



Luzon A Press Con. From right to left: Kalinga governor Jocel C. Baac, Cordillera Autonomous Region-PRDP regional project director Dr. Lorenzo M. Caranguian, WB team leader Ms. Frauke Jungbluth, DA Region 3 Director and Cluster Project Director Dr. Andrew B. Villacorta, Assistant to the National Deputy Project Director Cirilo N. Namoc at the Cluster Meeting Press Conference in Kalinga, CAR.

Kalinga upland farmers get natural high from coffee

Kalinga farmers may now venture into the equally profitable and more socially acceptable coffee, according to the regional project director of the Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

"At P92.50 per kilogram of dried beans, coffee can be profitable to farmers, [hence] they do not need to plant the [prohibited] crop," Dr. Lorenzo M. Caranguian said during the Luzon A Cluster kick-off meeting of the 3rd World Bank Implementation Support Mission.

Caranguian shared this in response to a remark that the hinterlands of Tinglayan, Kalinga, has been known a plantation area for marijuana.

In August, some P2.2 billion-

worth of marijuana plants and derivatives found in a 15-hectare plantation in Tinglayan were destroyed.

Kalinga Governor Jocel Baac said that the addictive marijuana is destroying the lives of many people, yet some continue to plant it as it is highly profitable.

According to Baac, the PRDP's enterprise development subproject focusing on coffee production in the province is a very much welcome alternative livelihood for the province's farmers.

To help develop the promising coffee industry in Kalinga, the PRDP has approved a P14.8-million funding assistance for the Kalinga integrated Coffee Processing and Marketing Enterprise subproject. The assistance is expected to

improve the production of coffee beans in the highlands which has undergone initial improvements under the supervision of the PRDP.

Known for its low acidity and full flavor, Kalinga coffee is highly sought in the local and even in the international market. According to Kalinga Provincial Agriculturist Domingo Bakilan, the desirable traits of Kalinga's Robusta variety might be a result of being planted in the altitude between 7,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level, adding that the elders in different local communities say that the best-tasting are those planted in rich and moist soils with clay components that quickly store but at the same time drain excess water. (Alladin S. Diega, NPCO InfoACE Unit) ■



Kick-off Meeting

**Quezon City
November 7, 2016**

The World Bank's 3rd Implementation Support Mission on PRDP-implemented subprojects was officially started with a kick-off meeting on November 7, 2016 held at the DA-PCAF Conference Hall. Before the meeting, DA Undersecretary for Operations Engr. Ariel T. Cayanan, concurrently PRDP's national project director and WB team leader Frauke Jungbluth led the opening of the exhibit featuring updates and accomplishments of PRDP since the last visit in April of this year.

Cluster Meetings and Site Visits



Visayas November 8-11, 2016

The WB Implementation Mission group, while meeting the proponent groups in Negros Occidental. The approved subprojects in the region is composed of two swine productions undertaking in Escalante City.



Luzon A (North Luzon) November 13-16

The Luzon A Cluster implementation support mission covering Regions 1, 2, 3 and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) is hosted by Kalinga province being the top implementer of subprojects funded under the Department of Agriculture's PRDP projects in CAR.



Luzon B (South Luzon) November 17-19

For Luzon B Cluster, the World Bank and PRDP representatives visited Oriental Mindoro, and inspected an on-going construction of farm-to-market road in Victoria, connecting the barangays of Bagong Silang and Macatoc.



Mindanao November 21-24

For Mindanao leg, the WB Implementation Support Mission visited a municipality in Compostela Valley, where a proponent group engaged in cacao production is based. A project proponent in Compostela Valley, the Maragusan Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MAMPCO), is proposing a P4 million-worth tablea processing and marketing enterprise.



NEWS BRIEFS

LUZON A (North Luzon) RPAB-CAR approves 20 I-REAP Micro-enterprises

Regional Project Advisory Board-Cordillera Administrative Region (RPAB-CAR) has endorsed 20 I-REAP Micro-enterprise Subprojects worth PhP26M recently, for inclusion in the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP).

