



PRDP continues to build on its rural infra dev't in accordance with "One DA" approach

Roads constructed
1,045 kilometers

Bridges constructed
883 meters

Pre-and-post Harvest facilities constructed 88 sets

Areas improved with irrigation or drainage services 1,856 hectares

Potable water systems provided
6,582 households

Actual I-BUILD outputs as of December 2020

Recognized as a viable platform in implementing Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary William Dar's "One DA" approach, the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) continues to ramp up its rural infrastructure development for 2021.

In a presentation during the DA Management Committee Meeting last month, DA-PRDP

Deputy Project Director Shandy Hubilla highlighted the Project's accomplishments in rural infrastructure development, which falls under the "One DA" approach of Consolidation and Mapping-out of Infrastructure Investments, and Strengthen Post-harvest, Processing, Logistics, and Marketing Support.

As of December 2020, under the PRDP's I-BUILD Component,

a total of 1,045 kilometers (km) and 883 meters (m) of roads and bridges had been constructed, respectively; 88 pre-and-post harvest facilities had been placed, Portable Water Systems (PWS) for 6,582 households, and 1,586 hectares (ha) of area provided with improved irrigation or drainage services.

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PRDP continues to build... (from Page 1)

For 2021, I-BUILD is targeting construction for 379km of roads and 75km of bridges, 51km for farm-to-market roads (FMR) and 289m for bridges, 539ha of area provided with improved irrigation or drainage services, PWS for 102 households, and three (3) pre-and-post harvest facilities.

I-BUILD Component Head Engineer Cristy Polido noted its target to timely implement and complete the projects with the prescribed standards and quality, despite the limitations imposed by the current situation.

“Most of our construction targets are on track, and these projects will align with positive

supply and market impacts, and enhance climate change resiliency of the agriculture sector. Once completed, these projects will create an efficient transport and logistics system that are vital to expand investments in the rural areas and increase income opportunities for our beneficiaries, as envisioned under the ‘One DA’ approach,” Engineer Polido said.

I-BUILD Alternate Component Head Engineer Ericson Mammag also added that the Component will be implementing various strategies on rural infrastructure development to adhere to the “One DA” Approach.

“In line with the One DA

Approach, we will ensure that infrastructure development will be closely coordinated with our partners and stakeholders for guaranteed sense of ownership and increased productivity for our beneficiaries,” Engineer Mammag added.

The I-BUILD or Infrastructure Development Component under the DA-PRDP aims to establish strategic and climate-resilient rural infrastructures, along with priority commodity value chains. These said infrastructure networks will then link production areas to markets and increase productivity. *(Iconn Mel D. Cayabyab, NPCO InfoACE)* ■

SES conducts 1st Assessment, Coordination Meeting for CY 2021

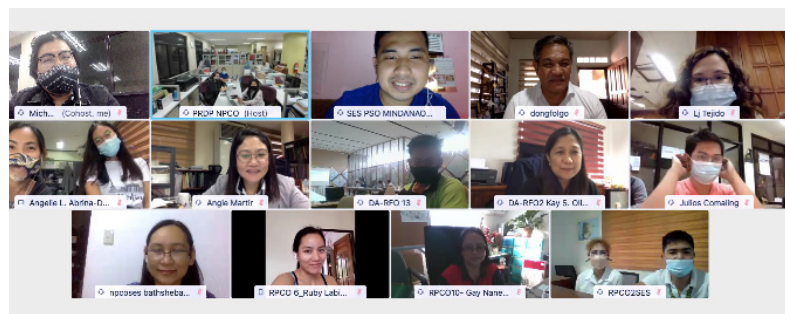
The NPCO Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) convened their counterparts in the PSOs and RPCOs virtually to discuss their targets for the year, including the risk assessment tool they developed to distinguish the gravity of environmental calamities that may affect subproject implementation.



NPCO SES Unit Head Angelita Martir welcomes their counterparts from the PSOs and RPCOs to start off their first quarter assessment and coordination meeting.



