

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE NO. 13

CY 2017 Annual Report





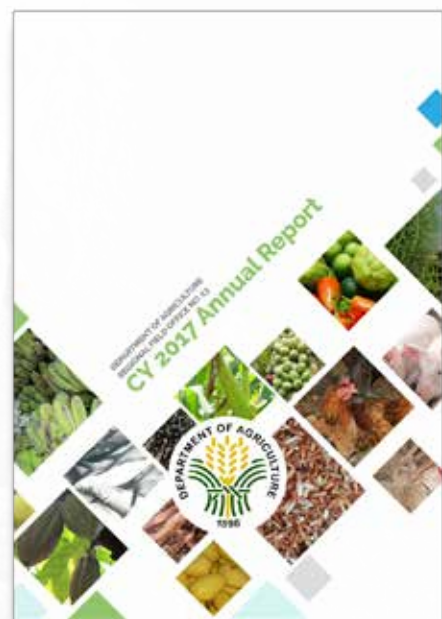




ABOUT THE COVER

The cover captured the various champion commodities in Caraga with Value Chain Analysis and Commodity Roadmap.

Given the right support and favorable weather condition, Agriculture and Fisheries has a bright prospect to propel the economy of the region.



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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Given the opportunity to be of service to the Department of Agriculture - Caraga is both a challenging and an exciting career. Challenging - because the nature of work is different from my past line of work. Exciting - in the sense that I get to meet new people to work with in a new environment. I took the challenge and led the DA Regional Field Office on March 31, 2017. From then on, together with our partners, we spread the development initiatives for the agriculture sector with the end in mind to realize our mandate of addressing food sufficiency and security in the region.

Looking back, we were deeply challenged on proving our commitment to our farmers and fisherfolk as the region was repeatedly hit by some weather extremes; TS Auring, TS Urduja, TS Vinta and tail end of the cold front. Nevertheless, the Department was able to provide rehabilitation assistance to our farmers to cope with their losses and bring on their toes to regain their farm productivity. Various interventions as a form of assistance were given such as seeds, planting materials, livestock, credit support and rehabilitation of damage facilities.

Although agriculture and fisheries experienced a sluggish growth for the past two years, it contributed 0.9 percent in 2017 from a negative 1.6 percent in 2016. This was due to the increase in production both in agriculture and fisheries, despite its vulnerability to geological and climatological hazards.

With this, new strategies were employed to capacitate the farmers in increasing farm productivity. To name a few, the use of the Suitability Map as a guide in crop production was promoted. This color-coded map is now in the web at www.farmersguidemap.gov.ph which enables farmers to be better informed of what to plant and when to plant as multi hazards are also imbedded in this map.

Small-scale irrigation projects were established to increase production areas for rice and vegetables. When fully operationalized, these would serve 715 hectares of new production area.

Credit support was enhanced through the ACPCs Production Loan Easy Access (PLEA) which guaranteed a low interest rate of 6% per annum, payable of up to 10 years. It was launched in



Malimono, Surigao del Norte in June 26, 2017. To complement ACPC, we provided assistance in looking for conduits and information campaign so that this credit facility is accessible to the farmers.

Climate-smart facilities were established and upgraded to ensure that we deliver quality and better service on time to our farmers and other stakeholders.

This Annual Report accounts not only the year's accomplishments but also the achievements that are worth-noting and emulating. This document captured the journey of the Department of Agriculture, together with our Partners- the Local Government Units, the Bureaus and attached Agencies of DA and other government agencies who shared their time and resources to make the year 2017 a rewarding one.

And as we continue on this journey, let me leave you with a quote from Helen Keller that says *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much!"*

Larga Caraga Larga!

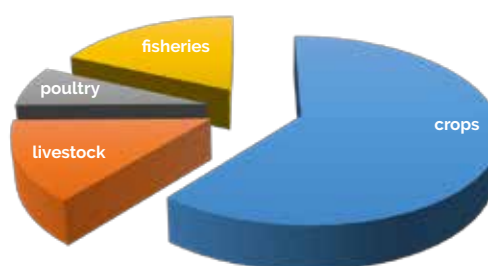
ABEL JAMES I. MONTEAGUDO
Regional Executive Director

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PERFORMANCE OF THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN CARAGA, JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015-2017

The Crops sub-sector remains to be the major contributor in the Agriculture performance at 67.87 percent. Fisheries sub-sector ranked second which posted 15.54 percent. Livestock shared a contribution of 11.77 percent with a slight increase compared with last year's performance, while Poultry products contributed 4.82 percent.

Figure 1. Percentage Distribution of Value of Production in Agriculture (Jan-Dec 2015- 2017)



Source: Preliminary PSA Data

Table 1 showed that under the Crops sub-sector, priority commodities that have positive growth in terms of volume of production were palay, coconut, banana, pineapple, mango, peanut, mongo, camote, tomato, cabbage and rubber. Palay registered a very significant volume of production growth from negative 3.97 percent to 4.43 percent. Majority of the crops showed positive growth in average farm gate price.

Table 1. Total Volume of Production and Average Farmgate Price, Caraga January to December 2015-2017

SUB-SECTOR	VOLUME OF PRODUCTION					AVERAGE FARMGATE PRICE					
	IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS			GROWTH RATES		PESO PER KILOGRAM				GROWTH RATES	
	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17	2000 (BASELINE)	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17
AGRICULTURAL CROPS											
PALAY	481.31	462.18	482.68	(3.97)	4.43	8.15	17.52	17.61	17.91	0.51	1.69
CORN	118.77	144.53	119.98	21.68	(16.99)	6.64	11.68	11.04	10.90	(5.47)	(1.25)
COCONUT	804.72	775.47	781.62	(3.63)	0.79	1.98	5.56	7.24	8.70	30.35	20
SUGARCANE	c/	c/	c/			0.78	1.88	1.99	1.57	5.85	(21.11)
BANANA	259.74	278.01	293.06	7.04	5.41	3.43	9.25	9.53	9.08	2.97	(4.69)
PINEAPPLE	2.68	2.82	3.32	5.17	17.87	6.74	11.84	13.52	17.86	14.26	32.09
COFFEE	1.65	1.83	1.58	11.42	(13.67)	30.83	69.20	84.11	96.27	21.56	14.45
MANGO	17.23	17.12	18.19	(0.62)	6.27	17.59	25.51	28.04	31.22	9.94	11.32
TOBACCO	0.00	0.00	0.00	10	37.30	36.69	66.32	69.33	74.44	4.54	7.37
ABACA	7.18	7.80	7.64	8.62	(1.99)	23.42	52.42	68.74	73.51	31.13	6.93
PEANUT	0.20	0.120	0.24	(0.74)	20.22	17.76	33.30	39.52	26.53	18.67	(32.88)
MONGO	0.24	0.24	0.27	0.82	12.57	21.10	54.25	49.13	53.35	(9.44)	8.59
CASSAVA	18.20	24.72	22.15	35.81	(10.41)	3.13	9.05	8.30	9.06	(8.29)	9.13
CAMOTE	30.15	33.28	37.03	10.40	11.25	5.49	13.20	14.70	16.58	11.36	12.80
TOMATO	0.24	0.43	0.50	79.40	15.67	11.20	17.58	19.52	20.33	11.05	4.17
CABBAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	(7.72)	13.45	11.82	23.51	25.59	18.55	8.87	(27.54)
EGGPLANT	3.97	5.98	5.95	50.74	(0.64)	8.11	17.19	14.53	22.72	(15.50)	56.40

SUB-SECTOR	VOLUME OF PRODUCTION					AVERAGE FARMGATE PRICE					
	IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS			GROWTH RATES		PESO PER KILOGRAM				GROWTH RATES	
	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17	2000 (BASELINE)	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17
CALAMANSI	4.98	5.62	5.20	12.79	(7.47)	9.18	12.63	14.47	13.6	14.57	(6.06)
RUBBER	12.01	12.85	14.19	6.99	10.49	8.03	20.72	21.21	29.66	2.37	39.84
OTHERS	200.39	216.41	216.14	8	(0.13)	6.97	19.88	21.65	21.97	8.90	1.48
AFRICAN PALM OIL	153.18	168.82	164.71	10.21	(2.43)		3.79	4.15	4.07	9.48	(1.96)

For the Livestock sub-sector, all showed a decrease in growth rate in terms of volume of production. However, all posted an increase in farmgate price except for hog from 6.49 to negative 18.62. Goat on the other hand showed a significant increase from (0.53) to 40.93%.

On Poultry, only chicken, and duck eggs posted a positive growth from 4.61 to 5.24 percent and from negative 18-02 percent to 3.36 percent in the same quarter respectively.

Tilapia, milkfish, seaweeds, yellow fin tuna registered a positive growth in terms of volume of production. Tiger prawn, roundscad, and skipjack showed a decrease in terms of volume of production. Notably, Tilapia had the biggest increase in production from negative 7.81 percent to 16.14 percent.

*Table 2. Total Volume of Production and Average Farmgate Price, Caraga
January to December, 2015-2017P*

SUB-SECTOR	VOLUME OF PRODUCTION					AVERAGE FARMGATE PRICE					
	IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS			GROWTH RATES		PESO PER KILOGRAM				GROWTH RATES	
	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17	2000 (BASELINE)	2015	2016	2017P	15-16	16-17
LIVESTOCK											
CARABAO	2.68	2.62	2.56	(1.98)	(2.63)	34.11	76.06	77.10	81.94	1.37	6.28
CATTLE	1.42	1.68	1.57	18.02	(6.5)	37.71	80.52	87.66	96.34	8.86	9.9
HOG	39.59	42.39	42.19	7.07	(0.47)	46.20	114.88	122.33	99.56	6.49	(18.62)
GOAT	0.93	0.94	0.86	.65	(8.55)	36.87	95.92	95.41	134.46	(0.53)	40.93
POULTRY											
CHICKEN	13.25	13.87	14.59	4.61	5.24	60.27	87.87	89.46	89.7	1.81	0.27
DUCK	0.17	0.18	0.15	7.60	(20.65)	49.47	83.54	83.68	92.19	0.17	10.17
CHICKEN EGGS	4.82	4.76	4.83	(1.18)	(1.60)	28.67	100.71	105.47	109.97	4.73	4.26
DUCK EGGS	0.73	0.60	0.62	(18.02)	3.36	22.49	96.71	99.78	100.75	3.17	0.98
FISHERIES											
MILKFISH	2.97	3.31	3.82	11.53	15.57	60.48	95.96	99.52	94.33	3.72	(5.21)
TILAPIA	1.09	1.01	1.17	(7.81)	16.14	20.68	66.19	66.56	69.98	0.55	5.14
TIGER PRAWN	0.28	0.42	0.49	51.04	16.10	297.38	313.34	392.27	398.04	25.19	1.47
ROUNDSCAD	1.94	2.29	2.35	18.07	2.54	35.77	83.51	78.20	77.10	(6.36)	(1.41)
SKIPJACK	3.9	4.08	4.01	4.52	(1.55)	31.94	84.31	78.22	86.79	(7.23)	10.96
YELLOWFIN TUNA	3.7	3.87	4.30	4.63	10.9	43.04	120.26	112.69	115.85	(6.3)	2.81
SEAWEEDES	14.8	10.31	9.83	(30.31)	4.73	7.96	7.05	3.69	6.22	(47.68)	68.77
OTHERS	54.66	50.95	48.55	(6.80)	4.71	36.46	85.6	91.99	95.67	7.46	4.01

Total value of production at constant 2000 prices was decreased by 1.32 percent from 2.00 percent based on the constant price in 2016 to 0.68 percent in 2017.

The decrease was attributed by the set back in growth rate of Agricultural Crops from 2.3 percent to 1.00 percent which was attributed from the decrease in volume of production of corn, coffee, tobacco, abaca, cassava, eggplant, calamansi and palm oil. Also livestock subsector suffered a decline from 6.84 percent to negative 0.87 percent.

Further, Poultry and Fisheries, increased from 3.42 to 4.47 percent and from negative 3.08 to negative 0.7 percent respectively.

