

MUNICIPAL PROFILE

HOW THE MUNICIPALITY OF WAO GOT ITS NAME

FROM THE LEGEND

It was told that many years ago a Bai Sa Raya, a beautiful Muslim princess from a kingdom in Cotawato (now Cotabato), in the island of Mindanao, visited the place now called "Wao". It was a coincidence that during her visit there was severe drought in the area; "Kawaw" or "Uhaw" meaning, "I am thirsty" in English. From then on, the inhabitants in this area called the place "Wao", a word phonetically derived from the word "Kawaw" or "Uhaw", in commemoration of the sad experience of the Muslim princess.

FROM THE NAME OF A CREEK

Before the arrival of the Christian farmer-settlers in Wao in 1954, there used to be a creek called "Wao" within the Barangay Eastern Wao. The informant is Pastor Misuari Saripada, a church minister of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Wao. The creek runs from the present Wao Central Market down to the farm lot of Felipe Daguino. Sultan Solaiman Amad, the present Municipal Assessor of Wao and Barangay Councilman Benito Masid, a respectable sultan in Muslim Village, corroborated the name of the creek. The writer verified the existence of this creek on March 2, 1991.

FROM THE WORD "LIAWAO"

The third version may be hypothetical but there is a strong reason to believe that the name "Wao" may have been also derived from the Maranaw word "Liawao", meaning, "a place located above" in English. The present poblacion that bears the same name of the municipality used to be a Muslim community during the pre-settlement days. Among the Muslim communities in the locality, Wao happens to be located in a place above the other nearby communities existing in those days like the place called Baryo (now Muslim Village), Balatin, Panang, Buntongan, and Buot. From a simple inference and basing from historical facts, a place may have been derived from the word "Liawao".

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Municipality of Wao is one of the 39 municipalities of Lanao del Sur. It was part of the re-settlement project under proclamation no.188 series of 1950. It was created as a municipality on February 22, 1961 by virtue of executive order no. 418. Geographically, Wao is located at the "heart" of Mindanao, between east longitude 124°43'24" and north latitude 7°38'18". It is a second class municipality of the province of Lanao del Sur of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). Bounded at the South by the Municipality of Banisilan, North Cotabato. At the North, it is bounded by the Municipality of Bumbaran Lanao del Sur; at the West, the Municipality of Alamada, and at the East by the Province of Bukidnon. Wao is accessible through well-paved roads connecting Wao to the cities of Cagayan de Oro, Davao and Cotabato via Bukidnon National highway from Maramag and the North Cotabato Provincial highway through Banisilan.

Wao has a total land area of 35,459.60 hectares. Of the total land area, 44.11% or 15,364.426 hectares is classified as Alienable and Disposable (A&D) while 55.89% or 20,039.962 hectares is classified as timberland. At present, the area devoted to agriculture has increased to 23,813.50 hectares. This is the result of the rapid increased of population and uncontrolled migration, especially in the timberland. There are 26 Barangays of Wao, four(4) of which are considered urban barangays and the remaining twenty-two are rural barangays. The total population of Wao is 45,862 with a total number of households 9,172.40 and with the annual growth rate of 2.53%.

Wao is basically an agricultural municipality. It is the corn granary of Lanao del Sur. Their vast agricultural land is best suited for almost all kinds of agricultural/commercial crops and its timberlands are still replete with forest resources. As agriculture is the dominant sector in the municipal economy, almost 90% of the town's populations are engaged in agricultural activities. In terms of Financial Resources, Municipal Income is derived from Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) and from local taxes and revenues from licenses and permits.

We envision Wao as a municipality of God fearing, peace loving, healthy, educated, and responsible citizens living in a harmonious, productive and supportive community with a well-equipped, transparent, participatory and accountable Local Government Unit manned by competitive, efficient, responsive, Gender and Development (GAD) oriented leaders in a wholesome, progressive, sustainable and ecologically-balanced environment.

The Municipality of Wao shall earnestly pursue the development of human resources to improved quality of life taking into consideration available financial sources to attained a sustainable, economically and ecologically-balanced community with a well-defined plans and programs performed by competent, honest and dedicated public servants working together with the people.

