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Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 12:39:00 p.m.



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BREAKING NEWS [oup behind Greenbelt robbery named \(6:01 p.m.\)](#) [PI](#)

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Updates from around the country

- MANILA – The weather bureau warned that Signal no. 4 can be raised in some areas if Typhoon Ramil maintains its 195 kph strength. [21 minutes ago](#)
- MANILA – Pagasa raised Signal no. 2 in Batanes and Cagayan Valley. [23 minutes ago](#)
- MANILA – Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino, Aurora, and Polillo Island were also placed under Signal no. 1. [25 minutes ago](#)

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Visayas forum on ecotourism development set

Monday, October 12, 2009

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THE German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) will hold a Local and Regional Economic Development (LRED) Forum on "Accelerating Economic Development through Cluster Approach" at the Metro Center Hotel, in Tagbilaran City, Bohol on Oct. 15, 2009.

Rep. Edgardo Chatto is expected to deliver the forum's keynote address.

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Joining him are local government unit (LGU) representatives from all over the Visayas and Dr. Volker Steigerwald, program manager of the private sector promotion program called Small and Medium Enterprise Development for Sustainable Employment Program (Smedsep).

The ecotourism development initiative of five Bohol municipalities along the Abatan River, namely Antequera, Balilihan, Catigbian, Cortes and Maribojoc, will be showcased in the forum that will be attended by over 100 local chief executives, public and private development planners, civil society partners and stakeholders from LGUs in the three Visayas regions.

The Fishnet Project of the South Maqueda Bay Cluster involving six municipalities in Samar, will also be featured as a case study.

The Abatan Cluster LRED provides synergies out of the individual area-based contributions of the five municipalities who share the common advantage of the Abatan River.

Smedsep, a development cooperation project between the Philippines and the Federal Republic of Germany, is implemented in partnership between the DTI at national, regional and provincial levels and the GTZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. **(PR)**

Published in the Sun.Star Cebu newspaper on October 13, 2009.

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