2023 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

Department of Agriculture
Regional Training Center
Cordillera Administrative Region

ISNN: 2945-4379

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Annually Published by:
Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Training Institute - Regional Training Center - Cordillera Administrative Region
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ISSN: 2945 - 4379
Printed in the Philippines
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Contents

Message of Center Director i

About ATI ii
Summary

Training and other AF-related activities, and extension support 1

Scholarship and Internship 18

Certification of Learning Sites for Agriculture (LSA) 22

Digital Platform 26

Knowledge Product Development 27

Extension Policies and Governance Support Services 30

Center Director's Corner

The accomplishment of our set targets is always attributed to the dedication and passion of our partners in the agricultural extension sector.

On behalf of the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR family, we present to you the accomplishments of our Center as our humble contribution to Department of Agriculture's cry for a "Masaganang Agrikultura, Maunlad na Ekonomiya" envisioning a food-secure and resilient Philippines with empowered and prosperous farmers and fishers.

Again, we thank you for the trust and confidence you have given us to take an important role in nation building thru agricultural extension services in our Region.

CHARLIE C. SAGUDAN
Training Center Director

ABOUT THE AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

By virtue of Executive Order No. 116, series 1987, the ATI was created to be responsible for the training of all agricultural extension workers and other AF clients; ensure that trainings address the real needs of the agricultural sector, and that research results are communicated to the farmers through the appropriate training and extension activities.

It was created from the merging of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension (BAEx), the Philippine Agricultural Training Council (PATC) and the Philippine Training Centers for Rural Development (PTC-RD). The ATI started with ten training centers in 1987 from the former Philippine Training Centers for Rural Development (PTCRD).

At present, the ATI has 16 regional training centers and International Training Center for Pig Husbandry. The passage of the RA 8435 or the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997 mandated the ATI as the lead agency on agriculture and fishery extension of the DA.

The DA-ATI-RTC-CAR was formerly a National Training Center for Rural Development of the PTC-RD and was established on February 2, 1980. It became one of the first ten National Training Centers of the ATI when it was established in 1987.

VISION

A competitive and prosperous agriculture and fisheries sector towards a vibrant economy

MISSION

Empowered stakeholders through a resilient and responsive agriculture and fisheries extension system

CORE VALUES

The Institute supports the government's objectives of accountability, transparency, ethics and integrity. With the Institute's core values that direct the way we relate to our stakeholders, customers and to each other, we, at the ATI, adhere and uphold the following values:

1. **Customer-Centric.** "We serve with empathy and passion."
2. **Committed.** "We go the extra mile"
3. **Innovative.** "We keep raising the bar towards excellence"
4. **Resource Steward.** "We work with integrity and teamwork."

ATI LEADS

Innovate. Transform. Empower

Embracing Extension Modernization

Summary

For the year, a total of 141 trainings and other AF-related activities were implemented by the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR to 3,700 participants. Notable was the accreditation of 27 trainings for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) by the Professional Regulation Commission.

There are 43 individuals being supported (continuing) by the Center through the three scholarship programs: EAsY Agri (27), EdGE (6) and OA youth scholarship grant (10).

Eleven LSAs were newly certified by the Center as partners in providing extension in their respective areas; 11 associations and schools were supported under the NUPAP; and two private Extension Service Providers (ESP) were newly accredited the: Mt. Carmel Agri Tourism Training Center in Abra and ROUMEIA Agri-Tourism and Training Center in Ifugao.

For the knowledge management, continuous packaging and publication of corporate materials are being done and 15 documentations on exemplar beneficiaries and technologies were made. Further, a total of 8,321 printed IECs were distributed to various clients. There were 1,204 graduates for the SOA -SRA implemented in Abra.

Strong partnership with the DA-RFO-CAR and BFAR-CAR in the implementation of various PPAs is sustained specially on the PAFES together with the PLGUs. Further, collaborative activities were also made with other partner agencies like CorCAARRD and DSWD.

Regular activities along governance like planning, workshop and assessment activities, monitoring, supports LGU AOMA, and RIC conventions, maintenance of database, among others are being conducted and provided. Unceasing support for the learning and development of the ATI-RTC-CAR staff were likewise provided. The conduct of five evaluation studies served as part the operational monitoring of the Center on the PPAs previously implemented.

The Center achieved a 100% obligation and 99.45 % disbursement rate from the overall PhP88,809,704.15 allotment for the Center's operation.

141
trainings and
other AF-related activities

3,700
participants

43
individuals
27 (EasY Agri)
6 EdGE
10 (OA)

CPD
27
trainings

ESP
2
newly
accredited

11
supported schools
and associations
under NUPAP

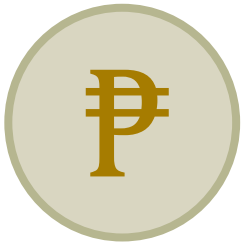
LSAs
11
newly certified
Learning Sites for
Agriculture

15
documentations
on exemplar
beneficiaries &
technologies

SOA
1,204
graduates

IEC
8, 321
printed and
distributed IEC
materials

99.45%
disbursement



PhP88,809,704.15
allotment

100%
obligation

LEARN

A Training and other AF-related activities, and extension support

The Center managed to conduct a total of **141 trainings and other AF-related activities** to **3,700 participants.**

141
trainings and other AF-related activities

3,700
participants

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accredited trainings

For the year, there are a total of **27 trainings and activities** that were accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission.

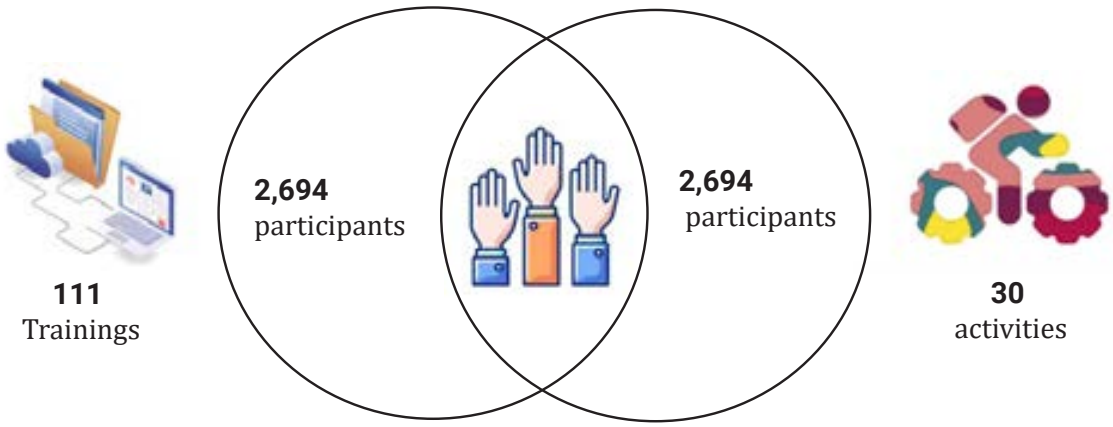
Training Title	Date of Conduct	Approved Credit Units	Accreditation Number	Actual No. of Participants	No. of Licensed Agriculturists
AGRICULTURE					
Harnessing Modern Advisory Service to Rice Farming: A Training on Rice Crop Manager 4.0	April 11-13, 2023	4	AGR-2022-035-762	31	25
Writing a Winning Project/Training Proposal Batch 1	March 14-16, 2023	5	AGR-2022-035-780	25	23
Writing a Winning Project/Training Proposal Batch 2	March 21-23, 2023	6	AGR-2022-035-801	52	35
Basic Meat Inspection Training Course	March 13-April 5, 2023	32	AGR-2022-035-781	15	8