Benguet has the most micro-enterprises with 10 subprojects totaling to PhP15 million. These subprojects range from strawberry, lettuce, potato tubers and even chrysanthemum production and hog fattening.

Apayao has proposed three micro-enterprise subprojects – banana chips processing and marketing, including swine breeding and fattening. The Board has also approved two micro-enterprise subprojects each for Mountain Province and Abra, farm mechanization for rice and corn, and cattle fattening and marketing, respectively. Other sub-projects are in various stages of approval.

LUZON B (South Luzon) DA-PRDP advances government- led projects' reforms using innovative tools

Knowing the right project to be implemented in the right place has been made easier using science-based tools developed by the Project's Geomapping and Governance Unit (GGU).

GGU continues to train more project partners and staff in using science-based tools such as Applied Geotagging Technology

(AGT) and Expanded Vulnerability and Suitability Assessment (E-VSA). In October of this year, 50 participants from municipal and provincial local government units and proponent groups in South Luzon attended the training on the use of AGT and E-VSA.

According to Joseph Pacon, Alternate GGU Head of the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO), PRDP's difference with other projects is its use of science-based tools which are based on studies and is incorporated with tools which in turn are used to determine which subprojects should be prioritized.

Pacon added that DA-PRDP is first to implement the integration of AGT into a government-led project's supervision and monitoring requirement. He explained that GGU cuts across all the Project's components. *(Annielyn L. Baleza, DA-PRDP RPCO V InfoACE Unit)*

VISAYAS World Bank holds GEF Review Mission in coastal towns of Eastern Samar

Aside from being a channel of infrastructure and enterprise subprojects in the country, the also supports the protection of marine protected areas and resources.

An expert in protected area management from the World Bank (WB), along with some technical personnel from the Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) in collaboration with officials from local government units recently conducted a review mission on the areas covered under the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

The sites visited by the team last November 15-16, 2016 were the following GEF sites in the province of Eastern Samar with the corresponding proposed subprojects: 1. Rehabilitation of Can-Usod and Bulosao Fish Sanctuaries in Brgys. Betaog and Bolusao, in Lawaan; and 2.

Rehabilitation of Manapag Reef Fish Sanctuary, in Guilan.

According to Jim Hancock, the GEF support is specifically aimed towards the conservation of biodiversity and in strengthening the coastal and marine resources of the areas covered by the project through enhanced institutional and planning capacities of local government units and communities; provision of support to Marine Protected Areas (MPAs); and sharing of knowledge and practices. *(Rodel G. Macapanas, InfoACE Unit Head, RPCO 8)*

MINDANAO PRDP pilot-tests M&E tool to gather emerging benefits

In keeping track of its commitment to make rural development projects more effective and sustainable to farmers, Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) has established a monitoring and evaluation survey tool that aims to gather emerging benefits of completed and ongoing subprojects.

Dubbed as the Rapid Appraisal of Emerging Benefits (RAEB), the evaluation tool has been devised by PRDP to focus on determining successes of individual subprojects.

The first in a series of RAEB surveys were conducted in Region 12 particularly in Isulan, Sultan Kudarat where the first farm-to-market road (FMR) projects were completed.

"At this point in the Project implementation, we need to look into emerging benefits as well as issues and concerns of subprojects to see how these are aligned to the PRDP's project development objectives," PRDP national deputy project director Arnel De Mesa said. *(Jay M. Rosas/PSO Mindanao)*



PRDPGo!: Public Disclosure on your Smartphone

Developed by the Geomapping and Governance Unit (GGU) of the PRDP Mindanao Project Support Office, the PRDPGo! is an Android-supported app that aims to provide a handy tool for PRDP managers and personnel, as well as local partners in locating and monitoring PRDP subprojects.

The app, which syncs with the PRDP's online management information system, provides ease of use as it combines three functions into one interface:

- an interactive Google Earth-based dashboard
- a geotagging camera for photo documentation
- a geoSMS utility for text message reporting

With the PRDPGo! users can easily query on what subprojects are present in a particular location and see real-time basic subproject information such as status and cost. It can also guide users how to go to a specific subproject site during field monitoring

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