



MONTHLY REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

APRIL | 2022

Center/Division: **RTC-CAR**

PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>TRAINING ON CORN SEED PRODUCTION (BATCH 1)</p> <p>The corn industry in the Philippines consists of white and yellow. White corn is for food, and yellow corn, on the other hand, is an essential ingredient of feeds for hogs, poultry, and fish. The demand and productivity of white corn as food are relatively flat. In contrast, due to the increasing demand for meat, the demand and productivity of yellow corn are generally growing. The feed milling sector has tapped local yellow corn production and imports to meet the demand and address operational efficiency.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture (DA) aims to produce more corn and raise the country's corn sufficiency rate through its Corn Banner Program. In support of this, the DA-RFO-CAR pushes for the implementation of various services such as the Corn Seeds Assistance Productivity Enhancement and Model Farm Projects. However, the number of active corn seed growers in the region is still insufficient to cater to the region's needs. There are 24 accredited corn seed growers; however, not all are active.</p> <p>With the impending full implementation of the Mandanas-Garcia Ruling which devolves some of the Department's functions to the LGUs, this training conducted virtually on April 26-28, aimed to capacitate the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of CAR in assisting corn farmers in their respective areas. Specifically, this training intended the AEW participants to help scout and assist interested corn farmers become seed growers.</p> <p>Completed by 18 AEWs.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Thank you so much to our resource persons and for all the learnings from this training, especially on the Seed Certification and Seed Testing. We hope to share our learnings to small- or big-time corn seed growers." Mr. Felipe Kimmayong, Jr., AEW from Aspulo, Itugao</i></p> <p><i>"I just want to thank you for this training and for being part of this training. Even if there is no corn banner program focal person because there are only a few corn growers in our municipality, I am glad I am part of this. I learned a lot from this training and I thank you because I was allowed to join the training." Ms. Rowell Sambaoa, AEW from Pilar, Abra</i></p>



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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>TRAINING ON EXTENSION DELIVERY SYSTEM: BASIC COURSE ON AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DELIVERY FOR NEW AEWS OF CAR</p> <p>Extension is an educational and communication intervention aimed at inducing voluntary behavior change with presumed collective/public good/benefit. It plays a very important role in rural development, from the transfer of information and technology to the higher goal of the total transformation and empowerment of farmers. In the search for the best way to carry out extension programs and projects, various approaches and methods were tried. Each approach and method proved to have its own shortcomings in certain situations.</p> <p>Being an extension agent, the Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) of the Local Government Units (LGUs) play a crucial role in the implementation of agricultural programs. They perform varied roles in their respective areas in the hope of bringing about changes in the life of farmers. The effectiveness of the delivery of extension services then is largely dependent on these AEWS.</p> <p>The Agricultural Training Institute has been conducting an Extension Delivery Course for AEWS since the 90s and currently there is an increasing number of new AEWS who have not yet undergone this course. As a new AEW, equipping them with the knowledge and skills on the Basic Agricultural Extension Course will further strengthen the various agriculture and extension implementations. With such a training course was conducted in Las Vegas Hotel and Restaurant, Dagupan West, Tabuk City, Kalinga, completed by 40 AEWS. This was held on April 25-29. In this training, AEWS were equipped to enhance their competence for an effective extension delivery.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Thank you to our Training Management Team for inviting us to attend this training. For 10 years in government service, it is my first time to attend such training. As a new Municipal Agriculturist of Mayoyao, I found this training relevant, since it broadens my knowledge on how to cater with our clients or farmers properly. This training also made me realize the importance of community diagnosis in coming up with Project, Programs and Activities (PPA's) for farmers. Even small or seemingly little things count-like presentation and communication. Sometimes, it is not wise to rely on what the farmers expressed needs. They need (technical) Intervention from technical people like AEWS to really bring out their needs for appropriate intervention."</i> Mr. Clyde Bangligan, Municipal Agriculturist-LGU-Mayoyao</p> <p><i>"First of all, I would like to thank ATI for this training which is very relevant in our field. Although we have been serving the government for a long time, it is still different in terms of our field of specialization since we are engineers but our work is on agricultural extension. When we were employed as an agriculturist and technician, we were exposed to community organizing with limited knowledge. Actually, the topics we discussed reflect to what is happening on the field. This training broadens my knowledge on how to cater our clients on the field and enables us to correct the don'ts that we are doing before. With that, thank you for implementing such relevant training".</i> Mr. William W. Gorayon Jr., Agriculturist I - OCAS-Tabuk City.</p>

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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>TRAINING ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION, UPDATED REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS</p> <p>The market potential for organic products is enormous, more so, if they pass the organic certification process. Organic certification may be acquired either from the third-party certifying bodies or Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). Participatory Guarantee System are locally focused quality assurance systems of organic products certification which small farmers can afford, and which provides access to healthy and safe farm products. As an alternative to third-party certification, the PGS plays a vital role in rural development and farmer empowerment through active engagement of farmers in the whole process of verification, decision making, and marketing. PGS is built on the trust and integrity of farmers and consumers who conduct the certification process themselves through adherence to certification standards, guidelines, regulation, and processes, similarly observed by third-party certification. Organic Certification assures producers the right to claim their products as organic and explore the world market. With the rising concern about antibiotics and pesticide residues, the clamor for healthy safe-foods is growing and the organic market is likewise expected to continue to grow.</p> <p>Generally, the activity aims that the AEW participants will be able to increase their existing knowledge and skills on OA Technologies to assist farmers in producing organic crops and livestock towards organic certification.</p> <p>This training conducted on April 4 to 8 was completed by 22 AEWs.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"First of all, thank you ATI-CAR, to the TMT and management for delivering us this training. We are grateful for all the interventions that you are providing to the AEWs and farmers. For this training, I have learned more about Organic Agriculture, the Updated Standards and the New Technologies that can be of help to us AEWs and to our farmers. I can say that all the topics can help me as an AEW in the implementation of the Organic Agriculture Programs and in helping farmers to adapt on the Organic Standards and to the New Technologies that were developing and arising." Mr. Danilo B. Marcelo, Jr., Rep. from OCAS, Kalinga</i></p> <p><i>"In this training, I have learned the importance of Organic Agriculture and the benefits of being a certified organic group or as an individual farmer. I have learned more about the PGS Organic Certification. Also, the soil fertility management for sustainable farming and the Water filtration system gave me an idea that there are so many strategies/ ways that don't need much expenses that we can adapt to make our Organic Farming going. With that, I would like to thank the ATI-CAR family for always rendering their extension services to us AEWs." Ms. Rimalyn Benito, Rep. from LGU-Sabhan</i></p>

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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>TRAINING COURSE ON ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES FOR OA FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS OF VILLAVICIOSA, ABRA</p> <p>Organic Agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic Agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.</p> <p>Republic Act No. 10068 also known as the Philippine Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 is a landmark legislation for the development and promotion of organic agriculture in the Philippines. It is the culmination of long years of development efforts mostly by non-government, community-based organizations and private groups pushing for agriculture sector reforms around ecologically sustainable, environment friendly and safer production systems, availability of safer and more nutritious staples and food and increased farm productivity and income opportunities for Filipino farmers (BAFPS, 2012). However, Republic Act (RA) No. 11511, the Act amending the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 (RA 10068), is finally signed and approved by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on December 23, 2020, and will take effect on January 21, 2021. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 11511 is not far away as the NOAP-NPCO, BAFS and other partner agencies are actively collaborating to put in details the IRR. The main highlight of the new Act is the recognition of the PGS as an alternative to third-party certification, with BAFS as the lead agency in the accreditation and provision of technical assistance to PGS Groups.</p> <p>This training was undertaken to promote Organic Agriculture to feedback updates and other related concerns on OA. Likewise, awareness of Organic Agriculture Acts (RA 10068 and RA 11511), updates on the Philippine National Standard (PNS) on Organic Agriculture, production of safe, nutritious and quality crops and livestock, is a necessity. This information must be understood by the Farmer-Leaders in the Municipality.</p> <p>On April 25 to 26, this training course was attended by 31 participants conducted in Poblacion, Villaviciosa, Abra.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"We thank you for this opportunity to learn about organic farming technologies. We value all the practical lessons we have acquired from this training which I know are very relevant to every one of us. Thank you so much."</i> Ms. Florencia Baggas, Farmer, Lumaba, Villaviciosa, Abra</p> <p><i>"I appreciate all the speakers for effectively sharing their expertise. Thank you to the organizers for your consideration and willingness to bring this intervention here in Villaviciosa. This training emphasized the benefits of organic practices towards longer life."</i> Ms. Margarita Agyapas, Farmer, Tamac, Villaviciosa, Abra</p>

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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Training</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR SMALL ENTERPRISE: TRAINING ON VALUE ADDED PROCESSING ON RICE AND RICE BY-PRODUCT</p> <p>The Administrative Order No. 27 Series of 2020 of the DA aims to establish a farm and fisheries clustering and consolidation program (F2C2) towards greater inclusive agri-business development in the country. The F2C2 program seeks to advance the interest and condition of Filipino farmers and fishers by encouraging them to adopt the strategy of farm clustering and consolidation of their production, processing and marketing activities as community business enterprises, including the pooling of assets, labor and other resources in order to a) effectively achieve and benefit from economies of scale in commodity production, b) forge stronger linkages among farms and fish producers to their commodity's markets and the bigger global value chain, c) improve bargaining and market power of primary farm and fishery producers, d) establish better access to sources credit and financing investments, e) ensure greater availability and wider utilization of agri-aqua technologies, farm mechanization, logistics and transport support and postharvest facilities and f) effectively raise the overall productivity of the sector and the income of Filipino Farmers and Fishers.</p> <p>With such, this training course was conducted in DA-ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet, completed by 30 members of rice clusters in Kalinga and Ifugao. This was held from March 28 to April 1.</p> <p>Generally, this training was intended to let the participants be able to demonstrate skills on rice-based product development to improve their income. Specifically, it sought to discuss and explain the principles on good manufacturing principles, food safety and quality of rice; demonstrate skills on the different rice-based processing; calculate and analyze costs and returns of the different rice-based products; and prepare an action plan on how to implement their acquired skills and knowledge on rice-based food processing.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"We are grateful, thank you for this chance. We have learned ample and our queries were resolved with additional inputs from the facilitators. We acknowledge that we do not know everything and that this training cleared up our how's. Thank you, ATI, BSU and DA. Despite the remoteness of our homes, we felt your earnest invitations for us to join this training."</i> Mae Saicyat, Farmer, Tabuk City, Kalinga</p> <p><i>"I am thankful that I was given the opportunity to join this undertaking. In this training, we gained various ideas on how to diversify our rice produce so that we do not merely focus on one product or on the usuals. We really enjoyed our stay and our learning sessions. We hope for more of these interventions."</i> Sheril Macadangdang, Farmer, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao</p>

