

**EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL**  
**SECRETARY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



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Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel F. Piñol is seasoned print and broadcast journalist who served as Close-In Writer of Pres. Fidel V. Ramos in 1992. He served as Municipal Mayor of M'lang in 1995-1998, North Cotabato Governor in 1998-2007 and Cotabato Vice Governor in 2007-2010.

Secretary Piñol is remembered for the following accomplishments:

Simplified Governance, a system that identifies the basic needs of the communities in the town of M'lang through W-L-R-L-P or Water, Light, Roads, Livelihood and Peace.

The bottom-up agricultural planning program he initiated used the priority crops approach in North Cotabato focusing on four major crops: rubber, oil palm, banana and coconut. This approach rapidly transformed North Cotabato from one of the poorest provinces in the country in 1998 to one of the Top 30 Provinces with Lowest Poverty Incidence in 2007.

He initiated the establishment of the monitoring and Advisory Group for the implementation of the World Bank funded Mindanao Rural Development Program (MAG MRDP) which greatly contributed to the effective monitoring and success in the implementation of the program.

He initiated before the Supreme Court the historic legal battle against the proposed Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain which would create a semi-independent BangsaMoro State in the Southern Philippines, a position supported by the Liberal Party leadership.

He designed the concept of Corporate Governance for Local Government Units to generate revenues for LGU's dependent on IRA while at the same time providing employment for local residents.

Secretary Piñol was born on December 16, 1953 in M'lang, Cotabato where he completed his primary, intermediate and secondary education as Class Valedictorian. He pursued

his Bachelor of Science in Development Communication at the University of Southern Mindanao in 2006 and Masters of Science in Rural and Economic Development in 2008. He is pursuing his Doctorate Degree in Rural and Economic Development, also at the University of Southern Mindanao.

He is married to Emilly G. Asentista. They have three children, Dr. Maria Krista, Josa Bernadette (taking a review for Medicine Examination) and Bernhart Immanuel.