(Clockwise) NPCO Associate SES Officer Roan Nuelan, SES Specialist Maria Veronica Hernando, SES Officers Reynan Dican and Michael Francis Falconi host the meeting from the NPCO Quezon City office.



NPCO SES Units from the PSOs and RPCOs discuss the parameters of their deliverables for the year

FMR strengthens agri-fishery sector, helps manage disasters, pandemic in Cam Norte



For Barangay Pulongguit-guit Chairman Fermin Gutierrez, the concreting of the 3.44-kilometer Poblacion-Pulongguit-guit FMR funded by the DA-PRDP under its I-BUILD component was implemented and completed at an opportune time.

“Kada bagyo, medyo nalalagay sa alanganin ang sitwasyon (ng ilan naming residente) kasi nasa tabing-dagat at tabing-ilog sila,” he said.

According to Gutierrez, this puts his community at risk for storm surge.

“Ang pagkakaiba ngayon lalo pa’t may mga kalamidad, mabilis po naming (naililikas) yung mga tao kasi maganda ang daan, nare-rescue agad namin sila. Nagagamit namin ang mga sasakyan namin upang sila ay maihatid sa mga evacuation centers,” he shared.

The newly-concreted FMR allows incoming locally stranded individuals (LSIs) to avail of ambulance services from Barangay Tabugon to the designated isolation areas. This enables the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) of Pulongguit-guit, headed by Gutierrez, to keep his community COVID-19 free.

Aside from helping them manage disasters amid the continuing fight against COVID-19, the Php70.52M-worth infrastructure development subproject, designed to support the municipality’s agriculture and fishery production areas, benefits farmers, fisherfolk and other sectors in the community. Of the 2,088 households beneficiaries of the FMR, 540 families thrive on farming and fishing.

“Napakabilis na ng biyahe at ‘yun pong mga nilalabas na kalakal tulad ng mga isda na unang-unang puwede naming mailabas, hindi na siya nalalasbog (di tulad noon) gawa ng tagtag sa sama nga po ng daan,” Gutierrez said.

The FMR project also complements the Php7.62M-worth enterprise development (I-REAP) subproject Coco Geonet Production and Coco Peat Processing Project of the Samahang Organic-Fair Trade Coconut Farmers Bicol-Quezon (SoFaCoFa B-Q) located within the road influence area.

Gutierrez believes that the road completion will contribute to his barangay’s development and progress.

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FMR strengthens agri-fishery sector...(from page 3)

“Ako po ay lubos na nagpapasalamat at kami po ay nabigyan ng PRDP ng ganitong proyekto. Nakita ko po na maganda at mahigpit po ang naging pagpapalakad ng paggawa nitong proyekto. Talagang napakaganda, matibay, at maaasahan. Umunlad ‘yung barangay namin. Isa rin ‘yung kalsada na dahilan para matuloy ang plano ng LGU (para sa aming barangay),” he added.

Analyn Laureles, a resident of Barangay Pulongguit-guit, said that the road from Sta. Elena to their barangay used to be rough, eroded and had deep potholes which caused accidents. She mentioned that

the concreting of the Poblacion to Pulongguit-guit FMR will significantly benefit her father and husband who both work as farmers, her mother who serves as a day care worker, and her brother who is a fisherman.

“Mahirap po kasi nung nag-aaral pa ako ‘yung daan sobrang rough road pa, maputik pag papasok kami. Hindi mo maiiwasan na matutumba ‘yung motor, uuwi na lang kami kasi puro putik na kami. Ngayon naman, maganda kasi puwede kang maglakad; malapit na hindi kagaya dati na ilang oras. Mabilis nang mailabas ang mga produkto. Maraming marami pong salamat kasi malaki ang naitulong sa amin ng kalsada,” she said.

Agriculture and fishing are the main sources of income in the

road influence area composed of two barangays. The community is also engaged in off-farm activities like fish vending, buying and selling of coconut, copra and other agricultural products, food processing, geonet and fish processing, as well as nipa shingle making.

