

AO No. 02, Series of 2016

Implementing Policies, Guidelines, and Procedures for the Establishment and Operations of the Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization Research, Development and Extension Network (AFMECHRDEN)

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The AO provides the policies, guidelines, and procedures for the establishment and operation of the agricultural and fisheries mechanization research, development, and extension network (AFMechRDEN). This AO is in pursuant to the Section 8 of the Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization Law which seeks to attain the following objectives: (1) integrate, unify and harmonize the efforts of various RDE Institutions engaged in agriculture and fishery mechanization; (2) formulate and implement a unified National Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization RDE Agenda through its member institutions; (3) facilitate collaborations, partnership, and sharing of expertise and facilities to optimize the use of available RDE resources; and (4) ensure high impact research and development outputs and effective extension delivery system.

Salient Extension Provisions

III. Functions

1. The Network (AFMechRDEN)

As stipulated under Article III, Section 8, Rule 8.2, the network shall perform the following functions:

- a. Set direction, formulate and implement the unified NAFMechRDE agenda in consultation with the stakeholders;
- b. Gather information on the mechanization needs, problems and other issues related to mechanization as bases of formulating the unified NAFMechRDE agenda;
- c. Prepare mechanization roadmaps for the priority concerns of the Department of Agriculture;
- d. Integrate RDE concerns and prioritize which among the programs, projects, and activities shall be recommended for funding and recommend to potential fund sources;
- e. Shall serve as the clearinghouse for all fishery and mechanization RDE project proposals before submission to the concerned funding agency like BAR, PCAARD, CHED, and other funding institutions;
- f. Evaluate and recommend prioritized list proposals for funding and implementation in accordance with the parameters that will be established; and
- g. Establish and implement a Monitoring and Evaluation Scheme to keep and update on the status of implementation of the approved and funded priority programs and projects.

2. PHilMech, organizing body and secretariat

As stipulated under Article VI, Section 25, Rule 25.1, PHilMeh shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- a. Provide leadership in the formulation of a unified National Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization R and D and Extension (RDE) Agenda, as stipulated under Rule 7.1 of the IRR 10601;
- b. Spearhead the development of mechanisms, guidelines, and systems for the effective organization, coordination, planning and execution of research and development activities on agricultural and fishery mechanization as stipulated under Rule 8.6 of the IRR of RA 10601;
- c. Integrate, consolidate and unify all agricultural and fishery mechanization RDE programs and projects of various research institutions and ensure consistency of agenda with the thrusts and priorities established by BAR and with the thrusts and priorities by BAR and with that of the DOST;
- d. Ensure that RDE programs and projects shall be properly prioritized and endorsed to potential fund donors;
- e. Set-up and implement an effective Monitoring and Evaluation system established by the AFMechRDEN for RDE programs and projects on agriculture and fishery mechanization in the region, to keep updated information on the status of implementation of RDE programs and projects; and
- f. Maintain sets of databases as input in the formulation of the unified NAFMechRDE agenda.

3. UPLB-AMDP, Lead agency of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

As stipulated under Rule 8.7, of the IRR of RA 10601, UPLB-AMDP shall perform the following responsibilities:

- a. Formulate the necessary guidelines for the operation of all academic institutions in the AFMechRDEN;
 - b. Integrate, consolidate and harmonize all agricultural and fishery RDE programs and promotes collaborative RDE programs of all academic institutions in the AFMehRDEN; and
 - c. Submit project proposal with the corresponding funding requirements for additional manpower complement, equipment, supplies and other logistical requirements for inclusion in the Annual General Appropriations Act (GAA). The funding support is intended to strengthen the capability of UPLB-AMDP for the implementation, coordination, and monitoring of AFMAechRDEN activities of all academic institutions in the country.
4. Member Agencies
- Member Agencies of the network are expected to give full support to the operations of the AFMechRDEN. In this regard, each member agency is expected to:
- a. Designate a permanent and an alternate representative who will represent the agency to semestral organizational meetings and other technical or special meetings;
 - b. Submit data and other required inputs for the formulation of the National Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization Research, Development and Extension Agenda (NAFMechRDE);
 - c. Submit concept papers of the list of projects enrolled under the NAFMEchRDE Agenda; and
 - d. Ensure compliance with possible report requirements of the AFMEchRDEN.
5. Regional AFMEchRDEN
- The Regional AFMechRDEN shall:
- a. Provide leadership in the formulation of a unified Regional Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization R and D and Extension Agenda and ensure its submission to PhilMech for inclusion in the National AFMechRDE Agenda;
 - b. Maintain and update sets of RDE databases, in coordination with the AFMech Engineering Resource Network (AFMechERN), as input in the formulation of the regional AFMechRDE agenda;
 - c. Ensure strong collaboration and partnerships through sharing of resources and facilities between and among members of the regional AFMechRDEN; and
 - d. Prioritize which among the programs, projects, and activities in the region shall be recommended for funding.
6. DA-Regional Field Offices
- a. The Da-Regional Executive Director of the region shall act as the Chair of the Regional AFMechRDEN and Assistant Regional Director for Research as Vice-Chair of the Regional AFMechRDEN;
 - b. The DA regional Research Division shall be the secretariat of the AFMech and ensure the submission of the priority projects to PHILMech and to possible fund donors;
 - c. Implement the national level AFMechRDEN approved mechanisms, guidelines, and systems for the effective organization of research and development activities on agricultural and fishery mechanization in the region.

VI. RDE Agenda Formulation Process

1. The Regional AFMechRDEN shall spearhead the conduct of consultation workshops for the formulation of RDE Agenda on Agriculture and Fishery Mechanization.
2. The Region shall involve the LGUs, the private sector, farmer's groups, HEI's in the determination of relevant issues to be addressed and in the establishment of researchable areas.
3. The Regional AFMechRDEN shall be responsible for the integration, consolidation, and prioritization of strategic concerns, programs, projects, and activities within the region.
4. The UPLB-AMDP shall conduct consultation workshops among HEIs and shall be responsible in the harmonization and consolidation of the agricultural and fishery mechanization RDE agenda of the different HEIs in the country.
5. The PHILMech shall be responsible in integrating and consolidating the RDE agenda of various national institutions, of the different regions of the country which will emanate from various consultation workshops to be conducted at the national and regional levels including the RDE agenda of various HEIs, integrated and consolidated by the UPLB-AMDP

Sources:

Retrieved from Compendium of Extension Policies and Extension-Related Policy Studies & Research (2017) of ATI-PPD and

http://www.da.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ao02_s2016.pdf