

December 5, 2025

Caraga Pushes Stronger Local Action on Literacy at 2025 National Conference



LGU COMMITMENT. Butuan City Education Development Department Head and Resource Person Rosalito Libres (far right) during the panel discussion at the 2025 National Literacy Conference (NLC), held from December 1–3 at the Great Eastern Hotel, Quezon City.

QUEZON CITY, December 5, 2025 – The Department of Education (DepEd) Caraga Region reinforced its commitment to addressing foundational learning gaps as it joined education leaders and local government officials at the 2025 National Literacy Conference (NLC), held from December 1–3 at the Great Eastern Hotel, Quezon City.

With the theme “Back to Basics: Strengthening the Foundations of Literacy through Local Action and Community Partnerships,” the conference gathered education stakeholders from across the country to confront urgent literacy challenges and promote evidence-based interventions.

Regional Director Maria Ines C. Asuncion led the Caraga delegation composed of division officials, school heads, literacy advocates, and local chief executives, including Mayors Michael Corilla (San Miguel), Glaiza Jane Lanete (Tagbina), Napoleon Montero (Jabonga), and Kirk Asis (Bayugan City).

Their participation highlighted the region’s unified effort to strengthen literacy through strong DepEd–LGU.

A notable moment in the event was the panel discussion featuring Resource Person Rosalito Libres of the Butuan City Education Literacy and Scholarship Office, who shared the city’s continuing partnership with DepEd Caraga. He emphasized the value of LGU-driven literacy programs, learner support services, and scholarship initiatives in improving access and outcomes. *To Page 2*

In LITERACY, 85% of our Grade 1-3 students are NOT grade-level ready

National Comprehensive Rapid Literacy Assessment (CRLA)
School Year 2025 - 2026



Low Emerging Reader

- Knows only 4 letter sounds
- Successfully decodes simple words
- Can recall simple facts (e.g., "was a girl and a dog")
- Cannot explain character motivations or predict events

Transitioning Reader

- Can read with fluency (50% of that grade level at the beginning of school)
- Can answer at least 50% of comprehension questions
- Can connect text to real-life experiences

From Page 2

Discussions at the conference centered on the results of the National Comprehensive Rapid Literacy Assessment, which revealed that 85% of learners nationwide are not grade-level ready. In response, experts and participants examined strategic actions, including:

- strengthening reading and numeracy skills in the early grades;
- expanding Alternative Learning System (ALS) programs for out-of-school youth and adults;
- enhancing teacher capacity through targeted professional development; and
- building deeper collaborations among DepEd, LGUs, and civil society organizations.

RD Asuncion affirmed Caraga's strong commitment to closing literacy gaps, stressing that "literacy is the foundation of all learning."

To Page 3

“We cannot allow our learners to fall behind. Caraga will continue to work hand-in-hand with our local governments and communities to ensure every child gains the skills they need to succeed. Together, we will close the gaps and build a stronger future for our learners.”