Sta. Elena is a coastal municipality located on the Northwestern portion of the Province of Camarines Norte. It has a total land area of 19,935ha, about 2,135ha of which are planted to coconut while 1,345ha hectares are planted to rice. Other agricultural areas in the municipality are planted with abaca, fruit trees, vegetables, and root crops. (Annielyn L. Balez, DA-RAFIS V/RPCO V InfoACE Unit)

Enterprise in Catanduanes helps abaca farmers recover from super typhoon “Rolly”

“Paano na ang aming hanapbuhay? Dito lang kami kumukuha ng pangbuhay.”

These were the concerns expressed by abaca farmer Arnold Betco, as he and his wife endured the effects of super typhoon Rolly which made landfall in Bato,

Catanduanes, in November 2020.

According to a report from the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (PDRRMC), super typhoon Rolly caused over Php2-B damages to infrastructure and left a total of Php1.59-B in agricultural losses.

Not knowing how to start, Betco was excited to know that Abaca Fiber Processing and Trading Enterprise (AFPTE), where he works as a sorter earning a daily minimum wage of Php300, has resumed its operations a week after super typhoon Rolly.

[Read more on p. 5](#)





Enterprise in Catanduanes... (from page 4)

“Maganda kasi araw-araw may kinikita. Hindi katulad noon, pagkabagyo, wala. Ang hirap pag wala kang makukunan ng hanapbuhay,” Betco expressed.

Betco is one of 2,500 abaca farmer members of the Pinoy Lingap-Damayan Multipurpose Cooperative (PLDC), the proponent group that runs the enterprise development (I-REAP) subproject funded under the DA-PRDP.

According to PLDC Board of Directors Chairman Anita L. Tasarra, PRDP’s Disaster Resiliency and 5S of Good Housekeeping Training for I-REAP subprojects helped them prepare for the super typhoon and reduce its impact. AFPTE Supervisor Honesto Sorreda Jr. agreed that the 392-square meter Main Warehouse in Barangay Sipi saved their abaca fiber stocks.

“Nung wala kaming warehouse, may nagdaan din na bagyo dito. ‘Yung mga abaca namin nandyan lang sa labas, kinumutan lang namin ng trapal tapos nilagyan ng mga kahoy para kahit papaano hindi mabasa. Pero salamat naman at ‘yung mga bagyong dumaan, hindi singlakas katulad ngayon kasi kung nagkataon, kahit may mga ganoon kaming ginawa, wala hindi yun tatagal sa bagyong yun,” Sorreda said.

“Malaki ‘yung pagbabago na meron na tayong warehouse na ganito, kasi kung wala kaming warehouse na dinaanan kami ng bayong ganito, magsisimula kami

sa wala. Halos baka abutan kami ng dalawang buwan bago kami maka-operate ulit,” he added.

Chairman Tasarra reported that damages caused by super typhoon Rolly amounted to PhP12.41M-worth of PLDC’s property, infrastructure, furniture, and abaca products. Also, abaca areas in San Andres, Vlrac, San Miguel, Bato, Baras, Glgmoto were badly hit, consisting of 75% of the enterprise’s fiber suppliers. To sustain operations, AFPTE will rely on abaca fiber from municipalities with minor damages, which includes Caramoran, Pandan, Viga, Panganiban, and Bagamanoc for the next 18 months to two (2) years. Currently, the enterprise buys abaca fiber for PhP80 to PhP90/kg depending on fiber classification, or at an all-in buying price of PhP85 to PhP87/kg.

“Dahil sa PRDP, medyo lumalakas ang loob namin kasi meron kaming nasasandigan ika nga. Alam naming na hindi kami pababayaang ng PRDP,” Tasarra expressed.

