

Administrative Order No. 12 Series of 2015

The National Extension Agenda and Programs (NEAP) and the Agriculture and Fisheries Extension (AFE) Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2022

December 12, 2015

The National Extension Agenda and Programs (NEAP) shall reflect the contributions of the stakeholders of agri-fisheries extension delivery system in the country. It shall address the diverse nature of the country's agriculture and fisheries needs and requirements for assistance and at the same time supporting the government's priority commodity programs. It shall also foster a range of partnership arrangements in the utilization of both public and non-public institutional resources.

The extension functions of the DA shall be coordinated by the All in collaboration with the different agencies or extension service providers constituting the National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries (NESAF), namely: National Government Agencies (NGAs) along with State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Government Units (LGUs) and the private sector. On the other hand, the AT! Network of Training Centers, shall design and implement programs which are consistent and functionally integrated with the DA-Regional Field Offices (RFOs) regional agriculture and fisheries development strategy and programs.

Salient Extension Provisions

2.2. Thematic Agenda and Programs The following thematic agenda and programs which covers practically all aspects of extension shall be the focus of resource allocation and prioritization for agriculture and fisheries extension in the country:

2.2.1. Enhancing Access to AFE Knowledge Products and Services

- 2.2.1.1. Maximizing/intensifying the use of high-impact information and communication extension modalities to serve a greater number of stakeholders.
- 2.2.1.2. Developing and wide distribution of quality knowledge products.
- 2.2.1.3. Documenting and sharing of various good learning experiences.
- 2.2.1.4. Developing and managing information systems that provide information/knowledge on-demand to facilitate decision-making, knowledge sharing and linking producers and consumers to market

2.2.2. Strengthening the Competitiveness and Capacities of the Agriculture and Fisheries Sector

- 2.2.2.1. Professionalizing the Philippine extension service.
- 2.2.2.2. Building the competencies of the dynamic AFE client system through training and education support.
- 2.2.2.3. Intensifying the provision of farm and business advisory services
- 2.2.2.4. Provision of after training support to start-up projects

2.2.3. Expanding Partnerships in Advancing Excellence in Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Delivery

- 2.2.3.1. Strengthening research and development, market and extension linkages.
- 2.2.3.2. Intensifying joint ventures and convergence initiatives between public-public and public-private sectors
- 2.2.3.3. Intensifying provision of catalytic finance for collaborative undertakings
- 2.2.3.4. Enhancing inter-country collaboration

2.2.4. Scaling-up Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Innovations

- 2.2.4.1. Developing new extension modalities, methodologies, and approaches that are fit to the changing extension contexts
- 2.2.4.2. Enhancing existing extension models
- 2.2.4.3. Developing a cadre of extension innovators
- 2.2.4.4. Undertaking extension research

2.2.5. Strengthening AFE Stakeholders' Capacity in Climate Change Resilience & Disaster Risk Management

- 2.2.5.1. Intensifying provision of extension services on climate mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction management
- 2.2.5.2. Strengthening extension support on organic food production, consumption and food safety
- 2.2.5.3. Increasing awareness on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development

2.2.6. Improving Enabling Environment and Quality of AFE Governance

- 2.2.6.1. Development and implementation of policy and standards for a unified and harmonized AFE direction and to set extension's level of performance
- 2.2.6.2. Institutionalization of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms for AFE to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and transparency
- 2.2.6.3. Optimizing resource management

3. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION STRATEGIC PLAN

3.1. Over-all Framework

The Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Strategic Plan lays down the strategic goals, objectives and initiatives that the NESAF shall accomplish towards realizing the vision, mission and core values for the next six years. It shall serve as a guide for prioritization of AFE programs, projects and activities by promoting harmonization and complementation among NESAF actors for the overall development of the country's agriculture and fisheries sector.

