



# Coco-based Learning Site for Agriculture (CocoLSA) Certification



Agricultural Training Institute – Regional Training Center XII



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with empowered and prosperous farmers and fisherfolk

#### What is a CocoLSA?



A CocoLSA is a farm that practices applicable coconut-based technologies, employs doable farming strategies, and operates successfully, thus, worthy of emulation.

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## **Objectives of CocoLSA Certification**

Specifically, the program aims to:

1. Enhance the capabilities and capacities of the coconut farming community members on coconut production, processing, and coconut-based business; and

2. Increase participation of the coconut farmers and farmer-leaders to the coconut industry development by serving as agents of coconutbased capability-building in their respective communities.





## Features and components of a certified CocoLSA

The CocoLSA shall serve as the following:

1. A practicum area to complement classroom learning;

2. a venue for training and other extension activities like practical and hands-on learning for immediate use;

3. visit area for farmers, rural community members, ATI's training participants, its other programs such as the "Adopt a Farm Youth Program" under the 4-H Farm Youth Program, for agriculture students and other private individuals; work immersion site for students from schools; and

4. source of the other coconut-related extension services in the field such as coconut farm business advisory services, information support, and technology demonstration.



## **Component Tasks of a Certified CocoLSA**

A CocoLSA shall have the following components:

- 1. Training.
- 2. Demonstration Services.
- 3. Information Support.
- 4. Technical Assistance.
- 5. Complementary Projects.



# Selection and Prioritization Criteria (Individual)

The farmer

1. must be an individual Filipino coconut farmers (landowner, owner-tiller, or grower) with at least 1 ha. of coconut land;

2. should be willing and able to demonstrate the coconut technologies in his/her farm to the clientele at the time needed;

3. should be willing to be trained regularly;

4. is physically fit to perform the responsibilities of a CocoLSA cooperator; and

5. is registered under the National Coconut Farmers Registry System (NCFRS), preferably a member of a Coconut Farmers Organization or Coconut Farmers' Cooperative(CFOs/CFCs)



## Selection and Prioritization Criteria (Individual)

#### The farm

1. shall be atleast a 1 ha. of integrated and/or diversified farm (e.g. coconut-livestock, coconut-agro-forestry, coconut-crop);

2. contains a technology demonstration area for coconut production, with holding area, wash area, and toilet;

3. is accessible by land and other transportation facilities; and

4. is aesthetically landscaped.





## Selection and Prioritization Criteria (Group)

*The CFO/CFC* 

1. must possess and manage coconut farm land with an area of at least 1 ha.;

2. possesses appropriate valid registration from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), or the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), or existing PCA accreditation;

3. is active in the past three years in farmer organization and development or community enterprise development; and

4. must contain Filipino farmer-leaders or members who are:

5. willing and able to demonstrate the coconut technologies in his/her farm to the clientele at the time needed;

- 6. willing to be trained regularly; and
- 7. Physically fit to perform the responsibilities of an LSA cooperator and LSA;

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#### Selection and Prioritization Criteria (Group)

#### The farm

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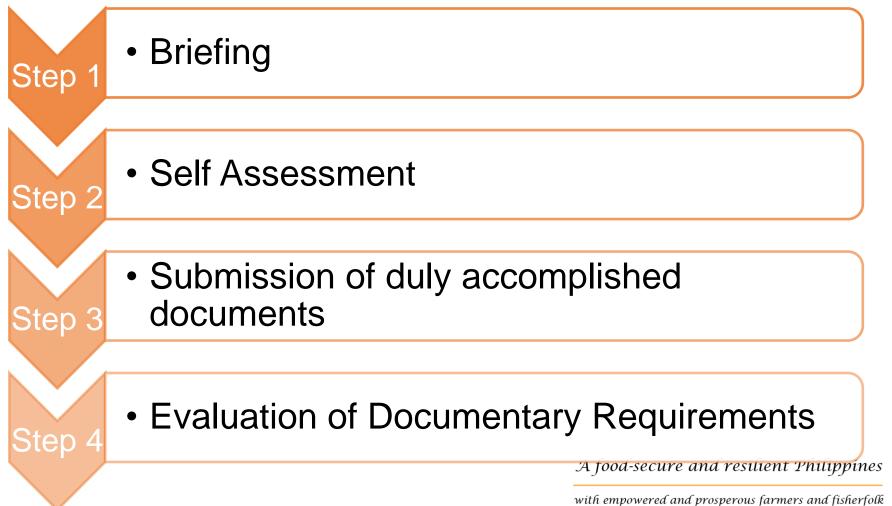
3. is accessible by land and other transportation facilities; and

4. is aesthetically landscaped.



