



Heads of different bureaus, attached agencies, and programs of the Department of Agriculture attend the DA-wide Management Committee meeting held on January 12, 2021 at the DA-NAFC Conference Rooms 1&2 to present updates on the programs and accomplishments of their respective offices.

PRDP hailed as the “global best practice for monitoring” – a viable platform in implementing the One DA Approach

With the satisfactory stamp from the World Bank (WB) for its initiatives in increasing rural incomes and enhancing productivity, the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) is seen as one of the more viable platforms for the One DA approach, which was unveiled by Agriculture Secretary William Dar for 2021.

Based on the status updates of PRDP presented by Deputy Project Director Shandy Hubilla, the Project will positively contribute to the three key strategies of the holistic approach including the implementation of province-led agriculture and fisheries extension systems; intensified implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures; and mobilization and empowerment of

partners. As such, the project will enhance implementation strategies under the I-PLAN, I-REAP, I-BUILD and I-SUPPORT.

At present, 1,087 projects have been rolled out in 81 target provinces benefitting 749,200 households nationwide.

As I-PLAN continues to anchor on the strong network with the local government units in the development of the plans, a total of 125 approved value chain analysis (VCAs) now cover 74 commodities and product forms. As a result of the strategic planning with provincial local partners, 81 provincial commodity investment plan (PCIPs) were completed by 2017. As of date, upgrades are underway to include additional commodities. Moreover, the instituted PCIPs are now being

used by other provinces as platform for leveraging additional resources.

Under the I-BUILD component, PRDP will carry on with the consolidation and mapping-out of investments in infrastructure as well as strengthen post-harvest, processing, logistics, and marketing support in line with One DA's Approach .

As of December 2020, I-BUILD has constructed over 1,045 kilometers (km) of roads, 883 meters (m) of bridge, 88 sets of pre-and-post harvest facilities, potable waters systems (PWS) which benefit 6,582 households, and 1,586 hectares (ha) of area provided with improved irrigation or drainage services.

[Read more on p. 2](#)

National Deputy Project Director Shandy M. Hubilla presents the PRDP updates during the DA-wide management committee meeting



PRDP hailed as the “global best practice...” (from Page 1)

This year, it targets to construct 379 km of farm-to-market roads (FMRs), 51 km of FMR with 289 m of bridges. I-BUILD is also set to provide 539 ha production area with improved irrigation or drainage services, 75 km of bridges, PWS to benefit 102 households, and 3 sets of pre-and-post harvest facilities.

I-REAP will continue to reach achievements and targets focused on clustering strategy, establishment of ABCs, global trade, export development and promotion, as well as strengthening food safety and regulations to maintain its outstanding record.

As of December 2020, the component accounted 411 completed enterprise subprojects, 499 enterprise operations manuals, 222 enterprise assessments, 544 skills trainings, 323 market linkages, 73 credit facilitations, and 498 proponent groups with 69,412

household beneficiaries. This year, I-REAP aims to establish 653 subprojects for 145,264 farmers and fishers’ household in 984 proponent groups.

Lastly, the Project’s I-SUPPORT will continue to upscale the implementation of digital agriculture, ease of doing business and transparent procurement, and strategic communication support employing established tools and innovations such as operation manuals for infrastructure and enterprise, expanded vulnerability and suitability assessment (eVSA). It will also fully carry out the implementation of applied geotagging tool (AGT), document tracking system, web-based M&E system, citizen’s monitoring tool (CMT), grievance redress mechanism (GRM), and rapid appraisal of emerging benefits (RAEB).

Despite the challenges posed by the Corona virus last year, WB praised the outstanding accomplishments of the Project, which posed remarkable results impressed by the 36% increase in disbursement.

The WB team noted the exemplary delivery of PRDP even during difficult times.

Senior Agriculture Economist and World Bank Task Team Leader Eli Weiss congratulated the PRDP for “delivering during these very difficult times.”

Dina Umali-Deining, Agriculture Practice Manager of WB East Asia and Pacific Region, hailed PRDP as the “global best practice for monitoring” during the 11th World Bank Mission held last November 17-December 3, 2020. *(Erika Grace Lapitan, Adora Rodriguez, NPCO InfoACE)* ■



We saw the drone footages of the farm-to-market roads, the geovideos, the geo pictures, plus the component updates. **And I must say this is truly a global best practice for monitoring.**

Dina Umali-Deininger
Agriculture Practice Manager,
East Asia and Pacific Region,
World Bank



You were very quick to react to the new realities under COVID...It's really incredible that the Project delivered during these very, very difficult times. **The disbursement went up 36% from last mission.** I say this is a really remarkable result.

