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BNA training rolls out in Eastern Visayas region

TACLOBAN CITY, May 18, 2023 - The Department of Agriculture - Special Areas for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) National Program Management Office (NPMO) spearheaded the week-long training on Beneficiary Needs Assessment (BNA) to 38 regional and provincial implementers, seven Agricultural Program Coordinating Officers (APCO), five representatives from the Field Operations Division (FOD) and one representative from the Regional Agriculture Engineering Division (RAED), held in Tacloban City.

NPMO Deputy Director, Dr. Pedro Dumaraos Jr. led the training activity, along with NPMO Region 8 Focal Person Ms. Christine Joyce Velez who presented the SAAD Phase 2 area selection and beneficiary criteria.

Discussed during the training were the simulation of Focused Group Discussion (FGD), presentation of secondary review instructions and preparations for the actual BNA. The outcome shall uncover five keynotes to assess beneficiaries' needs: (1) area selection, (2) community entry, (3) community integration, (4) problem identification, and (5) capacity building.

Dr. Dumaraos highlighted why FGD is a vital process in conducting the social preparation component of the program, "Results will be the



An egg-ploration on agri-enterprise, *page 10*



PAPO transitions from being producers into agripreneurs, *page 11*



BNA Training with Deputy Dir. Pedro Dumaraos in Tacloban City
Picture above SAAD personnel with farmer group on BNA workshop in Tolosa, Leyte

basis for crafting interventions and implementing projects that are objectively suitable to the beneficiaries' condition and responsive to their communities' needs," he said.

Aside from the lectures, the training tasked the RPMISO and PPMISO to conduct an FGD with around 21 members of the Telegrafo Farmers Association, in the municipality of Tolosa, Leyte, while the NPMO implementers observed.

It was said that SAAD Eastern Visayas is set to assist farmer-beneficiaries in six (6) provinces namely: (1) Biliran, (2) Eastern Samar, (3) Leyte, (4) Northern Samar, (5) Southern Leyte, and (6) Western Samar.

According to Ms. Ana Mae Ebero, one of the RPMISO's Associate Project Officer (APO) 1, and formerly assigned as Area Coordinator (AC) in Biliran Province during Phase 1, undergoing the BNA Training boosted her confidence to mingle with farmer-beneficiaries and it taught her to empathize with them. "With the experience during my time as AC, combined with the BNA Training, I am more confident to communicate with the farmers. I also learned through this training to give a heartfelt, passionate, and dedicated service to our clientele," she said.

Also, the SAAD Leyte Team converged and shared their insights during Phase I and on the currently held training, "It would be best to continue the monitoring, mentoring and coaching of the Phase 1 beneficiaries in order to ensure sustainability of the project and food security in their community.

In order to start at the right footing, the BNA must be done prior to the selection of the beneficiary for proper validation of the area and the capability of the association. This guarantees the success of the implementation towards the goal to become a Community Based Enterprise", Mr. Allan Brit, Associate Project Officer (APO) II, PPMISO Leyte.



SAAD Program Phase II holds orientation and briefing

A jam-packed information was shared with the newly hired personnel for the Special Areas for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program when it conducted its FY 2023 Orientation and Briefing of SAAD Phase II Program Implementation on May 5, 2023 at the DA-RFO 8, Conference Room, Kanhuraw Hill, Tacloban City.

As the SAAD Program moves into its new phase, it will now focus on the farmer groups coming from the sixty (60) target municipalities belonging to the 5th and 6th income class. It shall be guided by four (4) major components as the programs' paradigm, namely: (1) Social Preparation (2) Food Production and Livelihood (3) Marketing Assistance and Enterprise Development and (4) Program Management, guild towards its main objectives, which are to complement with the DA regular programs, to improve food production and livelihood, and to establish community-based enterprise.

On the other hand, the interventions under Phase I of the program, which started in FY 2017 and gracefully ended in the previous year, shall be continuously monitored and be properly endorsed to DA-Banner Programs.