3.1.1. NESAF Vision - "A unified, competent and committed agriculture and fisheries extension service for a productive, profitable and resilient agri-fishery industry"

3.1.2. NESAF Mission - "Empowered agriculture and fishery stakeholders through quality extension and advisory services for sustainable communities"

3.1.3. NESAF Core Values - "We, the National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries (NESAF) providers and stakeholders, collectively uphold:

TEAMWORK, in all our activities,
EXCELLENCE in our services,
INNOVATWENESS in our products, and
RESOURCEFULNESS to meet our needs

With utmost COMMITMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY and INTEGRITY towards inclusive growth."

3.2. Strategic Goals and Strategic Objectives and Implementation of Key Initiatives

3.2.1. The AFE strategic goals and strategic objectives are anchored on the extension agenda and programs as identified in section 2.2. 3.2.2. Each strategic objective highlights key initiatives and performance indicators to measure outputs and outcomes of extension interventions performed by NESAF actors.

3.2.3. The key initiatives identified will serve as a basis in the formulation of annual work and financial plan for extension services.

3.2.4. DA offices, bureaus and attached agencies shall ensure that their respective annual work and financial plan for extension services be submitted to the DA-ATI for harmonization, monitoring and evaluation purposes.

3.3. Monitoring and Evaluation of Outputs and Outcomes of Extension Services

3.3.1. Monitoring and evaluation of the AFE strategic plan shall be anchored through the Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation System of the AFE.

3.3.2. Extension interventions conducted by offices, bureaus and agencies performing extension services shall be tracked under the established reporting system through the Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Network (AFEN), with The DA - ATI and its Network of Training Centers as the assigned focal agency.

4. MECHANISMS AND INSTRUMENTS FOR EFFECTING COLLABORATION/ PARTNERSHIP

4.1. Convergence Initiatives and linkages shall be pursued to harmonize, unite and enhance the delivery services to the client system and stakeholders. Such initiative shall:

- 4.1.1. Provide strong linkage between and among extension and other services, particularly research and development and market; and

4.1.2. Be driven by the needs of the farming communities and the commonality of services of key players. The farming communities shall serve as the convergence areas where any agriculture and fisheries extension interventions are determined including the needed mechanisms and instruments for partnership and collaboration.

4.2. Functional Mechanisms and Instruments

Collaborative partnership in extension shall be formalized through Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding (MOA/U). It shall reflect the specific responsibilities and obligations of each of the collaborating agencies to ensure accountability. Further, the cost-sharing scheme between the LGUs and the National Government through the DA shall be adopted.

4.3. Budget for Extension

Under the AFMA Law and Administrative Order No. 42 (October 14, 1999) the delivery of extension services shall be supported by the following measures:

- 4.3.1. Allocation of funds for AFE costs through grants treated as multi-year funds;
- 4.3.2. Transfer funds from the Department of Agriculture to the local government units as extension grants through the ATI as manager of extension funds;
- 4.3.3. The budget for agriculture and fisheries extension services allocated by DBM at no less than one percent (1%) of the nominal values of the gross value added (GVA) in agriculture and fisheries, which shall be incorporated in the annual appropriation act.
- 4.3.4. Allotment of:
 - 4.3.4.1. Direct costs of all extension activities of DA flagship commodity programs (Rice, Corn, Livestock, Fisheries and High Value Crops);
 - 4.3.4.2. LGU annual core budget for agricultural extension;
 - 4.3.4.3. Core Agriculture and Fishery Extension funds of DA bureaus, attached agencies/corporations and Foreign Assisted Projects (FAPs).
 - 4.3.5. Other sources from resource generation efforts through joint undertakings, grants, donations and sharing schemes.

5. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

5.1. Regionalizing NEAP

In view of the location-specificity of agriculture and fisheries extension interventions, the ATI Network of Training Centers, together with the DA Regional Field Offices, shall implement the NEAP according to its adoptability in the Regions. Initially they shall translate the document into regional terms- and shall be called the Regional Extension Agenda and Programs or REAP- ensuring consistency with and/or support for the region's priority commodity programs and undertakings. The REAP shall be disseminated accordingly to all concerned agencies and institutions for adoption.

