects a robust commitment to responsive and progressive governance.*

***Key Legislative Output (July 2022 - Present):***

* ***157 Ordinances Enacted***
* ***68 Appropriation Ordinances Enacted***

*The Sangguniang Bayan, as the municipality's core legislative body, operates with a clear vision: to work hand-in-hand with the Executive branch. It actively supports all development endeavors enshrined in the local development plans, which are thoughtfully crafted by diverse stakeholders and sectoral groups. This collaborative approach is designed to achieve Matanao's overarching goals, focusing on the general welfare of the municipality and providing a better quality of life for all Matanawenyos. Ultimately, the legislative agenda meticulously complements and empowers the executive agenda through comprehensive and responsive laws.*

### *A Legacy of Strategic Legislation: 9 Years of Impact (July 2016 - May 2025)*

*The accomplishments of the Sangguniang Bayan span three terms (9 years), demonstrating a sustained effort to fulfill the Municipality of Matanao's mission, vision, goals, and objectives through effective legislative measures. A total of* ***157 Municipal Ordinances*** *have been enacted by the 18th, 19th, and 20th Legislative Councils and approved by the Local Chief Executive during this period.*

*These significant legislative outputs were championed by various committees, showcasing a broad and diversified focus:*

* ***Finance, Budget, Appropriations, Ways & Means, Economic Enterprises:*** *20 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Rules & Privileges, Good Government, Public Ethics & Accountability:*** *37 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Education, Science & Technology, Arts & Culture, Tourism, International Relations:*** *18 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Social Services, Gender, Family, Social Welfare Development, Elderly:*** *13 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Public Utilities, Franchises, Energy:*** *12 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Health, Nutrition, Sanitation Management:*** *12 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Environmental Protection, Ecology, Natural Resources:*** *11 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Peace & Order, Public Safety, Anti-Drug Campaign:*** *10 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Agriculture, Livelihood, Cooperative Development:*** *8 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Public Works, Infrastructure, Land Use, Special Projects:*** *7 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Youth, Sports Development, Games and Amusements:*** *7 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Indigenous Peoples, Muslim Affairs, Human Rights, People’s Participation:*** *6 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Barangay Affairs:*** *2 Municipal Ordinances*
* ***Trade & Commerce, Labor and Employment, Industry:*** *1 Municipal Ordinance*

### *Pioneering Digitalization and Landmark Ordinances*

*A defining achievement of the Matanao Sangguniang Bayan is its* ***pioneering digitalization initiative****, making it the* ***first Sangguniang Bayan in Davao del Sur to establish a comprehensive digitalization platform.*** *This forward-thinking approach enhances transparency, accessibility, and efficiency in legislative processes.*

*This commitment to progressive governance is further exemplified by several landmark ordinances, which serve as foundational pillars for Matanao's sustainable development and improved public service delivery:*

* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 233, Series of 2019:*** *Implementing* ***"Ugnayan ng Gobyerno at Mamamayan para sa Adbokasiyang Pangkaunlaran (UGMAd+++),"*** *a program designed to bring government services closer to Matanawenyos.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 267, Series of 2021:******"Approving the Code of General Ordinances of Matanao, Davao del Sur,"*** *a crucial step in streamlining and consolidating local regulations.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 278, Series of 2022:******"Adopting the Integrated Zoning Regulations of the Municipality of Matanao,"*** *providing a clear framework for land use and urban development.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 284, Series of 2022:******"Establishing the Legislative Records Tracking and Electronic Data Storage Access System Development Program in the Sangguniang Bayan,"*** *a testament to its commitment to digital governance and efficiency.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 308, Series of 2023:******"2023 Revised Ecological Solid Waste Management Code of Matanao, Davao del Sur,"*** *reinforcing environmental sustainability efforts.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 316, Series of 2023:******"Enacting the Revised Gender and Development Code 2023 (GAD) of the Municipality of Matanao,"*** *strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 317, Series of 2023:******"Revised Child and Youth Welfare Code of the Municipality of Matanao,"*** *enhancing protection and welfare for the youth.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 320, Series of 2024:******"An Ordinance enacting the Municipality of Matanao Local Investments and Incentives Code of 2023,"*** *fostering economic growth and attracting vital investments.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 335, Series of 2024:******"An Ordinance establishing the Matanao Tourism Home for the Culture and the Arts,"*** *promoting local heritage and cultural development.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 336, Series of 2024:******"An Ordinance Institutionalizing KADIWA NG PANGULO (KNP) in the Municipality Of Matanao,"*** *supporting direct farmer-to-consumer market linkages for food security.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 338, Series Of 2024:******"An Ordinance amending the Amended Municipal Ordinance No. 243, Series of 2023, particularly on Section 7 and Section 19, entitled: 'Institutionalizing A Drug-Free Workplace in The Local Government Unit of Matanao,'"*** *reinforcing anti-drug efforts within the LGU.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 344, Series of 2024:******"An Ordinance adopting and implementing the Citizens' Charter of the Municipal Government of Matanao,"*** *ensuring ease of doing business and efficient government service delivery, pursuant to Republic Act No. 11032.*
* ***MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 351, Series of 2024:******"An Ordinance enacting the Tourism Code of the Municipality of Matanao, Davao Del Sur,"*** *laying the groundwork for sustainable tourism development.*

*These comprehensive accomplishments underscore the Matanao Sangguniang Bayan's unwavering dedication to legislating progress, ensuring Matanao continues its trajectory towards inclusive, sustainable, and digitally empowered development.*

*VO: The Local Planning Office, as mandated by the Local Government Code, has successfully crafted the Municipality's Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) 2017-2025, Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) 2017-2025, and various other sectoral plans. Initially led by the retired Engr. Ruel Jugador and currently under the guidance of Acting Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Mary Ann E. Rabutan, the office has significantly enhanced its data capabilities through the Community-Based Management System, in partnership with the Philippine Statistics Authority.*

*Furthermore, the office diligently provides secretariat functions for critical committees including the Local Project Monitoring Committee, Local Zoning Board of Appeals, Local Zoning Review Committee, and Local Housing Board. It also extends vital technical assistance to Civil Society Organizations and Barangay Local Government Units. A key achievement has been the formalization of the People's Council of Matanao, facilitated through the dedicated efforts of CSO Desk Officer Michael Bajenting and the Sangguniang Bayan members."*

*VO: The* ***Budget, General Services Office and Accounting Offices*** *are performing exceptionally well in their vital functions. Following the dedicated service of retired Myrna Ocay,* ***Ms. Doris Umalay, Acting Budget Officer****, previous General Services Officer Ms.* ***Lalaine Villar now Ms. Rowena Jugador*** *and* ***Ms. Melanie Hefervez Jao, CPA Municipal Accountant****, are now diligently overseeing the meticulous tracking and accounting of all budgeted funds, thereby ensuring our municipality's* ***financial integrity and responsible resource and asset management****.*

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MVF:

It is my distinct honor to address the **families of Matanao's founders**, recognizing their immense contributions. It's important for their heirs to know that these remarkable individuals played a pivotal role in shaping Matanao into the vibrant community it is today.

These influential figures include:

* **Governor Douglas RA. Cagas** – The Father of Davao del Sur
* **Past Municipal Mayors:**
  + Vicente A. Fernandez
  + Elmer L. Javelona
  + Pablito C. Albaracin
  + Miguel S. Dumdum
  + Lindo D. Javelona
  + Cesar U. Dela Victoria, Sr.
  + Rosendo Javelona

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to **thank everyone for a job well done**. Our combined efforts have created a significant impact, illuminating a profound sense of pride and honor within our municipality.

Rest assured, the principles of **inclusive and participatory governance** will continue to be upheld and even further developed for the greatness of our municipality under the leadership of **Mayor-Elect Irick A. Agbon**.

Indeed, **Wow Matanao!** **Suroya si Matanao.** **Matanao to the Next Level.**

**Daghang Salamat.**