

## 2020 BICOL REGION MINERAL INDUSTRY AT A GLANCE

The Bicol Region is rich in mineral wealth both metallic and non-metallic minerals such as gold, copper, silver, iron, lead and zinc, chromite, manganese, pyrite, magnetite sand, clay, perlite, pumice, bentonite, limestone, marble, diatomaceous earth, guano and rock phosphate.

Bicol Region has a total of 41 patented mining claims with a total area of 500.0246 hectares, 27 approved Mineral Production Sharing agreement (MPSA) contracts with a total area of 34,314.8456 hectares and 12 Exploration Permit with an area of 47,982.164 hectares which were approved and duly registered with the Mines and Geosciences Bureau Regional Office No. V (MGB R.O.-V).

For the year 2020, the Bicol Region has a total metallic production of P18.07Billion which represent 97.13% of the overall mineral production. This includes the production of gold which was valued at P17.92Billion and silver which was valued at P142.72Million. These metallic minerals are produced by Filminera Resources Corporation and Phil. Gold Processing and Refining Corporation collectively known as the Masbate Gold Project in Aroroy, Masbate and Johson Gold Mining Corporation in Luklukan, Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte. While for non-metallic minerals, the total production was reported at about P534.68 Million which consist of sand and gravel (2.14%); boulder (0.28%); earth fill (0.19%); limestone (6.41); clay for ceramics (1.15%); pumicites (0.80%); armor rock (0.27%); silica sand (0,27%); bentonite represented 2.87% of the overall mineral production for CY 2020.

As reported in MGB R.O.-V CY 2020 Statistical Report for metallic minerals, Gold production has significantly increased by 14.91% from P15.6 Billion in 2019 to P17.9 Billion in 2020 while Silver production has a rate of 3.50% from P130,928,881.56 Million in 2019 to P142,719,648.90 Million in 2020. (*refer to table 1*)

| Bicol Region Metallic Production CY 2020 vs 2019 |      |           |                     |           |                   |             |            |
|--|------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|------------|
| Commodity  | Unit | 2020      |                     | 2019      |                   | Growth Rate |            |
|  |      | Volume    | Est. value (inPeso) | Volume    | Est. value        | Volume      | Est. value |
| Gold   | kg   | 6,367.12  | 17,932,808,893.92   | 5,135.92  | 15,605,957,434.79 | 23.97%      | 14.91%     |
| Silver   | kg   | 4,446.80  | 142,719,648.90      | 6,623.43  | 137,889,688.78    | -32.86%     | 3.50%      |
| <b>Total</b>                                     |      | 10,813.92 | 18,066,528,542.88   | 11,759.35 | 15,743,847,123.57 | -8.03%      | 14.75%     |

Table 1

While for non-metallic minerals, the total production recorded for CY2020 amounted to P534,682,354.38 from P566,843,592.49 in 2019. The drop in the production of non-metallic minerals can be partly attributed to the disruptions in mining operations during the nationwide Enhanced Community Quarantine last year wherein movements of people were not only limited but worse, restricted. (*refer to table 2*)

