

ATI EASTERN VISAYAS

Annual Report 2022

ISSN 2779-0168





Cover Design: Bethel John L. Sinon
Photo by: Karen M. Hagumit

About the COVER

This Annual Report cover highlights ATI RTC 8's efforts geared towards the implementation of the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP). The program is spearheaded by the Philippine Coconut Authority with several implementing agencies including ATI. CFIDP aims to increase the income and productivity of the coconut farmers in the country; promote poverty alleviation, education, and social equity; and rehabilitate and modernize the Philippine coconut industry.

2022 Annual Report

*Copyright
July 2023*

Frequency: Annual

*Published by:
AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE
REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER VIII*

*ATI RTC 8, VSU Campus, Visca, Baybay City, Leyte
Tel Nos. (053) 563-7635
E-mail: atirtc8@ati.da.gov.ph
URL: <http://www.ati2.da.gov.ph/ati-8>
Mobile Nos: +63909 496 7518 (Smart)*



2022

Annual Report

Photo by: Marjun Lobo, "My Tree, My Life"



PURPOSE -DRIVEN *Service*

WE HAVE A PURPOSE: capacitate our clients so a productive agricultural industry will thrive and adequately meet the basic needs of the Filipino people.

The world has started to open once again. We have all learned to accept that the Covid-19 virus is here to stay, and agriculture extension service shall continue no matter what. Through it all, ATI RTC 8 never lost track of its purpose.

As travel restrictions were lifted and health and safety protocols are now down to a minimum, it is business as usual at the Center. The agriculture industry suffered in the years of the pandemic. However, we cannot go back to the state where we left off when the pandemic started.

The pace was set, so the momentum shall continue.

A new program made 2022 a busy year for the Center. The Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Program (CFIDP) saw ATI RTC 8 leveraging partnerships and creating shared values as it conducted information caravans all over the region with partner implementing agencies. Eastern Visayas will be on its way to reviving its coconut industry as capacity-building activities will take place after the program's introduction.

ATI RTC 8, as always, took to heart its commitment as capacity builder by implementing training activities accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission - Continuing Professional Development (PRC-CPD). Continuous capacity building for the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) will spell the big difference in the way they will also capacitate farmers and fishers be it in regular

programs of the Center or thru special programs like the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF.)

Programs to promote access to healthy and safe food for the family went into full swing thru the establishment of Urban Agriculture gardens and promotion of the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) of the Organic Agriculture Program for 3rd party certification among farmer individuals and groups.

Digital Agriculture remained a highlight in some of the Center's training and activity. As a key strategy of the Department of Agriculture, digitalization of extension services and ICT-enabled advisory services provide real-time access to information crucial in the decision-making of farmers and fishers. Digital agriculture apps are changing the way stakeholders are accessing information, marketing farm produce, and engaging with experts and other agriculture enthusiasts.

The Center remains grateful to its partners for the support given to its programs. Agricultural endeavors are best addressed together. Indeed, purpose and process round off ATI RTC 8' journey towards excellence in extension service delivery.



HAZEL GRACE T. TAGANAS
Center Director, ATI RTC 8

Table of CONTENTS

06	LEARN: Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building
14	RCEF Updates
15	CFIDP
18	EXHIBIT: Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations
23	ADVISE: Expanding Partnerships Along the Value Chain through Advisory Services
26	DISSEMINATE: Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services
31	SUPPORT: Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE
38	ATI RTC 8 Staff