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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>BANTAY ASF SA BARANGAY: "TRAINING ON SPECIMEN COLLECTION FOR BARANGAY BIOSECURITY OFFICERS (NOT IN WFP)</p> <p>African Swine Fever (ASF) is an infectious disease of swine notifiable in the European Union (EU) and to the World Organization for Animal Health 1. Susceptible pigs can be infected by direct or indirect contact with infectious animals or their fluids, ingestion of contaminated animal feed, pork, or pig products, or contact with contaminated surfaces or fomites (<i>clothing, footwear, vehicles, farming tools, etc.</i>).</p> <p>This activity focused on capacitating Barangay Biosecurity Officers (BBO) to gain additional knowledge and skills on collecting specimens for laboratory testing, appropriate handling of specimens and restraining techniques, and preparation of animals for collection. Laboratory tests will be a help and will be used to detect animals that have survived infection with ASF and in surveys to determine whether the disease might be endemic in an area.</p> <p>On April 13, seven (7) participants actively attended this activity conducted at the Center.</p> <p>Learnings/ Agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBOs to be really vigilant and be strict when it comes to the implementation of the surveillance and quarantine to save our pigs and our livelihood. • Any problem that will arise during the implementation of the program should be coordinated immediately to the MAO Office or PVO Itugao. • Collection of blood for laboratory tests takes time and needs more practice. Collection should be under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian from MAO Office or PVO. • In conducting farm biosecurity assessment, the BBO should be very observant, be subjective and creative in questioning the farmer for them to be honest. • Proper biosecurity is still the best for ASF prevention. <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"While the speaker was discussing the farm biosecurity assessment, I also tried to assess my farm in my mind, and I realized it doesn't meet the recommended practices and biosecurity measures. This training is a big help for us, starters, not only to prevent ASF but also to improve our farm. We are once again reminded that prevention is better than cure. We shouldn't wait for a disease to come before we act. Thank you very much." Mr. James C. Puyao, Farmer, BBO, Tuel, Tublay, Benguet</i></p> <p><i>"Thank you for inviting us to learn, and really, we did learn a lot. This is supposedly learned over months or years, but we did it in one day. The flow of the training is really good. We hope you'll invite us again for the next training session." Mr. Joseph G. Inga-an, Barangay Kagawad, BBO, Paco, Mankayan, Benguet</i></p>

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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>ONLINE TRAINING ON CONDUCTING WEBINAR AND ONLINE TRAININGS FOR AEWS: RBO COORDINATORS OF CAR</p> <p>Despite the lockdown and restrictions, extension services need to be delivered and implemented to our intended clients and stakeholders. The unforeseen effects of the pandemic have caught the staff and other co-implementors from different government agencies unprepared with the skill in conducting or facilitating virtual/blended activities using the different online media platforms that are available.</p> <p>Further, one of the identified training needs of our partner RBO Coordinators is to be capacitated and updated on the different virtual applications to fulfill national and regional top-down activities and still be able to extend services to their clients, the Rural Based Organizations. Thus, this three-day training was undertaken for RBO Coordinators to be equipped with necessary skills in these challenging situations. This skill is necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the online trainings, programs and other activities of the agri-fishery extension services. It was conducted on April 27-29, completed by 20 participants.</p> <p>Discussions focused on Technical Requirements, Conducting Virtual Meeting, Google Forms: RBO Master lists, and included practical exercises and presentation of sample outputs.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"I thank all the organizers of this training that I have learned a lot of information. One problem I think we should resolve when we will relay this training to our fellow AEWS is to strengthen our internet connection here in our place. Overall, I was satisfied with the outcome of this training thank you again."</i> Ms. Aimee Kathleen Padua, LGU Tabuk, Kalinga</p> <p><i>"I was given additional knowledge about this kind of webinar and tools although I had internet connection problems along the training, I was still able to learn a lot during the training. I hope in the future there will be training like this face to face. Thank you to all the resource speakers and to the TMT."</i> Mr. Bonifacio Tayab, LGU Pinukpuk, Kalinga</p>

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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>REFRESHER COURSE TRAINING ON INBRED RICE SEED PRODUCTION FOR SEED GROWERS</p> <p>With the enactment of RA. 11203 (Rice Tarification Law), the quota system on rice trade was replaced with tariffs allowing the liberalization of rice import and export in the country.</p> <p>Under the law, the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) was crafted to provide direct assistance to rice farmers in the form of extension services focused on inbred rice seeds, mechanization, and distribution of rice farm equipment. It shall provide an annual appropriation of Php 10 billion for the next six (6) years following its enactment in 2019.</p> <p>Under the seed component, there is still a need to develop more seed producers in CAR, particularly Kalinga, in order to satisfy the high demand of producing quality seeds needed for the seed distribution under the RCEF program. In addition, existing seed growers are also required to undergo refresher course training in order to update them on the technology management and practices of producing high quality seeds.</p> <p>As such, ATI-CAR will continue its delivery of training programs to enhance technical capabilities of seed growers and to help ensure the availability of quality rice seeds in CAR. Conducted on April 5 to 7 in TAMPCO Inn and Training Center, Tabuk City, Kalinga this refresher course was completed by 22 farmer participants.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Foremost, I learned the proper ways of fertilizer application. Each stage of the crop has different nutrient needs. Hence, if we follow the right timing and right amount, we can surely maximize our use of fertilizers and minimize our expenses. Being a seed producer is truly a privilege with the benefits that comes with it. I do hope that the DA programs continue with improved processes for a better and faster transactions."</i> Ms. Divina Guillermo, Seed Grower, Apayao</p> <p><i>"Thank you for this retooling course. I realized that for the past three years, I have forgotten some of the fundamentals that a seed grower must follow. Thank you for the reminders and updates. Most importantly, thank you for the values orientation. Indeed, even if we have all the resources, if we do not put God first in our lives, our plans and undertakings will never succeed."</i> Mr. Romulo Pascua, Seed Grower, Kalinga</p>

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<p>Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>FARM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY URBAN AGRICULTURE MODEL FARMS OF CAR</p> <p>The establishment of Community Urban Agriculture Model Farm (CUAMF) in CAR started in 2018. The program aims to develop CUAMF utilizing available local resources, recyclable containers considering agro-climatic conditions, practice waste management and to demonstrate urban agriculture technologies with an innovative approach to promote good agricultural practices through integrated and diversified farming. In addition, now that the farms were established, ATI believes that the enterprise development program is one effective support mechanism to improve productivity and sustainability of agriculture-based products.</p> <p>This three-day course held on April 27 to 29, was designed to enhance the entrepreneurial competencies/skills of the members/recipients of the CUAMF in the region in the development and improvement of agri-business community enterprises. Further, it focused on the discovery and rediscovery of the participants' entrepreneurial potential, creativity, values orientation, strategy development, project identification and pre-business plan awareness.</p> <p>Learnings noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the necessary knowledge and skills gained by the participants will be re-echoed to the other members of the organization who did not attend the training. • Participants and other members of the organizations should apply the values, strategies, project identification, business planning and entrepreneurial skills learned in their farms for improvement. • Organizations who are advanced in their farm management and practices will guide the other groups for the enhancement of their farms. • As model farms, they are encouraged to always be Motivated, with presence of Orderliness and well Develop atmosphere. Furthermore, they should Elevate – learn processing other than production, and should establish a Lovely garden/agricultural enterprise. <p>This training was completed by 21 participants conducted in Dammuhan Hall, ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>“Thank you, ATI, for the invitation and to our resource persons for the learnings– being patient and logical in all our decisions and not only to produce products but having profit through this. We know that it will be a help for us to improve our organization and be successful in entrepreneurship. Hopefully, we will meet again for the next training session. Ms. Brandy P. Andres, Secretary, Bekes Ta-ang Farmers Organization</i></p> <p><i>“On behalf of Baengan Planters Association, we would like to thank All for the continuous support and also our speakers for the enjoyable learning sessions. What struck me most is that it's not only the income alone that we should focus on but the equal sharing of members of organizations on how we can help one another to be better. I also appreciate what Sir Ed shared about the bible verse that in all we do it must be in line with what pleases God. Lastly, I would like to thank the other organizations for sharing what they know for us to apply also in our farms, hopefully we will have the opportunity to visit their farms to learn more” Ms. Veronica B. Mat-an, President, Baengan Planters Association</i></p>

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<p>Strengthening Competency and Building (Learn)</p>	<p>Training</p>	<p>INTRODUCTION TO APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING AND UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (UAV)/DRONE IN AGRICULTURE</p> <p>On April 25 to 29, the first batch of this training was conducted in Aspuhan Hall, ATI CAR, La Trinidad, Benguet. This was actively participated by 34 participants (32 AEWs and 2 others) from Abra, Benguet, and Mt. Province.</p> <p>Nowadays, with the use of new technologies, farmers of today can now optimize each part of their operations from field spraying to grow cycles and crop health. This is attributed to agricultural drones and other types of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) which are now making waves in the agricultural industry, providing smart farming solutions that use real-time data gathering and processing to improve farm-wide decision-making and efficiency.</p> <p>Drones are currently used in agriculture for surveying and mapping out crop production area, crop health monitoring, detection of pests and disease and may gather other data for-precision agriculture. Being one of the largest producers of various fruit and vegetable crops in the country, innovative strategies that would help farmers increase their productivity while prioritizing sustainability and resiliency is urgently needed. Further, with the pressure of climate change, extreme weather events, increasing populations, and lately, the COVID-19 pandemic, the AEWs who are the frontliners in assisting farmer clients in the field has to be updated or equipped with these technologies.</p> <p>Resource persons were Mr. Roscinto Ian C. Lumbrés, Faculty Member, Benguet State University (BSU), Ms. Quinerlyn A. Godio, Science Research Assistant, BSU, Ms. Lynn J. Talkasen, Assistant Professor I, BSU, Mr. Levi Ezekiel O. Daipan, Science Research Analyst, DA-RFO, Ms. Myra Nieves T. Lingaling, Science Research Analyst, DA-RFO, and Ms. Nova D. Doyog, Instructor I, BSU.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"I would like to thank the ATI header by Sir Charlie C. Sagudan and BSU personnel for including Bakun in this kind of training. It was a big help on our side that this training was conducted. I can say that if we cooperate well with this kind of technology, we can work something out. And also, it has a great impact on the gathering of data in the field. Overall, the presentations in these trainings were all very helpful"</i> Ms. Enrique D. Aelba, Municipal Agriculturist, Bakun, Benguet</p> <p><i>"First of all, I would like to thank the ATI family, facilitators, resource speakers for all your generosity. I would say that all my expectations were met. Even though there are bad effects of technology in other aspects, there are still good effects of it which we have learned in this training. I am also glad that I was able to attend this training face-to-face. Thank you for this very successful training."</i> Mr. Percival O. Awingan, Agricultural Technician, Tadian, Mountain Province</p>





