

Highlights of Accomplishments on the Implementation of PRDP as of November 2018

Number of Subprojects	Rural Infrastructure Subprojects		Enterprise Development Subprojects	
	Region	Approved	Completed	Approved
Luzon A (North Luzon)				
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	49	8	50	15
Ilocos Region (Region 1)	23	10	65	52
Cagayan Valley (Region 2)	35	14	54	39
Central Luzon (Region 3)	33	19	153	71
Subtotal	140	51	322	177
Luzon B (South Luzon)				
CALABARZON (Region 4A)	17	4	21	3
MIMAROPA (Region 4B)	12	6	25	2
Bicol Region (Region 5)	17	5	25	10
Subtotal	46	15	71	15
Visayas				
Western Visayas (Region 6)	21	3	31	9
Central Visayas (Region 7)	9	1	33	11
Eastern Visayas (Region 8)	15	1	54	14
Subtotal	45	5	118	34
Mindanao				
Zamboanga Peninsula (Region 9)	19	9	7	0
Northern Mindanao (Region 10)	35	16	34	0
Davao Region (Region 11)	42	7	8	1
SOCSCSARGEN (Region 12)	46	25	13	0
Caraga (Region 13)	27	9	10	1
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)	13	3	10	0
Subtotal	182	69	82	2
TOTAL	413	140	593	228



140 Completed Infrastructures
 84 Farm-to-Market Roads
 (95,097 households)
 2 Farm-to-Market Roads with Bridge
 (1,555 households)
 5 Potable Water Systems
 (4,953 households)
 46 Other Infrastructure
 Support Facilities (26,229 households)
Total Cost: P4,163,628,853.47



228 Completed Enterprises
 2 Medium Enterprises
 (2,601 households)
 5 Small Enterprises
 (1,588 households)
 221 Microenterprises
 (34,238 households)
Total Cost: P264,234,340



Rural Infrastructure Financing

The PRDP has approved financing of 413 rural infrastructure subprojects (SPs) in 71 provinces amounting to PhP22.35 billion benefiting 502,006 households. One hundred thirty-nine (139) are already completed while 214 and 60 subprojects are undergoing implementation and procurement respectively.

Status of Approved I-BUILD Subprojects			
Status	Number	Cost (Million Pesos)	Beneficiaries
Completed (100%)	140	3,899.39	129,653
Under Construction	196	13,969.59	274,783
50% and above	89	6,566.61	125,948
Less than 50%	107	7,402.98	148,835
Under Procurement	77	4,479.16	97,570
With NOL 2	20	762.77	17,113
With NOL 1	57	3,716.39	80,457
TOTAL	413	22,348.14	502,006

Enterprise Development Subprojects

The PRDP has approved financing of 593 enterprise subprojects (SPs) with about PhP1.83 billion worth of investments that are envisaged to increase incomes of 123,517 farmer/fisher members of 896 proponent groups (PGs). Nearly half (46%) or 56,944 of the beneficiaries are women. Comprising the approved SPs are 228 completed SPs, 210 SPs under implementation, 155 SPs under procurement.

Status	Number	Cost (Million Pesos)	Total No. of Proponent Groups (PGs)	Total No. of PG Beneficiaries	No. of PG Female Beneficiaries
Completed (100%)	228	264.23	267	38,427	14,419
Under Implementation	210	780.14	400	60,102	29,816
50% and above	121	296.75	231	24,352	10,167
Less than 50%	89	483.40	169	35,750	19,649
For / Under Procurement	155	785.41	229	24,988	12,709
TOTAL	593	1,829.79	896.00	123,517	56,944

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FMRs boost farmers' income

Spanning nearly four years into implementation (since December 2014), the Department of Agriculture - Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) has successfully realized construction/rehabilitation of 86 Farm to Market Road (FMR) subprojects worth Php 3.58 billion benefiting about 97,000 households whose livelihood relies largely in farming. These investments support efforts of the Local Government Units (LGUs) in establishing better road network linking production to market areas, are very vital to promote growth in the rural areas.