Editorial Board

Editorial Consultants

Hazel Grace T. Taganas
Dalmacio L. Pajanustan

Layout/Graphics Editor

Bethel John L. Sinon

Editor-in-Chief

Melinda P. Petalcorin

Photo Credits

Project Implementers
RTC 8 Photo Contest Winners

Associate Editor

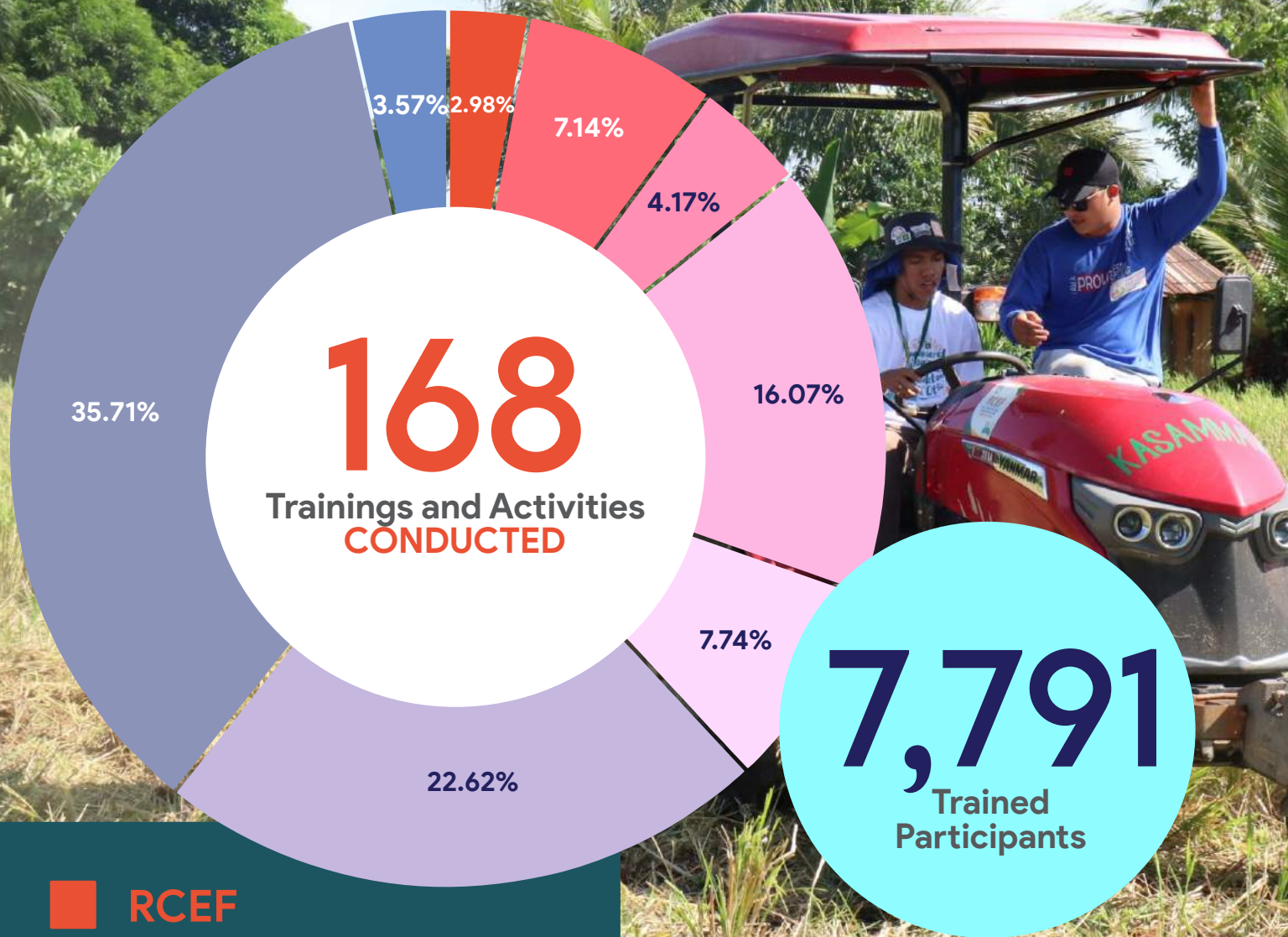
Mary Jane P. Pepe
Bethel John L. Sinon



LEARN

STRENGTHENING COMPETENCY AND COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CAPABILITY BUILDING

LEARN's primary focus lies in providing comprehensive training services. Its core objective is to empower agricultural extension workers, farmers, rural women, youth, and all stakeholders involved in the value chain. By equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills, this thematic program aims to facilitate the adoption of innovative, sustainable, and productive techniques in both the social and production aspects of farming and fishing. The ultimate goal is to foster the implementation of new technologies that enhance agricultural practices and contribute to the overall development of the sector.



RCEF

- 5 activities conducted
- 151 total participants



Corn

- 12 activities conducted
- 6 activities with CPD points
- 433 total participants



HVCDP

- 7 activities conducted
- 4 activities with CPD points
- 362 total participants



Livestock

- 27 activities conducted
- 1 activities with CPD points
- 539 total participants



Organic Agriculture

- 13 activities conducted
- 2 activities with CPD points
- 934 total participants



Regular

- 38 activities conducted
- 7 activities with CPD points
- 958 total participants



Rice

- 67 activities conducted
- 5 activities with CPD points
- 3263 total participants



CFITF

- 6 activities conducted
- 338 total participants

25

activities with CPD points

The concept of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) revolves around a perpetual journey of learning. Its objective is to enrich the expertise of professionals by continually refining and refreshing their knowledge and skills in response to the evolving landscape of their respective fields. This is particularly driven by the advancements in modernization, science, and technology within their profession. In Eastern Visayas, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) organized 25 training sessions this year, each offering CPD points as part of their Agriculture program.

Corn

Training Title	CPD Points
Training on Site-Specific Nutrient Management for Maize Batch 1	6
Training on Site-Specific Nutrient Management for Maize Batch 2	6
Training on Fall Armyworm (FAW) Management	12
Refresher Course on GAP-anchored Corn Production	7
Training on Cassava-Based Feed Formulation and Feedmill Operations and Management Batch 1	8
Training on Cassava-Based Feed Formulation and Feedmill Operations and Management Batch 2	8

HVCDP

Training Title	CPD Points
Training of Trainers on Fruit Crop Nursery Establishment, Management and BPI Accreditation	15
Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on Vegetable Production	14
Training of Trainers (TOT) on GAP-anchored Cacao Production	16
Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)-Anchored Banana Production	16

Organic Agriculture

Training Title	CPD Points
Training on Alternative Pest Management for Vegetables	10
Training on Organic Fertilizer Production	9

Rice

Training Title	CPD Points
Capacitating the AEWs on Rice Pests Management and Field Diagnosis (Batch 1)	17
Capacitating AEWs: Rice Pest Management and Field Diagnosis (Batch 2)	15
Training on Capacitating AEWs on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) with Emphasis on Balanced Fertilization Strategy (BFS) in Rice Farming	12
Training on Rice Crop Manager (RCM) Advisory Services (RAS)	7
Resource Person Development Training	7

Regular

Training Title	CPD Points
Training on Extension Delivery System (EDS) B1	11
Training on Extension Delivery System (EDS) Batch 2	11
Training on Organizational Management for 4-H & RBO Coordinators B1	8
Training on Organizational Management for 4-H and RBO Coordinators B2	6
Training on Presentation and Facilitation Skills B1	9
Training on Presentation and Facilitation Skills B2	9
Capability Building on Monitoring and Evaluation for AEWs	6

Livestock

Training Title	CPD Points
TOT on Meat and Dairy Goat production and Management	11



PhilGAP Caravan

On August 4, 2022, ATI RTC 8, in collaboration with ACIAR-GAP, organized the PhilGAP Caravan. Following the information caravan, the Graduation Rites for the Stepped GAP Training took place. The event celebrated the achievements of sixty-five (65) farmer participants who successfully completed the Farmer Field School (FFS) on Stepped GAP, a comprehensive program spanning from 2020 to 2022.

During the graduation, farmers from Mahaplag, Baybay City, and Ormoc City received their certificates for completing the 3-year FFS, which consisted of four levels and approximately 19 modules, tailored to their respective municipalities. Several farmers were also honored with special awards for their outstanding participation in the FFS.

The event was attended by representatives from various government and non-government agencies, as well as local government units (LGUs). The successful implementation of the program was made possible through the collaborative efforts of ACIAR, Australian Aid, Applied Horticultural Research, Visayas State University, Agricultural Training Institute, East-West Seed Foundation, Landcare Foundation, and the LGUs of Ormoc, Baybay, and Mahaplag, Leyte.

Filipino Young Farmers Internship Program in Taiwan



The second batch of Filipino young farmer interns, after completing their Online Pre-Departure Orientation Course, embarked on an 11-month intensive internship program in Taiwan. Julius Clenn Galo from Ormoc City and Kent James Lutchavez from Baybay City represented Region 8 in this program.