The first appointed mayor of Wao was Sultan Mamaco Saripada, a native of place. He served from 1961 until 1963, and won the first local elections in 1963, there by ending his term in 1967. Captain Silverio Eleazar then followed; who was Re-elected in 1971, hence completed his 15 years of administration in 1982. Dionisio Baldeviso was the third elected mayor of Wao who served from 1982 to 1986. During the people power revolution, an officer in charge was designated in the person of Wilfredo Villalba to served as Mayor. In the 1988 local elections, Attorney Remedios Guiab won over former Mayor Villalba and was re-elected in 1992, there by served her full three terms as Municipal Mayor until 1998. Next to her is Hon.Elvino C. Balicao Sr, the former Vice Mayor who also served office for three consecutive terms from 1988 to 2007. After him, his son Hon. Elvino B. Balicao Jr, the former ABC President, was elected and also served three consecutive terms as Mayor of the Municipality from 2007 to 2016. Ret.Col. Bobby B. Balicao,AFP, presently the 2016 elected Municipal Mayor of Wao, Under the Governance of various mayors, Wao was able to accomplish great things for its advancement. The Municipality recieved two (2) GALINGPOOK AWARDS for its Watershed Management and Solid Waste Management.

GENERAL GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION/AREA

The Municipality of Wao spans an area of 35,404 hectares of rich and verdant flat, rolling and steep lands. It is one of the 39 municipalities of Lanao del Sur, ARMM and geographically the farthest from the seat of the provincial government which is Marawi City, located at the southern tip of the province. It is a landlocked municipality and located away from the crossroads of Bukidnon and Cotabato Province and is accessible by land and air transportation. The Wao Airport is ready for utilization; hence there are only no proper manpower to operate it. It is approximately 18 kilometers from Bukidnon, 200 kilometers from Cagayan de Oro City, 325 kilometers from Marawi City and 125 kilometers to Cotabato City, (via Libungan of Cotabato Province) the seat of Regions XII and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. The municipality is located outside the typhoon belt and is protected by mountains and hills against the onslaught of strong winds or heavy rains. Wao has 26 barangays, 4 of which are considered urban while the remaining 22 possess more of rural characteristics.

TOPOGRAPHY

The general topography of the municipality is of marked landscapes of flat lands, scattered small hills and plateaus which gradually rise to become highly rolling and steep lands and mountains, criss-crossed by creeks and rivers most noted of which are the Malitubog and Maradugao rivers. The northwestern and southwestern parts of Wao are generally flat and plain with patches of slightly sloping lands stretching into the inner barangays along transport routes. In the northwest are the forestal area of the municipality. Wao is gifted with five (5) rivers with the Maradugao in the northern part of the municipality serving as the natural boundary between Wao and Bukidnon; Balatin, Gamut and Kalawaig Rivers on the southern part which serve as the natural boundaries of Wao and Cotabato province, then Kapigis River which traverses the neutral part of Wao. These bodies of water are the main sources of water particularly of the population for their domestic and agricultural requirements. They also serve as the natural drainage flows of the municipality's wastes and effluents. The watershed of both Malitubog and Maradugao rivers are also found in the forestal area of Wao. Wao's average elevation is 545 meters above sea level.

GEOGRAPHY

Generally, the geological pattern of the strata of lands found in the area is not well defined, as there was no geologic survey conducted to determine presence of minerals of high commercial value. However, the area is found to be in materials for quarrying industry.

CLIMATE

The climate of Wao is relatively cooler with average temperature of 26 degrees centigrade. It is characterized by more or less even distribution of rainfall throughout the year. Dry season stretches from December to April and May to November as wet season. Rainfall ranges from as low as 2.71 inches in June to as high as 12.09 inches in August. Except for the variations caused by changes in elevation, the temperature throughout the municipality is not significantly different. The average annual rainfall of Wao is placed at 7.07 inches. The prevailing climatic conditions in the area influence the cultivation of various agricultural and commercial crops like rice, corn, sugarcane rubber, coffee, banana, pineapple, other fruits and vegetables.

SOILS

Broadly, there are five (5) soil types present in the area. Most of the soils of the plain and slightly sloping area of Aduyon clay (9,592.19 hectares) and kudarangan clay (5,426.435 hectares) types. The largest soil type is the Aduyon clay loam (10,140.31), Kidapawan clay (7,231.17) which make-up 32.48% of Wao's Total land area. The mountain soils undifferentiated type (3,069.50 hectares).

