



KASASAAD

The official quarterly publication of the Department of Agriculture-Cordillera Administrative Region-Special Area for Agricultural Development Program

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ALLEVIATING POVERTY

One step at a time

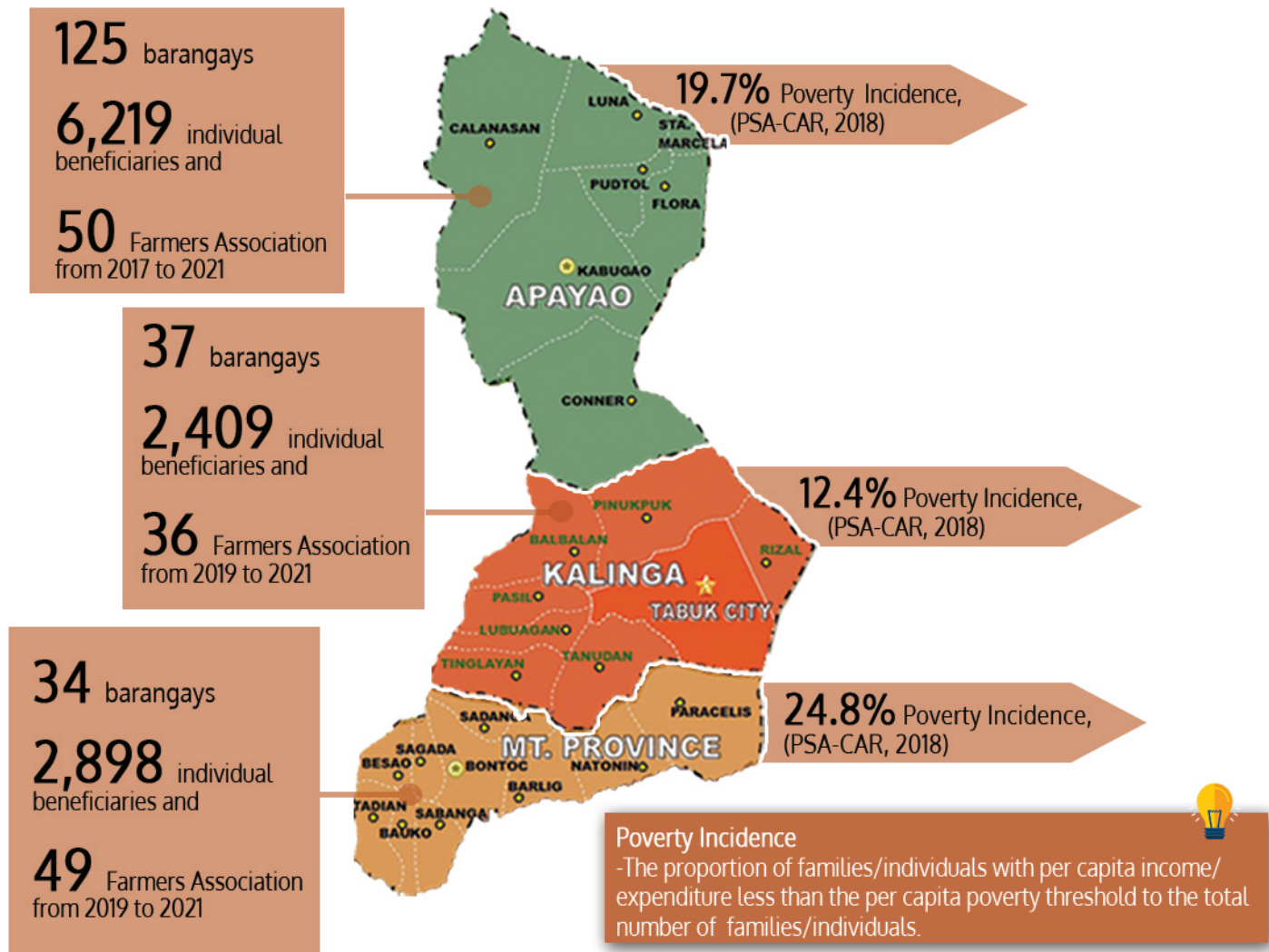
| SAAD AT A GLANCE |

Goals and strategies:

Alleviating poverty and increasing food production through **Program Management, Social Preparation, Production and Livelihood Interventions, and Marketing Assistance and Enterprise Development** providing the appropriate technology, financing marketing and other support services.

