

Memorandum Reference No. M17-02-74

Guidelines on the Enhancement of Farmers' Information Technology Services (FITS) Centers Under the Rice Crop Manager (RCM)

February 10, 2017

The memorandum aims to increase the number of farmers who are using Rice Crop Manager (RCM) by providing an avenue through RCM enhanced FITS Centers.

- Enhance the services and capabilities of FITS Centers through the integration of Rice Crop Manager
- Gather and identify the factors affecting the client's access to RCM in selected rice growing municipalities in the Philippines
- Develop and implement a strategy to enhance client's RCM access
- Enhance the capability of RCM through the data gathered to match the rice-farming technologies and management practices
- Document success stories of FITS Centers in the promotion and implementation of RCM
- Build research capacity of FITS staff to identify, evaluate, and incorporate new components and capabilities of RCM.

The FITS Center is a component of the Techno Gabay Program institutionalized to the LGUs and being coordinated by ATI by virtue of the IRR of EO 801.

Salient Extension Provisions

A. Responsibilities

1. Agricultural Training Institute – Information Service Division
 - i. Monitor the overall implementation of the program
 - ii. Lay-out and print necessary promotional materials for the program
 - iii. Conduct assessment and meeting to discuss project developments and address issues arising from the program implementation
2. Agricultural Training Institute – Regional Training Center (ATI-RTC)
 - i. Prepare a supplemental memorandum or letter of agreement for the project duly signed and notarized
 - ii. Facilitate the logistics and procurement of equipment of supplies such as but not limited to netbook, tablets, printer, pocket wifi devices, and 100 Php load cards per FITS Center
 - iii. Conduct capability building activities such as briefings and orientation and if necessary, conduct training to the FITS Centers Staff on RCM use and operations
 - iv. Submit the monthly report on ATI-CO
 - v. Formulate criteria and recognize the best performing FITS Centers relative to RCM implementation
3. Local Government Units – FITS Centers
 - i. Institutionalize RCM deployment as one of their services
 - ii. Provide complementary manpower to conduct RCM deployment activities
 - iii. Assist the ATI – RTC in RCM deployment activities
 - iv. Ensure that the FITS Center is accessible during office hours to farmer visitors requesting RCM and e-Extension related services. Likewise, facilitate RCM deployment and generation in the barangays of the municipality.
 - v. Provide the RCM printed recommendations to the farmers immediately after interview or field deployment. A minimum of 100 recommendations per season is expected to be generated per FITS Center.
 - vi. Promote the use of RCM to the farmers, their families and the rural youth in their municipality
 - vii. Prepare and submit monthly reports to the ATI-RTC
 - viii. Document and share success stories on RCM

Source:

Retrieved from ATI Quality Management Systems Documents (Guidelines)