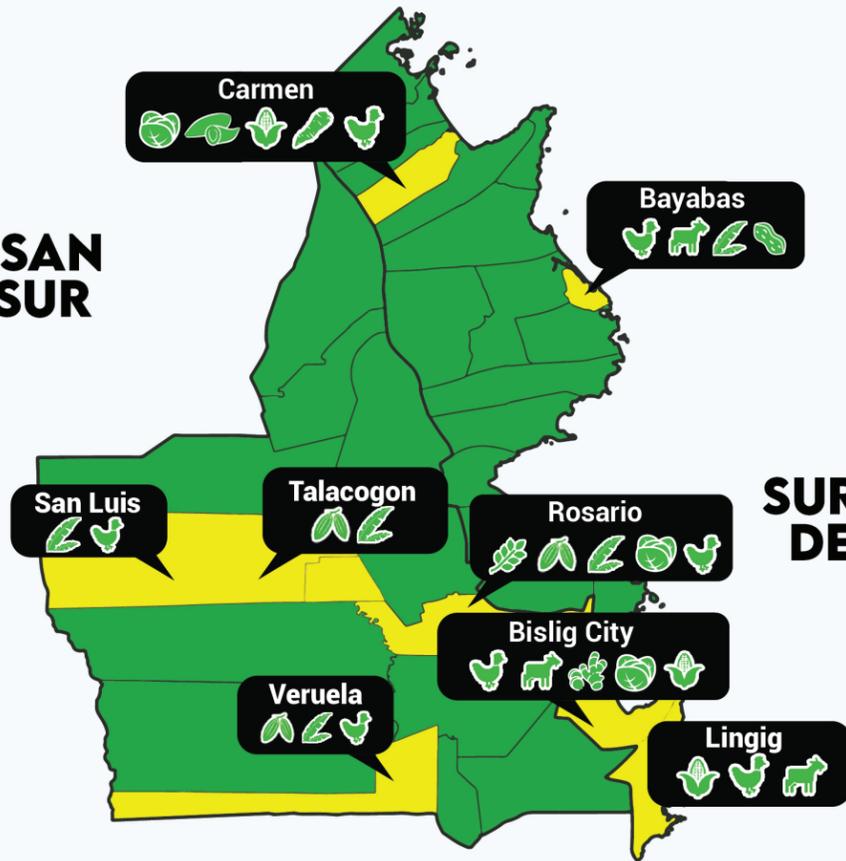


SAAD PRIORITY AREAS IN CARAGA REGION

AGUSAN DEL SUR



- Legend:
- abaca
 - cacao
 - corn
 - native chicken/white leg horn
 - goat
 - rice
 - ubi
 - vegetable
 - banana
 - peanut
 - camote
 - ginger

SURIGAO DEL SUR

32 assisted associations

1,105 individuals reached

As of FY 2021

EDITORIAL BOARD

Advisers:

REBECCA R. ATEGA

OIC-RTD for Operations/DA-SAAD Focal Person

JEKEM D. SANCHEZ

DA-SAAD Deputy Focal Person

Editor-in-chief:

RHEA C. ABAO

Information Officer II, DA-RAFIS

Writer & Layout

MARK ANGELO C. PINEDA

Artist: Information Officer, DA-SAAD Caraga

Editor:

BILL NARAG

PR & Comms Officer, DA-SAAD NPMO

Photo and Data Contributor:

LIGAYA A. TOROY

Area Coordinator, DA-SAAD Caraga

TUMAN

The Official Quarterly Newsletter of the Department of Agriculture - Caraga Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program



COMPLEMENTING POULTRY WITH CORN:

Carmen farmers find additional livelihood for heavy-rained days

The climate in Surigao del Sur is characterized by year-round rainfall with annual precipitation of 4,177 mm. Such results in light to moderate flooding that remains a challenge for the farmers in the province, often limiting their production to crops that can withstand extreme weather conditions.