Results of the Rapid Appraisal of Emerging Benefits (RAEB) of 22 completed FMR subprojects (SPs) showed that the average income of farming households moved up by 15% (from PhP116,300 to PhP 128,200) over an average period of ten months after completion of the FMR SPs compared to the same period prior to their implementation. Of the 298 persons interviewed in the RAEB HH survey, 177 (59%) claimed to have experienced increase in income over the said period.

One hundred fifty seven (157) of the respondents claimed that the gain can be attributed to the increase in farm income due to the construction/improvement of the FMRs.

The benefits from FMRs include:

- (i) reduction in travel time by 52% (from 12 to 5 minutes per kilometer);
- (ii) reduction in cost of hauling

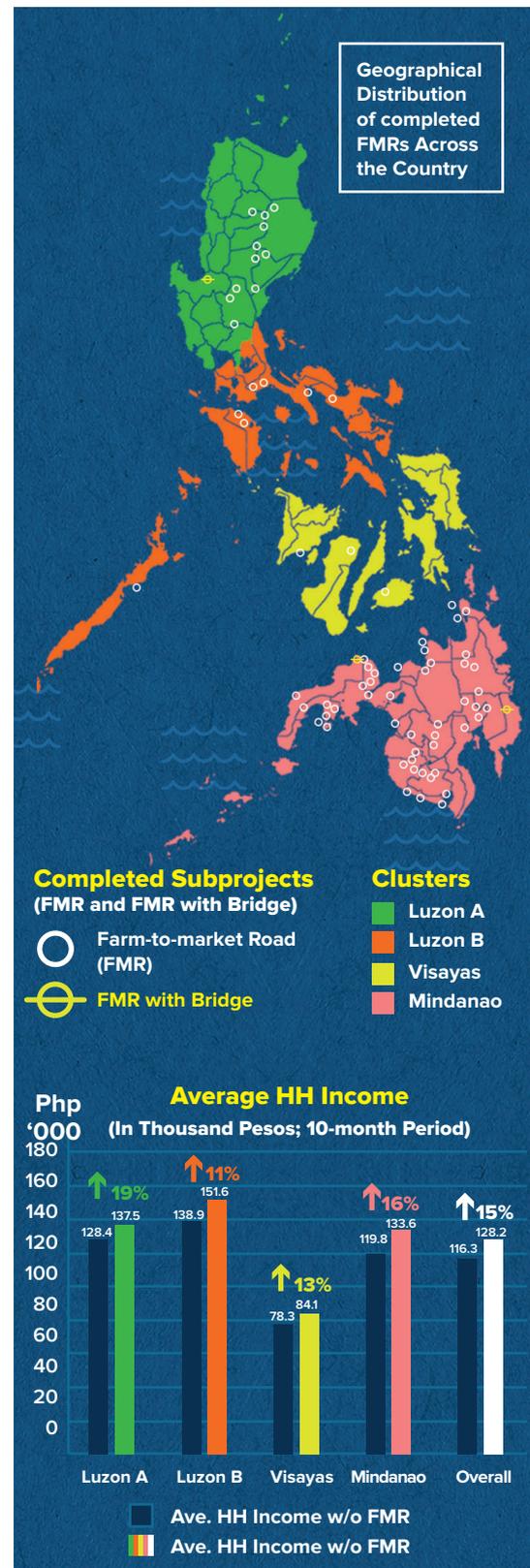
due to more convenient and faster transport of farm inputs and produce, increasing number and types of vehicles passing through the area, and influx of traders/buyers of farm produce at competitive farm gate prices;

(iii) reduction in income losses due to minimized damage of farm produce during transport;

(vi) farmers' expansion of production areas due to improvement in the marketing/selling of produce.

