



ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 11

Series of 2006

Subject : GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMANG GULAYAN NG MASA TUNGO SA KANAYUNANG MALUSOG AT BUSOG SA PAG-ASA (A Family Farm Program)

SECTION 1. Basic Policy

Consistent with the goal of the Department of Agriculture to attain self-reliance and self sufficiency for food, it is the policy of the state to empower the poor living in the rural areas with high hunger and malnutrition incidence by enhancing their capability to produce their own food through adoption of integrated backyard gardening.

SECTION 2. Objectives

The over all objective of the program is to reduce rural hunger and malnutrition through promotion of integrated backyard gardening, conduct of capability building and provision of initial seeds/plant materials, livestock and fish fingerlings to families living in the country's most vulnerable rural communities.

SECTION 3. Duration, Scope and Coverage

The program will commence in 2006 and ends in 2010. The coverage of the program are the rural communities classified under the categories of triple V (very very vulnerable) Masbate, Tawi-tawi, Sulu and double V (very vulnerable) Apayao, Capiz, Negros Oriental, Zamboanga del Norte, Bukidnon, Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Basilan – areas suffering from high hunger and malnutrition incidence.

A total of 1,163 and 1,000 barangays under triple V and double V areas respectively will be covered by the program. One hundred (100) families per barangay will then be selected as program partners/cooperators.

For 2006, implementation will start in Masbate, Tawi-tawi, Sulu, Apayao and Zamboanga del Norte. For regions not targeted, they should initiate similar activities in their areas utilizing existing resources.

SECTION 4. Strategies of Implementation

- A. Organization and consultation, briefings with Regional Field Units (RFUs), the Local Government Units (LGUs), Youth Organizations and Rural Improvement Clubs (RICs), Agricultural and Fishery Councils (AFCs), NGOs/POs/Civic Organizations, Church Groups, other government agencies (DILG, DSWD, DepEd, DOH).
 - a.) The DA-RFU shall coordinate with LGU, DSWD, DOH, 4H Club and RIC in the selection and identification of families or partners.
 - b.) A master list indicating the name of partners by barangay, by municipality and by province shall be prepared by each concerned DA-RFU.

B. Conduct of Training

DA ATI shall coordinate with DA RFU and LGU with regards to the conduct of training of partners in their respective areas. The training shall cover the topics on growing vegetable, raising small ruminants/poultry and culturing freshwater fish within the backyard of the participants. Other technologies such as organic fertilizer production (composting), mushroom culture, small scale irrigation development, botanical pesticide making, home saved seed production, container gardening and others will also be taught in the training.

Whenever applicable, hands on training for the partner shall be done to include garden plot preparation, chicken house and fish pond construction to ensure that the inputs will be utilized and for the project to be fully operationalized.

Agricultural Technologist of LGU shall be designated as focal person in their covered barangays who will conduct regular follow up and monitoring of the backyard gardens.

C. Sourcing, Acquisition and Distribution of Seeds/Seedlings

Initially, the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) through the DA-RFU shall prepare the kit for distribution to the rural families as program partners. The kit will include assorted seeds as preferred vegetables small garden tools, small packets of organic fertilizer and a 'how to grow' instruction. Where needed, planting materials of sweet potato, cassava and malunggay as well as indigenous vegetables such as alugbati, saluyot, talinum, etc. will also be added in the kit.

Kit shall be only distributed to those partners who have undergone training, but for facilitation purposes, distribution can be coursed through the LGU particularly the municipal agriculturist/agricultural officer wherein the agricultural technician will do the distribution of the kit to the families within their covered barangay.

BPI will assist the regions in sourcing out the seeds/plant materials if not available in the locality.

Quality seeds and plant materials will be sourced from government/DA centers/stations. Other materials not available in government facilities will be sourced from accredited seed dealer, distributors, and producers.

D. Establishment of the Home Gardens

Each family shall have at least a minimum of 20 m² vacant lot for use as home garden. For those families that do not have vacant lot, they can adopt container gardening technology or work on any designated communal garden. It can be also a lot owned by the Barangay Council or a barangay elementary school or any area that was allowed and given percent by the owner to be used for communal garden.

- a) The partner households will be provided with the start up kits after the training
- b) The household will be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of the home gardens.
- c) LGU technician will provide technical assistance especially but not limited to culturing fish, raising livestock and poultry, raising vegetables and regularly monitor the home gardens.
- d) All harvest will be owned and consumed by the household. In case of production excess, the household can sell the produce or be given away to neighbours.

Once the kits are distributed and the garden plot prepared, planting of seeds and cuttings will commence. A planting calendar and sequential method of planting will be used and employed by the families to assure the plot will be planted with vegetable throughout the year.

A pair of native chicken will also be given to the families for them to raise and eventually serve as a start up for further multiplication. Swine can be given as long as the families will give back at least one offspring to the LGU to be given to other families.

E. Establishment of Communal Gardens/Nurseries/Breeding Stations

LGU shall maintain a communal garden, nurseries and breeding station with a minimum of 1,000 m² area and shall identify communal gardens for those who have no vacant lot.