Beneficiaries:

The Program targets individuals, families and organized farmers and fisherfolk in the three provinces of Cordillera.



ABOUT THE COVER

Mary Rose Manerwa of the Channeg Farmers Association of Bontoc, Mt. Province gladly feeding the chicken under the Table Egg Production.

The said project aims to provide additional income to the farmers and for the establishment of a community enterprise in the future.

RED'S CORNER

CAMERON P. ODSEY

OIC, Regional Executive Director
Department of Agriculture- Cordillera Administrative Region



The year 2020 was a very abnormal year because of the pandemic, as we all know, and the challenges we faced were much more than expected. Despite that, we were able to accomplish fairly what we intended to do notwithstanding.

Amidst all the constraints of travel restrictions, limited contacts with LGU partners and the farmer-beneficiaries, we exerted all efforts to deliver the planting materials, livestock and other inputs intended for our farmers' organizations to start their livelihood projects. We pushed our suppliers to deliver the goods even as they also were faced with similar travel constraints. During the 4th quarter we were catching up with funds still to be obligated and physical targets still unattained. But we did our best and obligated almost all of our remaining budget for 2020 with a few remaining that needed to be realigned.

Even as we were catching up on our deliverables, we proceeded with the ongoing changes in the Program as initiated by the national office. These changes are indeed necessary to improve program efficiency and effectiveness. Updated procedures in staff recruitment were set in place, even as we need to also install a performance evaluation system. We will also be hiring more staff with actual experience and back ground in community organizing and social mobilization as we realized that we need to improve in that area of concern.

Our program budget for 2021 is expected to be higher at more than 200 Million pesos and will fund more projects in more expansion barangays. As we increase funding for projects, we need to improve implementation procedures to ensure that incomes will be earned by our farmer-partners from these activities in a sustainable manner. We need to continually engage our LGU partners in monitoring and overseeing these projects on the ground. Similarly we need to provide more trainings to capacitate our FCAs to strengthen their organizations and to be able to manage their projects with the needed technical skills.

“ All in all, we did fairly well in 2020 but we need to do better in 2021. We thank all of our staff whether assigned in the field or in the regional office for all the efforts you exerted, let us continue the good work and improve what needs to be improved. ”

DPD'S CORNER

DANILO P. DAGUIO, Ph.D., CESO IV

Regional Technical Director for Operations, DA-CAR
SAAD Deputy Program Director



Our collective action in alleviating the poverty incidence in the three Cordillera Provinces has brought implementers and farmers together in pursuing the common good. I believe that this platform unites us for a noble cause.

With this in mind, our drive towards a more vibrant agriculture will usher in the next few years. This will be possible by strengthening our partnership with different communities and encouraging solidarity of efforts of the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program team.

This year has been difficult for us, especially for the farmers who live in the far-flung areas. To the provincial staff, many of you were challenged for eagerly reaching remote areas, ensuring that our partner-beneficiaries are being assisted with their livelihood, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. I am very sure that these efforts are much appreciated by the Program and the beneficiaries.

With the SAAD Program's aim to alleviate poverty by providing livelihood interventions to our target beneficiaries, let us continue working together to reach our goal.

Wishing us all a fruitful holiday as we continue to dream on and succeed as a new year unfolds and welcomes us into a new beginning.

ACROSS THE PROVINCES

Anne raises her 5 chicken to ninefold and earns Php 12k

Anne Sacro earns Php 12,290.00 from the Poultry Production Project of the Department of Agriculture-Special Area for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) Program.

Anne is a 49 year-old and a member of the Upstream Livelihood Farmers Association in Bacsay, Luna, Apayao.

The project, worth Php 135,000 includes 270 free range chicken distributed to 54 farmers in December 2019. Each member received five chicken worth Php 2,500.

Anne Sacro's project implementation

Anne and her husband, Rolando, used to earn from vegetable farming and selling native chicken, duck, and rooster in their neighborhood earning Php 13,000 a month.

When she became a beneficiary of SAAD, her family's living condition improved as their income increased by 11%.

With her earnings from SAAD, she bought five cavans of rice at Php 2,500/cavan (50 kilograms) and even saved up for the next month's food supply to support her family.

Anne reared the chicken and

gathered 40 chicks in August 2020. Five of these were immediately turned over to the next grantee.

She started a small poultry farm business from the remaining 40 chicken, which includes the original stock.

