

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC) is a Government Owned and Controlled Corporation (GOCC) that was created under R.A. 8423 otherwise known as Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA) of 1997 and attached to the Department of Health. It is mandated by law to accelerate the development of traditional and alternative health care and its integration into the national health care delivery system.

In September 2012, the Governance Commission for Government Owned and Controlled Corporation (GCG) classified PITAHC as a research institution and as such was directed to rationalize its operations as originally mandated. Its current functions are research management, social advocacy and training, standards and accreditation and knowledge management. Its operations are planning and administration, human resource, financial management, manufacturing and production and marketing of herbal medicines catering to government clients specifically the Department of Health.

To realize PITAHC's goal as a research and development Institute on traditional and alternative medicine, partnership and collaboration with different research institutions and Traditional and Alternative Health Care (TAHC) organizations was intensified. Likewise, PITAHC rehabilitated and upgraded its laboratory facilities at the four Herbal Processing Plants in Tuguegarao, Tacloban, Davao and Cotabato Cities that serve as venue in the conduct of its in-house researches.

Along with research and development, social advocacy and training, and formulation of competency standards and guidelines in the practice of the different Traditional and Alternative Health Care (TAHC) modalities, certification of practitioners and accreditation of TAHC training centers, clinics and organizations were undertaken.

Research and Development

For this year, the following research projects were completed in collaboration and partnership with UP-Manila, Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, Health Futures Foundation Inc., Ateneo de Manila University, Bicol University, Nueva Vizcaya State University, Isabela State University, and University of Rizal System.

1. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices on Health and Development of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library on Health: Selected Cultural Communities of Central Mindanao.
2. Development of a Traditional and Alternative Healers Catalog for the Provinces of Batangas and Laguna.
3. Encyclopedia of Medicinal Plants of the Philippines, *Volume 2*

4. Traditional and Alternative Health Care (TAHC) Research Management and Capability Building Project
5. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices on Health and Development of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library on Health: The Agta Communities in Albay and Camarines Sur
6. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices on Health and Development of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library on Health: The Gaddang, Isinai, and Bugkalot of Nueva Vizcaya
7. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices on Health and Development of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library on Health: Selected Cultural Communities of Isabela
8. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices on Health and Development of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library on Health: Selected Cultural Communities of the Provinces of Rizal

Likewise, PITAHC carried out its in-house researches at the Herbal Processing Plants and completed the following:

1. Product Development of *Cassia alata* L. (Akapulko) Ointment
2. Trial Formulation of *Vitex negundo* L. (Lagundi) Double Dose (600mg) Tablet
3. Technology of *Psidium guajava* L. (Bayabas) Hand Wash
4. Formulation of Competency Standards for Osteopathy
5. Guideleines for the National Certification/Accreditation on Colon Hydrotherapy
6. Stability Studies of Soaps

For this year, the following results of completed research projects for the last three years were published at the website (www.tkdl.com), at the Philippine Journal of Dermatology, and at the National Administrative Registry, UP Law Center.

1. Documentation of Philippine Traditional Knowledge and Practices in Health: The People of Samar Island Natural Park, Samar Island
2. Encyclopedia of Common Medicinal Plants of the Philippines *Volume 1*
3. Guidelines for the National Certification/Accreditation on Tuina Massage

Social Advocacy and Training

PITAHC continuously promotes and advocates the use of safe, effective, cost effective and appropriately-validated and culturally acceptable herbal medicines and TAHC modalities. These are done through lectures/demonstrations, quad media, participation to exhibits/trade fairs, conventions and seminars in the different universities, academes, and government/private hospitals nationwide.

The existence of PITAHC website and the ongoing establishment of database of information on TAHC practitioners, clinics/centers, researches, products, services and technologies and the presence of PITAHC's "Well-being Library" consisting of collection of books, health magazines, audio and video materials and other reference materials on TAHC are equally

important as sources of information for students, researchers, practitioners and the general public who are interested on TAHC.

