



PH gov't signs DA-PRDP's second additional financing

The Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) moves one step closer to its next phase of project implementation, as the \$280 million Second Additional Financing with EUR18.3 million (M) E.U. Co-financing grant (AF2-EU)

has been signed by the Philippine government on July 19, 2021.

Department of Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez, representing the PH government, formally signed the agreement with the World Bank, which amplifies the DA-PRDP's primary objective

of increasing rural incomes and enhancing farm and fishery productivity in targeted areas.

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The AF2 is the second tranche of the \$450-M Additional Financing from the World Bank that was approved by the Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) in 2016. Answering the call to aid beneficiaries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the AF2 has been retrofitted to complement the initiatives of the DA towards food security and resiliency.

DA Secretary William Dar welcomed the signing of the agreement as a step forward towards the continuation of projects for farmers and fisherfolk, enabling more communities

and expanding opportunities for beneficiaries, partners, and stakeholders.

PRDP National Project Director Undersecretary Ariel T. Cayanán added that the signed agreement will pave the way for the DA-PRDP to execute its plans and strategies in the succeeding years.

“Our next step is to prepare our services in anticipation of the Loan Effectiveness, which will enable us to move forward with the funds of the AF2 to continue our subprojects for the benefit of our beneficiaries,” Usec. Cayanán

added.

With the AF2 formally signed by the Philippine government, the loan is expected to take effect a maximum of 90 days at the latest from the date of the signing of the Loan Agreement.

Through the Loan Effectiveness, the DA-PRDP is eligible to draw funds from the Loan Proceeds. As soon as effective, the Project will process the Special Budget Request and release of the allotment from the Department of Budget and Management. *(Iconn Mel D. Cayabyab, NPCO InfoACE)* ■

DA-PRDP gears up for first AAA Slaughterhouse Subproject

The DA-PRDP is set to make history, as the first AAA Slaughterhouse subproject in the Project's history has been approved by the MIMAROPA Regional Project Advisory Board (RPAB), along with two additional subprojects, during a virtual meeting held on June 28, 2021.

With the official subproject title of “Establishment/Construction of AAA Hog Slaughterhouse” and an approved project cost of PhP280-M, the facility is set to be constructed in a three-hectare lot located at the Municipality of Boac, Marinduque. Upon completion, the subproject aims to benefit around 42,000

farmers in the province, and to be able to supply premium quality meat here and abroad.

The DA-PRDP has a number of pipelined slaughterhouse subprojects, however, this is the first time that a Class AAA slaughterhouse will be put on the works. Compared to Class A and Class AA slaughterhouses which are fit to produce meat for the domestic market, a Class AAA slaughterhouse is a fully automated facility that can provide quality meat fit for international trade.

Marinduque Governor Presbitero Velasco, Jr., who was one of the presenters along

with the Provincial Project Management and Implementation Head Marian Cunanan, expressed his gratitude to the DA-PRDP and the RPAB members during the board meeting.

“This will be one of the main strategies by which we can provide a lot of income and revenue to our beloved province of Marinduque. Maraming salamat po sa patuloy niyong pagsuporta, (thank you so much for your continuous support) and thank you also for the other projects which you generously bestowed to the province of Marinduque,” Governor Velasco said.

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DA-PRDP gears up... (from Page 2)

Two more subprojects approved

Aside from the slaughterhouse, two more subprojects were approved during the said meeting, one of which is the Construction of Oriental Mindoro Trading and Consolidation Facility in the Municipality of Victoria. The subproject, with a total cost of PhP34-M, aims to provide farmers with an appropriate trading post where they can sell their produce in a competitive price.

The other subproject approved is the Concreting of Barangay Waygan to Barangay Balugo Farm-to-Market Road (FMR) in the Municipality of