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Strengthening Competency and Competitiveness through Capability Building (Learn)	Training	<p>UPDATES ON RCM: A TRAINING ON RICE CROP MANAGER ADVISORY SERVICE</p> <p>Rice is a staple food for most Filipinos, increasing the imperative for local supplies of the grain to meet the demand. For production to increase to meet this growing population pressure as well as respond to other challenges such as climate change and environmental sustainability, certain efficiency and productivity gains are critical for rice production systems. One way to accomplish these required gains is through the promotion and adoption of the best scientifically-grounded crop management practices.</p> <p>Globally, digital technologies have been harnessed to help smallholder farmers increase yields and incomes. The potential of digital technologies to improve outcomes in farming is remarkable. It is critical to understand their design, implementation, adoption, and sustainability methodologies to ensure that they indeed have impact.</p> <p>In the Philippines, Rice Crop Manager (RCM) has blended digital technology and robust scientific research to generate a nutrient and crop management recommendation specific to a farmer's field that, if followed, will boost yields and incomes. RCM Advisory Service (RCMAS) is a bundle of tools and services that collects data on rice farmers and their fields and provides precise, field-specific recommendations.</p> <p>Thus, the training was conducted on April 5 to 7 in Sagada, Mountain Province to develop the participants skills in the operation of the updated web-based and android version of the RCM Advisory Service application. Participants appreciated the learnings and knowledge they gained on the training since RCM will help them generate a proper recommendation in applying fertilizers which would help in increasing the yield of their rice grains. Also, they committed that after the training they will establish an accurate database of farmers and their respective rice fields.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"Thank you to our Training Management Team for considering us three participants from Pasil, Kalinga, to attend this training. Knowing that each municipality is limited only into one participant. Anyhow, I do appreciate this training since it is not just a purely discussion but rather, we were exposed on field. Our exposure on the field allowed us to apply -what we have learned in these four corners of the hall- the measuring of the rice field, the usage of GPX tracker and the like. To my co-participants I hope to see you again and God Bless on our way home."</i> Ms. Jezebel M.Kub-ao, Agriculturist II-LGU-Pasil</p> <p><i>"Thank you, for this refresher course on RCM allowed us AEWs to gather again. In this training I have learned that it is possible to edit some basic errors inputted in the profile of the farmers. On the field- it made me realize that we should always check that in measuring the rice field we should always see to it that our position is correct. Again, thank you and God Bless."</i> Mr. Alfonso Cayong, Agriculturist II-LGU- Hungduan</p>





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Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Other AF	<p>PROVINCE-LED AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION SYSTEMS (PAFES) ORIENTATION FOR THE PROVINCE OF APAYAO, April 26, 2022</p> <p>Pursuant to the Department of Agriculture's agricultural modernization and agro-industrialization thrusts, the province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES) shall be mainstreamed as the modality in the implementation of DA's banner programs in the provinces.</p> <p>Under the current administrative structure, PLGUs have no control over the municipal and city local government units in terms of agriculture. In this set-up, the main players pursue their own programs in the grassroots, resulting in the fragmented and ineffective agriculture and fisheries extension delivery system. PLGUs are in a much better position to plan and implement province-led agriculture and fisheries extension programs because they have the economics of scale. In addition, they are also closer to the realities of small farmers and fisheries from a wider perspective. Lastly, they can provide a sustained annual budget to improve the livelihood of small farmers and fishers.</p> <p>PAFES shall serve as the institutional arrangement in pursuing the full devolution of AFE services to LGUs, integrating the implementation of agriculture and fisheries programs and related support services at the provincial level. It further aims to strengthen the capability of LGUs to plan and implement multiple agriculture and fisheries programs with the province as the center for operations given the full devolution of AFE services as mandated by EO 138. Last 2021, the DA-RFOs selected one province as pilot in the implementation of PAFES, CAR selected the province of Benguet as its pilot site. As to date, PAFES implementation is being extended to other provinces of CAR, thus this orientation. This activity was participated by representatives from the OMAg, MPDC, BFAR-Province, Apayao State College (ASC), OPVet and OPAS, facilitated by DA-CAR RFO, DA-APCO Apayao and ATI-RTC-CAR.</p> <p>Ms. Virginia Tapat, Chief, Operation's Division, DA-RFO-CAR presented the overview of the activity. Ms. Mae Kio-isen, Agriculturist II of the Operations Division of DA-RFO-CAR oriented the group about the PAFES program, its objectives, and expected outputs. She also shared the PAFES-Implementation Process. With this activity, Apayao is in its Phase I for preparatory activities. The Benguet Experience was also presented to the group for them to have an idea how Benguet Province implemented the PAFES.</p> <p>Welcome Message: Mr. Bernardo Bareng, Sr. Cooperative Development Specialist for the Province of Apayao.</p> <p>Emphasizing how important the activity is, the Province of Apayao wanted to welcome this kind of activity for them to be oriented and be informed on the purpose and objective of the PAFES. He said that the Provincial Agriculturist should have been the official person to welcome and grace the activity. Since the PA is not around, he enthusiastically welcomed the group. He said that whatever agreements made in this occasion be relayed to the Provincial Management.</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
<p>Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p>Field Validation</p>	<p>FIELD VALIDATION OF NORTHERN BLOSSOM FARM</p> <p>The validation was conducted by Ms. Cristine B. Esnara, PASS Head, to check existing facilities and capabilities of the farm to become a Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA). The farm is owned and managed by Ms. Melanny Ganayan of Paoy, Atok, Benguet. The farm has 3 hectares but only 2 hectares are being operated.</p> <p>The farm was originally used to grow and supply flowers but due to public demand, it was opened to everyone for sight-seeing, photo and video shoot. It is slopy area, terraced, and landscaped, composed of greenhouses and open area planted with various ornamentals such as succulents, cabbage roses, sunflowers, calendula, everlasting, rice flowers, statice, snapdragon, and many more.</p> <p>The existing facilities include ornamental greenhouses, lodging house or rooms for transients, seedling nursery, comfort rooms, parking for guests, consolidating facility, restaurant, store center and a wider parking space. Staff assigned per stations and activities were trained on agri-tourism etiquettes. Farm is very organized and open for tourism, with an entrance fee of 200 per person. They offer free coffee and bread to all guests, served at the exit part of the farm.</p> <p>Other observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ She has been consolidating ornamentals within the community and market to Dangwa Flower Market in Dimasalang, Metro Manila and some were being sold at the farm; ✓ She is successful in demonstrating ornamental farming or agri-tourism as a viable enterprise. ✓ Currently, the farm has 27 staff, reduced from 37 due to the pandemic. Her staff were assigned in every block to assist guests. ✓ She is very much willing to become a learning site for agriculture to encourage others. Further, she is to share her technologies, inspire others, orient and conduct lectures for farming enthusiasts. ✓ Physically fit to perform her duties and responsibilities as LSA since she is only 49 years old. <p>Based on validation, the only lacking facility is a holding area that may cover at least a larger group of people for orientation and training activities. As per validation, the Northern Blossom Farm is qualified to become LSA. She was then asked to accomplish the LSA forms and proposal for approval of the OIC-Center Director and endorsed to the Central Office for Certification.</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)	Field Validation and Monitoring	<p>FIELD MONITORING OF LSAs and VLsAs, March 29 – April 1, 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Village Learning Site for Agriculture (VLSA) – Alfonso Lista, Ifugao <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site was led by the Municipal Agriculturist, Engineer Eugene Cullimay. It is composed of 5 farmer members granted with facilities to complete the value chain within the village. The site was launched last December 10, 2021 ○ Updates during the monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Holding area, processing center, marketing, and farm equipment were already done and liquidation reports were submitted by Engr. Cullimay. ✓ Waiting for electrical connection. ○ They were encouraged to continue farm operations and submit reports. As for training, they are subject for training within the year to prepare them to become efficient/effective VLSA. ● Village Learning Site for Agriculture (VLSA) – Pudtol, Apayao <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site was led by the Municipal Agriculturist, Ms. Marivic Lagmay, composed of 6 farmer members ○ Updates during the monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The 2 ha corn based farm is currently planted with corn on its milky to maturity stage. The proposed facilities such as holding area, processing, marketing/display area and lodging house is currently being constructed, almost 80% done. ● Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) – Macadandang Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LSA certificate was awarded in the OMAG ○ Farmers was encouraged to perform the obligation being an LSA ○ Further, he informed that he constructed the facilities (holding area with comfort rooms) as proposed and approved ● Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) – Ortega Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The visit aimed to verify whether Mr. Ireneo Ortega, farm owner, is still interested to renew his certification as LSA. Accordingly, they are interested in renewing their certification. They were then reminded to submit their renewal documents, attached with the Notice of Expiry. ○ As to farm status, Mr. Ortega said that they still maintain the Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT). He even planted cover crops for conservation and sustainability.





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>
<p>Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p>Field Validation and Monitoring</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) – SHAVCERS Farm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The farm had been conducting 2 batches of FFS trainings for CY 2021, funded under the RCEF program. ○ For this year, Mrs. Sacki, farm owner, said that TESDA had given them other batches to implement this year, but she still needs to coordinate with TESDA for an additional number of batches. Accordingly, she was not able to properly enter her absorptive capacity, due to weak signals in the farm. ○ Observations during the monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Office was constructed on the 2nd floor of the holding/training area; ✓ improved farm landscape; ✓ farm sanitation and organization ✓ Lowland vegetable production ○ According to Mrs. Sacki, she requested the assistance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPAT) to help her in landscaping the farm. ● Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) – Agguimangan Agro-Eco Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The team was accommodated by the farm owner, Mrs. Marivic Aguire, a licensed Pharmacist who engaged in farming enterprise to help her kababayan, the “esneg” to have additional source of income in barangay Swan, Pudtol, Apayao. ○ According to Ms. Aguire, her passion to provide local jobs in the community was the main reason for her to engage in Agriculture. ○ The 53 hectares farm is an integrated farm composed of livestock, herbs and spices, lowland vegetables, plantation crops such as coconut, pineapple, cacao, and banana; cassava; various fruit crops such as citrus, lanzones, rambutan and many more. ○ Through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), she partnered with DOST for pineapple processing and marketing for both the fruits and fibers. She also partnered with San Miguel Corporation for marketing of her cassava product. <p>The monitoring was led by OIC-ICD Charlie C. Sagudan and Ms. Cristine Esnara, Sr. Agriculturist.</p> <p>Field validation for the top 6 Out-of-School-Youths in the pre-qualification examination conducted last March 24 for Taiwan intern applicants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jephunneh Tim K. Kinobong, Lubuagan, Kalinga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Kinobong was 2nd in the pre-qualifying exam. ○ Mr. Kinobong is one of the scholars of LGU Lubuagan, currently enrolled in Kalinga State University (KSU) and a graduating student this coming June 2022. With these, OIC-Dir. Charlie Sagudan advised him to continue his studies to be able to graduate this coming June 2022, and be able to take the board examination. He also explained to the group that based on the guidelines, he is technically disqualified, since he is not an out-of-school youth.