From December 2020 to January 2021, Anne sold 15 chicken at Php 750 each giving her an income of Php 11,250.

She also earned from selling eggs at Php 130/tray. So far, she sold 8 trays (24 pieces each) and gained Php 1,040.

As of February, Anne has 25 remaining chickens which she plans to reproduce to share with her co-members whose chicken died from pest infestations.

Anne added that she is willing to guide and help the other 53 members to produce more stocks.

She is planning to buy an egg incubator that would help in her

poultry production. to produce more stocks.

At present, she taps another SAAD association – the Midstream Farmer's Association – who lets her use the machine for free until the eggs are hatched.

"Bassit man wenu dakel a banag, nu maited kinka nga pagsyaatan, tariwatem tapnon nu kasta ket haan ka lang nga agur-uray iti agnanayun nga tulong dapat bilang sika nga tul-tulungan da, ammom metlang nga tulungan iti bagim [Small or big blessing, you must learn how to value it. If you were given such support, you must not only wait for others to help you but you should help yourself too], shared Anne.

Anne proudly shared that her journey in rearing the poultry stocks was not easy but she was happy that her labor pays her off that much. ###



Chicken stocks and eggs produced by Anne

Apayao MESS FAs Agri-Enterprise earns Php 175k

The Malekkeg, Emiliana, San Carlos, San Antonio (MESS) Farmer's Association in Sta. Marcela accumulated a gross income of Php 1,634,620.00 with a net income of Php 175,153.00 during the five rice cropping season (2018 to 2020) using the rice combined harvester provided by the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program funded in 2016.

MESS Farmer's Association has 42 members and was registered with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on June 13, 2017. The members of the association belong to the underemployed and home-based workers in the community with identified capability to engage in entrepreneurial activities.

"Iti determinasyon mi a kas association, haan kami lang nga makaurnong iti pagbiyag mi nu di kitdin makatulong kami iti production iti rice dituy ili mi," said Mr. Andres Froilan, the association president.

[With our determination as an association, we are not only earning for our living but we are also contributing to rice production in our place.]

MESS as a Service Provider

According to Froilan, the services being provided by the association using the combine harvester equipment are reaping, threshing, cleaning, bagging and hauling.

He added that the adaptation of technology in agriculture gives comfort and efficiency from being a service provider from reaping until the hauling process.

The combine harvester is rented at Php 5,200.00 per hectare which allows the group to earn Php 997,776.00 for the 191.88 hectares (ha) of rice area served during the dry season in 2018 until 2020.

The same amount is charged per ha during the wet season and the group earned Php 636,844.00 for 122.47 ha of rice area harvested in 2018 and 2019.

With this, the group has a gross income of Php 1,634,620.00.

Mr. Froilan also shared that the cost per hais not fixed all the time since it will depend on the agreement between them as service provider and the landowners.

He added that the combine harvester can also be rented ranging from Php 4,500.00 to 5,900.00/ha. The price includes the wage of the operator, gas, and oil.

"Nu addo iti umay ag offer iti reaper, nu sinu kababaan isu nukwa ti mas biruken iti agpatalon isu haan nga fixed iti presyo," shared Mr. Froilan.

[Farmers preferred the lowest machine rental, this is the reason that the rental price is not fixed.]

From 2018 to 2020, the total expense for the maintenance of the machinery is P 1,078,903.00, which includes fuel, oil filter, oil change, and replacement of destroyed machine parts.

The regular inspection and maintenance are done every cropping season to prevent further damage. For the labor cost, they have a total expense of Php 380,564.00.

In 2018, the group was able to purchase a garage shed worth Php 44,305, a water pump worth Php 5,700.00, as means of moving water to maintain cleanliness of the machinery and jeepney worth Php 80,000.00 in 2019 from their savings. This is necessary to maintain and operate the combine harvester.

Mr. Froilan expressed how grateful they are to be part of the program. He said that this kind of opportunity is rare, so, when you find one, embrace it, he reiterated.

"Haan nga agnanayun nga ada oportunidad. Thank you SAAD,



MESS Farmers Association Treasurer Frederick Froilan (left) and President Andres Froilan (right) doing their rice field operation

dakel iti naitulong iti SAAD program kadakami nu panggep iti pagbirukan iti agserbi pamilya mi a kas farmers," he said.

[The opportunity only comes once. Thank you SAAD Program for this has helped us and our families.]

Problems Encountered

In May 2018, the association constructed a garage shed for the machinery but was later destroyed by typhoon Ompong in September 2018.