Training Title	Date of Conduct	Approved Credit Units	Accreditation Number	Actual No. of Participants	No. of Licensed Agriculturists
Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Farm Inspection for AEWs of CAR Batch 1	March 28-30, 2023	8	AGR-2022-035-807	30	22
Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Farm Inspection for AEWs of CAR Batch 2	July 25-27, 2023	8	AGR-2022-035-810	30	28
Training of Trainers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Farm Inspection for AEWs of CAR Batch 3	August 22-24, 2023	8	AGR-2022-035-809	30	16
Training on Community Needs Assessment for AEWs	April 18-20	8	AGR-2022-035-850	30	18
TOT to Capacitate AEWs Batch 1: TOT on Vegetable Production Employing Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for AEWs of Kalinga	April 18-21	11	AGR-2022-035-856	37	22
Refresher Course for AEWs Batch 1: Training on PalayCheck System with Emphasis on Integrated Nutrient Management System	April 24-28	13	AGR-2022-035-946	21	19
Resource Person Development Course	May 16-18	7	AGR-2022-035-955	25	18
TOT to Capacitate AEWs Batch 2: Training of Trainers on Coffee Arabica Production Employing Good Agricultural Practices with Emphasis on Integrated Pest Management for AEWs of Mt. Province	May 16-19	21	AGR-2022-035-968	30	18
FEDMTP Course 3. Value Adding and Marketing: Training on Farm Business Planning for AEWs	May 30-June 1	12	AGR-2022-035-1041	23	13
Resource Person Development Course, Batch 2	June 7-9	18	AGR-2022-035-1018	25	10
TOT to Capacitate AEWs Batch 3: Training of Trainers on the PNS Code of Practice for Cacao Beans with Processing for AEWs of Ifugao	June 20-23	13	AGR-2022-035-1039z	30	14
Training on Rabbitry Production and Enterprise Development	June 19-23	15	AGR-2022-035-1038	16	4
Training of Trainers on Farmer Scientist Training Program	June 19-23	20	AGR-2022-035-1036	12	5

Training Title	Date of Conduct	Approved Credit Units	Accreditation Number	Actual No. of Participants	No. of Licensed Agriculturists
Refresher Course for AEWs Batch 2: Training on On–farm Experimental Design and Data Analysis using Statistical Tools for Agricultural Research (STAR) Software	July 17-21	12	AGR-2022-035-1102	20	18
Training on Vegetable Production Employing GAP for AEWs of Abra and Apayao	July 18-21	12	AGR-2022-035-1112	30	14
Training of Trainers on Corn Cluster Development	August 16-18	7	AGR-2022-035-1166	16	8
Training of Trainers on the Nutrient Expert for Cassava	October 25-27	6	AGR-2022-035-1235	20	19
TOT to Capacitate AEWs Batch 5: Training on Potato Varietal Characterization and Field Inspection Practicum for Potato Seed Inspectors of CAR (Phase 3)	September 12-14	11	AGR-2022-035-1187	31	26
Basic Training Course on Large Ruminants AI	September 18-22 to November 13-17, 2023	11	AGR-2022-035-1241	24	11
Refresher Course for AEWs: Training on On–farm Experimental Design and Data Analysis using Statistical Tools for Agricultural Research (STAR) Software (Batch 2)	September 18-22	14	AGR-2022-035-1180	21	18
20th Convention cum Seminar Workshop for Agricultural Extension Managers, Workers and Stakeholders	September 13-15	7	AGR-2022-035-1203	894	612
AGRICULTURE AND BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING					
20th Convention cum Seminar Workshop for Agricultural Extension Managers, Workers and Stakeholders	September 13-15, 2023	4	AGR-2022-035-211	894	58 ABE
Total					**830**

Regular Trainings, other AF-related activities, and extension support

A total of **111 trainings** with **2,694 participants** and **30 other AF-related activities** with **1,006 participants** were completed across the banner programs.



BANNER PROGRAMS

Rice Program

The Rice Program conducted **23 trainings** completed by **510 participants** and **12 other AF-related activities with 284 individuals.**

Trainings conducted for the AEWs were on: Refresher Courses Training on Palay Check System with Emphasis on Integrated Nutrient Management System and Harnessing Modern Advisory Service to Rice Farming: A Training on Rice Crop Manager 4.0; On–farm Experimental Design and Data Analysis using Statistical Tools for Agricultural Research (STAR) Software; and Regional Roll out of the Use of Outcome-based Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL).

For the local farmer technicians and farmer leaders, capability enhancement trainings and activities were on: Balanced Fertilization Strategy; Integrated Rice Farming System for Farmers; and Exploring Nutrient Management Techniques in Optimizing Rice Production.

The farmers were likewise capacitated towards the digitalization of the agriculture sector with the series of trainings on Digital Farmers Program conducted, three of which were implemented by the LGUs but funded by the program.

The briefings on Rice Crop Manager Advisory Service assisted the AEWs in the MLGUs in raising the awareness of rice farmers on the RCMAS, and in registering rice farmers in the RCMAS farmers database.

The conduct of the briefings on Golden Rice and Balance Fertilization Strategy intensified the advocacy about the golden rice or the Malusog Rice Program and its consumption in the country as well as safe and sustainable farming through the proper use of fertilizers.

Culminating the activities of the program was the conduct of promotional activities for the National Rice Awareness Month. The activities were done to help boost public support for healthier rice production, promote responsible consumption and highlight the nutritional benefits of brown, heirloom and golden rice varieties through an interactive information dissemination campaign. These were done in partnership with MLGUs of Hungduan, Ifugao and Sadanga, Mountain Province.

A notable activity funded under the program was the briefing of the local chief executives about the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR's programs and projects participated by 23 representatives from the LGUs-LCEs, members of the Sangguniang Bayan and LGU officials and staff. Such activity provided opportunity for the participants to learn and understand more about DA-ATI-RTC-CAR at the same time raise some of their concerns related to the Department's programs.

High Value Crop (HVC)

There were **ten trainings** conducted under the HVC program attended by **310 participants**.