The internship program is a collaboration between the Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines (TECO). It aims to strengthen existing relations by providing qualified young Filipino farmers with opportunities for training and exposure to global farm insights and practices. The program's objective is to ensure the sustainability of agricultural products and foster the development of young farmers and farm leaders who will contribute to the productivity of agricultural lands and ensure food security for the country.

ROARS



On November 25, 2022, ATI RTC 8 organized the Rice and Organic Agriculture Awareness Reach Schools (ROARS) event at Gabas Integrated

School in Brgy. Gabas, Baybay City, Leyte. The program aimed to educate Grade 6 pupils about the importance of being #RicePonsible. They were also taught how to create their own kitchen garden.

ROARS, established in 2015, is a program that promotes rice self-sufficiency and organic agriculture in schools across Region 8. Through ROARS, children and teachers gain valuable insights into the agricultural world, fostering awareness and understanding of sustainable farming practices.

AgriTalk

In partnership with the Manila Bulletin's Agriculture Magazine, Smart Communications, Inc., ATI RTC 8 conducted two (2) AgriTalk webinars for the year 2022.

The first one was conducted on July 20, 2022 focusing on Drip Irrigation for Vegetable Production with our Resource Persons, Mr. Rodel Morales, Agronomist, ACIAR-GAP project and Mr. Dhenber C. Lusanta, OIC-Director, Eco-FARMI, VSU.

Another Agritalk session was also conducted on October 17, 2022 with Ms. Lutgarda Francisco, Head of the DA8-RCPC who discussed about Biocontrol Agents in Corn Production.



Digital Farmers Program

The Digital Farmers Program (DFP) aims to develop technologically proficient farmers in the Philippines through collaborations and partnerships between the public and private sectors. By employing a co-learning approach, the program facilitates knowledge exchange among facilitators, farmers, and the youth.

In 2022, three batches of DFP 101 and 102 Training of Trainers were conducted in Region 8. These activities aimed to equip AEWs in conducting local DFP trainings in their respective municipalities.



Consequently, 5 Batches of DFP 101 and 102 were conducted for the farmer-level. These activities were conducted for farmers in Kawayan Biliran, Sulat Eastern Samar, Ormoc, Tanauan, and Capoocan in Leyte; and 2 Batches in Dulag and Baybay, Leyte for DFP 101. Each farmer participant were paired with a youth.

Digital Agriculture Course



Undoubtedly, technology and innovations can be challenging for farmers, particularly those who have limited experience with technology. It can be even more difficult for farm school trainers to teach technology to farmers who may be hesitant or uninterested in adopting these advancements. However, recognizing

the potential benefits, the Digital Agriculture Course was developed to equip trainers with the necessary techniques and strategies for introducing digital agriculture to rice farmers.

The goal of the course is to empower trainers with the knowledge and skills to effectively present the concept of digital agriculture to farmers. By doing so, farmers can gain a deeper understanding of how technology can positively impact their farming practices and yield various benefits. Twenty-five (25) farm trainers from different farm schools in Eastern Visayas participated in the Digital Agriculture Course for RCEF on July 13-15, 2022 in Tacloban City, Leyte.

7,639

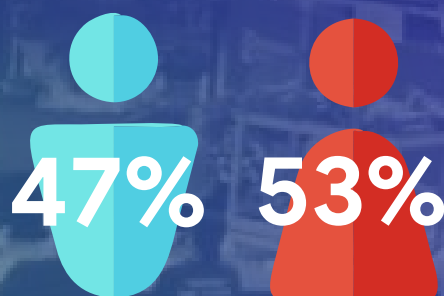
total number of participants per province
for both training and other activities

2,177

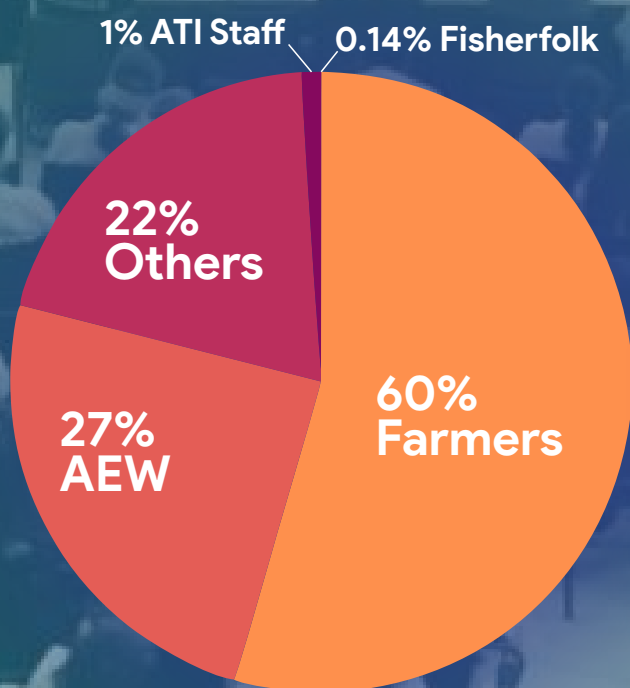
for trainings only



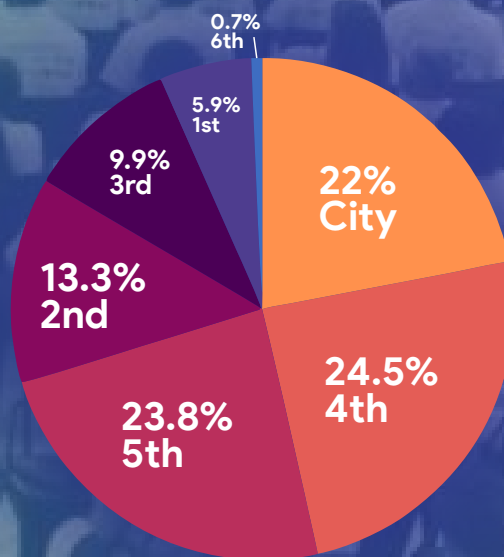
Distribution of Participants by Province



Participants by Sex



Type of Participant



Type of Participant by Income Class

ATI RTC 8 RCEF 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



4 batches



TOT on Production of
High-Quality Inbred Rice and
Seeds, and Farm Mechanization
126 participants