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<p>Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p>Field Validation and Monitoring</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karl Kevin W. Sacki, Bantay, Tabuk City, Kalinga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based on the interview, Mr. Sacki had been helping his parents in the operation of their farm ever since he stopped attending college. Guidelines, basic requirements, intern obligations and schedules for the Taiwan internship program were discussed by the group. • Richard Allan L. Baysa, Bulanao, Tabuk City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Richard Baysa was 1st in the written pre-qualification examination. ○ As per interview, they have a 2 hectares rice farm located at Bolo, Tabuk City. He was an OFW in Middle East and recently, helping his parents in the operation of their rice farm. ○ According to OCAS Tabuk City staff, his father was registered in the RSBSA. • James M. Bangbang II and Jive B. Cimafranca – Puruk 3, Cudal, Tabuk City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Their corn-based area is both located in the same sitio and near a river. For Mr. Jives, he would like to expand his knowledge and skills in livestock and fishery aside from corn production where it became a part of his childhood. ○ Mr. James Bangbang was a trainee under the Adopt-A-4H Program in CY 2020, with an existing project on goat raising amounting to P50,000. He was able to multiply his pairs of goats up to this year. He also said that he would like to develop his knowledge on dairy goat raising and other crops. • Cristine Joy J. Crisolago, Imelda, Puttol, Apayao <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As per interview, she expresses her interest to take part in the internship program and apply learnings in their farm. ○ She had been helping her parents in the operation of the farm as well as conducting the Farmer Field Schools. As per observation, Ms. Crisolago is hardworking and can be able to work on the farm. According to her mother, Cristine and her brother have been a great help for them ever since they were a kid and it would be a great help for the farm, if her daughter will be able to go to Taiwan to learn. <p>St. William MPC Farm - Proposed ARBO-Based LSA</p> <p>Endorsed by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to be established or certified by LSA, a partnership between the ATI and DAR. The farm is 6 hectares with piggyery, ducks, dried rice fields and areas for lowland vegetable production. Holding area is currently being constructed, has a farm house and other facilities but needs to be organized. According to the Manager, the staff in-charge of the farm is just new.</p> <p>Issues raised by the manager include: need various trainings on crop production, farm entrepreneur, record keeping, organic farming, GAP, CRA, food safety and food processing; insufficient supply of water for the farm. and ATI to assist and teach them to develop the farm. As per observation, they still need to do the following to become LSA: undergo training on farm sanitation, GAP, OA, landscaping and various crop production; install capable permanent farm manager to take charge in all the operation of the farm; conduct farm sanitation, organization or 5 S; and identify and install possible source of water for farm use.</p>

JUN 15 2022
farm



PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>
<p>Modeling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)</p>	<p>LSA Activities</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MONITORING OF LSA ACTIVITIES UNDER LIVESTOCK AND REGULAR PROGRAM</p> <p>Ms. Maribeth M. Ladu-an, ATI-RTC-CAR, Agriculturist II led this monitoring held on March 9-11. Highlights were:</p> <p>Sagada Heritage Bee Farm, owned by Mr. Jayson Cam-ed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The farm was validated and certified in 2021 under the National Livestock Program. ✓ As of the date of visit, the farm has more than 100 colonies pastured in three different locations for the sources of forages. One near citrus farms, sunflower areas and strawberry farms. Currently, the farm is preparing for the AI for bees that is to be done in June. The owner was once again reminded of his responsibilities as LSA, to share his practices which the owner is already doing even before the certification and his semestral report to be submitted every June and December. ✓ Even with the restricted tourists visiting Sagada, the market for the honey is not a problem since they have a market in Manila ordering in bulk. Aside from bee farming, the farmer is also engaged in strawberry farming for pick and pay to tourists. <p>Masterre Farm, owned by Mr. Francisco O. Masterree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The farm was certified in 2018 for dairy goat farming. ✓ Currently, the farm has 10 does for milking but Mr. Masterree is planning to stop milking the animals since they are having market problems due to this pandemic. Due to the lack of tourists, the milk being produced are not being consumed by local buyers and its income does not compensate for the expenses being incurred. The farmer was encouraged to still continue producing even for meat for now as their certification as LSA is good for 5 years. They are encouraged to integrate other animals to add more sources of income. Mr. Masterree then, expressed his interest in rabbit farming. He was advised to asked technical support from PVO Mountain Province or can contact Mr. Yabut-learning site for rabbitry for stocks and technical support. <p>Langbayan Farm, owned by Mr. Albert Langbayan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The farm is one of the LSAs certified under the HVCD Program certified last 2016. His certificate or renewal was delivered during the visit. ✓ The farm is still engaged in citrus production, 6 varieties of citrus can be seen in the farm. Aside from citrus, coffees were planted in between with vegetables. ✓ GAP certification of the farm is on-going. <p>The learning sites were reminded to submit their semestral report every June and December. In addition, the LSAs were oriented on the internal evaluation of LSAs that is being conducted every 2 years. Forms were given to the LSAs to fill out to be submitted soonest.</p>



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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Modelling Technologies, Best Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Practices and Innovations (Exhibit)	LSA Establishment	<p>LSA ESTABLISHMENT</p> <p>Agriculture and Fishery (AF) Extension is central to growth and development of the agriculture and fishery sectors, hence, managing its extension services is crucial in empowering the farmers to have the competitive edge.</p> <p>The Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), as the Extension Support, Education, and Training Services (ESETS) arm of the Department of Agriculture, is responsible for conceptualizing training and extension modalities and innovations. Development and utilization of Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) is one innovative extension modality conceptualized by ATI where farmers and other participants interested to learn agriculture are brought for actual experience/hands-on training to complement classroom training. Further, the government through the DA-ATI, has funds allocated for interventions through its modality, the LSA, covering its establishment and continuous development support. Thus, two (2) LSAs were established this month.</p> <p>Under Rice Program</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> BACANI'S RICE-BASED INTEGRATED FARM located in San Rafael, Bananao, Paracelis, Mt. Province <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The farm is owned by Ms. Thelma Hidalgo Bacani. SAM REIGN ATLUNA INTEGRATED FARM located in Balangbang, Mayoyao, Ifugao <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The farm is owned by Mr. Samson Altuna. <p>Under RCEF Program</p> <p>For the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR, obligations are to monitor the implementation of the improvement/ expansion plan and ensure fulfillment of the responsibilities of LSA indicated in the establishment MOA.</p>
Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)	Development and Dissemination of Knowledge Products and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout the month, a total of 3,420 copies of Knowledge Products (KP) were reproduced and disseminated Developed 4 techno-based knowledge products under the OA Program Maintained/Updated the Center's website and social media accounts (facebook, twitter, instagram) with 19 uploads, that reached 44,116 individuals with 2,580 page views. <p><i>separata record... same in report...</i></p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
<p>Enhancing Agriculture Fisheries Extension Knowledge Products and Services (Disseminate)</p>	<p>SOA Meeting and FFM Shoot</p>	<p>SOA-SRA PREPARATORY MEETING and FILIPINO FOOD MONTH SHOOT</p> <p>On April 4-8, Mr. Maximino R. Aromin, Jr., ISS Head, Mr. Adrian Chris P. Velasco, Information Office II, and Mr. Ezrahyel Hackholna, Technical Support Staff, travelled to Abra, Apayao, and Kalinga to prepare for the SOA-SRA in June, attend FFS graduation in Luna, and shoot recipes for the Filipino Food Month celebration to be aired on April 26, 2022. During the meeting in Abra, there were 8 agenda tackled: 1. Identification of areas of improvement; 2. Review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) and some reminders; 3. Agree on the SOA schedules; 4. Target setting/ commitment of targets; 5. Signing of Contract of Service (COS); 6. Distribution of supplies; 7. Survey recipes in Abra for the next Filipino Food Month celebration; and 8. Schedule of next meeting.</p> <p>On April 6 the FFS graduation in Luna, Apayao was attended by the team. There were 24 graduates dominated by women.</p> <p>The team conducted the shoot for "Binongor" on April 8 with Ma'am Rita, a retired AEW handling RBOs. She won in several cook test under and she requested that the shoot should be done in old Kalinga house where her assistant cook lives. On the other hand, the "Inandela" shoot is with the RIGs of Bagumbayan, Tabuk City, Kalinga which is known/specializes on the delicacy.</p> <p>MONITORING ON THE LSAs and AI sa BARANGAY ACTIVITIES March 23-25, 2022, Alfonso Lista, Banawe, and Lamut, Itugao</p> <p>ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) SA BARANGAY</p> <p>Mr. Vicente Dinundon Jr. is one of the Center's recipients for the AI sa Barangay in 2019. He was sent for training in Swine AI at the ITCPH and given AI equipment. With this program, the beneficiaries were expected to establish AI Center as a source of quality and genetically superior boar semen and eventually increase swine population in their locality. The AI Center building and the boars being used were the counterpart of the recipient while the equipment was funded by the office. In 2021, the center had already served 264 clients and Mr. Dinundon was able to give 5 piglets free to five individuals as his repayment for the program.</p> <p>To fasten the repayment, Mr. Dinundon was advised that he can give semen for free instead of piglets. He was also advised to be very careful and to implement strict biosecurity in the farm to prevent ASF infection. From January 2022 as to the date of visit</p> <p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The AI Center has already served 94 swine raisers. ✓ Mr. Dinundon has 2 boars alternately being used but are due for culling next year
<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Monitoring Activities</p>	<p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The AI Center has already served 94 swine raisers. ✓ Mr. Dinundon has 2 boars alternately being used but are due for culling next year





