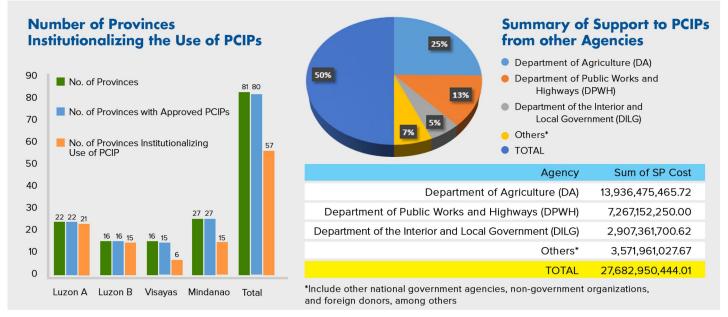
A monthly newsletter of the Philippine Rural Development Project National Project Coordination Office (NPCO)

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PRDP seeks to institutionalize science-based planning in agri-fishery development



Leveraging PCIPs. Beyond the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), the Provincial Commodity Investment Plans (PCIPs) have been harnessed by provincial local government units in securing technical and financial assistance from other government and non-government institutions. A number of provinces have also taken initial steps to mainstream the PCIPs into their local planning processes.

Towards its midterm, the Department of Agriculture's Rural Philippine Development Project (DA-PRDP) has beefed up mainstream and steps to institutionalize the science-based approaches in agri-fishery development that introduced.

While the PRDP seeks to support the DA in fulfilling its thrust opportunities provide farmers and fishers in improving their living conditions, the Project also aims to push for institutional reforms that will impact on the DA's efficiency in investment allocation and utilization.

In the aspect of sound planning, **PRDP** the has utilized science-based tools in promoting strategic commodity value chain development and climate change resilience. The integration of value

chain analysis (VCA) of provincial priority commodities, employing tools such as vulnerability and suitability assessment (VSA) and expanded VSA, help determine investment types that promote closer market linkage and value addition.

The VCAs are translated into provincial commodity investment (PCIPs) that list eligible subprojects to be funded under the PRDP. Through the PCIPs, LGUs become the main determining the range and specific types of assistance the DA would provide based on a science-based set of criteria.

The PRDP plays a critical role in enabling the DA to contribute to the achievement of expanding economic opportunities in the agri-fishery sector as embodied in the Philippine Development Plan (2017–2022).

Specifically, the Project delivers technical support towards increased profitability of agriculturefishery-based enterprises through diversification and value-adding as identified in the VCAs.

The Project has so far catered to 71 supporting development of agri-fishery commodities through the provision of technical and financial assistance in establishing rural infrastructures and enterprises. As of July 2017, 80 provinces now have their PCIPs approved their respective by Provincial Development Councils. Some provincial LGUs have already updated their PCIPs to additional priority commodities and interventions. This manifests broader adoption and recognition of the merits of the PCIP as a planning instrument.

Read more on p.3



llocos Norte town taps geotagging in waste management

The Municipality of Currimao in llocos Norte has brought the use of applied geotagging technology (AGT) beyond the Department of Philippine Agriculture's Development Project (PRDP) as it started to utilize the tool in monitoring its waste management

The PRDP has introduced the AGT as an innovation in promoting transparency and accountability in the planning, implementation and monitoring of its subprojects. Geotagged photos, which are code-encrypted, enable virtual monitoring of infrastructure and enterprise subprojects. The images contain fraud-proof information such as the exact time and location where the photos were taken.

2015, Erickson Biag, Currimao's municipal agriculturist the acting municipal environment and natural resources officer attended a training on using the AGT under the PRDP. In the same year, the municipality started the preparation of the town's PRDP-assisted infrastructure subproject, the rehabilitation of

Tapao-Tique-Sta. Cruz, Poblacion 2-Lang-avan farm-to-market road.

Geotagging beyond PRDP

With the use of the application in the PRDP subproject, Biag saw its potential in monitoring other municipal-led projects. In 2016, he proposed the use of the AGT in monitoring waste management under Patrol Municipal Basura Program. He said that through the geotagged pictures, barangay officials cannot deny the incidence of improper waste management in the community.

The results of the AGT-assisted waste management monitoring are presented in the municipality's quarterly multi-council meeting, which is attended by school heads and national government agency representatives. Biag said that attendees have been curious how geotagging works.

Biag said that the incidence of improper waste management in Currimao has significantly decreased through the use of geotagging in monitoring waste management. Since

the pictures can track down where improper waste management practices take place, the municipality's environment office can easily take action in coordinating with the concerned community, which will be required by the municipal government to fix the issue.

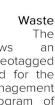
Biag added that with their experience, the municipality plans to create a map of all government projects in Currimao using the geotagging technology. With this, duplication of government subprojects in the municipality can be avoided.

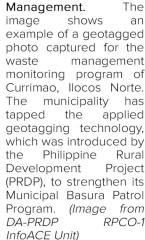
Currently, the municipal LGU still uses the PRDP geotagging camera app but they also plan to develop their own app, which will be patterned after the PRDP's version.

DA Undersecretary Ariel Cayanan, the PRDP's deputy project director said that the municipality's innovation on the use of the AGT is the first in the country and it serves as a model in the mainstreaming of PRDP's tools at the local government unit (LGU) level.

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Monitoring







Engaging Young Farmers

Born to and raised by a farming family, 23-year-old Lorlyn Nala Raro's passion for farming started since she was a child. With a degree in agriculture, she now manages their family's integrated farm. Their main crop is pineapple, one of Camarines Norte's priority commodities as specified in the province's commodity investment plan.