PITAHC provided technical assistance to TAHC Zonal Centers and partners. A total of thirty nine (39) advisory assignments was carried out which includes skills validation to foreign TAHC practitioners.

For this year, a total of three (3) batches Training on Tuina Therapeutic Massage were carried out to Traditional Medicine Coordinators of the Center for Health Development, Department of Health, Cordillera Autonomous Region with a total of twenty one (21) participants trained. Six (6) batches of Training on Acupressure was carried out at CHD-MIMAROPA, Le Bien Naturopathic Clinic and Municipality of Tanay, Rizal with a total of forty two (42) participants trained. One (1) Training on Basic Acupuncture was conducted at the City Health Office of Marikina.

Standards and Accreditation

For the year, activities were geared towards the establishment of a system for the qualification, certification and accreditation of Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Three (3) public hearings were conducted on the Guidelines for the National Certification for Colon Hydrotherapy, Competency Standards for Osteopathy and Updates for Hilot competency. The inputs to these public consultations becomes the basis for the finalization, publication and implementation of the said guidelines. Relative to this, the Guidelines for the Certification and Accreditation of Tuina was already approved and published in the National Administrative Register of the College of Law, UP Law Center.

Several consultation meetings were conducted on the formulation of competency standards and drafting of the guidelines for the national certification and accreditation of Hilot.

For this year, a total of sixty (60) TAHC practitioners consisting of fifty (50) Acupuncturists, one (1) Chiropractor, four (4) Homeopaths/Homotoxicologists and five (5) Naturopaths were certified; nine (9) TAHC Clinics (4 Acupuncture, 5 Homeopathy/Homotoxicology) and two (2) Training Centers (1 Acupuncture, 1 Naturopathy) were accredited.

To foster cohesiveness among TM/CAM practitioners, the Philippine Academy of Acupuncture Inc. (PAAI) in collaboration with PITAHC conducted the 6th Acupuncture Convention with the theme "Building Capacities Through Good Acupuncture Practice".

In order to establish a responsive system for the reporting, monitoring and responding to complaints related to TM/CAM practices, PITAHC convened with the Department of Interior and Local Government, Bureau of Immigration, Department of Labor and Employment and the National Bureau of Investigation to come up with measures to address the problem on the proliferation of unregistered TM/CAM practitioners.

Herbal Processing Plants

The Herbal Processing Plants (HPPs) located in Tuguegarao, Tacloban, Davao and Cotabato Cities produced herbal medicines and herbal soap to supply the requirements specifically for the Department of Health. The herbal medicines that are included in the Complete Treatment Pack of the National Center for Pharmaceutical Access and Management of the DOH includes Lagundi tablet (anti-cough & anti-asthma), and Sambong tablet (Diuretic and anti-urolithiasis). For DOH-retained hospitals, the herbal soaps (Bayabas and Akapulko) are included as part of Obstetrics kits given to their patients. For this year, a total of thirty nine (39) million of herbal medicine tablets and 195,000 pieces of herbal soap were produced at the HPPs. In Tacloban Herbal Processing Plant, the re-establishment and maintenance of its fifteen (15) hectares of herbal plantation is a major source of livelihood of farmers living in the area. These farmers are the contract growers of Lagundi, Sambong and Tsaang Gubat plants that are used in the manufacture and production of herbal medicines.

The HPPs carried out PITAHC's in-house researches on product development of herbal products. Their research facilities were upgraded by acquiring the needed equipment in the conduct of their researches.

Marketing and Sales

The availability and accessibility of safe, quality and cost effective herbal medicines in the market is one of PITAHC's objective to help the government's effort to providing affordable medicines especially those who cannot afford expensive medicines.

For this year, PITAHC achieved a gross sales of P97.7 million against its target of P89.9 million or 109% accomplished. There is an increase in sales from P95.7 million in 2013 to P97.7 million in 2014. Income generated from sales is used to help augment the financial requirements needed to sustain the operation of the Institute.