1 batch



Digital Agriculture
Course for RCEF
25 participants

4 established

RCEF - Learning Site
for Agriculture



- Cantongtong United Youth Association
- Fidela Integrated Farm
- Lagutan Integrated Farm
- SOS Children's Village Farm

4 enhanced

- Chely Estolano Agricultural Farm
- Ladrera's Integrated Farm
- Shigoto Integrated Farm

4,176 distributed



RCEF Related
IEC Materials



10 aired
Radio Plugs



88 posted
online content

- Conducted Data collection for the on-going studies on the ROI of ATI Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund-Rice Extension Services Program (RCEF-RESP) related activities with **125 respondents**
- Conducted data collection regarding the conduct of quick survey of emerging outcomes with **484 respondents**



CFIDP

COCONUT FARMERS & INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Program (CFIDP) was formulated after the enactment of Republic Act 11524, also known as the Coconut Farmers and Industry Fund Act, signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on February 26, 2021. The program received official approval through Executive Order 172, which was signed on June 2, 2022.

CFIDP has three primary objectives: Firstly, it aims to enhance the income and productivity of the 2.5 million coconut farmers in the Philippines. Secondly, the program seeks to promote poverty alleviation, education, and social equity among coconut farming communities. Lastly, it aims to facilitate the rehabilitation and modernization of the Philippine coconut industry, ensuring its growth and sustainability.

For 2022, ATI RTC 8 together with other partner implementing agencies conducted various activities for coconut farmers in the region.



Information Caravans

The Philippine coconut industry has long been a vital part of the nation's agricultural landscape, supporting millions of coconut farmers and their families. To address the challenges faced by these farmers and uplift their livelihoods, the government initiated the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Program (CFIDP). This year, various Information Caravans were conducted in different municipalities in the region under the theme "Masagana, Matatag, at Progresibong Industriya ng Niyog sa Bansa" to enlighten Local Government Units (LGUs) and coconut farmers associations about the CFIDP and its components.

The program's overarching goal is to alleviate poverty and hunger, while simultaneously boosting economic productivity in coconut farming communities. The CFIDP is composed of various components to be realized by the PCA, in partnership with other government agencies:

1. Social Protection - PCA, PHIC, PCIC, CHED, ATI, TESDA
2. Coconut Farmers Organization and Development - CDA
3. Hybridization- PCA, DOST-PCAARRD
4. Community-Based Farm Enterprise Development - DA-HVCDP, BAI, NDA
5. Integrated Coconut Processing and Downstream Products-PhilMech
6. Innovative Research Projects

7. Support Services - LBP, DBP, DTI, DPWH

CFIDP Information Caravans were conducted in:

1. Palo, Leyte - August 19, 2022 with 49 participants
2. Baybay City, Leyte - September 28, 2022 with 51 participants
3. Maasin City, Southern Leyte - October 10, 2022 with 50 participants
4. Borongan City, Eastern Samar - October 13, 2022 with 88 participants
5. Catbalogan City, Samar - October 21, 2022 with 50 participants
6. Catarman, Northern Samar - October 28, 2022 with 50 participants

3As: Appreciating Agriculture thru Arts

The 3As, short for "Appreciating Agriculture thru Arts," is an educational initiative that aims to highlight the significance of agriculture for food production, livelihood, and income through engaging learning activities designed for students. In light of the considerable impact of storms on agriculture in Eastern Visayas over the past year, this year's 3As program has focused on the coconut industry, adopting the theme "Youth CORE: Youth in Coconut Rehabilitation Engagement."

With a primary objective of involving young people in rehabilitation initiatives and promoting awareness about the benefits of the coconut industry, the 3As program organized various contests for the youth. These contests encompassed photography, jingle composition, handicraft making, and a coconut cookfest. By channeling their creative skills and enthusiasm, the youth actively participated in advocating for coconut rehabilitation and showcasing the diverse aspects of the coconut sector.

Recognizing the importance of technology transfer in enhancing agricultural practices, the 3As program also facilitated knowledge-sharing sessions for farmers who attended the event. By fostering the exchange of expertise and best practices, the program aimed to equip farmers with valuable insights to improve their coconut farming methods and overall agricultural productivity.

The 3As event took place at Bendicar Farm Agri-Ecotourism in Sogod, Southern Leyte on August 26, 2022. The participation of youth organizations from various municipalities in Southern Leyte demonstrated the collective commitment and interest of young people in contributing to the recovery and revitalization of the coconut industry in the region.

The successful execution of the 3As program was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Agricultural Training Institute - Regional Training Center 8 (ATI RTC 8) and the Visayas Consortium for Agriculture and Resources Program (VICARP). Together, they organized and coordinated the event, fostering a platform for youth engagement and promoting a deeper appreciation for agriculture, particularly in the context of coconut rehabilitation, among the young generation in Eastern Visayas.





EXHIBIT

MODELLING TECHNOLOGIES, BEST AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION PRACTICES AND INNOVATIONS

With a primary emphasis on delivering technology demonstration services, this thematic program emerges as the most impactful approach to introduce and highlight novel and inventive technologies or practices. It serves as a platform to present and exhibit the processes, techniques, and ultimate outcomes of these innovations to both individuals and communities. Furthermore, EXHIBIT serves as a catalyst for fostering a culture of innovation, as it enables the integration and application of new farming systems through the showcase and practical demonstrations.

Learning Sites for Agriculture

In line with the progressive approach to extension service, the ATI RTC 8 takes an active role in nurturing the growth of rural farms. One of the ways this is accomplished is by certifying them as Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSAs). An LSA serves as a dynamic demonstration area for experiential learning. They play a crucial role in enhancing practical knowledge and skills for other farmers and agri-enthusiasts. In 2022, thirteen (13) farms were certified as LSA 1 by ATI RTC 8. On the other hand, sixteen (16) LSAs were enhanced and were provided with assistance for their proposed projects:

Farm Name	Cooperator	Address
Benignitas Agricultural Farm	Ana Marie G. Eder	Brgy. Taguite, Lawaan, Eastern Samar
Bryan Integrated Farm	Elmer Bryan Empron	Brgy. Tagaytay, Mahaplag, Leyte
Bunga Compact Farmers Association (BUCFA)	Pepito F. Solano	Brgy. Bunga, Baybay City, Leyte
Camote Farmers Association Farm	Camote Farmers Association/Richardo T. Ifurong	Brgy. Camote, Dulag, Leyte
Chely Estolano Agricultural Farm	Michel M. Aleman	Brgy. Napuro 1, Sta. Margarita, Samar
Enjoy Integrated Farm	Enrico L. Fevidal	Brgy. Belen, Leyte, Leyte
IDOFS (Inlet of Development for Optimum Farmers Skills) Ha Lanang Training Center and Farm	Victor B. Dajime	Sitio Parik, Brgy. 1, Llorente, Eastern Samar
L's Govipola Integrated Farm	Dr. Nelen P. Lambert	Purok 1, Brgy. Juaton, Ormoc City, Leyte
Ladrera's Integrated Farm	Leo P. Ladrera	Brgy. Old Mahayag, Catbalogan City, Samar
Pinamopoan Livelihood Training Services and Farm	Lourdes Q. Vallar	Brgy. Pinamopoan, Capocan, Leyte
Quinta Antonia Farm Resort	Emmalinda T. Abrantes	Purok 3, Sitio Cambantug, Brgy. Lake Danao, Ormoc City, Leyte
Shigoto Agricultural Farm	Elmer C. Opeña	Brgy. Barugohay, Carigara, Leyte
Thaddeus Integrated Farm	Byron I. Consultado	Brgy. Mabuhay, Oras, Eastern Samar
Lagutan Integrated Farm	Imelda F. Lagutan	Zone 7, Brgy. Pagsulhungan, Babatngon, Leyte
Cantongtong United Youth Association	Reynaldo E. Labine	Brgy. Cantongtong, Jiabong, Samar
Fidela Integrated Farm	Fidela P. Babon	Brgy. Rawis, Hinabangan, Samar

Table 1. List of enhanced Learning Sites for Agriculture I in Region 8 for 2022



Photo from: Thaddeus Integrated Farm

Lakbay-Alay

The ATI RTC 8, together with the Organikong Magsasaka ng Rehiyon Otso (OMRO), remains committed to fostering a culture of sharing and peer-to-peer learning in the realm of organic agriculture. This dedication is exemplified through the Lakbay-Alay initiative. The primary objective of this activity is to engage participants in the agricultural revitalization efforts of Eastern Visayas by promoting organic farming practices.

OMRO members gathered at RGB Integrated Farm in Macrohon, S. Leyte, where the Lakbay-Alay provided valuable farm mentoring and coaching sessions to fellow farmers, with specific focus on organic farming. Mr. Miguel "Mike" Pedroso, the RAFC Chairperson and OMRO Vice President, provided an overview of the activity and shared his expertise in jackfruit production with the participants.

In addition to the spirit of sharing, OMRO members brought gifts from their own farms to offer to the farms they visited during the activity.

Furthermore, a tree planting event took place as a symbolic milestone. Another significant achievement was the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between OMRO and the PAFC Southern Leyte, formalizing their partnership, with the presence of Mr. Lorenzo Salapi Jr., the PAFC Chair Southern Leyte.



A total of thirty (30) participants enthusiastically joined the Lakbay-Alay, which took place on May 18-19, 2022.

2022 UGMAD Awardees



The annual event serves as an avenue for the Visayas State University and ATI RTC 8 to acknowledge the valuable contributions of farmers, fishermen, and rainforest heroes who have not only amplified agricultural yields but have also made a significant difference in their local communities. It also presents a platform for farmers and fishermen to gather, fostering an environment where they can share their compelling and distinctive narratives. The following are the winners of the Search's Individual Categories:

Outstanding Vegetable Farmer
Ms. Maria Avelina P. Virrey of Avelin's Farm,
Carigara, Leyte

Outstanding Livestock Farmer
Ms. Laila Donayre Pettersson of LP Farm,
Merida, Leyte

Outstanding Rice Farmer
Mr. Jose Tempesto Tan of Tempesto Farm,
Ormoc City, Leyte

Outstanding Corn Farmer
Ms. Gravela O. Rele of FarmVel, Ormoc City,
Leyte

2022 GAP Certified LSA Farms

GAP certified farms are recognized for implementing best practices in agriculture, focusing on environmental sustainability, food safety, and social responsibility. The certification provides assurance to consumers and buyers that the farm has met rigorous standards in terms of quality, safety, and responsible farming practices.

In 2022, two (2) ATI RTC 8 Learning Sites were GAP Certified:

- Mazo Farm, Hibunawan, Baybay City, Leyte
- Uy Integrated Farm, Imelda, Baybay City, Leyte

Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Month Celebration Awardees

The month of May is Farmers' and Fisherfolks' Month by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 33 issued on May 21, 1989. In the 2022 month-long celebration, ATI RTC 8 is most proud of the achievement of its LSA as they were recognized by DA RFO 8.



- Champion Rice Farmer
Mr. Jose Tempesto Tan of Tempesto Farm, Ormoc City, Leyte
- Champion Corn Farmer
Mr. Hermoginis N. Alvarez, Jr. of A&A farm, Merida, Leyte
- Champion Organic Agriculture Farmer
Engr. Martina D. Reyna of La Granja Farms, Tacloban City, Leyte
- Farmers' Cooperatives and Associations and Fisherfolk's Association (Participated in the KADIWA Agri Fair for May 2022)
La Granja Farms, Tacloban City, Leyte and CCSFA/OGAT Farm, Sta. Margarita, Samar
- Youth Groups in Agriculture
SOLIDU 4-H Club, Jaro, Leyte (Rochel B. Raquel) and 4-H Club Leyte Federation, Province of Leyte (Alexandra V. Aborita)

OAP Farms Certified with a Third Party Certification

Three (3) ATI RTC 8 certified LSA II, one (1) LAS I, and one (1) accredited ESP have recently passed the third party organic certification. The said farms underwent audit and inspection (both their farm practices and documents) by the Organic

Certification of the Philippines (OCCP). The said farms were subsidized by the DA-RFO 8 under Organic Agriculture Banner Program.