Said orientation mainly revolves around scrutinizing the SAAD guidelines and yearly plans and directives under its Human Resource (HR) Manual. It has also been discussed in the activity the targets to be accomplished and deliverables per unit.

Said meeting was presided over by the Regional Executive Director, Dr. Andrew Rodolfo T. Orais, joined with the Agricultural Program Coordinating Officers (APCO) headed by Mr. Francisco Rosaroso, HRMO Chief, Ms. Raquel G. Negradas, and Regional Technical Director, Larry U. Sultan.



Telegrafo Farmers Association of Tolosa, Leyte



SAAD orientation for newly-hired personnel at the DA-RF08 Conference Room, Tacloban City

In his inspirational message, Director Orais encouraged the team who will be the workforce of SAAD to focus on developing themselves.

He shared his insight, “We should sustain the good practices in the previous implementation of the program and we also have to focus on the newly identified beneficiaries. We should collaborate with the programs’ partners and stakeholders and more importantly, we should build good relationships

with each other. Work together as a team, and relate to each other as a family”.

The activity was then formally closed with a message from RTD Sultan noting, “Make recommendations guided by the suggestions discussed. Link even before you produce. The more you influence the market by producing good quality and volume products, the sustainability and market link will last.”



UNIFAP of Libagon, Southern Leyte (top) and DIFA of Bontoc, Southern Leyte (below) receiving the broiler chicks provided under SAAD Program.

SAAD turned over corn, poultry production projects in Southern Leyte

SOUTHERN LEYTE - To finally complete the packages of interventions for FY 2022, the Department of Agriculture - Special Area for Agriculture Development (DA-SAAD) Eastern Visayas turned over corn and poultry production projects to three (3) farmers’ associations (FAs) in Southern Leyte on May 6, 2023.

The SAAD Program completed the delivery of inputs under the Broiler and Corn Production and Marketing Enterprise Project amounting to Php 621,000.00, to the United Farmers Association of Pangli (UNIFAP) of Libagon, Southern Leyte.

Aside from UNIFAP, the SAAD Program also turned over the Broiler and Vegetable Production Marketing Enterprise projects to two (2) other farmers’ associations in the province, namely, Dao Integrated Farmers Association of Bontoc (DIFA), and Habay Women’s Association (HWA) of San Francisco, Southern Leyte, each amounting to Php 620,000.00.

Together with the local agriculture office, Dr. Felicidad Anthea Naputo, DA-Livestock Regional

Program Focal, conducted a brief orientation on the proper handling of the said projects.

Ms. Cecilia Cascas, farmers association president, together with the 19 members of the UNIFAP, expressed their warm and deep appreciation upon receiving the said intervention.

“Nagpapasalamat kami sa SAAD nga gitabangan kami hangtod karon. Ampingan namo ang mga project kay ila mi gitabangan,” (We are thankful to SAAD that, until now, they are still there to help. We promise to take really good care of the projects they have given to us.)

“Plano namo ipangbaligya inig tubo na, aron makahalín. Ang halin ipadayon namo pagpalit ug additional nga mga manok aron mag-rolling,” (We plan to sell the broiler chickens when they are ready for the market so that we can make a profit. The income shall be rolled over to purchase another set of broiler chickens.) Ms. Casas added.

UNIFAP also engages in production of sweet corn, which is integrated in the broiler production project. They accumulated Php 75,000.00 as gross income from their sweet corn production in its first cycle and currently at their second cycle of production.

In FY 2018, they were granted under the SAAD Program Phase 1 with a hogstrel project, for which a building, feeds, and piglets were provided. However, in the midst of their ninth cycle of swine fattening, the operation was halted as because of the delay on delivery of piglets. They choose their piglets carefully and forbid getting pigs from other municipalities to avoid exposing the farm from the spread of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus.

UNIFAP also become a beneficiary of Sustainable Livelihood Project of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). In 2022, the association received a cash grant,

amounting to Php 250,000.00 which they used to establish a *sari-sari store*.