*Table 3. Total Value of Production at Constant and Current Price, Caraga
January-December 2015-2017*

SUB-SECTOR	AT CONSTANT PRICE					AT CURRENT PRICE				
	IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS			GROWTH RATES		PESO PER KILOGRAM			GROWTH RATES	
	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17	2015	2016	2017	15-16	16-17
AGRICULTURAL CROPS	9,540.50	9,760.12	9,858.17	2.30	1.00	22,608.70	25,059.40	26,972.34	10.84	7.63
LIVESTOCK	2,008.20	2,145.58	2,126.93	6.84	(0.87)	4,955.07	5,624.08	4,675.54	13.5	(16.87)
POULTRY	961.67	994.56	1,039.07	3.42	4.47	1,734.15	1,817.06	1,915.93	4.78	5.44
FISHERIES	2,748.68	2,664	2,645.31	(3.08)	(0.70)	6,164.04	5,175.16	6,175.16	(3.28)	3.58
TOTAL	15,259.06	15,564.27	15,669.47	2.00	0.68	35,461.56	38,462.44	39,738.97	8.46	3.32

ACCOMPLISHMENTS WORTH NOTING

farmers provided with various
Production Support Services



farmers provided with
Market Related Services

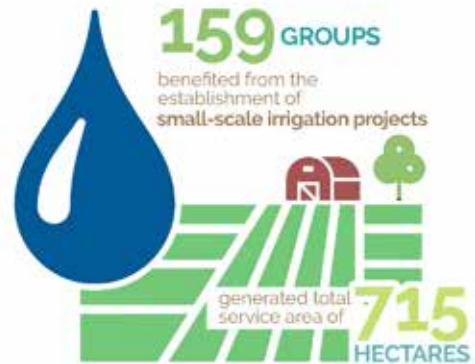


beneficiaries capacitated under
**Extension Support,
Education and
Training Services**



159 GROUPS

benefited from the
establishment of
small-scale irrigation projects



23.8 Farm to Market Road
KILOMETERS constructed



86 Feed Establishments
Regionwide



were issued with a Regulatory
Documents/ Permits to operate

100%

of the beneficiaries rated
the goods and services
delivered as
SATISFACTORY



242 GROUPS **10** INDIVIDUALS

farmer beneficiaries provided with various
Agricultural Equipment and Facilities



100%

of the beneficiaries validated the goods
and services to have been delivered at the

appropriate time

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

NATIONAL LEVEL

CATEGORY	AWARDEE(S)	LOCATION	PROJECT AWARD/ CASH PRIZE
Rice Achievers Award			
Outstanding Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU)	LGU of Kitcharao of Agusan del Norte	Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte	Project Award - P 1M
Special Citation, Mindanao Cluster SWISA	Obong Irrigators Association	Cortes Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize - P100,000.00
Outstanding Irrigators Association, Mindanao Cluster	Baleguian Organic Farmers Irrigators Association Inc.	Jabonga Agusan del Norte	Project Award - P500,000.00
National Quality Corn Achievers Award			
Outstanding City/ Municipality	City Local Government Unit of Butuan	Butuan City, Agusan del Norte	Project Award - P 1M
Outstanding City Agriculturist	Alberto B. Buca	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P30,000.00
Outstanding Corn Program Coordinator	Erlinda E. Plaza	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P25,000.00
Hall of Fame - Outstanding AEW	Nilo Y. Villamor	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P50,000.00
Outstanding AEW	Lorenzo M. Mandahuyan	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P20,000.00

REGIONAL LEVEL

CATEGORY	AWARDEE(S)	LOCATION	PROJECT AWARD/ CASH PRIZE
Rice Achievers Award			
Outstanding Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU)	Local Government Unit of Kitcharao of Agusan del Norte	Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte	Project Award - P 1M
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Jocelyn T. Paloma	Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Aimee C. Campanilla	Trento, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Basilisa C. Huera	Buenavista, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Engr. Myla M. Blanco	Cantilan, Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Agnes C. Alcazar	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Thelma A. Burgos	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Nestor J. Fuentes	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Yazmin A. Aparicio	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Merilyn M. Laurenciana	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Joan B. Dela Torre	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)	Segundina O. Ayag	Butuan City	Cash Prize P20,000.00

REGIONAL LEVEL

CATEGORY	AWARDEE(S)	LOCATION	PROJECT AWARD/ CASH PRIZE
Rice Achievers Award			
Outstanding Local Farmer Technician (LFT)	Merly A. Perez	Poblacion, Loreto, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Outstanding Local Farmer Technician (LFT)	Noel A. Loquinte	Bayugan 2, San Francisco, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P20,000.00
Regional Corn Quality Achievers Award			
Outstanding Provincial Local Government Unit	PLGU Surigao del Sur	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Plaque of recognition
Outstanding City/ Municipality	CLGU- Butuan City	Butuan City, Agusan del Norte	Plaque of recognition
Outstanding City/ Municipality	LGU Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte	Agusan del Norte	Plaque of recognition
Outstanding City/ Municipality	LGU Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Agusan del Sur	Plaque of recognition
Outstanding City Agriculturist	Alberto B. Buca	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Corn Program Coordinator	Erlinda E. Plaza	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding AEW/ Agricultural Technician	Ma. Luz C. Bangalisan	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding AEW/ Agricultural Technician	Eduardo D. Vecina	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding AEW/ Agricultural Technician	Reggie T. Manliguez	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Municipal Agriculturist	Josephine A. Almine	Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P 11,800.00
Outstanding Corn Program Coordinator	Mary Jane A. Maratas	Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Provincial Corn Coordinator	Perla C. Galaura	San Francisco, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Provincial Agriculturist	Armando A. Valiente	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Municipal Agriculturist	Marlita P. Cortez	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding Municipal Corn Program Coordinator	Luzminda U. Abellana	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding AEW/ Agricultural Technician	Nilo Y. Villamor	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Outstanding AEW/ Agricultural Technician	Lorenzo M. Mandahuyan	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P11,800.00
Organic Agriculture Achievers Award			
Outstanding Small Farming Family	Nilo B. Acupinpin	Sta. Josefa, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P50,000.00
Outstanding Farming Group	Foundation for the Development of Agusanon Inc. (FDAI)	Patin-ay, Agusan del Sur	Project Award - P100,000.00
Outstanding Extension Worker	Jessebel B. Sasi	Trento, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P15,000.00

REGIONAL LEVEL

CATEGORY	AWARDEE(S)	LOCATION	PROJECT AWARD/ CASH PRIZE
Livestock Award			
Best Performing AI Technician	Carlos K. Nabio	Butuan City	Cash Prize - P5,000.00
Gawad Saka Award			
Outstanding Small Animal Raiser	Narciso A. Moresca	Barobo, Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize -P30,000.00
Outstanding Young Farmer	Vedasto P. Neri, Jr.	Esperanza, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P30,000.00
Outstanding High Value Crop Farmer	Ferciano B. Umbaña	Barobo, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P30,000.00
Outstanding Small Farmer Organization	San Isidro Upland Farmer MPC (SIUFMULFO)	San Isidro, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P50,000.00
Outstanding Agri-Entrepreneur	Hitgano Rodinas Morpus Campilan (HIROMOCA) Corporation	Trento, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P50,000.00
Gulayan sa Paaralan Program (GPP) Best School Implementers Award			
CENTRAL CATEGORY			
First Place	San Fernando Central Elementary School	Bislig City, Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize - P60,000.00
Second Place	Tagana-an Central Elementary School	Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte	Cash Prize - P40,000.00
Third Place	Amparo Elementary School	Butuan City, Agusan del Norte	Cash Prize - P25,000.00
NON-CENTRAL CATEGORY			
First Place	Nueva Gracia Elementary School	Loreto, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P60,000.00
Second Place	Sta. Cruz Elementary School		Cash Prize - P40,000.00
Third Place	Pinagalaan Elementary School	Bayugan, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P25,000.00
MULTI GRADE CATEGORY			
First Place	Bagnan Elementary School	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P60,000.00
Second Place	Suyoc Elementary School	Placer, Surigao del Norte	Cash Prize - P40,000.00
Third Place	Sarvida-Yuipco Memorial Elementary School	Surigao City, Surigao del Norte	Cash Prize - P25,000.00
URBAN CATEGORY			
First Place	Bayugan National Comprehensive High School	Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P60,000.00
Second Place	Sta. Irene National High School	Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Cash Prize - P40,000.00
Third Place	Alegria National High School	Alegria, Surigao del Norte	Cash Prize - P25,000.00
RURAL CATEGORY			
First Place	Quezon Integrated School	Tagbina, Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize - P60,000.00
Second Place	Bucto National High School	Bislig, Surigao del Sur	Cash Prize - P40,000.00
Third Place	Timamana National High School	Tubod, Surigao del Norte	Cash Prize - P25,000.00

REGIONAL LEVEL

CATEGORY	AWARDEE(S)	LOCATION	PROJECT AWARD/ CASH PRIZE
Agri-Talino Contest			
QUIZ BEE (ELEMENTARY LEVEL)			
First Place	Bayugan City Division	Bayugan City	P6,000.00
Second Place	Agusan del Sur Division	Agusan del Sur	P4,500.00
Third Place	Surigao City Division	Surigao City	P3,500.00
QUIZ BEE (SECONDARY LEVEL)			
First Place	Bayugan City Division	Bayugan City	P6,000.00
Second Place	Surigao del Norte Division	Surigao del Norte	P4,500.00
Third Place	Dinagat Islands Division	Dinagat Islands	P3,500.00
SLOGAN MAKING CONTEST			
First Place	Surigao City Division	Surigao City	P3,000.00
Second Place	Bayugan City Division	Bayugan City	P2,500.00
Third Place	Agusan del Sur Division	Agusan del Sur	P1,500.00
JINGLE MAKING CONTEST			
First Place	Agusan del Sur Division	Agusan del Sur	P15,000.00
Second Place	Bayugan City Division	Bayugan City	P12,000.00
Third Place	Surigao del Sur Division	Surigao City	P10,000.00

RICE PROGRAM

 **PRODUCTION**
482,675 MT

 **AREA**
155,203 HA

 **YIELD**
3.1 MT/HA

 **SUFFICIENCY LEVEL**
90.7 %

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Distributed

- 320,000 kg HQS certified seeds benefitting around 6,400 rice farmers in support to adverse ecosystem
- 4,000 kg Certified Seeds
- 800 kg Traditional Seeds
- 636 Metharizium
- 3,506 Trichogramma

Buffer Stocks

- 4,000 kg of Registered Seeds
- 316,800 kg of Certified Seeds
- 20,000 kg GSR Seeds
- and other Stop Gap Varieties
- 700 kg rodenticides and 4,000 liters bactericides as agricultural chemicals buffer stocks for epidemic mitigation and control

Other Production Related Services

- 447 soil samples analyzed for NPK and PH serving 400 farmers

Established and Rehabilitated

- Established Php 10 million worth of additional Buffer Seed Storage Warehouse in Taguibo, Butuan City
- Rehabilitated 4 units of Buffer Seed Storage Warehouse/ Facility in Taguibo, Trento, and Del Monte RES Stations

Upgraded and Maintained

- Upgraded and maintained one (1) unit of RCPC and RFCAL Building, Equipment and Facilities.





MARKET RELATED SERVICES

Conducted

- Consultation with Potential Buyers for Corn, Rice and other agricultural products on July 18-20, 2017 in Butuan City
- Marketing Agreement signing with FSPs and Local Buyers for Corporate Rice Farming (CRF) on September 5, 2017 in Butuan City

IRRIGATION SUPPORT SERVICE

- Generated a service area of 30 hectares through the Php 5 million worth of Small Water Impounding Project benefitting San Roque Rice Farmers Association in San Roque, Lingig, Surigao del Sur.
- Established Four (4) sites of Diversion Dam in Burgos, and Cortes, Surigao del Norte, Bocawe, and Mahambong, Lanuza, Surigao del Sur, and Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur benefitting Ubong Irrigators Association, Bocawe Rice Farmers Association, and Aurora Farmers Association. These dams are now servicing a total of 140 hectares of rice farms.
- The completion of other four (4) units diversion dams and 18 units Pump Irrigation System Open Source (PISOS) are expected to function early next year. The projects will be expected to provide a total service area of about 125 hectares.
- 140 units of pump and engine sets were distributed generated a service area of 340 hectares.

MACHINERIES AND EQUIPMENT

- In support to production and postharvest mechanization, the program distributed four (4) units 4WD tractor, 10 units hand tractor, eight (8) units walk behind transplanter, three (3) units combine harvester, and 10 units thresher to 35 active farmer group beneficiaries.

CORN PROGRAM

WHITE CORN

 **PRODUCTION**
47,001 MT

 **AREA**
19,063 HA

 **YIELD**
2.5 MT/HA

 **SUFFICIENCY LEVEL**
54.8 %

YELLOW CORN

 **PRODUCTION**
72,979 MT

 **AREA**
14,971 HA

 **YIELD**
4.9 MT/HA

 **SUFFICIENCY LEVEL**
147 %

CASSAVA

 **PRODUCTION**
22,146 MT

 **AREA**
2,746 HA

 **YIELD**
8.1 MT/HA

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Distributed/ Analyzed

- Distributed 63,000 kilos of white corn and 59,256 yellow corn seeds
- Distributed 2,680 trichogramma and 24,800 earwig cards to control insect pests from inflicting damage to corn farms
- 298 soil samples were analyzed at the Regional Soils Laboratory for appropriate fertilizer recommendation.
- 123 corn samples collected and analyzed of which 100 percent passed as feed grade

MARKET RELATED SERVICES

Conducted

- Consultation with Potential Buyers for Corn, Rice and other agricultural products on July 18-20, 2017 in Carrascal, Surigao del Sur





EXTENSION SERVICES

- Five corn and cassava techno demo established
- 1,051 corn farmers trained with corn and cassava trainings, technical briefings and other related activities

MACHINERIES AND EQUIPMENT

- 78 farm machineries were distributed to 78 qualified group of farmers to mechanize their pre and post harvest activities.
 - 4WD Tractors
 - Corn mills
 - Corn planters
 - Corn pickers
 - Vertical grain dryers
 - Cassava graters
 - Cassava diggers
 - Hammer mill
 - Vertical dryer
 - Pulverizers
 - Granulators
 - Moisture meter
 - Vacuum pack sealer
 - Mechanical sheller



HVCD PROGRAM

ABACA

 **PRODUCTION**
7,643 MT

 **AREA**
10,482 HA

 **YIELD**
0.7 MT/HA

CACAO

 **PRODUCTION**
81 MT

 **AREA**
849 HA

 **YIELD**
0.1 MT/HA

COFFEE

 **PRODUCTION**
1,583 MT

 **AREA**
4,486 HA

 **YIELD**
0.4 MT/HA

MANGO

 **PRODUCTION**
18,195 MT

 **AREA**
2,625 HA

 **YIELD**
6.9 MT/HA

LOWLAND VEGETABLES

 **PRODUCTION**
18,793 MT

 **AREA**
2,273 HA

 **YIELD**
8 MT/HA

RUBBER

 **PRODUCTION**
14,193 MT

 **AREA**
12,651 HA

 **YIELD**
1.1 MT/HA

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority





PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Distributed

- 6,217 kilos of mungbean, hot pepper, lowland and upland vegetable seeds
- 1,620,285 pieces of planting materials of pineapple suckers, lanzones, rambutan, mangosteen, coffee, cacao and rubber
- 470 kilograms of flower inducer
- Supported the Research and Experiment Stations (RESs) of the following:
 - 3 units tractor, 1 unit multi-cultivator, 6 units power sprayer and 6 units knapsack sprayer
 - Maintenance of 6 units rainshelter, 3 units greenhouse, 2 units screen/net house, 3 units nursery, 1 unit tissue culture laboratory, 3 units foundation scion grove, 3 units foundation scion grove, 3 units clonal garden, and 3 units budwood garden