According to PRDP-Bicol I-REAP Head Adelina Losa, PLDC’s application as lending conduit for the Survival and Recovery (SURE) Aid Project, Agri-Negosyo Loan Program (ANYO), Kapital Access for Young Agripreneurs (KAYA) of the Agricultural Credit Policy Council is now for approval. This will provide PLDC with PhP40-M credit fund as the first and only lending conduit in the province. Individual borrowers may avail of up to PhP500,000 KAYA or PhP300,000 up to PhP15-M ANYO, payable not more than five (5) years at 0% interest. SURE Aid Project on

the other hand, offers non-collateral, zero interest loan worth PhP25,000 payable in 10 years.

Losa also assured PLDC that the PRDP I-REAP is coordinating with the Philippine Fiber Industry Authority (PhilFida) to facilitate the rehabilitation of AFPTE farmer-members’ abaca farm areas. She added that PRDP Bicol will also lobby for the insurance of PLDC members’ abaca during the nationwide I-REAP coordination meeting

“Malaking bagay po ‘yun kasi kailangan ng mga farmers and fisherfolk ng start-up capital para makabangon,” Tasarra added.

Also, Losa assured PLDC that the PRDP I-REAP is coordinating with the Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority (PhilFida) to facilitate the rehabilitation of AFPTE farmer-members’ abaca farm areas. She added that PRDP-Bicol will also lobby for the insurance of PLDC members’ abaca during the nationwide I-REAP coordination meeting scheduled on December 17, 2020.

Catanduanes is known as the ‘Abaca County’ for being the top producer of abaca in the Philippines. AFPTE is a P10.21-M-worth I-REAP subproject being implemented by the PLDC with funding and technical assistance from the Department of Agriculture-PRDP and the Provincial Government of Catanduanes. Since January 2016, it engages in abaca fiber processing and trading as well as trading of bacbac or dried leafsheaths of abaca plant and abaca wastes. (Annielyn L. Baleza, DA RAFIS/PRDP RPCO V InfoACE Unit) ■

PhP534.5-M worth infra support in Ifugao endorsed under DA-PRDP

A total of three (3) more infrastructure support subprojects worth PhP534.5M for the province of Ifugao were endorsed for approval and funding under the DA-PRDP.

In a meeting held at the DA-CAR on February 18, 2021, members of the Cordillera Regional Project Advisory Board (RPAB) reviewed and endorsed two (2) FMR subprojects located in the municipalities of Aguinaldo and Kiangnan, which aims to facilitate distribution of products and access to low-cost inputs, in support of the local banana cardava industry.

During the meeting, Ifugao Governor Jerry Dalipog, Aguinaldo Mayor Gaspar Chilagan, and Kiangnan Mayor Raldis Andrei Bulayungan successfully presented and convinced the RPAB members of the feasibility, as well as the socio-economic impact of their proposed subprojects.

Additionally, the proposed Level II water system in Lagawe was also endorsed, aiming to rehabilitate and construct

additional pipelines for the town's existing water network that will benefit the community.

Findings from the conducted subproject appraisals were also presented to provide further details as to the documents required by the PRDP. The RPAB then recommended for the LGU's compliance with the lacking requirements to fast track the review process and approval at the Project Support Office (PSO) and National Project Coordination Office (NPCO).

It was further recommended to include documentation of issued local ordinances, especially on environmental protection to further strengthen their proposals.

With the unanimous endorsement of the subprojects, OIC-Regional Executive Director and RPAB Chair Cameron P. Odsey highlighted the importance of watersheds in the development of rural infrastructures.

"Let us reach out to our communities in pursuing rural development without sacrificing our natural treasures," Odsey said.

At present, the province of Ifugao has a total of 18 approved infrastructure subprojects, with nine (9) already completed, and the remaining under implementation. (*Elvy Taquiao-Estacio, RPCO-CAR InfoACE*) ■



Cameron P. Odsey, DA-RFO-CAR OIC-Regional Executive Director and RPAB chair presides over the first RPAB meeting this 2021.



Ifugao Gov. Jerry U. Dalipog discusses the overview of the proposed water system in the municipality of Lagawe.

DA-PRDP hands in PhP15.1-M Cacao Project in North Cotabato

The DA-PRDP, through the RPCO XII, in partnership with the municipal LGU of Antipas, turned over the PhP15.1 million enterprise subproject to Household Multi-Purpose Cooperative (HMPC) on February 23, 2021.