Eli Weiss
Senior Agriculture Economist and
World Bank Task Team Leader to the PRDP



The 12 key strategies in the One DA holistic approach championed by Secretary William D. Dar:

- 1 **Implementation of Farm Clustering Strategy (Bayanihan Agri Clusters: BACs) and Social Protection Measures**
- 2 **Implementation of Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Systems (PAFES)**
- 3 **Establishment of Agri-industrial Business Corridors (ABCs)**
- 4 **Consolidation and Mapping-out of Infrastructure Investments**
- 5 **Strengthen Post-harvest, Processing, Logistics, and Marketing Support**
- 6 **Upscaling Implementation of Digital Agriculture**
- 7 **Intensify Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Measures**
- 8 **Global Trade, Export Development and Promotion**
- 9 **Strengthen Food Safety and Regulations**
- 10 **Mobilize and Empower Partners**
- 11 **Ease of Doing Business and Transparent Procurement**
- 12 **Strategic Communication Support**

DA to use PRDP Tool to guide 2021 Growth

In a memorandum issued to all Department of Agriculture (DA) executives, attached agencies, programs and regional offices last January 4, 2021, Secretary William Dar laid down twelve key strategies which will guide the agriculture sector towards achieving growth in 2021. After closing out what has officially become the most challenging year for the agriculture sector, Dar hopes that these twelve strategies will bring the sector together to “pursue an inclusive approach on these key strategies to accelerate the transformation towards a modern and industrialized Philippine agriculture.”

Included in the strategies outlined for 2021 is the implementation of the Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES) which will be guided by the provincial commodity investment plan (PCIP) a tool that was developed by the DA-Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP). PCIP is a three-year rolling plan that rationalizes interventions in the commodity value chains. It also serves as the basis for identifying necessary infrastructure and enterprise development (I-BUILD

and I-REAP) subprojects that can be funded by PRDP with counterparts from the local government units (LGUs).

“Agro-industrialization entails leveraging public investments with local and foreign private investors through incentives and regulations to develop the sector’s value chain,” Dar said, stressing the importance of strong partnerships with local government units (LGUs).

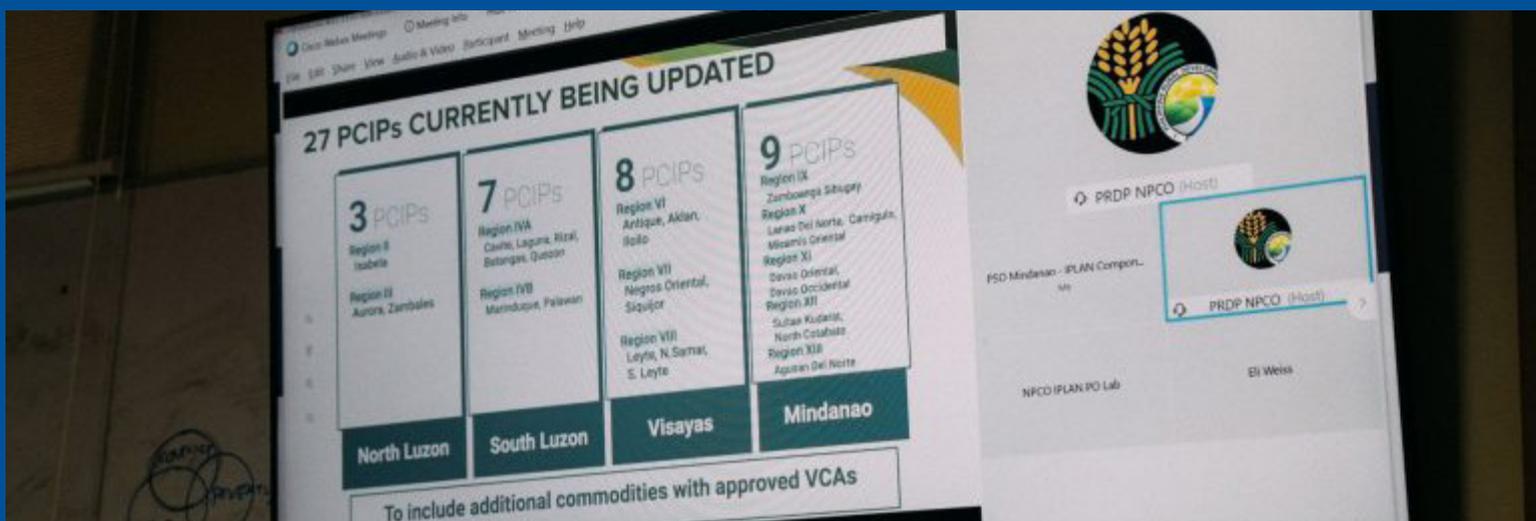
For their part, the I-PLAN component of DA-PRDP’s Mindanao cluster has continued to work towards the institutionalization and mainstreaming of PCIPs into the planning and budgeting systems of local government units (LGU’s), and DA and non-DA agencies. This has resulted in an overall satisfaction and acceptance of the use of PCIP among the different LGUs.

