

“GEOLOGY OF THE PHILIPPINES”

In line with PENR Office-Cotabato’s celebration of Environment Month, MGB-XII personnel embedded to the PENR Office Ray S. Padernilla discussed The Geology of the Philippines to the employees of PENRO on June 19, 2018.

Mr. Padernilla, a licensed geologist, started the presentation introducing some of the most basic concepts of geology such as Plate Tectonics, earthquakes, volcanism, the geologic setting of the Philippine archipelago and how it came to be.

The origin and uses of rocks and minerals were also tackled by the geologist, highlighting the importance of ore deposits in the mining industry. He explained different types of ore deposits and some examples of these in Region XII.

Existing Mining Laws in the country were also discussed wherein he compared the striking differences between the old mining law, PD 463, and the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 (RA 7942) in terms of environmental protection, rehabilitation, and consent of host communities prior to operation of mining companies. In this portion, he defined “Responsible Mining” and gave examples of existing responsible practices of mining in the country.

Ending the presentation, Mr. Padernilla expressed that the current mining industry in the Philippines is not perfect but he stressed out that responsible mining is possible and that there are mining activities being carried out responsibly in the country.