Human Resource Development

As part of human resource development program of the Institute, staff from the different units and HPPs attended/participated the following (local and international):

1. Library System Users Training
2. Public Financial Management and Climate Change Resiliency Towards Responsive and Transparent Governance
3. 1st Biennial Health Research Symposium
4. 82nd PPHA Annual Convention
5. 5th ASEAN Traditional Medicine Conference and ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine Meeting
6. Workshop on Biological Diversity

7. Basic Records Management and National Inventory of Records Seminar Workshop
8. 2nd PAGBA Quarterly Seminar and Meeting
9. Research Innovation in Health for Disaster and Emergency Health Management Convention
10. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Compliance Program
11. DOH Quality Management System Orientation
12. 19th annual Convention of the Natural Products Society of the Philippines.
13. Seminar on Benefits and Other Programs of PAG-IBIG Fund
14. Seminar on Benefits and Other Programs of PHILHEALTH
15. Training Courses on Water Microbiological Analysis
16. Orientation Seminar on International Standard Operation (ISO)
17. Orientation on International Standard Operation (ISO)
18. Short Course “Transforming Philippine Plants into Quality Herbal Medicines for a Healthier Nation”
19. 35th Annual Conference of the Ugnayan Pang-Agham tao (UGAT) Anthropological Association of the Philippines – Trajectories of the Anthropology
20. 36th Annual Conference of the Ugnayan Pang-Agham tao(UGAT) Anthropological Association of the Philippines - Trajectories of the Anthropological in the Philippines
21. Introductory Workshop on the Practice of Sheng Zhen Qigong, the Qigong of Unconditional Love by Master Li Jun Feng
22. 2014 Annual International Conference – Public Administration and Governance and Innovations
23. 35th Annual Post-Graduate Course – Collaborative Team Practice in Integrativ Medicine
24. WHO Interregional Workshop on Consumer information and education in TM/CAM
25. Update RA 9184
26. 3rd PAGBA Quarterly Seminar and Meeting – Public Financial Management and Climate Change Resiliency Towards Responsive and Transparent Governance
27. 4th Luzon Convention of Human Resource Management Practitioners
28. Annual Convention of Philippine Society of Biochemistry

For the Institute’s Gender and Development Program (GAD), the following was accomplished:

1. Training on Gender Analysis and GAD Planning and Budgeting for Selected Members of GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) and or designated Point Persons

Financial Report

Results of Operations

Operations for Calendar Year 2014 showed that the Institute surpassed its performance last year.

Sales revenue (net of sales discounts) amounted to P92.262 million, higher than that of last year’s P87.310 million or by 6%.

Cost of Sales registered at P37.179 million or 40% of Net Sales, resulting into a Gross Profit from Sales of P55.083 million.

Total Expenses amounted to P78.015 million consisting of personal services of P49.431 million, Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses of P28.542 million and Financial Expenses of P.042 million. Loss from Operations therefore, amounted to P22.932 million. However, after deducting other income of P5.235 million, net loss is registered at P17.697 million. And considering the P49.800 million Subsidy from the National Government, Net Income is registered at P32.103 million.

Financial Position

As of December 31, 2014, the Institute generated total assets of P378.074 million consisting mainly of cash of P160.106 million, Property Plant and Equipment of P104.589 million, Receivables of P58.581 million and inventories of P17.962 million.

Total liabilities amounted to P22.747 million, consisting mainly of payables to contractors/suppliers.

Total equity as of December 31, 2014 amounted to P355.327 million consisting mainly of Government Equity of P73.238 million and Retained Earnings of P282.089 million.

Future Directions (2015 Major Strategies)

1. Organizational restructuring of PITAHC to operate as a Research Institute.
2. Capability building/retooling of human resource
3. Implementation of quality researches in line with the approved research agenda.
4. Establishment of a research management system.
5. Development of a good information system on the promotion and utilization of TAHC products, services and technologies.
6. Development and enforcement of policies and standards in the practice and use of TAHC products and services.