

DA Administrative Order No. 28 Series of 2008

Designating ATI as Apex Agency for a Unified and Efficient Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System July 29, 2008

The AO designates the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) as the national apex agency for extension of the Department of Agriculture, consistent with the mandated function of ATI under the AFMA of 1997. The ATI shall take the lead role in the implementation of extension programs of the DA, including the management of extension funds to ensure that extension services achieve optimum results. This is to orchestrate the agriculture and fisheries extension system for a unified and efficient delivery of extension services in the country.

Salient Extension Provisions

The ATI shall take the lead role in the implementation of extension programs of the DA, including the management of extension funds to ensure that extension services achieve optimum results. It shall coordinate all national and local government extension programs in the national agriculture and fisheries extension system towards the achievement of the national goals of agriculture and fisheries. Specifically, ATI shall perform the following functions:

- Provide leadership in the development of national extension policies in agriculture and fisheries;
- Orchestrate the development of a national extension strategic plan for agriculture and fisheries to accelerate the achievement of the goals of the agriculture and fisheries modernization;
- Develop and implement national programs aimed at the continuous improvement of the quality of extension methods, products, and services towards a more efficient, participatory and client knowledge management system;
- Manage the national extension resources for agriculture and fisheries and ensure a sustainable and cost-effective system of funding public agriculture and fisheries information, education and communication (IEC);
- Provide leadership in the development and implementation of the National Agriculture & Fisheries Knowledge Network of the Department through a system of partnerships that includes LGUs, the academe, the civil society organizations (CSOs), stakeholders along the value chain, the rural-based organizations RBOs, and the private sector;
- Provide national leadership in developing extension partnerships towards increased investment and private sector participation;
- Team up with the SUCs of agriculture/fisheries as key partners in the implementation of the national programs especially in the areas of extension innovations, national training, monitoring and evaluation of extension institutions and programs; and
- Provide leadership in developing and implementing a national system of strengthening institutional extension capacities at all levels of implementation.

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