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<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Monitoring Activities</p>	<p>He then expressed his need for enhancement to continuously provide quality boar semen since the boars that were supposed to be given to him as part of the program were not delivered due to ASF. Lastly, Mr. Dinundon expressed his gratitude to the ATI for the provision of the equipment, that now he can extend the semen collected and can also preserve the semen for longer shelf life that enabled him to serve more swine raisers. In return, he was encouraged to continue recording his production and clients, including documentation of successful sows that has farrowed.</p> <p>LEARNING SITE FOR AGRICULTURE (LSA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dame Elle's Poultry Farm owned by Ms. Mae Bel Magastino located in Amganad, Banau Ilugao was certified as one of the LSAs under the National Livestock Program (NLP) in 2021. The farm is engaged in free range chicken production, breeding and caged layer production. During the visit the LSA certificate and the tarpaulin was awarded to Ms. Magastino. 2. She expressed her plans to develop the existing housing for the breeders to have a second floor to serve as a permanent holding area. In addition, the young farmer was encouraged to continue improving her farm including planting more forages and landscaping. 2. Camat Integrated Organic Farm is owned by Mr. Villafuerte Camat certified as SPA from 2016 and has been our active partner and his certification expired in 2021. Expansion and improvement of the farm is notable during the validation (pls see attached pictures) Aside from farming, Mr. Camat is engaged in pottery The farm is highly recommended for renewal as SPA. 3. Cawagdan Integrated Farm owned by Chuck Kelvin Cawagdan was certified as LS under the NLP in 2020. The farm is into poultry production integrated with vegetables and corn. Expansion and improvement of the farm is notable during the validation Sleeping quarter that can accommodate at least 10 people, wash area, tool rooms, comfort rooms and other farm facilities were already established. Also, the farm is preparing for GAP certification of the crops. However, the hogs were already disposed of due to fear that they will be infected with ASF. 4. Bongat and Sons Farm owned by then, late Mr. Alex Bongat was certified as LSA under HVCDP on mango production. During the visit, Mr. Allen Bongat assured the team that he will continue to serve as a learning site as what their father had started. During the visit, fruit bagging of the mangoes is ongoing. For continuous production, avocado trees were also being planted in the farm to replace the dragon cactuses. The renewed LSA certificate was also awarded to Mr. Bongat and was encouraged for continual improvement. <p>The learning sites were reminded to submit their semestral report every June and December. In addition, the LSAs were oriented on the internal evaluation of LSAs that is being conducted every 2 years. Forms were given to the LSAs to fill out and submit ASAP.</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	FITSC Visitation	<p>FITSC VISITATION</p> <p>The ATI-RTC-CAR team visited the FITS Centers of Besao and Sagada located at their respective Municipal Agriculture Offices. The visit to the MAO of Besao and Sagada included the feedback of the results and observations during the RCM Briefing and Deployment. Administrative and other arrangements concerning ATI activities in the locality were also coordinated to the MAO and other concerned offices and individuals.</p> <p>a. FITSC Sagada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ For the implementation of the TGP, the increase in the number of personnel in the Sagada MAO caused them to rearrange their office so that they had to relocate some of their display cabinets for print IEC materials along the hallway in front of their office. Nonetheless, the display cabinet for print IEC materials remains strategically located as it is not just along the hallway in front of the MAO but is also just beside the waiting area for the offices adjacent to the MAO such as the municipal planning, and engineering offices. ✓ The Sagada MAO's technical assistance, including the RCM deployment and farmers' registration which is part of its commitment under the FITSC enhancement through the RCM program, is also being implemented by the FITSC although there are some challenges it is encountering along the way which are discussed in item III herein. <p>b. FITSC Besao</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Besao FITSC is currently located in the newly constructed building housing the MAO. One of the major features of the newly furnished FITSC is a dedicated display cabinet for print IEC materials and other resources and references. ✓ Similar to that of the Sagada MAO, the LGU Besao FITSC technical assistance, including the RCM deployment and farmers' registration which is part of its commitment under the FITSC enhancement through the RCM program, is also being implemented by the FITSC. <p>ATI-RTC-CAR team, with Ms. Accab and Ms. Batayan of the Sagada MAO also visited Albert's Farm which is the first ATI certified LSA. Mr. Albert Langbayan, the owner of the farm, received the team at his farm. According to Mr. Langbayan, they are currently preparing the farm for the expected influx of farm visitors and other clients due to the gradual opening of the municipality to tourists.</p> <p>Some of the farm activities noted are the cleaning of the pathways to the farm and the farm surroundings, gathering of grasses and other compost materials, pruning of citrus trees, and integration of vegetables in between citrus trees. The most noticeable standing vegetable crop during the visit are eggplants which at that time are already at their fruiting stage. Mr. Langbayan also shared that there has been a consistent increase in the demand for lemon wherein buyers in Bontoc alone can reach a requirement of 500 kilograms daily, thus he is also giving more attention to his lemon production. The ATI-CAR team also delivered the LSA's new tarpaulin poster and a set of various print IEC materials. Mr. Langbayan noted that the print materials arrived just very timely as he is expecting more visitors in the coming months and most of them also collect reading materials during their visit. The team turned-over the tarpaulin poster.</p>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	LSA Visitation	





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Internal Assessment	<p>ATI-RTC-CAR 1ST QUARTER PERFORMANCE REVIEW ACTIVITY</p> <p>The Center is guided with implementing standards/ procedures/ guidelines/ directives/ frameworks in the implementation of programs, projects, and activities (PPAs). In this assessment, the Center's performance for the first quarter was reviewed following the five (5) thematic programs.</p> <p>The review also served as an avenue to determine if it had successfully implemented its interventions and have these interventions reached the intended beneficiaries. A picture of performance was presented for every staff to appreciate and visualize their contribution to the overall picture of the center. Operations from the Administration and Finance services were also reviewed in complementation with the physical accomplishment.</p> <p>As well, Republic Act No. 11285 is an act institutionalizing Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Enhancing the Efficient Use of Energy, and Granting Incentives to Energy Efficiency and Conservation Projects, otherwise known as Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, was signed and approved on April 12, 2019. With this Act, the Government Energy Management Program was enhanced and expanded to cover all government agencies, such as Executive Branches, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations, State Colleges and Universities, Other Executive Offices, and the Local Government Units. With such, Mr. Jordan B. Pilyay, presented the details of the Center's electricity, fuel, and water consumption as of January 2022.</p> <p>Moreover, it is worth undertaking to raise the awareness and appreciation of the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR staff on the milestones of Department of Agriculture (DA) programs that it is implementing such as the Rice Crop Manager (RCM). Thus, on this part of the activity, a video showing the success story of the implementation in the region was undertaken by the Information Services Section (ISS).</p> <p>The review activity was conducted on April 20, 2022, actively participated by 41 ATI-RTC-CAR staff at the Aspulan Hall, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet.</p> <p>Impressions:</p> <p><i>"This activity has shown that we've made our best in the implementation of our services and in rendering our responsibilities. With the Center's current accomplishment of 25% for this quarter, we still have 75% remaining and still have the rest of the year to improve and innovate incorporating the suggestions and comments of our colleagues." – Ms. Tessie B. Lingbanan, Administrative Officer II.</i></p> <p><i>"Good afternoon once again, the activity is well done and organized. As they said, for an Institution to grow more it needs the collective participation of its members. As a new member of this Institution, I was informed about the Center's plan ang got aware of what is happening in the entire organization and what can I do or contribute to the realization of these plans. That's all, thank you!" – Mr. Carevem Bayawa, Technical Support Staff</i></p>



PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	AFE RBME Survey	<p>AFE RBME SURVEY FOR CY 2019 DA-ATI-RTC-CAR INTERVENTIONS</p> <p>The main purpose of the AFE RBME Survey is to determine the results of interventions – policies, programs, and projects – as it answers the “so what” questions. Information that will be gathered will help the ATI management and program implementers come up with better-informed and evidence-based decisions towards continuous improvement and reforms in the implementation of extension services in the region.</p> <p>I LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET, APRIL 8</p> <p>On March 29, sample respondents from the municipality of La Trinidad were called for a face-to-face interview on April 8. However, during the set date of interview, only one (1) client-respondent came to the Center and some mentioned that they were not available. Thus, the monitoring team utilized other survey methods such as answering the phone call and thru Google forms sent to them.</p> <p>I LAMUT, IFUGAO, APRIL 26</p> <p>Ms. Sunshine D. Garra, Agricultural Technician of Lamut, Ifugao met the team at St. John’s Episcopal Church together with the respondents of St. John Farm Family Organization. The team was able to interview 12 farmer-respondents and one AEW. In the afternoon, the team proceeded to Barangay Magulon. At the site, the team was able to accomplish and interview five farmer-respondents. Unfortunately, some of the listed interviewees were not available. In addition, Ms. Sheila Maie D. Butic, Agricultural Technician I of Lamut, Ifugao was also interviewed. The team also reached Barangay Ambasa, where five farmer-respondents attended and were interviewed. A total of 22 farmer-respondents and two AEWs were interviewed.</p> <p>I ALFONSO LISTA, IFUGAO, APRIL 27</p> <p>The team traveled to Barangay San Jose, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao. At the site, Ms. Ronelia P. Taylan, Agricultural Technician of Alfonso Lista met the team. 16 farmer-respondents were interviewed at the site. In the afternoon, the team headed to Barangay Pinto, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao As instructed, respondents were able to gather at the Barangay Hall. 13 farmer-respondents gathered at the barangay hall were interviewed. To sum, a total of 29 farmer-respondents were interviewed.</p> <p>I PASIL AND RIZAL, KALINGA, APRIL 28</p> <p>Due to the challenge of the geographical location of these municipalities, the travel took time to reach the communities. At the site, Mr. Larry P. Bumasso, CRA Project President of Ableg, Pasil met the RBME Team. Ms. Rebecca D. Wanas, Agricultural Technician of OMAG-Pasil, also came and accompanied the team.</p> <p>While only seven farmer-respondents were identified in the Barangay, the team was able to accommodate three more training graduates from the same intervention conducted in 2019. In the afternoon, the RBME team together with Mr. Jaymor Juan, Agricultural Technician of Rizal, Kalinga, met the farmer-respondents in Santor, Rizal, Kalinga. All the 13 identified respondents were present and were interviewed successfully. Alas, a total of 23 farmer-respondents were successfully interviewed.</p> <p>I TABUK CITY, KALINGA, APRIL 29</p> <p>Respondents from Barangay Bulanao, were gathered at the FITS Center, Office of the Provincial Agriculture Services. Only three farmer-respondents came for the interview and one AEW-respondent came and was interviewed by the ISS Team in Las Vegas Hotel via Google Form.</p>



PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
	Audit	<p>ISO INTERNAL QUALITY AUDIT FOR SEMESTER 1, CY 2022</p> <p>The audit was conducted on April 12, 2022 to assess the conformity of established ATI QMS against the requirements of ISO9001:2015, assess the capability of the QMS in ensuring that ATI-CAR meets applicable statutory, regulatory and contractual requirements, verify implementation and evaluation of effectiveness of intended correction and corrective actions to IQA and TUV-SUD Audit Findings, and evaluate effectiveness of the QMS in ensuring that ATI-RTC-CAR is continually meeting the set objectives and customer requirements. During the closing meeting, the summary of the audit findings was presented by Mr. Bongbong L. Buli-e for comments and clarifications. There were 2 NCS and 7 OFIs.</p>
	Delivery of Starter Kits	<p>DELIVERY OF STARTER KITS</p> <p>On March 21 to 23, the Center conducted Capability Enhancement for Farmers: Training on Integrated Rice-Based Farming System with Provision of Starter Kits to farmers in Cayapa, Lagangiang, Abra. The activity aimed to be a valuable opportunity for rice farmers to learn new technologies they can adapt to their farming.</p> <p>Ms. Resley Ann Sumedca, ATI-RTC-CAR Agriculturist I, led the delivery of starter kits to the farmers on April 6, 2022. It was explained to them that the poultry given should serve as an additional source of food and income of the family. In addition, Ms. Sumedca mentioned that a representative from the OMAg will be visiting their progress from time to time.</p>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Internal Assessments	<p>11th ATI-RTC-CAR MANAGEMENT REVIEW</p> <p>The review was undertaken to review the organization's Quality Management System (QMS) at planned intervals to ensure its continuing suitability, adequacy, effectiveness and alignment with the organization's strategic goals. The inputs were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review on previous Management Review action items; ✓ Changes in internal and external issues relevant to the QMS; ✓ Customer Feedback Rating; ✓ Results of Internal Quality Audit (IQA) and TUV SUD Audit; ✓ Adequacy of resources; ✓ Performance of External Service Providers; ✓ Effectiveness of actions taken to address risks and opportunities; and ✓ Other opportunities for improvement <p>The review was conducted on April 18-19 at the Aspulan Hall, ATI-CAR, BSU Compound, La Trinidad, Benguet participated by 43 DA-ATI-CAR Staff.</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Meeting	<p>RCEF MEETING April 7, 2022</p> <p>The meeting was called to order by DA-ATI Central Office to discuss the following: Digital Agriculture Course (DAC) for RCEF, Review of 2021 Accomplishments, Priority areas for 2022, 2022-2024 changes in targets and activities, Reporting, IEC materials, and social media and website posting.</p> <p>Discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital Agriculture Course for RCEF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o List of requirements and forms for Farm School implementation. The course will be through a proposal from LSAs who wants to conduct the program o The Budget will be funded by TESDA in terms of Farm School Implementation o TOT schedules for 2022 (ATI-RTC-CAR will implement a TOT this second sem) o Updated implementing guidelines to be cascaded - 2021 Accomplishments were presented by Mr. Javee Maslang (basis of reports of accomplishments were TOACRs, SOA data, List of partner radio stations) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Extreme Priority Areas for 2022 were Bohol, Aklan, Capiz, Masbate, and Samar as these areas has a very low accomplishment - 2022-2024 Changes in targets and activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Social Media posting (Number of Engagement to be included with at least 2% engagement, the higher the better) o No more eCourse to be developed for RCEF o Inclusion of FITS Centers establishment and enhancement in the report of accomplishment - Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Monthly reports (every 1st Wednesday of the Month) o List of IEC recipients (quarterly) o List of titles developed (quarterly) o Disaggregated data (quarterly) o Deadline: April 20, 2022 for Qtr 1 - IEC Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Localize IEC materials o RCEF Farm School brochure o 2021 videos <p>Attended by Mr. Bongbong L. Bull-e, ATI-RTC-CAR Media Production Specialist II.</p>

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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS (Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</p>										
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Meeting	<p style="text-align: center;">COORDINATION OF IEC ACTIVITIES IN CAR April 8, 2022</p> <p>The activity is called by the DA-BAI regarding the coordination of IEC activities on the dissemination of African Swine Fever. Accordingly, this meeting is one of the strategic communications of the Bureau of Animal Industry for all concerns in order to reach more people for them to be informed about ASF. As such, the following agenda were tackled: Strategic Communication Plan of ASF c/o NASEP/CP, Current Communication Plan and Activities in CAR (DA-RFO-CAR Livestock/RAFI/ATI), Strategies for IEC and Trainings to be conducted, and Ways Forward/Other Matters/Adjournment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Communication Plan of ASF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – As an introductory and overview of the strat plan, BAI discussed the impact of ASF of which a State of Calamity was issued by virtue of Proclamation No. 1143, series of 2021. – Bantasy ASF sa Barangay program was also implemented in each Barangays entire the Philippines. – ASF Communication Strategy is through the TRACE components: <table border="1" data-bbox="754 765 890 1916" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">T</th> <th style="text-align: center;">R</th> <th style="text-align: center;">A</th> <th style="text-align: center;">C</th> <th style="text-align: center;">E</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Understanding the Technical Elements of ASF</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Risk and Crises Communication</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Awareness and Advocacy</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Creating Network of Regional ASF Communication</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Engagement of Partners</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> – BAI would like to massively involve all concerned Agencies particularly Columns A and C which is vital for the implementation of the strategic plan. • Current Communication Plan and Activities in CAR. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ATI-RTC-CAR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IEC dissemination is through our FITS Centers and Learning Sites for Agriculture. ○ We also distribute IEC materials during the conduct of training activities. ○ Access of Walk-in Clients through ATI-RTC-CAR's library (in normal situation) ○ Digitized IEC materials can be downloaded through ATI-RTC-CAR's website – DA-RFO-CAR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do dissemination through SOA program <p>Ways Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAI through their National ASF Prevention and Control Program solicit each agency to continue the distribution of IEC materials • DA-RFO-CAR committed to help through tarpaulin printing as they have tarpaulin printing services. BAI requested them to contact the City LGU to hang tarp in public places such as in the market. <p>Attended by Mr. Bongbong L. Buli-e, ATI-RTC-CAR Media Production Specialist II.</p>	T	R	A	C	E	Understanding the Technical Elements of ASF	Risk and Crises Communication	Awareness and Advocacy	Creating Network of Regional ASF Communication	Engagement of Partners
T	R	A	C	E								
Understanding the Technical Elements of ASF	Risk and Crises Communication	Awareness and Advocacy	Creating Network of Regional ASF Communication	Engagement of Partners								





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Council Meeting and Annual Performance Review	<p>1st SEMESTER REGIONAL PAF COUNCIL MEETING AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW, April 22, 2022</p> <p>ATI-Regional Extension Service Provider Accreditation Advisory Council meeting is being held once in every semester to assess and evaluate the performance of the accredited ESP especially its adherence to the ATIs standards in delivering training and extension services, to assess and deliberate if there are new applicants and also to discuss matters and updates that needs to be discussed.</p> <p>Arrival and registration started at 9:00 AM. Present were Mr. Constantino Sudyapan representing Benguet State University, Ms. Lolita Bentes- PA of Benguet representing LGU/PLGU and Ms. Virginia A. Tapat, newly assigned RAFEN representative, OIC-TCD Charlie C. Sagudan representing the ATI Directorate and as ESP Regional Executive Officer and PASS technical staffs as the Secretariat.</p> <p>Ms. Ennara, PASS Head, started the meeting by acknowledging the presence of the Council members and the participation of the PASS Staff representing the Secretariat. OIC-TCD Sagudan presented the overview/agenda of the meeting followed by the review on the previous meeting conducted Nov. 4, 2021. He also announced that Dir. Edmund Benavidez is not with SLU-EISSF anymore since February 2022, but he is still being tapped by the Foundation as Resource Person for their trainings and activities.</p> <p>Matters discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review of the previous meeting dated November 4, 2021 ✓ Orientation and update on PAF-ESP ✓ Updates on the status of applicants and existing ESP <p>a) Mt.Carmel Agri-Tourism and Training Center located at Pidigan, Abra Complete requirements, documents already in place for submission to ATI-Central office</p> <p>b) ROUNMIA Agri-Tourism and Training Center located at Alfonso Lista,Ifugao For re-validation if the result of the validation was already addressed regarding the construction of the lodging house. Lodging house construction is on-going, expected completion is in June 2022.</p> <p>c) SLU-EISSFI located at Bakakeng, Baguio City; Diorama content is still for completion. Performance Evaluation was conducted via plenary session and came up with a point rating of 90/115 which is VERY SATISFACTORY/PASSED</p>





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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	<p style="text-align: center;">HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p>
<p>Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)</p>	<p>Assessment</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT OF MAGSASAKA SIYENTISTA (MS)</p> <p>LGU BESAO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ATI-RTC-CAR was accompanied by Ms. Helen of OMAg Besao ✓ MS Nominee – Mr. Orville Estangki <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ He was the President of the Mountain Province Coffee Growers and Producers' Association. He serves as Resource Person on Coffee from production to post harvest ✦ Technology – GAP on Coffee ✦ Production area – 1.3 ha ✦ Producer and consolidator of coffee, assisted by DA-RFO and DTI <p>LGU HUNGDUAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assessing team – ATI-RTC-CAR, Mr. Nathaniel Dimog of IFSU Lamut, Ronalyn Duyapat of IFSU Hapao Campus, accompanied by Mr. Alfonso Cayong of OMAg Hungduan ✓ MS Nominee – Mr. Daniel Binwag <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ He was the President Hungduan Organic Practitioners Association ✦ Farm practice/ technology – OA and Natural Farming ✦ Crops – lettuce, kale, strawberry, heirloom rice ✦ Animals – swine chicken ✦ Mr. Binwag was a SAAF Beneficiary – FRC and Pekin Ducks ✦ Production area – 1600 sq.m ✓ The assessment activity paved a way for IFSU Hapao and OMAg Hungduan to discuss and plan for possible collaboration between the two offices.