However, the said calamity further encouraged the association members to work harder. It's just a typhoon and they will be doing even better to construct another station.

"Tay bagyong Ompong ket dakel iti impact na. Malagip ko pelang tay layos, kinapigsa tudu na kin tay kinaado nga pinsala iti pagbyag. Ngem para kadami nga farmers,

pagsyaatan lata iti adda panunut mi. Nu adda panakabalin na, agpatakder kami tu metlang sukat na etay napardi nga garahe tuy machinery," Mr. Froilan said.

[Typhoon Ompong has a great impact to us. I can still remember the strong rains and the damage it has caused to the livelihood of the community. For us farmers, we are always thinking on how to make things better. As we move forward, we are planning to construct another shed for the machine.]

Association Policy

Based on the agreed policy of the association, the accumulated income per cropping season will be divided into three: 35% will be allotted for the maintenance of the machinery, 30% for labor costs, and the remaining 35% will be deposited to the association's savings account.

In each machine operation, the labor cost is subdivided into six people: the combine harvester operator, jeepney driver, and 4 palay baggers.

Meanwhile, other members of the association are getting incentives worth P 1.00 per sack for every cropping season. Mr. Froilan also shared that the members of the association also benefit from the 1% discount for every 10 sacks of rice reaped using the combine harvester.

Ways Forward

As of October 31, 2020, the total savings of the association is Php 120,000 deposited in their bank account. The association plans to purchase an additional truck for hauling. ###



SAAD beneficiary Felicidad Dela Cruz with her husband, Jose Dela Cruz with their sheep as her source of income

Raising rams, 72-year old farmer gains income while employing good management practices

Felicidad Dela Cruz, 72 year-old farmer and a member of the Upstream Livelihood Farmer's Association sold three rams (male sheep) in her neighborhood at Brgy. Dagupan, Luna, Apayao earning Php 3,000.

Months after Dela Cruz received the five sheep (four ewes and a ram), 7 offspring were produced as of September 2020.

"Ti pinagited yu iti tulong kadakami nga nakukurapay nga farmer ket makaited iti inspirasyon. Ita nga madama iti krisis iti COVID-19 pandemic, nagdakel nga tulong etuy nga pagbirukan nga naited kadakami. Gapun iti naaramid nga agreement iti miyembro iti association mi, kada beneficiary babaen na etuy nga proyekto ket agited to iti offspring kin iti sumaranu nga beneficiary. Iti partek, agishare nak to iti lima nga offsprings. Tapnun nu kasta dumakel iti pakadanunan na etuy

nga livelihood," shared Dela Cruz.

[Helping poor farmers like us is very inspiring especially during the pandemic. This is a great help for us. In an agreement between the members of the association, each recipient will be passing the offsprings of the sheep to the next-in-line beneficiary. For me, I will be sharing five offspring to the next grantee.]

Dela Cruz also shared that sheep production is a good source of income since she was able to purchase food supplies for their daily needs.

From her production sales, she was able to purchase five rolls of wire for her animal fencing worth Php 6,500.

Today, Ms. Dela Cruz is rearing her five original sheep and four offsprings and is expecting to produce more.

Management practices on sheep farming

According to Ms. Dela Cruz, the primary goal is to reduce stress on the animals through good management.

On her part, she is regularly providing fresh and clean water for the sheep early in the morning and in the afternoon.

She added that sheep will consume a couple of gallons of water each day and more when it is hot.

"Dal-dalusan mi tay paginuman da once a week tapno haan nga narugit metlang," Dela Cruz shared

[To keep the sheep's water clean, we usually scrub and disinfect the container once a week.]

She also added that providing a barn with shed is an important factor to the animal stocks. This is to protect them from the warm or cool weather.

The sheeps tend to spend their time in the shelter when the weather is cold.

According to Ms. Dela Cruz, the sheep need a shelter that protects them from rain so they are providing the animals with thick hay as beddings.###

ACROSS THE PROVINCES

FAs earn Php 372k from SAAD's Hubbard chicken production in Mountain Province

Two farmers' associations (FA) with 136 members in Mountain Province earned Php 372,000 from the Department of Agriculture-Special Area for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) Program's free-range chicken (Hubbard Brown) Production Projects in 2020.

The projects, worth Php 824,900 are part of the Agriculture's food sufficiency and livelihood development program.

