



## Task Force on Environmental Accounts for CAR starts gathering data to account solid waste in the Region

The Philippine Statistics Authority – CAR, in collaboration with the Task Force on Solid Waste Accounts, Environmental Management Bureau – CAR, City General Services Office – Baguio City, and Philippine Economic Zone Authority – Baguio City Economic Zone (PEZA-BCEZ), conducted a Technical Session and Field Visit from August 28 to 29, 2024. The session aimed to discuss definitions, concepts, data needs, and sources related to solid waste accounting. It generated a wealth of ideas, clarifying the requirements for accurate solid waste accounts and identifying key agencies and stakeholders for improved estimation and outcomes.

To gain a deeper understanding of solid waste management in the Cordilleras, the Task Force on Solid Waste Accounts carried out a field visit. In the morning, participants paid a courtesy call to the Local Government Unit of La Trinidad. During this visit, the Chief Statistical Specialist introduced the Environment and Natural Resources Accounting (ENRA) Project and the Solid Waste Accounts initiative, highlighting the significance of environmental accounting and the role of Solid Waste Accounts in shaping policy. Hon. Romeo K. Salda, Municipal Mayor of La Trinidad, expressed his gratitude for the office's efforts in valuing environmental aspects and for selecting La Trinidad's Engineered Sanitary Landfill (ESL) as a visit site. Under the guidance of Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer Mr. Arthur A. Pedro, the participants toured the ESL. Mr. Pedro provided insights into the solid waste management processes in La Trinidad and detailed the equipment used, including shredders, backhoes, and threshers.

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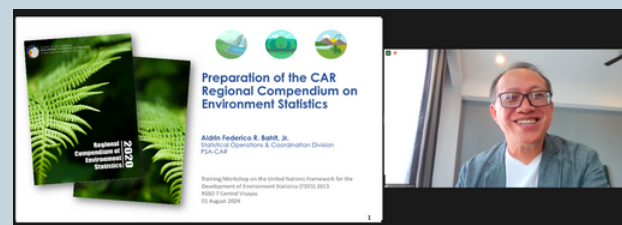
## CAR inflation continues to accelerate in July 2024



The inflation rate in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) accelerated from 4.6% in June 2024 to 4.8% in July 2024. Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) - CAR Chief Statistical Specialist Aldrin Federico R. Bahit Jr. reported that the main sources of acceleration of the July 2024 inflation were Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels which contributed a 60.3% share, Transport with a 22.4% share, and Restaurant and Accommodation Services with a 7.5% share.

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## PSA-CAR shares experience in developing the Cordillera compendium on environment statistics



PSA – CAR Chief Statistical Specialist Aldrin Federico R. Bahit Jr. shared the experience of PSA-CAR in the preparation of the CAR Regional Compendium on Environment Statistics last August 01, 2024 through Zoom virtual meeting. This was attended by the PSA Region VII and different environment-related offices and agencies.

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# PSA-CAR Task Force on Solid Waste Accounts fast tracks development of Solid Waste Accounts

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In the afternoon, the task force visited the PEZA-BCEZ for a courtesy call. Atty. Abdullah Adel-Khan P. Alug, the Zone Administrator, presented an overview of PEZA-BCEZ, including its vision, mission, and its role in contributing to the Philippine economy through an audio-visual presentation. This was followed by an introduction to the ENRA and Solid Waste Accounts initiatives to the PEZA-BCEZ staff. Chief Statistical Specialist Bahit elaborated on the importance of building strong partnerships with regional agencies and stakeholders to advance the development of environmental accounts. In addition, PEZA-BCEZ staff and the task force members visited the WOW Recycling MRF, Inc, a recycling firm responsible for the collection and management of residual wastes generated by the enterprises located in the economic zone.



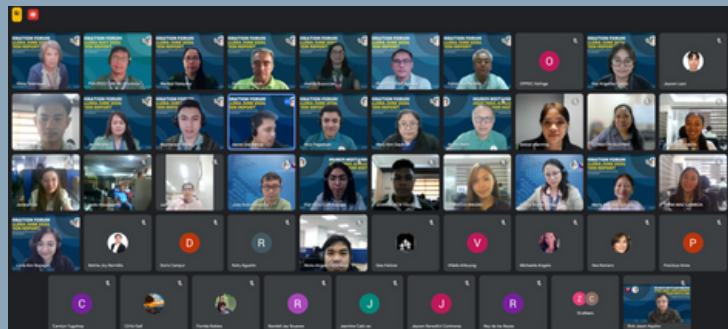
# CAR inflation continues to accelerate in July 2024

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The major contributors to the July 2024 inflation were Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages with a percent share of 49.0, Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels with 15.1%, and Transport with 13.1% share.

The province of Abra had the highest inflation among the six provinces and one Highly Urbanized City (HUC) in CAR with 6.5%, while Baguio City had the lowest with 4.0%. The Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) in CAR with 2018 as base year decreased to 80 centavos in July 2024. This means that one peso in 2018 was worth 80 centavos in July 2024.

The Chief Statistical Specialists of the PSA Provincial Statistical Offices in CAR, presented the inflation report of their respective provinces. The online dissemination of the July 2024 Cordillera Inflation Report was conducted last 21 August 2024 via Google Meet. This was attended by 70 participants from Regional Line Agencies (RLAs), Local Government Units (LGUs), academe, and the media.



## CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AVERAGE INFLATION AS OF JULY 2024

JANUARY TO JULY 2024

# 3.9

\* Year-on-year change of average CPI for January to July 2024 vs. 2023

Monthly Inflation Rates, January to July 2024



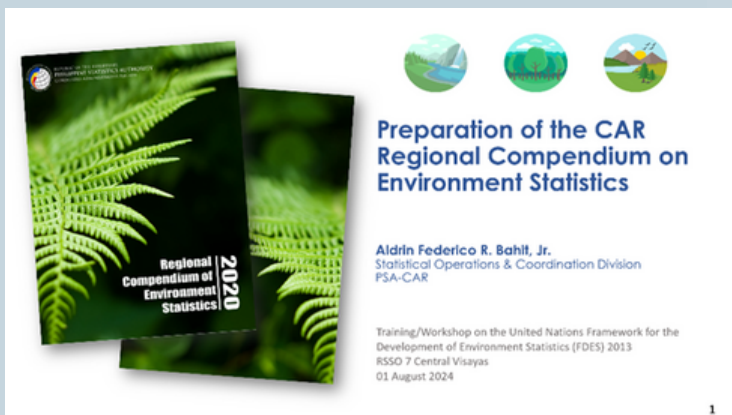
# PSA-CAR shares experience in developing the Cordillera compendium on environment statistics

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His discussion included the need for environment statistics, the need for frameworks and the United Nations Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics 2012 (FDES 2012), main users, types of data and data sources.

He also presented the timeline of activities of the compilation process, compiled statistics per component, link of to Sustainable Development Goals, and the issues, concerns, and challenges during the compilation.

The ways forward of PSA-CAR include the request for updated data, visit data providing agencies and reiterate the importance of environmental indicators, make a bridge table, continue convening the technical working group on environment statistics, continued funding from CO, and inclusion of the project to regional budget proposals.



# GANGSA



A *gangsa* (gong) is an indigenous musical instrument of the Igorots ("people of the mountain") of the Cordillera region. It is usually played during cultural celebrations, rituals and festivities. It is a cultural symbol of fellowship and unity among the Igorots.

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