SPECIFICS

Name of Municipality	WAO
Province	LANAO DEL SUR
Congressional District	1ST DISTRICT
Creation	EXECUTIVE ORDER 418
Date of Creation	FEBRUARY 22,1961
Sister City	QUEZON CITY
Ethnic People	ILOGGGO, ILOCANO, CEBUANO, MARANAO BATANGGUEÑO, IBATAN AND TAGALOG
Dominant Dialect Spoken	ILOGGGO
Total Land Area	35,404.388 has.
Total Land Area of Timberland	20,039.962 has.
Total Population	40,479 NSO as of 2010
Registered Voters	27,824 (2012)
No. of Precincts	138
Political Party	LP.PDP Laban, Lakas CMD, KAMPI
No. of Barangays	26
Classification	2nd CLASS
Agricultural Products	Corn, Rice, Sugar Cane, Banana, Pineapple
Cottage Industry	Furniture Making

DISTANCE IN KILOMETER

From Regional Capitol	113 km (Cotabato City)
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From Provincial Capitol	337 km (Marawi City)
From Nearest Airport	113 Km (Cotabato City)
From Nearest Seaport	113 Km (Cotabato City)
From Nearest City	200 km (Cagayan de Oro City)
	200 km (Davao City)

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Municipal Mayor	Hon. BOBBY B. BALICAO
Municipal Vice Mayor	Hon. AL B. BELOTENDOS
SB Members:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. EMELITA J. BALICAO 2. Hon. DENNIS L. ANGELES 3. Hon. ELMER A. MENDOZA 4. Hon. JOCELYN P. MONTON 5. Hon. ELSIE C. CARALDE 6. Hon. NASRODIN P. MACADATO 7. Hon. FLAVIANO D. WAGAS 8. Hon. ROGER B. BALDEVISO
ABC President	Hon. JUN G. RIVAS

Email address: omm_wao@yahoo.com.ph

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEPARTMENT HEADS

Municipal Administrator	Mrs. MERRY JEAN BALICAO ESCOVILLA
MPD Coordinator	Mrs. BELLA SSORONGON BOBADILLA

Municipal Registrar	Ms. PERLA A. INIEGO
Municipal Assessor	Mr. JOSE V. LOJA
Municipal Engineer	Mr. ERWIN RONELLO C. PAMPLONA, CE
Municipal Budget Officer	Mrs. MILAGROS HINGPIT PANISAN
Municipal Accountant	Mr. REYNOLD LOMUGDANG JORING, CPA
Municipal Treasurer	Mr. EDGAR BALINTONGOG DEMEGILLO
MENR Officer	Mr. LOMINOG S. POLAYAGAN
MEEDO	Mr. JONATHAN T. SIMON
MDRRMO	Mr. FRANCIS B. GARCIA

EXISTING BARANGAYS

Name of Barangay	Sitio Covered	Land Area	Population	Dist. Km from Mun.Hall	Density (persons /has.)	No. of House Hold
Amoyong	6	1,253.17	1,435	14.00	1.14	287
Balatin	5	220.60	731	5.20	3.31	146
Banga	11	4,292.35	1,539	4.00	0.36	308
Buntongan	7	1,021.23	1,084	10.50	1.06	217
Buot	4	476.00	1,299	3.20	2.73	260
Cebuano Grp.	6	438.23	1,705	5.50	3.89	340
Christian Vill.	7	789.68	1,539	4.50	1.95	308
Eastern	7	46.88	2,940	0.70	62.71	588
Extension	7	56.44	2,313	0.95	40.98	463
Gata	4	676.01	1,232	8.00	1.82	246
Kabatangan	5	597.44	1,509	8.20	2.53	302
Kadingilan	10	1,478.00	1,239	7.80	0.84	248
Katutungan	8	832.47	2,230	7.00	2.68	466
Kilikili East	8	1,361.37	2,466	12.50	1.81	493
Kilikili West	7	852.69	2,650	12.40	3.11	530

Malaigang	4	547.64	931	7.50	1.70	186
Manila Grp.	5	75.14	2,814	0.50	37.45	563
Milaya	13	2,281.81	2,078	16.00	0.91	416
Mimbuaya	6	301.72	953	7.20	3.16	191
Muslim Vill.	1	523.68	956	2.50	1.83	191
Pagalongan	8	1,479.66	2,589	11.50	1.75	518
Panang	2	283.86	856	8.50	3.02	171
Park Area	5	4,076.20	3,728	10.00	0.91	746
Pilintangan	6	11,084.20	1,872	5.00	0.17	374
Serran Vill.	4	304.09	677	6.80	2.23	135
Western	4	54.30	2,497	0.25	46.0	499

SCHOOLS

No. of Government Primary Schools	14
No. of Government Elementary School	11
No. of Government Secondary School	4
No. of Private Primary School	2
No. of Primary Elementary School	4
No. of Private Secondary School	3
No. of Pre- Schools	5
No. of Tertiary Level	3