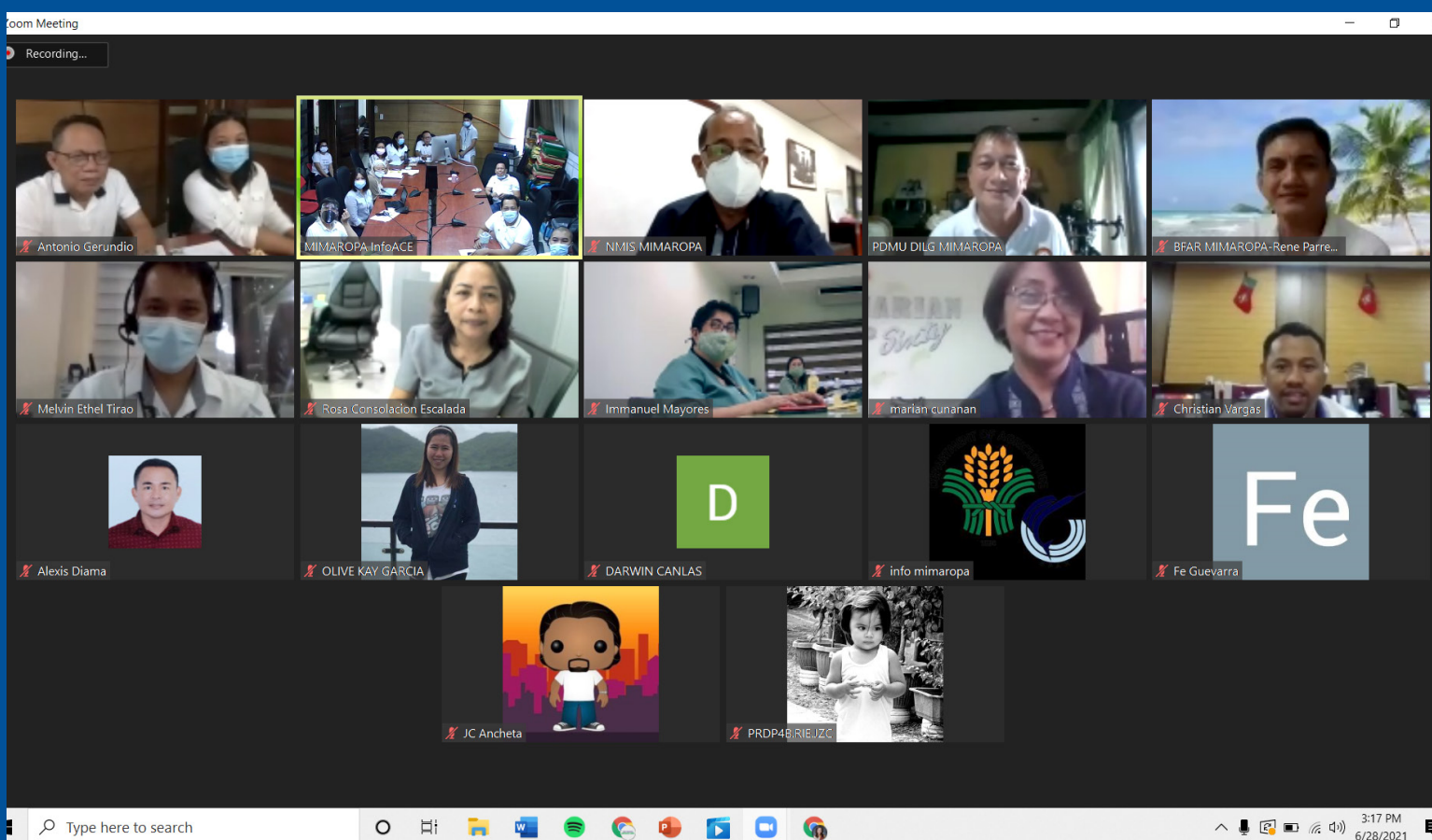
Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro. This FMR has a total length of 6.54 kilometers and a total project cost of PhP150-M.

The RPAB meeting was spearheaded by RPAB Chairman and Project Director Antonio Gerundio, CESO III, DPA and was participated in by the RPAB members that include DILG Project Development Management Unit Chief Lorenzo Suarez (representing Dir. Wilhem Suyko); DA-BFAR Planning Chief Rene Parreño (representing Dir. Elizer Salilig); DAR Agrarian Reform Program Chief Fe Guevarra and Engr. Melvin Ethel Tirao (representing Dir. Marvin Bernal); Regional Agricultural and

Fisheries Council Chairman Junior Supnet; and DPWH Planning and Design Section Officer-in-Charge Chief Rosa Consolacion Escalada (representing Dir. Yolanda Tangco).

Also present in the board meeting were Deputy Project Director Engineer Annielyn Del Rosario and Director Roberto Umali of the National Meat Inspection Service MIMAROPA.

All three approved subprojects aim to address poverty incidence in their respective municipalities, and to provide better livelihood opportunities for our local farmers. *(Danica A. Brutas, DA-PRDP MIMAROPA RPCO InfoACE Unit)* ■



RPAB members, subproject presenters, and members of the MIMAROPA RPCO pose for a virtual group photo before the board meeting was adjourned. (Photo by Danica A. Brutas, DA-PRDP MIMAROPA RPCO InfoACE Unit)

North Luzon

Benguet farmers get PhP4.13-M worth coffee trading center from DA-PRDP

The Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) officially turned over the Benguet Coffee Trading Center to the Proponent Groups (PGs) of the Benguet Arabica Coffee Enterprise (BACE) worth PhP13.91 million (M), on July 9, 2021.

Benguet Governor Melchor D. Diclas led the turnover rites, together with DA-CAR OIC-Regional Executive Director Cameron P. Odsey, and DA-PRDP North Luzon Deputy Project Director Elma S. Mananes. Key officials from the Benguet Provincial Project Management and Implementing Unit (PPMIU) were also present to witness the event.