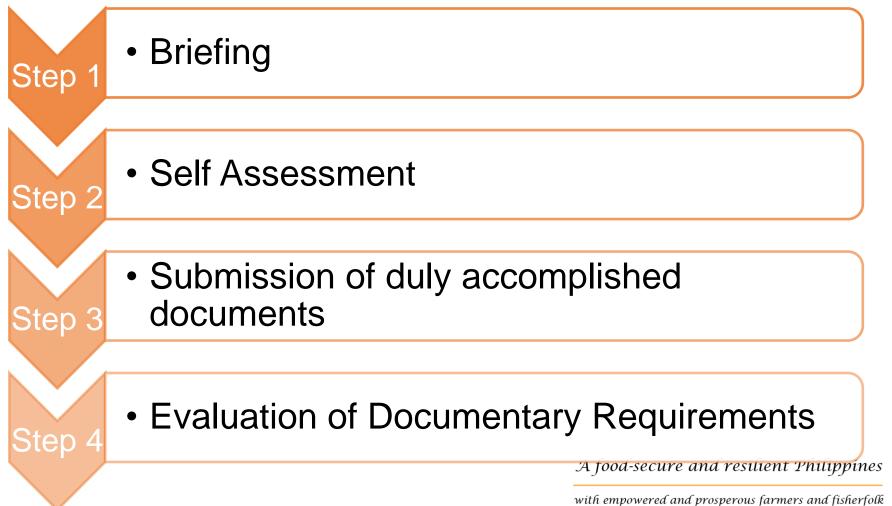


#### **Operational Strategies**



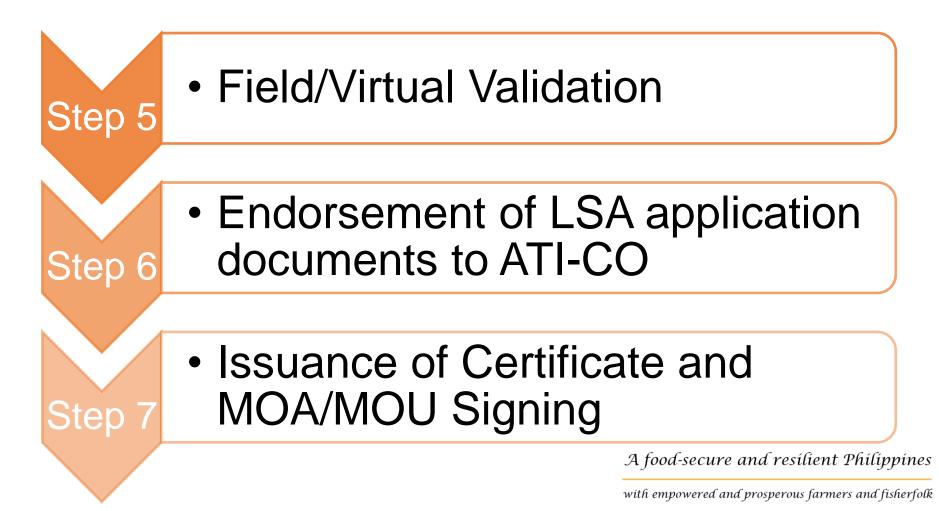


#### **Operational Strategies**





#### **Operational Strategies**





#### Step 6: Documents

- 1. Applicant's Checklist of Requirements;
- 2. Signed Briefer;
- 3. Self-Assessment;
- 4. Letter of Intent to become a CocoLSA;
- 5. Farming Learning Site for Agriculture Profile Form;
- 6. LSA Qualification Form;
- 7. Field Validation Report;
- 8. LSA Acceptance Form;
- 9. Endorsement of the RTWG; and
- 10. If endorsed with financial assistance, a Development Plan shall be required.





#### **Provision of Assistance**

Assistance to be provided to the CocoLSA can either be of the following:

- 1. Financial and Technical Assistance.
- 2. Technical Assistance Only:



#### **Capability-building support**

The ATI shall provide continuous capability-building interventions to the CocoLSA cooperators in the form of:

training, coaching, and exposure to various learning activities such as field visits/educational tours, farmer exchange programs, seminars, conferences, congresses, conventions, and other learning modalities

Further, CocoLSA Cooperators may be given the opportunity to participate in the training programs on regional Training of Trainers for CFIDP.





#### Validity of Certification

The certificate shall be effective and valid for five (5) years, subject to renewal.



#### **Renewal of Certification**

Six (6) months before the expiration of the Certificate, the certified CocoLSA will be notified by the National Secretariat.

1. Updated CocoLSA documentary requirements;

2. Improved holding area/transform into a training facility equipped with necessary training equipment that can accommodate 25-30 participants; and

3. Availability of own lodging facility that can accommodate 25-30 participants or under a lease agreement or under the purchase agreement.

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#### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 1. Monitoring shall focus on the outputs as outlined in the guidelines.
- 2. The ATI-RTC PASS, in coordination with the National LSA Secretariat shall ensure regular updating of the records/databases
- 3. The ATI shall require the CocoLSAs to submit semestral accomplishment reports containing, among others, a list of clients served, technologies developed, and other accomplishments.
- 4. Field monitoring visits to the CocoLSAs shall be conducted by the ATI from time to time to facilitate the collection of data, validate the operations of the CocoLSAs, and provide coaching and mentoring in aid of addressing issues, concerns, and problems.



#### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 5. The internal evaluation shall be undertaken by the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of the ATI-RTCs every two (2) years using the suggested *LSA Evaluation Form*.
- 6. The ATI can partner with the LGUs/SUC, following the government accounting and auditing rules and regulations, to assist in the field monitoring and visit, provision of coaching and mentoring as well as in the conduct of internal evaluation of the CocoLSAs.
- 7. An impact evaluation shall be conducted to determine the achievement of the desired outcomes and objectives of the CocoLSA program.





#### For more information, contact our office, Tel. No.: (083) 229 1024 Email: rtc12.dcc@ati.da.gov.ph

#### And look for ATI-RTC XII Learning Site for Agriculture Coordinator, **Shirley L. Beldia**

Reference: Agricultural Extension and Training Operations Manual for the COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CFIDP) Published by: DA-Agricultural Training Institute ISBN: 978-971-9673-87-3

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