NATIONAL LINE AGENCIES

DAR	Ms. ANGELA N. SAMPACO, ARPT-OIC MARO
DA	Mr. TORIBIO L. PINGOL, MAO
DTI-ARMM	Mr. EFREN TROPICO

Wao District Hospital	Dr. NOEME C. REQUILME, Chief of Hospital
Wao Water District	Engr. TOMAS CARUMBA, Manager
Rural Health Unit	Dr. EMELYN L. ALVAREZ, RHU Physician
Wao Postal Office	Mr. ESMAEL P. MACARAYA, Post Master
COMELEC	Mr. CASAN LAGUINDAB, Election Officer II
150 2ND PMG	PCI JACKYLL BILIBLI, PNP,Platoon Leader 1st Maneuver Platoon
Local PNP Station	PCI ERICSON A. BANIAGA, PNP, Chief,Local PNP Station
Philippine Army	1 Lt. EVERETTE B. BUNGUE, Bravo Coy, 40IB,6ID 1Lt. LUCIO P. CURIG, P.A.,4ID
Highway Patrol Group	SPO2 TAHA ENOR, Team Leader
Bureau of Fire Protection	SFO3 VIRGILIO MORALDE,BFP,Municipal Fire Marshal
Bureau of Jail Mgt.& Penology	SJO3 REYNANTE S. SELGAS,JMP, Jail Warden
9TH MCTC Wao – Bumbaran	Judge DANTE L.VILLA, Acting Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court, Branch 26	Judge PUNDAYA M. BERUA
12th Shari'a Circuit Court	Judge SIRIKIT B. BERUA, Presiding Judge
LBP-WAO	Ms. HELEN , Manager
FIBECO	Mr. WILFREDO BAJAO, Director
NFA	Mr. ESMERALDO P. BANTIGUE,JR.,SGOO Wao Warehouse Supervisor
BIR	Mr. HATTA DIMAL, BIR Officer
DILG	Ms. VIRGINIA B. MONTERONA, DILG Officer
DSWD	MRS. HILDA E. VIDAL,SWO III, DSWD
LTO	Mr. EBRAHIM S. DIAMPUAN, OIC,LTO 12 Mr. AMPONG SARIP, OIC, LTO-R16 ARMM
LTFRB	NORA D. ARATO, OIC, LTFRB-R16 ARMM
PHILHEALTH	RONIE C. JAURIGUE, Service Desk Officer
PAO	Atty. FATIMA M. NAGA, PAO

FISCAL	Atty. MARIVIC P. TANOLA, FISCAL
CENRO	Forester RICO BOGAHOD, Acting CENRO
WDC	Mr. RAMON MALUNAS, Plantation Director
OSCA	Mr. EULOGIO AMORTIZADO, Chairman

Communication Services

Globe, Smart, LBC

Philippine Postal,

Lodge

GRO Wao Pension House

Maika's Pension House

Payag ni Dowa

Villa Esguerra

Transport Sector

WADOSICA, Wao Van Association

RTMI Bus Company

Wao United Truck Owners Association Inc.

WAMODA, Wao Motor Owners and Drivers Association

BANKING INSTITUTIONS

Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP)

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Lhuiller Jewel Financial Pawnshop

Wao Housewives Organization (WHO)

Cebuana Lhuiller Pawnshop

Wao Pawnshop

Hagdan sa Pag-uswag

Palawan Pawnshop

De Leon Pawnshop

RD Pawnshop

Western Union

LBC Express

PRIVATE OFFICES

Wao Development Corporation (WDC)

First Bukidnon Electric Cooperative (FIBECO)