In the case of the Cancavan Corn Growers' Association (CCGA), a SAAD-funded farmers association in the 5th-class Municipality of Carmen, rice and corn have been their primary livelihood.

Established and registered to DOLE in 2014, the 17-member CCGA's primary objective was producing feeds from their corn production. In 2015, the association joined a federation with fellow corn growers in Carmen. They availed financial support from the Local Government Unit (LGU) to produce more corn to realize their feed milling project. However, their plantation failed, and at the same time, the local financing program ended. They had not availed of any government aid from then. They resorted to producing corn individually, mostly on tenured lands.

In 2019, CCGA was endorsed by LGU-Carmen as the recipient of the Native Chicken Production Project funded through the Special Area for

Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program of the Department of Agriculture. The said project introduced the pioneering poultry in the community.

Project Implementation

As part of the P3.3M support from FY 2019 to 2021, CCGA obtained 440 heads of native chicken complete with feeds and biologics support as primary production inputs, along with two poultry houses with perimeter fences built in 2019 and 2020.

(to Page 2)



www.facebook.com/SAADCaraga



saadcaraga@gmail.com



http://bit.ly/saadcaraga



Cancavan Corn Growers' Association
Brgy. Cancavan, Carmen, Surigao del Sur
17 members

(from Page 1)

The program also provided vegetable seeds and corn seeds (OPV and hybrid) to aid in the group's production with complementary fertilizers and insecticides.

To familiarize CCGA to native chicken production, in 2019, they underwent technology and hands-on training on native chicken raising and proper use and management of incubators. For FY 2020, they also participated in training on health management, and a workshop on leadership and organizational management.

Relevant to the entrepreneurial endeavors of the association, they also went through training on entrepreneurial development under FY 2019 and market identification, interpersonal skills development, and enterprise development under FY 2020.

Management

CCGA's main product line is native chickens. While the program provided the primary inputs, including a 300-setter incubator, the FA took the initiative to put up other facilities to ease their processes.

The group established three brooding areas for newly hatched, 4 to 6-weeks-old chicks, and for chicks about to be added to the population. They also established a quarantine/isolation area for sick chickens, foot baths to minimize site contamination, a feed storage room, pit cemetery, compost pit, and an on-site toilet.

They also mix the water they feed to their chickens with Fish Amino Acid (FAA), Oriental Herbal Nutrient (OHN), and Lactic Acid Bacteria Serum (LABS) concoctions. They learned the said technologies from a training in 2019.

Key Results

As of November 2021, CCGA reported a total income of P 146,019 from selling eggs, chicks, ready-to-lay chickens, and corn, including payments from incubation services extended to non-members. P 98,160.68 of the said amount was deposited to their bank account.

CCGA now regularly displays their eggs at Carmen Farmers' Market within the municipality. They also have regular buyers in Madrid and Cantilan, Surigao del Sur.

With readily available eggs and chicks, the farmers' association became a major supplier of eggs in their community. They welcome walk-in customers and offer their products at discounted prices.

As an initiative at the height of the pandemic, CCGA also provided free eggs to members and identified senior citizens in their community.

CCGA's poultry is the first of its kind at Barangay Cancavan. Mollaneda recounts that introducing poultry in a corn-dominated community complemented their farming practices, considering chickens feed on corn.

The FA also encourages their fellow locals to engage in poultry on a small-scale level. CCGA offers incubation services to non-members.

Plans

The demand and price for native chicken in Carmen and its neighboring municipalities are high, but with only a few local suppliers. CCGA grounds its plans to this potential. Starting the last quarter of the year, the FA focuses on incubating more eggs to produce and sell more chicks and RTL chickens considering their high-income return compared to raw eggs.

Relative to its goal of becoming an established producer of native chicken across the CarCanMadCarLan (the northernmost quarter of SDS) by 2022, the FA also plans to produce poultry feeds with their own corn harvest as the main raw material.