Primarily, the DIFA members engage in rice farming. In FY 2019, the SAAD Program Phase 1 granted the Mallard Duck Project where they were provided with an incubator and ready to breed mallard ducks.

With this, they were able to produce salted eggs and *balut* from the said support, which they sold locally and exported to Tacloban City and nearby towns. Unfortunately, owing to Typhoon Odette's devastation on December 16, 2021, most of the ducks perished and their rice fields were ruined.

On the other hand, the HWA engages in growing vegetables to make the most of their empty lot space. They formerly produced mallard ducks, but they had to quit since Typhoon Odette caused damage to all of their farms.

All these associations have their stories of downfall but chose to move forward. They wholeheartedly expressed their gratitude for the interventions provided by the DA-SAAD and committed to manage the project well to ensure its long-term viability.

To prevent a surplus of products, a broiler production schedule is determined according to the requirements of the consumers. Additionally, value-adding is being looked into as a potential source of revenue for the association.

The livelihood projects which were funded in FY 2022, are expected to elevate the livelihood development of its beneficiaries, thereby transforming associations into community-based entrepreneurs who can serve as potential suppliers to their locality and nearby towns in the coming months.





SAAD finally conquers Biliran Province

BILIRAN - When the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program of the Department of Agriculture was piloted in Eastern Visayas way back 2017, the program entirely focused on provinces, particularly the Samar and Leyte Islands being recorded with the highest poverty incidence, per FY 2012-2015 data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

As it embarks on its second phase, the SAAD Program's basis for inclusion did not limit on the top poorest provinces of the country anymore, but on the municipalities which are identified to belong in the 5th and 6th income class. With this, the SAAD Program finally includes the Province of Biliran.

In this light, the DA-RFO 8, led by Regional Executive Director and at the same time, SAAD Regional Focal, Dr. Andrew Rodolfo T. Orais, steered a courtesy call to Provincial Governor, Hon. Gerard Roger M. Espina and the Provincial Agriculturist, Dr. Julia T. Sandiford, held on May 8, 2023 at the Provincial Capitol, Naval, Biliran.

Also present were Mr. Rodel A. Macapañas, Chief of Staff; Ms. Ferlynn V. Basañez, SAAD-RPMSO Operational Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation Lead; and, Ms. Dandellion C. Amper, Agricultural Program Coordinating Officer (APCO).

Director Orais formally introduced the DA-SAAD Biliran Team, headed by Ms. Ceilara A. Uraga,

Associate Project Officer II, together with the three Community Development Officers II, who will serve as the workforce in the effective and efficient implementation of the SAAD Program's projects and interventions in the province.

Governor Espina gladly shared his happiness as the SAAD Team visited his office for the formal introduction.

"This program is one way to strengthen the partnership between DA and PLGU Biliran. We, in the province, are happy as this program will surely help our farmers and fisherfolks," Gov. Espina stated.

Currently, the program covers seven municipalities in the province, which are, Almeria, Biliran, Cabucgayan, Caibiran, Culaba, Kawayan, and Maripipi. The Municipality of Naval, however, was excluded since it belongs to the 2nd income classification, thus, based on the guidelines, is not qualified to be covered by the program.

This FY 2023, the SAAD Program intends to provide packages of interventions amounting to Php 11.4 million, to twelve target group associations in the province, with the goal to bring economic development in the countryside.



Values formation, leadership training set for SAAD beneficiaries

The Department of Agriculture - Regional Field Office 8 (DA-RFO 8) took a step forward in the implementation of the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program Phase 2 in Eastern Visayas.

Prior to giving out interventions to farmer beneficiaries, the program initially conducts assessment and analysis of the association through social preparation. As one of the core components, the SAAD Program envisioned that the farmers in undergoing the said activity, shall let them be well-versed about the program and its purpose, aware of the roles and responsibilities as a member of the association, and knowledgeable on the policies and guidelines in the implementation of livelihood projects to be.

The activity also aimed to strengthen leadership skills and enhance the financial literacy among farmers which will enrich the beneficiaries' minds in creating innovative ways of developing their selves and managing their co-members.

