DA DO No. 05 Series of 2018
General Guidelines and Procedure for the Operation of the Regional Research and Development, Extension Network (RRDEN) for Agriculture and Fisheries
June 13, 2018

The DO provides guidelines and procedure for the operation of the Regional Research and Development, Extension Network (RRDEN) for agriculture and fisheries. It gives guidance to all regional RDE partner-institutions to strengthen the regional RDE priority setting and implementation of projects/programs on agriculture and fisheries sector, to contribute to and empowered R&D system which will lead to expanded economic opportunities for those who are engaged in producing agriculture, fisheries, and forest products particularly small and subsistence farmers and fisherfolk.

Salient Extension Provisions

III. Membership
The RRDEN is open, but not limited, to government and private institutions engaged in research, development, and extension in agriculture and fisheries; government institutions include State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), National Government Agencies (NGAs), Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), Local Government Units (LGUs) whereas private institutions include cooperatives, Non-government Organizations (NGOs), private colleges and universities, and private enterprise corporation.

IV. Functions
1. The Regional Research and Development, Extension Network (RRDEN)

   The RRDEN under the leadership of the DA RFO/ BFAR RFO through its Research Division, shall perform the following functions:
   a. Set direction and guidance in the regional RDE agenda, program, and policy formulation as aligned with the current goals of the national government;
   b. Serve as the clearinghouse for all RDE programs, projects and activities emanating from the members of RRDEN for submission to BAR;
   c. Ensure all BAR-funded RDE projects in the region are monitored and evaluated;
   d. Guarantee the continuous conduct of capacity-building activities related to agriculture and fisheries RDE sector among RRDEN members;
   e. Organize and participate in the regional and national technology promotion and marketing activities of BAR-funded R&D programs and projects;
   f. Consolidate regional R&D outputs to support national RDE agenda and programs and
   g. Conduct periodic assessments of the performance of the member-agencies based on their contribution to the objectives of the RRDEN.

2. The Lead Agency – DA- Regional Field Office / BFAR Regional Field Office
   a. Overall management and operation of the RRDEN shall be the responsibility of the lead agency;
   b. Spearhead meetings and other activities for the fulfillment of the objectives of the RRDEN;
   c. Be responsible or the maintenance, operation, and optimum utilization of the RRDEN Office;
   d. Ensure funding support for all RRDEN activities and;
   e. Provide secretariat support to the RRDEN.

3. The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)
   a. Provide guidance in formulating and updating of Regional Integrated Research and Development, Extension Agenda and Program (RIRDEAP);
   b. Participate in identifying regional RDE priorities, formulating/ updating of regional plans and programs, monitoring and evaluation of projects and other RDEN activities;
   c. Spearhead the development of mechanisms, guidelines, and systems for effective coordination, planning of research and development projects;
   d. Conduct period assessment of the RRDEN's performance and;
   e. Ensure that research and development projects and relevant activities are properly prioritized for funding support.

4. The embers of RRDEN

Member-agencies are expected to fully cooperate and support the operations of RRDEN. Each member agency is expected to:
   a. Designate a permanent and alternate representative, preferably involved in RDE, who will present their respective agency to the various activities of the network;
   b. Actively participate in regional RDE agenda setting, prioritizations, formulation of regional plans and programs, preparation of proposals, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects, the conduct of trainings among others;
   c. Complement research resources including but not limited to manpower, expertise, knowledge, equipment, facilities, and experimental areas to other member-agencies for the conduct of collaborative RDE projects and;
   d. As agreed upon by the network, may provide logistics and venue for joint activities such as consultations, dialogues, meetings, conferences, and workshops.

V. Operational Strategies

1. The RRDEN shall be strategically located within the Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office (DA-RFO). The DA-RFO, particularly the Research Division shall take the lead in all the activities of the network.
2. The network's establishment and operation shall be governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between and among member-institutions, duly signed by their respective heads.
3. The network shall establish a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), a policymaking body to facilitate decisions and direction. Similarly, a Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) shall be created to ensure effective implementation of RRDEN's activities.
4. The RRDEN meetings shall be held twice (2x) a year, while special meetings may be as the need arises.
5. The network shall align its programs and activities with the DA's thrusts and priority, by formulating/ updating the Regional Integrated RDE Agenda and Program (RIRDEAP_ and policies in agriculture and fisheries.
6. Meetings of RAC shall be held semi-annually, specifically for the approval of decisions while meetings of RTWG may be held quarterly when needed.
7. Performance assessment of the RRDEN shall be conducted periodically to evaluate the accomplishments and deliverables vis-à-vis objectives and target.
8. Expenses for the operations and management of RRDEN shall be charged against the regional networking funds subject to existing accounting and auditing rules. Other expenses may be sponsored by member agencies.

Source:
Retrieved from
http://www.da.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/ao05_s2018.pdf