The free-range Hubbard chicken production includes 925 and 924 chickens with feeds from grower to finisher was provided to the E-Lagan FA Incorporated and Bengasan-Bilig-Data-Mat-ao (BBDM) FA respectively on November 16, 2020.

The Hubbard Brown Chicken is comparable to our native chicken in terms of taste, resistance to diseases and can also be ranged in open areas to feed on naturally available food as supplement (Orillaneda, 2020). The said breed is suitable for our climatic condition and has faster time to attain slaughter weight than native chicken.

Both groups operate and record individually but their reports are consolidated by their group

auditors and are updated monthly by means of monitoring assisted and not assisted by project implementers.

Most members of the said groups are mothers engaged in swine and native chicken raising as well as backyard gardening. With the SAAD livelihood interventions provided, each member reared the chicken and sold them at Php 500/head. Their earnings were used for the succeeding cycle and to sustain their basic food requirements during the pandemic.

E-Lagan FA, Inc. of Sabangan, Mountain Province

The E-Lagan Farmers Association, Inc. consists of 92 members is an existing group in Lagan, Sabangan, which was selected as a SAAD beneficiary in 2020.

Each member received 10 chicken which they reared in their backyard.

From January 24 to February 6, 2021, the group collectively earned Php 176,000 from selling 352 chickens from the 925 provided by the program.

"The intervention is very timely because it allowed us, farmers, to earn additional income to start with during the pandemic and at

the same time provided us chicken meat for consumption as an alternative for pork that now has a steep price," said Franklin Colaling, the Association President.

As a result, the project benefited the families of each member by providing them additional income, as well as fresh and safe chicken meat on-condition each member will contribute Php 400 to the association. The collection is intended for the operating expense and savings to support their plan on having a breeding business.

The record shows that the group had already saved-up Php 25,000.

"With the intervention, it has lessened our expenses in buying meat products because we already have available in our backyard. Also, we can sell the chicken despite its increase in number in the locality due to price hike in pork," Mr. Colaling added.

The members also supplemented their chicken feeds with green leaves like tricastera, sayote, and other green plants edible and safe for the birds – which contribute to a safer and healthiest meat to the consumer.

The group is set to receive an egg incubator this year to help them develop their plan on having a breeding enterprise. The process

includes then includes that each member will give two fertile eggs, incubate them, and sell them as day-old chicks.

BBDM FA of Alab Proper, Bontoc

BBDM FA with 44 members is also an existing group in Alab Proper, Bontoc, which was added as an expansion barangay of SAAD in 2020.

The group was given 924 heads with 21 heads for each member to raise. The FA has a consolidated 393 head of Hubbard brown chicken sold after two months of raising, which gave them an income of Php 196,000.

The group members have utilized their sales (as their readily income)

for their everyday needs such as rice, salt, and vegetable oil due to extended lockdowns because of growth of CoVid-19 cases in the province. Also, each member contributes Php 500 for the purchase of feeds.

“We could hardly imagine how to sustain and become an enterprise in the beginning but with the continuous assistance of the program, especially that we are now in the marketing phase, we can manage our project,” said Gloria Doladol, the BBDM Secretary.

As of, February 26, the group has a savings of Php 22,000 set aside for their future chicken production business. They are also planning to

offer chicken feeds – lower price for the group members and market price for the community members.

Sustainability

The program is continuously providing technical support through a series of training and monitoring activities to ensure the effectiveness of the program implementation and sustainability of the projects toward the development of community enterprises.

This year, the two groups will receive chicken and feeds under the Free Range Chicken Production Project. ###



Elsie Martinez, member of the BBDM FA checks weight of the chicken after two months of raising

WELCOME

4th Quarter Assessment

SPECIAL AREA FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT (SAAD) PROGRAM

December 2-4, 2020
New Rajah Soliman Hotel & Restaurant
Bokawkan Road, Baguio City



Dir. Daguio giving his welcome remarks during the DA-SAAD-CAR pre-assessment activity in Baguio City

SAAD-CAR conducts pre-4th Quarter Assessment

In the pre-assessment activity of the Department of Agriculture – Cordillera Administrative Region (DA-CAR) from December 2 to 3, SAAD Program reported 94% or Php 135,588,000.00 obligation out of Php 143,951,000.00 of the total budget for 2020. However, only 18% or Php 24,518,000 was disbursed as of November 30, 2020. The said data just resulted in 17% utilization rate.

