



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 810, s. 2026

AUG 03 2026

**RESCHEDULING OF THE NATIONAL PARASITE PREVALENCE STUDY
REGIONAL ORIENTATION AND PLANNING WORKSHOP**

To: Schools Division Offices of Negros Occidental,
Cadiz City, San Carlos City, and Siquijor City
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Education Support Services Division, disseminates the attached communication from the **Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM)** dated July 30, 2026 regarding the conduct of the Regional Orientation for stakeholders in preparation for the implementation of the study titled, **"Updating the prevalence and distribution of soil-transmitted helminths (STH) and schistosomiasis among preschool (PRESAC) and school-aged children (SAC) in selected provinces in the Philippines: A cross-sectional study (NPPS 2025),"** which will now be held on **September 7-10, 2026**, at **J7 Hotel and Resort, Iloilo City**.
2. The participants identified by RITM in the enclosed communication are requested to confirm their attendance on or before August 19, 2026 through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/NPPSVlandNIRSept>.
3. Meals and accommodation, shall be provided by the RITM, while travel and incidental expenses of the participants shall be charged against any available local funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
4. For information and other concerns contact: Dr. Mishell Marie V. Gabas, Medical Officer IV, through the email address mishell.gabas@deped.gov.ph
5. This Memorandum supersedes the schedule indicated in Regional Memorandum No. 521, s. 2026, entitled "Attendance to the National Parasite Prevalence Study Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop," only with



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respect to the activity schedule. All other provisions therein remain in effect unless otherwise modified by the attached communication.

6. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

fw:  **RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III**
Regional Director

Reference: As Stated
Incl: As Stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH

PROGRAMS

STUDENTS

MMG/ESSD-RM/Rescheduling of the National Parasite Prevalence Study Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop/August 3, 2026



Department of Health
Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

July 30, 2026

DIRECTOR RAMIR UYTICO

Regional Director

Department of Education Negros Island Region

Brgy. Batinguel, Dumaguete City

Thru: Head of School Health and Nutrition Unit

Attention: School Divisions of Negros Occidental, Cadiz City, San Carlos City
School Division of Siquijor

Dear Director Uytico,

Subject: Attendance to the NPPS Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop

The Department of Parasitology of the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM), serving as the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for Malaria and Other Parasites, was commissioned by the Department of Health (DOH) Integrated Helminth Control Program (IHCP) and Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Program (SCEP) to conduct the study entitled, "Updating the Prevalence and Distribution of Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH) and Schistosomiasis among Preschool-Aged Children (PreSAC) and School-Aged Children (SAC) in Selected Provinces in the Philippines: A Cross-sectional Study (NPPS 2025)." For this year, the survey will be conducted in the following randomly selected schools in Negros Occidental and Siquijor.

Negros Occidental:

Schistosomiasis-endemic			
Division	District	School Name	Grade Level
School division of Negros Occidental	Calatrava II District	Hinab-ongan ES	Kinder to Grade 3
		Harbort ES	Grade 4 to 6
		Col. Griffin National High School	Grade 7 to 10
		Col. Griffin National High School	Grade 11 to 12
Non-schistosomiasis endemic			
Division	District	School Name	Grade Level
School division of Negros Occidental	Cauayan I District	Molobolo ES	Kinder to Grade 3
School division of Cadiz City	Cadiz City Division (West II area/district)	Cadiz West II ES	Grade 4 to 6
School division of Negros Occidental	Toboso District	Tinongan NHS	Grade 7 to 10
School division of San Carlos City	District 6	Julio Ledesma NHS	Grade 11 to 12





Department of Health
Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Siquijor:

Division	District	School Name	Grade Level
School division of Siquijor	Siquijor District	Cang-alwang ES	Kinder to Grade 3
	Siquijor District	Candanay ES	Grade 4 to 6
	Siquijor District	Catulayan NHS	Grade 7 to 10
	Siquijor District	Siquijor Integrated School	Grade 11 to 12

In preparation for the implementation of the survey, we will now conduct the **NPPS Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop** on **September 7–10, 2026**, at **J7 Hotel and Resort, Iloilo City**. The activity will provide detailed information on the study objectives, survey methodology, specimen collection and handling procedures, informed consent and assent processes, expected outputs, and the implementation schedule. It will also serve as a venue to finalize coordination and operational arrangements with participating schools and offices.

