



AGATA
MINING VENTURES INC.
A TVIRD-MRL JOINT VENTURE

Principal Office:
Barangay Lawigan,
Municipality of Tubay,
Agusan del Norte

Corporate Office:
22F BDO Equitable Bank Tower
8751 Paseo De Roxas
Makati City, 1226, Philippines
Main 632.8728.8491
Fax 632.8728.8515
www.tvird.com.ph

NEWS RELEASE

Mabakas Organic Farm Products Reach Mindanao Mainstream Market

Agata brings SDMP-supported community livelihood products closer to Filipino consumers



Some of Agata's featured products crafted through its Mabakas Techno Demo Farm include various hand-crafted bags, chili oil, 'Pijanga' chicharon, banana chips, turmeric powder, and Agata's famous coco vinegar.

Tubay, Agusan del Norte / July 2024 – Agata Mining Ventures Inc. (AMVI) – a joint venture project of TVI Resource Development Philippines Inc. (TVIRD) and Mindoro Resources Limited (MRL) that is now in the second year of its final rehabilitation – has taken significant strides towards bringing its communities' organic handmade products closer to the Mindanao mainstream market.

The commercial distribution of these products is a milestone for the company's Mabakas Techno Demo Farm School and the success of its Social Development and Management Program.

Mabakas is making its way into the regional market with two brand lines: *Agata's Best* features an array of handicraft products that include fashionable bags, figurines, wall clocks, baskets, decorative vases, and ornamental furniture. These items incorporate organic materials and reflect the artistry of the community.

Meanwhile, the diverse selection of food products under *Agata Fresh* include crispy '*Pijanga*' chicharon, indulgent *Lawigan's Bukayo* coconut toffee, spicy chili garlic sauce, and refreshing calamansi juice,

Bottled *achara*, turmeric powder, coco vinegar, virgin coconut oil, and tablea chocolate complete the institute's current line of innovative and high-quality products set to capture both the local and national markets.

Partnership with DTI

Agata recently partnered with the Department of Trade and Industry's *Negosyo Center* in Caraga to support the sale and promotion of its local handicrafts as well as showcase these under the company's SDMP, which aims to enhance and sustain community livelihood.

The collaboration also includes the sale and distribution of Mabakas handicrafts at the *Negosyo Center*, which is a valuable platform for reaching a broader market and promoting local craftsmanship. It likewise generates income for community members involved in the program and fosters economic development and sustainability in the region.

"This collaboration marks a significant milestone for Agata's Mabakas farm school. It provides our local artisans an opportunity to showcase their handicrafts to a wider market. Together with the DTI, we are also driving social and economic growth in the Caraga region," according to Mabakas Administrator Shiela Arcala

The proponents foresee that the partnership will greatly benefit local communities by enhancing the visibility and marketability of their handicrafts, thereby contributing to their overall economic growth.

Expansion through AllHome

The company also successfully forged a partnership with AllHome, a sister company of TVIRD, providing a valuable opportunity to showcase its community livelihood products in the store's Butuan and Cagayan outlets.

"By featuring our products in AllHome, we can test their potential marketability as well as highlight the effectiveness of our sustainable agricultural livelihood practices and innovative farming techniques," said Arcala.

“Through this strategic partnership, Mabakas is well-positioned to penetrate the Mindanao market and potentially expand its reach across the country through AllHome's extensive network. We are set to increase our market share and establish a stronger foothold in the agricultural and livelihood sector,” added Arcala.

About Mabakas

The word “Mabakas” originates from the language of one of the oldest tribes in the Philippines – the Mamanwas, who are indigenous to Northeastern Mindanao. The word translates to “industrious” and reflects the values of the community. Mabakas operates in Tubay Municipality, Agusan del Norte Province where a significant population of Mamanwas live.

Established in 2018, Mabakas is the only farm school in the Caraga Region that is both operated by a mining company and accredited by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) as a Livelihood Training Center. It is likewise recognized as an Accredited Agricultural Learning Institution by the Department of Agriculture.

Together with TVIRD’s SIDLAK Techno Demo Farm School located in its Balabag Gold-Silver Project, both institutions have generated more than 18,000 graduates to date – a significant number of whom now operate their farms that sustained their respective communities during the pandemic.

Press Photos



1 *Residents from Agata’s host and neighboring communities have successfully mastered the art of producing turmeric powder.*



- 2 *Members of the Mabakas team collaborate with DTI Caraga’s Negosyo Center to promote and sell Mabakas handicrafts, enhancing the visibility and marketability of these products.*



- 3 *Jabonga Mayor Napoleon Montero and TVIRD Director for Tenement Management and Environmental Compliance Jesalyn Guinguing (center and 2nd from Right, respectively) at the Mabakas product launch in AllHome Butuan. Joining them are key regional officers of the DTI, AllHome, and the Villar Sipag Foundation.*

About TVI in the Philippines

TVI Resource Development Philippines Inc. (“TVIRD”), is owned in part by TVI Pacific Inc. (TSX: TVI), a publicly-listed Canadian mining company focused on the exploration, development, and production of precious and base metals from district-scale, large-system, high-margin projects located in the Philippines. Concurrent ownership of ventures is shared with partner company, Prime Resource Holdings Inc.

The Agata Nickel Laterite Mine is the third successful mining project that TVIRD brought on-stream in a period of 10 years while its Balabag Gold-Silver Mine further cements its position as a steady producer of precious metals in the country. With the forthcoming commercial operations of its Siana Gold Mine, the company remains committed to exploration and mining practices that promote transparency, responsible stewardship of the environment, and the inalienable rights to life, dignity, and sustainable development of its host communities.

www.tvird.com.ph

Contacts:

KAYCEE CRISOSTOMO

Corporate Communications Director
TVI Resource Development Philippines, Inc.
Email: kaycee.crisostomo@tvird.com.ph
Phone: +63 2 8728-8491
Mobile: +63 917 579-1528
Fax: +63 2 8728-8515

BRANDON LOPEZ

Corporate Communications Officer
Agata Mining Ventures, Inc.
Email: Brandon.Lopez@greenstoneresources.com.ph
Mobile: +63 946 068-4772