The "Dried Cacao Beans Production and Marketing" subproject covers initially a total of 354 hectares of existing productive cacao area, with 354 farmer-beneficiaries comprising of 244 IPs and 110 Non-IPs households.

Part of the package is the production support, which includes a storage warehouse, mechanical dryer, hauling trucks, and working capital.

Through this enterprise subproject, smallholder cacao farmers in Antipas and the neighboring communities now have better access to improved equipment and facilities that they can use to upgrade the quality of their beans and sell at a better price in meeting the required quality standards for cacao fermented beans. This is seen as an economic improvement on the lives of the marginal cacao farmers achieved through good income flow.

HMPC currently delivers dried fermented cacao beans from the Municipality of Antipas to Kennemer Foods International in Davao City. Through clustering, they can come up with better ways to gather beans to reach enough volume to be delivered to Kennemer.

HMPC has been using the hauling and delivery trucks which were turned over last year by DA-PRDP.

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HMPC storage warehouse



One unit hauling and delivery truck from DA-PRDP

DA-PRDP hands in...(from page 6)

According to HMPC CEO Reynold Alejo, the closed delivery van which was turned over last year is a huge help in ensuring that they can deliver their dried beans to buyers in good condition, regardless of the weather, while the hauling truck provides them with ease in gathering the beans from its cluster members in different areas in Antipas.

"The hauling truck is really a big help to us and our farmers because they used to pay for the delivery of their beans going here in the center. Now, we are the one to collect it in their farms free of charge. Our delivery of fermented beans to Kennemer is also safe and we no longer have to worry when it's raining," Alejo said.

The activity was led by Antipas Vice Mayor Cristobal Cadungon, I-REAP Component Head Esmael Intao, and HMPC CEO Reynold Alejo.

"Through this PRDP project we can now have a sure market for our products," Alejo added. (Joy M. Montecalvo with reports from RPCO 12)

I-BUILD infra project constructed 45 days ahead of schedule

Newly harvested onions from production areas in Nueva Ecija will now be properly stored, maintaining its fresh quality and resulting to higher market value, with the completion of the Php191-million Cold Storage Project of the DA-PRDP, through the I-BUILD Component.

The cold storage, completed 45 days ahead of its original target, is built on a 2,422-square meter lot donated by the Katipunan ng mga Samahang Magsisibuyas ng Nueva Ecija (KASAMNE) to the City Government of Palayan, started in July 2019 and was fully constructed in December 2020.

Due to its advanced completion, the I-BUILD Component of the RPCO III was recently commended for its exemplary achievement,

which underlined the action plans dealt to mitigate project delays despite the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. Travel restrictions, social distancing, and quarantines resulted in delays and increased costs for the contractor.

To keep the workforce safe, the Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) Unit implemented health and safety guidelines issued by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on essential construction which helped determine on-site activities to go forward.

I-BUILD Rural Infrastructure Engineer Bon Alexis Guatato reassured that regardless of the unprecedented delays, disruptions, and uncertainty on the recommencement of on-site activities, the RPCO III, together with the city government and the contractor, ARN Builders, were determined in completing the subproject despite the battle against COVID-19.

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Palayan cold storage

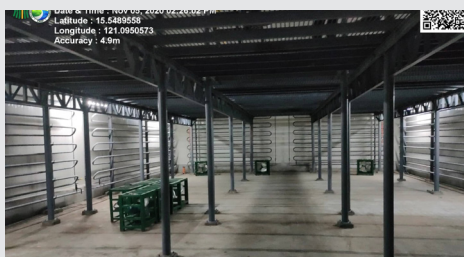
I-BUILD Infra...(from page 7)

“Time is of the essence when it comes to infrastructure projects. We continued in accelerating projects to bounce back from the crisis,” Engineer Guatato added.