MARKET RELATED SERVICES

Conducted

- Coffee Investment Forum on May 17-18, 2017 in Tagbina, SDS
- Mango Investment Forum on June 27-28, 2017 in Carmen, Agusan del Norte
- Cacao Investment Forum on August 2-3, 2017 in San Francisco, Agusan del Sur
- Rubber Investment Forum on October 18-19, 2017 Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur
- Market Consultation on High Value Crops on June 8-9, 2017 in CAO Tinivisan, Butuan City, Agusan del Norte
- Training on Post Harvest Fresh Vegetable Handling on June 13, 2017 in San Francisco, Agusan del Sur





EXTENSION SERVICES

- Conducted 10 types of Package of Technology (POT) Trainings
- Established 18 Technology Demonstration Sites
- Rehabilitated 6 coffee and 4 cacao Technology Demonstration Sites
- Launched School on the Air Program for coffee and cacao in partnership with the Local Government Units.
- The program closely works with Cacao-Konek in order to beef up efforts to further develop the cacao industry in the region in partnership with Mindanao Development Authority and Department of Trade and Industry.
- The Program in partnership with the Caraga Rubber Industry Federation, Inc (CRIFI) conducted series of trainings on Tapping Management to 125 rubber tappers and handlers who graduated from this training

IRRIGATION SUPPORT SERVICES

- One (1) unit Spring Development was implemented in Carmen, Agusan del Norte to serve a total of 3hectare-vegetable production area.
- 20,000 units of HDPE pipes, 200 pieces of plastic drums, and 21 units pump sets were also provided to 127 group of farmers situated in the upland areas to help them in the irrigation needs of their crops

MACHINERIES AND EQUIPMENT

- Distributed a total of 1,957 units of pre-and-post harvest equipment were distributed to 247 group farmer beneficiaries namely:
 - 1 unit Tractor
 - 29 units Hand Tractor/ Multi-cultivator
 - 30 units Power Sprayer
 - 128 units Knapsack Sprayer
 - 10 units Pole Prunner
 - 3 units Banana Chipper
 - 1 unit Fruit Dehydrator
 - 6 units Coffee Dehuller
 - 5 units Coffee Grinder
 - 1,736 units of Plastic Crates
 - 5 units Peanut Sheller
 - 5 units Mungbean Thresher

LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

CHICKEN



PRODUCTION
14,591 MT

CHICKEN EGGS



PRODUCTION
4,834 MT

DUCK



PRODUCTION
146 MT

DUCK EGGS



PRODUCTION
616 MT

CARABAO



PRODUCTION
2,555 MT

CATTLE



PRODUCTION
1,568 MT

SWINE



PRODUCTION
42,188 MT

GOAT



PRODUCTION
856 MT

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Produced

- 25 piglets, and 18 kids (sheep and goat),
- 820 chicks (cabor, native chicken), and 710 ducklings

Distributed

- 5,504 liters of semen straws
- inseminated 488 cattle, 2,933 carabao and 45 goat with a calf drop of 160 cattle, 251 carabao, and 8 goat
- 22,139 doses various drugs and biologics
- 1,561 offspring of poultry (duck and chicken) to 33 groups and 81 individual farmer

Maintained

- 9 production centers housed at the DA - Research and Experiment Stations
- 14 beehives/colonies for apiculture project

Conducted

- Analysis of 7,466 various samples for disease diagnostics
- Analysis of 896 samples for feeds and aflatoxin
- Continued surveillance and monitoring activities for FMD, Avian Influenza, and Rabies. Notably, all provinces remained AI and FMD free





MARKETING SERVICES

Conducted

- 2 Batches of Skills Training on Meat Processing on August 8-9, 2017 and August 10-11, 2018 in Magallanes, Agusan del Norte
- 1 Entrepreneurial training



EXTENSION SERVICES

Produced

- 2 radio plugs, audio visuals, press releases and other info advocacy materials

Conducted

- 2 radio programs and farmer's forum



MACHINERIES, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Established

- 9 units Goat Multiplier Farm with 1 pocket of goat breeder per farm
- 4 unit Native Swine Multiplier Farm with fence with 1 pocket of swine breeder per
- 17 units Native Chicken Multiplier Farm with fence with 1 pocket of pullet per farm
- 18 units beehive/colony

Rehabilitated

- 10 units biogas digester

Distributed

- 288 heads of carabao, 295 heads of cattle, 41 heads swine (GP boar and gilt), and 110 heads of Crossbred goat (50% Anglo, 50% Boer) in support to Animal Stock Infusion

Procured

- 1 unit of Binocular microscope with spermiodensimeter & MC egg counter for LGU Surigao City, Surigao del Norte.



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Distributed

- 6,000 kilograms Rice - Certified Seeds
- 6,000 kilograms Rice - Colored Seeds
- 3,000 kilograms Corn Seeds (OPV)
- 50 kilograms Vegetable Seeds (OPV)
- 1,200 kilograms Foliar Fertilizer
- 20 heads Goat
- 100 heads Chicken
- 100 units plastic container for the production of NFTS/ concoction

MARKETING SERVICES

- Market Consultation on Organic Products on June 20-22, 2018 in San Jose, Dinagat Islands





EXTENSION SUPPORT, AND TRAINING SERVICES

Conducted

- 1 Regional Organic Agriculture Congress (ROAC)
- 2 Re-orientation of Local Technical Committees
- 1 Capability Training for the OA Focal/Pre-Assessment Team
- 5 other OA related activities

Participated

- National Organic Agriculture Congress

Distributed

- 1,200 pieces of information and advocacy materials on production- related technologies and organic agriculture awareness

Produced

- 1 video materials, press releases and other info advocacy materials

Maintained

- 1 Technology Demonstration for Vermi Production and composting at Trento Research Experiment Station

MACHINERIES AND EQUIPMENT

Distributed

- 3 units Feed Pelletizing Machine

PLANT AND ANIMAL REGULATION

QUALITY CONTROL AND INSPECTION

- Pre-assessed 38 potential farm for GAP certification
- Endorsed 10 farms for GAP certification (9 initial applications and 1 renewal)

NAME OF FARM	OWNER/ MANAGER / IN-CHARGE	ADDRESS	COMMODITY
Trento Research and Experiment Station	Dr. Escolastico S. Cagatin	Trento, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Del Monte Lowland Rainfed Research and Experiment Station	Catherine B. Juyno	Del Monte, Talacogon, Agusan del Sur	Fruits & Rice
Hill's View Farm	Irenea R. Hitgano	Pulanglupa, Trento, Agusan del Sur	Mangosteen
Coyoca Farm	Roberto Coyoca	Sta. Irene, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Dacol Farm	Julie T. Dacol	Sta. Irene, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Rafosala Farm	Victoria Rafosala	Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Santuya Farm	Remegio M. Santuya	Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Santuya Farm	Francisco M. Santuya, Jr.	Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Taray Farm	Camilo P. Taray	Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur	Corn
Antongalon Farmers Association Caraga, Inc.	Rebecca Amolo	Antongalon, Butuan City	Vegetables

- Endorsed 3 farms for Plant nursery certification

NAME OF FARM	ADDRESS	COMMODITY
VPO RAIDC Nursery	Rosario, Agusan del Sur	Cacao & Coffee
TICC (Nestle)	Trento, Agusan del Sur	Coffee
Kensoy Plant Nursery	Del Monte, Talacogon, Agusan del Sur	Mangosteen

- Inspected and monitored Feed Quality to protect animal health thru collection of feed samples.
- Inspected and monitored Animal facilities, animal product handlers and transport carriers to promote, ensure compliance to Animal welfare laws, rules and regulations.



Hillsview Farm, Pulanglupa, Trento, Agusan del Sur



Rafosala Farm, Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur



Santuya's Farm, Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur



Coyoca Farm, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur



Dacol Farm, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur



Taray Corn Farm, Los Arcos, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur

Inspection & monitoring of Feed establishments



Magic Poultry Farm, Agusan del Sur



Yansoy Poultry Farm, Agusan del Sur



VPO Agro-Industrial Corp. Poultry Farm



Tirso Ga Poultry, Dinagat Island



Pet Matters, Butuan City



LGU Buenavista Slaughterhouse



Bislig City Abattoir



Sta. Josefa Municipal Slaughterhouse



Banana Corm Weevil



Tirso Ga Piggery, Dinagat Island



Ligas Piggery, Dinagat Island



Oro Ajecc Slaughterhouse, Butuan City



Orientation/ Workshop on Animal Welfare Enforcement Officers in Caraga Region



Dr. Isidro Q. Lagumbay, Jr. welcomes the participants during the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Orientation/ Seminar at CSU, Ampayon, Butuan City City

REGISTRATION AND LICENSING

- Endorsed 55 application for initial registration in compliance to RA 1556 (Livestock and Poultry Feeds Act) and 17 applications for Initial registration in compliance to RA 3720 (Food, drugs and Cosmetics Act).
- A total of 83 License to Operate for Feed establishments and 27 applications for renewal of License to Operate for VDAP outlets were approved.
- Endorsed 9 initial and 12 renewal of Registration for Animal Product Handlers, 8 initial and 24 renewals for Land Transport carrier and 24 initial and 7 renewals for Animal facility to the Bureau of Animal Industry for approval and issuance of certificate.

MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE

- Conducted pest monitoring and surveillance on Rice bacterial leaf blight which infested the Provinces of Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Sur during the 1st & 2nd quarter of CY 2017. Monitored also the cut worm, fusarium wilt, bunchy top virus, corn weevil & root rot disease infection in the 3rd & 4th quarter of 2017.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Conducted Orientation/Seminar on Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) last March 1-2,2017 at CSU Ampayon, Butuan City – attended by 65 participants from SUC's, Private Colleges/Universities and LGU's.
- Conducted Orientation seminar on RA 1556 & Food Safety Act with LGU's and Stakeholders last August 30-31,2017 at Goat2geder Hotel and Restaurant, Butuan City.
- Conducted Orientation & Training on Animal Welfare Enforcement Officer (AWEO's) in Caraga Region last October 19-20,2017 at Amontay Beach Resort, Nasipit, Agusan del Norte – attended by 62 participants composed of PNP, NBI and other Law Enforcement Agencies, Government agencies, department, instrumentalities and local government units(LGUs); Non-Government Organizations, Citizens Groups, Community Organizations and other Volunteers.
- Conducted AWA-GAHP Consultative Meeting last November 7,2017 at PTC – Agusan del Norte



INTEGRATED LABORATORY SERVICES

FEED CHEMICAL ANALYSIS LABORATORY

- Feed Nutrient Analysis- Analyzed 997 samples with 106 clients served
- Aflatoxin Analysis for Corn Samples- Analyzed 121 samples with 88 clients served
- Aflatoxin Analysis for Feed Samples - Analyzed 96 samples with 78 clients served

REGIONAL SOILS LABORATORY

- Collected and analyzed 423 soil samples for the Soil Survey Classification and Suitability Assessment of the Province Dinagat Islands.
- Collected 356 soil samples subjected to pH, organic matter, available phosphorus, exchangeable potassium and total nitrogen analyses.
- Collected 260 pit and auger boring samples subjected to available micronutrient analyses of zinc, copper, iron and manganese.
- Collected 644 soil samples and analyzed using Soil Test Kit (STR) for the conduct of the Bureau of Soil and Water Management (BSWM) Soil Health Assessment – National Soil Sampling and Testing Phase II in Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Norte and Province of Dinagat Island last May-October 2017.



REGIONAL CROPS PROTECTION CENTER

- Conducted Training on the Management of Pest and Diseases of Banana on November 6-10, 2017 in 5 barangays of LGU-Loreto, Agusan del Sur with 60 farmers participants in each barangay and a total of 300 farmers were trained.
- Conducted 3 batches of Regional Capability Training on Survey and Early Warning Protocol of Cassava Arthropod Pest and Diseases in Trento, Agusan del Sur on March 1-3, 7-9, 2018 and in Socorro, Surigao del Norte on October 10-12, 2018.
- Conducted Plant Diseases Diagnosis on disease plant sample of Dragon fruit, cacao, Corn, Banana, Rice.
- Established 44 monitoring sites of cassava project entitled "Survey and Early Warning of Cassava Arthropod Pests and Diseases in Caraga Region".

Bio-Control Agents

- Metarhizium - distributed 636 packs
- Trichogramma - distributed 3,506 cards (Rice), 2,950 cards (Corn)
- Earwigs - distributed 636 pieces (Corn)

REGIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE AND DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

Disease Diagnosis

- Conducted AEW training for Sample Handling and Collection attended by 72 livestock AEW in the region.

Rabies Prevention and Control and Eradication Program

- Conducted Operational Plan for Rabies Elimination in Dogs (OPLANRED) Goal 2017-2022.
- Province of Dinagat Islands and Socorro, Surigao del Norte were declared to be a Rabies-free Zone by the National Rabies Committee - Bureau of Animal Industry. In addition, the committee is currently working for Siargao Islands to be declared on 2019.

Diagnostic Analysis

- Pathology - 995 samples
- Parasitology - 5,045 samples
- Bacteriology - 76 samples
- Virology - 1,073 samples
- Serology - 255 samples
- Necropsy - 22 samples

MARKET DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



MARKET RELATED EVENTS ASSISTED/ PARTICIPATED

Local

- Sikat Pinoy National Food Fair on May 15-19, 2017 at SM Mega Mall, Mandaluyong City
- Regional Agri-Fishery Trade Fair on May 10-15, 2017 in Guimaras
- MAFBEX in Pasay City on June 14-18, 2018 at World Trade Center in Pasay
- Tienda Farmers Outlet on July 28-30, 2017 in Malate, Manila
- Agrilink, Aqualink, Foodlink on October 4-8, 2017 at World Trade Center, Pasay
- Halal Trade Fair and Exhibit on November 23-25 in Davao City
- 16th National Mango Festival on May 12-14, 2017 in Quezon City
- Makina Expo on September 4-9, 2017 in Iloilo City
- Agri Harvest Festival cum Bazaar on September 14-18, 2017 in Quezon City
- Tienda Farmers Outlet in September 14-18, 2017 in Quezon City
- Tienda para sa mga Bayani on October 27-30, 2017 in Taguig City
- Tienda Farmers and Fisherfolks Outlet on November 18-19, 2017 in Davao City
- A total of 30 farmer entrepreneurs assisted to attend the events.