The program sustained and widen its promotion on Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) and Philippine National Standard (PNS) with the completion of related trainings on vegetable, coffee and cacao bean that enhanced the knowledge of the participants on GAP principles and standards.

Further, the designated farm inspectors were also capacitated to efficiently assist and guide their farmer-clients in their compliance to the GAP standards and application to GAP certification.

Continuous support to the potato industry was done with the training on Potato Varietal Characterization and Field Inspection Practicum for Potato Seed Inspectors of CAR Phase 3. This provided an avenue to discuss the: status of the potato industry; different characteristics of the NSIC registered varieties; certification and field inspection guidelines; and proper photo and video documentation.

Strengthened partnership with the Benguet Agri-Pinoy Trading Center (BAPTC) and Benguet State University was made thru the two batches of trainings on Post Harvest and Food Safety, Safe Food Handling, Grading, Sorting and Classification of Major Highland Vegetable Crops for Accredited Owners.

Organic Agriculture (OA)

The program trained **152 participants** with **six trainings** implemented.

Focus of this year were on Training of Trainors (ToT) on the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for core groups towards Accreditation as Organic Certifying Bodies (OCB). The ToT on PGS for Core Group aims to establish and operationalize the PGS Groups consistent with the organic agriculture standards and corresponding technical regulations. It dwelt more on the IRR of the OA Act as amended by RA 11511 on PGS and formulation of the internal standards and manual of operations. The ToT towards OCB likewise is set for the already organized PGS Core Group wherein the trainings conducted further facilitated the enhancement of their draft: internal standards and manual of operations; skill in the conduct of internal audit, peer review, and certification protocols of the selected group.

The information caravan on Youth Scholarship Grant on Organic farming (YSGOF) imparted policies and guidelines about the OA scholarship program. These were presented to the provincial representatives from the six provinces of the Region.

There were series of activities done for the organic awareness month in October. The barangay outreach program held in Pudong, Kapangan shared concoction preparations and distributed farm inputs and implements to the members of the identified OA group.

Livestock

Aside from production-related technologies, the Livestock Program also anchored its trainings towards enterprise development course providing insights on entrepreneurial competencies, business development cycle and marketing strategies along rabbit and pig production.

One highlight of the program this year was the capacitation for the beneficiaries of the selected Integrated National Swine Production Initiatives for Recovery and Expansion (INSPIRE) groups. Topics included organizational management, crafting of the operations manual, and safety and regulatory provisions. The INSPIRE project aims to sustain an eligible source of quality hogs that would be available and accessible to the local farmers in the country.

There were also trainings provided on basic meat inspection course; large ruminants artificial insemination (AI); feednovation and feed formulation showcasing alternative feedstuff; specimen collection for barangay biosecurity as continuous activity under the Bantay African Swine Fever sa barangay; and beekeeping.

The program also funded three infrastructure projects in the Region to help restore the swine industry. The construction of the Swine AI sa Barangay (SWAIB) project housing and facility in Bauko, Mountain Province commenced. This is the first swine AI center in the region through the INSPIRE program of the DA. The 30 sow-level swine multiplier and techno demo farm project in Luna, Apayao, also started along with the feed mill machine in Aguinaldo, Ifugao.

In summary, the Livestock Program conducted and awarded a total of **13 trainings with 245 participants**, and awarded **three infrastructure projects.**

Corn and Cassava (CoC)

For the year, the CoC completed **three Training of Trainers (ToT)** with **48 participants.**

The CoC's accomplishment on the ToT on Farmer Scientist Training Program (FSTP) provided knowledge and skills to the trained AEWs to implement the said training program in their respective areas which includes modules on the principles, features and mechanics and corn production under the FSTP operation and management. As output, the participants were able to develop plan of activities for the FSTP implementation in their respective areas.

The farm clustering approach was emphasized during the ToT on corn cluster development course. The training discussed about values in relation to cluster development, status of the farm and fishery clustering and consolidation, along with some topics on organizational and financial management and developmental plan.

Meanwhile, site-specific nutrient management recommendation through the Nutrient Expert® Cassava Philippines (NECPH) was introduced to **20 participants** from the corn-producing areas and teaching staff from the SUCs.

Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund- Rice Extension Services Program (RCEF-RESP)

The continued implementation of the RCEF-RESP brought **nine trainings** to **211 farmers**, mostly were thru RCEF farm schools accredited by TESDA.

The Training on Inbred Rice Seed Production and Certification for Potential Seed Growers aims to facilitate the production of high-quality inbred rice seed to increase productivity and profitability. Farmers were likewise capacitated on the concept of rice-based integrated farming system as a stable source of income.

Noteworthy activity of the program was the Experiential Based Enhancement Course for the LSA operators and stakeholders. Participants visited selected LSA farms in Region 12 gaining first hand knowledge and experiences on the success stories and worth adopting farm technologies and practices.

The training on Digital Agriculture Course conducted were for the staff of the RCEF-funded LSAs to prepare them towards the digitalization of the agricultural sector.

National Urban Peri-Urban Agriculture Program (NUPAP)

With the inclusion of the NUPAP to become part of the Institute's programs, a total of **30 batches of seminars** on Community and Urban Garden Establishment with **771 participants** were implemented, intensifying the advocacy on organic vegetable production while encouraging the establishment of individual or community garden towards food safety, availability and sufficiency.

Urban agriculture-related topics like container and square foot gardening, concoction and extracts preparation were taught. Further, vegetable nursery establishment and operation and oyster mushroom production were demonstrated in some of the batches. Sets of starter kits (vegetable seeds) were provided to the participants after they have completed the requirements of the activity.

These series of activities sustained and forged partnership with various offices like the Department of Social Welfare and Development-CAR, Baguio CVAO and interested LGUs, associations and schools across the region.

Regular Program

The Regular Program accomplished **18 trainings (457 participants)** and **16 other AFE-related activities (652 participants)** for the year conducted by the various sections of the Center.

Committed to provide ladderized training courses for the AEWs, the three courses of the Training Program on the Enhancement of Extension Delivery were delivered. These are: Community Needs Assessment; Writing a Winning Training/Project Proposal; and Resource Person Development. As prerequisite participants to these courses should have finished the Basic Course on Agricultural Extension Delivery and are expected to complete the Training Management Course.

Likewise for the Training Program on Farm Enterprise Development and Management Training (FEDMTP), the third course on Farm Business Planning was implemented providing skills for the AEWs to assist the farmers in crafting viable business plan to help them access funds that they

could use to improve their operation and eventually increase their income.

Meanwhile, the RBO and 4H Focal coordinators were also trained on how to successfully organize and strengthen rural based organizations in their areas as partners in rural development.

Another sustained activity in the year is the ATI- LGU Trainers' Assembly via online that shared valuable information, knowledge and skills on success story writing.

