

## Philippines invests P4B to develop at Lagonglong Port in Misamis Oriental to enhance logistical capability

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The Philippines Lagonglong Port in Misamis is involved in an infrastructure project aligned with the government's goal of increasing food production. Due for completion in March 2025, Lagonglong Port promises to increase trade capacity in Mindanao, enhance logistical capability in the region, and create new jobs.

Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr. said, "Lagonglong Port dovetails with the Department of Agriculture's push to boost agricultural production, ensure accessibility to affordable food, and achieve food security for our countrymen," Secretary Tiu Laurel said during groundbreaking rites for the project.

The project is a private commercial port development of Amadi MGT Terminals Inc. that will cost P4 billion to complete. Amadi will spend P1.4 billion for the first phase which will have an annual throughput capacity of 3.3 million metric tons of bulk cargo. The port will also have storage facilities and modern equipment to handle international and domestic cargo, including perishable goods. Aboitiz Construction is building the multi grains terminal for Amadi.

The groundbreaking was graced by, among others, Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri, Misamis Oriental Gov. Peter Unabia, Congressman Christian Unabia, Agriculture Undersecretary Roger Navarro and Lagonglong Mayor Jay Albert Puertas.

“We should build more ports like this. This is critical to the modernization of our country. This port, once finished, I believe will reduce feed costs by at least 2.5%, or as much as 5%. It will reduce cost of fertilizers also by 5%, maybe, or as much as 10%, depending on the price,” said Secretary Tiu Laurel.

He added that the port project will increase efficiency of transporting vital goods and provide storage facilities that will help maintain the quality of agricultural products and raw materials once finished.

The agriculture chief said that once completed, the Lagonglong Port should spur the development of factories, processing plants and other value-adding facilities. “I’ve seen that happen, and I’ve done it. In Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, and other areas in the Western Pacific where we built ports,” he added.