As such, SAAD Provincial Project Management Support Office (PPMSO) in the six provinces, together with the Regional Program Management Support Office (RPMSO), simultaneously organized and facilitated the conduct of social preparation activities. Farmer beneficiaries who were able to attend the capacity development activities were equipped with financial literacy, values formation and leadership skills.

Said activities kicked off at the turfs of various farmers associations (FAs) on May 22-27, 2023 and will continuously be implemented to complete the sixty (60) target municipalities.

Ms. Roseminda Botona, President of Guingauan Small Farmers Association expressed her utmost

gratitude to the SAAD Program for choosing their association to participate in this kind of activity, *"Nagpapasalamat kami han SAAD nga usa kami nga guin-tagan hine na training. Hin kadamo an pwede maapil nga asosasyon ha Tabontabon, kami an blessed para maging qualify hini nga programa. Amon ginsasaad nga dri kamo magmamahay,"* said Ms. Botona.

(We are thankful to the SAAD Program for giving us this training. Of all the other associations in Tabontabon, we are blessed to be qualified for this program. We promise that your efforts will not be put to waste.)

Amon tatalinguha-on nga maging successful ini na project nga iyo ighahatag ha amon," said Ms. Botona added. (We will ensure that this project will be successful.)

The members of Pagburublig han Parag-Uma Association also expressed their happiness when they were chosen to undergo this training.

"Malipay kami han oportunidad nga guin-hatag ha amon. Nabaruan namon tungod hine nga training an importansya han maupay nga lider," Ms. Joy Bollena, FA President, stated. (We are so happy with the opportunity given to us. We learned through this training the salience of a good leader.)

Gintuduan gihapon kami an importansiya han pagkakaurosa han association ngan an papel han kada taga na myembro. Baga excited gihap kami hit na Technical Training kay kinahanglan gud namon eton ha asosasyon," Ms. Bollena added.

(We were also taught the importance of unity of an organization, and the roles and responsibilities of each member. We are also looking forward to the Technical Training because it will help us a lot).

SAAD delivers livelihood projects in Northern Samar

NORTHERN SAMAR - The Department of Agriculture RFO 8 through the Special Area for Agriculture Development (SAAD) Program completed the delivery of interventions to target farmer associations in the Province of Northern Samar.

On June 8, 2023, the DA-SAAD Team provided the interventions to the following farmer groups, namely, Napo Corn Farmers Association of Palapag, Northern Samar; Jubasan Farmers Irrigators' Association (JUFIA) of Mapanas, Northern Samar; and, Cadean P4MP of Gamay, Northern Samar.

This package of interventions entitled, Broiler Chicken, Taro, Vegetable Production and Marketing Project, is one of the program's aspirations to alter the farmers' current situation in the marginalized sector guild towards the SAAD's objective in transforming farmers' associations into Community Based Entrepreneurs (CBEs).

It has been a mandate of the agency to ensure the preparedness of the farmer recipients in terms of handling interventions in order to achieve sustainability. As such, beneficiaries were gathered for a brief orientation on how to manage the project, led by Dr. Lyndonn Jake Cañas, member of the DA-Livestock Inspectorate Team.

Mr. Oliver N. Lipata, President of JUFIA conveyed his insights on the livelihood project granted to them.

"Gililipaye gud namon nga umabot na ine na proyekto ha amon. Diri nam ine kakaragan ngan amon ine p-pauswagon. Damo nga salamat ha SAAD Program," Mr. Lipata stated.

(We are really happy that this project is already here. We will not waste this and we will make it prosper. Thank you so much for the SAAD Program.)

Said interventions funded under SAAD Program Phase 1, is not only a move towards poverty alleviation and food security, but to become an avenue to transform farmers' associations into agri-entrepreneurs and contribute to the economic development of the country.