The region's report shows that the documents needed for the attachment of payment vouchers were held back due to lockdown restrictions. As a result, there was a delay on the delivery of inputs.

To address the said concerns, there are already assigned staff in each province to fast track the completion of lacking documents. The impeded deliveries were also scheduled this month.

Regional Technical Director Danilo P. Daguio also noted that the remaining days of December 2020 will be the time to strategize and exert triple effort to improve the implementation strategies of the program.

In his speech, SAAD Deputy Director Ulysses J. Lustria, Jr. said that the program is now targeting the sustainability of the livelihood projects and the establishment of community enterprises.

Dir. Lustria also added that the House Committee on Rural Development urges the possible extension of the program beyond 2022 to cover other qualified provinces.

Department of Agriculture (DA) CAR OIC-Regional Executive Director Cameron P. Odsey also emphasized that there is a greater opportunity to see the program's impact on the beneficiaries because the field implementers are closely working within the communities.

"We hope to improve our operations as we implement our plans for FY 2021," Dir. Odsey concluded.

During the two-day assessment, the region's organizational structure and proposed staff requirement for the SAAD Program in 2021 were also approved.

The two-day activity was attended through face-to-face (30 participants) and virtual (54 participants) by the National, Regional, Regional technical working groups, and Provincial offices of SAAD CAR.

SUCCESS STORIES

CFA eyed as lead quail and chicken egg distributor in Mt. Province

Since most egg distributors in the province are from private entities, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Mountain Province eyed the Channeg Farmer's Association (CFA) as one of the leading egg distributors as it is the first farmers' organization engaged in the Department of Agriculture's (DA) Table Egg Production Project.

The DA's Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) provided the project worth Php 2.8 million on November 5, 2020. The amount was used in the procurement of 1,400 chicken and 24 bags of grower feeds.

With the CFA's successful progress implementation of the Quail Egg Production Project, the DA SAAD Program granted the organization additional project (Table Egg Production) to fully support its 50 members.

"Sipupuso ken si-i-istem kami nga mang-akseptar ditoy nga intervention ket aywanan ken taripatwen mi nga kasla iti inmuna nga quail"

[We are very happy to accept this intervention and we will implement what we did with the quail egg production project], shared CFA chairperson Divina Dangilan.

CFA's Quail Egg Production Project

In the group's previous financial report, CFA earned a net income of Php 67,408.00 from selling 52,304 quail eggs at Php 2.00 each from July to August 2020.

From September to December 17, 2020, the group collected 37,500 quail eggs and sold it in the locality and generated a net income of Php 21,040.00.

To sum up, the group gathered 89,804 quail eggs with a net income of Php 88,448.00.

With the continuous support of the SAAD Program, the group is now looking forward to increasing their income after receiving the additional project.

Rita Pomeg-as, one of the group members and recipient of the Table Egg Production Project, assured that she will take care of the chicken and work closely with the LGU for product marketing.

Meanwhile, the group already bought feeds from their quail production income and set aside money to buy more poultry. They are also planning to buy hatchery and brooding birds' equipment to help the growing number of farmers who are interested in the quail egg business in the province.

Jennifer Focayao, the Business Manager of CFA, shared *"Pagyamanan mi apo ta gapu iti SAAD Program ket naurnos kami nga umili akas beneficiary from working individually ken nakatulung nga mang-i-set iti goals mi tapnu adda mayat nga turong mi iti future."*

[We are very thankful to the Program for bringing us together as a community. We started working individually until we have learned to work together and help us set our goals that wil point us to a better future.]

About CFA

CFA was established in February 2019 with 70 members from sitios Karanggang, Bobo-ong, Vawa, and Kadattay, Guinaang, Bontoc, Mt. Province.

Twenty members are in-charge of the quail production project while the remaining members handle the table egg production project.

Ways Forward

The group said that they are now closer to their long-term goal of becoming the quail egg supplier in the province.