5.2. Roles and Responsibilities

As indicated in the AFMA/and AO 42 (1999), all stakeholders shall have the following roles and responsibilities in extension:

5.2.1. The Local Government Units (LGUs)

The provincial /municipal/city LGUs shall coordinate and lead in the delivery of extension service directly to the farmers/fishers and his nuclear family. Specifically, they shall

- 5.2.1.1. Formulate their Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Modernization Plan consistent with the national thrusts and directions;
- 5.2.1.2. Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation;
- 5.2.1.3. Undertake continuing and periodic annual evaluation of extension programs;
- 5.2.1.4. Share costs/resources (provincial, municipal and barangay levels) for extension interventions;
- 5.2.1.5. Provide pertinent data necessary for agricultural extension activities;
- 5.2.1.6. Coordinate and oversee program implementation;
- 5.2.1.7. Review programs and recommend remedial measures when necessary; and
- 5.2.1.8. Facilitate fund sourcing for program implementation.

5.2.2. Department of Agriculture –Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs)

- 5.2.2.1. Together with ATI, formulate programs to provide continuing education and technical assistance to LGUs in sectoral planning and programming;
- 5.2.2.2. Periodically assess the agricultural and fishery planning and programming capability of LGUs;
- 5.2.2.3. Undertake extension services in collaboration with LGUs and SUCs, and;
- 5.2.2.4. Monitor and evaluate plans and programs;
- 5.2.2.5. Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation at the regional level.

5.2.3. Agricultural Training Institute

- 5.2.3.1. Advise the DA in the management of financial and logistical support for extension;
- 5.2.3.2. Provide leadership in the formulation of the national agriculture and fisheries extension agenda and budget;
- 5.2.3.3. Implement monitoring and evaluation on extension;
- 5.2.3.4. Ensure that there is research and development, extension and market complementation at the national level;
- 5.2.3.5. Prepare integrated public-funded training plan in agriculture and fishery;
- 5.2.3.6. Set up a certification system for vocational and technical training in agriculture in collaboration with the TESDA;
- 5.2.3.7. Develop and administer a national human resource development program for short term and degree and non-degree training for LGU extension personnel;
- 5.2.3.8. Maintain a computerized database on extension force and extension service providers and develop an accreditation system for private entities;
- 5.2.3.9. Provide continuing development communication support through the tri-media for the nationwide extension system and;
- 5.2.3.10. In consultation with all the appropriate agencies and entities, formulate the parameters and guidelines for:
 - 5.2.3.10.1. The planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural and fisheries extension;
 - 5.2.3.10.2. National merit and promotion system for extension personnel;
 - 5.2.3.10.3. Co-financing agreement with the local government units on the financing agriculture and fisheries extension programs;
 - 5.2.3.10.4. Preparation of Extension Programs of SUCs;
 - 5.2.3.10.5. Harnessing the resources and the expertise of the private sector in the provision of extension services; and
 - 5.2.3.10.6. Evaluation of agricultural and fisheries extension performance, activities, institutions and outputs.

5.2.4. State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

- 5.2.4.1. Primarily focus on the improvement of the capability of the LGU extension service by providing:
 - 5.2.4.1.1. Degree and non-degree training programs;
 - 5.2.4.1.2. Technical assistance;
 - 5.2.4.1.3. Extension cum research activities;
 - 5.2.4.1.4. Monitoring and evaluation of LGU extension programs; and
 - 5.2.4.1.5. Information support services through the tri-media and electronics.

5.2.5. National Government Agencies (NGAs) other than DA

- 5.2.5.1. Provide technical assistance and other services based on their mandate;
- 5.2.5.2. Train LGU extension personnel;
- 5.2.5.3. Improve physical facilities;
- 5.2.5.4. Conduct extension cum research; and
- 5.2.5.5. Provide information support services.

5.2.6. Private Sector (Non- Government Organizations (NGOs) and People's Organizations (POs))

- 5.2.6.1. Assist in community organizing and use of participatory approaches; and
- 5.2.6.2. Popularize training materials, regenerative agricultural technologies, agri-business and management skills.

Sources:

Retrieved from ATI Quality Management Systems Documents (Guidelines) of ATI-PPD, ATI-PPD Library documents: The National Agenda and Programs 2017-2022 and Philippine Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Strategies Plan 2017-2022