International

- Madrid Fusion on April 4-7, 2017 at SMX Convention Center, Pasay City, Manila
- Assisted Joy Table Sauce/Lemon Grass of Los Angeles, Butuan City to negotiate with a Malaysian Buyer for a supply of Lemon Grass Capsule worth 260,000.00 during the Food and Hotel Malaysia Exhibit on September 26-29, 2017
- SIAL China on May 15-22, 2017 at Shanghai, China
- Assisted the JIDA Aqua Resources of P4 La Fortuna, Brgy. Doongan, Butuan City, Agusan del





Farmer-participants re-enacting the actual trading system during the Entrepreneurial Capability Training - BEST Game



Future Mentees during the KAMMP Launching together with the program partners from the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship and Agricultural Training Institute.



MOA signing between buyers and producers in support to CRFP



OFW on their exposure to different Agri Farm



OFW on their exposure to different Agri Farm

Norte to close a deal with a Chinese Buyer for a purchase of 4,000 boxes or 96,000 bottles of bottled milkfish during the regions' participation to the SIAL China 2017

- International Food Expo on May 14-21, 2017 in Pasay City
- CAEXPO on September 12-15, 2017 at Nanning, China
- A total of 6 farmer entrepreneurs assisted to attend the international events.

MARKET RELATED EVENTS FUNDED

- Naliyagan on June 13-17, 2018 in Agusan del Sur
- Araw ng Agusan del Norte on June 13-14, 2017 in Butuan City
- Tandag Agri-Trade Fair on June 19, 2017 in Tandag City
- Agri-Fishery Tourism and Industrial Fair on September 27 to October 2, 2017 in San Jose, Dinagat Islands
- Adlaw Hong Butuan Trade Fair on August 1-2, 2017 in Butuan City
- CARAT 2017 in partnership with the Butuan Chamber of Commerce and other government agencies which generated a total sale of 719,552.00

OTHER MARKET RELATED ACTIVITIES

MOA Signing

- Facilitated MOA signing between buyers and producers in support to DA's Corporate Rice Farming Program (CRFP)

Market Linkage

- A total of 7.7 MT or Php 217,539.00 sales through market linkage between seven ampalaya farmers of Kitcharao and local buyer in Butuan City.

DA Tabo

- Since the launching, and success of "Tabo Sa DA" in 2016, AMAD successfully staged the "GRAND TABO" in line with the World Food Day Celebration. The activity generated a total sales of 136,946.00 while the regular "TABO sa DA" had generated a total sales of 133,905.00 for the year.

Investment Fora

- Various Investment Fora were conducted with a total of 122 participants to different Agro-commodities such as Rubber, Cacao, Mango and Coffee. Cacao wet bean producers were also linked with OFW Para sa Magsasaka (OPM), a group of OFW who engage in buying cacao wet beans for the processing of chocolate targeting OFW in the Middle East as the main market.

DA-Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP)

- DA-Kapatid Agri Mentor Me Program (KAMMP), a coaching and mentoring program, was launched on September 5, 2017.

Entrepreneurial Capability Training

- Conducted "EntreFarm" Training that was participated by 30 farmers at San Agustin, Surigao del Sur on May 29-31, 2017

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

DA-IRRI COLLABORATIONS

Accelerating the Adoption of Next-Generation Rice Varieties for the Major Ecosystems in Caraga

- Eleven PVS sites in different adverse ecosystems were established regionwide.
 - Drought prone: San Francisco, ADS and Buenavista, ADN
 - Submergence-prone: Trento, ADS and Tago, SDS
 - Saline-prone: Gigaquit, SDN and Lianga, SDS
 - Irrigated lowland-inbred: Buenavista, ADN; Bunawan, ADS; Mainit, SDN; and Tago, SDS
 - Irrigated lowland-hybrid: Kinamlutan, Butuan City, ADN
- Seven rice varieties that can withstand submergence condition, 9 for drought, 8 for saline, 7 for irrigated-lowland inbred, and hybrid varieties for irrigated lowland (10 for WS and 8 for DS) were used in the trial.
- The top performing varieties for wet and dry season using combined ranking from yield (70%), preference (20%) and sensory (10%) values were the following:

Top 2 performing varieties in different ecosystems in Caraga during the 2017 WS and DS trial under NextGen project.

ECOSYSTEM	YIELD (T/HA)
Irrigated lowland	
NSIC Rc400	4.66
NSIC Rc402	3.92
Rainfed	
NSIC Rc418	3.69
NSIC Rc420	3.60
Saline	
NSIC Rc338	3.49
NSIC Rc392	3.34
Submergence	
IR10f364	4.78
NSIC Rc222	3.80
Hybrid	
NSIC Rc368H	3.79
NSIC Rc314H	4.09

Note: Average yield for hybrid is severely affected with biotic and abiotic factors.





- Recommendations from the PVS trial will enable farmers to get decent yields amidst adverse conditions.
- 600 bags of certified seeds (300bags NSIC Rc200 and 300 bags NSIC Rc286) distributed for rainfed and irrigated ecosystem under the technology demonstration and quality seed production which benefited 530 farmers regionwide.

PHILIPPINE RICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (PRISM)

On top of the 40 original sites in Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur, another 20 sites in Surigao del Sur were added to widen the coverage of the field monitoring and ground validation for PRISM.

Figure estimates based on SAR data:

- The total area planted to rice in Caraga Region based on the analysis of Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data acquired is 60,244 ha for the first semester, and 67,101 ha for the second semester of 2017.
- The area estimates have been validated and the accuracy based on ground validation points across the region was 89.2% the first semester based on 83 validation points and 98.9% for the second semester based on 89 validation points. These estimates were compared with available official statistics (PSA).
- For 2017 first semester, PRISM generated two damage assessments in Caraga Region as a result of tropical depression Auring on Jan 8, 2017 and flooding due to tail end of a cold front on Jan 20, 2017. A total of 24,676 ha were flooded and of these, 2,817 ha were planted with rice based on SAR data acquired on Jan 9, 2017.
- For flooding due to the tail end of a cold front, 36,935 ha of rice were at risk and 28,868 ha were flooded. Of these, 3,610 ha were planted with rice based on SAR data acquired on Jan 21, 2017.
- Note that estimates of flooded areas include only those areas flooded during the SAR image acquisition.

RICE CROP MANAGER (RCM)

Reflecting on our efforts on promoting RCM to rice farmers, our researchers have successfully reached and verified 739 farmers and fields for the year. Farmers adopting the technology were found to have a yield advantage of 0.4 t/ha over the non-RCM adopters translating to P6,800.00 additional return per hectare at P17/kg of paddy rice.

COLLABORATIVE R&D WITH OTHER REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- Adaptation of Climate Change Resilient Rice Varieties under Del Monte, TADS (*completed*)
- Adaptation Trial of Upland Rice Varieties under SDS Condition (*on-going*)
- Multi-Environment Testing and National Cooperative Test of rice lines in Caraga (*on-going*)
- Assessment of Rice Mechanization Program in Caraga (*on-going*)
- On-Farm Evaluation of Azolla Technology and other Recommended Organic Farming Methods in Rice Production in Region XIII (*on-going*)
- Development of Agri-based Enterprise towards Building Competitive, Sustainable, and Resilient Community (*on-going*)
- Biology, Ecology, and Mgt of the RGB - A New Insect Pest of the Rice Plant (*on-going*)
- Insect Pest Monitoring and Surveillance System in PhilRice Agusan Farms (*on-going*)
- Edible Mushroom Production, utilization Processing and Information Dissemination in Caraga Region (*on-going*)

LIVESTOCK R&D UNDERTAKINGS

This year's livestock R&D were centered on the utilization of indigenous feed materials such as ramie-ramie, water spinach, sweet potato cuttings, golden apple snail, grated coconut, and urea molasses mineral block as alternative feed materials for the animals.

Researches on livestock-related studies

- "Design and development of duck incubator using indigenous materials"
- "Productivity of induced ewes in different time intervals"
- "Determination on the response of tomatoes with different frequency of irrigation under greenhouse condition", and



- "Growth Assessment of vegetable crops under bench terracing system, SDS condition".

Genetic Resources

- Collected 126 accessions with 80 accessions subjected to seed regeneration and characterization on conserving and characterizing corn traditional cultivars
- Implementation of Plant Genetic Resource (PGR) related undertakings in Caraga was made.



PRODUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

Planting materials distributed

- 11,235 pieces of forage cuttings
- 28,000 pieces rootcrops
- 3,561 pieces assorted fruit trees
- 200 pieces rubber budsticks

Animals distributed

- 610 heads ducks
- 2,538 heads chicken
- 8 heads sheep
- 19 heads swine
- 12 heads goat



Trento Research and Experiment Station



STATION DEVELOPMENT

The Research Stations continue to provide technical assistance and production-related support services to our local farmers in Caraga. As part of our continuing effort to meet local demands and cope with environment and climate-related challenges, 23 infrastructure facilities were established and 8 facilities were upgraded.

Trento Research and Experiment Station

- Station's perimeter fence
- Sheep house
- 2 Duck house for layer and duckling production
- Paved pathway
- Forage nursery
- Sheep clinic
- Vermi shed
- Water system
- Poultry and brooder house



Tagbina Research and Experiment Station



Tagbina Research and Experiment Station

- Station's perimeter fence
- 2 Goat houses
- Poultry and brooder house
- Water reservoir and water supply system
- Swine house



Del Monte Lowland Research and Experiment Station



Del Monte Lowland Rainfed Research and Experiment Station

- Road network
- Station's perimeter fence
- Livestock paddock area developed
- 2 Goat houses
- Small water impounding project
- Water supply system

PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

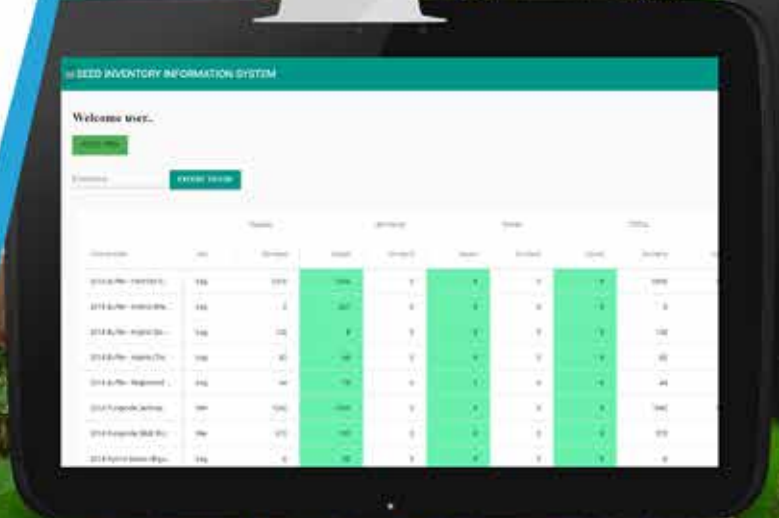
CONDUCTED

- Assessment and Profiling of Small Scale Irrigation Projects (SSIPs) Implemented from CY 2010 to CY 2016.
- Assessment and Profiling of Pre and Post- Harvest Machineries, Equipment and Facilities (PPHMEFs) Projects Implemented in Caraga Region from CY 2010 to CY 2016.
- Evaluation and Profiling of Industrial Crop Planting Materials from CY 2010- CY 2017.
- Series of Provincial Consultations on the Formulation of Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Plan (AFMP) CY 2018-2023 from November 7 to December 15, 2018.
- Engaged the Caraga State University in the conduct of Barangay Agriculture Profiling Survey (BAPS) and Hotel, Restaurant, and Institution (HRI) consumption of meat and other agri products.

SYSTEM APPLICATION DEVELOPED

Seed Inventory Information System

The System provides inventory management of seeds procured by the DA Caraga. It was designed specifically for tracking the inflow and outflow of released seeds in the different warehouse located in Taguibo, Del Monte and Trento. Through the seed inventory system, the managers track and are provided with accurate and timely information for right decisions. The system was operationalized on July 2017.





Human Resource Management Information System

The HR-MIS is a web-based application that is used for data entry, data tracking and the data information requirements of the DA's human resource management. It was developed to aid in managing personnel data. The system was operationalized on December 2017.

INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATION

RICE PROGRAM

- Produced 1,000 copies of Department of Agriculture - Caraga's official quarterly newsletter (Bahandi) and distributed to the partner agencies, provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced 11,500 copies of various printed IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced 50 various signages and billboards of DA programs, services and advocacies and established to the different strategic areas in Caraga.
- Produced eight radio plugs of different Rice Program services and advocacies and aired to various identified radio stations/programs all over Caraga.
- Conducted 72 sessions of Radio Programs in identified provinces in the region.
- Produced three video documentaries of successful hybrid rice farmers.
- Conducted information caravan on hybrid rice production to 20 identified barangays and municipalities all over Caraga.

CORN PROGRAM

- Produced 6,000 copies of various printed Corn Program IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced 4,000 copies of various printed Cassava related IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Sponsored radio programs to various six radio stations in the provinces of Caraga.

HVCD PROGRAM

- Produced 10,200 copies of various printed IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced five radio plugs and aired to DA-sponsored radio programs.
- Produced two TV plugs on coffee and cacao.
- Aired four times the two various TV plugs.
- Conducted one media forum on cacao production.
- Conducted information caravan to eight strategic sites in Caraga.

LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

- Produced 5,000 copies of various printed Livestock Program IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Established six billboards of various DA Programs and Services in the strategic areas all over Caraga.
- Produced three techno videos on Livestock Program activities.
- Produced two radio plugs and aired to DA-sponsored radio programs.
- Sponsored two radio programs in the Province of Surigao del Norte.
- Produced one audio-visual material on DA Livestock Program activity.



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE (OA) PROGRAM

- Produced 1,500 copies of various printed OA Program IEC materials and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced two video documentaries on successful LGUs practicing organic farming.