JUFIA of Mapanas, Northern Samar receives the broiler chicks



Farm tools delivered to Victoria Vegetable Producers Association of Victoria, Northern Samar



Consultation meeting with PMED and SAAD for SAAD Phase 1 Impact Evaluation at the DA-RFO 8 Conference Room

DA-8 to wrap up SAAD Phase I

To further account the impact on economic development and welfare of farming communities, the Department of Agriculture - Regional Field Office 8 (DA-RFO 8) is set to conduct an impact evaluation study on the implementation of the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program Phase 1 in Eastern Visayas.

The Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (PMED), together with the SAAD Regional Program Management Support conducted a meeting on June 19, 2023 at the DA-RFO 8 Conference Room to jumpstart the said research project.

As discussed, the study shall assess the impact of the SAAD Phase 1 interventions to the program beneficiaries and the communities in Eastern Visayas; identify which livelihood interventions are needed to be ceased, duplicate or develop; and, generate policy recommendations for the implementation of the SAAD Phase 2 and other programs.

The impact evaluation study shall cover the five (5) provinces wherein SAAD Program Phase 1 was implemented from 2017 to 2022, namely: Leyte, Southern Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar and Northern Samar.

Present during the meeting were Engr. Alma Landia and Ms. Perlita Lacandazo of PMED, and Ms. Ferlynn Basañez, SAAD Action Officer and other staff from the Regional Program Management Office (RPMO). Also, Dr. Vilma Patindol, Project Evaluation

Consultant and former Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Center Director; Mr. Remberto Patindol, Assistant Evaluator and the seven (7) Field Data Collectors participated in the said activity to convene their pathway in coming up with a replicable and transparent result.

Participants were briefed about the SAAD Program Phase 1, the indicators to be incorporated in the research outcome, and the baseline data as preliminary basis on gathering information for the research study.

“The study will become the justification that the impact of the project is very good. You can actually propose this program again and implement it, becoming your legacy,” Dr. Patindol shared her insights on this endeavor.

She also emphasized the importance of gathering clear and concise data in order to come up with a great result.

“Based on our experience, data gathering is the most difficult task to do. For the field data collectors, a training on what to do in the field shall be conducted,” Dr. Patindol added.

The impact assessment of the SAAD Program is targeted to be completed this year. Along this line, the PMED and SAAD Team aimed to present an initial preliminary result in September.

Estehanons undergo social prep for SAAD Phase 2

EASTERN SAMAR - The Department of Agriculture RFO 8 - Special Area for Agricultural Development Program Phase 2 (DA-SAAD) steered a two-month series of capability development activities intended for farmer beneficiaries in the Province of Eastern Samar.

Farmer participants were given lectures on how to enhance their personal connection and commitment to their endeavors, properly communicate with their co-members, and acquire additional knowledge of handling their finances. By this means, the DA-SAAD Team carried out the two-day activity module, discussing the topics on rebuilding values, transformational leadership, and financial literacy.

Aside from the SAAD RPMSO and PPMSO staff, representatives from the Municipal Agriculture Office of the concerned local government units attended the said activities.

This training under the social preparation component is a big move of the program to identify the basic needs of the *Estehanons* to come up with appropriate livelihood support for the program's beneficiaries.

To ensure the success of the project, the SAAD identified how it is essential that the target associations are well equipped with the necessary

knowledge and skills prior to accepting the interventions.

Mr. Florentino Abolencia, a member of Tanglad Rice Farmers Association expressed his deepest appreciation for the training they have attended and the projects which will be granted to them.

"Dako it amon pagpasalamat nga nahimugso ine nga training tikang han DA-SAAD. Naghuhuna-huna ako nga makakabulig gud ine ha amon.

Nagpapasalamat kami nga pinaagi hine nga programa, magkakamay-ada kami panginabuhi.", Mr. Abolencia shared.

(We are thankful that through the DA-SAAD, this training was implemented. This will be a great help to our lives. We are also grateful that we will have another livelihood to look forward to in this program.)

"Tatalinguhaon namon nga ine nga tiarabot nga proyekto nga maging mainuswagon agud maging susbaranan liwat kami han iba nga asosasyon.", he added.