1. La Granja de Reyna, Tacloban City, Leyte
2. OGAT Garden, Santa Margarita, Samar
3. Canaan Hill Farms, Caibiran, Biliran
4. Juanito Eco-Farm School for Practical Agriculture, Kananga, Leyte
5. Bendicar Farm and Eco-tourism, Sogod, Southern Leyte



EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS ALONG THE VALUE CHAIN THROUGH ADVISORY SERVICES

This thematic program focuses on delivering agricultural or business advisory services, offering immediate access to expertise and guidance on production and post-production technologies. It involves connecting farmers and business owners to markets, investments, and other essential resources and support services, collaborating with different stakeholders in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.



226

Online Inquiries responded

through various mediums such as social media, email, calls, texts, and other communication channels.



212

RCMAS Recommendations Provided to 126 rice farmers



Rice Crop Manager Advisory Services (RCMAS)

RCMAS Briefings



On April 18, 2022, ATI-RTC 8 conducted an RCM Briefing in Bato, Leyte. Using the updated version of the RCM available in its new website, ATI RTC 8's RCM team and staff from the Municipal Agriculture Office in Bato, Leyte, headed by Mr. Danilo Germano, interviewed more than fifty (50) farmers.

Following the RCM Briefing in Bato, Leyte, batch 2 of the same activity was conducted in Matalom, Leyte on April 25, 2022. Seventy-six (76) farmer participants from Barangays Agbanga and Itum were interviewed and were provided with personalized RCM recommendations.

A total of 212 recommendations were provided to rice farmers during the 2 briefings.



RCMAS for Rice AEWs



ATI RTC 8 organized the Training on RCM Advisory Services as part of their efforts to promote RCM (Rice Crop Manager) across the region. The primary objective of this training was to enhance the participants' skills and knowledge in operating, utilizing, and training others on the upgraded RCM Advisory Service. By incorporating new features into RCM, the training provided Rice Technicians from various areas with essential information, starting from the registration of farmers in the RCM database to delivering recommendations based on interviews conducted with farmers.

While RCM primarily focuses on generating personalized recommendations for farmers, the burden of responsibility falls significantly on RCM-Rice technicians. It is crucial to ensure that the recommendations provided align accurately with the specific needs of each rice field. One vital aspect of this process is verifying

the size of a farmer's farm lot. This information plays a crucial role, particularly in the distribution of seeds and fertilizers during cropping seasons by Agriculture Offices. Thus, during the training, participants were equipped with the knowledge and skills to measure farm lots using GPS technology. The resulting GPX files generated through this process serve as verification and are subsequently uploaded as valuable information linked to each farmer's farm lot.

Twenty-three (23) representatives from the different RCM-Enhanced FITS centers around the region participated in the Training on RCM Advisory Services on August 15-19, 2022 at ATI-RTC 8. It was also agreed that 100 recommendations shall be generated per municipality every year as their commitment to the RCMAS program in the region. Participants received 7 CPD points after completing the training.



A RICE FARMER'S
FRIEND



HELPFUL ORGANISMS
IN THE PHILIPPINES



INTEGRATED NUTRIENT
MANAGEMENT



INTEGRATED PEST
MANAGEMENT



LA NIÑA AND
RICE FARMING



MOET



RAT MANAGEMENT



RICE FALSE SMUT



DISSEMINATE

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE FISHERIES EXTENSION KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

This thematic program focuses on catering to diverse extension clients and stakeholders who require rapid access to current information and knowledge pertaining to agriculture, livestock, and fisheries. The strategy encompasses the creation, translation, packaging, and distribution of knowledge products through various mediums, including multimedia and other communication channels that align with specific client needs.



21,642

Information Education and
Communication Materials
distributed

16,883

Techno-based IECs

4,759

Corporate IECs

6

Success story
videos produced



2

School-on the-Air
Conducted

2,601

SOA-SRA Graduates

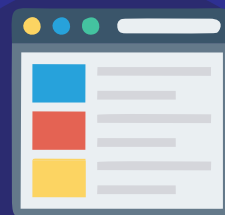
630

SOA-OA Graduates



54

News articles
posted in the
website



20

Webpages
uploaded in
the website



2

Agritalks
conducted



2,333,746

Facebook Reach



1

FITS Established

7

FITS Enhanced

1

FITS Kiosk Established

Online

ATI RTC 8 aims to be up-to-date when it comes to providing information online through its website. For 2022, the center has written 54 new articles. It has also updated its different webpages to cater the needs of its clients especially in connecting them to different Learning Sites as well as providing easy access to knowledge products online.

The website also provides announcements for bidding and awarding. It also provides the schedule of activities of the center every month. Through ATI in Eastern Visayas' social media, there also was a significant increase in webpage views.

The center also keeps its Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter up-to date with its Facebook page having a total of 2,333,746 individuals reached while Twitter having a total of 13,671 visits.

School-on the-Air

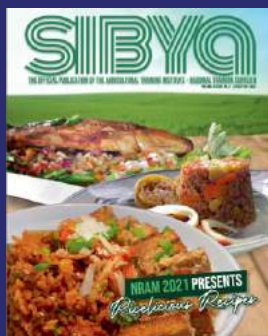
In the year 2022, the Center also conducted two (2) Schools-on the-Air that ran both on the radio and online through different social media pages:

SOA Program		Commodity	Provinces Conducted	No. of Graduates
1	Palay Aralan Makabagong Pagsasaka sa Himpapawid: SOA on Smart Rice Agriculture	Rice	Samar and Biliran	2,061
2	SOA on Organic Agriculture	Organic Agriculture	Eastern Samar	630



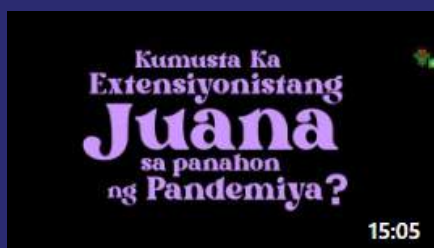
Knowledge Products

This year the Center also developed a total of 5 Corporate Knowledge Products, each with their own ISSN numbers.



Success Story Documentation

The center also documented successful farmers around the region under different commodities. Also, successful women in agriculture were also documented during the Women's Month on March 2022. These success stories were made available both in ATI RTC 8's Facebook and Youtube accounts.



Kwentong May Kwentang

- Kumusta ka Extensiyonistang Juana sa Panahon ng Pandemiya?
- Maneuver Into Hydroponics
- Make it for the Market
- Sa Farmvel, Happy Lang!