GASS

- Produced 2,400 copies of various printed IEC materials on DA Programs and Services and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Produced 1,200 copies of DA Caraga monthly newsletter (DA Express) and distributed to the provinces and municipalities of Caraga.
- Established 48 billboards of various DA Programs and Services in the strategic areas all over Caraga.
- Produced 48 press/news releases and published and distributed to various media outlets.
- Produced four success/feature stories on successful farmers and farmers' associations.
- Produced two video documentaries on successful farmers' associations.
- Conducted information campaign activities to six strategic sites in Caraga.
- Conducted six trainings on communication skills enhancement.
- Conducted four press briefings on various DA activities.
- Conducted two consultative/coordination meetings with DA information networks with the line agencies and provincial counterparts.
- Posted 100 times in social media the various DA activities conducted all over the region.



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES

ADMIN

- Accommodated a total of 36 students under the Summer Youth Internship Program from April to May 2017. Eighteen of them works at the Research and Experiment Station (Talacogon, Trento and Tagbina) and 18 at the Regional Office.
- Operationalize the Human Resource - Management Information System (HR-MIS) on May 2017.
- Capacitated 380 personnel thru various learning intervention.

NAME OF TRAINING	NO. OF SENT OUT PARTICIPANTS	VENUE	DATE
Supervisory Development Course Module 1-Enhancing Personal Effectiveness	11	Butuan City	January 15-16, 2017
Diversity and Leadership	5	Astoria Plaza Hotel, Pasig City	March 15, 2017
Training and Capacity Enhancement on the Latest Approaches and Current Trends on Information and Records Management	4	ALTA Cebu Village Resort and Convention Center, Cebu City	March 22-24, 2017
Supervisory Development Course Module 2-Supervision: A Challenge & A Commitment	28	Grand Palace Hotel and Restaurant, Butuan City	March 28-29, 2017
New Leadership Style for the 21st Century	1	Astoria Plaza Hotel, Pasig City	March 29-31, 2017
Organizational Communication	2	A & A Plaza Hotel Puerto Princesa City	April 4-7, 2017
Core Competencies/PRIME HRM	3	A & A Plaza Hotel Puerto Princesa City	April 4-7, 2017
Performance & Results Management	8	Astoria Plaza Hotel, Pasig City	April 20-21, 2017
PRIME-Recruitment, Selection and Placement	4	Butuan City	April 26-27, 2017
Enhancing Supervisory Skills Communication Skills	2	La Carmela de Boracay, Boracay	May 16-19, 2017
Attaining Work Life Flexibility	3	La Carmela de Boracay, Boracay	May 16-19, 2017
Supervisory Development Course-Module 3: Making Difference through Leadership	20	Butuan City	May 24-25, 2017
Leave Administrative Course for Effectiveness (LACE)	4	Butuan City	June 14-15, 2017
Basic Customer Service Skills	20	Butuan City	June 28-29, 2017
2017 Public Sector HR Symposium "Shaping Change"	1	CCP Complex, Pasay City	July 2017
Transformational Leadership in a Changing Environment	2	Legaspi City	September 12-15, 2017
Employee Relations: Mode of Dispute Resolution	2	Legaspi City	September 12-15, 2017
Seminar on 2017 Rules on Administrative Cases in the Civil Service (RACCS)	5	Butuan City	Nov. 15-16, 2017
Omnibus Rules on Appointment and other Human Resource Actions	6	Butuan City	Nov. 21-22, 2017
Team Building of DA Caraga Employees for CY 2017	380	Butuan City	Dec. 8, 2017





Conducted

- "Harmonization of Inventories Transferred to LGUs" in the different provinces within the region. It was attended by the Provincial/ Municipal/City Accountants, General Services Officer and Agriculturists. The activities were conducted last May 31, 2017 at the Negosyo Center, Surigao City for the provinces of Surigao del Norte and Dinagat Islands; June 6, 2017 at the Provincial Learning Center, Patinay, Prosperidad for Agusan del Sur and June 7, 2017 at the Provincial Social Hall, Tandag City for Surigao del Sur.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For CY 2017, the Department of Agriculture, Regional Field Office- Caraga has a total budget of Php 872,038,058 net of FMR Allocation. Operations always has the highest fund allocation of Php 818,419,000.00 with Rice Program having the highest allocation of 27.81% followed by the High Valued Crops Development Program by 27.28%, and Corn Program of 17.11%

The total obligation for the Current Year Appropriation is Php 780,817,121.93 or 90% utilization with an unobligated balance of Php 74,966,332.07 while Continuing Appropriation has an obligation of Php 74,966,332.40 or 68% with Php 35,411,309.73 was declared unutilized. (Table 4).

On the other hand, a total of 238,000,000 Farm to Market Road was transferred to DPWH as the implementing agency of FMR.

Further, MFO 5, Agricultural Equipment & Facilities Support Services with a total budget of Php 166,055,000.00 got the big chunk of the total obligation under Operations amounting to Php 158,664,496.10 or 96%. This was followed by the Production Support Services of 91% obligation from its allotment of Php 335,581,000.00. Extension Support, Education and Training Services ranked last in the obligation under Operations which only has 82% utilization or Php 75,677,532.09 obligation out from its total allotment of Php 92,413,000.00. (Table 5)

As compared to 2016 total budget, the CY 2017 budget increased by 1% as shown in the table 6. The reason was the increase of manpower complementation (PS) which was 62%. While there was a decrease in the Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) by 6% and a decrease of Capital Outlay (CO) by 3%.

CY 2017 Fund Allocation and Distribution

PROGRAM/ PROJECT/ ACTIVITY	ALLOTMENT FY 2017
CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS	872,038,058.00
A. Gen. Admin. Support Services	32,590,000.00
B. Support To Operations	9,527,000.00
C. Operations	818,419,000.00
C.1 Banner Programs	691,891,000.00
Rice Program	227,565,000.00
Livestock Program	84,302,000.00
Corn Program	140,032,000.00
HVCD Program	223,246,000.00
Organic Agriculture Program	16,746,000.00
Implementation of Various Production Support Services	59,750,000.00
Implementation of Various Market Dev't Activities	14,135,000.00
Implementation of Various Agri. Research & Development	41,079,000.00
Farm-to-Market Road	3,440,000.00
Regulatory	8,124,000.00
D. Locally Funded Projects	-
E. Other Fund Sources	11,502,058.00

Table 6: Comparative Budget Appropriation

ALLOTMENT CLASS	CY 2016	CY 2017	AMOUNT DECREASED/ INCREASED	PERCENT DECREASED/ INCREASED
PS	60,518,000	97,786,000	37,268,000	62%
MOOE	471,297,000	444,718,000	(26,579,000)	-6%
FinEx	50,000	50,000	-	0.0%
CO	565,938,000	564,147,000	(1,791,000)	-0.3%
Total	1,097,803,000	1,106,701,000	8,898,000	1%

Table 4. CY 2017 Agency's Fund Utilization

	ALLOTMENT	OBLIGATION	UNOBLIGATED BALANCE	PERCENT UTILIZATION
CURRENT APPROPRIATION				
PS	105,598,058	97,727,489.70	7,870,568.30	93%
MOOE	439,832,600	388,664,476	51,168,124.03	88%
FinEx	50,000	-	50,000.00	0%
CO	326,557,400	294,425,156	32,132,243.74	90%
Total	872,038,058	780,817,121.93	91,220,936.07	90%
CONTINUING APPROPRIATION				
PS			-	
MOOE	87,043,050.25	2,670,884.93	34,372,165.32	61%
FinEx	50,000	5,020	44,980.00	10%
CO	23,284,591.88	22,290,427	994,164.41	96%
Total	110,377,642.13	74,966,332.40	35,411,309.73	68%

Table 5. CY 2017 Status of Funds

BY ABM/ SARO/ ASA	ALLOTMENT	OBLIGATION	UNOBLIGATED BALANCE	PERCENT UTILIZATION
A. Gen. Admin. Support Services	32,590,000.00	30,619,859.62	1,970,140.38	94
B. Support To Operations	9,527,000.00	9,196,633.59	330,366.41	97
C. Operations	818,419,000.00	730,169,189.00	88,249,811.00	89
MFO 2. Technical & Support Services	555,167,000.00	497,091,155.70	58,075,844.30	90
MFO 2.1 Production Support Services	335,581,000.00	304,391,422.07	31,189,577.93	91
MFO 2.2 Market Development Services	300,000.00	262,523.00	37,477.00	88
MFO 2.3 Extension , Support, Educations & Training Services (ESETS)	92,413,000.00	75,677,532.09	16,735,467.91	82
MFO 2.4 Research and Development (R&D)	11,909,000.00	10,648,905.69	1,260,094.31	89
MFO 3. Irrigation Network Services	85,633,000.00	64,762,077.39	20,870,922.61	76
MFO 4. Farm-To-Market Road Network Services	3,440,000.00	2,776,967.55	663,032.45	81
MFO 5. Agricultural Equipment Facilities & Support Services	166,055,000.00	158,664,496.10	7,390,503.90	96
MFO 6. Plant & Animal Regulations Services	8,124,000.00	6,874,492.26	1,249,507.74	85
D. Locally Funded Projects	-	-	-	
E. Other Fund Sources	11,502,058.00	10,831,439.72	670,618.28	94
Total Current Appropriations	872,038,058.00	780,817,121.93	91,220,936.07	90

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERY COUNCIL

- Conducted 8 Consultation Meetings
- Endorsed eight (8) Policy Resolutions of which Five (5) Policy Resolutions were adopted
- Monitored 234 Agricultural and Fishery equipment, machineries and facilities

Policy Resolutions endorsed by RAFC Caraga

POLICY AGENDA/ RESOLUTIONS	DATE ENDORSED	DATE APPROVED/ ADOPTED	STATUS
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 1 RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) THE INCLUSION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL (AFC) COORDINATORS IN THE INCENTIVES UNDER BANNER PROGRAMS	March 6, 2017	August 14, 2017	A memorandum was issued by Secretary Emmanuel F. Piñol, dated August 14, 2017, for the extension of full support through granting of incentives to the local AFC full time Coordinators.
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 3 RECOMMENDING BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES (BFAR) - CARAGA TO CONDUCT A QUARTERLY FLESH ANALYSIS ON ALL CONSUMABLE FRESHWATER SPECIE IN CARAGA	April 21, 2017	July 8, 2017	On December 9, 2017, BFAR furnished RAFC the results of the gathered samples in Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Norte.
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 5 RECOMMENDING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) TO ISSUE AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER FOR BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY (BPI) TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE TAGGING OF ALL CERTIFIED SEEDS	August 21, 2017	September 14, 2017	Discussed with BPI during the Working Committee Meeting
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 6 RECOMMENDING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) THROUGH NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL BOARD (NOAB) AND BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STANDARDS (BAFS) TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCREDITED ORGANIC LABORATORY CENTER AND AUTHORIZED AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY IN CARAGA AS SATELLITE OFFICE OF ORGANIC CERTIFYING ENTITY IN MINDANAO	August 29, 2017		Pending for approval
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 7 RECOMMENDING PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC) TO REVISE THE GUIDELINES OF THE CORN INSURANCE POLICY IN CARAGA BY ABOLISHING THE CUT OFF DATES TO COVER THE YEAR-ROUND CORN PLANTING SEASON IN THE INSURANCE SYSTEM	November 6, 2017	November 22, 2017	PCIC sent a letter on November 22, 2017 adopting the resolution.
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 8 "A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES-CARAGA (BFAR - CARAGA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT- CARAGA (DILG - CARAGA) TO PROHIBIT THE CATCHING AND EXPORTATION OF JUVENILE LOBSTERS, CRABLETS, GROUPERS AND OTHER JUVENILE SPECIES IN THE MUNICIPAL WATERS OF CARAGA"	November 6, 2017		Pending for approval. The resolution was lifted during the PAFC Summit.
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 9 A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - CARAGA (DA-CARAGA) TO PROPOSE A PLANTILLA POSITION FOR REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL (AFC) COORDINATOR	November 6, 2017		Pending approval
RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 10 RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA)-CARAGA THAT THE UNUSED AGRICULTURAL MACHINERIES, FACILITIES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT THAT WAS DELIVERED TO THE RECIPIENTS, REGISTERED ORGANIZATIONS AND COOPERATIVES WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO WHOEVER IS IN NEED AND CAPABLE OF UTILIZING THE PROJECT EFFICIENTLY	November 6, 2017		Pending approval



FARM-TO-MARKET ROAD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

- Funded the construction of 17 Farm to Market Road Projects or a total of 23.8km length of road sections amounting P238,000,000.00.
- Completed a total of 15.38kilometers length of FMR or 14 road sections amounting P189,000,000.00.
- Construction of FMRs generated employment for a total of 1,113 individuals.
- The project benefited a total of 6,887 farmers and 29 fisherfolk.
- Served a total of 5,169 hectares of production area of various agricultural commodities.