LGU communal gardens / nurseries / breeding stations can be situated in barangay elementary schools or any sites allowed by owner situated in barangay elementary schools allowed by owners for easy accessing of seeds / plant materials by farm households in remote areas.

RIC or 4H Club member shall be tapped to liaise between the DA RFU and LGU for technical assistance whenever the assigned LGU agricultural extension worker (AEW) in the area is not available.

The garden shall serve as a source of seeds, cuttings, seedlings of various vegetable for planting of the families once they have no longer supply of the seeds for use in their backyard. It will also serve as source of vegetable of those families who do not have vacant lot in their area.

F. Promotion, Information Dissemination and Advocacy

- a) DA-AFIS with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) shall take the lead in the promotion of the program at the national level. Along with the Information Offices of BPI, ATI, BAI, BFAR, BSWM, etc, it shall coordinate with the DA-RAFID for the regional promotion and information dissemination campaign of the program.
- b) Tri-media will be used to promote the program
- c) A billboard showing the name of the program, the proponent, cooperators and other information will be installed in every communal garden and nursery.
- d) Philippine Information Agency, DepEd, DOH-NNC shall assist in the program's advocacy campaign.

G. Monitoring and Evaluation

The LGU and DA RFU will do the regular visitation and follow up the family backyard garden in order to determine the status of the project and to recommend strategies that would further enhance smooth implementation of the project. They shall regularly submit status report of the program to the Project Management Office. Other agencies will coordinate with RFU on the monitoring and evaluation activities.

SECTION 5. Key players and Stakeholders

The following are the roles and responsibilities of key players and stakeholders.

A. Responsible Agencies

1. Local Government Units (LGUs)

The LGUs as lead implementor will:

- The LGUs as lead implementor will undertake in cooperation with the DA-RFU, the selection and identification of site and cooperators, monitoring and implementation of projects and co-share in providing needed inputs.
- Provide area for the establishment and maintenance of communal gardens and nurseries if necessary.
- Assign extension workers to target sites.
- Provide resources, logistics and other support for the success of the project.

2. Department of Agriculture

The DA as the co-implementor will provide funds and logistics through its various agencies.

- Regional Field Unit – assist the LGUs in the overall implementation of the program in the various sites.
- Bureau of Plant Industry – facilitate and coordinate sourcing of basic seeds/seedlings; provide technical and material assistance on crop production and management technologies
- Bureau of Animal Industry / Livestock Development Council – facilitate and coordinate sourcing of poultry and livestock; provided technical and material assistance on animal production
- Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources – facilitate and coordinate sourcing of fingerlings; provide technical assistance on fish culture
- Bureau of Soils and Water Management – provided technologies on soil and water conservation and management, particularly on organic fertilizer making and mushroom culture. Initiate the planning and development of small scale irrigation facilities such as small farm reservoirs (SFR), shallow tube wells and spring development for communal use. Where appropriate and where fuelwood is in short supply, the development of small scale biogas technology will be considered.
- Agricultural Training Institute – organize and facilitate the conduct of trainings in coordination with RFU and LGU concerned.
- Agriculture and Fishery Information Services – assist DA RFU and LGU in information dissemination campaign of the program

B. Institutional Involvement

- a) 4H Club, RICs and other Rural Based Organizations (RBOs) – assist in the conduct of training and implementation of the project
- b) Private Sector – source of technologies and inputs where needed.

- c) NGOs / POs – assist LGUs in the implementation and monitoring of the program. This includes civic organizations such as the Rotary, Jaycees and the like and church groups.
- d) DILG – enjoin local government units (LGUs) to provide manpower, land and financial resources to support the implementation of the program.
- e) DSWD – assist in the identification and selection of the rural family cooperators.
- f) DOH – enjoin rural health workers to assist in the identification and selection of program beneficiaries and aid in the advocacy campaign on the reduction of malnutrition occurrence.
- g) DepED – enjoin school principals to make available lots for communal gardens and assist in the advocacy campaign on proper nutrition and value of eating vegetables among students.
- h) State Universities and Colleges – assist in the production of basic seeds/seedlings and provide technical assistance.
- i) Philippine Information Agency – lead agency in the advocacy campaign on backyard/home gardening
- j) National Nutrition Council – lead agency in the advocacy campaign in improvement of nutrition and increase consumption of vegetables.

C. Program Partner

The rural families will maintain and operate their individual backyard gardens or communal gardens. They will also be encouraged to entice and influence their neighbors to adopt the program.

SECTION 6. Project Management

BPI will lead in the implementation of the program, and work closely with the DA-RFUs, LGUs, DA attached agencies, other government offices and non-government organizations / people's organizations / civic organizations.

SECTION 7. Funding

The funds for the program shall be sourced from the respective budgetary allocation of concerned DA RFUs, bureaus and attached agencies, banner programs and locally funded projects of the Department of Agriculture. LGUs and other agencies will likewise share resources for the success of the program.

SECTION 8. Effectivity

This Order shall take effect immediately.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Secretary

August 1, 2006