Kwentong RCEF

- Tempesto Rice Farm
- Alde Farm

Other Videos Produced

- Filipino Food Month - Kropok and Embutido
- ATIng Mugna - Drip Irrigation
- Humayzing Youth Livestream
- SOA OA Episodes (16)



e-Learning



On July 21, 2022, a Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ATI RTC 8 and Visayas State University. The activity formalizes the collaboration between VSU, through the Department of Business and Management (DBM), and ATI RTC 8 to assist and facilitate the enrollment of BSAB students on e-Learning courses.



In line with this collaboration, ATI RTC 8 organized the Agri-Galing sa e-Learning Quiz Bee on October 26, 2022 wherein seven (7) groups from the Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness joined the Quiz Competition that tested their learnings from the online courses they enrolled in through the e-learning platform of the e-extension website.

Techno Gabay Program

ATI RTC 8 continues to assist its roster of Techno Gabay Program implementers in the region. For 2022, seven (7) FITS Centers were enhanced: Allen, Northern Samar; OPA-Northern Samar; Calbayog City, Samar; Calbiga, Samar; Saint Bernard, Southern Leyte; and OPA-Biliran. The municipality of Gandara in Samar also established its FITS Center as it has started implementing the TGP. ATI RTC 8 regularly provided knowledge products to the different FITS Centers in the region.



Information Officer Melinda Petalcorin discusses the TGP with Gandara Mayor Warren Aguilar



SUPPORT

IMPROVING ENABLING ENVIRONMENT AND GOVERNANCE FOR AFE

To enhance the provision of AFE (Agriculture and Fisheries Extension) services, it is important to establish a supportive framework that promotes good governance for the service providers involved. This particular aspect emphasizes the requirements of extension agencies, including policy assistance, planning, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, human resource management, budget allocation, infrastructure development, and facilities provision.

In-House Staff Development

Resiliency and Mental Health

In spite of the challenges posed by the pandemic, ATI RTC 8 organized a seminar on Resiliency and Mental Health in Pandemic as part of its 35th Anniversary celebration. The seminar featured esteemed resource persons, namely Dr. Priscilla Gonzalez Fernando, Dr. Nonie Fernando, and Dr. Aaron Lumbao. Their guidance provided participants with a transformative journey of mental health awareness, equipping them with strategies to shift their mindset and cope with stress despite the difficult circumstances.



Going Virtual

Under the initiative of ATI RTC 8's Learning and Development Committee, a training session titled 'Going Virtual: Use of Online Webinar Platforms' was organized aimed to equip ATI staff with the knowledge and skills necessary for conducting online trainings and activities. Mr. Jed Asaph Cortes, the Head of the Visayas State University Web Team, served as the trainer and shared insights on various webinar platforms and online techniques that can be utilized effectively in virtual settings.

Where does your Salary Go?



ATI RTC 8 educated the staff about their monthly contributions to different institutions, including GSIS and SSS (Government Service Insurance System and Social Security System). On May 4,

2022, ATI RTC 8, through its Learning and Development Committee, organized the first part of a seminar titled "Where Does Your Salary Go?" This seminar served as a re-orientation session on Social Welfare Contributions, providing staff with valuable insights and understanding of their financial obligations.

Meat Processing

ATI RTC 8 organized a training session on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in Meat Processing. The primary objective of this training was to equip the staff of ATI-RTC 8 with vital knowledge and practical skills in the field of meat processing.



During the training, participants had the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning by actively participating in the process of making sausages. The participants were divided into five

groups, with each group assigned to prepare a specific type of sausage. These sausages were then subjected to a sensory test to assess their suitability for mass production.

Awards

Excellence Awards

The ATI RTC 8 Excellence Awards took place on January 27, 2022, to recognize the outstanding contributions of ATI RTC 8 staff and partners to the field of agricultural extension service. This event was aligned with the 35th anniversary celebration of ATI and aimed to honor individuals and organizations who have made significant achievements and positive impact in their respective roles within the agricultural sector. The following were the awards presented:

Name/LGU	Award
Municipal Agriculture Office – LGU Bato, Leyte	BEST LGU Partner Rice Crop Manager (RCM)
Municipal Agriculture Office – LGU Mayorga, Leyte	BEST LGU Partner Livestock Program
Municipal Agriculture Office – LGU Carigara, Leyte	BEST LGU Partner High Value Crops (HVC)
Municipal Agriculture Office – LGU Guiuan, E. Samar	BEST LGU Partner Organic Agriculture (OA)
City Agriculture Office – LGU Ormoc City, Leyte	BEST LGU Partner 4H Program
Joper C. Conarco	BEST AEW Partner Organic Agriculture (OA) (Gandara, Samar)
Delia Timkang	BEST AEW Partner Rice Crop Manager (RCM) (Matalom, Leyte)
Lily Brian Vivarez	BEST AEW Partner 4H Program (St. Bernard, S. Leyte)
Eunice Ugali	BEST AEW Partner High Value Crops (HVC) (Lawaan, E. Samar)
Leslie Ogario	Livestock Program (Naval, Biliran)
Enderio's Farm (Borongan City, Eastern Samar)	BEST SPA Partner
Greenhand Integrated Farm (Basey, Eastern Samar)	BEST LSA Partner



ATI 8 Banner Programs bag 3 Major Awards



ATI RTC 8 point persons representing different commodity programs attended the 2022 ATI Commodity Banner Programs Culminating Activity held in Banga, Aklan from December 5-9, 2022. The objective of the event was to identify effective strategies for improved decision-making and knowledge creation in program implementation.

ATI RTC 8 received several major awards during the culmination night, including 1st place in physical and financial accomplishments for the Rice and Corn programs, 3rd place for the HVCD Program, and 3rd place for Most Innovative Center.

ATI RTC 8 expressed gratitude for the recognition and emphasized their commitment to providing more innovative agri-extension services in Eastern Visayas in the year 2023. They acknowledged that their achievements were made possible through the continuous collaboration and support of their partners and clients.

ATI 8 ISS receive Recognitions



The ISS (Information Support and Services) team was recognized with awards for their notable accomplishments in the past year, particularly in the areas of developing knowledge products and services, as well as implementing effective

information and communication strategies on social media. The awards were given during the 2022 IS Achievers' Award held on December 8, 2022 in Butuan City, Agusan del Norte.