| Bicol Region Non-Metallic Production CY 2020 vs 2019 |      |                     |                       |                     |                       |                |               |
|--|------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Commodity  | Unit | 2020                |                       | 2019                |                       | Growth Rate    |               |
|  |      | Volume              | Est. value (in Peso)  | Volume              | Est. value            | Volume         | Est. value    |
| Aggregate  | Cu.m | 1,500.00            | 257,300.00            | 3,150.00            | 465,102.94            | -52.38%        | -44.67%       |
| Armor Rock   | Cu.m | 8,564.00            | 1,425,895.90          | 9,350.00            | 1,350,271.96          | -8.40%         | 5.60%         |
| Base coarse  | Cu.m | 723.00              | 67,050.00             | -                   | -                     | -100%          | -100%         |
| Boulder  | Cu.m | 304,551.00          | 52,560,107.49         | 385,550.00          | 56,326,878.07         | -21.00%        | -6.68         |
| Earth fill   | Cu.m | 258,610.30          | 35,129,095.40         | 402,273.00          | 47,952,663.48         | -35.71%        | -26.74%       |
| Sand and gravel                                      | Cu.m | 2,485,945.00        | 398,759,531.09        | 2,963,813.72        | 398,877,476.04        | -1.75%         | -0.03%        |
| Limestone  | Cu.m | 47,335.00           | 4,761,901.00          | 681,455.00          | 52,277,600.00         | -93.05%        | -90.89%       |
| Perlite  | Cu.m | -                   | -                     | 6,608.00            | 3,964,800.00          | -100%          | -100%         |
| Shale Clay   |      | 2,484.00            | 124,200.00            | -                   | -                     | -100%          | -100%         |
| Bentonite  | Cu.m | 2,575.00            | 471,000.00            | 4,200.00            | 600,000.00            | -38.69%        | -21.5%        |
| Clay for ceramics                                    | Cu.m | 15,459.00           | 29,487,000.00         | -                   | -                     | -100%          | -100%         |
| Limestone  | Cu.m | 309,680.00          | 29,487,000.00         | -                   | -                     | -100%          | -100%         |
| Pumice   | Cu.m | 15,774.43           | 4,267,198.50          | 450.00              | 300,800.00            | 3,405%         | 1,318%        |
| Silica Sand  | Cu.m | 10,000.00           | 1,206,000.00          | 36,000.00           | 4,704,000.00          | -72.22%        | -74.36        |
| Zeolite  | Cu.m | -                   | -                     | 100.00              | 24,000.00             | -100%          | -100%         |
| <b>Total</b>   | Cu,m | <b>3,463,200.73</b> | <b>534,682,354.38</b> | <b>4,492,949.72</b> | <b>566,843,592.49</b> | <b>-22.91%</b> | <b>-5.67%</b> |

Table 2

In terms of contribution by province in the overall mineral production the following are the contribution, for metallic production, the Province of Masbate contributed 97.12% and Camarines Norte with .0004% while for non-metallic production, the Province of Albay contributed 2.42% followed by Camarines Norte with 0.31%; Camarines Sur .07%; Catanduanes .02%; Sorsogon with 0.04% and Masbate .02%. (refer to table 3 & 4)

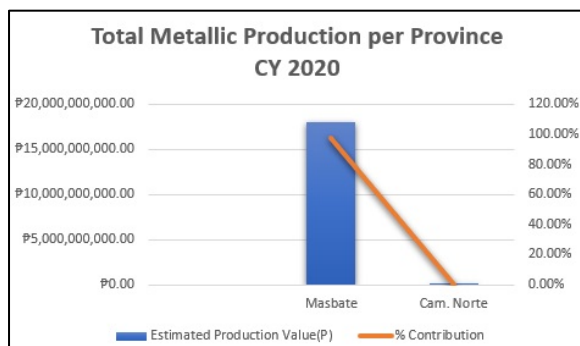


Table 3

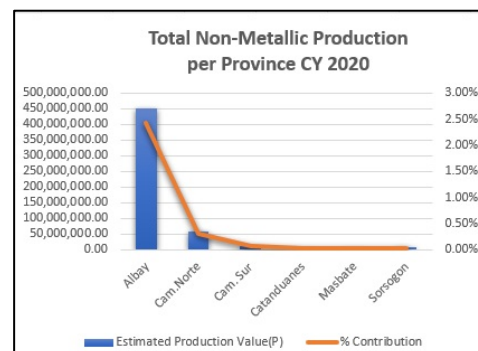


Table 4

In terms of job generation, the total average workforce of metallic and non-metallic at 2,121 in 2020 and 2,113 in 2019. Furthermore, the total revenues (*national, excise and other fees*) collected from mining and quarrying operations for the fiscal year 2020 amounted to approximately P2.5Billion.

(Source: CY2020 Statistical Profile/MMD/MineralEconomics/March23,2021)