PEOPLES ORGANIZATIONS

17 Active Cooperatives

15 SB Accredited Civil Society Organizations

RELIGIOUS SECTOR

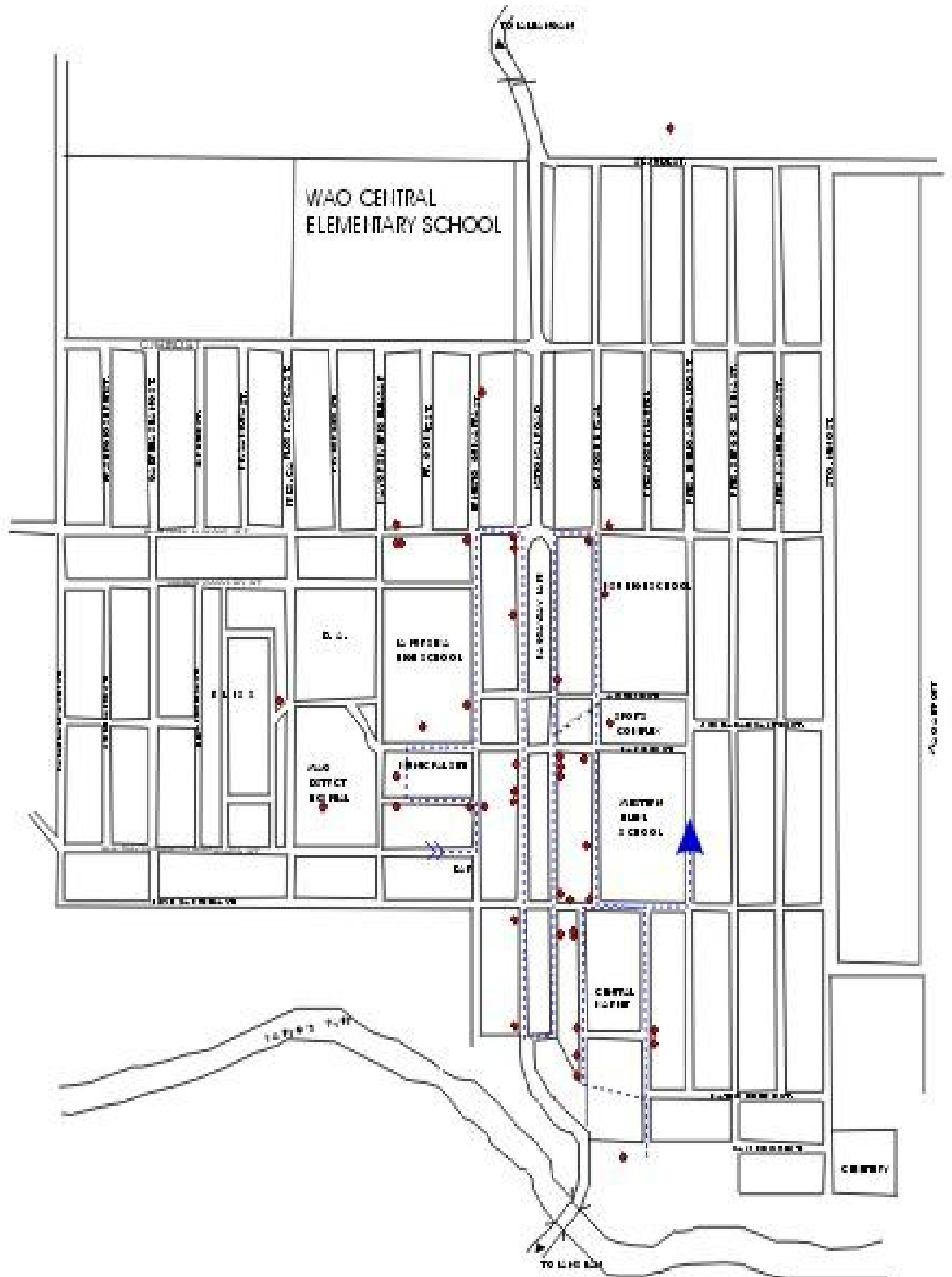
Muslim Religious Sector	Mr. ALI TALIPON
Wao Fundamental Baptist Church	Ptr. RENE BALINTONGOG
Immaculate Conception Parish	Rev. Fr. FLODELITO NAZARENO
First Bible Baptist Church	Ptr. HARRY ARAÑA
Assemblies of God Church	Pastora GLORIA REGIO PUERTO
CAMACOP-Wao	Pastor Eliezar Lagunsay
Regional Coordinator, ACMI	Mr. SIMEON SILVA
Iglesia ni Kristo Locale	Resident Minister ELY MARAVILLA
Seventh Day Adventist Church	Pastor JOFFRE C. GALBAN
Victory Chapel	Pastor JOVY ARMINTON