It is in the decisiveness of the I-BUILD that this project gained headway, following catch-up plans to recover lost time during the temporary suspension of construction activities due to the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) imposed in Luzon on March 2020, while the contractor ramped up the construction to finish the cold storage facility way ahead of time.

Once operational, the facility can store an initial capacity of 120,000 bags to prolong the shelf life of onions up to seven (7) months and prevent crops from rotting early and restrain insects from infesting goods.

Flagship infrastructure under the I-BUILD Component consists of the establishment and maintenance of roads, bridges, warehouses, and waterways which are considered priorities in providing long-term stability for the agricultural sector. (Ma. Reina Len G. Luna, RPCO3 InfoACE)



DA-PRDP XI turns over P127.3-M Agri infra to DavNor Province

As part of its efforts to increase rural incomes and enhance farm and fishery productivity, the DA-PRDP Region XI has turned-over a total of PhP127.3 million of agriculture infrastructure to the Province of Davao del Norte.

The said agri infra includes a PhP117.4 million rehabilitated FMR in the Municipality of Sto. Tomas, and PhP9.9 million improved Nursery with Organic Input Production and Common Service Facility in the Municipality of New Corella.

In her message during the inauguration ceremony held on February 5, 2021, DA-PRDP XI Deputy Project Director Marila L. Corpuz highlighted the significant role of rural infrastructure in providing farming communities the connectivity to the processing and market centers.

“As we increase farm productivity, we should also ensure the quality of our farmers’ produce so that they will have an increased income, and that is the very reason why we are so keen in implementing these projects,” Corpuz said.

“These projects are a product of the combined efforts and the dedication to serve of our DA-PRDP Team and our active partners in the provincial and municipal local government units,” Corpuz added.

The said PRDP subprojects under the I-BUILD components of the DA are jointly funded by the World Bank, the national government, and LGUs.

Davao del Norte Provincial Governor Edwin I. Jubahib thanked DA-PRDP XI for the strong collaboration that resulted in the smooth and successful implementation of the said projects.

“We have been working closely with DA throughout the implementation of these projects. Under this partnership and pooling resources, we will continue to gear up farming communities to be more resilient and provide much-needed services especially to the most disadvantaged communities,” Governor Jubahib said.

The 12.63-kilometer rehabilitated Esperanza-Poblacion, Sto. Tomas FMR serves 11,400 Tomaseños traversing the 67-hectare banana plantation in Barangay Esparanza, 147-hectare coconut plantation in Barangay San Vicente, 60-hectare cacao production area in Barangay Salvacion, and the 400-hectare rice farms in Barangays Kinamayán and Poblacion.

The improved Nursery with Organic Input Production and Common Service Facility in Barangay Poblacion, New Corella includes two (2) units of solar dryers, a warehouse, and a fermentary building. It also features a vermi storage facility and vermicomposting beds with shed, in support of the organic agriculture programs of the municipality.

Meanwhile, Deputy Project Director Corpuz said that the projects turned over will also benefit the two (2) IP communities in New Corella, 218 Mandaya/Mansaka, and 253 Manobo in Sto. Tomas, which is in line with the agency’s inclusive approach in agriculture. (Celso Campos Vergara, RAFIS11) ■

North Luzon

FMR project in Bulacan ramps up construction

The DA-PRDP continues to ramp up the completion of the PhP50 million farm-to-market road (FMR) at San Ildefonso Bulacan to help enhance connectivity and ease transportation from production to trading areas.

A joint site inspection was conducted by the Regional Project Coordination Office Region III (RPCO III) led by Action Officer Gil G. David, together with the Project Support Office (PSO) on January 26, 2021.

I-BUILD Rural Infrastructure Engineer Mary Joyce Quiros stated the team inspected the remaining 2.94-kilometer portion of the road with an accomplishment rate of 81.77%.

Engineer Quiros stressed that pending issues are to be revisited to deliver fast action towards achieving timelines with the reassurance of building quality infrastructure.

She also noted that road construction, specifically FMR projects, plays a critical role in improving the lives of farmers which have multiplier effects in the agricultural sector.