ROAD SECTION	LOCATION	LENGTH (KM)	COST
Concreting of Purok 5 to Purok 6, Pigdaulan FMR, Brgy. Pigdaulan, Butuan City, Agusan Del Norte	Brgy. Pigdaulan, Butuan City, ADN	1.00	10,000,000.00
Concreting of Maningalao Purok 7 to Sitio Damulog FMR, Brgy. Maningalao, Las Nieves, Agusan Del Norte	Brgy. Maningalao, Las Nieves, ADN	1.60	16,000,000.00
Concreting of Maubo FMR, Brgy. Triangulo, Nasipit, Agusan Del Norte	Brgy. Triangulo, Nasipit, ADN	0.50	5,000,000.00
Concreting of Marapot-Comagascas-Del Pilar FMR, Brgy. Del Pilar, Cabadbaran City, Agusan Del Norte	Brgy. Del Pilar, Cabadbaran City, ADN	2.00	20,000,000.00
Construction of Poblacion 1 to Basilisa FMR, Brgy. Poblacion 1, Remedios T. Romualdez, Agusan Del Norte	Brgy. Poblacion 1, Remedios T. Romualdez, ADN	1.00	10,000,000.00
Rehabilitation/Concreting of Purok 2 to Purok 7 FMR, Brgy. Zillovia, Talacogon, Agusan Del Sur	Brgy. Zillovia, Talacogon, ADS	2.50	25,000,000.00
Concreting of Masayan to Caigangan FMR (Phase III), Brgy. Caigangan, Veruela, Agusan Del Sur	Brgy. Caigangan, Veruela, ADS	2.50	25,000,000.00
Construction of Edera-Roma FMR, Brgy. Edera, Basilisa, Province of Dinagat Islands	Brgy. Edera, Basilisa, PDI	2.50	25,000,000.00
Concreting of Pelaez to Roxas FMR, Brgy. Pelaez, San Isidro, Surigao Del Norte	Brgy. Pelaez, San Isidro, SDN	1.00	10,000,000.00
Concreting of Sayak to Domoyog FMR (Phase II), Brgy. Sayak, Del Carmen, Surigao Del Norte	Brgy. Sayak, Del Carmen, SDN	1.50	15,000,000.00
Construction of Brgy. Nuevo Campo - San Isidro FMR, Brgys. Nuevo Campo and San Isidro, San Benito, Surigao del Norte	Brgys. Nuevo Campo and San Isidro, San Benito, SDN	0.40	4,000,000.00
Concreting of Sitio Tigbao FMR, Brgy. Balite, San Francisco, Surigao Del Norte	Brgy. Balite, San Francisco, SDN	1.30	13,000,000.00
Concreting of Tinago FMR, Brgy. Tinago, Malimono, Surigao Del Norte	Brgy. Tinago, Malimono, SDN	1.00	10,000,000.00
Construction of Poblacion to Sitio Batobato FMR, Brgy. Batobato, Carmen, Surigao Del Sur	Brgy. Batobato, Carmen, SDS	1.20	12,000,000.00
Construction of Sitio Sabang FMR, Brgy. Poblacion, Cortes, Surigao Del Sur	Brgy. Poblacion, Cortes, SDS	1.00	10,000,000.00
Construction of Brgy. San Isidro- Brgy. Maticdum FMR, Brgy. San Isidro and Maticdum, Tandag, Surigao del Sur	Brgy. San Isidro and Maticdum, Tandag City, SDS	0.40	4,000,000.00
Construction of Kinawa - Cape FMR, Brgy. Bitoon, Hinatuan, Surigao Del Sur	Brgy. Bitoon, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur	2.40	24,000,000.00



Concreting of San Roque-Tagongon FMR, Bislig City



Concreting of Magpayang-Roxas FMR, Mainit, Surigao del Norte



Concreting of Maglatab-Manambia FMR, Tagbina, Surigao del Sur



Concreting of Tambacan FMR, San Isidro, Surigao del Norte



PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PRDP)

LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL PLANNING (I-PLAN)

- 2 VCAs were on-going preparation and consolidation – Tuna and Sardines
- Updated 2 PCIPs (Provinces of Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur)
- 14 commodities were prioritized that are already covered by the VCAs undertaken by the Project: abaca, banana (cardava), banana (lakatan), bangus, cacao, cassava (chips and granules), coconut (fiber and peat), coffee (green coffee beans), mango (fresh), oil palm, rice (organic rice), rubber (crumb), seaweed and swine.
- To strengthen the institutionalization of the AFMP, the IPLAN allocated a total of Php 2.61 million to partner agencies: Caraga State University (CSU), PhilFIDA and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).



RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT (I-BUILD)

- 30 subprojects with financial portfolio amounting to Php1.86 Billion benefitting 29,166 households beneficiaries
- These subprojects supported the following commodities: abaca, rice, rubber, cassava, banana, coconut and seaweeds
- Of the on-going 16 subprojects, four were completed on the year 2017, making it to total of 5 completed subprojects.
- For CY 2017, the 4 completed subprojects amounting Php71.75 Million covered 5.33 km. farm-to-market road and 900 sq.m. warehouse.

Distribution of subproject per Type

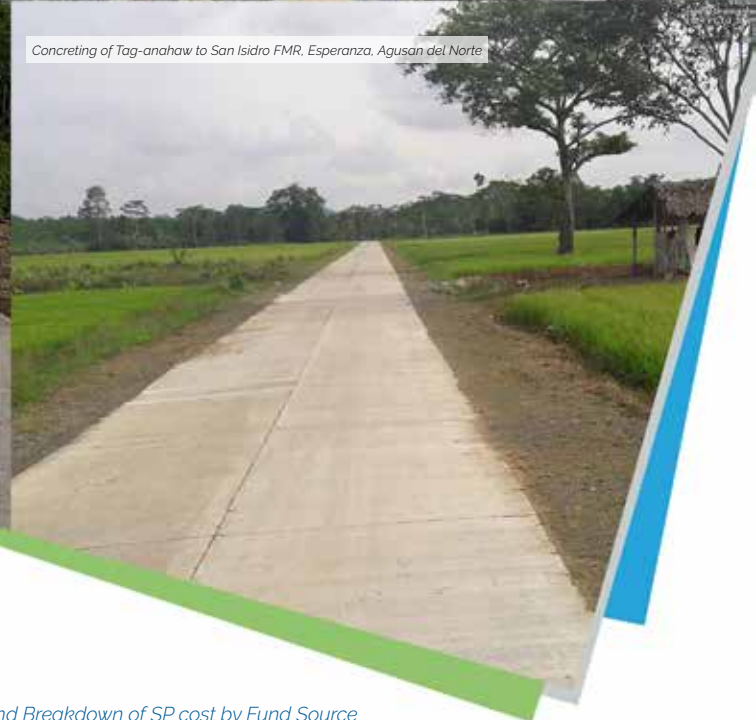
SUBPROJECT TYPE	TOTAL NO. OF SUBPROJECTS	TOTAL SUBPROJECT COST	TOTAL PHYSICAL COVERAGE	UNIT MEASURE
Farm-to-Market Road (FMR)	20	1,571,844,001.77	123.59	Kilometer
FMR with Bridge	1	148,498,000.00	8.85	Kilometer
Communal Irrigation System (CIS)	3	102,566,330.55	511	Kilometer
Others	6	52,600,212.56		
TOTAL	30	1,875,508,544.88	691.44	



Concreting of Batucan Malihao Del Monte FMR, Talacogon, Agusan del Norte



Construction of Abaca Fiber Warehouse with Drying Area



Concreting of Tag-anahaw to San Isidro FMR, Esperanza, Agusan del Norte

Distribution of Subproject per Status and Breakdown of SP cost by Fund Source

SUBPROJECT TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER	BREAKDOWN OF SUBPROJECT COST BY FUND SOURCE (IN MILLION PHP)			
		LP	GOP	LGU EQUITY	TOTAL SP COST
Approved Subprojects	23	1,163,627,758.74	145,453,469.84	145,453,469.84	1,454,534,698.43
Completed (100%)	5	64,424,760.88	8,053,095.11	8,053,095.11	80,530,951.10
Under Implementation	10	496,056,392.79	62,007,049.10	62,007,049.10	620,070,490.99
Fifty percent and above progress	3	70,184,551.01	8,773,068.88	8,773,068.88	87,730,688.76
Less than fifty percent progress	7	425,871,841.78	53,233,980.22	53,233,980.22	532,339,802.23
Under Procurement	8	603,146,604.91	75,393,325.61	75,393,325.61	753,933,256.14
With NOL 2	2	270,376,180.91	33,797,022.61	33,797,022.61	337,970,226.14
With NOL 1	6	332,770,424.00	41,596,303.00	41,596,303.00	415,963,030.00
Pipelined Subprojects	7	336,779,077.16	42,097,384.65	42,097,384.65	420,973,846.45
Endorsed for Issuance of NOL 1	4	270,638,736.88	33,829,842.11	33,829,842.11	338,298,421.10
Approved by RPAB	3	66,140,340.28	8,267,542.54	8,267,542.54	82,675,425.35
Total	30	1,500,406,835.90	187,550,854.49	187,550,854.49	1,875,508,544.88

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT (I-REAP)

- The Caraga Region shared a total of 12 or 15% subprojects to the overall subprojects in Mindanao Cluster portfolio amounting Php 85.50 million.
- The I-REAP subprojects supported the commodities of banana, abaca, rubber, coconut, seaweeds, cacao, coffee and bangus.
- A total of 12 main proponent groups (PGs), with 6,153 household beneficiaries, took part in the enterprise development.

Distribution of subproject per Status and Cost

SUBPROJECT STAGE	TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBPROJECTS	TOTAL SUBPROJECT COST
Approved Subprojects	9	69,569,755.97
Completed (100%)	0	-
Under Implementation	2	13,478,875.61
Under Procurement	7	56,090,780.36
Pipelined Subprojects	3	15,927,150.00
Total	12	85,496,805.97

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT COMPONENT (I-SUPPORT)

- Rapid Appraisal of Emerging Benefits (RAEB) report was crafted after a series of activities conducted in the completed subproject entitled Concreting of Gamoton - Lake Mainit Farm-to-Market Road. The activities for RAEB employed data gathering and geotagging of the completed subproject and the beneficiaries. The report partially showed positive impact on the beneficiaries especially on the aspect of convenience and easy access to market.
- Citizen's Monitoring Teams (CMT) were organized in each barangay under the Road Influence Area (RIA) of the subprojects Rehabilitation/Concreting of Magsaysay-Bobonaon Spur Sta. Cruz-Paco FMR (2 Packages) and Concreting/Rehabilitation of Jubgan-Binocaran FMR. Citizen's Monitoring Team orientation was simultaneously conducted to orient the CMT of their roles and use of monitoring tools last Oct. 24-26, 2018 in the Province of Surigao del Norte.
- The 5th World Bank Mission Review was conducted in the Caraga Region last November 29 to December 3, 2018. The activity was attended by the World Bank consultants and delegates from the NPCO, PSO Mindanao and RPCOs from Mindanao Cluster.

KEY OFFICIALS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CARAGA REGION



Abel James I. Monteagudo
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alberto D. Ocampo, Jr.
OIC-REGIONAL TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
FOR OPERATIONS AND LGU SUPPORT



Nicandro M. Navia, Jr.
REGIONAL TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
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Josefa M. Gidacan
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OIC, INTERIM REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL
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Isidro Q. Lagumbay, Jr., DVM
CHIEF, REGULATORY DIVISION



John E. Gamboa, Sr.
CHIEF, INTEGRATED LABORATORIES DIVISION



IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

REGIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<p>ENGR. ROMEO C. SALTING REGIONAL MANAGER PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION</p> 	<p>COSME B. PELAYO OIC, REGIONAL DIRECTOR QUEDAN AND RURAL CREDIT GUARANTEE CORPORATION</p> 
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MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Aggie Chief Launches Production Loan Easy Access Program for the Farmers

Aurelius P. Arais

The government is beefing-up its effort to alleviate the economic conditions of the farmers and fisherfolks in the countryside.

Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol launched a nationwide credit program for the farmers and fisherfolks dubbed as Production Loan Easy Access (PLEA) Program.

The launching ceremony was held at Malimono, Surigao del Norte some 32 kilometers away from Surigao City on June 26, 2017.

Through PLEA, marginal and small rural farmers and fisherfolk in the area can loan an amount of up to P50,000.00 with no collateral.

Borrowers can pay the loaned amount from 2 to 10 years depending on the commodity or activity with only 6% per annum or 0.5% per month interest rate.

During the launching ceremony, Secretary Piñol awarded to Malimono Multi-Purpose Cooperative an amount of P15 million as lending conduits where borrowers can access the said loan program.

"Our farmers have 3 basic needs which is technology, financing, and marketing, and PLEA is one of the answers to their financial needs," Piñol said.

The loaned amount is intended to finance any agricultural or fishery production activities covered with insurance through the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC).

However, before a farmer or fisherfolk could access the loan, they shall be enrolled in the Juan Magsasaka't Mangingisda Database System and issued with an intervention card.

Prior to the launching in Malimono, DA Central Office through

the Information and Communications Technology Services (DA-ICTS) conducted a data gathering activity through an interview and geo-tagging the areas to identify the location of their farms and fishing grounds.

"The reason why farmers are hesitant to lend money from the banks is due to numerous documents needed, that is why we simplified the process, once you are registered in our database system and issued with Juan Magsasaka't Mangingisda Card you are now eligible for the loan program," Piñol explained.

PLEA with funding support of up to P20 Billion through the Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC) is targeting around 2 million family-beneficiaries across the country. ▲



DA and DND Join Forces to Achieve Food Sufficiency

Vanessa P. Sanchez

Soldiers are not only for maintaining peace and order, but combatants as well in the war against hunger and poverty.

This is the objective of the joint project of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of National Defense (DND) dubbed as "Gulayan sa Kampo."

DA Caraga High Value Crops Development Program Coordinator Marco Antonio Morido said that through the activity, the soldiers will be equipped with knowledge on vegetable gardening and animal raising through the conduct of a training. "This is one way to ensure food sufficiency in detachment camps of the militaries. In addition, the soldiers, in turn, will also teach residents of far-flung communities which is a big help since there isn't enough Agricultural Extension Workers to do the job," Morido said.

Morido added that this is also a way to make the image of the soldiers more friendly so that the

people will be at ease with their presence in their community.

Further, 23rd IB Headquarters Commandant 1LT Kitch O. Sanchez said that this is also in support to the AFP's Community Support Program (CSP) which was launched just this year. Under the CSP, the soldiers who have undergone the DA's training will be deployed to geographically-isolated areas where they will assist the communities in their livelihood activities. "This way, we can sustain the people's support to the government and at the same time we also help the people to sustain their livelihood," Sanchez said.

In support to this, the DA conducted a training on Sustainable Agriculture to selected Army and CAFGU personnel on September 4 at the 23rd IB Camp in Buenvista, Agusan del Norte.

Aside from trainings, the DA will also provide vegetable seeds and other planting materials in for the sustainability of the program.



Members of the 23rd IB with DA technical personnel.



DA Urge Families to Engage in Urban Gardening

Aurelius P. Arais

Food production is not solely for rural areas but may also be in urban environment through urban gardening.

"Every citizen has an obligation to take part on the food sufficiency effort of the government, whether you are in rural or urban areas," says Senior Agriculturist Isabelita Ocampo of the Department of Agriculture Caraga Region. Urban gardening also known as urban agriculture is the practice of cultivating crops in

or around the town or city proper.