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Monitoring	<p>KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT CENTER (TECHNO GABAY PROGRAM) and LSA</p> <p>FITS CENTER</p> <p>HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Person interviewed: Mr. Larry P. Burnasao, President - The processing facilities/ equipment provided by the ATI-RTC-CAR in support to the association provided in 2020 - not yet fully utilized because of the presence of the ASF in the area that stopped their swine production for a while. - Other members are slowly reviving their swine production, with clearance however from the OPVet - Members continue farming while waiting for livestock production - Four members are into fruit trees; four into sugarcane; others continue their chicken raising; one member who is into sugarcane- stopped as the area is backfilled due to road widening but set to continue/transfer the sugarcane production - The association is due for renewal to DOLE and DA - Set to pursue the meat processing in time if Pasil is to be declared as ASF-free - Needs requested: provision of piglet for the members for them to continue their swine production along with the processing so that facilities provided be utilized - Advised them that they may ask assistance from the DOST focal of the LGU-Pasil so that they will be provided assistance on their wine production and processing. (*to be linked with DOST-CAR or PSTD Kalinga) <p>FITS Center-OMAg Rizal, Kalinga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The FITS area proposed is still being used as a meeting area by the LGU thus, the FITS area is still within the OMAg. Waiting for the construction of the new building so that the Office occupying the proposed FITS area will transfer to give way for the FITS. - Reminded them of their MS nomination <p>LSA</p> <p>HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing for the next set of TESDA trainings - With farm improvements: set another rice area into rice-fish production - Continues rice and mango production - Harvest from the seed production at 4 hectares: 800 bags at 20kgs per bag - Production: 20 bags/400 kgs/ hectare - Innovation: converted a thresher into seed separator <p>The monitoring activity was led by Ms. Jaila S. Sagpa-ey, ATI-RTC CAR Information Officer- II.</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Training Attended by Staff (INDCCR Report)	<p>TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) ON ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION FOR LARGE RUMINANTS, April 17-23, 2022</p> <p>The activity was attended by Ms. Marbeth M. Ladu-an, ATI-RTC-CAR, Agriculturist II conducted in ATI-ITCPH, Marawoy, Lipa City, Batangas.</p> <p>The anatomy and physiology of the reproductive system of female large ruminants, estrus detection and the hormonal interplay in the regulation of estrus and animal health was discussed by Dr. Gabriel Lagamayo, OIC-NDA South Luzon. Mr. Luisito Avante from National Beef Cattle Research and Development Center, Malaybalay Bukidnon Semen also discussed the collection, evaluation, processing and handling, AI Techniques and pregnancy diagnosis.</p> <p>Further, topics on management of breeders, selection and nutrition was discussed by Dr. Arnel del Barrio of UPLB. In the conduct of AI in large ruminants, the technician must be familiar with the anatomy of the reproductive system of large ruminants and must know the feel and identify them by how they feel by just holding them. Important parts are: a) vulva-outer part b) vagina- where semen deposits in natural mating; c) cervix- primary landmark of AI; d) uterus- where semen is deposited in AI, where embryo is implanted and site of fetus development e) ovary-produce egg and hormones The estrous cycle of ruminants is at 18 to 24 days at an average of 21 days</p> <p>Heat period is 12-24 hours. When heat is detected in the morning, perform AI in the afternoon and when heat is detected in the afternoon, perform AI in the morning, but when the animal is on standing heat, perform AI immediately. Important hormones that interplay in the estrus cycle are progesterone (commercially available as CIDR-Controlled Internal Drug Release), luteinizing hormone, prostaglandin and follicle stimulating hormone.</p> <p>For the region, Training on Large Ruminant AI was targeted to be conducted in 2023.</p> <p>Relevance of the training to work (as mentioned by the attendee):</p> <p><i>“As the Livestock Program focal, the training is very relevant for me professionally. It has helped me understand how AI works in large ruminants. Large ruminant inseminators/technicians in the Cordillera are very few (less than 15) according to the AI focal person in the DA-RFO hence the regions’ performance when it comes to large ruminant AI is very poor (2nd to the last region in the national). Some of the existing technicians are not accredited by BAL so their calf drop is not included in the report. Hence, the need to organize the existing technicians for accreditation and to train more technicians for genetic and performance improvement of our ruminants in CAR.” Ms. Marbeth M. Ladu-an</i></p>





HIGHLIGHTS

(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)

VIRTUAL ENERGY AUDIT ORIENTATION, March 11, 2022

Republic Act No. 11285, An Act Institutionalizing Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Enhancing the Efficient Use of Energy, and Granting Incentives to Energy Efficiency and Conservation Projects, otherwise known as Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, was signed and approved on April 12, 2019. With this Act, the Government Energy Management Program was enhanced and expanded to cover all government agencies, such as Executive Branches, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations, State Colleges & Universities, Other Executive Offices, and the Local Government Units

PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>													
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Orientation	<p>AGENDA</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="510 644 1029 2250"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="981 644 1029 1158">AGENDA</th> <th data-bbox="981 1158 1029 1697"></th> <th data-bbox="981 1697 1029 2250">AGREEMENT/ COMMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="893 644 981 1158">Inter-Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee (IAEECC) Resolutions (Government Energy Management Program) GEMP Assessment</td> <td data-bbox="893 1158 981 1697">Familiarization to the issued resolutions</td> <td data-bbox="893 1697 981 2250">Compliance to the needed documents prior to assessment of the Agency No government agency is exempted from spot audit</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 644 893 1158">Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) Officer</td> <td data-bbox="790 1158 893 1697">No government agency is exempted from spot audit</td> <td data-bbox="790 1697 893 2250">Shall be a Senior Official op part of the agency's top management Comes from the National Office (ATI-CO) RTCs are not required to have their EEC Officer, but may opt to have one The head of the Planning and Development Office shall automatically become EECO after 3 years of implementation</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="510 644 790 1158">Baseline for Electricity and Fuel Consumption</td> <td data-bbox="510 1158 790 1697">Baseline for Electricity and Fuel Consumption is 2015. In case it is not possible, the Head of Office shall make a letter address to Department of Energy (DOE) explaining the reasons why 2015 is not the baseline</td> <td data-bbox="510 1697 790 2250"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Participated by Ms. Liza D. Mablay and Ms. Aiza B. Abdul.</p>		AGENDA		AGREEMENT/ COMMENT	Inter-Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee (IAEECC) Resolutions (Government Energy Management Program) GEMP Assessment	Familiarization to the issued resolutions	Compliance to the needed documents prior to assessment of the Agency No government agency is exempted from spot audit	Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) Officer	No government agency is exempted from spot audit	Shall be a Senior Official op part of the agency's top management Comes from the National Office (ATI-CO) RTCs are not required to have their EEC Officer, but may opt to have one The head of the Planning and Development Office shall automatically become EECO after 3 years of implementation	Baseline for Electricity and Fuel Consumption	Baseline for Electricity and Fuel Consumption is 2015. In case it is not possible, the Head of Office shall make a letter address to Department of Energy (DOE) explaining the reasons why 2015 is not the baseline	
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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	PAFES	<p>PAFES MOA SIGNING for MOUNTAIN PROVINCE AND KALINGA AND TURN-OVER CEREMONIES, April 12, 2022</p> <p>As mandated by the Secretary of Agriculture, a flagship project of establishing the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES) is being undertaken as part of the transformation of the agriculture sector. Part of the preparatory activities for the expansion provinces is the formal signing of PAFES MOA for Mountain Province and Kalinga who have completed the initial steps in establishing PAFES in their respective localities.</p> <p>Activity Highlights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The activity was attended by the PLGU of Mountain Province, Kalinga and Benguet, DA-OSec, DA-RFO-CAR RPMO, DA-ATI-CAR key personnel and working committees and DA-BFAR-CAR key personnel Updates on CAR PAFES was presented through an audio-visual-presentation prepared by ATI-CAR. MOA Signing for PAFES Establishment in Mountain Province and Kalinga was led by DA Secretary William Dar together with the Gov. Bonifacio C. Lacwasan, Jr for the province of Mt. Province and Gov. Ferdinand B. Tubban for the province of Kalinga. Witnesses to the MOA were PA Domingo A. Cabatu of PLGU-Mt. Province, PA Domingo A. Baklan of PLGU-Kalinga, DA RED Cameron P. Odsey, BFAR-CAR RD Lilibeth L Signey and ATI-CAR CD Charlie C. Sagudan. Message of commitment were expressed by both governors. Incidentally, there were two turn-over ceremonies undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Turn-over of the original copy of the No Objection Letter No. 2(NOL2) was also undertaken for the province of Kalinga for the improvement of the 6.3 km farm-to-market road of Banneng-Daruiog-Bawac in Kalinga under the PRDP. ✓ Turn-over of 25 units Pump Irrigation System from Open Source (PISOS) to beneficiaries of Benguet province under the HVCDP. Farmer groups represented were the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Buguias-Japan Agricultural Trainees Assoc. of Buguias, ○ Benguet Manpat-a Farmers Assoc. of Manakayan, Benguet Pas-adan Farmers Association of Manakayan, ○ Benguet Bosigan Farmers Association of Manakayan, ○ Benguet Blestdam Farmers Irrigators Assoc. of Manakayan, ○ Benguet Raniag Farmers Assoc. of Manakayan





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	PAFES	<p>Excerpts from the message of Sec. William D. Dar:</p> <p><i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i></p> <p>"While there have been joint projects with the provinces all over the country with the DA, strengthening partnership must continue as provided for under the Local Government Code. Hence in 2019, an institutionalization mechanism to make the partnership between the DA with the LGUs a permanent one has been conceptualized because according to the local government code, the LGU will now have the extension delivery system for the last 2 miles. The food security czars are the provincial governors hence the food security program of the LGUs is under the jurisdiction of the provincial governors together with the municipal and city mayors.</p> <p>The province is one extension system, so at that level of the province there must be an effort to bring all the stakeholders such as the municipalities, state universities and colleges, farmers associations/federations, national government agencies delivering services w/ the PLGUs should be there as part of PAFES. Capacitation of the LGUs is a continuing process, and so it is necessary that for every step of the way, new banner programs or new projects, has to have a corresponding capacity of the LGUs. It is not always top-down, the programs and the projects of the province must be anchored on a national agenda which is the OneDA Reform Agenda to transform Philippine agriculture, localized at the provincial level. The provinces have a bigger role in the PAFES. Ang national government ay nandyan lamang giving the general directions and steering, pero yong talagang gawain ay yong probinsya ang pasimuno at liderato.</p> <p>To translate this operationally, the funds of the province must be layed down vis a vis the banner programs that the province would like to implement while the DA would also do the same so that in the joint planning, the department would be able to provide the corresponding budget to co-finance the identified programs and projects of provinces. When we bring resources together and do things together, more can be done and more impacts can be achieved on the grounds. Regardless of who will be the next department secretary, the one strategy under the OneDA Reform Agenda that must remain is the consolidation or clustering of farm operations so that the principle of collective action, cooperativism and participation is cultivated. In groups, the farmers will have the leverage to market their products. Improve postharvest facilities and level-up packaging to maintain quality of farmers produce (BAPTC and respective extension arm of the DA to promote this) Conduct pesticides residue analysis so that the consuming public will have safe vegetables to eat. ATI to conduct trainings to farmer leaders and agriculture extension workers so that new technologies pertaining to food safety are extended and promoted to the individual farmers in the localities. Dumping of excess or unsold produce is also the concern of the MAS/MADs, these offices must connect these farmers to DA-AMAD for possible market and whatever extra produce can be processed in a facility. It is incumbent upon the citizenry of the Cordillera to appreciate the balanced approach of having livelihoods and income source without having to destroy its forest reserves/environment to be turned into farms."</p>