The said project will link the Barangays of Sumandig and Bubulong Malaki as a way to rehabilitate road networks and improve mobility of goods in distant areas of the municipality. It is set to be completed this year and to be turned over to the local government. *(Ma. Reina Len G. Luna, RPCO3 InfoACE)*

Visayas

E. Visayas conducts CMT consultation forum in two successfully implemented I-BUILD subprojects

To capacitate community members in monitoring subprojects under the DA-PRDP, the Citizen's Monitoring Team (CMT) of PRDP RPCO VIII, spearheaded by the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (M&E), conducted a consultation forum for two (2) successfully completed farm-to-market roads, (FMR) namely, the Concreting of Concepcion-Bagumbayan-Hampangan FMR in Hilongos, Leyte, and the Rehabilitation/Concreting of Suba-Kanangkaan-San Vicente-San Juan FMR in Sogod, Southern Leyte.

The participants were given survey questionnaires which served as their training tool on what and how to go about the monitoring process while practicing how to answer them during the consultation. This questionnaire included important factors such as management support system, contract review process, inspection and testing procedures, document control procedures, operations and maintenance procedures, and other social and environment safeguard aspects.

The Rehabilitation/Concreting of Suba-Kanangkaan-San Vicente-San Juan FMR in Sogod, So. Leyte was completed in September 2018. Meanwhile, the Concreting of Concepcion-Bagumbayan-Hampangan FMR in Hilongos, Leyte was completed last July 2019, four months ahead from its target completion date. This accorded the LGU Hilongos the fitting recognition as the Best Implementer of Philippine Rural Development Project nationwide. *(Jennina June Leira L. Brosas, RPCO 8 InfoACE)*

Mindanao

Zambo Sibugay implements 18 infra projects

Through the establishment of farm-to market roads (FMRs), bridges and other infrastructures, farming activities and transportation for farmers and their agricultural products from their farms to the market will now be easier.

Several municipalities in Zamboanga Sibugay have kicked-off a total of 18 infrastructure projects under the DA-PRDP, where 10 have already been completed, while the others are ongoing implementation. Of the 16 municipalities in the said province, nine (9) have availed infrastructure support and intervention from DA-PRDP. A combined total of 78.75km of FMRs and bridges are guaranteed to benefit Zamboanga Sibugay farmers.

To date, the Municipality of Buug has three (3) FMR subprojects worth PhP199.53-M, with a combined length of 10.73km, with one (1) subproject completed.

The Municipality Talusan also has three (3) subprojects with a total distance of 9km worth PhP132.6M that includes two (2) completed subprojects and one (1) under implementation. Meanwhile, the Municipality of Alicia has two (2) completed subprojects, measuring a total of 4.53km amounting to PhP46.49-M.

Meanwhile, the Municipality of Olutanga availed two (2) subprojects from DA-PRDP which are still on-going, with a total length of 9.15km amounting to PhP155.38M.

The Municipality of Mabuhay has one (1) 7.95km FMR subproject with bridge worth PhP139.41-M; Municipality of Tungawan with one (1) 7.95km FMR worth PhP87.78-M; Municipality of Siay with one (1) 6.96km FMR worth PhP61.03-M; and Municipality of Titay with one (1) 3.06km FMR worth PhP57.8-M.

The Municipality of Roseller Lim acquired the highest number of infrastructure subprojects, with four (4) FMR subprojects worth PhP295.77-M with a total length of 19.42km.

In the recent PSO-RPCO Coordination meeting, the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay was also included among the Top 10 provinces with the highest Non-PRDP subproject. This means they can leverage the use of existing Provincial Commodity Investment Plans (PCIP) to obtain additional projects from other agencies aside from DA-PRDP.

The Infrastructure Development or I-BUILD Component's primary objective is to improve the links from production areas to markets to enhance the efficiency of transporting agricultural products and to lower post-harvest losses resulting in a higher volume of outputs and more efficient support facilities. *(Joy M. Montecalvo, PSO Mindanao InfoACE)*

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