(We will make sure to take good care of the project to be given to us so that we will prosper and that we may become a good role model to other associations).





An egg-ploration on agri-enterprise

SAMAR - Determined to make a market shift, the **Bonadeyo Chicken Egg Layers Association** of San Jose de Buan, Samar, is set to establish a farm store and an expansion of 200 heads ready-to-lay eggs (RTL) chicken so that they can provide more eggs to the community from the Egg Layer Production Project of the Department of Agriculture - Special Area for Agricultural Development (DA-SAAD) Program Phase 1.

Organized in June 2022, the Bonadeyo Chicken Egg Layers Association, composed of 32 members, are mostly vegetable growers and poultry raisers. In October 2022, the group received the Egg Layer Production Project worth Php 859,000.00, which includes 480 heads of ready-to-lay chicken, 150 bags of layer feeds, 2 units of egg weighing scale, 2,000 pieces of egg trays, and training on poultry production and management. The project was provided in support of the vegetable production of the group.

After acquiring the project in June 2022, the group began managing their communal farm. From November 2022 to January 2023, the project allows the farmers to access fresh eggs for marketing. This course of action where beneficiaries gained their potential as agri-preneurs, encompasses the adaptability of the project in the grassroots.

Before the inputs arrived, every member of the association helped in building the poultry house with a total area of 60 square meters, located in Poblacion 4, San Jose De Buan, Samar. The land owner agreed that the association would rent the land for P500.00 pesos per month under a 5-year contract.

The members of the association were divided into seven groups to do the different tasks of the farm operation in every day, like cleaning the building, feeding the chickens, and collecting eggs. In selling the products, they have a target market like sari-sari stores and canteens. In every day of selling the eggs, each group will remit the income to the association treasurer.

Every member has a 5% commission on selling eggs per tray, while the crack eggs are given to the members who are on duty on that day. During the operation of the project, the group encountered some problems such as diseases of chicken that resulted to mortality. There was also a competition in selling eggs brought by other peddlers coming from other municipalities. To overcome those kinds of problems, the farmer group maintained the cleanliness of the poultry house, practiced biosecurity measures and maintained the quality of their egg products. To sustain the project, they created a policy that after six months, they divided the net income to each member.



Bonadeyo Chicken Egg Layers Association

From their net income of Php 202,706.00, the association was able to have cash dividends of Php2,500.00 for each member, and one of the members claims that, *“Ha ngatanan nga proyekto nga nakanhe ha Buan (San Jose de Buan) an DA-SAAD an dako an bulig ngan kinikita an proyekto nga napauswag an mga benepesyaryo.”* (Of all the projects granted here in San Jose de Buan, the DA-SAAD program contributes improvement that is seen in the beneficiaries).

The farmer association is planning to have an expansion of 200 head of RTL chicken, costing Php

86,000.00 coming from their income from egg laying projects, so that they can provide more fresh eggs to the community. The group was very grateful to the program because it helped them a lot to produce their own food so that they didn't need to go to the city to purchase fresh meat, vegetables and eggs, because it takes a 2-hour bus ride to get to the city and endure the travel because of the rough road.

Contributor: Jeric M. Afaible, PPMSO-Samar

PAPO transitions from being producers into agripreneurs

The members of **Pagkaurosa han Parag-uma Pinaagi han Organiko (PAPO)** of Brgy. San Antonio, Tunga, Leyte, has always been dependent on farming as livelihood by raising native chicken and swine, planting high-value crops, and making organic potting/growing mixture.

Composed of twenty-three (23) members, this farmers' association was reached out by a religious group called, *Caritas Internationalis*, which encouraged them to produce more, not only for their consumption, but for marketing as well, in order to gain more income. Also, with the help of the barangay officials of Brgy. San Antonio, the association was guided and monitored.

PAPO was officially registered with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on April 27, 2021. Since then, PAPO members focused on increasing production to address the demand in their locality and nearby barangays. They also sell their fresh produce during *“tabo”* or market day, and agri-fairs in the municipality.