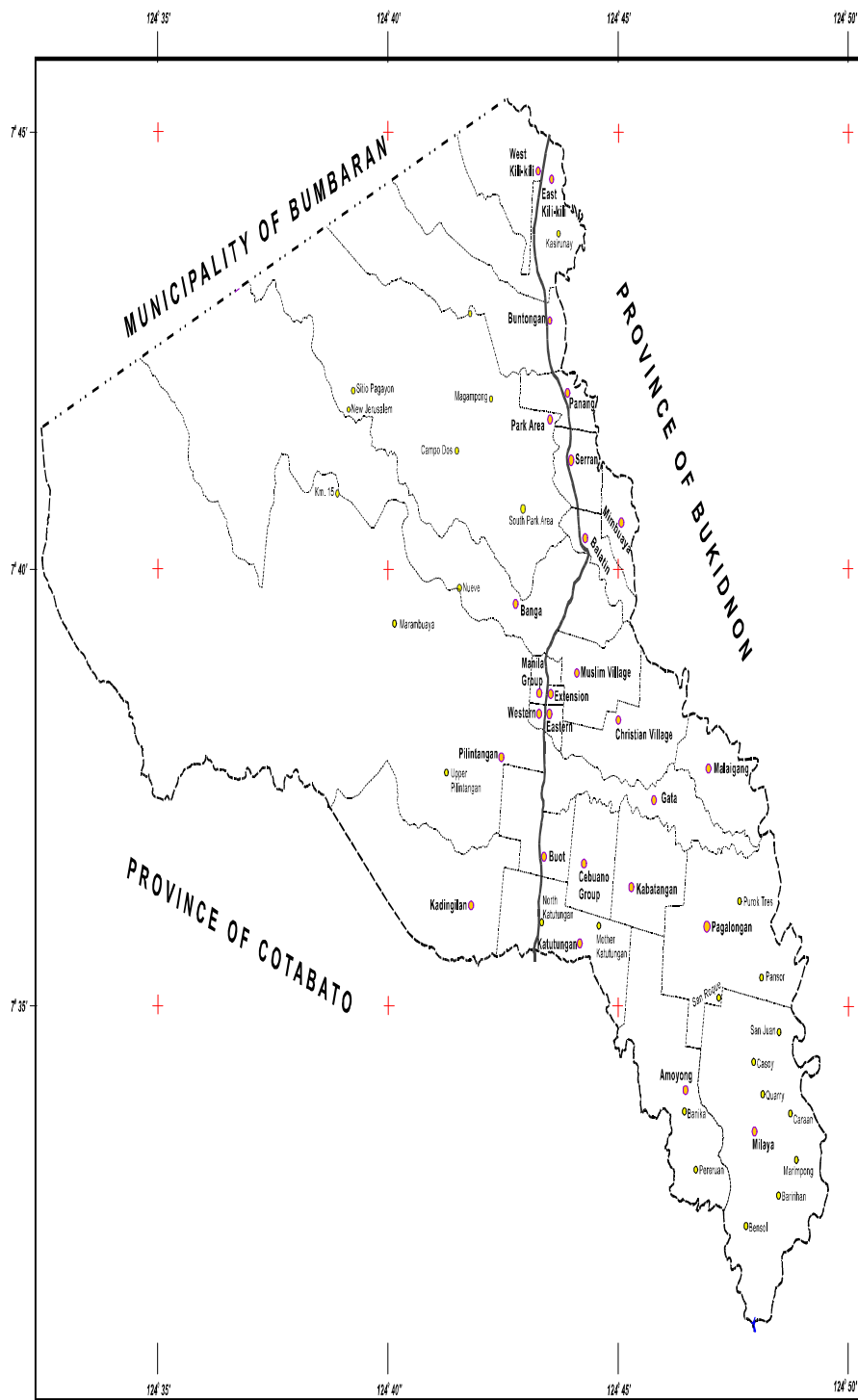
MUNICIPALITY OF WAO LANAO DEL SUR



NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

Collection Route





**MUNICIPALITY OF
WAO**
PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL SUR
ARMM

**SETTLEMENT
MAP**

Scale

2 1 0 1 2 3 4 5

 (Kilometers)

Legend:

- Provincial Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Barangay Boundary
- National Road

CODE	BARANGAYS	POPULATION
	Amoyong	1312
	Balatin	700
	Bahaga	1013
	Buntongan	743
	Buot	803
	Cebuano Group	1110
	Christian Village	867
	Eastern	2861
	East Kil-Kil	2535
	Extension	1579
	Gala	990
	Kabatangan	1210
	Kadigilan	1056
	Katulungan	1876
	Malalagang	772
	Manila Group	1618
	Milaya	1781
	Mimbaya	622
	Muslim Village	730
	Pagalangan	2912
	Panang	433
	Park Area	2741
	Pilintangan	1200
	Serran	559
	Western	1195
	West Kil-Kil	2594

Source:
Topographic Map Scale 1:50,000