On the farmer level, a training on Science and Technology-Based Farm (STBF) Proposal Preparation and Local Farmers Exchange Visit/Benchmarking for Certified Learning Sites of CAR were realized. The 2nd Regional Extension Modality Convention/LSA Summit served as an avenue for the various stakeholders to learn about the programs of the selected national government agencies. During the event, two innovative programs of the Center were formally launched: Empowering Certified Learning Sites for Agriculture Modalities in CAR (ELSA-CAR) and the Engaging the Young Generations towards Innovative Agri Enterprise (ENGINE) along with the opening of the agricultural products display booth.

The ELSA and ENGINE extension programs were launched and presented to stakeholders during the extension modality summit to stakeholders. The ELSA Project aims to empower all the certified learning sites to effectively showcase agriculture as a profitable enterprise that all LSAs, if possible, to serve as a model for new farming technologies, digital farming, best agriculture and fisheries innovations. The development of a ladderized training program for them introduce a new strategy to continually capacitate them as partners in extension delivery while attesting that agriculture is a viable industry. The ENGINE likewise is geared to engage more youth in agri-enterprise, showcasing new farming and processing technologies.

For the year 2023, the joint technology farmers' forum jumped-off another collaborative endeavor among the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR, CorCAARRD and DA-Cordillera Research Division. Selected research results were presented to the farmers during the forum. The agri-clinic (consultation) gave an opportunity for the participants to refer their concerns to the invited resource persons on crop protection, soil science, fishery, animal health, and corn.

For other AFE-related activities include harmonization meetings and support to governance and policy-related activities.

The Magsasaka Siyentistas preparing their proposals during the training on Science and Technology-Based Farm (STBF)

Support to Gender and Development (GAD)

Now mainstreamed in the Center's operation, the Center conducted GAD- Learning Sessions for ATI-RTC-CAR staff that discussed basic GAD concepts, data privacy rights, and demonstrated harmonious relationship. The DA-ATI-RTC-CAR Lactation Room was also launched. A gender sensitive in extension implementation was imparted to the AEWs wherein topics on basic concepts of GAD, issues and concerns, gender-fair society were discussed.

The Center was able to adhere to national policies, with more than five percent (5%) totaling PhP 4,499,320.32 expenditure on GAD-related activities for the year.

Youth in Agriculture

Continuous activities are being provided as well in support to the Youth in Agriculture Program. Set of activities were made during the 4H Young Farmers Regional Convention to continuously encourage the youth participation in the agricultural sector seeing it as a viable industry.

A remarkable activity as well was the Kabataan sa Pukyutan: Adopt-a-Farm Youth to Livestock LSA (Bee Farm) that allowed the interested and selected young farmers to be immersed in the bee farm learning about the world of beekeeping. This was held at Sagada Heritage Bee Farm wherein six young farmers learned by doing the apiculture technologies being practiced by the farm.

The Center conducted a pre-departure orientation course (PDOC) to the Young Filipino Farm Leaders Training Program in Japan (YFFLTPJ) and Filipino Young Farmers Internship Training Program in Taiwan (FYFITP) via online and phone calls. These orientations aim to hone the knowledge and skills of the interns in preparation for their 11-month internships in Japan and Taiwan.

Prior to the orientation of the FYFIPT, the Center facilitated the initial screening, examination, field examination and endorsement to these selected applicants to ATI-CO.

Philippine Action Plan for Family Farming (PAP4FF)

The Center carried on with the implementation of the PAP4FF wherein an online orientation about the program was administered to the RBO coordinators and farming families of CAR.

Following this were capability enhancement activities championing the program to the **15 families:** Fathers - Training on Organic Agriculture Farming System; Mother - Training on Processing and Packaging: Child - Training on Branding and Marketing. Awarding of financial support to the additional batch of Farm Families was facilitated by the Center.

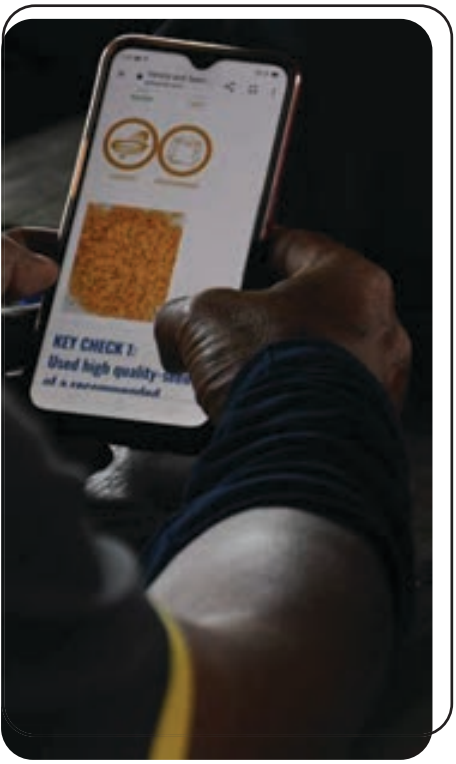
The program caters to farming families composed of a single or extended family of small-scale farmers, fishers, IPs, and upland dwellers whose family members' labor are reliant in food production, processing, and distribution. The PAP4FF highlights the significant roles and needs of farming families and fully supports the transformation of family farming tenants and farmworkers into owner-cultivators based on existing asset reform laws, the government's thrust of clustering into production groups; and its contribution to sustainable management of land, soil, and water resources towards

the achievement of just, inclusive, and sustainable development. https://ati2.da.gov.ph/ati-main/content/sites/default/files/2022-03/pub-2.pdf

Strengthening Farmers' Competitiveness through Capability Building of Vegetable Growers in the Province of Benguet

The ASEAN CBF-MAFF project which is a collaborative endeavor between the Ministry of Agriculture of Japan and ATI has already culminated. The project assisted three farmers association in Balili, Mankayan namely Manpat-a Farmers' Association, Raniag Farmers Association and Blestdam Irrigators Farmers Association Incorporated. Through the project, the farmers were linked to various markets such as the Soro-soro Ibaba Development Cooperative and Mitsukoshi.

Participants were also trained on the AECA or the Agro-Enterprise Clustering Approach which is being required by Jollibee Group Foundation in dealing with their various agricultural suppliers. Aside from various capability building interventions, various farm supplies and inputs were also given to the farmer beneficiaries.



Digitalization of Agriculture

With the changing facade of the world's agricultural industry, the Department is intensifying programs for the sector to adapt in the modernization of the agricultural towards the 4th industrial revolution. As such, the Department is backing the digitalization of the sector to facilitate the easier acceptance of technological breakthroughs along agriculture.

For the DA-ATI, some trainings are also anchored along this thrust.