The most prevalent form of urban agriculture in the country is container gardening wherein residents who have limited space could utilize used or empty containers as medium for planting. Ocampo said that through urban gardening, families could ensure safe and healthy foods.

"You could save a lot if you could plant your own vegetables or spices and at the same time it adds aesthetic in

your home," she said.

To persuade urban families to engage in urban gardening, DA Caraga conducted series of trainings.

Rosalinda Galon, soon to retire from government service has foreseen herself to take on urban gardening on her retirement years.

"Soon when I will retire at least I still have continued source of income while having physical exercise through gardening,"



exercise through gardening," Galon said.

Aside from container gardening, other forms of urban gardening includes indoor gardening suitable for houses without yards or balconies; community gardening wherein residents could raise plants on any vacant public or private spaces; and or rooftops gardening wherein plants are cultivated in the rooftop of a building.

Urban gardening provides many social, environmental and health benefits as it would bring communities and families together, provides local source of food, encourages the young age to engage in agriculture, helps filter air and rain water and brings recreational activity for family members. ▲



Kitcharao Rice Farmers Credit Assistance Offers Zero Interest

By: Rhea C. Abao

Credit is needed in every type of business and agriculture is no exception. The need for agriculture credit becomes more important when planting season comes. This need is increasing over the years with the rise in prices of farm inputs, mechanization and weather risks.

DA, together with the local government units (LGUs) offers numerous programs to provide the necessary support for the farmers. Aside from the production support, easy access financing program is one of its top priority.

The Local Government Unit of Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte showed their support through the implementation of Kitcharao Rice Enhancement Support Program (KRESP).

"KRESP is a locally initiated financial assistance program to rice farmers. The program has a no interest rate policy for the rice farmers. Each interested farmer received Php10,000 worth of farm inputs in

which technical assistance from the Municipal Agriculture Office was also provided. This initiative is also our way to eliminate financiers and loan sharks who take advantage of our local farmers in the municipality," said Municipal Agriculturist Raul M. Del Agua.

Under the normal cycle, in Caraga region rice is planted twice a year, between the November to April wet season and the May to October dry season. But significantly, KRESP encouraged Robert B. Liza, Jr. 48 years old rice farmer from P-3 Songkoy, Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte to plant rice for the third time this year.

"Through the financial assistance provided by the program it encouraged me to pursue for my third cropping this year. I did not hesitate because financially I can buy the fertilizers and other inputs needed for planting. The scheme of the program is very friendly because of its no interest rate policy. My debt never became a burden to me anymore. I am very grateful for KRESP," said Mr. Liza.

Aside from the financial assistance, one of the components of the program is the implementation of excellence and award system dubbed 1st Humay Awards. This is designed to motivate farmer beneficiaries and agricultural extension workers who gave an outstanding performance and contribution in achieving quality results in implementing the program. The said award will recognize the best rice farmer, rice farmer entrepreneur, and agricultural extension worker. The winners will receive cash prize, farm inputs, and scholarship for the children of the awardee.

The Department strongly supports the on-going efforts of the Local Government Unit of Kitcharao in addressing the plight of smallholders rice farmers in terms to credit access. DA continues to empower farmers in terms of access to information and credit that may lead to encourage more farmers for agricultural technology adoption.

Public and Private Sectors Converge to Boost Cacao Industry

By: Vanessa P. Sanchez & Rhea C. Abao

Collaboration. Convergence. Cooperation.

These are the driving forces towards achieving growth of the Cacao industry of the country.

During the Cacao Link 2017 held in Butuan City on October 17-18, Engr. Edwin Banquerigo, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) National Cacao Cluster Coordinator, said that the Philippines started practicing the industry clustering approach five years ago and had an average national production of 5,000 MT a year. Now, the country's average annual production is at 10,000 - 12,000 MT.

"The creation of the Cacao Industry Development Council in each region has been a big help in developing and strengthening the country's cacao industry because there is already a convergence of the public and private sectors especially since the council is co-chaired by the Department of Agriculture and other government member agencies, like the PCA and DENR," Banquerigo said.

In addition, Valente Turtur, Chairperson of the Philippine Cacao Industry Council (PCIC), said that previously, it is the private sector that pushes for the advancement of

the industry but in recent years, the government has been a big factor in giving a big boost to the industry. *"The council is not only focusing on the volume of production but rather the quality of the produce. Thus, trainings are regularly conducted to teach farmers to produce quality products. Small cacao farmers should connect with organizations so that they can be assisted with their needs,"* said Turtur.

Turtur also observed that one of the challenges in developing the industry is not just about financing or the transfer of technology but also the culture and attitude of the person.

"Today we are trying to shift the mind setting of everyone that they need to work hard as cacao farming is a source of income, we don't need to rely everything from the government, we should also do our part," he emphasized.

Other supports from various government agencies include planting materials, post harvest facilities, as well as marketing assistance.

Caraga Region is potential for cacao production because of its strategic location and ideal weather condition. Based on the data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA),

Caraga had a 60 MT production in 2015 with an area planted of 1,252 hectares. Under the region's Cacao Industry Roadmap 2016-2022, Caraga has a target production of 3,000 MT of dried fermented beans. *"However, with the concerted efforts of the council and the various government agencies involved, this target just might be achieved already by next year,"* said Christopher Lindo, Chairperson, Philippine Cacao Industry Council -13.

On the other hand, Department of Agriculture-Caraga Regional Director committed DA's continued support. *"We are very willing to extend our help for the cacao industry. Our objectives are in the same page that is to help the plight of the poor. The convergence that we made today will help us to be in the right direction in strengthening the industry. We hope in the next few years we can play a bigger part in the cacao industry worldwide,"* said Director Monteagudo.

The Cacao Link is a two-day gathering of cacao growers, traders, processors and other industry stakeholders of Mindanao that discusses on how to improve practices in growing, processing, and marketing of cacao.



From left-right, Valente Turtur - Chairperson Philippine Cacao Industry Council, Christopher H. Lindo - Chairperson Philippine Cacao Industry Council Caraga, Department of Agriculture Regional Executive Director Abel James Monteagudo, Engr. Edwin O. Banquerigo - DTI National Cacao Cluster Coordinator.



CARAGA Hosts Mindanao-wide PAFC Summit

By: Clark Lucion

The Regional Agricultural and Fishery Council (RAFC) in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and Provincial Agricultural Fishery Councils (PAFCs) in Caraga spearheaded the 13th Mindanao-wide PAFC Summit with the theme "AFCs in Mindanao; Once Voice, One Direction" on November 20-23, 2017 at VCDU Convention Center, Butuan City.

One major function of AFCs is to hold consultation meetings which serve as forum for continuing discussion within the agriculture and fishery sector and generate policy resolutions and/or reforms.

To instill in the minds of AFCs the importance of consultation in the development process and their participating role in the development of agri-fishery sector as policy making bodies, a yearly Mindanao-wide PAFC Summit is held to convene AFCs in Mindanao. The event serves as consultation forum for AFCs to identify and deliberate policy issues to formulate and develop a common approach in resolving matters besetting the said sector.

During the Summit, DA-Caraga Regional Executive Director Abel James I. Monteagudo encouraged the participants to be market and enterprise oriented to alleviate poverty.

"Farming should not be addressed to farming and planting crops only but farmers should be capacitated with entrepreneurial ability to increase their needed income alleviating the lives of the farmers in Mindanao," Monteagudo said.

Mr. Pedro T. Lim, Caraga RAFC Chairperson, also emphasized need to increase awareness on AFCs main

purpose as advisory bodies of Department of Agriculture by convening a massive number of empowered stakeholders that will give a unified voice for the development of the agri-fishery sector.

Mindanao-wide flagship resolutions were formulated during the activity and endorsed policy recommendations for the Department to devise a holistic approach on solving the concerns afflicting the sector.

For CY 2017, RAFC-Caraga endorsed the following resolutions which were adopted by the concerned agencies:

- **RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 1**

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) THE INCLUSION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL (AFC) COORDINATORS IN THE INCENTIVES UNDER BANNER PROGRAMS

- **RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 3**

RECOMMENDING THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES (BFAR) - CARAGA TO CONDUCT A QUARTERLY FLESH ANALYSIS ON ALL CONSUMABLE FRESHWATER SPECIE IN CARAGA

- **RAFC Caraga Resolution No. 7**

RECOMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC) TO REVISE THE GUIDELINES OF THE CORN INSURANCE POLICY IN CARAGA BY ABOLISHING THE CUT OFF DATES TO COVER THE YEAR-ROUND CORN PLANTING SEASON IN THE INSURANCE SYSTEM

P103M FMR to Boost Agriculture in Surigao Norte

Fletcher D. Magatao

The Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) in Caraga recently conducted a pre-construction conference for the 9.4 km rehabilitation/concreting of Magsaysay – Bobonaon Spur Sta. Cruz – Paco Farm-to-Market Road (FMR) in Mainit, Surigao del Norte amounting to P103 million.

The concreting of the road could benefit five barangays with coconut as their main agricultural crop. *"Farmers in the barangays are already excited for the start of the construction of the project since this has been the dream of the residents in the community,"* said Mayor Crisanta Mondano.

Mondano said that farmers in the area have committed to planting more crops if there is already a road where they can easily transport the commodities. *"These farmers are truly industrious, they work hard*



for their family, but there are times that discouragement comes because their products got damaged after transporting through the bumpy and narrow road," Mondano added.

The Municipality of Mainit is rich with coconut trees which is one of the priority commodities of the

Project. *"The municipality is ranked second among all municipalities in the province according to the expanded vulnerability and suitability assessment (E-VSA) result for coconut. Thus, PRDP's intervention will be established here,"* said Deputy Project Director Jodel Tabada.



The Infrastructure Component aims to put in place strategic and climate-resilient rural infrastructure facilities along the value chain of a particular commodity to achieve its maximum value and increase the profit of the players in the industry.

PRDP sees the needs of the community and plans for interventions based on the results on its science-based tools. It works out to put in place climate resilient FMRs, bridges, communal irrigation and potable water systems. ▲

R&D Tech Transfer Fosters Agri-Commercialization

By: Rhea C. Abao



Regional
UPDATE

Tagbina Station Chief Gemma Asufre explains to Director Monteguado the benefits of peppermint tea, one of the product of Tagbina Research Station Experiment.

The transfer of knowledge from research into farming practice is essential for the agriculture industry to develop new ways to increase production. The Department of Agriculture (DA) funds research projects that provide new knowledge for new technologies.

"Output of research should be shared and applied to those who are interested to avail the technology. The DA will not monopolize the developed technologies because this is for everyone. Our researches are the product of innovation that can address most of the challenges faced by the agriculture sector," said Regional Technical Director for Research, Regulations and Integrated Laboratories Nicandro M. Navia, Jr.

The ultimate goal of research is to purposely use the technology to help the farmers and eventually encourage them on commercialization.

"In a modernized agriculture the term 'Tech Transfer' is associated

with the activities focused towards moving concept along the research development to commercialization process. This may lead to tangible products and technologies farmers can choose to market," said Tagbina Research Station Chief Gemma Asufre.

Peppermint liniment is derived from the leaves of the herbal plant peppermint (*Mentha pipertia*). The essential oil of the peppermint is often used as a home remedy for stomach problems, muscle pain, and headaches. It is popular oil in medicine due to its therapeutic benefits.

"Aside from the benefits for health and wellness of peppermint, we also have seen the potential of peppermint because of the availability of the raw material in our locality. That is why we encourage our local farmers to make use of herbal plant," said Asufre.

Joel Callano, an agripreneur from Tagbina, Surigao del Sur is now getting on business from a developed

technology of Tagbina Research Experiment Station - the peppermint liniment. *"I believed in the therapeutic benefits of peppermint that is why I invested on it as a value-added product. Today I am selling it for Php133 per 60ml to those interested. With this new product it gives additional income for me,"* said Callano.

To showcase the various technologies developed through Research and Development, a regional technology forum was organized last October 19. With the theme "Bringing Products of R & D to the Filipino Farmers and Agripreneurs through Technology Transfer and Commercialization".

The said forum is on its fourth year that encourages participation of farmers, LGUs, researchers and stakeholders in current and future research and extension undertakings. This is to foster stronger collaborations and accelerates region-wide adoption of these technologies.

Vegetable Garden by the Sea

Aurelius P. Arais



Can you imagine a vegetable garden in the middle of the sea?

Does it sound peculiar? Maybe in other place but not in Barobo, Surigao del Sur.

"Since I was a child, I really love gardening so every time I have a chance, I would do it," says Ermilinda Cortez, a resident of Sitio Anunang, Brgy. Gamut in the said town who raised a vegetable garden in the fish pen located few meters away from the seashore.

"Every time I monitored the milk fish (bangus) production project of our association, it came to my mind why not maximize the time? So I came up with the idea to establish a garden," she narrated.

Ermilinda is a member of the monitoring team of Anunang Gamut Fishermen Association (AGFA), a project funded by Department of Agriculture through the then Mindanao Rural Development Project (MRDP).

She then started to bring soil every time she visited the project riding in the small banca and placed it in the plastic container and used sacks.

With vegetable seeds she received from Department of Agriculture through the Municipal Agriculture Office of Barobo she sowed it diligently.

She tended various vegetables such as vine spinach (alugbati), kangkong, bottle gourd (upo), petchay, lemon grass (tanglad), string beans, tomato and more.

Watering the plants is the tedious part since it is located in the sea with no source of fresh water. To solve her dilemma, she innovated a way to capture the rainwater. She put up a gutter in the roof of the small hut within the fish pen and drained it to a water container through a funnel and a hose.

With utmost care, the vegetable garden of Ermilinda by the sea had grown vigorously.

Now, after her monitoring duty in the project, she would go home with a bagful of vegetables for her family and to be shared by her fellow association members.

"If I was able to raise vegetables in the sea, no reason that others who are residing in the mainland could not plant as well," boasted Ermilinda. ▲

DA Promotes Hybrid Rice Production

Rhea C. Abao



Rice makes every Filipino meal complete. It is also an important source of nourishment for more than half of the Filipino population.

According to the Philippine Population Commission the projected population of Filipinos is now 104 million. The nation needs to increase rice production to feed its growing population.