Lorlyn is one of the 9,140 members of the Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose Cooperative, the proponent group for the P15.82-million Camarines Norte Pineapple Trading and Processing Project under the PRDP. She shared that as an agricultural technician trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), she has taught fellow cooperative members about GAP standards, one of the PRDP requirements for their approved enterprise development subproject.

The young agriculturist is positive that the PRDP subproject would facilitate the expansion of pineapple production areas, hence, providing better income for farmers.

"With the PRDP subproject, farmers would no longer hesitate to plant pineapple or worry about rotten harvest as there's the Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose Cooperative that would buy their produce."

Loryn N. Raro Youth Farmer Iberica, Labo, Camarines Norte



PRDP seeks to... (from page 1)

Besides using the PCIPs as reference in selecting rural infrastructure and enterprise development subprojects to be proposed for funding under the PRDP, the PCIPs have also been employed in leveraging additional support from other institutions. Thus far, 56 PLGUs have accessed P3.9-billion funding support while P35 billion-worth of investments are under discussions with various agencies on top of PRDP funding.

For instance, Camarines Norte has used its PCIP in broadening

investments for the development of the coco geonets value chain, in which P754.83 million in funding—on top of the PRDP—has been initially accessed from other agencies.

Reforms in the way DA does business took off with a major stride through the institutionalization of a harmonized planning and budgeting guidelines effective 2016 across the Department's units.

Additionally, the PCIP has been gaining appreciation across provinces given the leveraging of complementary support from other agencies. Hence, the DA puts premium in the LGUs' interest to push for the mainstreaming of PCIP into their local planning processes. Also,

guidelines issued for the crafting of CY 2018 plans and budgets across the DA has included the use of PCIPs as reference in providing technical support.

Indeed, the PRDP tools and processes, especially in planning, have been proven to be effective given the greater recognition and adoption towards a rationalized identification of agri-fishery investments. Institutionalizing these is hence vital to sustain the benefits and impacts of the Project even after is termination. (Jan P. Dacumos, NPCO InfoACE Unit with from Maria Charmela reports Ates-Famor, NPCO ODPD, and the NPCO M&E Unit)

Ilocos Norte... (from page 2)

"The Department and the Project laud this notable step made by the Currimao LGU. Indeed, this is a manifestation that the PRDP has encouraged increased demand—and action—for good governance

at the grassroots level," Cayanan said.

Cayanan added that the PRDP is strongly campaigning for the mainstreaming and institutionalization of its tools on participation, transparency, accountability—the basic foundations

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of good governance—not only in the DA but in other national government agencies and even LGUs. (Dessa Estrada and Vida Cacal, DA-PRDP RPCO-1 InfoACE Unit; Jan Dacumos, NPCO InfoACE Unit)



North Luzon

LGU partners trained on economic and financial analysis

Provincial and municipal LGUs in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) with proposed and ongoing subprojects under the PRDP were recently trained on the economic and financial analysis (EFA) of infrastructure and enterprise subprojects.

Among the topics discussed was on road influence area (RIA) estimation and its link to economic feasibility indicators and sensitivity analysis. Also, the review guidelines on Financial Analysis (FA) for I-REAP (Enterprise Development) subprojects were also presented, covering the basic requirements under FA and the policies and guidelines in the computation of other emerging outcomes.

The EFA/FA strengthens the basis of assumptions in preparing financial projections, hence, ensuring feasibility of subprojects. (Elvy S. Taquio, RPCO-CAR InfoACE Unit)

South Luzon

Sorsogon fishers receive boats via community participation procurement

Calamity-stricken fisherfolk in Gubat and Prieto Diaz municipalities in Sorsogon have received 20 non-motorized fiberglass boats worth P20,500 each from the PRDP through community participation mode of procurement.

Through this mode, proponent groups organize a procurement committee composed of a chairperson and two members who take charge of getting and assessing quotations from suppliers. This is part of the Project's effort to capacitate its beneficiaries in adopting the PRDP procurement method in their own organizations' procurement process.

The PRDP also uses geotagging technology, another innovative tool pioneered by the Project, in all procurement activities. (Annielyn L. Baleza, RPCO-5 InfoACE Unit)

VISAYAS

Typhoid-stricken Cebu town gets clean water

With a groundbreaking ceremony, the PRDP has signaled the construction of a P95-million potable water system (PWS) subproject for the typhoid-stricken Alegria municipality in Cebu.

The town was hit by typhoid fever outbreaks in 2007, 2010, 2011 and 2012 due to improper waste disposal and unsafe water according to data provided by the Cebu Provincial Health Office.

About 90% of Alegria's total population will directly benefit from the installation of the new PWS, the biggest subproject of its kind under the PRDP. The PWS will replace the municipality's 50-year-old crumbling water system. (Bexmae P. Jumao-as, RPCO-7 InfoACE Unit)

MINDANAO

Farmers, residents reap benefits of new FMR in "Lala land"

Farmers and residents of Pinuyak, Simpak and Maranding barangays of Lala town in Lanao del Norte are now enjoying the many benefits of the new 4.1-kilometer, P33 million-worth FMR constructed under the PRDP.

Barangay official Arturo Arceñas said that farmers used to traverse a much longer route just to deliver their produce to the market.

Farmer Nerissa Gantalao said they used to pay P50 per sack for hauling. But it has been reduced significantly. "Now, hauling only costs us P15 per sack, and when it is time to deliver our products during rainy season, it does not take us too much time because the road is easier to access unlike before," Gantalao added. (RPCO-10 InfoACE Unit)



Mainstreaming PRDP Innovations

The PRDP, as platform for innovation, science-based tools and approaches to improve effectiveness efficiency in the manner by which DA provides support to the agri-fishery sector. The innovations piloted under the PRDP are envisioned to be mainstreamed into regular decision-making processes, activities, tools and outputs of the institution."

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