Digital Farmers Program

Anchored on the country's aim of digitalizing the agriculture sector, the DA-ATI-RTC-CAR intensified the implementation of the DFP with the conduct of **six trainings of DFP (101 & 102)** for farmers (proposal-based) implemented by the LGUs of Itogon, Benguet; Bangued, Tubo and Villaviciosa, Abra; and Sabangan, Mountain Province. The training for the members of the Village Learning Site for Agriculture (VLSA) Pidigan, Abra was conducted by the Center. In all, a total of **170 individuals** completed the DFP for farmers.

For the DFP 102 version 2, this was completed by **28 participants**; DFP POT was with **23 farmers** while SAT Phase I and Phase had **20 graduates** (same participants for Phases 1 and 2). It is worth noting that that trainings on DFP POT and SAT were conducted for the rice farm clusters in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao in support to the F2C2 program of the Department of Agriculture.

The program aims to train farmers and equip them on the use digital tools and applications through the smartphones in their agricultural activities. Topics include:

OUTLINE

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Introduction on DFP, Anatomy of a Digital Farmer

Participants will be able to understand the anatomy of a digital farm

Agri Applications
- **QR Code Technology**

Payong PAGASA, e-Learning Program, SPIDTECH, Plant Doctor, Other rice-related applications

Participants are able to download and use the agri app

e-Commerce Platforms
Facebook Marketplace, e-Kadiwa, Shopee, Lazada

The participants are able to navigate to the e-commerce platforms

DFP Basics
- **Smartphone 101**
- **Accessing the Internet**
- **Internet Safety Basics**

Smartphone Photography

Participants are able to operate the smartphone, take good photos using their phones and access the internet

Digital Transactions/Online Payment

The participants are able know the options of using digital transactions/ online payment

Agri Social Media Marketing
- **Social Media Marketing**
- **Social Media Content Creation using Canva**

Social Media Marketing Plan

Participants are able to make their social media marketing plan and contents

Rice Crop Manager Advisory Services (RCMAS)

There were **three briefings on RCMAS** made on March 14 to 16, 2023 to **78 participants.** These were in partnership with the MLGUs of Aguinaldo and Banaue, Ifugao. These activities assisted the AEWs in the MLGUs in raising the awareness of rice farmers on the RCMAS, and in registering rice farmers in the RCMAS farmers database. As outputs, farmers were registered to the RCMAS database.

Nutrient Expert® Cassava Philippines (NECP)

As initial activity in promoting the NECP, the Center enabled the **20 participants** on its principles, how to navigate, generate and explain the recommendations. Participants were required to gather and input data on corn production and practices as bases for fertilizer recommendation to be generated by the NECP application.

NECP is an easy-to-use, interactive, and computer-based decision support tool that can rapidly provide nutrient recommendations for an individual farmer field in the presence or absence of soil testing data.

Regional Roll out of the Use of Outcome-based Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

This training capacitated the AEWs on the use of the MEL application as a digital tool to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the various rice program interventions to farmers. The intensive training and hands on exercise on random sampling procedure and familiarization with the MEL application and its use would ensure quality information for analysis and reporting. The MEL tool is under the 4D Farms project, a digital platform for data-driven decision making in support of the DA's fertilization strategy through cloud-base Rice Crop Manager Advisory Services and monitoring of rice extension interventions of the DA.

B

Scholarship and Internship

A. Educational Assistance for the Youth: Degree Courses in Agriculture and Agricultural Biosystems Engineering (EAsY Agri) and Educational Grants for Extension Workers (EdGE) and OA scholarship grant

There are **43 individuals** being supported by the Center through the three scholarship programs: **EAsY Agri (27), EdGE (6) and OA youth scholarship grant (10).**

As part of ensuring the continuity of the scholars, an activity was made purposely to assess the implementation of the EASY Agri Scholarship Program in the Region and address concerns of the scholars relative to the program.

The EdGe likewise maintained the **six scholars (four Master's degree, two Doctorate).**

Additional support to youth was implemented through the OA scholarship grant, a highly specialized internship program designed to instill and develop in the trainees an appreciation and eagerness for organic agriculture and eventually adopt it as their source of income. The program provides start-up support and mentoring for the implementation of their business plan empowering the youth to become organic agripreneur. Patterned after the internship program of the Korean Government, the 21-month internship program for the youth aims to fully imbibe the "life of a farmer" and the organic practices. It comprises of nine-month schooling and on-site training to the farm partners, and one-year hands-on practice and implementation of proposed organic enterprise to fully.

B. Filipino Young Farmers Internship in Taiwan (FYFIPT)

The FYFIPT is a partnership between the Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO) and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines (TECO) through a Memorandum of Understanding. The partnership aims to enhance the relations through the implementation of an internship program for qualified young Filipino farmers. Generally, the program aims to develop deserving young Filipino farmers to become empowered farmer leaders and agricultural entrepreneurs.

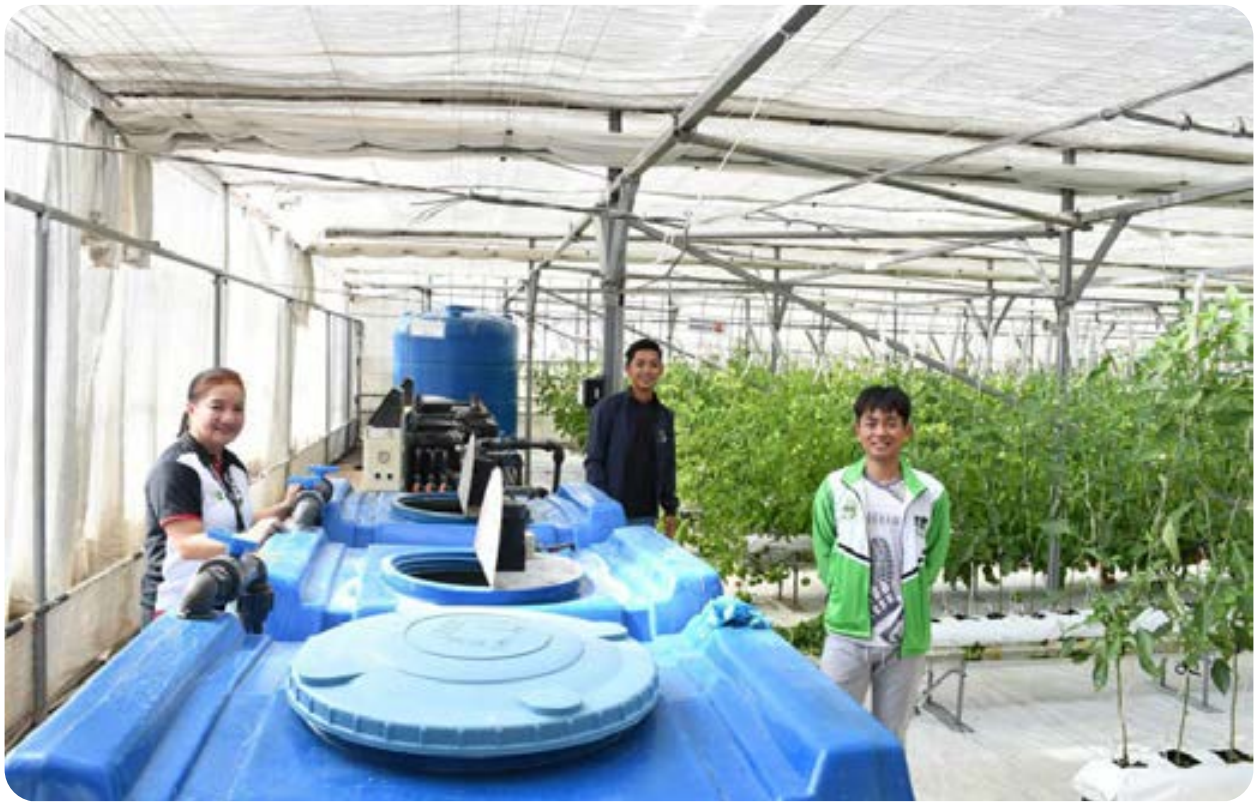
The beneficiaries for 2023 came from the Province of Kalinga. They were Mr. Arnold P. Capuyan of Agbannawag, Tabuk City, Mr. Jayhart G. Baluga of Dupag, Tabuk City, Ms. Antolyn G. Aliswag of Lubuagan, and Ms. Farah May M. Pantoloc of Cabaruan, Tabuk City.