PAPO has been a constant participant of DA's KADIWA under the Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD), which is being held in



Tunga, Leyte to showcase and market their products at affordable prices.

With their excellent performance and good management, the SAAD Program provided them in FY 2022 with the Equipment Support for the Establishment of the Meat Shop Project.

Having granted such interventions, PAPO then established a commercial space as their counterpart. The funds used for the construction of the meat shop, which is located in front of the Municipal Hall, just along a national road, came from their association's savings, amounting to Php 30,000.00. Aside from it, they borrowed Php 50,000.00 from one of their members with zero interest. From the contribution of the 23 members to putting up an initial capital investment for the goods to be sold, the total contribution reached to Php 60,000.00.

Finally, after many preparations, the meat shop officially opened on December 15, 2022. As the business is currently going well, the members were grouped into seven and each group is assigned to the maintenance and management of the operation of the store.

The project really helped the members economically. They won't go to other barangays anymore just to sell their products, which costs them additional time, labor and fuel for the vehicle used. The potential customers/consumers will directly buy their farm products from their store.

The members of PAPO are beyond grateful for the intervention that was given to them because it is the association's first project received from the government through the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program.

One of the members stated, *"Nagpapasalamat kami hine nga project nga ginhatag han DA-SAAD Program kay nabaro kami pagnegosyo ngan waray kaawod pakig istorya ha mga customers, nga kun dati permi la kami tanom ngan kaurogan amon tanom pan consumption la amon pamilya, yana nakakabaligya na kami ha amon tindahan."* (We are so grateful for the

project given to us because we learned how to do business and how to deal with customers. Before this, we only planted it just for our personal consumption, but now, we can already sell them in our store.)

The PAPO envisions becoming a market outlet for every farmer's association and individual farmers in their locality in the next coming years. In the long run of their business, they aim to achieve more profit and soon to become a cooperative.

Even though SAAD Phase 1 has already ended, PAPO targeted to reach out to other government agencies such as the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), to avail financial assistance and additional capital for business expansion in their association.

Contributor: Floriel A. Royo, Area Coordinator, PPMSO-Leyte

what Bandilyo means

Bandilyo is derived from the *Waray-waray* word which means, announcement, is the official quarterly newsletter publication of the Department of Agriculture - Regional Field Office 8 focusing on the Special Area for Agriculture Development (SAAD) Program Phase 2.

BANDILYO which is a twelve-page journal comprises articles informing the implementers, stakeholders and farmer clientele how SAAD Phase 2 initiates to uplift the lives of its beneficiaries in marginalized sectors by providing of packages of agricultural interventions.

This newsletter is to make known to all readers of Bandilyo that this is a newsletter publication based on facts and that there are no fictitious names, characters and events etc. included in any of its publication issues.

Get to know the SAAD Phase 2

The **Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program Phase 2** is a locally funded project that provides agricultural and fisheries interventions related to rice, corn, high-value crops, livestock, poultry, capture fisheries, aquaculture, and postharvest. It shall prioritize the poorest and most remote areas of the country that have not received support from DA/BFAR regular programs.

It is developmental and transformative in-nature where it aims to make beneficiaries from farmer/fisherfolk producers to entrepreneurs through the community-based enterprises.

OBJECTIVES

The SAAD Program Phase 2 aims to contribute in the reduction of poverty through the provision of agricultural and fishery interventions to the poor farming and fishing sectors. Specifically, it aims to:

1. Improve food production, household consumption and commercial purposes in areas of operation.
2. Complement with the DA Regular Programs in terms of beneficiaries and interventions.
3. Assist the beneficiaries in establishing community-based agriculture and fishery enterprises.

CORE COMPONENTS

- Social Preparation
- Food Production and Livelihood
- Marketing Assistance and Enterprise Development
- Program Management

COVERAGE

- Top 1/3 poorest municipalities based on PSA 2018 Poverty Incidence Report
- Income classification under 5th and 6th Class Municipalities (DOF order No. 23-08)

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