Apart from gaining higher incomes from farming, the FMRs have also become avenues for additional sources of income of some residents by putting up sari-sari stores, driving habal-habal (skylab) as public transport, and other sources of income emerging along the stretch of the road.

Moving forward, the PRDP shall put in place additional 145 FMRs in 60 provinces amounting to Php 14.74B that would benefit some 250,800 households. With the additional loans recently granted by the World Bank (WB) to the Government of the Philippines in the amount of US \$170 million or roughly Php 9 billion for the expansion of the PRDP, additional 60 FMRs would be implemented reaching some 120,000 households. Thus, through the PRDP, more farmers are seen to boost incomes through benefits and changes taking place in areas where FMR subprojects exist and about to exist. (Jourvin Barrera and Marilyn Platero, NPCO M&E) ■



Sibunag Seaweed Production and Marketing Enterprise takes off through GEF support

The first GEF-funded enterprise to start operations in the Visayas Cluster is the Sibunag Seaweed Production and Marketing Enterprise in Guimaras, Region 6. The Visayas Cluster has 20-GEF funded enterprises, which are geared toward increasing incomes of fisher groups through sustainable, climate-smart and ecologically sound marine-based enterprises while undertaking biodiversity conservation through Marine Protected Areas.

The enterprise started operations on June 17, 2017 with a cost of P4,533,200.00 (net of PG equity). Steering the enterprise and focusing on marketing is the Sabang Seaweed Growers Association (SSGA), the lead proponent group (PG,) with Barangays Sebaste and San Isidro as cluster members.

Through the subproject, 130 seaweed growers have been provided with production inputs such as seedlings, ropes and posts. The first batch of direct beneficiaries used to expand their seaweed plantation from .5 to 1 hectare, or 100% increase in farm area, as targeted in the Business Plan of the enterprise

subproject.

The increase in farm area is translated to an increment in production volume from 60 or 80 sacks before the project to 100 or 130 sacks of Raw Dried Seaweeds (RDS), or 45% average increase per farmer after the subproject's first year of operation.

Another notable change that the project beneficiaries had highlighted is the increase in farm gate price by almost 100%. Before the subproject, buying price set by the trader was P28 per kilo, but never exceeding P30 per kilogram of RDS. With the PG now trading directly to manufacturers in Cebu City, farm gate price now ranges from P40 to 60 per kilogram of raw dried seaweeds (RDS). Trading capital was provided by the Project.

Seaweed growers have started to enjoy the benefits from the enterprise in the form of steady budget for daily household expenditures like food and allowances for school children. Other significant benefits include payment for hospitalization expenses of family members and additional capital for

livestock growing.

One major step that the beneficiaries had done to signal the commencement of their shift from livelihood into an enterprise was obtaining permits of their farms from the municipal government. The beneficiaries considered such change as vital in the security and sustainability of their farms as compared to pre-subproject years when seaweed farms operated without permits.

They have also seen the advantage of collective marketing and trading. Members and officers now have access to market information, especially price of the commodity and requirements for quality standards of manufacturers.

Being awaited by the enterprise is the high market demand for RDS from the province of Cebu where manufacturers of carrageenan are mostly based. Through the conduct of the RAEB, PGs and LGUs gained valuable insights and learnings on how to address low-productivity issues and concerns that beset the enterprise in their first year of operation. (France Villaruel, PSO Visayas M&E and Jourvin Barrera, NPCO M&E) ■



Members of the Sabang Seaweed Growers Association in Sibunag, Guimaras preparing seaweeds for planting.

PRDP complements DA-PCC's Support to the Dairy Carabao Industry

Raw milk produced by small-holder dairy farmers in San Agustin, Isabela are usually collected and processed by dairy cooperatives. One of these groups is the San Agustin Dairy Cooperative (SADACO) based in Masaya Centro. It specializes in the processing of raw carabao (buffalo) milk into various dairy products. Despite being an active player in the dairy subsector, SADACO's capacity to produce dairy products is not sufficient and only covers 17% of the annual demand for dairy products.