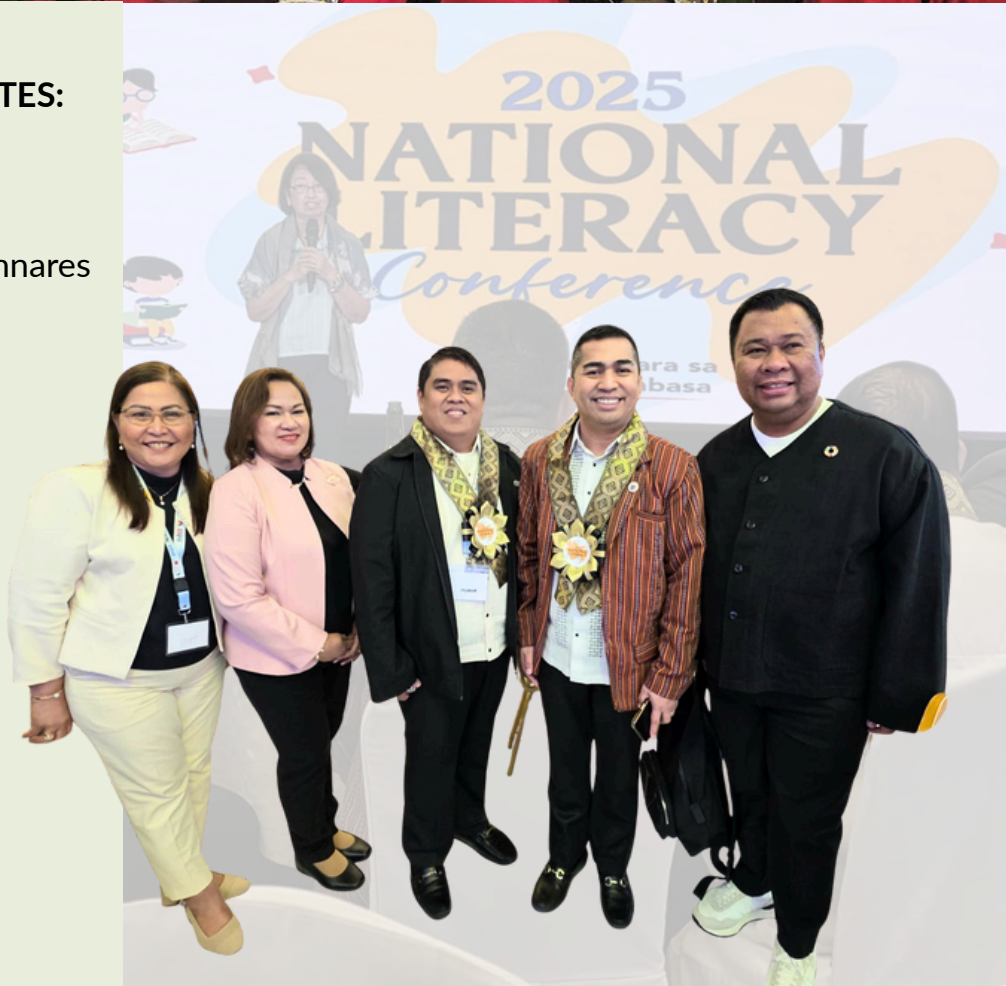
MARIA INES C. ASUNCION, CESO IV
Regional Director, DepEd Caraga





OFFICIAL REGIONAL DELEGATES:

- Maria Ines C. Asuncion
- Laila F. Danaque
- Ma. Teresa M. Real
- Josephine Chonie M. Obsennares
- Terry G. Alcantara
- Marbie M. Femalec
- Marife R. Garcia
- Aniceta Anlicuena
- Kirk A. Asis
- Rosalito B. Libres
- Michael T. Corilla
- Glaiza Jane P. Lanete
- Jerry P. Salino
- Napoleon M. Montero
- Niel B. Beluan
- Jay N. Sescon
- Lyra Victoria M. Funchica
- Neil N. Loque
- Veronica P. Pecasames
- Nilo R. Verdon
- Elenita S. Verdon
- Marjorie A. Castillo





POWER POSE. Caraga delegates led by Director Maria Ines C. Asuncion (standing, center) together with seated regional directors from other DepEd regions during the event.



EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/ LAYOUT ARTIST

Pedro A. Tecson

ASSOCIATE EDITOR/ LAYOUT ARTIST

Jez Marie R. Macuno

PAGE EDITORS

Bernabe L. Linog
Alejandro P. Macadatar
Joel B. Rosales
Flordelisa R. Dalin
Edmund D. Mendoza
Marlyne M. Villareal
Violeta C. Nuñez
Elaine N. Navarro

CONSULTANTS

RD Maria Ines C. Asuncion, CESO IV
ARD Pedro T. Escobarte Jr., CESO IV

CIRCULATION

Erma D. Pagapong