With this, we would like to invite **one (1) representative** from the following offices/units:

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL	
School division of Negros Occidental	Division Medical Officer or Nurse School and District nurse of Calatrava II School and District nurse of Cauayan I District School and District nurse of Toboso District
School division of Cadiz City	Division Medical Officer or Nurse School and District nurse of Cadiz City Division (West II area/district)
School division of San Carlos City	Division Medical Officer or Nurse School and District nurse of District 6
SIQUIJOR	
School division of Siquijor	Division Medical Officer or Nurse School and District nurse of Siquijor District

We would also like to invite **2 representatives** from the **DepEd NIR Regional Office School Health and Nutrition Unit**.

RITM will provide meals and accommodation for this activity. However, we respectfully request that travel expenses be shouldered by the sending agency. Your participation and technical expertise are crucial to the successful implementation of this activity. We would also like to request the list of sections per grade level and the corresponding number of enrolled learners for the above-mentioned schools.

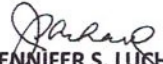
Attached is a copy of the Department of Education Central Office endorsement for your reference. Kindly confirm your attendance by August 19, 2026, using the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/NPPSVlandNIRSept>

Our staff, Ms. Sabrina Parungao, will coordinate with your office regarding this matter. You may also email us at npps2025@gmail.com or call (02) 8807-2631 local 343.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your positive response and remain available to discuss the survey in further detail, if needed.

Sincerely,


JENNIFER S. LUCHAVEZ, MSc.
Principal Investigator and OIC Head
Parasitology Department





Republika ng Pilipinas

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATION

MEMORANDUM

OM-UGOPS-2026-08 08029

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL SCHOOL HEADS CONCERNED
ALL OTHER CONCERNED

FROM :  **MALCOLM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary



SUBJECT : **UPDATED REPORTING MECHANISM FOR SCHOOL-BASED
DEWORMING PROGRAM AND CONDUCT OF NATIONAL
PARASITE PREVALENCE SURVEY (NPPS)**

DATE : January 5, 2026

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), supports the Department of Health (DOH) on the implementation of the Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis Mass Drug Administration (STH MDA) in schools, and the conduct of the National Parasite Prevalence Survey in coordination with the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM).

A. School-Based Deworming Program

Following the issuance of the DOH Department Circular No. 2025-0537 titled *"Advisory on the Conduct of Harmonized Mass Drug Administration Activities for Schistosomiasis and Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis"* to facilitate timely reporting and accurate evaluation of STH MDA coverage in schools and communities, the reporting mechanism for school-based deworming program shall adopt the following changes, effective January 2026 onwards:

New Age Disaggregation Data Reporting	1-4 years old 5-14 years old 15-19 years old
Names of Rounds and Deadline for Reporting	January Round: Every March 31 st July Round: Every September 30 th



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School Health and Nutrition personnel are encouraged to **closely coordinate with the DOH Center for Health Development (CHD) STH MDA program managers** for the facilitation of the deworming rounds and submission of reports based on the updated reporting mechanism.

B. National Parasite Prevalence Survey (NPPS)

In 2025, DOH and RITM has collaborated to conduct the first phase of the NPPS to establish an updated baseline data to support national targets as outlined in the Philippine Multi-Disease Elimination Plan 2024-2030. To support this, DepEd, through the Governance and Operations Strand has issued *OUGOPS Memorandum No. OM-OUGOPS-2025-08-05567* titled *"Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop for the Conduct of National Parasite Prevalence Survey"* which involved survey sites in Region III and CAR.

For 2026, we respectfully request the **assistance and support of Regional and School Division Offices (ROs and SDOs) through the School Health and Nutrition Unit** for the continued implementation of the national survey. ROs and SDOs, through their respective Compliance Officers for Privacy, shall ensure that activities related to the administration of surveys adhere to the relevant provisions of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the *Data Privacy Act of 2012*, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other relevant issuances from the National Privacy Commission. Further, updates regarding the activities related to the conduct of NPPS may be communicated through a separate advisory by the Bureau of Learner Support Services.

Accommodation expenses for the conduct of the activities related to NPPS shall be borne by the organizer, DOH and RITM. Meanwhile, transportation and other related expenses of DepEd participants shall be charged to local funds or program support funds (PSF), subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

For questions and concerns, please contact the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division, through (02) 8632-9935 or email at biss.shd@deped.gov.ph.



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