Under the program, these four youths were sent to Taiwan for the program.

Young Filipino Farm Leaders Training Program in Japan (YFFLTPJ)

For the YFFLTPJ, a partnership between the Department of Agriculture, and Japan Agricultural Exchange Council (JAEC), two young farmers were oriented and sent off to Japan for 11-month internship. They were Mr. Joseph L. Luminio, Jr. from Bolinao, Tabuk City, Kalinga and Mr. Reymar P. Omeccas from Cabaruan, Tabuk City, Kalinga.

Prior to their deployment, these two young farmers underwent hands-on trainings at the Lily of the Valley Organic Farm, Cosmic Farm, Bontoc Dairy Farm aside from being oriented on strawberry and mushroom production.



II. EXHIBIT

A. *Certification of Learning Sites for Agriculture* (LSA)

There were **11 new LSAs certified** by the Center as partner in providing extension in their respective areas.

Name of Farm	Name of Operator	Address	Type of Farm
Nabe Organic Farm	Jason T. Nabe	Proper Sagpat, Kibungan, Benguet	Organic Farm
Imbagiw Rice Farm	Joyce H. Williams/ Esther G. Humiding	Hapao, Hungduan, Ifugao	Rice Farm
Bataan Rock Integrated Farm	Sanny L. Nawalig	Pinto, Alfonso Lista, Ifugao	Corn
Love Nature Farm Products Manufacturing	Edna B. Norial	Mabatobato, Lamut, Ifugao	HVCDP
Amando's Farm	Ana Lyn L. Amando	Ambassador, Tublay, Benguet	Regular -HVCDP
Dulche's Chocolates Incorporated	Eva Ritchelle D. Padua	Skyland Compound, 001 Purok 8, Brgy. Irisan, Baguio City	Regular -HVCDP
Maynandros Integrated Farm	Diana Ross A. Gragasin	Malabago East, Mabatobato, Lamut, Ifugao	Natural Farming
Sillay Farm	Luis C. Monayao Jr.	Ungol, Pula, Asipulo, Ifugao	Corn
F. Daodaoen Agricultural Farm	Felipe V. Daodaoen	Poblacion, Licuan-Baay, Abra	Rice
Clefrazet Coffee Preparation Services	Eden P. Alindeg	Cadad-anan, Tadian, Mountain Province	HVCDP

Likewise, two LSAs were provided with additional support to enhance their planned projects.

Name of Farm	Name of Operator	Address	Type of Farm
Sam Reign Atluna Integrated Farm	Samson T. Atluna	Balangbang, Mayoyao, Ifugao	RCEF
Bunoy's Integrated Farm	Noel B. Bunoy	Olilicon, Lagawe, Ifugao	RCEF

B. Extension Service Provider (ESP)

Evaluation of ESP

Worthy accomplishment for the private-ESP was the accreditation of two new partner providers, the: Mt. Carmel Agri Tourism Training Center in Abra and ROUMEIA Agri-Tourism and Training Center in Ifugao.

The SLU- EISSIFI, meanwhile is still complying with the needed documents before endorsing its re-accreditation to DA-ATI-CO.

Meeting and assessment activities with the PAF-ESP council team were done to ensure the full compliance of these providers to the set guidelines.

ESP accreditation supports the public-private partnership towards development.

Mt. Carmel Agri Tourism Training Center in Abra

B. Community Urban Agriculture Model Farm (CUAMF) as Technology Demonstration Sites

In support to National Urban and Peri-urban program, the Center established/supported seven CUAMF.

School	President/Principal	Address	Fund Source
Roxas National High School	Grace M. Domingo -School Principal	Sto. Tomas Rd., Baguio City	HVCDP
Tadian Farmers, Fisherfolks and Irrigators Association (TaFFIA)	Elisa Benafin President	Balaoa, Tadian, Mountain Province	NUPAP
Tadian Central School	Agosto M. Salipan -School Head	Poblacion, Tadian, Mountain Province	NUPAP

Balong Centro RIC	Evelyn C. Malagyab President	Balong, Tabuk City, Kalinga	Regular Program
RIC Bantay-Putot Chapter	Anita W. Tandas President	Ipil, Tabuk City, Kalinga	Regular Program
RIC Calanan Chapter	Vilma A. Paat President	Calanan, Tabuk City, Kalinga	NUPAP
Luyukan Farmers Association	Gerry F. Montalba President	Lacnog East, Tabuk City, Kalinga	NUPAP

The establishment of four nurseries under NUPAP were also accomplished in 2023.

Name of Farm/School	President/Principal	Location of Project
Manuel L. Quezon Elementary School	Ligaya N. Annawi	Upper Session Rd. Extension, Baguio City
Joaquin Smith National High School	Jesusa R. Yadao	Asin Road, Baguio City
Lagawa Organic Agriculture and Farmers Association	Richard Banguingui	Bauko, Mountain Province
Kalinga Young Farmers Association	Danny Joe Perona	Lanna, Tabuk City, Kalinga

ADVISE

A. Digital Platform

Conduct of School on the Air on Smart Rice Agriculture (SOA-SRA)

The Center implemented the PalayAralan: Makabagong Pagsasaka sa Himpapawid: SOA-SRA in Abra as the Province is one of the rice producing provinces in CAR with a recorded average volume of palay production that is below the national average of 4 tons/ha.