Last year, the Mindanao cluster was able to develop a total of 33 value chain analysis (VCA’s) which were then translated into 33 PCIP’s. These were then leveraged into Php55.77 B worth of investments across the different LGU’s. Out of this total investment, PRDP contributed a total of Php 20.28B constituting

249 infrastructure subprojects under the I-BUILD component and 125 enterprise subprojects under the I-REAP component.

The remaining Php 35.49B coming from non-PRDP sources constituted investments by the DILG, DPWH, LGU’s, DA, DTI, OPAP, DAR, DBM, DOT, DOLE, DSWD, DOST as well as other foreign donors.

The 10% increase in leveraged investments from May to November last year, as reported in DA-PRDP’s year-end review during the 11th World Bank Support Mission, shows the effectiveness of PCIP as a planning tool in the preparation of investment programs for developing the agriculture and fisheries sector among the different LGU’s. With the roll-out of Secretary Dar’s “OneDA” plan for the agriculture sector, the PRDP-developed PCIP will continue to become a key tool not only for leveraging investments for the agri-fisheries sector but for strengthening partnerships between the local and national government for the benefit of farmers and fisherfolk in Mindanao and the Philippines. *(Joseph John Palarca, PSO Mindanao InfoACE)* ■



NPCO I-PLAN and I-BUILD Components conduct virtual coordination meetings with counterparts for CY 2021 targets and deliverables

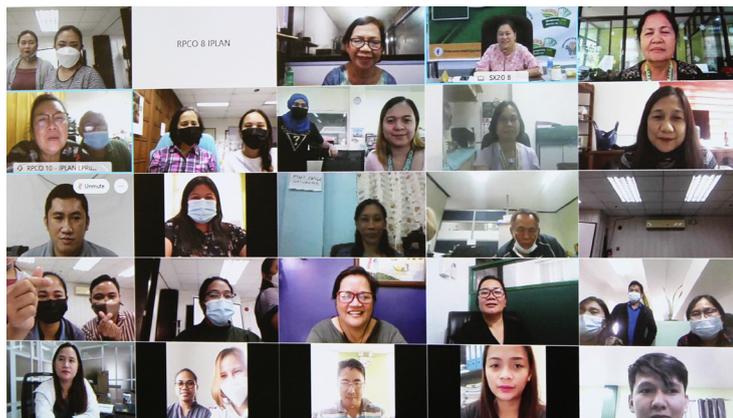
The NPCO I-PLAN and I-BUILD components convened their counterparts in the PSOs and RPCOs virtually to discuss their targets and deliverables for the year, specifically reassessing their plans to cater to the challenges brought about by the pandemic.



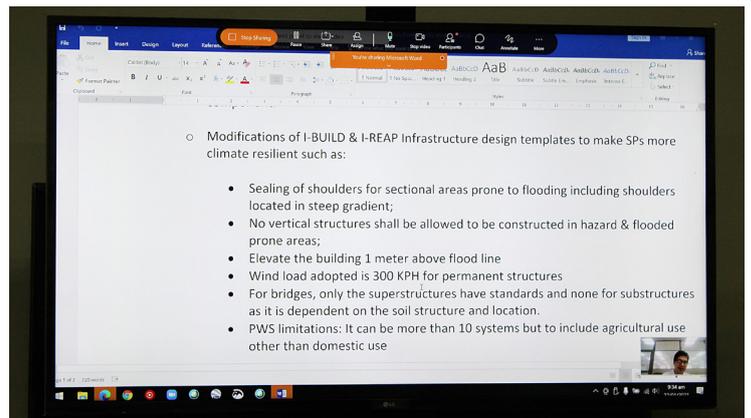
(From left to right) NPCO I-PLAN Alternate Component Head Acquilyn Morillo, Planning Officer Lovely Sablay, Planning Specialist Mark Emil Aguinaldo, Planning Officer Lourdes Corazon Santos, Project Development Associate Aico Angelic Cabuyadao, and NPCO I-PLAN Component Head Asec. Agnes Catherine T. Miranda.