The LGU, on the other hand will assist CFA in collecting the orders from different offices and private individuals as part of promoting their products until such time that CFA will be able to stand on their own. ###

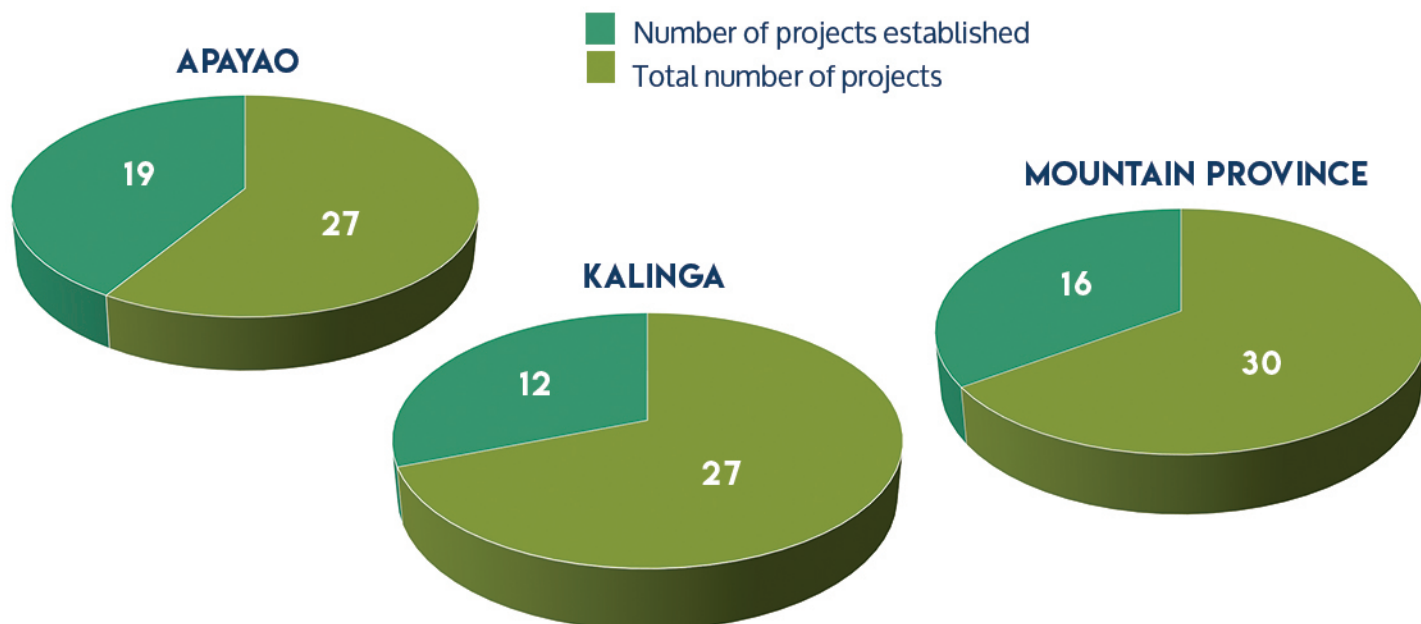


Members of the Channeg Farmers Association (CFA) of Bontoc, Mt. Province feeding the chicken daily (morning, noon and afternoon) assisted by Agricultural Technician Christian Fortin (top) and the members showing the eggs produced from their Table Egg Production Project provided by the SAAD Program (center and bottom).

STATUS OF 2020 PROJECTS

AO DECEMBER 30, 2020

PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT



PROJECTS	HIGH VALUE CROPS DEVELOPMENT-RELATED	LIVESTOCK-RELATED
APAYAO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated Fruit Tree Production 2. Vegetable Production 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Duck Production 2. Sheep Production 3. Goat Production 4. Carabao Raising 5. Poultry Production 6. Quail Production 7. Sheep Production 8. Chicken Production
KALINGA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated Fruit Tree Production 2. Lowland Vegetable Production 3. Integrated Root Crop Production 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated Duck Production 2. Integrated Poultry and Swine Production 3. Free Range Chicken and Egg Production 4. Duck Production 5. Goat Production 6. Integrated Fruit trees Production and Poultry Production
MT. PROVINCE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fruit Trees & Peanut Seeds Production 2. Enhancement of Mango Production 3. Sugarcane Production 4. Organic Vegetable Production 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated Pekin Duck and Ponkan Production 2. Free Range Chicken Production 3. Enhanced Brown Egg Production 4. Carabao and Cattle Raising 5. Duck Raising 6. Integrated Cattle Raising with Heirloom Rice 7. Backyard Brown Egg Production

FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT





**SAAD
IN-ACTION**

A PHOTO-GALLERY OF ACTIVITIES
CONDUCTED IN THE FIELD



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-CAR-SAAD PROGRAM,
BPI COMPOUND, GUIPAD, BAGUIO CITY



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For more info visit: <http://saad.da.gov.ph>

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"A food-secure Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk"