The SOA implementation sustained its partnership arrangements with OPAG-Abra, MLGUs, DA-Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority – Cordillera, and the DZPA 873 KHZ.

This program aims to help catalyze agriculture modernization through the massive and sustained education of smallholder farmers and local intermediaries on modern and innovative technologies and approaches on smart rice production. Aside from the Palay Check System, the SOA-SRA was also used to drumbeat programs under the DA's Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund. It also highlighted topics on the safe use of fertilizers and pesticides with FPA personnel as resource persons.

Of the 1,300 enrollees, 1,204 were able to graduate.

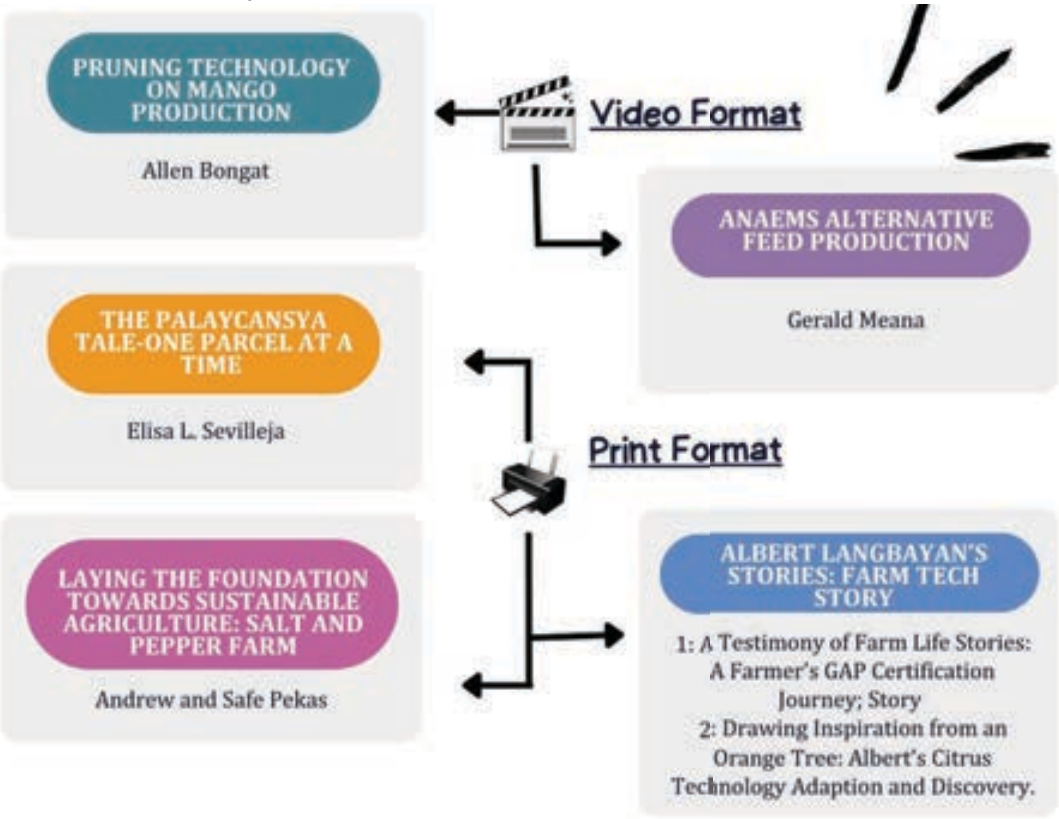
DISSEMINATE

IV.

Knowledge Product Development

Development, Documentation and Packaging of Knowledge Products and Success Stories

There were **15 documented success stories,** exemplar beneficiaries and farming practices/ technologies highlighted this year.



Together with the ATI-CAR RCEF team, stories documented were the following:

01 **Rice Drum Seeder: A farmer's pull towards higher yield**
Jaime Tallongon

02 **Responding Confidently to Extend to Farmers: Story of Bacayan's Farm**
Michael and Angie Lumas-i

03 **Cultivating Dreams: A Professor's Path to Embracing Farming as a Passion**
Victorino Bayyed

04 **Walking Towards Mechanization: The Emily Palad's Trail to Sustainable Rice Production with Walk Behind Transplanter**

05 **Healthcare to Plant Care: Healing and Fulfilment in Rice Farming**
Jane Bayawon

06 **From Lines to Fields: A Farmer's Journey of Innovation and Resilience**
Johnson Mabalo, J&E Integrated FFS graduate

07 **Baby Angeline Tello, a person with dedication**
Baby Angeline Integrated Farm

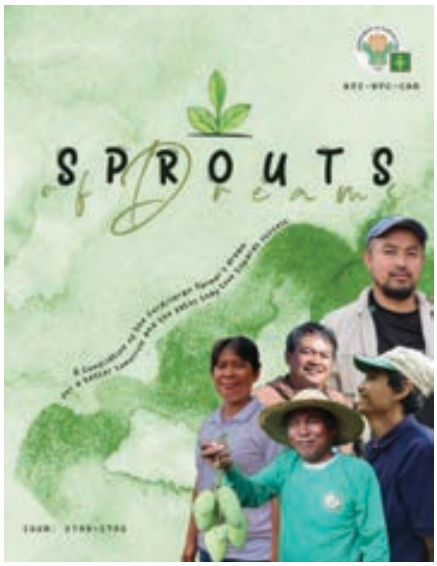
08 **Empowered Woman in Agriculture: Kathryn T. Baroga's Journey from Fields to Facilitation and Beyond**

09 **A Farmer's shift to new ways of rice farming**
Dominador Julian Jr.

10 **Macadangdang Farm: Investing for the Family's Future through Agriculture**

Two publications were released containing the showcased stories of the selected individuals: Sprouts of Dreams (Biennial Publication of Success stories) Volume II, and the Ullalim di Pinumhodan, a compilation of the documented success stories of the RCEF-RESP Exemplar beneficiaries of ATI-RTC-CAR.

Further, the packaged CY 2022 Annual Report and two issues of the Weavers News Magazine July to December 2022 and January-July 2023 were disseminated.



IEC Reproduction and Distribution

On printed IEC materials dissemination, there were **8,321 printed IEC materials** (corporate and techno-based) disseminated across commodities. These were distributed to the various FITS centers for their distribution while others were distributed to walk-in clients and during trainings. Participation to booth exhibits displaying and providing printed IEC materials are also undertaken.

The Center provided printed IEC materials to Baguio City Jail in response to their call for books and IEC materials contribution for their newly opened library.

As of social media and website engagements, there were **4,956 page views and 890,728 individuals reached** recorded.

V. SUPPORT

- Extension Policies and Governance Support Services

A Support to the Province-led Agriculture and Fishery Extension System (PAFES)

Supportive to the PAFES implementation in the country, the Cordillera region undertook collaborative/partnership initiatives to the LGUs through funding of CPAFEP (6), quarterly performance assessment (4), and consultation meeting with PAFEC key stakeholder (2). These were successfully conducted by the Regional Program Management Team with the strong leadership of DA-RFO-CAR, with BFAR-CAR, and ATI-RTC-CAR.