(From left to right) Rural Infrastructure Engineers Joel Calimpong and Legario David, Rene Naces, and I-BUILD Alternate Component Head Ericson T. Mammag.



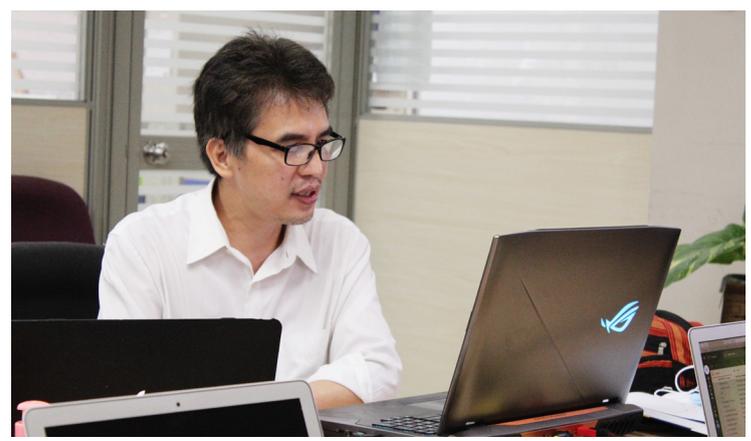
Participants of the NPCO-PSO-RPCO I-PLAN Coordination Meeting held on January 18-22, 2021.



The PRDP I-BUILD will apply modifications in their infrastructure design templates to make subprojects more climate-resilient.



NPCO I-PLAN Component Head Asec. Agnes Catherine T. Miranda recaps the activities conducted during I-PLAN's week-long coordination meeting.



Engr. Ericson T. Mammag heads the coordination meeting with their counterparts and other NPCO units and components.

North Luzon

More agri infra for Cordillera this 2021

The completion of agricultural infrastructure subprojects have contributed to the improved farming, transport and market systems of many farmers across the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

At present, the Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) poured in a total of P2.65 billion (B) with 49 infrastructure subprojects in CAR.

Of the 49 approved subprojects, 34 are already completed and 15 are under implementation. Most of these are Farm-to-Market Roads (FMRs), Level II water systems, communal irrigation systems, and other infrastructures such as consolidation centers and slope protections.

To date, the province of Kalinga has the highest amount of approved infrastructure subprojects amounting to P794 million (M) followed by Ifugao with P747-M, and Benguet with P483-M.

Kalinga has already completed four FMR subprojects and one consolidation facility in support to the local coffee industry. Further, the Regional Project Advisory Board-CAR (RPAB-CAR) recently approved five infrastructure subprojects for funding under the DA-PRDP.

This includes one new FMR subproject proposal in Kalinga worth P152.59 M and four repackaged water system subprojects in Ifugao with a total cost of P11.84 M. The water system subprojects were previously terminated due to contractors' abandonment and the subproject proposals were then repackaged.

These development interventions intend to put in place strategic and climate-resilient infrastructure facilities along the value chain of commodities prioritized under the PRDP.

As the DA-PRDP continues to implement ongoing subprojects, more farmers and agricultural service areas will soon benefit from these interventions this 2021 and beyond. *(Elvy Taquio Estacio, RPCO-CAR InfoACE)*

South Luzon

Café Amadeo showcase capabilities in 11th World Bank Mission

The PRDP in the CALABARZON region showcased the coffee enterprise subproject of Café Amadeo Development Cooperative (CADC) during the Proponent Group (PG) consultation of the 11th World Bank Implementation Support Mission.

With dwindling lands for coffee production and increased demand for coffee products, 20 Amadeo residents who are engaged in milling, production, trading, and farming started on June 28, 2002 a cooperative that will allow them to better transact with other traders and buyers for higher price. Thus, the Café Amadeo Development Cooperative (CADC) was born.