During the turnover, the Board of Directors (BOD) and representatives from the PGs of the enterprise, headed by the Kibungan Arabica Coffee Growers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (KACGMPC), accepted the facility and committed to use it for its intended purpose.

"On behalf of the BACE PGs, we are committing to use this facility for its purpose as we also believe that it will motivate our fellow coffee growers to increase their production", KACGMPC BOD Chairperson Martes Alusod said.

With a project cost of PhP4.13-M, the trading center was established to support the operations of the BACE for its coffee consolidation and trading activities. Aside from the trading center, two hauling vehicles were previously turned over to the PGs including 75 units of coffee pulper, 350 pieces of hermetic bags, 16 units of fabricated elevated solar dryer, among other coffee making materials.

With the aim of expanding coffee market offering high quality and globally competitive coffee green beans, the BACE will be managed by a BOD composed of one representative each from the member PGs. (*Elvy T. Estacio RPCO-CAR InfoACE Unit*)

South Luzon

Procurement for first PRDP-funded AA slaughterhouse in Bicol underway

The municipality of Camarines Sur will soon start the procurement process for its AA slaughterhouse located in Barangay Agrupacion. The project will be funded by the DA-PRDP with civil works, including a 160 square meter slaughterhouse building and 60 square meter holding pen.

The facility has an operational capacity of 11 to 58 head per day for hogs, and 1 to 8 head per day for cattle, and is complete with hog slaughtering equipment, large animal slaughtering equipment, and auxiliary equipment.

The DA-PRDP and NMIS eye slaughterhouse subprojects as one of the solutions to the 92.10% insanitary meat hygiene situation in Bicol. According to NMIS-Bicol OIC-Regional Director Dr. Alex Templonuevo, of the 114 municipalities and cities in the region, only 59 have locally registered meat establishments (LRME) and five have accredited AA slaughterhouses. (*Annielyn L. Baleza, DA RAFIS V/PRDP RPCO V InfoACE Unit; With reports from Engr. Jesty C. Bergantin, PRDP-Bicol Procurement Unit and Engr. Joel A. Catimbang, PRDP-Bicol I-BUILD*)

Visayas

RPCO 6 team conducts final inspection for PhP18-M mango enterprise facility in Guimaras

Working on the materialization of the DA-PRDP subprojects in the island of Guimaras, the Regional Project Coordination Office

(RCPO) 6 conducted final inspection for the Construction of Packing House of Guimaras Mango Production, Consolidation, and Marketing Enterprise on June 23, 2021.

The RPCO 6 team conducted the inspection for the P18-M worth project, covering the establishment of the packing house, provision of production inputs and support, and other amenities relevant to the implementation of the mango enterprise subproject.

The packing house facility, located in Sitio Talangban, Barangay Millan, Sibunag, Guimaras, will serve as the hub of the mango produce that are bound for consolidation and marketing once the subproject begins its operation. It will be managed by the Guimaras Mango Growers and Producers Development Cooperative as its lead proponent, along with the Jordan Farmers Multi-Purpose Cooperative and Guimarasnon Processors and Producers Association as cluster members.

Meanwhile, the team also conducted liquidation of the expenses for the Isla de Guimaras Native Chicken Production and Marketing Enterprise, with the groundbreaking of its main building, grow-out, and breeding houses on May 5, 2021. Including the two aforesaid projects, the province of Guimaras was able to access a total of PhP168-M fund for infrastructure support, enterprise development, coastal and environmental protection from the DA-PRDP. (*April Grace Padilla, RPCO 6 InfoACE Unit*)

Mindanao

DA-PRDP RPCO 10 hands over 5 SPs to LGU Manolo Fortich

Access to postharvest facilities and better transport mobility is now within reach for the farmers in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon as the DA-PRDP RPCO 10 turned-over five (5) subprojects on July 8, 2021.

These subprojects include four (4) Multi-Purpose Drying Pavements (MPDP) that were established in the Barangays of Kalugmanan, Mambatangan, Minsuro and Sto. Nino with a total project cost of PhP14.5-M. In addition to the MPDP with warehouse, Barangay Mambatangan also received a 4.64-kilometer FMR with a total project cost of more than PhP44-M.

Manolo Fortich Mayor Clive D. Quiño said that the series of turn-over of subprojects is a historical event for the municipality.

"This is the very first time that Manolo Fortich was able to receive five subprojects in just a single day! We are very thankful to everyone who did their part in the realization of these projects, especially to DA-PRDP 10 which has been very supportive to our endeavor in improving the lives of our farmers here in the municipality," Mayor Quiño said.

The said warehouse with MPDP will serve more than 2,877 households of barangay beneficiaries, while the FMR, with an influence area of 922 hectares, will serve 650 households, including the Bukidnon and Higaonon tribes and the farmers of cassava, mango, corn, and banana. (*Cyrus Seraspe, RPCO 10 InfoACE Unit*)

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