The RPMO facilitated the Cordillera PAFES 2023 Operational Planning Workshop cum INAFES Benchmarking held at Paoay, Ilocos Norte wherein guidelines of its implementation were provided to the members of the provincial management team. The soft launching held at Tabuk, Kalinga piloted the series of check turnover and opening PAFEC of the other provinces. Assessment meetings were regularly done to update the status of the PAFES implementation from each province.

The provinces of Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga and Mountain Province opted for fund transfer scheme while Abra was fund managed by ATI-RTC-CAR for which all of them implemented well the activities planned under their CPAFEP for 2023.

Review and assessment of the 2023 implementation of PPAs and 2024 planning were also undertaken. The Regional PAFES Management Office awarded the top three performing provinces with the Benguet as the first, followed by Mountain Province and Kalinga.

B Conduct consultation, planning, monitoring, and evaluation activities

Crucial part of the Center's operation is the conduct of activities related to governance. As such, the Center managed to implement series of Joint DA-ATI & RFO Regional ESETS Consultation Meeting with Partner LGUs for CY 2023-2025 for various commodities; ATI-RTC-CAR CY 2023 Year Start Inhouse Planning Activity; performance and internals assessments and reviews each commodity.

Further, the conduct of regular activities along planning and M&E were diligently accomplished by the Center like the MANCOM, staff meetings and field monitoring. Series of assessments and evaluations were done for the various programs like the extension modalities ESP, LSAs, TGP, and scholarship programs.

ISO related reviews and audit

The Center completed the semestral management reviews and internal quality audits to assess the conformity of established ATI quality management system against the requirements of ISO 9001:2015. The sustained compliance to the ISO brought forth the zero findings on major and minor non-compliance, and zero OFIs during the surveillance audit and 3rd party (TUVSUD) audit for re-certification of the Center, which was conducted on November 28, 2023.

Conduct of staff development activities for ATI staff and others

Institutionalized as a regular activity, the ATI-RTC-CAR staff were provided with three Learning and Development Activities in 2023. These were the Health and Wellness Activity at Um-a Farm Tourism and Riverview Hot Spring Resort, Asin Road, Baguio City; visit to LSAs Amando, DarJane's, and Garden Nen Ines; and GAD Learning Session.

Furthermore, the ATI-RTC-CAR staff also took part in the cleanliness, beautification and sanitation of the ATI-RTC-CAR premises.

Development and maintenance of relevant extension-related database

The Center regularly updates the databases crucial to the operation of the Center. These databases include: FITS Centers, Magsasaka Siyentista, IEC materials developed, library materials, and agricultural profile of CAR for ISS; LSA/SPA/ESP, CUAMF/CUAG, 4H Clubs and members, rural based organizations for PASS; AEW Profiles for PMEU; and Resource Person Information Sheet, Training Design, CPD, Scholarship, Training Modules for CDMS.

Support to Partners in Extension Services

Taking the lead, the Center facilitated the LGU Agriculture Office Managers Association (LGU-AOMA) meeting and benchmarking to INAFEC, Ilocos Norte. This provided opportunity for the members of the LGU-AOMA to understand the implementation of the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES) and come up with finalized AOMA plans. The activity conducted at Sagada likewise increased their awareness on Food Safety Regulatory Agencies and discussed their AOMA plans.

The Center co-implemented two national activities held in Baguio City: the League of the Municipal Agricultural Officers, Municipal and City Agriculturists of the Philippines **(LeMMCAP) with 668 participants** on September 13-15, and the **86th Rural Improvement Club (RIC) National Convention with 340 participants** from November 20-22, 2023.

Meetings were facilitated for partner implementers provided updates on the status of various programs like the meeting for the FITS Staff under the Techno Gabay Program and AgriDoc assessment meeting. The LSA owners and officers conducted their meetings facilitated by the Center.

Partnership endeavors with other NGAs continued such as with the DSWD 4Ps-related program. Active involvement and partnership with CorCAARRD are maintained as well.

Ms. Edna Bendadan. (Federation President, Municipal and Provincial RIC Sagada, Mountain Province) sharing her success story

Participation to activities of partner agencies

The Center actively participates in activities facilitated by partner offices and agencies. Representation to the various meetings is being attended like with DA-RFO's Regional Management Council; Regional Research, Development and Innovation Committee of the DOST; Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (EPAHP) Regional Convergence Team; 4Ps' Regional Advisory Council Meeting- DSWD; Cordillera Association of Region Executive (CARE); and Benguet's Provincial Group Meeting.

Further, the Center is also being involved in various events by the LGUs by serving as resource person and speaker, giving inspiration messages and sharing of ATI's programs. As part of information and technology dissemination, participation to booth exhibits were also considered.

F Conduct of Evaluation Studies

The Center endeavored to conduct **five evaluation researches** as part of operational monitoring of the projects implemented during the previous years.

The evaluation studies were on the projects: "Increasing Agricultural Productivity Towards Food Security and Poverty Alleviation: Extension Support to the Twenty-Two Provinces with Highest Poverty Incidence in the Philippines (T2-ES22PPP) which was implemented in Paracelis and Natonin, Mountain Province from 2017-2019; Extension Program for Agri-Fisheries and National Development (ExPAND) in 2018 in Sablan, Benguet; Performance Evaluation of the Certified LSA and SPAs of CAR for CY 2020-2021; SOA-SRA CY 2022 implementation in Abra; and the Result-based Monitoring Evaluation (RBME) with the respondents of CY 2020 urban gardening beneficiaries.

Financial Report

For the year, a total of **PhP88,809,704.15** was allotted for the Center's operation: **PhP16,584,475.26** for personnel services while **PhP72,225,228.89** for the various banner /commodity programs implementation. A **100% obligation rate** and **99.45 % disbursement** rates were recorded.

PAPs	Annual Budget Allocation	OBLIGATION	DISBURSEMENT
	(In thousand)		
PS	16,584.47	16,584.47	16,574.80
Programs			
National Rice Program	23,080.24	23,080.24	23,080.24
National Livestock Program	20,367.72	20,367.72	19,892.54
National Corn Program	1,180.00	1,180.00	1,180.00
Organic Agriculture Program	5,384.50	5,384.50	5,384.50
High Value Crops Devt. Program	3,523.00	3,523.00	3,523.00
NUPAP	1,940.00	1,940.00	1,940.00
Regular Program	12,146.77	12,146.77	12,146.77
RCEF-RESP	4,378.00	4,378.00	4,378.00
Support to Operations	225.00	225.00	225.00
T O T A L	88,809.70	88,809.70	88,324.85

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