"With this cooperative, we are able to help revive the coffee industry of Amadeo. We have pooled our resources to start our dried coffee beans trading business. This industry has been here for generations. Most of us were able to build families and ensure the future of new generations to coffee. That is why we are forever thankful to coffee," CADC Chairperson Generoso Bunyi said.

Aside from the trading business, they also ventured out to coffee processing, resulting to the enterprise which they are currently known for.

With their increasing market and expanding opportunities that can be shared to more people, the CADC management decided to open up their membership to others, even non-coffee farmers.

This decision has been proven good during the community quarantine brought about by COVID-19 pandemic. With foot traffic to their pasalubong center and coffee shop dropping to zero and institutional buyers cancelling their orders, the management has decided to tap their members for online selling.

Currently, institutional buyers are slowly returning as well as the walk-in customers. Coupled with the increasing sales traffic through online means, their products are now available anywhere in the Philippines. *(Lawrence Bariring, RPCO-CALABARZON InfoACE)*

Visayas

Negros Occidental PPMIU hands in P3.5-M for PRDP native chicken production project

The provincial government of Negros Occidental headed by Gov. Eugenio "Bong" Lacson turned over checks worth a total of P3,544,000 to the Nabinay Agrarian Reform Cooperative in Brgy. Daga, Cadiz City. The amount represents the first tranche of fund transfer

for the Negros Native Chicken Breeding, Production and Marketing Enterprise under the Department of Agriculture's Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP).

The said project will concentrate on breeding, fattening and marketing of native chicken.

The enterprise will be managed by the Project Management Team which consists of members from the Lead Proponent Group, Nabinay Agrarian Reform Cooperative, and two cluster members which includes San Juan Torena Agrarian Reform Cooperative and Mirasol Development Corporation Agrarian Reform Cooperative.

Six breeding houses will be constructed for 100 pullets and 15 cockerels per house.

Aside from breeding pens, an area for incubators and feed storage will also be constructed.

The PRDP is a national project under the Dept. of Agriculture that aims to establish a modern, value chain-oriented and climate resilient agriculture and fisheries sector.

In partnership with the LGUs and the private sector, the project will be providing key infrastructure, facilities, technology and information to raise incomes, productivity and competitiveness in targeted areas.

Also present in the turn over ceremony are Provincial Administrator Atty. Rayfrando Diaz and Provincial Project Management and Implementation Unit assistant head, Dr. Narissa Lemoncito, among others. *(September Noon Macahilo, PSO Visayas InfoACE)*

Mindanao

Cacao Facility to rise in Kadingilan, Bukidnon

A promising tomorrow lies ahead for the cacao farmers of Balaoro Farmers Association or BAFA as the Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rural Development Project 10 (DA PRDP-10), breaks ground for the construction of Processing Center in support to Cacao Processing and Marketing Enterprise on January 21, 2020 in Kadingilan, Bukidnon.

In her message, DA 10 Regional Technical Director and RPCO 10 Deputy Project Director Carlota S. Madriaga appreciated the efforts of the RPCO, Provincial Local Government Unit (PLGU), and Proponent Group (PG), on how this subproject began its course. "This project is meant for the farmers to prosper. We should always remember that our goal is to increase farmers' production and income. We, the DA-PRDP and the Province of Bukidnon are so proud to see that this project will soon rise," Dir. Madriaga said.

In a separate interview, Emmanuel Perales, Vice-Chairman of BAFA, said that "We hope this project will not only benefit our current farmers but also our future children as well. By partnering with PRDP, our vision is possible."

On the other hand, Jacqueline Julia A. Lagamon, Assistant Provincial Agriculturist said in her message that the subproject is a very good model for the province of Bukidnon. "We could see the community participating in this project. This is a good sign of their willingness to cooperate for the progress not only here in Balaoro, but also for the municipality of Kadingilan", she said.

The estimated cost for the enterprise project is Php 10.9-M. Of which Php 5.2-M is funded by World Bank, while the National Government and the Provincial Local Government Unit (PLGU) contributed Php 1.7-M each. Meanwhile, the PG shared a total of Php 2.18-M both in kind and cash as equity.

This is the first IREAP enterprise to begin civil works for the province. The subproject covers the construction of the processing center, hauling truck, machinery and other equipment, benefitting 65 cacao farmer-members of the association. *(Joy Montecalvo, PSO Mindanao InfoACE)*

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