This year, the KM Updates introduced a new activity called the IS Agri Solutions Pitch, which aimed to gather innovative strategies in agricultural extension. ATI RTC 8 participated and presented their project called SIKAT (Sustainable Innovation and Knowledge on Agricultural Technologies). Their effort was acknowledged with a 3rd Place award during the Poster Contest.

Database Management / Upgrading

Region 8 Directory

Office Supply Monitorin

[illegible]

The Region 8 Directory provides a convenient and accessible resource for obtaining the names and contact details of Local Chief Executives (LCEs), Municipal Agriculturists (MAs), and City Agriculturists (CAs) in the various municipalities and cities of Eastern Visayas. This database is regularly updated to reflect any changes in designations within the Local Government Units (LGUs).

Office Supply Monitoring System

The Office Supply Monitoring System implemented at ATI RTC 8 enables staff members to efficiently track the availability of supplies and other materials in the center's supply office. This system represents a significant improvement over the previous process of supply withdrawal and deposit, as it provides reassurance to staff, particularly supply officers, that all items released and received are properly accounted for.

[illegible]

LSA and SPA Directory

The LSA and SPA Directory serves as a database for staff to see the different LSAs and SPAs certified within the region. It also provides information about the farms, their location, cooperators, and their status whether their certification is still active or expired. It also shows the ATI RTC 8 staff assigned to monitor the LS and SPAs in assigned areas. ESPs are also included in the directory for easy identification of Extension Service Providers in the region.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Conducted the study on the Factors Influencing the AEWs Implementation of their Action Plan Based on the Trainings they attended on 2019 for Region 8
- Developed the AFE RBME System Report for FY 2022 on October 14, 2022
- Updated AEW Profile for Region 8

ISO 9001:2015

ATI RTC 8, as an ISO 9001:2015 certified organization, is dedicated to continuous improvement of its extension programs and services. To assess the effectiveness of its management system and identify areas for enhancement, the center conducts management reviews at the end of each semester.

During these reviews, ATI RTC 8 evaluated its achievements from the previous semester and addressed any issues identified in previous performance reviews. The activities also involve presenting staff performance evaluations, customer satisfaction ratings, and financial updates. It also served as a platform to communicate new policies and changes that government organizations must comply with. The center revisited and updates risk plans and audit results.



The mid-year review took place on July 4-5, 2022, while the year-end review occurred on December 19-20, 2022. These activities contribute to ATI-RTC 8's ongoing efforts to enhance its operations and ensure the delivery of high-quality services.

Swine AI sa Barangay



In 2022, the Department of Agriculture (DA) launched the Integrated National Swine Production Initiatives for Recovery and Expansion (INSPIRE) to implement a calibrated repopulation plan for swine in the country. As a result of the INSPIRE program, the AI sa Brgy Project was expanded and renamed SWAIB, which stands for Swine Artificial Insemination in Barangays.

On October 5, 2022, a Groundbreaking Ceremony of Swine AI sa Brgy. (SWAIB) Project of Bontoc Multipurpose Cooperative (BCCI) at Brgy. Talisay, Bontoc, Southern Leyte. The project implementation was spearheaded by ATI-RTC and supported by ATI-ITCPH under the INSPIRE Program of the National Livestock Program - Department of Agriculture.

The objectives of this project is to produce and promote high-quality and genetically superior processed semen in the market. The project will also be utilized for training, extension services, and education for farmers, students, and interested individuals. With the project, an increase of the local swine inventory and pork supply is projected. The project also aims to adopt modern facilities with a climate-controlled system and biosecurity measures and more importantly, provide additional sources of food and income for farmers.

ATI EASTERN VISAYAS

STAFF



HAZEL GRACE T. TAGANAS

Center Director



DALMACIO L. PAJANUSTAN

Assistant Center Director

PLANNING, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION UNIT



VENUS JUNE J. TAGHOY

Planning Officer II



MARIA RICA JEA G. LOBINA

Project Evaluation Officer I



MARY JANE P. PEPE

Development Management Officer I

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE SERVICES



MICHAEL P. BUZON

Administrative Officer II



AIZA A. MADUM

Accountant I



JEAN B. INTALES

Dormitory Manager II



LOVELY G. TEROL

Administrative Officer I



EDGARDO D. MEJOR

Network Controller



NILO S. MARQUITO

Administrative Assistant II



ROMARICO A. PALACIO

Administrative Assistant I



MARISSA V. DUEÑAS

Administrative Aide VI



MARIFE B. RABI

Administrative Aide I



YOLANDO B. APELADO

Security Guard I

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES



CONCEPCION B. MIRO

Training Specialist III



ERMALINDA B. CAYAGO

Media Production Specialist II



MARIA HELEN P. SECO

Development Management Officer II



GRACIELA V. GACUTAN

Training Specialist II



GIZELL JILL D. NUÑEZ

Training Specialist I

PARTNERSHIPS AND ACCREDITATION SERVICES



ANTONIO E. CADALIN

Senior Agriculturist



ALLEN R. GOROY

Agriculturist II



EMIE O. UY

Agriculturist II



VANESSA L. ASIS

Development Management Officer I

INFORMATION SERVICES



MELINDA P. PETALCORIN

Information Officer II



JONALYN G. SAULAN

Information Officer II



BETHEL JOHN L. SINON

Media Production Specialist II



OTHER PROGRAM IMPLEMENTERS

JUNALYN F. PALCO
MA. LOURDEZ P. PALCONIT
BENJAMIN B. LAGADAY, III
CHRISTIAN KERUEL Y. LAURENTE
VIBIEN G. BORONG

OSHIELA N. BANDALAN
CHERYL A. CAGABHION
RUCHEL A. GARIANDO
JOHN CESAR OYAO
JOSHUA C. SINOC

JOBERT L. CABALLERO
ELENO D. BAGARINAO
JOMMY P. JAGONOS
ROBERTO B. ABELLANA, JR.
JOHN BERT L. DAJOTOY



Visayas State University Campus, Visca, Baybay City, Leyte
Phone No. (053) 563-7635
Email: atirtc8@ati.da.gov.ph
URL: www.ati.da.gov.ph/rtc8
Call: 1-800-10-982-2474 | Text: 0920-9460-2474