PROGRAM ACTIVITY

HIGHLIGHTS
(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)
PLANNING WORKSHOP- MAPPING OF COLLABORATIVE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURE and FISHERIES EXTENSION PROGRAM (CPAFEP)

After the series of initial consultations and with the concurrence of the concerned provincial local government units (PLGU) the Provincial Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Center (PAFEC) shall then be created through an Executive Order issued by the Governor. The PAFEC shall be under the PAFES Project Management Committee/Council (PMC) which is composed of the Governor as Chair, the DA-RFO RED and BFAR RD as co-chairs, and the concerned SUC president, heads of DA Regional offices, Rural Based Organization representative, and farmers' group representative as members. The Provincial Agriculture Office (OPAg) shall serve as the PMC secretariat. Meanwhile, the PAFEC will be staffed and managed by either or both the OPAg, Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO), and/or Provincial Fisheries Office (PFO) subject to specific arrangements of the concerned PLGU.

One of the functions of the PAFEC is to lead in the development and implementation of a CPAFEP. The PAFEC shall then integrate the CPAFEP with the Comprehensive Provincial Development Plan. The CPAFEP is an integrated set of projects and activities in sharing technical, market, policy, and related advisory to support agriculture and fisheries in the province.

The CPAFEP shall be of two parts. The first part deals with the priority commodities of the PCIP while the second part is on the strategic support services (i.e., technology demonstration, capacity building, information and knowledge sharing, and institutional strengthening). In order to come up with this extension plan, the remaining PAFES consultation workshops shall be allotted to map out a CPAFEP. This shall be participated in by the multi-commodity teams of the PAFEC. The CPAFEP will be based on the Provincial Commodity Investment Plan (PCIP) approved by the Provincial Development Council with emphasis on the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) of priority commodities, the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization and Industrialization Plan, and other relevant plans in the province. These shall be reviewed and the extension interventions indicated in these plans shall be drawn out for the CPAFEP. Aside from the agriculture development plans of the province, the result of the rapid appraisal undertaken shall also be used as one of the inputs to the CPAFEP.

For the region, the provinces that were done with the planning workshop were Kalinga, Apayao, Ifugao, and Mt. Province. Details were:

PROVINCE	DATE CONDUCTED	VENUE	No. OF PAX
APAYAO	April 27	JLA Apartelle, Luna, Apayao	39
IFUGAO	April 20-21	Southville Inn Hotel, Lagawe, Ifugao	21
KALINGA	April 6-7	Golden Berries Hotel, Tabuk, Kalinga	39
MT. PROVINCE	March 29-30 (Batch 1) and March 31 (Batch 2)	Bontoc, Mountain Province	25

Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)
PAFES PLANNING WORKSHOP





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Firming Up of A&F Development Plan	<p>FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD)</p> <p>KALINGA Mr. Anthony Coliwet and Ms. Novelle Ongat were the Contract of Service (COS) responsible for the province of Kalinga. Highlights:</p> <p>PROVINCE</p> <p>FGD with PA and PVET representatives, and BFAR done</p> <p>Data gathered: 2018 – 2002 Accomplishment Report, Employment rate – 2020, Income Ranger 2016-2020, Irrigated Area Summary, Population 2016-2020, Total Land Area per Municipality and Tourist Spots</p> <p>TANUDAN</p> <p>FGD with MA, MPDC, Livestock; Livestock and Fisheries Coordinator is not yet assigned since there is a new management; FGD with 2 farmer leaders done Missing data on: 2018-2020 CLUP, CDP, AIP and Accomplishment Report. Only 2021 was retrieved</p> <p>TINGLAYAN</p> <p>FGD with Livestock Coordinator, Fisheries Focal, and MPDC; Key Informant Interview (KI) was performed with OIC-MA and 1 farmer leader Data gathered: 2018-2021 AIP, General Payroll, CLUP, CDP, and Accomplishment Report</p> <p>BALBALAN</p> <p>FGD with OIC-MA, Livestock Coordinator, Fisheries Focal, and MPDC; and two farmer leaders Data to be sent yet</p> <p>RIZAL</p> <p>FGD with Livestock Coordinator, Fisheries Focal, and MPDC; and two farmer leaders Data gathered: 2020-2021 Accomplishment Report, 2021 AIP, CLUP, and CDP Secondary data to be followed-up on the following provinces – Balbalan, Pasil, Tanudan, and Pinukpuk.</p> <p>TABUK CITY</p> <p>FGD were divided into two (City LGU in one group and CAF-C and SWISA President in one group)</p> <p>Self-administered questionnaires from the AEWs were collected. Most of the respondents have to be followed up since data were not yet prepared.</p> <p>Data gathered: 2018-2021 AIP, CLUP, CDP, and Accomplishment Report</p> <p>LUBUAGAN</p> <p>FGD with MA, Livestock Coordinator, Fisheries Focal and MPDC; 2 farmer leaders were also interviewed</p> <p>Data gathered: General Payroll, 2018-2020 Accomplishment Report, 2020 AIP</p> <p>PASIL</p> <p>FGD with MA, Livestock Coordinator, and Fisheries Focal, and 2 farmer leaders</p> <p>Data to be sent yet</p> <p>PINUUKPUK</p> <p>-FGD with MA Livestock Coordinator, Fisheries Focal, and MPDC Representative and two farmer leaders Data gathered: Annual Report 2020, AIP 2021-2020</p>





PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Firming Up of A&F Development Plan	<p>APAYAO Mr. Juniver Onsie and Mr. Edimer Paduyao were the Contract of Service (COS) responsible for the province of Kalinga. Highlights:</p> <p>PROVINCIAL FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (April 20)</p> <p>Attended by 14 participants (8 from PLGU and 6 from DA-RFO)</p> <p>Mr. Nestor Humiwat, SRS I, DA-RFO-CAR, provided an introduction on PAFES with briefing on the Mandanas-Garcia Ruling and EO 138. The PAFES and Rapid Appraisal Objectives were discussed by Ms. Evangelina Balderama, SRS II, DA-RFO-CAR. Mr. Juniver Onsie presented the PAFES implementation and FGD processes including the PAFES questionnaires and Ms. Esther Andiso, SSRS DA-RFO-CAR added some highlights specifically on the importance of PAFES. Finalization of outputs was facilitated by Mr. Edimer Paduyao.</p> <p>Instructions were relayed to the participants regarding primary and secondary data that will be collected in their respective offices upon the conduct of Key Informant Interview.</p> <p>MUNICIPAL FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION for Cluster 1: Lower Apayao – Flora, Luna, Pudtol, and Sta. Marcela (April 21)</p> <p>Attended by 20 participants (14 from MLGU and 6 from DA-RFO)</p> <p>Mr. Nicasio Baucas provided an overview of DTP that started in 1992 and PAFES synopsis. The PAFES and Rapid Appraisal Objectives were discussed by Ms. Evangelina Balderama, SRS II, DA-RFO-CAR. Mr. Juniver Onsie presented the PAFES implementation and FGD processes including the PAFES questionnaires and Ms. Esther Andiso, SSRS DA-RFO-CAR added some highlights specifically on the importance of PAFES. Finalization of outputs was facilitated by Mr. Edimer Paduyao.</p> <p>Instructions were relayed to the participants regarding primary and secondary data that will be collected in their respective offices upon the conduct of Key Informant Interview.</p> <p>MUNICIPAL FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION for Cluster 2: Upper Apayao – Flora, Luna, Pudtol, and Sta. Marcela (April 27)</p> <p>Attended by 25 participants (20 from MLGU, 2 MAFC and 3 from DA-RFO)</p> <p>Ms. Evangelina T. Balderama discussed the PAFES and Rapid Appraisal Objectives. Mr. Juniver O. Onsie presented the PAFES implementation and FGD processes including the PAFES questionnaires. Focus Group Discussions (FGD) proper was facilitated and the finalization and submission of output ended the activity. Furthermore, additional instructions were relayed to the participants regarding primary and secondary data which will be collected in their respective offices upon the conduct of Key Informant Interview. Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for Calanasan and Conner was secured prior for data gathering.</p>





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PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	HIGHLIGHTS <i>(Specific title of activities, Why, When, Where, Who, How many)</i>
Improving Enabling Environment and Governance for AFE (Support)	Forum	<p>14TH NATIONAL RICE TECHNOLOGY FORUM, April 14-18, 2022, Bula, Camarines Sur</p> <p>The activity highlighted the increased production of rice through use of hybrid technology coupled with precision farming using drone seeding. Several private companies and NGAs (Philrice, PriisCat, etc) participated in the hybrid rice derby and showcased their techno demo on hybrid rice production comparing the different methods of planting: Drum seeding, manual seeding and drone seeding. Although the actual result was not presented since the crop is yet to be harvested, however, looking at the standing rice crop at the demo field, drum seeding and drone seeding has the potential to generate an estimated yield of 9-12 metric tons. The operation of drones in seeding and fertilization is very efficient and effective in minimizing labor through clustering set up.</p> <p>In addition, the seeding rate is less compared to manual seeding. On the contrary, weather conditions such as wind velocity need to be considered when applying so that distribution of seeds in the field will be uniform. Other limitations such as licensing of operators and the high cost are some of the challenges that are seen. There is a need to capacitate operators of drone technology and since it is very costly, government provision of drones will be through clustered farmers to enjoy the benefits of economies of scale.</p> <p>Attended by Mr. Randy T. Soriano and Ms. Resley Ann G. Sumedca</p>

Prepared by:

Randy Soriano
BRANDYL BANDA-AY
 M & E/Designated Report Officer
 Date: May 11, 2022

Noted by:

CHARLIE C. SAGUDAN
CHARLIE C. SAGUDAN
 Center Director/Division Chief
 Date: May 11, 2022