Feed milling is not new to the FA as it was the group's initial objective upon its formation in 2014, four years before the SAAD Program's intervention.

"Plano namo mag produce og kaugalingon namo nga feeds labi na kay galambo na ang among poultry. Pinaagi niini maka less nami sa feeds unya makatabang kini sa pag sustain sa among project."

[We plan to produce poultry feeds on our own, especially now that our project is thriving. It will lessen our production costs and help sustain our project.]

The FA will undergo training on feed formulation, which is part of the P 460,000-worth of inputs the program allocated in 2022 which includes hammer mill, pelletizer, and feed mixer.

Diversifying farm produce is an important component of economic growth that helps achieve food security and increases employment in the rural areas, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

For most small farmers, all it takes is an opportunity to make a leap of faith. The case of CCGA with the pioneering poultry funded by the SAAD Program provides additional livelihood opportunities for farmers even on heavy-rained days.

Source:
Ligaya A. Toroy, Area Coordinator, DA-SAAD Program

Caraga farmers trained on enterprise development

Farmer-partners from 32 assisted associations of the Department of Agriculture (DA) – Caraga Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program underwent training on enterprise development.

Thirty (30) farmers from Agusan del Sur participated in the first leg of the training in San Francisco on November 10, while 44 farmers from Surigao del Sur joined the second leg in Tandag City on November 12.

In 2021, the DA-Caraga SAAD Program entered its enterprise management stage, the final phase of its three-year roadmap. As a relevant initiative, the program focuses on improving the entrepreneurial skills of its farmer-partners.

The training focused on developing and sustaining an enterprise and practical approaches to overcoming related challenges.

In March 2021, the program conducted a related training on market identification among the same groups, teaching them how to develop a marketing plan and profile target markets. The series of related training is part of the Php 1.6 million



Farmer-partners of the SAAD Program in Agusan del Sur underwent training on enterprise development facilitated by Marketing Specialist Marilou Gruyal of DA-Caraga AMAD, November 10, 2021.

funds allocated by the program to assist the farmers as they embark on value-adding, product packaging and labeling, among other entrepreneurial activities.

Marketing Specialist Marilou E. Gruyal of the DA 13 Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD), who served as the resource person of the training, encouraged the farmers to seek additional support from other agencies.

"You can also tap your local government units (LGUs) to support your expansion plans. If you need external financial support, seek it provided that you are a responsible payer," she said.

SAAD-funded livelihood projects in Agusan del Sur include abaca, cacao, and rice production established in San Luis, Talacogon, Rosario, and Veruela.

Meanwhile, the projects in Surigao del Sur include native chicken, goat, camote, ube, and corn production established in Lingig, Carmen, Bayabas, and Bislig City. |

SAAD farmer-leaders undergo leadership training



Development Communication Practitioner Marisol D. Tuso facilitated the training on interpersonal leadership skills among SAAD farmers in Surigao del Sur, November 18, 2021

Sixty (60) farmers from 22 assisted associations of the Department of Agriculture – Special Area for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) Program in Caraga participated in the 'Interpersonal Leadership Skills Training: Mind Setting Inside Out' to improve their management skills.

Held in two batches, 23 participants attended the training in Agusan del Sur on November 18 while 37 participated in Surigao del Sur on November 19.

The training instills an inside-out approach in organizational leadership by tackling the importance of effective interpersonal leadership techniques such as mind-setting and conditioning.

By mastering their interpersonal skills, they can inspire and encourage their members to commit to sustaining and maintaining their start-up livelihood projects that include various crops and livestock production.

Development worker Marisol D. Tuso elaborated the pillars that solidify an association: strong leadership, committed membership, clear-cut policies, and stable income. *"The foundation of good leadership is effective communication which primarily acknowledges the importance of listening and feedback,"* she added.

The said training complements its other capability-building activities designed to help its farmer-partners become established agripreneurs. |