Given these challenges, the DA-Philippine Carabao Center (DA-PCC) started its carabao upgrading program in the province using Riverine-type buffalo, a dairy breed of carabao. As a result, the municipality became one of the country's top producers of crossbred dairy carabao. The infusion of Riverine buffalo bloodlines by DA-PCC into the local herd resulted to an estimated 13% increase in the average raw milk production from 3.8 liters per head of carabao per day to about 4.3 liters. This translates roughly to an increase of about 120 liters of raw milk over a lactating period of eight months.

PRDP Assistance

As a major commodity of the Province, a menu of investments geared toward the development of the dairy carabao is contained in the Provincial Commodity Investment Plan (PCIP). Among the identified problems of the dairy industry in Isabela as reflected in the PCIP include poor genetic composition of local breed of carabao and the high perishability of raw carabao milk and its dairy products.

The dairy subsector of San Agustin got an added boost with technical support provided by the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) in the form of dairy processing equipment. The SADACO with its "Dairy Carabao Enterprise of Isabela" subproject, was the recipient of various equipment under the PRDP I-REAP component, which includes: a) stainless milk tanks; b) stainless steel candy maker machine; c) upright chiller; d) soft ice cream maker with freezer; e) milking machine; f) refrigerated van, among others.



PRDP provides various equipment to SADACO's Dairy Carabao Enterprise of Isabela.

The PRDP assistance was basically geared towards the improvement of the income of the SADACO enterprise, as well

as the dairy farmer members. This could be achieved, among others, through improvement in raw milk production and shelf life of raw carabao milk and its dairy products. Expansion in the dairy plant capacity as a result of the installation of new equipment would prompt SADACO to develop new product lines and explore new markets within and outside San Agustin.

Value Chain Assessment

On VC Processing Segment, results of interview with the SADACO Dairy Plant Manager showed major improvements in the storage life of dairy products. Table 1 below provides a comparative analysis of the shelf life and selling price of the four original dairy products before and after the provision of PRDP assistance. Shelf life of dairy carabao products improved significantly while the selling price has increased from 10% to 33%.

Table 1. Benefits observed on SADACO's Dairy Carabao Enterprise through PRDP Assistance

Dairy Products	Shelf Life of Dairy Carabao Products (provision of chillers & freezers)		Selling Price of Dairy Carabao Products (in Pesos)	
	Without PRDP (2017)	With PRDP (2018)	Without PRDP (2017)	With PRDP (2018)
Raw milk	4 hours	1 month	75 / L	85 / L
Pasteurized milk	8 hours	2 months	100 / L	120 / L
Pastillas	1 month	3 months	100 / box	110 / box
Flavored milk	8 hours	2 months	60 / L	80 / L

With the delivery of dairy processing equipment from PRDP such as stainless steel milk tanks, candy maker machine, chillers, soft ice cream makers, among others, the SADACO processing plant was able to develop new dairy products. Aside from the raw milk, pasteurized milk, pastillas and flavored milk, the SADACO dairy plant is now producing ice cream, popsicle, yoghurt, cheese and ice candy.

On VC Marketing Segment, the volume of milk procured daily increased by about 56% from 80 liters to 125 liters due to improved efficiency in raw milk collection using the refrigerated van. The increase in volume of milk collected was also due to the increase in the SADACO buying price of raw milk from P40/liter to P50/liter. New markets were subsequently accessed aside from the current walk-in customers and school canteens in San Agustin. These new outlets for the SADACO dairy products are found in Ipil-Echague, Isabela; and Alcalá and Tuguegarao City in Cagayan province.

SADACO was also able to set higher prices for its dairy products due to improved quality of raw carabao milk collected using the refrigerated van. An average increase of 19% was observed per liter/box of raw milk, pasteurized milk, pastillas and flavored milk, sold in SADACO outlets. (Edgar Zotomayor, NPCO M&E and Dennis Barrogo, NPCO I-PLAN)