Under the leadership of Secretary Emmanuel F. Piñol, DA strongly promotes hybrid rice in order to meet the rice self-sufficiency goal by 2020.

Hybrid rice is a type of rice that has been bred from two very different parents. According to the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) it can significantly outyield other rice varieties. It is also a key technology that will meet the increasing demand for

rice. Hybrid rice has a 15-20% yield advantage that gives higher economic returns.

Based on a research study of the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), farmers' adoption on hybrid rice remained low despite concerted efforts and massive subsidies from the previous years. Most rice farmers do not find the currently available hybrid rice

varieties to be economically superior to inbred varieties.

Issues Affecting Adoption In Caraga region, consolidated data from the Local Government Units in 2016 showed that utilization rate of hybrid rice is low with 5.18% compared to 45% utilization of certified seeds among rice farmers. While the rice area harvested last

(Continue on page 20...)



P418M FMR Opens Opportunities to Rural Residents

Fletcher D. Magatao

The construction of three Farm-to-Market Road (FMR) projects in the first quarter of 2017 totalling P418 million is set to boost production of agri-fishery commodities in the region.

The recent turn over of the P14 million 940-meter with 580-meters Line Canal Tawal-Manoligao FMR under FMRDP in the Municipality of Carmen, Agusan del Norte has given the farmers a relief against the burden of transporting their produce to the market.

On another light, DA-PRDP's groundbreaking of P187 million 14.33 km Poblacion-Manlico-Uba FMR in Cortes, Surigao del Sur last May 24 gave hope to the 6 barangays composed of 5,483 individuals with 1,137 farming and fishing households. The FMR would cover 4,537 hectares of influence area.

The rough road used to

be muddy, especially during rainy season. There are very few vehicles coming in our area and just limited vehicles also serve as cargo trucks, due to the poor road and up to P2000 negotiated amount for the transfer of their goods to the market," said farmer and Chairman Vicente Malingin of Barangay Tuburan.

Another big project is the 18.4 km rehabilitation/concreting of Magsaysay – Bobonaon Spur Sta. Cruz – Paco FMR in Mainit and Placer, Surigao del Norte amounting to P217 million.

The two road concreting packages would benefit five barangays in Mainit and six in Placer with coconut as main agricultural commodity.

Mayor Crisanta Mondano said that farmers in the area have

committed to plant more crops if there is already a road where they can easily transport the commodities. *"These farmers are truly industrious, they work hard for their family, but there are times that discouragement come because their products got damaged after transporting through the bumpy and narrow road,"* she said.

The start of this project has opened not only opportunities but also the people's trust in government. *"Everything is properly explained to us through the pre-construction conference. Our queries are addressed and the contractor has committed to hire workers from our barangay,"* said Chairman Manny Atillo of Barangay Capandan. *"This project is different, the LGU and government agencies make us feel important,"* he added. ▲



DA-Caraga Intensifies...

year has a total area of 150,144 hectares in which 7,782 hectares were only devoted to hybrid rice or an equivalent of 19.29%.

Issues on why farmers hesitate to adopt the technology is quite common among farmers.

"Hybrid rice is expensive and it needs more inputs. Aside from it, hybrid rice production is more laborious compared to certified seeds" said Pilma Caldoza a farmer from Barangay Los Angeles, Butuan City. These issues were also attested by her constituents.

These issues were just a few that leads to the farmers to become doubtful to engage in hybrid rice production.

Despite the negative concerns, the Department of Agriculture (DA) – Caraga addresses these matters with the right information about the advantages of hybrid rice and DA's interventions through an information campaign dubbed as *"Talakayan sa Barangay"*.

"Effective communication plays a vital role in social mobilization and behavioral change. We communicate to positively influences the social dimensions with regards to knowledge, attitude, and practices of rice farmers," said Information Section Chief, Emmylou T. Preslida.

Interventions Provided

The expensive cost of hybrid seeds is undeniable, but through the High Yield Technology Adoption (HYTA) Project, farmers' anxiety of costly seeds has been answered. HYTA is currently implemented where irrigators' Association (IA) or Farmers' Association (FA) per barangay is provided with hybrid seeds and yield enhancing inputs like fertilizers and ameliorants. These



CARAGA REGION

14 Years Hybrid Rice Farmer

"Ang hybrid rice ikumpara sa inbred dako ang diperensya. Mo-diperensya siya ug 30 ka sako kada ektarya. Sa inbred 70-80 ka sako lang ikumpara sa hybrid nga 100-200 ka sako. Dili lisud kung kita mag-kugi."

NOEL RIANO

President, Matuon Irrigators Assoc.
Trento, Agusan del Sur

are integral to farm-level productivity.

The said project is under a Grant-Recovery-Roll Over scheme. The total cost of the seeds and fertilizers will be collected by the Irrigator's Association/Farmer's Association Treasurer as repayment and will be deposited to the IA/

FA Bank Account. The project is designed not just to increase rice production but also to support financially the IA's/FA's to make them self reliant.

"Though hybrid rice seeds are costly, farmers can regain their expenses through its yield

advantage. Hybrid rice can produce 10 tons per hectare compared to inbred that has an average yield of 6 tons per hectare. In the region, we are encouraging rice farmers in irrigated areas to plant hybrid rice, because this type of rice needs water management," said Regional Seed Coordinator Noli G. Orog.

"As a farmer, I am very grateful for the information that I received, the information drive of the DA will give us farmers, more options to make right decisions for our farming endeavors," said Catalino Pajaron, a rice farmer from Barangay Lemon, Butuan City.

After the information caravan was piloted in selected barangays in Butuan City and Agusan del Norte, out of the 1,036 farmers 94% positively responded and expressed their intent to plant hybrid rice.

The agency believed that the transformation begins with the development of self-awareness. With this perspective, DA will continue to advocate hybrid rice production in various irrigated rice areas in the region. 🌱

P29M FMR Ends Residents' Agony

Fletcher D. Magatao

A farm-to-market road (FMR) amounting to P29 million with a length of 2.3 km from Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) has been turned over recently to the Municipality of Talacogon, Agusan del Sur.

The concrete road covers an influence area of more than 100 hectares mostly planted with rice and directly benefits 9,064 individuals. "Because a lot of farmers, residents and students will benefit from this project, we worked hard together with the LGU just for this project to be realized," said Barangay Del Monte Chairman Isaias Masendo.

Masendo said that the struggle of transporting the farmers' produce for more than two hours before has now been shortened to 10 minutes which can be translated to saving so much time and energy for the farmers.

Farmers can now spend an extra amount for other needs of the family. "Only carabao-controlled wagon can pass this area before, so farmers need to pay at least P50 for bringing their produce to the highway. Now with the FMR, they only spend P5 to P10 and the farmers here have already considered buying their own vehicle," Masendo said.

The Project sees to it that the road would not only be useful for the easy transportation of goods, but it would also create emerging benefits out from its establishment. "People who happen to pass by this concrete road can feel the big difference compared before where there were days that students and workers would prefer to walk barefoot because of the muddy and steep way," said Purok Chairperson Angelica Aguilar.

Now that the concrete road is being enjoyed by the many, some residents have



PRDP Team Conducting Final inspection before the



2.3 Kilometers
Batucan-Malihao Farm-to-Market Road
Del Monte, Talacogon, Agusan del Sur

been considering to establish a small-scale store or constructing a shed where tricycles or other transportation vehicles are located to carry the passengers from Batucan to Malihao and vice versa according to Aguilar.

"The Department has truly achieved the good results for placing the project in this area. I believe that the residents who donated a parcel of their lot for this road did not regret since not only they are now relishing the beautiful road, they are also assured that this can still be enjoyed up to the next generation," said Regional Director Abel James Monteagudo.

Mayor Jesryl Masendo has seen the difference of the project done by PRDP and has committed to preserve the FMR with the help of the barangay officials and residents since the project has been known as a dream-come-true in the area.

"This is the kind of project that the government takes pride of presenting to the people. I have seen how everything was done and the residents have nothing bad to say about it. I hope more projects like this kind will be established," Mayor Masendo said.

DA-PRDP Ensures Emerging Benefits from Its FMR Project

By: Fretcher Magatao

The Department's Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) ensures that its recently completed farm-to-market road (FMR) project in the Municipality of Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte provides emerging benefits by conducting monitoring and evaluation activities.

The Php8.7 million 1 km FMR in Barangay Gamoton to Lake Mainit covers 177 hectares of influence area and benefits at least 573 households or more than 1800 residents including the indigenous people in the area.

With the huge investment, the Project management recognizes the importance of finding out whether or not investments translate to the intended outcomes or benefits. *"This strategic method of ensuring the benefits from the project is one of a kind, we can really feel the importance of this project to our people,"* said Mayor Aristotle Montante of Kitcharao.

A Rapid Appraisal of Emerging Benefits (RAEB) framework that serves as a guide defines the range of information to be covered in the activity including the actors, processes and sources that will produce credible data to ensure objectivity and reliability of the study results.

RAEB team is composed of PRDP technical members from the national, Mindanao Project Support Office and the regional office that went down to the beneficiaries in the project area to conduct interviews and assess the impact of the project.

"The value of the farmers and residents in the area has been uplifted because of the FMR. People from the neighboring areas have been very interested in our place," said Brgy. Songkoy Farmer Cesario Salvacion.

The said FMR not just eases the transportation of goods, but it also improves the mobility of people and services. The concrete road also provides smooth access to basic social services such as schools and health centers.

PRDP aims to put in place climate resilient FMRs, bridges, communal irrigation and potable water systems to improve the lives of the Filipinos in the countryside.

"The value of the farmers and residents in the area has been uplifted because of the FMR. People from the neighboring areas have been very interested in our place."

Cesario Salvacion
Farmer
Brgy. Songkoy Kitcharao





Feature Story

“The difference is enormous! Compared to when I only dried my corn in the sun, I have saved about 20% on my cost since I started using the corn dryer,”

Melquezedic Balacuit

Rescuing the Farmers of Las Nieves

How The DA's Corn Post Harvest Processing and Drying Facilities Saved the Day for Las Nieves Corn Farmers.

Going into the rural roads of the town of Las Nieves in Agusan del Norte, particularly in barangay Pinana-an, you are greeted by the refreshing greens of cornfields to your left and your right. Literally, corn as far as the eye can see.

Agricultural Technologist Joselito Sullá estimates that the town has about 800 hectares of cornfields, and that each hectare can produce about 9-10 tons of corn.

“Barangay Pinana-an, and its neighbouring barangays, produce the bulk of corn in the Municipality, we have about 300 farmers here!” Sullá says. He adds that because the farmers grow hybrid corn now, their yield has become much higher, compared to before.



Corn farmers showing off how the facility works conveniently for them.

"Traders no longer tell our farmers that their corn is only good for animal feed. Because we now have good quality corn, nobody says no to our corn anymore, and we are able to sell them for better prices!"

Ruel Torralba

But the problem with corn is that if it is not dried soon after harvest, it may result to high aflatoxin levels.

Aflatoxin is a naturally occurring toxin produced by the fungus *Aspergillus flavus*. The fungus can be recognized by a gray-green or yellow-green mold growing on corn kernels in the field or in storage. High levels can reduce sales because traders regularly test corn for aflatoxin before buying, as it is poisonous.

"Here in Las Nieves, the weather is always unpredictable. The morning might be sunny and bright, but before noon, we will get rain showers or thunderstorms," says Sulla. This has made it difficult for farmers to dry their corn in the traditional way, a method called "Solar drying" or placing the corn on clean concrete pavement and letting it dry using the heat of the sun.

The Department of Agriculture-Caraga, as part of the the Corn Program, presented a solution for the farmers in the area, by awarding them a Village Type Corn Postharvest Processing Center in June 2016. The 3.5 Million peso project is a modern shelling and drying facility with a capacity of 10 tons.

Ruel Torralba who used to be a corn farmer himself is now one of the designated operators of the facility. He says he understands the plight of farmers, especially during the rainy season. "Corn needs to have a moisture content of 14% when sold, but when corn is harvested it has 24% moisture. Solar drying takes up to 4-5 days to dry, and that is with continuous sunshine! This project is really a big help to our local farmers," explains Torralba.

"The village type corn dryer is a circulating dryer, and while the corn is being circulated, hot air is blown into the dryer. We are able to dry corn quickly, in about 17 hours, which is essential to high quality corn," Torralba says. It means farmers can sell their corn sooner after harvest. "Traders no longer tell our farmers that their corn is only good for animal feed. Because we now have good quality corn, nobody says no to our corn anymore, and we are able to sell them for better prices!" Exclaims Torralba.

The facility offers better prices for the farmers too compared to commercial dryers. "The commercial dryers charge one peso per kilo of the wet corn's weight. We charge 65 centavos per kilo, but that's for the dried weight of the corn already," says Torralba.

"The difference is enormous! Compared to when I only dried my corn in the sun, I have saved about 20% on my cost since I started using the corn dryer," says farmer Melquezedic Balacuit.

"When you dry your corn the traditional way, you need to hire someone to tend to it while it is drying. But when it rains mid morning or in the afternoon, then your payment will go to waste. The practice here is you pay people the full day's wages, and yet after a few hours, when the rain comes, you need to cover up your corn to protect it, and then the people you hire go home. The next day, you start over again, and the next day, and the next. When it takes almost a week to dry my corn, the wages for the people I used to hire to tend to it while solar drying, cost me more than paying for the corn dryer to do the same job!" Balacuit adds.

Balacuit is very thankful for the facility, saying "traditional drying takes more time and effort, and there is always the risk of traders rejecting your corn or offering a lower price for it because it is not good quality. As a last resort before, I used to have to haul our corn all the way to neighboring cities or municipalities to have the corn dried there. Now I feel more at ease during harvest season. The facility is nearby and it has saved me so much time, money and effort. After harvest, I can sell my corn practically the next day! I am very thankful to the Department of Agriculture for awarding us these post harvest facilities, it has made the lives of corn farmers here like me so much easier."

To help more farmers, similar facilities were also awarded to barangay Malicato in Las Nieves and barangay Tiniwisan in Butuan City.





Larga
CARAGA
Larga!







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